



**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
AGENDA
MONDAY JULY 8, 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**
- 2. Announce Electronic Participants**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**
 - 3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended
 - That the agenda dated July 8, 2024 be adopted
- 4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest**
- 5. Presentations and Delegations**
- 6. Adoption of Minutes**
 - 6.1 Regular Meeting of June 24, 2024
 - 6.2 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended
 - That Council adopt the June 24, 2024 minutes
- 7. Notice of Motions**
- 8. Correspondence**
 - 8.1 Interim Fire Chief Lafreniere – Notice of Leave
 - 8.2 AMO – Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments
 - 8.3 Municipality of Tweed – Support for Funding for OPP Costs for Small Rural Municipalities
 - 8.4 MMAH – Planning Act & Development Charges Act Regulations Related to Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024

8.5 NBMCA – Recommended Phase-Out of Free Water Testing in 2023 Auditor’s General Report

8.6 Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan – Regulations for the Importation & Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

8.7 Municipality of West Nipissing – Support for Champlain Bridge Rehabilitation

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Information Reports – Motions

10.1 John Dixon Public Library Update – Report # 24-38R

10.2 Vehicle Replacement – Report # 24-39R

10.3 Executive Assistant Position – Report # 24-40R

10.4 Rosemount Valley Suites Senior Housing - Report # 24-41R

11. By-Laws

11.1 By-law # 24-18 – Appointment of Full Time Fire Chief
BEING a by-law to appoint a full time Fire Chief in the Town of Mattawa

12. Old Business

13. New Business

13.1 Deputy Mayor Gardiner – Clean Yards & Property Standards

13.2 Mayor Bélanger – Standing Committees vs. Committee of the Whole

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

15.1 Personnel Matter

In accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001 Section 239 (2)(b)

b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

16. Return to Regular Session

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

- That the July 8, 2024 meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

3.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday July 8, 2024 be adopted.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday June 24, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger
Deputy Mayor Mathew Gardiner
Councillor Fern Levesque
Councillor Loren Mick
Councillor Laura Ross
Councillor Garry Thibert
Councillor Spencer Bigelow

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Sabrina Poullas, Deputy Clerk
Paul Laperriere, Interim CAO/Treasurer
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services
Paul Lafreniere, Interim Fire Chief

*When a recorded vote is requested and the minutes indicate the recorded vote was "Unanimous" it means all Councillors present and noted above voted in favour unless otherwise indicated.

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Mayor Bélanger at 5:00 p.m.

2. Announce Electronic Participants

Clerk announced that no members of the public were online.

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-143

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday June 24, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

5. Presentations and Delegations

5.1 James Hunton, Jp2g Consultants Inc – Asset Management Plan Non-Core Assets

James Hunton made a presentation to Council with the Asset Management Plan Non-Core Assets that are due to be posted on the municipal website by July 1, 2024 and was requesting a resolution to accept the plan.

Deputy Mayor Gardiner left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Councillor Bigelow left the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

6. Adoption of Minutes

- 6.1 Regular Meeting of June 10, 2024
- 6.2 Special Meeting of June 13, 2024
- 6.3 Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 17, 2024
- 6.4 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 24-144

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the Regular meeting of Monday June 10, 2024, Special meeting of Thursday June 13, 2024 and Committee of the Whole meeting of Monday June 17, 2024.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

- 7.1 Approval of Asset Management Plan Non-Core Assets

Resolution Number 24-145

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa hereby authorize posting, on the Town of Mattawa's website, the Town of Mattawa Non-Core Asset Management Plan dated May 31, 2024 prepared by Jp2g Consultants Inc. on or before by July 1, 2024 in accordance with Ontario Regulation 588/17 under the Infrastructure for Jobs & Prosperity Act 2015.

CARRIED – unanimous

8. Correspondence

- 8.1 AMCTO – 2023 Annual Report
- 8.2 OCWA – DWQMS Audit Report for Town of Mattawa
Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.2.
- 8.3 AMO – Policy Updates
- 8.4 Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan – Household Food Insecurity
Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.4.
- 8.5 AMO – Renewal of Canada Community-Building Fund
Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.5.
- 8.6 Municipality of Mattawan – Support to Resume Assessment Cycle
Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.6.

8.7 Township of North Dundas – Infrastructure Support for Small Rural Municipalities

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.7.

8.8 Voyageur Multi Use Trail System – Financial Statement for 2023

Council spoke on correspondence item # 8.8.

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

10.1 2024 Operating Budget – Report # 24-36R

Resolution Number 24-146

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-36R titled 2024 Operating Budget.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the budget as presented.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

10.2 Municipal Office Hours for Summer Months – Report # 24-37R

Resolution Number 24-147

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-37R titled Municipal Office Hours for Summer Months.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the summer hours as proposed and directs staff to place notice in the Mattawa Recorder, municipal website, Town of Mattawa Facebook Pages and Mattawa App.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

11. By-Laws

11.1 By-law # 24-13 – 2024 Operating Budget

BEING a by-law to adopt the 2024 Municipal Operating Budget.

Resolution Number 24-148

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-13 which is a by-law to approve the 2024 Municipal Operating Budget.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

11.2 By-law # 24-14 – Tax Ratio By-law

BEING a By-law for establishing tax ratios for the current taxation year.

Resolution Number 24-149

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-14 which is a by-law to approve the 2024 Tax Ratios.

CARRIED – unanimous

11.3 By-law # 24-15 – Rate of Taxation for 2024

BEING a by-law to fix the tax rates and to provide for the levy and collection of municipal and education taxes for the year 2024.

Resolution Number 24-150

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-15 which is a by-law to approve the tax rates and provide the levy and collection of municipal and education taxes for 2024.

CARRIED – unanimous

11.4 By-law # 24-16 – Consolidated User Fees By-law

BEING a by-law to adopt a consolidated user fees and charges for the Town of Mattawa.

Resolution Number 24-151

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-16 which is a by-law to adopt the consolidated user fees and charges for the Town of Mattawa.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

11.5 By-law # 24-17 – Municipal Funding Agreement for Canada Community-Building Fund

BEING a By-law to authorize the signing of the Municipal Funding Agreement for the Canada Community-Building Fund between the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Town of Mattawa.

Resolution Number 24-152

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-17 which is a by-law to authorize the signing of the Municipal Funding Agreement for the Canada Community-Building Fund with AMO.

CARRIED – unanimous

12. Old Business

13. New Business

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

- 15. In Camera (Closed) Session
- 16. Return to Regular Session
- 17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session
- 18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 24-153

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque
Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the June 24, 2024 meeting adjourn at 6:47 p.m.
CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor

Clerk

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

6.2

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY: COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the Regular meeting of Monday June 24, 2024.

From: [Paul Lafreniere](#)
To: [Paul Laperriere](#)
Cc: [Amy Leclerc](#); [Paul Dupras](#)
Subject: Medical Leave
Date: July 3, 2024 4:14:46 PM

This letter to inform council on a leave to undergo a medical procedure was discussed with Paul Laperriere on July 03. I will be going for surgery on March 08 and will not be available for duties for an extended period.

