



**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
AGENDA
MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025 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: 871 0409 6506 Passcode: 879124
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- 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 November 24, 2025 be adopted
- 4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest**
- 5. Presentations and Delegations**
 - 5.1 Public Meeting for Road Closures for James Street, Rankin Street & Peter Street
 - 5.2 Public Meeting for Public Input on Town of Mattawa 2026-2023 Strategic Plan
- 6. Adoption of Minutes**
 - 6.1 Regular Meeting of November 10, 2025
 - 6.2 Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 17, 2025
 - 6.2 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended
 - That Council adopt the November 10 & 17, 2025 minutes
- 7. Notice of Motions**
- 8. Correspondence**
 - 8.1 AMO – Fall Economic Statement
 - 8.2 Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing – Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025 (Bill 60)
 - 8.3 Mattawa Hospital & Algonquin Nursing Home – 2025 Tree of Lights Campaign
 - 8.4 United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria – Request for Auto Extrication Services on Highway 17 Between Deux Rivieres & Mackey
 - 8.5 FONOM – Northern Commitments in Ontario's Fall Economic Statement

- 8.6 Cassellholme – Quarterly Capital Levy Notice
- 8.7 Municipality of Wawa & Town of Goderich – Accessible & Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario
- 8.8 Strategic Plan Working Group – Minutes of October 22, 2025
- 8.9 Ontario Clean Water Agency – Water & Wastewater Systems Quarterly Operations Report
- 8.10 FONOM – Final Report on Internal Migration to Northern Ontario
- 8.11 Stephen Galka – Request to Waive Planning Fees for Minor Variance File A1-25
- 8.12 Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing – 2025 Northern Municipal Council Workshop

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Information Reports – Motions

- 10.1 Encroachment Agreement for Committee of Adjustment File A1-24 – Report # 25-71R
Report from Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk & Wayne Chaput, Chief Building Official
- 10.2 Community Safety & Well-Being in Mattawa – Report # 25-72R
Report from Councillor Spencer Bigelow & Councillor Loren Mick
- 10.3 Appointment of Committee of Adjustment Members for 2026 – Report # 25-73R
Report from Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk

11. By-Laws

- 11.1 By-Law 25-16 – Dissolve Standing Committees of Council
BEING a by-law to repeal By-law 24-06 and dissolve the Standing Committees of Council.

12. Old Business

- 12.1 Renaming of Hurdman Street Request for “Chick Webster”
- 12.2 Business/Organization Signage Policy
- 12.3 FONOM Correspondence Consultation on Natural Gas Expansion in Ontario
- 12.4 2026 Tax Rates for Vacant Lots
- 12.5 Commercial Recycling/Commercial Tax Rate Adjustment
- 12.6 Streetlights on McKenzie Street

13. New Business

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

- 15.1 Adoption of Previous Closed Meeting Minutes
- 15.2 Litigation Matter

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

- e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board

16. Return to Regular Session

16.1 That the Council Return to Regular Session at _____ p.m.

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

- That the November 24, 2025 meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

3.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday November 24, 2025 be adopted.

BACKGROUND

Section 13 Governing Policies of Council

Strategic Plans

Operational Plans

Work Plans

Strategic Planning Work Group

Established April, 2023

Composition

Mayor Belanger, Deputy Mayor Gardiner, Councillor Levesque
CAO Laperriere, CSD Sarrazin, EA Byers
A. Clement of IMCG

Strategic Planning Context

First in Mattawa's current history

Five-Year Framework for Mattawa Activities

Mattawa's Mission, Vision, and Values

Mattawa's "Asset Management Plan" and "Official" Plan

A Dynamic Instrument

Process

Strategic Plan Development

1. Terms of Reference for the Strategic Plan Work Group
2. Review of the Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
3. Mission, Vision and Values approved by Council for Mattawa
4. Review of Strategic Plans from Other Similarly-Sized Municipalities

Process

Strategic Plan Development

5. Electronic Survey of Residents in Mattawa and Its Surrounding Municipalities
6. Analysis of Mattawa's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)
7. Draft Goals and Objectives to Council For Approval as a Draft
8. Public Meeting to Solicit Feedback on the Draft Goals and Objectives

Process

Strategic Plan Development

9. Final approval of the Strategic Plan by Council
10. Council to Approve Mattawa's First 2026 Operational Plan

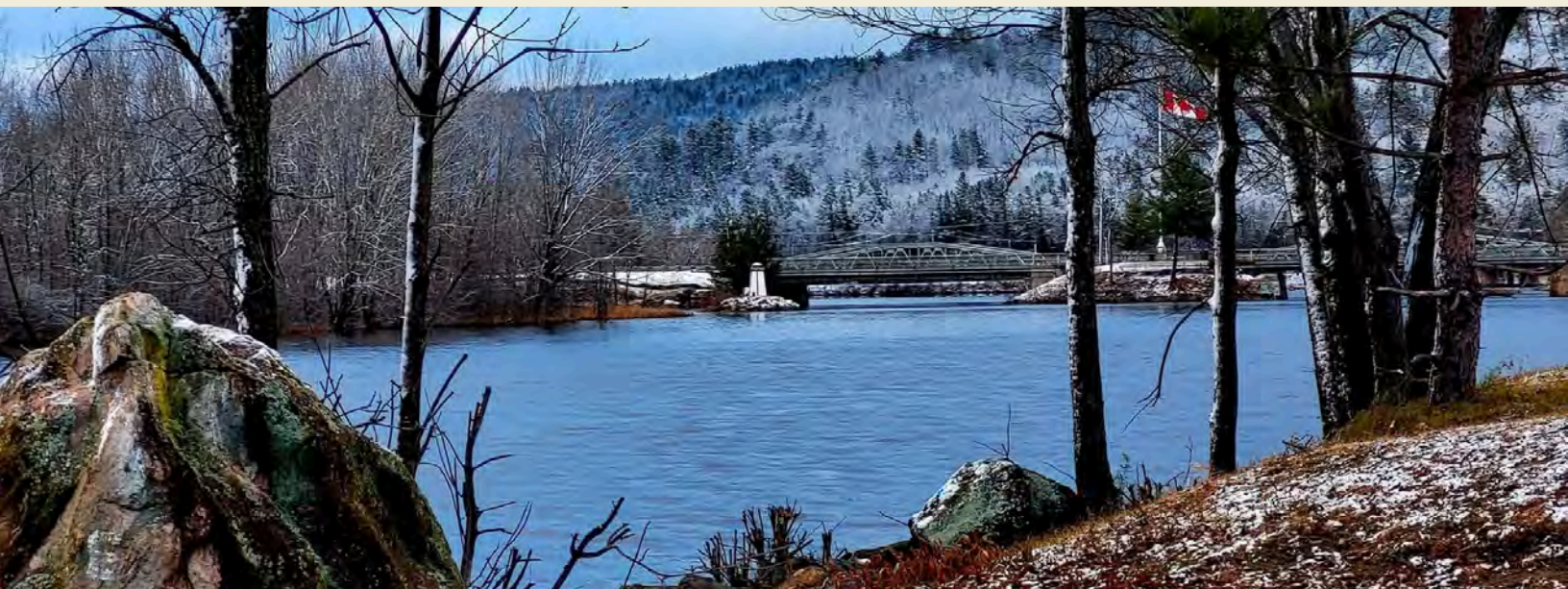
ITEMS 1 AND 3 ARE POSTED AT MATTAWA'S WEBSITE



Corporation of the Town of Mattawa

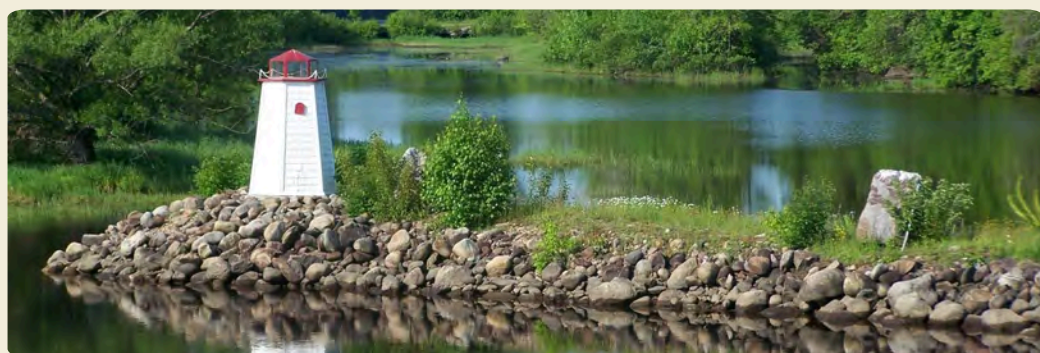
Strategic Plan

2026-2030



OUR VISION

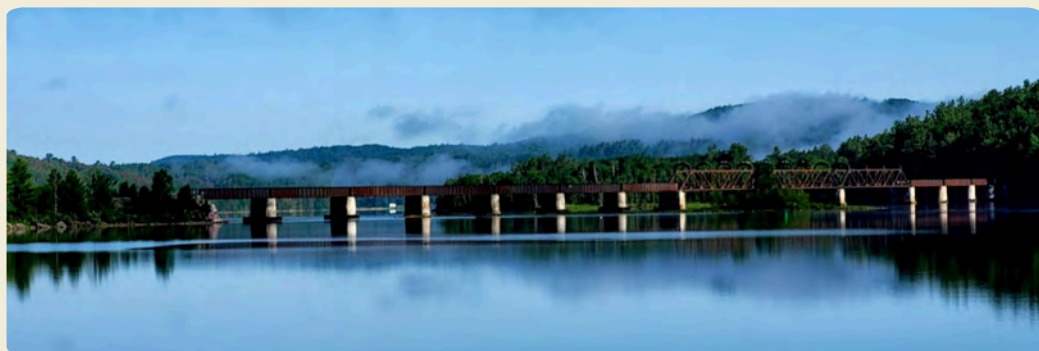
A growing and resilient community that is healthy, vibrant and strong.





OUR MISSION

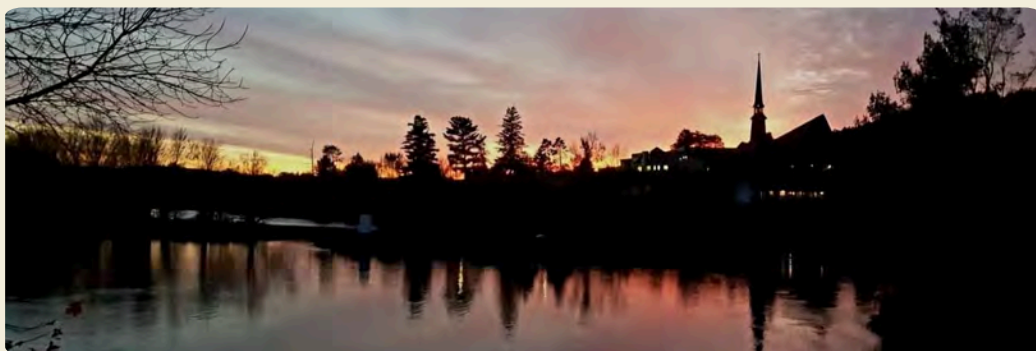
Provide high quality services efficiently through partnerships, public engagement, and good governance.





OUR VALUES

A welcoming home that embraces our cultural heritage, creates conditions for our families to prosper and our elders to enjoy their senior years and our local businesses to thrive. We value accountability in our endeavours, transparency in our behaviours and respect for and amongst residents.