Discussion on having Paul Dupras assume the duties of chief fire official until such time as the new fire chief is available to perform these duties

Looking forward to getting back to the department and being able to assist in what ever capacity I can

Paul Lafreniere

From: [Colin Best](#)
To: [Amy Leclerc](#)
Subject: AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments
Date: July 3, 2024 11:27:30 AM



AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments

Dear Clerks and Heads of Council of Municipal Governments Across Ontario:

The AMO President and Board is requesting that this letter be shared with all elected council members and administrative heads (i.e., CAO, City Manager) in your municipality. Please post as an information item in your next council

meeting agenda.

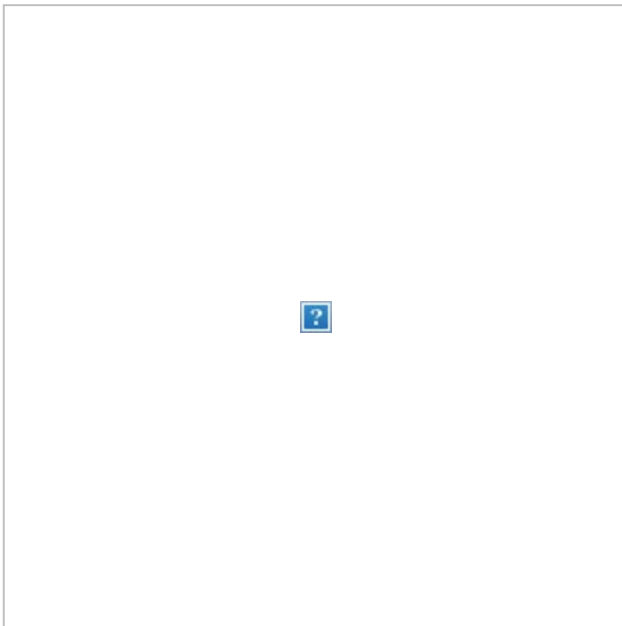
On behalf of its municipal members, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is urgently calling for provincial and federal leadership and action to address the growing crisis of homelessness encampments in communities across Ontario.

On July 2nd, AMO released a new policy paper [Homeless Encampments in Ontario: A Municipal Perspective](#) detailing the state of this crisis and evidence-based actions that must be taken.

Municipal governments are at the front lines of the homelessness crisis without the resources or tools to support our residents and communities. We are asking the provincial and federal governments to work collaboratively with each other and municipalities. These are complex issues that require comprehensive responses from all orders of government working together.

For further resources and information, please visit www.amo.on.ca

Sincerely,



Colin Best

President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

July 2, 2024

Homeless Encampments in Ontario:

A Municipal Perspective



Introduction

As homelessness escalates in its scope, visibility, and complexity, communities in Ontario are seeing a rise in homeless encampments. In 2023, at least 1400 homeless encampments existed in Ontario's communities.¹ Their existence is not unique to large urban centres and can now be found in all types of communities including urban, small town, rural, and northern Ontario.

Encampments are the latest expression of a homelessness crisis decades in the making. These encampments are a tragic result of cracks in the foundations of our housing, health, and social systems and are a public policy failure by successive provincial and federal governments. A lack of intergovernmental cooperation and integration of effort, and insufficient supply of affordable housing have compounded matters.

While municipalities did not create the homelessness crisis, they are being forced to manage it without the resources or tools to sufficiently respond. Municipalities are often caught balancing the important needs of unsheltered people living in encampments, who deserve to be treated with empathy and respect, and a responsibility to ensure our communities are safe and vibrant places for all residents.

Concrete solutions to this crisis are needed now. Provincial and federal governments need to take responsibility for the policy decisions that have led to this crisis and take a leadership role in finding solutions. This must include substantial new investments and policy changes to address the root causes of homelessness, stave off the growth in encampments, and connect people already living in encampments with the supports they need right now.

This abdication of leadership has meant that municipalities and citizen groups are increasingly looking to the courts for guidance. This leads to adversarial approaches and increases complexity in a way that puts us farther behind. Municipalities need clear guidance from the provincial government regarding how to address encampments when resource realities and the rights of groups and individuals appear to be at odds.

In a province as prosperous as Ontario, homeless encampments cannot be the best we can do for our residents, communities, and businesses. We know we have the capacity to solve this problem. All that we need is the resolve.

¹AMO Survey of Municipal Service Managers and DSSABs, December 2023

Ontario Municipalities Are Committed to Meeting Rights Obligations

Municipalities have long understood the critical importance of housing in the health, safety, and well-being of individuals and families.

Ontario's municipalities are also fully committed to meeting all their obligations under the *Charter* and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*. But in the context of substantial growth in needs and declining resources, interpretations of what these obligations are, and how to meet them are increasingly at odds.

In responding to homeless encampments, many municipalities are following guidelines provided by experts in rights-based approaches², including the importance of:

- Meaningfully engaging with individuals living in encampments, including ongoing good faith discussions with as many encampment residents as possible to understand concerns and provide supports;
- Exploring viable alternatives to encampment evictions or removals, such as offering alternative housing solutions – like tiny homes, shelters, rent supplements or re-locating encampments from dangerous or inappropriate sites;
- Supporting encampment residents' access to essential services, such as drinking water, waste management, and sanitation facilities;
- Respecting encampments residents' belongings; and
- Working with encampment residents and police forces to develop and implement encampment safety protocols.

Many municipalities across Ontario have implemented innovative approaches to encampments that have improved circumstances for both encampment residents and the broader community.

²The Shift Municipal Engagement Guidance, Homeless Encampments – [The Shift](#), 2023

Case Study 1:

Municipality A – a regional municipality – found an alternative to a large encampment on municipal land. There were health and safety risks resulting from fires, pests, unsanitary conditions and serious criminal activity and unsanitary conditions. To protect the residents and to prevent further damage to the property, the upper tier municipality worked with a lower tier municipality and participating community partners to find an interim housing solution. A supervised transitional housing site was established on municipal land with 50 cabins to provide temporary shelter. On-site services help residents meet basic needs, connect to services and permanent housing options. These efforts are complemented by a new Council-approved and funded plan to end chronic homelessness.

Case Study 2:

Municipality B – a northern municipality with a large Indigenous population – implemented a protocol to manage encampments on public property with an explicit commitment to a rights-based approach. It requires that the municipality exhaust options for engaging with and moving each individual to a safer indoor space before encampment removal is considered. Respect for and protection of Indigenous rights is a key commitment. The protocol outlines the roles and responsibilities of various municipal players, centering the provision of services around the principles of housing first and the safety of encampment and broader community residents. The local District Social Services Administration Board collaborates to provide support services such as outreach, emergency shelter and housing help assistance.

Case Study 3:

Municipality C – a large municipality – focused on a human rights-based outreach to meet the basic needs of high acuity unsheltered homeless individuals through an innovative service hub and mobile depot model. This approach was implemented within the context of a Whole of Community System Response, building upon a robust existing emergency shelter and housing supports system and provision of new mental health and addictions services plus 600 highly supportive housing units. Encampment health and safety review protocols are in place to guide municipal staff and community partners when supporting and managing encampments in a way that balances the public and private interests of public spaces while allowing for temporary shelter. This includes identifying situations where encampments are able to remain with supports and situations where they are restricted or significant interventions including removal are required. It also sets out rules for inhabitants of encampments to ensure health and safety (e.g. limiting the size and not allowing open fires or combustibles). These protocols also allow for identification of any challenges, unmet needs and/or resources required to respond to and support social and health service care planning.