Recent Accomplishments

1.	Completion of an Organizational Review with implementation of 90% of its recommendations
2.	New Governance Policies and Procedures
3.	New Administrative Policies and Procedures
4.	New Operational Policies and Procedures
5.	New Town wide Organizational Chart
6.	Filling key vacancies/new positions including CAO/Treasurer, Fire Chief, Director of Community Services, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Deputy-Treasurer and Executive Assistant
7.	Completion of financial audits for 2022, 2023 and 2024
8.	Improved budget process and completion in the first quarter
9.	Installation of fibre optic at Townhall
10.	Completion of the Mattawan Street Reconstruction
11.	Completion of the Main Street Detailed Engineering and Environmental Assessment
12.	Initiation of the Mauril Bélanger Bridge Detailed Structural Review and Environmental Assessment
13.	Completion of the Dorion Hill Reconstruction project
14.	Landfill Site improvements
15.	Purchase a grader and upgrades to the automotive fleet
16.	Completion of new bandshell



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Governance and Community Relations

Economic Development and Growth

Municipal Services

Fiscal Responsibility



Governance and Community Relations

Goals	Objectives
<i>Ensure transparency in activities and decision-making processes</i>	• Ensure Town of Mattawa shared services with neighbouring municipalities are covered under shared services agreements and are fair to Mattawa and all. • Even though Mattawa has been granted Strong Mayor Powers, Council will endeavor to defend the democratic process and ensure that all of Council has a voice in all decisions. • Communicate with all residents on all matters of significance through a <i>State of the Town address</i>, at least twice per year. • Upgrade meeting platform to improve virtual participation at Council meetings.
<i>Enhance community relations with all stakeholders</i>	• Ensure Duty to Consult procedures with all indigenous communities of the area are conducted for all projects. • Initiate semi-annual community relations meeting with the surrounding municipalities (Group of 4) to provide and/or share updates on key activities/initiatives within the Town of Mattawa.



Economic Development and Growth

Goals	Objectives
<i>Promote and enable growth through the development of municipal property, major capital projects and expansion opportunities</i>	• Develop the Municipal Landbank #1 (Mountain View subdivision) including a new water reservoir to service all of Mattawa. • Complete the Main Street Rehabilitation project. • Complete the Pont Mauril Bélanger Bridge Rehabilitation project. • Complete the new Official Plan. • Explore amalgamation opportunities with neighbouring communities and MMAH to determine interest in, and the process for, “joining forces”.
<i>Promote and support economic development</i>	• Submit a joint funding application to FEDNOR under the Community Investment Initiative for Northern Ontario (CIINO) program for an Economic Development Officer. • Work effectively with prospective investors to foster residential and commercial developments



Municipal Services

Goals	Objectives
<i>Improve the provision and delivery of services</i>	• Complete engineering studies for the replacement/upgrades of old watermain including those of Ottawa Street, Donald Street, Rankin Street and Earl Street to name a few. • Complete and maintain the Asset Management Plan. • Working with the Library Board and our neighbouring municipalities, initiate and complete the re-opening of the library. • Ensure Minimum Maintenance Standards are met or exceeded. • Secure funding for the infrastructure improvement to the Mike Rodden Arena and maximize all multi-use opportunities. • Secure a new landfill Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).
<i>Promote the Town's historical and cultural aspects</i>	• Erect a commemorative plaque for the Train Station and ensure proper maintenance of the "Big Joe" statue.



Fiscal Responsibility

Goals	Objectives
<i>Minimize taxation increases</i>	• Mattawa's tax rates are some of the highest in the area. Ensure that the municipality's budget keeps tax increases to an absolute minimum.
<i>Maximize funding</i>	• Seek all available funding at all times. • Secure long term funding from Infrastructure Ontario for major capital projects. • Divest of long term financial commitments such as the affordable seniors housing \$5.6 million loan.
<i>Maximize efficiencies</i>	• Where practical become self-sufficient in the delivery of services. Examples include snow removal, grass cutting, sweeping, landfill etc. • Ensure the completion of the annual financial audit and annual budget on a timely basis. The target is March 31 of each year. • Ensure all of Mattawa's services are operated cost-effectively.





**160 Water Street
Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0**

**705-744-5611
info@mattawa.ca**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday November 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger
Councillor 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
Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services

*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

2. Announce Electronic Participants

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-227

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday November 10, 2025 be adopted as amended to include Notice of Motion 7.5 to approve the 2026- 2030 Strategic Plan.

CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

5. Presentations and Delegations

6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Regular Meeting of October 27, 2025

6.2 To adopt the minutes as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-228

Moved by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of October 27, 2025.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Notice of Motions

7.1 Support for Swim to Survive Training in Elementary School Curriculum

Resolution Number 25-229

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa supports the City of Dryden resolution for the Government of Ontario to incorporate mandatory water safety and Swim-to-Survive training into the elementary school curriculum for all Ontario students.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Education of Ontario; MP Pauline Rochefort; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.2 Support to Extend Annual Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

Resolution Number 25-230

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal resolution calling on the Government of Ontario to extend the annual Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) beyond its current five year term ending in 2026.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Infrastructure; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister of Finance; MP Pauline Rochefort; MPP Vic Fedeli; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.3 Change in Start Time for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Resolution Number 25-231

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

WHEREAS Council of the Town of Mattawa, during their regular meeting of Monday October 27, 2025, discussed holding a Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss Mattawa Voyageur Days and the Municipality of Mattawan's request for shared fire services;

AND WHEREAS the Clerk spoke with Mayor Bélanger to request the start time for the Committee of the Whole meeting, which is set for Monday November 17, 2025, be set at an earlier time to allow for longer discussions, if required.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council agree to move the start time for the Committee of the Whole meeting of Monday November 17, 2025, to begin at 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.4 Request for copy of Financing Agreement from Cassellholme

Resolution Number 25-232

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

WHEREAS the previous Council for the Town of Mattawa passed, on February 28, 2022, Bylaw #22-09 being a bylaw to authorize the signing of a Guarantee and Postponement of Claim (the “Guarantee”) with Infrastructure Ontario and Lands Corporation (“IO”);

AND WHEREAS the Guarantee extensively refers to a Financing Agreement (the “Agreement”) entered into by IO and the Town of Mattawa along with the 8 other municipalities forming part of the Board of Management for the Nipissing District East (collectively the “Debtors”);

AND WHEREAS the Guarantee makes several references to terms and conditions in the Agreement for which the Debtors are to comply therewith.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mattawa directs staff to request a copy of the Financing Agreement from Cassellhome Home for the Aged, the Board of Management and from Infrastructure Ontario such that the current Council for the Town of Mattawa can properly determine and assess its obligations under the Guarantee.

CARRIED – unanimous

7.5 Approve 2026-2030 Strategic Plan

Resolution Number 25-233

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

WHEREAS the Strategic Plan Workgroup Committee has completed its work on the strategic plan;

AND WHEREAS the final draft of the Strategic Plan was presented to Council on October 20, 2025, with the understanding that the draft plan would be approved by Council at its next regular meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mattawa approves the 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan.

CARRIED – unanimous

8. Correspondence

8.1 Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks – Amendments to Excess Soil Regulations

8.2 AMO – Response to OPP Cost Recovery Model, Continued Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy

8.3 Niagara Region – State of Emergency on Mental Health, Homelessness & Addictions

8.4 Town of Plympton-Wyoming & Municipality of Calvin – Support for Conservation Fee Freeze

- 8.5 Descon Management Group Ltd – Property Management Report September 30, 2025
- 8.6 Minister of Finance – 2026 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)
- 8.7 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Amendments to Development Charges Act, 1997 (DCA)

9. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

10. Staff Reports – Motions

- 10.1 Standing Committees of Council – Report # 25-67R
Report from Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk

Resolution Number 25-234

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-67R titled Standing Committees of Council.

AND FURTHER THAT Council will dissolve the standing committee structure and will repeal By-law 24-06 Standing Committees of Council.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the Clerk to return at the next regular meeting of Council with the by-law to repeal the standing committees for its approval and passing.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs the clerk to bring forward an amended governance policies and procedures by-law removing the standing committee structure from the policy.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was as follows:

For: Councillors Gardiner, Levesque, Mick, Ross, Bigelow

Against: Mayor Bélanger, Councillor Thibert

- 10.2 Main Street Connecting Link Application Update – Report # 25-68R
Report from Paul Laperriere, CAO/Treasurer

Resolution Number 25-235 (a)

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-68R titled Main Street Connecting Link Application Update.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the submission of a funding application under the Connecting Link Intake # 11 for the revised total cost of \$3,673,614.00 as amended.

CARRIED AS AMENDED – unanimous

Resolution Number 25-235 (b)

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council amend the resolution to state a revised total cost of \$3,922,259.00.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

- 10.3 Police Service Board Meet and Greet – Report # 25-69R
Report from Councillor Laura Ross

Resolution Number 25-236

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick
Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-69R titled Police Service Board Meet and Greet.

CARRIED – unanimous

- 10.4 Mattawa Museum Year End Board Meeting – Report # 25-70R
Report from Councillor Laura Ross

Resolution Number 25-237

Moved by Councillor Spencer Bigelow
Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-70R titled Mattawa Museum Year End Board Meeting.

CARRIED – unanimous

11. By-Laws

- 11.1 By-Law 25-15 – Evacuation Centre Agreement with Township of Papineau-Cameron
BEING a By-law to execute a mutual agreement with the Corporation of the Township of Papineau-Cameron to provide emergency evacuation facilities.

Resolution Number 25-238

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner
Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law 25-15 being a By-law to execute a mutual agreement with the Corporation of the Township of Papineau-Cameron to provide emergency evacuation facilities.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

12. Old Business

- 12.1 Renaming of Hurdman Street Request for “Chick Webster”
12.2 Business/Organization Signage Policy
12.3 FONOM Correspondence Consultation on Natural Gas Expansion in Ontario
12.4 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
12.5 North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority
12.6 2026 Tax Rates for Vacant Lots

13. New Business

- 13.1 Councillor Gardiner – Commercial Recycling/Commercial Tax Rate Adjustment

13.2 Councillor Ross - Mackenzie Street Streetlights

13.3 Councillor Ross - Portable Speed Sign

14. Questions from Public Pertaining to Agenda

15. In Camera (Closed) Session

15.1 Mattawa Landfill Site

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

e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board

Resolution Number 25-239

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Loren Mick

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed In Camera (Closed) session at 7:24 p.m. in order to address a matter pertaining to e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board. This is for Council to discuss the Mattawa Landfill Site.

CARRIED – unanimous

16. Return to Regular Session

16.1 That the Council Return to Regular Session

Resolution Number 25-240

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Spencer Bigelow

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the regular meeting reconvene at 7:57 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

17. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

18. Adjournment

18.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 25-241

Moved by Councillor Loren Mick

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the November 10, 2025 meeting adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor

Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday November 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Dr. S.F. Monestime Council Chambers.

Council Present: Mayor Raymond A. Bélanger
Councillor Mathew Gardiner
Councillor Fern Levesque
Councillor Laura Ross
Councillor Garry Thibert

Staff Present: Amy Leclerc, Municipal Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk
Dexture Sarrazin, Director of Community Services

*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

2. Announce Electronic Participants

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 To Adopt the agenda as presented or amended

Resolution Number 25-242

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting agenda dated Monday November 17, 2025 be adopted as amended to include an In Camera (Closed) session to discuss an Ontario Parks Announcement and if required, to discuss the fire services request from the Municipality of Mattawan.

CARRIED – unanimous

4. Disclosures of a Conflict of Interest

5. Presentations and Delegations

6. Notice of Motions

6.1 Mattawa Men's Invitational Hockey Tournament Liquor Licence Approval

Resolution Number 25-243

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

WHEREAS the Recreation Department is hosting the Mattawa Men's Invitational Hockey Tournament from November 21st to 23rd, 2025 and will be permitting liquor sales for this event;

AND WHEREAS the municipality will be applying for a liquor licence for this event.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa permits the sale of alcohol at the Mike Rodden Arena and Community Centre from November 21st to 23rd, 2025

with the understanding that all rules and regulations will be followed as set by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario.

AND FURTHER THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa endorses and supports the Mattawa Men's Invitational Hockey Tournament as an event of municipal significance.

CARRIED – unanimous

7. Standing Committee Recommendations/Reports – Motions

8. Information Reports – Motions

8.1 Mattawa Voyageur Days Discussion – No Formal Report

Resolution Number 25-244

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa wish to continue with the Mattawa Voyageur Days festival for 2026.

AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to begin the planning process for the festival and return to Council with an update.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

8.2 Municipality of Mattawan Request for Fire Services Discussion – No Formal Report

Resolution Number 25-245

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to respond to the Municipality of Mattawan's request for fire services to advise that the Town of Mattawa will meet for a discussion for all shared services and amalgamation not just for fire services.

CARRIED – Recorded vote and the vote was unanimous

9. In Camera (Closed) Session

9.1 Adoption of Previous Closed Meeting Minutes

9.2 Ontario Parks Announcement

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

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

9.3 Municipality of Mattawan Request for Fire Services (if required)

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

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

Resolution Number 25-246

Moved by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

Seconded by Councillor Garry Thibert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council remove closed session item no. 9.3 from the agenda as no discussion is required.

CARRIED – unanimous

Resolution Number 25-247

Moved by Councillor Laura Ross

Seconded by Councillor Fern Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed In Camera (Closed) session pursuant to section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended at 6:03 p.m. in order to address the following:

Item 9.2 Ontario Parks Announcement - 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

CARRIED – unanimous

10. Return to Regular Session

10.1 That the Council Return to Regular Session at _____ p.m.

Resolution Number 25-248

Moved by Councillor Fern Levesque

Seconded by Councillor Laura Ross

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting reconvene at 6:14 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

11. Motions Resulting from Closed Session

12. Adjournment

12.1 Adjournment of the meeting

Resolution Number 25-249

Moved by Councillor Garry Thibert

Seconded by Councillor Mathew Gardiner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Committee of the Whole meeting adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

CARRIED – unanimous

Mayor

Clerk

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

6.3

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of November 10, 2025 and the committee of the whole meeting of November 17, 2025.

From: [AMO Policy](#)
To: [Amy Leclerc](#)
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Fall Economic Statement
Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025 5:27:24 PM



AMO Policy Update – Fall Economic Statement

Top Insights

- The Fall Economic Statement makes some targeted investments in response to tariffs, but no update on a much-needed property tax re-assessment.

- The government will introduce legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* which will have significant implications for municipal employers.

2025 Fall Economic Statement

The province is now projecting a \$13.5B deficit for 2025-26, down from the \$14.6B originally projected in the 2025 Budget. Projected deficits for 2026-27 remain unchanged at \$7.8B. The government is projecting a return to surplus in 2027-28.

The Fall Economic Statement largely summarizes previously announced funding initiatives. It does include \$100 million in new funding for the Ontario Together Trade Fund to help small and medium businesses affected by US tariffs to shift and diversify sales to new markets. Municipalities will not be eligible for this funding.

The government will introduce legislation that will have significant implications for OMERS governance. These changes are outlined in the [Final Report on the 2025 OMERS Governance Review](#). The [Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario \(MEPCO\)](#) is working to understand the implications of these changes and mitigate risks for municipal employers.

Unfortunately, the Fall Economic Statement included no update on the province's plans for a property tax reassessment. A provincial review of the property tax system was announced in 2023 but no results have been released. AMO will continue to advocate for a return to a regular assessment cycle to support a fair and transparent property tax system.

An online version of this Policy Update is also available on the [AMO Website](#).

*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.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

234-2025-4857

November 12, 2025

Dear Head of Council,

On October 23, 2025, our government introduced the *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025* ([Bill 60](#)). Through this legislation and other changes, we are protecting Ontario's economy and keeping workers on the job by cutting red tape, getting shovels in the ground faster and supporting the construction of homes, roads and infrastructure.

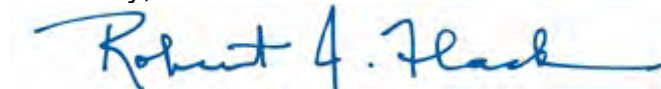
The bill contains bold actions, creating the conditions for building housing and transportation infrastructure faster to support families, attract investments, create good jobs and keep Ontario competitive.

You are invited to review the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) and [Regulatory Registry of Ontario](#) posting links provided with this letter and share any feedback you may have.

If you have any questions, please reach out to my Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Tanner Zelenko, at Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca.

In the face of economic uncertainty, we must protect Ontario. I look forward to continued collaboration with you, our municipal partners, to build the more prosperous, resilient and competitive economy that Ontario needs today, tomorrow, and in the decades to come.

Sincerely,



Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks & Acting Minister of Infrastructure
Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Laura Smith, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Brian Saunderson, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Caspar Hall, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Municipal Chief Administrative Officers

Development Charges Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 3 of the Bill would make amendments to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.

Land Acquisition Costs

A new subsection 7 (3.1) of the *Development Charges Act, 1997* would require development charge-eligible land acquisition costs to be part of a class in a development charge by-law consisting only of those costs. Land acquisition costs would, pursuant to a new section 5.3, be exempted from the historic service level cap, and these costs, for certain services, would be limited to those that relate to the ten-year period after the background study.

A new subsection 35 (1.1) of the Act would provide that money in an existing reserve fund established to pay for growth-related capital costs of eligible services can continue to be used for growth-related land acquisition costs of the applicable service, so long as those costs are not being paid from the reserve fund for the land acquisition class.

Requiring Local Service Policies

A new subsection 59 (2.2) of the Act would require municipalities that levy development charges to establish local service policies for each service to which the by-law relates and for which a part of the service would be provided as a local service.

The local service policy must identify the works or classes of works that are intended to be for the provision of local services. It could also identify works or classes of works that are not intended to be for the provision of local services (e.g. works that would be funded through development charges) or works or classes of works that would only partially be intended to be for the provision of local services.

A municipality could not require a work for the provision of local service to be paid for or constructed as a condition of land division if it is not identified as being intended to be so provided in the local service policy. This rule applies on the earlier of 18 months after Royal Assent or the day on which the local service policy is established.

The municipality would need to send a copy of the local service policy to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on request, by the date specified in the request.

If a local service policy has been established, it must be reviewed and a resolution passed by council at the same time as a development charge by-law is passed, indicating whether revisions would be needed.

Requiring Treasurer's Statements to be Submitted by a Specific Date

Subsection 43 (1) of the Act is amended to require the municipal treasurer to give council a development charges financial statement (commonly referred to as the treasurer's statement) on or before June 30 annually. Subsection 43 (3) of the Act is amended to require the treasurer to give a copy of the financial statement to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing no later than July 15 of the year in which the statement is provided to council.

Requiring Municipal Documents to be Submitted to the Ministry on Request

A new subsection 10 (5) of the Act would require municipal councils to give a copy of the development charge background study to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on request, by the deadline specified in the request

A new subsection 13 (5) of the Act, requires municipal councils to give a copy of the development charge by-law passed by the municipality to the Minister on request, by the deadline specified in the request.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997* through the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([25-MMAH018](#)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Municipal Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 7 of the Bill propose changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to transfer jurisdiction over water and wastewater (sewage) services from Peel Region to the lower-tier municipalities of Mississauga and Brampton, and Caledon, effective January 1, 2029, or a different date as prescribed by the Minister. The proposed amendments prevent the transfer of jurisdiction over water and wastewater back from the lower-tier municipalities to Peel Region using existing authority to transfer services in the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001*. through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([025-1098](#)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Planning Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 10 of the Bill proposes the following amendments to the *Planning Act* that would help create the conditions necessary to support housing and community development. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Provide authority for the Minister to make regulations that would remove the need for certain minor variances,
- Allow certain official plan amendments modifying the authorized uses of land within a Protected Major Transit Station Areas (PMTSA) to be exempt from Minister's approval,
- Make provincial policy statements inapplicable with respect to all Minister's decisions under the *Planning Act* outside the Greenbelt Area. A transparent and accountable oversight framework would be developed to support implementation,
- Enable all upper-tier municipalities to establish regional Community Improvement Plans (CIPs) without being prescribed, allow municipalities to fund the CIPs of their respective upper- or lower-tier municipalities, and, for upper-tier municipalities without planning responsibilities, to revive CIPs that were in effect on the day before the municipality lost its planning responsibilities, and
- Enable Minister's zoning orders (MZO) to be made by non-regulatory orders and require them to be published on a Government of Ontario website.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario and the Ontario Regulatory Registry from October 23, 2025, to November 22, 2025:

- [ERO 025-1097](#) Proposed Planning Act Changes (Schedule 10 of Bill 60 - *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act*, 2025).

We are also interested in receiving any comments you may have on associated consultation postings:

- [ERO 025-1099](#): Consultation on simplifying and standardizing official plans.
- [ERO 025-1100](#): Consultation to better understand the linkage between minimum lot sizes on urban residential lands and increased housing options and affordability.
- [ERO 025-1101](#): Consultation to understand current municipal practices with respect to green development standards at the lot level (outside of building) in order to assess whether future changes are needed to prohibit mandatory green development standards in order to improve consistency and clarity across Ontario.

The Environmental Registry postings provide additional details regarding the proposed changes.

City of Toronto Act, 2006 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The proposed change would, through a proclamation order, remove the City of Toronto's authority, under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, to require green roofs or other alternative roof surfaces on buildings, effective November 3, 2025.

Residential Tenancies Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing / Ministry of the Attorney General

Schedule 12 of the Bill amends the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006* (RTA) to help address delays and support backlog reduction efforts at the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) and adjust the balance of landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Remove the requirement for a landlord to provide compensation to a tenant when evicting for personal use of the rental unit, if the landlord gives at least 120 days' notice of termination, instead of the required 60 days' notice;
- Shorten the notice period a landlord must provide to a fixed-term or month-to-month tenant to evict them for rent arrears from 14 days to 7 days;
- Remove a tenant's ability to raise issues that could otherwise be the subject of a tenant application to the LTB as part of a rent arrears hearing, if the tenant has not paid at least half of the rent arrears claimed in the application filed by the landlord;
- Remove a tenant's ability to raise issues that could otherwise be the subject of a tenant application to the LTB on the day of a rent arrears hearing, if the tenant has not given prior notice in accordance with LTB timelines;
- Specify a 15-day period for a landlord or tenant to request internal review of a final order or decision of the LTB; and

- Create new regulation-making authorities for the government to prescribe:
 - o The form of a notice given by a landlord or tenant to terminate a tenancy.
 - o Rules and guidelines for determining what qualifies as a “persistent” failure to pay rent / monthly housing charges, when they are due, by a tenant / member of non-profit housing co-operative.
 - o Limitations on the LTB’s ability to postpone the enforcement of an eviction order and/or factors the LTB must consider before postponing enforcement.
 - o Limitations, conditions, or tests related to a tenant / member of non-profit housing co-operative making a motion to set aside an eviction order that has been issued, without a hearing, when the tenant/member has given notice of termination to a landlord/co-op, or the parties have entered into an agreement to end a tenancy.
 - o Limits or conditions on the power of the LTB to review its final decisions and orders.