But almost five years out from the beginning of the pandemic, many municipalities with long-term encampments are experiencing an erosion of community will, trust and buy-in for solutions. Tensions arise between individual and community obligations when municipalities respond to encampments. There is often a lack of consensus between what encampment residents need, what community members want, what human rights advocates are calling for, and what municipalities believe they must do to fulfill their roles and responsibilities to all residents.

Some people living in encampments refuse offers of shelter or housing options, opting to continue living in an outdoor encampment for various reasons. There are situations when it is necessary to re-locate and/or remove encampments and find other alternative options.

It is not a sustainable, long-term solution for municipalities to allow the normalization of encampments. Municipalities need to act in the best interests of the homeless and their communities to find other solutions.

Municipalities Need Flexibility to Respond to Complexity

Municipalities recognize the challenging circumstances that lead people to end up in encampments. These community members have complex needs that municipalities do their best to meet, with the same respect, dignity, and compassion afforded to all municipal residents.

But municipal responsibilities go beyond supporting encampment residents. Municipal governments are responsible for ensuring community health and safety through public health, by-law enforcement, paramedicine, fire, and policing services.

Homeless encampments are mostly unplanned environments without the infrastructure and amenities to make them healthy and safe places for the inhabitants residing there. As a result, the proliferation of homeless encampments can result in substantial risks to both encampment residents and the broader community.

This is why municipalities have by-laws to prohibit certain activities on properties that may cause personal injury or damage to the lands. This often includes bans on camping and erecting unauthorized structures. Municipalities are also obligated to exercise powers under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act* to remove or reduce an immediate threat to life. Municipally-led public health agencies work to prevent transmission of infectious diseases, while municipal police forces must enforce the Criminal Code to ensure public safety.

Meeting all these obligations in a way that respects everyone's rights and needs is not always straight forward, and frequently requires significant judgement as situations can quickly become complex:

Case Study 1:

Municipality X – a mid-sized city with a significant student population – had a significant encampment in a major public park for over two years. At its largest, the site housed over 100 residents and included many unsafe structures. Violence and illegal activity, including fentanyl trafficking, became common place as policing became dangerous and ineffective. Numerous serious fires created threats to life and inflicted major damage. Outreach workers continued to provide health and support services and repeatedly offered alternative housing options to all individuals in the encampment. While many residents were successfully transitioned into housing, a number refused to leave unsafe structures.

Case Study 2:

Municipality Y – a large upper tier municipality – experienced an encampment of approximately 50 people established on municipal land used to support public transit. The municipality quickly mobilized intensive community social service resources and incurred significant costs to provide security and regular site clean-up. Despite efforts to meet the needs of residents, it was determined that the conditions at the encampment, including fires, pests, unsanitary conditions, and serious criminal activity posed a risk to health and safety as well as damage to the land, so removal was sought. Alternative shelter and housing solutions to the encampment were provided, including 50 new transitional housing units.

Case Study 3:

Municipality Z – a northern urban community – had many encampments in parks, roads and private property. After an encampment resident tragically died after creating a fire inside their tent, municipal fire services educated residents about how to stay warm in a safe manner, but the risks remained. Municipal law enforcement officers work together with social services staff first to connect with the residents to seek a resolution. The approach is open, transparent, and outlined publicly in a municipal protocol. In addition, a guidance document was developed by a third-party expert in homelessness service delivery planning. There is an emphasis on finding solutions through housing and other support services to resolve encampment situations. Council is going further to implement a plan to end chronic homelessness by 2030.

Municipal governments across Ontario experience challenges ensuring the health and wellness of inhabitants of encampments. First responders such as paramedics are often called in response to emergency situations or to provide community paramedicine services. Encampment inhabitants have had serious health conditions including life threatening ones. People have been hospitalized and, in a few cases, even died. Health risks come from extreme weather exposure, carbon monoxide poisoning, fires, and from smoke inhalation because of the use of heating and cooking devices within tents and other structures. Others have suffered from frostbite, resulting in amputations of fingers and toes.

In many of these circumstances, removal of encampments was deemed necessary to preserve the safety of both the residents of the encampments and the broader community.

Municipalities understand that alternative shelter options must be identified before removing encampments. They understand that in some circumstances, the ongoing existence of an encampment might be the best option – regardless of implications for others’ access to parks, manageable safety concerns, or impacts on businesses and community quality of life. They understand the need to educate their staff, officials, and the broader public on the rights that all residents have.

However, a categorical ban on encampment removals under any circumstance or a sense that enforcement does not have a role in encampments management simply doesn’t reflect the complex situation in which Ontario finds itself. Pretending otherwise does a disservice to the many dedicated municipal staff and officials who find themselves trying to rectify an untenable situation.



Federal and Provincial Government Leadership Is Needed Now

Municipalities have an important role to play contributing to solutions to homelessness and supporting those in encampments. But the scope of action and investment required to adequately address encampments far outstrips municipal fiscal capacity and jurisdiction.

Provincial Action Required

Progress on encampments depends primarily on action and leadership from provincial government to address the root causes of homelessness, namely:

- **Growing Income Insecurity:** Across the province, a growing number of Ontarians can no longer afford the basic necessities of life. In Ontario, 45% of tenant households spend 30% or more of their total income on shelter. This is the highest rate across the country. By 2025, approximately 160,000 households will spend more than 50% of their income on rent, putting their housing at risk and increasing the likelihood of them becoming homeless. Food bank use in Ontario has skyrocketed, increasing 42% over the past 3 years alone. One-third of these visitors were using food banks for the first time, including growing numbers of workers.³ When people can't afford to pay rent and feed themselves and their families, they aren't able to work, take care of their kids, or contribute to the community. Despite recent increases to the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) rates, in real terms ODSP and Ontario Works rates have never been lower, having not kept up with inflation for decades. Outdated and overly complicated rules keep people in poverty. Increasing social assistance rates and transforming social assistance to better help people to get back on their feet and fully participate in the economy will be a critical part of making progress on homeless encampments.

Social Assistance – Currently, because they do not have shelter costs, people who are homeless are not entitled to receive shelter benefits. This means that homeless people on ODSP/OW receive around \$500/\$400 less per month than the average monthly rates (\$1308/\$733). Amending OW and ODSP policies to provide the shelter allowance to homeless individuals is a key way that the province can make progress on homelessness.

³ Feed Ontario – The Hunger Report (2022).

- **Insufficient supply of deeply affordable housing:** Deeply affordable housing includes a range of approaches – from government-owned buildings, to rent subsidies, to non-profit housing and co-operative developments – to provide housing for individuals who are unable to afford market rents. It is a smart way to invest tax dollars in community well-being and economic prosperity by providing people with dignity, opportunity, and a better quality of life. The wait list for government subsidized housing assistance in 2018 was 215,000 people. According to recent Canada Housing Renewal Association study, an additional 143,225 units of deeply affordable community housing is needed in Ontario by 2030 just to meet the OECD average.⁴

Most social housing stock in Ontario has been made possible by past significant federal and provincial investments, primarily between the 1960s and 1990s. However, provincial commitment has been limited since downloading responsibility for social housing to municipalities in the 1990s. Ontario remains the only jurisdiction in Canada where social housing is a municipal responsibility. Each year, municipalities spend approximately \$1 billion in connection with provincial housing programs.⁵ During the pandemic, many municipalities invested in additional deeply affordable housing assistance to meet demand. Property taxpayers, including people on fixed incomes, cannot support the kinds of investments needed to keep up with demand.