The proposed amendments would come into force on a day to be named by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change through the Ontario Regulatory Registry from October 23, 2025, to November 22, 2025 at the links below:

- [RR 25-MMAH019](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to the Rules Related to Tenants Raising New Issues at a Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) Rent Arrears Hearing
- [RR 25-MMAH024](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to Shorten the Rent Arrears Eviction Notice Period
- [RR 25-MMAH025](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendments to the Compensation Requirements for Landlord's Own Use Evictions
- [RR 25-MAG017](#): Seeking Feedback on Proposed Amendment to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) to Shorten the Period of Time Available to Request a Review of an LTB order

Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 16 of the Bill proposes a new Act which sets out a framework for a new delivery model for water and wastewater services. The new framework will include legislative authority for the Minister to:

- Designate corporations as water and wastewater public corporations by regulation.
- Require prescribed municipalities to deliver water and wastewater exclusively through a water and wastewater public corporation beginning on a date as prescribed.

Under the new framework, the Minister will have regulation-making authority, including the ability to:

- o Prescribe duties and responsibilities for the water and wastewater public corporation.
- o Govern the transfer, issuance, redemption and purchase of shares and dividends of a water and wastewater public corporation.
- o Govern requirements related to the nomination, appointment, election, resignation or removal of members of the board of directors of the corporation.
- o Govern powers for the water and wastewater public corporation to impose and collect fees and charges. If required by LGIC regulation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing would have oversight powers over rate plans (and additional plans that may be prescribed in regulations).
- o Provide for additional transitional matters.

Subject to future regulations setting out the share allocation, the first corporation would provide water and wastewater services in Peel Region and would be jointly owned by Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon. A corporation would be incorporated under the *Ontario Business Corporations Act* at the direction of the Minister that the Minister would designate as a water and wastewater public corporation.

The council of a municipality prescribed by the regulations shall, by the date specified in the regulations, make by-laws transferring employees, assets, liabilities, rights and obligations of the municipality to a water and wastewater public corporation for the purpose of providing water and wastewater services.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001*. through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([025-1098](#)) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

GO Transit Station Funding Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

Schedule 4 of the Bill proposes changes the *GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023*, to enable Municipalities the flexibility to specify payment of a transit station charge, in respect of any part of a development that consists of residential development, upon occupancy and require financial security to secure the payment of any transit station charge that is required to be paid upon occupancy of residential development.

Additional amendments will provide for the determination of a transit station charge that is payable upon occupancy of residential development.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

The proposed amendments to the *Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act, 2002* would extend the mandate of Waterfront Toronto from 2028 to 2035, and allow for a further extension up to 2040.

The amendments also include provisions relating to a strategic review of Waterfront Toronto in 2031-32 that may inform the extension, a provision requiring the provincial government to consult with the federal government and City of Toronto prior to winding-up the corporation, and the repeal of provisions in the Act that are no longer applicable.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation Act, 2002* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Transit-Oriented Communities Act – Ministry of Infrastructure

Schedule 15 of the Bill proposes to amend the *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020*, which may allow the Minister to establish a Transit-Oriented Communities Advisory Panel. The Minister may appoint up to four individuals to this Advisory Panel and appoint a Chair from among them.

The Transit-Oriented Communities Advisory Panel would advise and make recommendations to the Minister, in respect of such matters as the Minister directs, related to infrastructure, transit-oriented community projects, land designated as transit-oriented community land under the Act, and other related matters.

The amendments will also enable the Minister to make an order requiring an owner of land designated as transit-oriented community land to enter into an agreement with a municipality addressing any matters that the Minister considers necessary for the appropriate development of the transit-oriented community land.

Municipalities will also be required to designate a municipal officer or employee to give to the Minister such information as the Minister requests with respect to the implementation of transit-oriented community projects that are located within that municipality.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [025-1182](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025.

Construction Act - Ministry of the Attorney General

Schedule 2 of the bill proposes the following amendments to the *Construction Act* that would, if passed, refine the new annual release of holdback system that was enacted in 2024 but that is not yet in force:

Section 30 is re-enacted in order to apply with respect to the abandonment or termination of a contract or subcontract, rather than to a circumstance in which a contractor or subcontractor defaults in the performance of a contract or subcontract.

Not-yet-in-force amendments to section 31 that would have been made by section 27 of Schedule 4 to the *Building Ontario For You Act (Budget Measures), 2024* – providing for annual lien expiry – are repealed. Section 31 is amended to retain the provisions of those amendments dealing with notice of termination and its effects. The not-yet-in-force re-enacted version of section 26 (payment of basic holdback) is consequently amended to require the annual release of holdback without the expiry of liens.

Section 87.4 is amended by adding a separate transition rule for alternative financing and procurement arrangements (otherwise known as “public-private partnerships”) and to adjust the transition rules respecting amendments made to section 31.

Transitional regulation-making authority in section 88 is made more generally applicable and is transferred from the Lieutenant Governor in Council to the Minister.

The amendments are to come into force at the same time as related amendments to the Act made by the *Building Ontario For You Act (Budget Measures), 2024*, except for the transitional regulation-making authority which comes into force on Royal Assent.

Ontario Water Resources Act - Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Schedule 8 of the bill proposes amendments to the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) that would, if enacted, would reduce the time and costs with providing on-site sewage treatment to on-farm worker housing by allowing larger systems (comprised of multiple systems with design capacities no greater than 10,000 L/d each and up to 50,000 L/d total per lot or parcel of land) to be regulated under the Ontario’s Building Code and exempting these systems from existing *Ontario Water Resources Act* requirements for environmental compliance approvals.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the *Ontario Water Resources Act* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice [ERO 025-0900](#) from October 23, 2025 to November 22, 2025. In parallel, the government is also consulting on a policy proposal on how the Ontario Building Code will continue to provide protection to human health, the environment, and neighbouring properties in relation to these on-farm systems. You may provide comments on this supporting policy proposal to the Ontario Building Code through Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-0899](#) from October 24, 2025 to December 7, 2025.

Building Transit Faster Act, 2020 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 1 of the bill proposes amendments to the *Building Transit Faster Act, 2020* (BTFA) that, if passed, would remove barriers and streamline processes that may otherwise result in delays to the timely completion of provincial transit projects by:

- Reducing the notice period to property owners from 30 to 15 days for Metrolinx to conduct due diligence work (e.g., carrying out inspections, removing obstructions), extending access to municipal right-of-way and third-party lands to the operation and maintenance of projects, and expanding the application of Minister's access orders to additional infrastructure (e.g., tunnels, life safety systems, buildings, bridges). Amendments will also create Minister's regulation-making authorities to name additional infrastructure and to delegate powers for access orders to Metrolinx or to an MTO official.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the BTFA through the Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1035](#).

Highway Traffic Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 5 of the bill amends the *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) to require applicants for a Driver's Licence, Photo Card and Registrant Identification Number demonstrate that the person is a resident of Ontario, that the person has legal status in Canada and, with respect to an application for a commercial class driver's licence, that the person is lawfully able to work in Canada.

The Schedule also makes amendments to Part II.1 of the HTA to address concerns about the impact of vehicle lane reductions on traffic flow, congestion, and transportation efficiency. Amendments to s.195.3 would prohibit all municipalities from reducing the number of motor vehicle lanes when installing new bicycle lanes. Regulation-making authority is also proposed that would allow the Minister to expand the prohibition to include other municipal activities or provide exemptions to the prohibition altogether.

Finally, amendments to s. 195.9 would streamline the process for reimbursement regarding the existing bicycle lane provisions.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes through Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1071](#) and Regulatory Registry notice [RR 25-MTO019](#).

Local Roads Boards Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 6 of the bill amends the *Local Roads Boards Act* to allow owners of certain tax-exempt lands to make voluntary payments to their local roads boards. If approved by the Minister, the voluntary payments would be eligible for matching provincial government funding. The Minister is provided regulation-making authority to prescribe lands for this purpose, as well as to establish an approvals process for such payments. Other related amendments are made regarding record-keeping.

Photo Card Act, 2008 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 9 of the bill amends the *Photo Card Act, 2008*, to require that an applicant for a photo card establish that they are a resident of Ontario, and that they are in Canada lawfully.

Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 11 of the bill adds a new section to the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act* (PTHIA), stating that various things under the Act do not constitute an expropriation or injurious affection.

This Schedule also repeals and replaces s. 117 of the Act. The Minister of Transportation has existing authority under this section to set mandatory standards for highways, including for municipal roads; however, there is no such regulation currently in place. Proposed amendments would support implementation of common road construction standards across the province by creating new regulation-making authorities to allow the province to prescribe requirements for road construction contracts, establish an exemption process, and set reporting requirements pertaining to road standards. Amendments also allow the Minister to require input from stakeholders regarding standards upon request.

You may provide your comments on the proposed change to the PTHIA related to road construction standards through the Environmental Registry of Ontario notice [ERO 025-1140](#).

Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 14 of the bill amends the *Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021*, such that tow operators and vehicle storage operators are not required to submit their rates to the ministry for a service where a maximum amount for that service has been set by regulation.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes through Regulatory Registry notice [RR 25-MTO017](#).



November 18, 2025

RE: 2025 Tree of Lights Campaign

The Mattawa Hospital and Algonquin Nursing Home organize the Tree of Lights Campaign, a tradition since 1989. Together, they are proud to carry on this meaningful initiative for the 2025 Tree of Lights Campaign.

We hope that the community will continue to realize the importance of this fundraising campaign, which supports the Mattawa Hospital and Algonquin Nursing Home in providing exceptional care with state-of-the-art equipment.

The Tree of Lights serves as a beautiful symbol of remembrance and love, as each light on the tree represents someone special being honoured or remembered. Continuing a heartfelt tradition, the residents of the Algonquin Nursing Home will once again take part in lighting the tree at the Algonquin Nursing Home on December 13th.

The campaign will run from November 17th until December 24th. We invite everyone to purchase a bulb on our Christmas tree in memory or in honour of loved ones, and to support our Hospital and Nursing Home.

Donations can be mailed (payable directly to the Mattawa Hospital) at:

Mattawa Hospital
217 Turcotte Park Road
P.O. Box 70
Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0

Contributions can also be made in person at the Hospital Registration Desk. As a registered charitable organization, all donations are tax deductible and will be receipted.

For further information, please call 705-744-6010.

Thank you in advance for your support of the 2025 Tree of Lights campaign!

Sincerely,

Tanya Bélanger
President & CEO



**THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF
HEAD, CLARA & MARIA
15 Township Hall Road
STONECLIFFE, ONTARIO, K0J 2K0**

Phone: (613) 586-2526 | Fax: (613) 586-2596 |

Dear Mayor Belanger,

The United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria (HCM) are seeking assistance to secure **auto extrication services** for our section of Highway 17 between Deux Rivières and Mackey.