The National Housing Strategy lays a good foundation for action. However, the recent temporary federal-provincial disagreement on the proposed Ontario provincial action plan put over \$350 million in NHS funding at risk, highlighting a fundamental lack of intergovernmental alignment and the overall disconnect between community housing needs, targets, and resources. There is a need to fundamentally re-think the way that community housing is funded in Ontario. Collaboration and integration of effort to a shared commitment to end homelessness is absolutely required.

⁴ Deloitte, Canadian Housing and Renewal Association and Housing Partnership Canada: [The Impact of Community Housing on Productivity](#), 2023.

⁵ Financial Accountability Office of Ontario – Ontario’s Housing and Homelessness Programs (2021)

- **Inadequate Approach to Mental Health and Addictions:** Ontario is also experiencing a mental health and addictions crisis that intersects with and contributes to homelessness. People with poor mental health are more vulnerable; homelessness exacerbates mental illness – a tragic and costly cycle. Approximately 30-35% of those experiencing homelessness and up to 75% of women experiencing homelessness struggle with mental illnesses.⁶ Ontario’s Roadmap to Wellness program was a step forward in addressing mental health and addictions challenges in Ontario. But progress has been slow, waitlists for addictions treatment programs remain far too long, and government action has not focused enough on people with complex social needs and the importance of integrating health and social supports. Inconsistent access to mental health and addictions services across the province results in gaps for many rural and northern communities that prevent progress on homelessness.

Supportive Housing – Supportive Housing is deeply affordable housing with on-site supports that helps individuals achieve housing stability, preventing a return to homelessness, especially for people with mental health conditions and addictions. Significantly more supportive housing units are needed urgently. Estimates of the shortfall of units in 2017 range from between 30,000 to 90,000.⁷



⁶ www.homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/topics/mental-health#:~:text=People%2520with%2520mental%2520illness%2520experience,experiencing%2520homelessness%2520C%2520have%2520mental%2520illnesses

⁷ Wellesley Institute – [Supportive Housing in Ontario: Estimating the Need](#) (2017)

It will take years to reverse the systemic issues created by decades of policy choices made by successive provincial governments. In the interim, provincial leadership and investment is required to:

- **Expand the emergency shelter system:** Emergency shelters already under strain are ill-equipped to respond to increasing demands driven by growing numbers of asylum-seekers and sky-rocketing rents.
- **Establish Homeless Encampment Guidance:** Provincial guidance is urgently needed to ensure an appropriate and consistent approach to encampments in a complex and evolving legal and policy landscape. The abdication of leadership by the provincial government and resulting adjudication by the courts is costly and slow, creating unclear and unrealistic expectations, and feeding divisions at the community level. Establishing and reinforcing principles and parameters at a provincial level, consistent with the statutory obligations, will allow municipalities to focus on what they do best – providing services to citizens aligned with local needs and circumstances – without the impossible task of reconciling provincial policy choices at odds with group or individual rights.
- **Cost-match federal encampment funding:** The 2024 Federal Budget announced an additional \$250 million in dedicated funding to addressing encampments with a call out to provinces and territories to cost match this investment. The provincial government must heed this call and provide the matching funds.

Federal Government

AMO applauds important demonstrations of federal government leadership on non-market housing and homelessness, including the 2018 National Housing Strategy, the 2019 Reaching Home Initiative, and most recently elements of the 2024 Canada's Housing Plan, including the Affordable Housing Fund, the Rapid Housing Initiative and the Rental Protection Fund.

Sustained, concerted, significant action across all governments is needed, however, to truly make progress. The federal Parliamentary Budget Officer has determined that the funding is still insufficient to meet the target of reducing chronic homelessness by 50%. This will require additional investments of \$3.5 billion a year across Canada. This is 7 times the current funding level. Recent federal-provincial disagreements in the context of the National Housing Strategy highlight the need for stronger inter-governmental collaboration on community housing and homelessness across all three orders of government.

AMO supports the federal Housing Advocate's call for a federally-led National Encampments Response Plan. This Plan must, however, preserve municipal flexibility and respect provincial (and in turn, municipal) heads of power, jurisdiction and rights. This is necessary to meet broader responsibilities and respond to specific circumstances

effectively. It cannot include recommendations from the federal Housing Advocate's report such as a ban on forced removals in any circumstances.

How Can Municipalities Navigate in the Interim?

While provincial and federal action is urgently required, municipal governments are responding to immediate needs in their community that cannot be delayed by insufficient support from other orders of government.

An evolving legal landscape and the proliferation of guidance from different sources about how municipalities should respond to homeless encampments can create challenges for municipalities and service partners trying to assess options.

Individuals do not have a right to camp anywhere they choose on public lands, at any time. Nor do those who decline appropriate alternative shelter options have a right to continue to reside in encampments.

Municipal governments must implement solutions that are effective, appropriate, feasible, practical, and in compliance with Ontario and Canadian law including but not limited to human rights legislation. For example, in contrast to some guidance, municipal police forces cannot be ordered by municipal councils to stop enforcing the Criminal Code by decriminalizing drug use in encampments. Municipal police forces also cannot abdicate their public safety responsibilities, which is incompatible with suggestions to fully de-centre policing as a municipal response.

Some guidance has stated categorically that municipalities must stop all removals on public lands, going beyond current legal obligations. The Shift's [Homeless Encampments: Municipal Engagement Guidance](#) was developed in collaboration with municipalities, housing and health experts and provides helpful and practical advice.

While each municipality faces unique facts and circumstances that require independent legal assessments and advice, considering these key factors as they make hard decisions about the best options for their communities can help municipalities to mitigate legal risks:

- **Alternative shelter options for individual encampment residents are critical:** Removing encampments from public lands when there is no alternative shelter space for encampment residents has been found to violate the *Charter* right to life, liberty and security of the person. Alternative shelter options include spaces in emergency shelters or alternative tenting locations, among others. It is not the case that municipalities must demonstrate capacity for all homeless individuals within a municipality to clear an encampment, but it is important that each individual in the encampment under consideration for removal have a specifically identified shelter option.

- **Location of alternative shelter options:** An important factor in whether alternative shelter locations are appropriate is their accessibility to services – such as food banks, health services, or sanitation facilities – that provide the basic necessities of life. Ways to enable access to these services – such as public transit or mobile service delivery options – should be considered.
- **Public use of occupied space:** How public lands where encampments have arisen are designated for use is an important factor. Encampments located in major parks that are heavily accessed by the public are different from encampments located on empty lots. The degree to which the presence of an encampment impedes public use of space may be a relevant factor, particularly from a public safety perspective.
- **Protected groups and homeless encampments:** *The Ontario Human Rights Code* prohibits actions that discriminate against people based on protected grounds like race, disability, and sex in social areas that include housing and services. Because of the over-representation of groups such as Indigenous people, people with mental health and substance use conditions, or gender-diverse individuals in homeless encampments, there is an elevated risk that actions related to homeless encampments can create or exacerbate disadvantage based on prohibited grounds.

Ultimately, municipalities should be:

- Assessing risk to the unsheltered homeless, community residents and the municipality and identify actions to mitigate them.
- Assessing compliance of planned actions with the *Charter* and the *Ontario Human Rights Code* by consulting legal counsel.
- Providing outreach to people living in homeless encampments and engaging them about solutions about their individual circumstances.
- Engaging and developing solutions with people with lived experience of homelessness to ensure the proposed approach is appropriate and responsive to the needs and experiences of people experiencing homelessness.
- Focusing on the needs of and appropriately engaging Indigenous People in the community, given their over-representation in the homeless population, must inform the response.

Conclusion

Homeless encampments are the most recent symptom of much deeper system failures that are compromising the foundations of our social and economic prosperity.

It's time for the provincial and federal governments to play a leadership role in solving this crisis and addressing the root causes of homelessness.

Ontario's municipalities are ready to work with provincial and federal partners to end both homeless encampments and chronic homelessness in Ontario.



Disclaimer: This document is not to be construed as the provision of specific legal advice for local situations. Municipalities and organizations should seek legal counsel's advice on questions regarding compliance with applicable laws. This document does not attempt to comprehensively cover every possible situation that may arise with encampments and is timely at the date of its publication. Municipal governments should endeavour to keep apprised of developments in law, and to learn from each other what works and what does not with the circumstances of their local situation.



Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

155 University Ave., Suite 800, Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Telephone direct: 416-971-9856
Fax: 416-971-6191
Toll-free in Ontario: 1-877-4-AMO-LAS (1-877-426-6527)
E-mail: amo@amo.on.ca
Website: www.amo.on.ca



Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting

8.3



Resolution No. 229
Title: Councillor P. Valiquette
Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Moved by P. Valiquette
Seconded by J. Palmateer

WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario Government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario;
AND WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, bridges, water/wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets;

AND WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources;

AND WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

AND WHEREAS in 2015 the provincial government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract J.P.P. (5.1) locations;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway; and \$534 million to Ottawa for the repatriation of Hwy 174;

AND WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million;

AND WHEREAS this annual cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Express Way, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the Province overall;

AND WHEREAS this will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs while having a minimal impact on the provincial budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Municipality of Tweed call on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct staff to circulate this resolution to Premier Doug Ford (premier@ontario.ca), Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca) and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs and Housing

Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street, 13th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel. 416-585-6014

Ministère des
Affaires municipales et du Logement

Direction des politiques d'aménagement
777, rue Bay, 13^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. 416-585-6014



Date: July 3, 2024

Subject: **Planning Act and Development Charges Act Regulations related to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185)***

I am writing to provide an update on regulations under the *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* related to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*.

The *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* regulations came into effect on July 1, 2024.

Changes made include:

- modernizing public notice requirements and providing municipalities with the ability to provide notice in respect of the above matters on a municipal website if there is no local print newspaper available
- consequential amendments to remove requirements for certain statements regarding appeal rights to be included in public notices
- consequential changes to ensure notice is provided to nearby public hospitals and airports
- housekeeping amendments for the removal of spent provisions related to DC exemptions for additional residential units and the prescribed amount of time for the DC freeze period

You can view copies of the amending *Planning Act* regulations on Ontario's e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 285/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 543/06 “Official Plans and Plan Amendments”
- [Ontario Regulation 286/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 545/06 “Zoning By-Laws, Holding By-Laws and Interim Control By-Laws”
- [Ontario Regulation 287/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 544/06 “Plans of Subdivision”
- [Ontario Regulation 288/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 197/96 “Consent Applications”
- [Ontario Regulation 289/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 200/96 “Minor Variance Applications”

- [Ontario Regulation 290/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 509/20 – “Community Benefits Charges and Parkland”
- [Ontario Regulation 291/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 549/06 “Prescribed Time Period – Subsections 51 (52.4) of the Act”

You can view copies of the amending Development Charges Act, 1997 regulations on Ontario’s e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 279/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 82/98 – “General”

If you have any questions about the changes to the land use planning and appeal system, including the *Planning Act* regulatory changes, please email PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca.

If you have any questions about the changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, including the regulatory changes related to public notice requirements under the Act and other matters, please email MFPB@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Laura Evangelista, Director
Provincial Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Ruchi Parkash, Director
Municipal Finance Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

From: [Rebecca Morrow](#)
To: cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.com; abilodeau@callander.ca; Cao@calvintownship.ca; j.leblond@chisholm.ca; jason.trottier@eastferris.ca; [Paul Laperriere](#); [Amy Leclerc](#); admin@mattawan.ca; John.Severino@northbay.ca; clerk@papineaucameron.ca; aquinn@powassan.net
Cc: [Robin Allen](#); [Bill Moreton](#); [Chris Mayne](#); [Dave Britton](#); [Grant McMartin](#); [Lana Mitchell](#); [Linda Cook](#); [Councillor Mick](#); [Michelle Lahaye](#); [Nunzio Scarfone](#); [Peter Chirico](#); [Shelley Belanger](#); [Steve Featherstone](#); [Steve Trahan](#)
Subject: Recommended phase-out of free water testing in the 2023 auditors General Report
Date: June 26, 2024 8:29:25 PM
Attachments: [June 26, 2024 Recommended phase-out of free well water testing in the 2023 Auditor's General's Report.pdf](#)

Good evening,

Please find attached a letter from Kettle Creek Conservation Authority regarding the Recommended phase-out of free water testing in the 2023 auditors General Report. At the June 26, 2024 NBMCA Board meeting, a resolution was passed in support of this item of correspondence. Additionally, the resolution included sharing this item of correspondence with the Member Municipality municipal clerks.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Morrow (she/her)
Human Resources Coordinator/Executive Assistant/Deputy CAO
North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority
15 Janey Avenue
North Bay, ON P1C 1N1
Cell: 705-303-8434
Office: 705-474-5420
Fax: 705-474-9793
Web: www.nbmca.ca

Leaders in Watershed Management



Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

The information contained in this electronic message from North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority is directed in confidence solely to the person(s) named above and may not be otherwise distributed, copied or disclosed including attachments. The message may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and by the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act. The use of such personal information except in compliance with the Acts, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately advising of the error and delete the message without making a copy. Thank you.