HCM does not operate a municipal fire department, and there are currently no agreements in place with neighbouring municipalities for fire protection services. Given the volume of traffic along this section of Highway 17, including heavy transport vehicles, it is important that proper emergency response capability be available in the event of a serious motor vehicle collision.

We are looking to establish an agreement with a neighbouring fire department that has extrication capability and is willing to extend that service coverage to our portion of the highway.

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss possible arrangements, including response protocols, cost recovery, and any operational considerations needed to make this feasible. Our goal is to ensure timely and coordinated emergency response along this corridor for the safety of all travelers.

Please let me know if your municipality and fire department might be open to exploring this service partnership, or if there are other regional mechanisms we should consider.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and for the vital work your departments do every day to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

D. Grills

Mayor Debbi Grills

d.grills@headclaramaria.ca

From: [FONOM Office/ Bureau de FONOM](#)
Subject: FONOM Welcomes Northern Commitments in Ontario's Fall Economic Statement
Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025 6:16:06 PM
Attachments: [FONOM Welcomes Northern Commitments in Ontario's Fall Economic Statement \(1\).pdf](#)

Please share with your council and Senior Management

Please find attached FONOM's media release titled **"FONOM Welcomes Northern Commitments in Ontario's Fall Economic Statement."**

The release highlights key elements from the Province's 2025 Fall Economic Statement that will benefit Northern communities, including:

- Increased **Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)** to **\$600 million**
- A higher **Ontario Community Infrastructure Program (OCIP)** minimum of **\$125,000**
- Expanded **Connecting Links** funding to **\$45 million**
- Continued investments in housing affordability, transportation, clean water systems, and infrastructure across the North

President **Dave Plourde** noted these as positive steps for our member communities and reaffirmed FONOM's commitment to advocate on issues that impact the North — including the effects of tariffs and the need for sustainable, long-term infrastructure funding.

We encourage members to share the release locally and through your own networks to help highlight the ongoing importance of Northern perspectives in provincial decision-making.

Talk soon, Mac.

Mac Bain
Executive Director
The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
665 Oak Street East, Unit 306
North Bay, ON, P1B 9E5
Ph. 705-498-9510

Helen Keller once said, ***"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much"***.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2025

FONOM Welcomes Northern Commitments in Ontario's Fall Economic Statement

Gore Bay, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) acknowledges the Ontario government's 2025 Fall Economic Statement, which highlights several important investments and initiatives that will directly benefit Northern communities. FONOM is encouraged by the Province's commitment to balance its books by 2027-2028 while continuing to invest in key infrastructure and affordability measures. The government's decision to match the federal cut to the HST on new home purchases for first-time buyers, up to \$1 million, will provide meaningful support to Ontarians seeking affordable housing.

For Northern Ontario, several initiatives stand out — including the pilot project to bring ride-sharing services to communities along the Northlander corridor, the commitment to source GO Transit bi-level rail coaches in Thunder Bay, and, as previously mentioned, the investments in road infrastructure such as the Greenstone corridor toward the Ring of Fire.

FONOM also welcomes the increased **Connecting Links program funding to \$45 million**, the rise of the **Ontario Community Infrastructure Program (OCIP) minimum to \$125,000**, and the **\$50 million increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), now totalling \$600 million**. These measures will provide municipalities with greater capacity to maintain and improve local infrastructure and essential services.

The government's ongoing investment in clean water systems, now totalling \$4 billion, including \$1.6 billion for upgrades, represents a significant step toward long-term sustainability for many Northern communities.

"The increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund and the higher minimum under the

Ontario Community Infrastructure Program are positive steps for our member communities,” **said Dave Plourde, President of FONOM.** “We’ll continue to advocate on issues that impact Northern municipalities, including the effects of tariffs on local economies. As this is a Fall Economic Statement, FONOM looks forward to continuing our work with the Province to ensure Northern communities can address their current challenges and are prepared to contribute to Ontario’s overall success.”

FONOM also acknowledges the fiscal challenges outlined in the Statement, with Ontario ending last year with a deficit just over \$1 billion and projecting a \$14.5-billion shortfall for 2025-26. Despite these pressures, the Province continues to make important commitments that reflect confidence in the North’s role in driving growth and opportunity.

FONOM will continue to advocate for policies and programs that reflect the unique needs and priorities of Northern municipalities.

Media Contact:

Dave Plourde, President

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

705-335-1615 | fonom.info@gmail.com

From: [Info](#)
To: [Amy Leclerc](#)
Subject: FW: Quarterly Capital Levy Notice - October 31, 2025
Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 3:12:28 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Oct 31 2025 Cap Levy Approved.pdf](#)

From: Tiffany Chapman <chapmant@cassellholme.on.ca>

Sent: November 5, 2025 10:53 AM

To: 'Bryan Martin' <clerk@southalgonquin.ca>; 'Jason McMartin' <clerk@papineaucameron.ca>;
 'Jason McMartin' <admin@papineaucameron.ca>; 'Jason Trottier' <jason.trottier@eastferris.ca>;
 'JoAnne Montreuil' <admin@mattawan.ca>; 'Karen McIsaac' <Karen.mcisaac@cityofnorthbay.ca>;
 'Lesley Marshall' <l.marshall@chisholm.ca>; Info <info@mattawa.ca>; 'Peter Johnston'
 <cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.org>; 'Donna Maitland' <cao@calvintownship.ca>; 'Nicky Kunkel'
 <cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.com>

Cc: Angie Punnett <punnetta@cassellholme.on.ca>; William Brooks <brooksw@cassellholme.on.ca>;
 'Ethel Lavalley' <mayor@southalgonquin.ca>; 'Peter Chirico' <mayorchirico@northbay.ca>; 'Gail
 Degagne' <g.degagne@chisholm.ca>; 'Narry Paquette' <npaquette@bonfieldtownship.com>; Mayor
 Raymond Belanger <mayor.belanger@mattawa.ca>; 'Richard Gould'
 <mayor.gould@calvintownship.ca>; 'Robert Corriveau' <mayorbob@hotmail.com>;
 'murphyp2115@outlook.com' <murphyp2115@outlook.com>; 'Rick Champagne'
 <rick.champagne@eastferris.ca>

Subject: Quarterly Capital Levy Notice - October 31, 2025

To the Clerks of all supporting municipalities of Cassellholme,

Please see attached quarterly capital levy issued on **October 31, 2025**. This levy was approved at the Cassellholme Board Meeting on **October 23, 2025**. Legislation requires that the board determine a due date for any capital levies. The board approved a due date of **January 31st, 2026** for this quarter's capital levy.

Below is the text of resolution **122-25** as approved:

“That the board approve the quarterly capital levy of \$476,335.45 for actual construction interest costs from July to September 2025. In accordance with O. Reg. 246/22 under the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021, notice of this capital levy, apportioned per the legislation, will be sent to the clerks of all supporting municipalities. This quarterly capital levy is issued October 31st and is due on or before January 31st, 2026.”

This capital levy is in accordance with the Board's Capital Levy Plan which was approved in mid-2024. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact William Brooks, Chief Financial Officer, at brooksw@cassellholme.on.ca or at (705) 474-4250 ext. 230.

Thank you,

Tiffany Chapman

Human Resources & Student Placement Coordinator

CASSELLHOLME

Compassionate care for life's journey.

400 Olive Street

North Bay, ON P1B 6J4

Tel: 705-474-4250 Ext. 354

Website: www.cassellholme.ca

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Cassellholme Capital Levy

Construction Phase - Interest Only Quarterly Levies

CASELLHOLME*Compassionate care for life's journey.***Levy issue date: 31-Oct-25**

Month	Actual Interest Amount	
Jul-25	\$	158,070.59
Aug-25	\$	160,715.90
Sep-25	\$	157,548.96
Total Actual Interest - Quarter	\$	476,335.45

Municipality	Apportionment Rate		Capital Levy Issued Oct-25
	(2025 based on 2023 FIR)		
Bonfield	3.233%	\$	15,399.87
Calvin	1.471%	\$	7,005.56
Chisholm	1.664%	\$	7,926.53
East Ferris	7.794%	\$	37,127.67
Mattawa	1.333%	\$	6,348.00
Mattawan	0.328%	\$	1,561.21
North Bay	79.183%	\$	377,178.68
Papineau-Cameron	1.732%	\$	8,250.91
South Algonquin	3.262%	\$	15,537.02
Total	100.000%	\$	476,335.45

Notes

Capital levies during construction will be issued quarterly, on the last day of the month following the applicable quarter.

The levied amount is based on actual interest paid for each month in the quarter.

Please contact **William Brooks, CPA, Chief Financial Officer** for any questions or concerns.

(705) 474 4250 ext. 230

brooksw@cassellholme.on.ca



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Resolution # RC25170	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: <i>L. K. Opat</i>	Seconded by: <i>M. Hayfield</i>

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced new regulations, effective January 1, 2025, requiring grocery stores with over 4,000 square feet of retail space to accept empty alcohol containers and return deposits as a condition of maintaining their liquor licenses; and

WHEREAS many large retailers have raised concerns about this obligation due to logistical challenges, including costs, space limitations, and insufficient infrastructure to manage high volumes of returned containers and local residents in Wawa are very upset that there will be no location in the community or area accepting empty alcohol containers; and

WHEREAS this change may negatively impact vulnerable populations, including low-income individuals who depend on bottle returns as a modest yet vital source of income and will increase the amount of waste being dumped at the municipal landfill; and

WHEREAS the ongoing privatization and deregulation of Ontario's previously effective bottle return program threaten to undermine decades of progress in sustainable waste management, environmental stewardship, and circular economy practices; and

WHEREAS the lack of a clear, accessible, and equitable alternative for recycling alcohol containers may place additional strain on municipal waste systems and contribute to increased environmental degradation;



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports the development of an accessible, province-wide, and publicly accountable alcohol container return system that:

1. Protects low-income earners and vulnerable residents who rely on bottle returns;
2. Closes gaps in the deposit-return cycle to reduce landfill waste and environmental harm;
3. Provides adequate infrastructure, training, and support to retailers participating in the return system;
4. Ensures strong, consistent enforcement and oversight of return program compliance;
5. Safeguards the public interest in recycling and waste diversion amid increasing privatization pressures;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council urges the Government of Ontario to collaborate meaningfully with municipalities, retailers, environmental organizations, and experts to implement a fair, effective, and inclusive solution that ensures the long-term success of Ontario's deposit-return and recycling systems;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and all Ontario municipalities for their support and consideration.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Resolution # RC25121	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>Joseph Opato</i>

WHEREAS The Beer Store has closed more than 70 of its store locations across the Province since the Ford Government made the decision to end its exclusivity agreement with The Beer Store and allowed other locations like convenience and grocery stores to sell beer, wine and mixed alcoholic drinks; and

WHEREAS many of the retail stores being closed are in small, northern communities such as Chapleau, Atikokan, Powassan and Blind River where The Beer Store is very important to the local community; and

WHEREAS the presence of The Beer Store in Northern Ontario communities and in Wawa, provides good paying jobs, convenient access to beer sales for tourists looking to purchase a variety of Canadian made beer products not carried in other locations and contributes to the local and provincial economy; and

WHEREAS The Beer Store closure in Wawa would lead to job losses in the community and negatively impact the local economy;

NOWHEREFORE Council of the Municipality of Wawa request that the Provincial Government take the steps necessary to preserve the presence of The Beer Store in small, rural and northern communities and that it request that The Beer Store reconsider its decision to close additional Beer Stores in Ontario, especially in small, northern communities.