From: [Elizabeth VanHooren](#)
To: [Dana McLachlan](#); [Abbie Gutteridge \(ABCA\)](#); [Adriana Birza \(Halton\)](#); [Anna Morgan \(information@lrc.on.ca\)](#); [Ashley Fletcher \(SCRCA\)](#); [Brandi Boardman \(CLOCA\)](#); [Debbie Tomas \(SSMRCA\)](#); [Donna Campbell \(CRCA\)](#); [Eowyn Spencer \(Grand River\)](#); [Erica Magee \(Maitland\)](#); [Gina Shaule \(NPCA\)](#); [Irene Bradnam \(NPCA\)](#); [Jamie Tillier \(Hamilton\)](#); [Janice Hagan \(SVCA\)](#); [Jennifer Bonsall \(MRCA\)](#); [Jessica Kirschner](#); [Angela Coleman](#); [Kristin Bristow](#); [Josianne Sabourin \(RRCA\)](#); [Julie Verge \(GRCA\)](#); [Kally Casier \(LTVCA\)](#); [Kerry Jenkins \(NVCA\)](#); [Kim Duke \(ORCA\)](#); [Leena Eappen \(TRCA\)](#); [Marissa Grondin \(RVCA\)](#); [Melanie Dolamore \(KRCA\)](#); [Melanie O'Riley \(Lakehead\)](#); [Melanie Venne \(NDCA\)](#); [Michelle Sirizzotti \(TRCA\)](#); [Michelle Vigliantim \(UTRCA\)](#); [Nicole Kupnicki \(ERCA\)](#); [Rachel Clouthier \(Mississippi\)](#); [Rebecca Morrow](#); [Ronda Boutz \(SNC\)](#); [Susan Simmons \(CCCA\)](#); [Tamara Chipperfield \(CVC\)](#); [Tammy Smith \(Quinte\)](#); [Trish Barnett \(LSRCA\)](#); [Valerie Coleman \(GSCA\)](#); [Brad McNevin \(Quinte\)](#); [Brian Horner \(Ausable\)](#); [Carl Bickerdike \(SNC\)](#); [Carl Jorgensen \(NDCA\)](#); [Chandra Sharma \(NPCA\)](#); [Chithra Gowda](#); [Chris Darling \(CLOCA\)](#); [Corrina Barrett \(SSMRCA\)](#); [David Vallier \(MRCA\)](#); [Doug Hevenor \(NVCA\)](#); [Chris Wilkinson](#); [Erik Downing \(SVCA\)](#); [Hassaan Basit \(Halton\)](#); [Janette Loveys Smith \(ORCA\)](#); [Jennifer Stephens \(SVCA\)](#); [John Mackenzie \(TRCA\)](#); [Judy Maxwell](#); [Ken Phillips \(SCRCA\)](#); [Linda Laliberte \(GRCA\)](#); [Lisa Burnside \(Hamilton\)](#); [Mark Majchrowski \(Kawartha\)](#); [Mark Peacock \(LTVCA\)](#); [Phil Beard \(Maitland\)](#); [Quentin Hanchard \(CVC\)](#); [Rhonda Bateman \(LTC\)](#); [Richard Pilon \(RRCA\)](#); [Rob Baldwin \(LSRCA\)](#); [Sally MacIntyre \(MVCA\)](#); [Samantha Lawson \(GRCA\)](#); [dellingwood@crca.ca](#); [Sommer Casgrain-Robertson \(RVCA\)](#); [Tammy Cook \(Lakehead\)](#); [Tim Byrne \(ERCA\)](#); [Tim Lanthier \(GSCA\)](#); [Tim Pidduck \(CVCA\)](#); [Tracy Annett \(UTRCA\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Recommended phase-out of free well water testing in the 2023 Auditor's General's Report
Date: May 16, 2024 4:39:21 PM
Attachments: [Minister of Health Well Testing 051624.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward this email to infosec@northbay.ca if you believe this email is suspicious.

To: CAOs/General Managers
Cc: CA Administrative Staff


Please see the attached letter from Kettle Creek Conservation Authority's Board of Directors to the Minister of Health regarding the recommended phase-out of free well water testing in the 2023 Auditor General's Report.

Thank you,
Elizabeth VanHooren

General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

Kettle Creek Conservation Authority
Tel: (519) 631-1270 ext.222
Fax: (519) 631-5026
www.kettlecreekconservation.on.ca

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May 16, 2024

The Honourable Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Sent by Email

Re: Recommended phase-out of free well-water testing in the 2023 Auditor General's Report

Dear Minister Jones,

The Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA) is concerned with Public Health Ontario's recommendation of phasing out free water testing.

While you have indicated that the Ministry has not made any decisions about changes to the provincial well water testing program and that individuals will continue to be able to get their private well water tested, members wanted to express their resolve in ensuring testing will continue and will continue to be free.

Consequently, at the May 15, 2024 Full Authority meeting, the following motion was passed:

FA78/2024

Moved By: Lori Baldwin-Sands

Seconded By: Todd Noble

WHEREAS: private water systems (e.g., wells) are not protected through legislated requirements under The Safe Drinking Water Act 2002 and The Clean Water Act 2006, but are more likely to contribute to cases of gastrointestinal illness than municipal systems;

AND WHEREAS: the 2023 Ontario Auditor General's value-for-money audit of Public Health Ontario (PHO) recommended that PHO, in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Health, begin the gradual discontinuance of free private drinking water testing;

AND WHEREAS: in the jurisdiction of KCCA, many households do not receive water from municipal systems, with many relying on a private drinking water system, including wells;

AND WHEREAS: the Walkerton Inquiry Report Part II, concluded the privatization of laboratory testing of drinking water samples contributed directly to the E. coli outbreak in Walkerton, Ontario in May 2000;

AND WHEREAS: all Ontarians deserve safe, clean water, and free well-water testing is a way to help ensure that residents on private wells continue to have barrier-free access to well water testing.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Directors calls on the Province to not phase out free well-water testing as part of the proposed streamlining efforts of public health laboratory operations in the province;

AND FURTHER THAT: this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health; Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; local MPPs; and Conservation Ontario and Ontario's conservation authorities.

Carried

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Grant Jones
Chair

CC:

The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
The Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Mr. Rob Flack, Member of Provincial Parliament, Elgin - Middlesex - London
Conservation Ontario
Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

June 28, 2024

Via Email: david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

Hon. David Piccini M.P.P.
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
117 Peter Street
Port Hope, ON
L1A 1C5

Dear Minister Piccini:

Re: Regulations for the Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

I am writing today to bring to your attention a matter of significant importance to the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, regarding the importation and safe use of lithium-ion batteries.

At the June 17, 2024 Council Meeting the Fire Chief of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan made a presentation to Council on the dangers presented by lithium-ion batteries. The Fire Chief was reporting back from attending the Charged For Life Symposium presented by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

During the presentation, the Fire Chief stressed that the increased importation and use of non-Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) aftermarket batteries is presenting a significant increase in fire and explosion, putting citizens and responding personnel in danger. These after market batteries are not Underwriter Laboratories of Canada (ULC) certified but can be imported into Canada without any associated regulations.

Unlicensed persons and locations can store and modify lithium-ion batteries in our communities without regulations, providing dangerous conditions within a community. Charging these batteries within the home or multi-unit dwellings can result in larger fires with grave results.

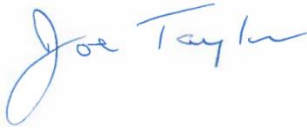
As Canada becomes more aware of Green Energy solutions, these batteries are used more often, increasing the danger to our communities. We support the Ontario Fire Marshal's program to educate citizens on the danger associated with lithium-ion batteries and encourage every municipality to actively promote safe practices for the use of lithium-ion batteries.