AND FURTHER that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy the Minister of Finance, Honourable Victor Fedeli the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Bill Rosenberg the M.P.P. Algoma-Manitoulin, FONOM, NOMA, and AMO.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
☒ CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
☐ DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

October 17, 2025

The Beer Store
Corporate Office | 2258 Coleraine Drive
Bolton, ON L7E 3A9

Attention: Roy Benin

Dear Mr. Benin.

The closing of The Beer Store is the final nail in the coffin for those of us in the town of Wawa who are interested in our environment and recycling. I am not a consumer of alcohol, but since 1992, I have picked up the sad, abandoned packaging others have thrown out on the sides of our roads.

As a volunteer, I have cleaned our outdoors of trash by the truckloads and most of it was made up of beer and wine containers. Having a European background and knowing that even pop cans have a deposit of 10 cents on them there, it is with tears in my eyes that I see the loss of a place to turn in recyclables.

I fought the bureaucracy, wrote to companies and ministers about the abuse of our environment and the renewable resources until finally a deposit was established here in Ontario. The program encourages people to turn in their recyclables rather than putting them in the landfill and the pennies add up.

Here in the north, we live in an "untouched" wilderness and try to promote this for tourism, hunting, and fishing. Often, one of the first stops in town is The Beer Store. Why is this now closed when the nearest store is over 200 km away and there is now no place to accept the empties? Our grocery store had beer and wine when that program was first introduced, but has now cut back as they don't want to accept the recyclables. The one convenience store is also not set up for recyclables and doesn't carry the selection of products The Beer Store did.

So, while it is still possible to purchase a limited selection in our town, the loss of the recycling program affects us deeply. Many organizations, such as skating clubs, hockey teams, Boy Scouts/Girl Guides and even retirees profit from the deposit through bottle drives. These assist the community and keep our outdoors clean to benefit the environment as well. Cans and bottles do not disintegrate in the outdoors. To the contrary, broken glass hurts people and wildlife both. Why are we going backwards on this important recycling project? Why are we in the North forgotten.

We will be drowning in beer cans without a recycling program. What is the solution? Please find one as it is you and this government that have made these changes.

Sincerely,



Karin Grundt
Garbologist
P.O. Box 1430
Wawa, ON P0S 1K0

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Jessie Labonte
Administrative Assistant
Municipality of Wawa
P.O. Box 500, 40 Broadway Ave.
Wawa, Ontario
POS 1K0

SENT VIA EMAIL: jlabonte@wawa.cc

RE: Endorsement of the Municipality of Wawa's Resolution – Accessible and Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario

Dear J. Labonte,

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, November 10, 2025, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Thompson

Seconded By: Councillor Carroll

That Goderich Town Council supports the resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding the Accessible and Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 519-524-8344 ext. 210 or afisher@goderich.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A Banting". The signature is stylized, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Amanda Banting

Deputy Clerk

/js

Enclosed: Municipality of Wawa's Resolution – Accessible and Effective Alcohol Container Return System in Ontario

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



Cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, premier@ontario.ca
The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), resolutions@amo.on.ca
The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), fonom.infor@gmail.com
All Ontario Municipalities

NOTES

Strategic Plan Work Group
Oct.22, 2025 (In vivo & Virtual)

2:00pm

Attendance:

Mayor Bélanger, Deputy Mayor Gardiner, Councillor Levesque, CAO Laperriere,
EA Byers – VIRTUAL: CSD Sarrazin, A. Clement, IMCG.

Confirmation of Council Approvals, Oct. 20, 2025:

WG Notes Oct. 8 as edited Oct. 15
Reports on Survey and SWOT results
Draft Goals and Objectives
Town Hall meeting scheduled for Nov. 24

“Strategic Plan 2026-2030” (per Oct. 21 email) for Council

Discussion resulted in edits pending from CAO
(Kudos to Byers Consulting for formatting)
Edited draft to be presented to Council as Mattawa’s Strategic Plan
Two to Three page Supporting Document pending from IMG for next meeting
Per draft outline (page 2)

Next Steps

1. Submission on Draft Goals and Objectives to Council for Nov 10
2. Draft public presentation for the Town Hall meeting
3. Town Hall Meeting
4. Edits to Goals and Objectives
5. Final Report to Council
6. Operational Plan, Year 1 (2026)

Adjourn: 2:45pm

Next Meeting, Nov.12, 2:00PM

DRAFT OUTLINE, SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

Introduction

- General description of the work by the Work Group and Council
- Purpose of the 5-year Strategic Plan
- Dynamic instrument
- Context
 - Mission, Vision, Values
 - Other municipal plans
- Framework for subsequent annual plans (governance P&P Section 13)

Process

- Work Group Terms of Reference
- Review of other strategic plans
- Mission, Vision, Values
- Community Survey
- SWOT analysis
- Draft Goals and objectives
- Documents available upon request

Approval of the Strategic Plan

- Council endorsement of a draft Strategic Plan (Nov. 10)
- Open Town Hall meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan (Nov 24)
- Council approval as edited

First Operational Plan for 2026 (Jan. 2026)

SYSTEM OVERVIEW

July 1st to September 30th , 2025

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Drinking Water System

- The water treatment system operated well during the third quarter.
- Issue with the transformer failing at the plant. Hydro One was called in to repair.
- 10" Watermain break at 298 1st St.

Wastewater Treatment

- The wastewater treatment system performed well during the third quarter.
- 300 Louis St SPS power down do to transformer issue. Station was pumped down with vacuum truck to avoid overflow. Hydro One repaired the incoming power to bring the station back online.
- Plan for 88HP submersible pump replacement. Pump is obsolete. A rebuild assessment was completed and found to be uneconomical to rebuild. Proposed 60HP replacement. Working with OCWA's Energy Analyst to apply for IESO energy incentives. Obtained P.ENG endorsement showing the pump meets the sewage station's pumping requirements for compliance
- Back-up generator failed to start during a power outage resulting in spill of 40 m3 being reported.

CAPITAL PLAN PROGRESS

Drinking Water System

- N/A

Wastewater Treatment

- 300 Mattawan sewage pump station had plugged pumps and alarming issues. Alarms believed to be intermittent due to the preceding pump control panel failure. As a result of the failing pump control panel, high level did not alarm out and a bypass went undetected. The event lasted 25 days with an overflow volume of 13,800 m³. Pump started making noise, alerting operator to check pumps. Pumps were plugged with unflushable waste and one pump was sent off for a rebuild.

- Telus 3G network began to gradually shut down, which may have also contributed interference with alarming. Telus upgraded the network equipment at Mattawan, Brook and McKenzie sewage pumping stations.
- Temporary pump control panel installed at 300 Mattawan station. The temporary panel allows one pump to operate on a float, so there is control for automatic pump starts and stops.
- Pumps plugged at 451 Bissett sewage pumping station. Operators pulled the pumps. Pump #1 was clogged with unflushable waste which sheared the shaft at the impeller. Pump #2 motor separated from the volute. It was also clogged. The pumps are 34 years old. Operators assembled the best parts of the two pumps into one. They inserted Pump #2 into the volute of Pump #1. This became Pump #2. It was tested, deemed operational and placed back into service. The station was successfully pumped down and the bypass was terminated. Xylem installed a loaner Pump #1. Xylem also removed the failed pump parts to assess for possible rebuild or replacement.
- Back-up generator failed to start during a power outage resulting in spill of 40 m3 being reported. Generator technician replaced the starter batteries and installed a new appropriately sized 24V charger.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

See Appendix A - Work Order summary for water treatment plant (WTP)
See Appendix B - Work Order summary for wastewater treatment lagoon (WWTL)

CALL-OUT SUMMARY

See Appendix C – Call-out Report for WTP
See Appendix D - Call-out Report for WWTL

REGULATORY

- All drinking water samples required under O. Regulation 170/03 were collected and tested in the third quarter of 2025 and all results fell within regulatory limits.
- There was no Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) or Ministry of Labour (MOL) inspections conducted this quarter.
- Quarterly trihalomethanes (THM), haloacetic acids (HAA), Nitrate and Nitrite sampling completed July 24, 2025.
- Annual above ground well inspections completed August 4, 2025, for both wells.
- All sewage samples required under the system's C of A collected and tested in the third quarter of 2025.

INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS

Mattawa Drinking Water System

Incident	N/A
Date	
Details	

Mattawa Wastewater System

Incident	300 Mattawan Street Pump Station Spill
Date	July 21 to August 15, 2025
Details	300 Mattawan sewage pump station had plugged pumps and alarming issues. Alarms believed to be intermittent due to the preceding pump control panel failure. As a result of the failing pump control panel, high level did not alarm out and a bypass went undetected. The event lasted 25 days with an overflow volume of 13,800 m ³ . Pump started making noise, alerting operator to check pumps. Pumps were plugged with unflushable waste and one pump was sent off for a rebuild.

Incident	451 Bissett Street Pump Station Spill
Date	August 20, 2025
Details	Operators pulled the pumps. Pump #1 was clogged with unflushable waste which sheared the shaft at the impeller. Pump #2 motor separated from the volute. It was also clogged. The pumps are 34 years old. Operators assembled the best parts of the two pumps into one. They inserted Pump #2 into the volute of Pump #1. This became Pump #2. It was tested, deemed operational and placed back into service. The station was successfully pumped down and the bypass was terminated. Xylem installed a loaner Pump #1. Xylem also removed the failed pump parts to assess for possible rebuild or replacement.

Incident	451 Bissett Street Pump Station Spill
Date	September 13, 2025

Details	Mechanical failure of backup generator caused The station to overflow into the river when hydro power was off. Approximate volume released 40 m3.
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HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Staff training completed on FEB Binder Review
- Staff training completed on Introduction OK Alone
- Staff training completed on OCWA's STOP Program

MATTAWA DRINKING WATER SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

See Appendix E – Performance Assessment Report Water

MATTAWA WASTEWATER TREATMENT LAGOON – WASTEWATER FLOW SUMMARY

See Appendix E – Performance Assessment Report Wastewater



Ontario Clean Water Agency
Agence Ontarienne Des Eaux

Northeastern Ontario Region

MATTAWA WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Appendix A - Work Order Summary for WTP

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4645435			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 03:02 PM	10/29/25 03:02 PM	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541 -Alarm dialers used multiple times over the month for various alarms. all ok, no issues at this time
4645480			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:16 AM	10/31/25 11:16 AM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541 -Checked all extinguishers, first aid kits, emergency exits and signs, all OK
4649201			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:17 AM	10/31/25 11:17 AM	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541 -All pumps checked weekly, any issues arising have been dealt with, no concerns at this time
4659577			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	OPER	Compliance	0		Alum Order - 1541	CLOSE		7/23/25 11:38 AM	7/23/25 11:38 AM	Alum Order Details - KEMIRA ALS BULK 25,130.000 KG 478.0000 CAD/TO CAD 12,012.14 CN code: 2833220000 Net weight: 25,130.000 KG 55,402.212 LB Gross weight: 25,130.000 KG 55,402.212 LB Delivery no / Date:86504024 / 07/09/2025 UN3264, CORROSIVE LIQUID, ACIDIC, INORGANIC, N.O.S. (Aluminium sulphate), 8, PGIII, RQ Country of Origin: CA 25,130.000 KG
4660454			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CAP	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		300 Mattawan Station: Temporary Pump Control Panel Installation	COMP		9/23/25 10:59 AM	9/23/25 10:59 AM	Temporary Pump Control Panel Installation -Temporary Pump Control Panel Installation
4662332	0000328888	TANK STORAGE ALUM	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541	COMP	7/16/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 03:06 PM	10/29/25 03:06 PM	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541 -Alum tank inspection completed during daily rounds. At this time, there is no issues of cracks or defects.

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4686131			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 10:56 AM	10/31/25 10:56 AM	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541 -Alarm dialers used throughout the month for various alarms, all working OK at this time
4686138			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 10:57 AM	10/31/25 10:57 AM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541 -Safety checks done, looked for debris or items on the floors in walkways. walkways all clear
4689499			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:09 AM	10/31/25 11:09 AM	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541 -All pumps, wetwells, panels checked. no panel issues idenetified. Pump isuses that arrise have been dealt with.
4709681	0000328888	TANK STORAGE ALUM	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541	COMP	8/16/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:08 AM	10/31/25 11:08 AM	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541 -Alum tank inspected weekly during rounds. no signs of defects or issues found at this time.
4736178			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:04 AM	10/31/25 11:04 AM	Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1541 -Alarm dialers alarmed out for various alarms over the month, no issues with alarming at this time
4736185			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:12 PM	10/31/25 03:12 PM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1541 -Checked fire extinguishers, first aid kit, eye wash stations. all ok
4740060			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:15 PM	10/31/25 03:15 PM	Pump Submersible Group Inspection (1m) 1541 -Pumps, panels, wetwells all checked weekly, currently no issues with any. Mattawan still running on temp panel and 1 pump.
4761419	0000328874	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL BACKUP POWER	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541	COMP	9/13/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:55 PM	10/31/25 02:55 PM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541 -Generator ran during power outage conditions. transfered and ran as it should no issues found
4761422	0000328842	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL 601 MCKENZIE ST.	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541	COMP	9/13/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:56 PM	10/31/25 02:56 PM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541 -Generator ran under power outage conditions, ran ok, transfered on and off as it should no issues at this time

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4761425	0000328901	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541	COMP	9/13/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:57 PM	10/31/25 02:57 PM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1541 -Generator ran under no power conditions, ran and transferred all ok
4762248	0000328888	TANK STORAGE ALUM	1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541	COMP	9/16/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:47 PM	10/31/25 02:47 PM	Tank Alum Inspection (1m) - 1541 -Checked alum tank for cracks, breaks, defects. nothing found, all ok at this time
4763350			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	OPER	Compliance	0		Mattawa sewage Overtime for Planned outage	COMP		9/22/25 07:42 AM	9/22/25 08:00 AM	Mattawa sewage Overtime for Planned outage - September 20th 2025 Pumped down all lift stations before the planned outage in Mattawa. Made sure all generators had fuel, and didn't have any alarms before hand. After the power was back, checked on lift stations again, to make sure generators have shutoff and pumps were still operator as they should. Kyle Michaud
4763408			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CAP	Predictive Maintenance	0		Mattawa Sewage Pump Stations: Wet Well Cleaning	COMP		10/20/25 04:03 PM	10/20/25 04:03 PM	



MATTAWA WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEMS QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Appendix B - Work Order Summary for WWTL

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4644892	0000328760	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 02:54 PM	10/29/25 02:54 PM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517 -Generator ran during power outage conditions. all ran OK
4644909			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517	CLOSE	7/2/25 12:00 AM	7/30/25 09:55 AM	7/30/25 09:55 AM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517 -Completed UV 1 reference sensor check. Using Reference sensor 1. UV passed
4644928			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 02:56 PM	10/29/25 02:56 PM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517 -UV check completed july 31/25, passed no issues found
4645169			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	3	MONTHS	Replace UV Air Filters 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 03:03 PM	10/29/25 03:03 PM	Replace UV Air Filters 1517 -Replaced uv air filters on Uv o1 on july 30 and uv 2 on july 31 during reference checks.
4645186	0000328767	ANALYZER UV PORTABLE	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	UVT Analyzer calibration to yellow box (1m) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 02:58 PM	10/29/25 02:58 PM	UVT Analyzer calibration to yellow box (1m) 1517 -Optiview checked weekly against handheld weekly, all ok at this time, no issues
4645276			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Critical Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 02:59 PM	10/29/25 02:59 PM	Critical Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1517 -Alarm dialer working as it should, multiple alarms over the month, no issues found
4645287			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 03:00 PM	10/29/25 03:00 PM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517 -Checked fire extinguishers and first aid kits, all ok
4645314	0000328758	VALVE REGULATING	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/29/25 03:01 PM	10/29/25 03:01 PM	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517 -Visual inspection of valves completed during daily rounds, no issues or defects seen at this time.
4645930			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517	COMP	7/2/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:00 PM	10/31/25 03:00 PM	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517 -Chlorine analyzer compared to handheld weekly and is adjusted as needed.

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4685995	0000349414	ANALYZER	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	3	MONTHS	UV Transmitter Optiview Calibration (3m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:07 PM	10/31/25 03:07 PM	UV Transmitter Optiview Calibration (3m) 1517 -optiview checked against handheld weekly during samples. all ok at this time, within specs
4686006	0000328760	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:17 AM	10/31/25 11:17 AM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517 -Generator ran during power outage, all running ok at this time
4686009			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:18 AM	10/31/25 11:18 AM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517 -UV reference check completed aug 28/25 using reference sensor #2, passed
4686012			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:09 PM	10/31/25 03:09 PM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517 -UV reference check completed aug 31/25, passed all ok
4686080	0000328767	ANALYZER UV PORTABLE	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	UVT Analyzer calibration to yellow box (1m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:09 PM	10/31/25 03:09 PM	
4686102			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Critical Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:10 PM	10/31/25 03:10 PM	
4686109			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:46 PM	10/31/25 02:46 PM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517 - Health and safety inspection completed, no issues found, checked fire extinguishers, first aid kits and emergency exits, all ok
4686120	0000328758	VALVE REGULATING	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:11 AM	10/31/25 11:11 AM	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517 -Valve inspected visually. operated during august by hand, all operated and retruned to home position all ok
4686194			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 10:58 AM	10/31/25 10:58 AM	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517 -Chlorine analyzers checked against hanheld multiple times weekly, adjustments as needed. all ok at this time

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4692995	0000349401	PUMP DIAPHRAGM 03 SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	YEARS	Pump Diaphragm Inspection (1y) 1517	COMP	8/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:11 PM	10/31/25 03:11 PM	Pump Diaphragm Inspection (1y) 1517 -Visual inspection of chemical pumps completed during daily rounds, issues addressed as they arise. currently no issues found
4710470			1517, Mattawa DWS	OPER	Compliance	0		Mattawa DWQMS Surveillance 2 Audit	COMP		8/20/25 11:16 AM	8/20/25 11:16 AM	DWQMS Surveillance 2 Audit - ACTY-2023-643458 - DRINKING WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT STANDARD VERSION 2 - 2017 (Surveillance 2) / Janine deBoer / 06June2025 / Onsite: 0.50days & Offsite: 0.25days
4736066	0000328760	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	1	MONTHS	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:01 AM	10/31/25 11:01 AM	Generator Monthly Test (1m) 1517 -Generator had a battery issue.Vals onsite, reapalced batteries and charger. all working as it should now. JD
4736069			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:43 PM	10/31/25 02:43 PM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#1) (1m / 1y) 1517 -UV reference check for uv 1 completed september 29/25. passed
4736072			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517	BUSCOMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 02:44 PM	10/31/25 02:44 PM	UVR Reference Sensor check (UV#2) (1m / 1y) 1517 -Uv reference check uv 2 completed september 30/25, passed, no issues found
4736128	0000328767	ANALYZER UV PORTABLE	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	UVT Analyzer calibration to yellow box (1m) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:02 AM	10/31/25 11:02 AM	UVT Analyzer calibration to yellow box (1m) 1517 -Opitview compared against handheld during weekly samples. no issues found, optiview within specs
4736149			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Critical Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:06 AM	10/31/25 11:06 AM	Critical Alarm Dialer Route (1m) - 1517 -Critical alarm points were hit during the month, all alarmed out as normal. no issues with alarming at this time

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CAP,CORR,OPER,PM

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4736156			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	HEALTH AND SAFETY	1	MONTHS	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:05 AM	10/31/25 11:05 AM	Health And Safety Inspection (1m) 1517 -Checked all extinguishers, first aid kits, emergency exits signs, all ok
4736167	0000328758	VALVE REGULATING	1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Inspection	1	MONTHS	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 11:03 AM	10/31/25 11:03 AM	Valve Regulating Inspection (1m) 1517 -Visual inspection of valving and piping completed during daily rounds. no defects or issues identified at this time
4736252			1517, Mattawa DWS	PM	Calibration	1	MONTHS	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517	COMP	9/1/25 12:00 AM	10/31/25 03:13 PM	10/31/25 03:13 PM	Analyzer Chlorine Inspection/ Service (1m) 1517 -Analyzer compared to the handheld. within specs,
4762323	0000328760	GENERATOR ELECTRIC DIESEL	1517, Mattawa DWS	CORR	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		Mattawa Generator Batteries and 24V Charger Replacement	COMP		9/16/25 10:33 AM	9/16/25 10:33 AM	Batteries and 24V Charger Replacement -Generator failed to start during power outage Sep 13/14, 2025. Batteries failed. Replaced Sep 15. Existing chargers were small 1.5 amp trickle chargers deemed not rated for the large batteries. a 24V Vulcan charger was installed. Generator was tested and placed back into service.



Ontario Clean Water Agency
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Northeastern Ontario Region

MATTAWA WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Appendix C - Call-out Report for WTP

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4663049			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		Louis street high level alarm	CLOSE		7/20/25 10:35 PM	7/20/25 11:50 PM	Louis street high level alarm - July 20th 2025 22:30 called in for high level for Louis street lift station. 22:35 arrived on site. switched to pump2 in auto, level wasn't coming down right away. 23:40 ground alarm flashing, called hydro one to see if issues with power on site. 23:50 Hydro one called back saying no issues on their end with power. Left pump 2 running in auto maintaining at high level float. Informed ORO and OIC tomorrow by text for Louis street lift station. Kyle Michaud
4710070			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		451 bissett high level alarm	COMP		8/16/25 12:55 PM	8/16/25 04:45 PM	451 bissett high level alarm - August 16th 2025 Called in for high level at 451 bissett street liftstation. surge of flow, both pumps were running well, just had to wait it out, and monitor it closely, once the surge ended, was able to clear the alarms till the next surge. Kyle Michaud
4710073			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		451 bissett high level alarm	COMP		8/16/25 07:55 PM	8/16/25 11:25 PM	451 bissett high level alarm - August 16th 2025 Called in for high level at 451 bissett street liftstation. surge of flow, both pumps were running well, just had to wait it out, and monitor it closely, once the surge ended, was able to clear the alarms till the next surge. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4710077			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		451 bissett high level alarm	COMP		8/17/25 11:20 AM	8/17/25 03:15 PM	451 bissett high level alarm - August 17th 2025 Called in for 451 bissett street liftstation high level alarm, both pumps running level at 1.7m and rising a little bit from surge of flow. but far from overflow, monitoring closely. Kyle Michaud
4710080			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		451 bissett high level alarm	COMP		8/17/25 05:35 PM	8/17/25 09:30 PM	451 bissett high level alarm - August 17th 2025 Called in for high level alarm at 451 Bissett street lift station, both pumps running well, maintaining at 1.7m, unable to clear alarm just yet, monitoring level closely. Kyle Michaud
4711423			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Inspection	0		451 Bissett high level	COMP		8/18/25 05:15 PM	8/18/25 07:45 PM	451 Bissett high level - Call for high level at 451 Bissette. Arrived on site, both pumps running and maintaining level around 2.2m. Checked on Mattawan station, cycling consistently on pump#1. 451 Bissette level hovering between 1.9m and 2.3m
4711425			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		451 Bissett pump failure	COMP		8/20/25 04:15 PM	8/20/25 08:45 PM	451 Bissett pump failure - Called in to assist Josh D with pump station. Found p1 to have broken the main shaft and impeller off. P2 has the motor and volute separated from one another. volute still in the bottom of the wet well. Inserted p2 into volute #1, and installed into p1 place. Station is operating and pumping down. P1 is out of commission due to broken shaft.