We also call upon all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage, and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very critical issue, and I look forward to your prompt consideration and support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Fire Chief if you require any additional information.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joe Taylor, Mayor

Cc: MP, Philip Lawrence
All Ontario Municipalities



Council - Committee of the Whole

Resolution # 2024-147
Title: Resolution seeking support re: Champlain Bridge Rehabilitation
Date: June 4, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Georges Pharand
Seconded by: Councillor Roch St. Louis

WHEREAS the Champlain Bridge, located on the King's Highway 17, west of the Town of Sturgeon Falls in the Municipality of West Nipissing is integral infrastructure to the Trans-Canada Highway network and also serves as a connecting link to Highway 64;

AND WHEREAS Highway 17 is a critical link in the Trans-Canada highway network, with Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) of over 14,000 travelers;

AND WHEREAS the majority of the traffic is provincial traffic, using the Trans-Canada highway for transporting goods and services in Ontario which, if shut down or restricted, would result in a 123km detour.

AND WHEREAS in 2021 an agreement was entered into between the Municipality and the Ministry of Transportation for the design of the rehabilitation or replacement of the Champlain Bridge, which design indicated that the bridge should be replaced at the anticipated cost of \$30,000,000.

AND WHEREAS Municipality of West Nipissing does not have the financial resources to undertake a project of this magnitude without assistance;

AND WHEREAS the Province has previously recognized the financial burden placed on municipalities, forced to maintain Provincial Infrastructure, by removing the burden of the Don Valley Parkway, and the Gardner Express Way from the City of Toronto;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario recognize the Champlain Bridge as critical provincial infrastructure and assume responsibility for its replacement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if the assumption of the Bridge by the province cannot be undertaken, that the Province provide financial and operational assistance to the Municipality of West Nipissing for the undertaking of the replacement of the Champlain Bridge;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all northeastern municipalities served by the Highway 17 as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) be requested to support the Municipality of West Nipissing's request by submitting letters of support to the Ministry of Transportation.

CARRIED



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: PAUL LAPERRIERE, INTERIM CAO/TREASURER

TITLE: JOHN DIXON PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

REPORT NO: 24-38R

BACKGROUND

Mattawa's Library (John Dixon Public Library, the "Library") is temporarily closing. The landlord, the Near North District School Board, and the Library Board could not come to terms agreeable to both parties and as such, the lease will not be renewed beyond July 31, 2024,

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

At council's regular meeting held June 10th, 2024 the Library Board confirmed its intent to vacate the current premises on or before July 31, 2024 and will temporarily close its doors while it seeks a new locale.

The Town agreed to use its own forces to help move the Library into suitable safe storage and to set aside an additional \$25,000 to cover moving, storage and other costs.

The Town also agreed to work with the Museum to explore space sharing opportunities and to prepare and submit an OTF SEED Grant Application that focuses on the feasibility of having the Library at the Museum building. The grant application completed was submitted June 26, 2024.

During the application process, the Town met with the Museum board and discussed the pros and cons of having the Library at the Museum building. An agreement in principle was reached by both parties in that the Town would explore this possibility and further that the Town would work with the Museum to address their concerns they have expressed with respect to having the Library in the basement.

The Museum Board stated that a lack of communication has been identified as a significant contributor to the strained relations between the Museum and the Town and both parties have agreed to work together to improve same.

In addition to regular on-going matters, the Library Board has the following items related to the temporary closure:

- i) Give notice to all staff
 - This was done in June, 2024 (all staff including CEO)
- ii) Advise the School Board of the Library's intention to vacate by July 31, 2024
 - This was done June, 2024
- iii) Advise the general public of the Library's temporary closure
- iv) Pack-up the Library
 - This is essentially completed
- v) Find suitable temporary storage
 - The Town will help find suitable storage (North Bay is closest place with heated storage).

- vi) Make arrangements to move
 - The Town will use its own forces to move the Library
- vii) Make arrangements for various administrative support during the temporary closure
 - The Town will assist where possible/practical
- viii) Determine a new model for the Library going forward (Library Board working on it).

Library Structure

Funding sources for the Library are:

- Town of Mattawa
- Provincial grants
- Donations/fundraising
- Other municipalities based on Provincial funding they receive and pass on (\$1,500 - \$3,000).

Currently, the major funding source is the Town of Mattawa.

Neighbouring municipalities (Papineau-Cameron, Mattawan and Calvin) are all members of the John Dixon Public Library. Notwithstanding the fact that their constituents have access to and make use of the Library, their current contributions ranges from a low of zero to a high of \$3,000.

One of the issues giving rise to the lack of financial supports from neighbouring communities is the fact that they don't have a voice on any Library matters.

With the Library being temporarily closed, we have an opportunity to create a stakeholder group who can work together to help form the new Library, the model for which is being developed by the Library Board.

Ideally, the stakeholder group would include:

- ix) 1 member from the Library Board
- x) 1 member from the Museum Board (occupant of the new potential site)
- xi) 1 member from the Mattawa Council
- xii) 1 member from Papineau-Cameron
- xiii) 1 member from Mattawan
- xiv) 1 member from Calvin
- xv) Mattawa CAO or designate
- xvi) Mattawa Mayor as ex-officio

It is recommended that the Mayor and CAO meet with each stakeholder to provide context and seek their participation in the stakeholder group.

Its first order of business should be to create terms of reference.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

For 2024, the Town has already contributed \$68,300 and as stated in this report, has agreed to contribute an additional \$25,000 for costs related to the closure, move and storage fees. This will bring the Town of Mattawa's total 2024 contribution to the Library to \$93,500.

The Town has also contributed in-kind support including the cost of the audit, the preparation and submission of the OTF SEED Grant Application and the use of its own forces to move the Library into and subsequently out of, storage.

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Mattawa and the Mattawa Historical Society.

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council for the Town of Mattawa receives this report and further that Council supports the creation of a Library Stakeholder Group and further that Council supports approaching all stakeholders identified in this report to seek their participation in the Stakeholder Group.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-38R titled John Dixon Public Library Update.

AND FURTHER THAT Council supports the creation of a Library Stakeholder Group and directs the Interim CAO/Treasurer and Mayor to approach all stakeholders identified in this report to seek their participation.

AND FURTHER THAT the Interim CAO/Treasurer is directed to return to Council with an update on the Library Stakeholder Group at the next regular meeting of Council.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: PAUL LAPERRIERE, INTERIM CAO/TREASURER

TITLE: VEHICLE REPLACEMENT

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

REPORT NO: 24-39R

BACKGROUND

Some of the vehicle in the Town's vehicle fleet are woefully old, sometimes unsafe and in other cases, lacking.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

Consider the following:

- Pick-up truck at Townhall and currently used by the Chief Building Official/By-law Officer is a 2010 (14 years old)
- Pick-up truck at Public Works currently used by the Public Works Supervisor is a 2012 (12 years old).

Both vehicles have excessive rust, have very little or no market value and with Town logos prominently displayed on the side of the vehicles, makes us look like second class.

The Fire Chief will soon start and does not have a vehicle. As the most senior Protection Services employee and by-law enforcement support, the Chief should have a vehicle.

Not every vehicle in the fleet needs to be a pick-up truck.

The Opportunity:

We have been looking at replacement vehicles both new and used and have found a 2021 Ford Escape for \$25,000 plus applicable taxes. The vehicle is in great shape and has only 35,000 kms.

Following the purchase the Ford Escape, the Town will declare the oldest pick-up truck (the 2010 at Town Hall) as surplus equipment and will put it up for sale, as is.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This \$25,000 purchase, plus applicable taxes, falls within the capital purchases included in the 2024 approved budget.

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

2024 Municipal Budget

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council for the Town of Mattawa receives this report and further that Council approves the purchase of a 2021 Ford Escape for approximately \$25,000 plus taxes and fees and further that Council approves that the 2010 Ford Ranger be declared as surplus equipment.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-39R titled Vehicle Replacement.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the purchase of a 2021 Ford Escape with a purchase price of approximately \$25,000 plus applicable taxes and fees.

AND FURTHER THAT Council declare the 2010 Ford Ranger as surplus vehicle and directs staff to sell where they deem fit and as is where is.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: PAUL LAPERRIERE, INTERIM CAO/TREASURER

TITLE: EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

REPORT NO: 24-40R

BACKGROUND

The Executive Assistant (EA) position has been vacant since November of 2023. In December, Council approved the new staffing model. In that model, the EA position was combined with the Communication Coordinator contract position with the understanding the contract commission would be extended until such time as the new EA position was filled.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

Interviews for the EA position were held on July 3, 2024. Of the 8 applicants, only 2 meet all of the criteria and those 2 were interviewed.

Both individuals interviewed well and the interview panel consisting of Mayor Bélanger, the Interim CAO/Treasurer and the Municipal Clerk and all were unanimous in their first choice. We are in the process of the checking references and if favourable, will enter into negotiations for a full-time permanent offer.

The Communication Coordinator contract position will end July 26, 2024.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The position was listed at a range of \$42,700 to \$54,725. Both individuals have many years of experience and it is likely that the salary will be in the higher part of that range.

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council for the Town of Mattawa receives and accepts this report.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-40R titled Executive Assistant Position.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
PREPARED BY: PAUL LAPERRIERE, INTERIM CAO/TREASURER
TITLE: ROSEMOUNT VALLEY SUITES SENIORS HOUSING
DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024
REPORT NO: 24-41R

BACKGROUND

The Seniors' Housing rent rates are up for renewal, typically October 1 of each year with 3 months' notice.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

3 months puts us past October 1 so any contemplated rent increases should be pushed to November 1.

The Provincial rent increase guideline for 2024 is 2.5%. Given the current rate of inflation and Rosemount's below market rent, this is a most reasonable increase.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The rent increase will mitigate operational cost increases incurred by the Seniors' Housing complex and the current slightly better than breakeven operation should not financially worsen over the next 12 months.

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council for the Town of Mattawa receives this report and further that Council approves a 2.5% increase in rent effective November 1, 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 24-41R titled Rosemount Valley Suites Senior Housing.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve a 2.5% increase for rent effective November 1, 2024.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT REPORT



PROPERTY LOCATION:
231 Tenth Street, Mattawa, ON

PROPERTY OWNER:
Corporation of the town of Mattawa

REPORTING PERIOD:
May 31st, 2024

PREPARED BY:
Descon Management Group Ltd.

OCCUPANCY & LEASING

As of May 31, 2024, a total of 85 applications have been received of which 30 tenants have been selected. Current occupancy is as follows:

- VACANT UNITS – none, all 30 units are fully leased and are occupied.
- Rental inquiries continue to come in regularly.
- Rent Increase Should be Considered as October 1 is approaching and 90 day notice needs to be delivered by July 1

MAINTENANCE.

- Annual Fire Inspections were conducted no issues to report
- Building inspections were conducted
- Some minor roof leaks in the laundry room, storage room, and above unit 115 maintenance is attending this week
- Tenant Contact will be cleaning all carpets in the building
- Exit Door is rubbing the roof by unit 129 will be repaired when the roof repairs take place

TENANT COMMUNICATIONS

- Nothing to Report

FINANCIAL

- DELIQUENCIES – None
- PROPERTY INCOME STATEMENT – See attached
- PROPERTY CASH FLOW STATEMENT – See attached
- OPERATING AND CAPITAL RESERVES – Operating Reserves continue to be accumulated each period. The 4% Capital Reserve has been deferred until operating reserves accumulated.

Rosemount Valley Suites

Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2024

	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
Caisse Populaire	35,886.50
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$35,886.50
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	-11,989.90
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$ -11,989.90
Due From Descon	108,059.78
Total Current Assets	\$131,956.38
Total Assets	\$131,956.38
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	51,233.55
Total Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$51,233.55
Deferred Revenue	25,678.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$76,911.55
Total Liabilities	\$76,911.55
Equity	
Owner Draw	-5,000.00
Retained Earnings	55,451.23
Profit for the year	4,593.60
Total Equity	\$55,044.83
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$131,956.38

Rosemount Valley Suites

Profit and Loss

April - May, 2024

	TOTAL
INCOME	
Laundry Income	1,467.62
Misc. Fee Income	70.00
Parking Income	890.00
Rent Income	50,322.00
Total Income	\$52,749.62
GROSS PROFIT	\$52,749.62
EXPENSES	
Alarm, Internet, Telephone	1,426.54
Bank charges	20.00
Management Fees	3,411.84
Repairs and Maintenance	1,107.04
On Site Cleaner	800.00
Total Repairs and Maintenance	1,907.04
Utilities	
Gas	3,493.02
Hydro	3,848.06
Water	2,172.76
Total Utilities	9,513.84
Total Expenses	\$16,279.26
OTHER EXPENSES	
Mortgage Interest	31,876.76
Total Other Expenses	\$31,876.76
PROFIT	\$4,593.60

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

11.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-law No. 24-18 which is a by-law to appoint a full time Fire Chief in the Town of Mattawa.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

BY-LAW NUMBER 24-18

BEING a by-law to appoint a full time Fire Chief in the Town of Mattawa.

WHEREAS Section 6 (1) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 c.4 requires that the Council of a municipality that has established a Fire Department shall appoint a Fire Chief for the fire department;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa enacted By-law No. 06-05 which is the Establishing and Regulating By-law for the Mattawa Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act, 2001 authorizes the appointment of officers to carry into effect the provisions of any Act of the legislature of Ontario or By-laws of Council.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Town of Mattawa enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** Shawn Hongell was hired as Fire Chief of the Mattawa Fire Department on May 27, 2024 under Resolution Number 24-117.
2. **THAT** Shawn Hongell's official start date as Fire Chief of the Mattawa Fire Department will be effective August 6, 2024.
3. **THAT** the Fire Chief shall administer the Fire Department in accordance with the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 and the policies of Council as set in accordance with the Establishing and Regulating By-law No. 06-05.
4. **THAT** By-laws 91-20, 01-25 and 07-05 are repealed.
5. **THAT** this By-law shall come into full force and effect on August 6, 2024.

READ A FIRST and SECOND TIME, this 8th day of July, 2024.

READ THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED, this 8th day of July, 2024.

Mayor

Clerk

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council proceed in Camera at _____ in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- a) security of the property of the municipality or local board;
- b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
- c) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board;
- d) labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;
- f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- g) a matter in respect of which a council, board, committee or other body has authorized a meeting to be closed under another Act;
- h) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

16

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting reconvene at _____ p.m.

DATE: MONDAY JULY 8, 2024

18.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the July 8, 2024 meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.