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM
Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM
Location: 1541*
Work Order Type: CALL,EMER
Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4759438			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		High Level Alarm @ 300 Mattawan	COMP		8/25/25 05:15 PM	9/4/25 06:17 AM	300 Mattawamn High Level -Onsite for high level alarm. Found station in high level but not above grating or overflow. Pump overload was tripped. Reset overload and pump is running ok once again in auto.
4762237			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		Power Failure - Genset did not run due to Charging System Failure	COMP		9/13/25 11:15 PM	9/14/25 04:00 AM	Loss of power - Genset did not run - Planned power outage from 2300 last night until 0200 this morning. Power actually restored at 0133. Received several calls for alarms related to power outage, followed by high level at 451 Bissette and then an overflow alarm at 23:48. On site generator did not start. Attempt serval times to run generator in hand/auto but immediately went into over voltage. Turned power off to pump at 451 bissett thinking that its causing over voltage, but didn't work. Overflow lasted for 1 hour 45 minutes. Samples were taken during spill and after. SAC and health unit have been called. Val's equipment was called, will arrive on site Monday morning.

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1541*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4763338			1541, Mattawa Wastewater System	CALL	Compliance	0		Brooke street / 101 bissett st liftstation	COMP		9/21/25 09:30 AM	9/21/25 10:00 AM	Brooke street / 101 bissett st liftstation - September 21st 2025 Called in for 2 separate issues, There was a low battery alarm at 101 bissett st, which I arrived on site and tested the pump which worked good. Then contacted the ORO and he knew about the issue and will resolve soon. Called in for Brooke street lift station for a supervisory alarm, I arrived on site tested both pumps in hand and auto, both worked great. hit the reset alarm button and alarm seemed to go away. Informed ORO about issue there as well. He will look into it. Kyle Michaud



Ontario Clean Water Agency
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MATTAWA WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Appendix D – Call-out Report for WWTL

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4660264			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	CLOSE		7/3/25 12:10 AM	7/3/25 12:30 AM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - July 3rd 2025 Called in Low chlorine on POE analyzer. Confirmed analyzer reading right. Pump Chlorine manually in the line. Confirmed chlorine value again with handheld. started WTP with no issues. Kyle Michaud
4660266			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	CLOSE		7/4/25 05:50 AM	7/4/25 06:10 AM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - July 4th 2025 Called In, Onsite and both chlorine analyzers were low. confirmed they were readings right. Flushed both analyzers and pump chlorine manually into POE water line. Confirmed both analyzer reading right with handheld. received low reservoir level when i was there. Started WTP with no issues, waited until low reservoir alarm cleared. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4662410			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett Generator running alarm	CLOSE		7/14/25 04:15 PM	7/14/25 06:15 PM	400 bissett Generator running alarm - July 14th 2025 1615: arrived at the site and noticed generator running. the rest of town had power, so tried shutting it down and everything went black turn it back on, and investigated issue outside. Found a cable off of one of the transformers hanging. Called Hydro one and explained to them the issue. Kyle Michaud
4662414			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett Met Hydro one crew	CLOSE		7/14/25 09:45 PM	7/14/25 10:10 PM	400 bissett Met Hydro one crew - July 14th 2025 21:45 Arrived on site and met the Hydro one crew, and showed them the issue, they explained to me that it was a blown transformer and they do not have the parts on them to fix it now. They will be back in the morning or afternoon. 22:00 measure the fuel tank to make sure we had enough fuel for the generator to run another full day if needed. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4662419			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett communication Fail	CLOSE		7/15/25 06:00 PM	7/15/25 06:30 PM	400 bissett communication Fail - July 15th 2025 18:00 arrive on site for call in communication fail, communication restore itself, but found the building in high temperature alarm due to generator running for 20 hours straight. also surge power alarm beeping, the temperature alarm would clear overnight once it cools down. everything running smoothly for the wtp. Kyle Michaud
4662408			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Inspection	0		Low chlorine	CLOSE		7/12/25 02:15 PM	7/12/25 02:45 PM	Low chlorine lockout -Received low chlorine alarm. Logged in remote remotely found plant off on low low chlorine, but has since risen. Acknowledge alarm, clear faults and plant started up automatically. Monitored process looks fine.
4662411			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		Low chlorine	CLOSE		7/12/25 10:30 PM	7/13/25 01:00 AM	Low chlorine - Received call for low chlorine again. Arrived on site, plant turned off on low low chlorine. Flushed distribution chlorine analyzer and turned down flow going into floor drain. Compared reading with handheld readings. Adjusted chlorine analyzer from 0.60 mg/L to 0.81 mg/L. New slope 87.8%. Verified POE chlorine analyzer reading correctly. Stared plant and inspected process

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4665173			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		Low POE Chlorine-1517	CLOSE		7/25/25 01:00 AM	7/25/25 02:00 AM	Low POE Chlorine-1517 -Called for low Poe chlorine. Arrived onsite. Plant running. Reviewed trending, found the chlorine dipped but bounced back. Plant running on p2. No records of chlorine alarms on SCADA computer. All ok, no issues.
4708011			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		Comm loss alarm	COMP		8/4/25 04:30 AM	8/4/25 07:00 AM	Comm loss alarm -Alarm for reservoir comm loss. Arrived on site and reset modems. Readings came back. Process and chlorine levels look fine. Reviewed trends
4709487			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	COMP		8/11/25 10:15 PM	8/11/25 10:30 PM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - August 11th 2025 Called in for low chlorine alarm, POE analyzer was reading 0.38mg/l and i got 0.35mg/l with handheld. Distribution analyzer was reading 0.44mg/l and handheld was 0.46mg/l. Chlorine pump 2 failed and was in alarm. reset the alarm. started WTP back up with pump 1 as lead. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4709493			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	COMP		8/12/25 04:40 AM	8/12/25 04:50 AM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - August 12th 2025 Called in for Low POE chlorine alarm, arrived on site and it was up to 0.56mg/l and i got 0.57mg/l on handheld. Plant was already running, so I increased chlorine pump factor from 1.75 to 1.8 for Well 1. and increased from 2.00 to 2.10 for Well 2. I am thinking the chlorine batch was made a little to weak, so kept hitting below the threshold. Kyle Michaud
4709499			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett communication Fail	COMP		8/13/25 09:40 PM	8/13/25 10:00 PM	400 bissett communication Fail - August 13th 2025 Called in for Reservoir communication failure, arrived on site and reservoir level was frozen at 1.75m, reset modem and internet, after a few minutes the communication came back. Reservoir was now reading 2.03m. Everything else in the plant was running good. Pump1 was lead. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4709744			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	COMP		8/16/25 05:10 AM	8/16/25 05:40 AM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm -August 16th 2025 400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - August 16th 2025 Called in for PLC fail alarm, arrived and both chlorine analyzers were reading low, compared values with handheld unit and both were reading correctly. flushed both analyzers for fresh water and manually pumped chlorine in POE line. once chlorine was restored compared analyzers again with handheld unit and started water plant back up. Kyle Michaud
4710065			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	COMP		8/16/25 12:05 PM	8/16/25 12:15 PM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - August 16th 2025 Called In for PLC fail, both chlorine analyzers were reading low again, compared them to handheld unit and they were reading right. flushed both analyzers, and pumped all the air out of the chlorine pumps. double checked the analyzers again and started the wtp. Kyle Michaud
4710082			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett communication Fail	COMP		8/18/25 03:55 AM	8/18/25 04:05 AM	400 bissett communication Fail - August 18th 2025 Called in for comm fail to reservoir, arrived and wtp was running, reset modem and internet for communication, and took 5 mins but it restored right away. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4710718			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	SCADA	0		SCADA	COMP		8/7/25 01:45 AM	8/22/25 01:22 PM	Comm loss-1517 -
4710721			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		Low Chlorine alarm-1517	COMP		8/9/25 06:15 PM	8/22/25 01:25 PM	low chlorine alarm - 18:
4710722			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	SCADA	0		Comm Loss 1517	COMP		8/10/25 02:00 AM	8/22/25 01:29 PM	Comm loss 1517 -
4711424			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Refurbish/ Replace/Repair	0		communication loss to reservoir	COMP		8/23/25 10:15 AM	8/23/25 02:45 PM	communication loss to reservoir -Received call for loss of communication to reservoir. Switched duty to well #2. Arrived on site and reset modem. Level reading came back. Lost reading again after left facility. Came back and unplugged all devices. Level sensor came back. Monitored for 30 minutes, seems to be fine.
4760328			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm	COMP		9/2/25 02:50 AM	9/2/25 03:10 AM	400 Bissett St Low Chlorine Alarm - September 2nd 2025 Called in for Low chlorine on both analyzers. Confirmed both analyzers were reading correctly with handheld unit. started flushing both analyzers and started manually pumping into POE line. Confirmed both analyzers were reading correctly with handheld unit. Cleared both alarms and started WTP back up. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4760329			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		UV1 valve fail to close 400 bissett	COMP		9/3/25 02:30 AM	9/3/25 02:45 AM	UV1 valve fail to close 400 bissett - September 3rd 2025 Called in for UV1 fail, arrived on site and noticed Uv1 valve fail to close alarm. put valve into manual and closed valve and opened it a few times, put it back in auto and cleared alarm. Reservoir was full so no need to start WTP. Kyle Michaud
4759439			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	SCADA	0		Comm loss- 1517	COMP		8/30/25 08:00 PM	9/4/25 06:20 AM	Comm loss -
4760334			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		UV1 fail 400 bissett	COMP		9/4/25 10:10 PM	9/4/25 10:30 PM	Uv1 fail 400 bissett - September 4th 2025 Called in for Uv1 fail alarm, arrived on site and UV1 valve failed to close when plant shutdown. Put it in manual and opened and closed it a few times. cleared alarms and put it back in auto. Reservoir was full so no need to start WTP. Kyle Michaud

Workorder Summary Report

Report Start Date: Jul 1, 2025 12:00 AM

Report End Date: Sep 30, 2025 11:59 PM

Location: 1517*

Work Order Type: CALL,EMER

Work Order Class:

				WorkOrder		PM Schedule		Workorder Details					
WO #	Asset ID	Asset Description	Location Description	Type	Class	FEQ	Units	Work Order Description	Status	Schedule Start	Actual Start	Actual Finsh	WorkLog Detail
4762813			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett communication Fail	COMP		9/18/25 05:10 PM	9/18/25 05:30 PM	400 bissett communication Fail - September 18th 2025 Called in for PLC fail, arrived on site and the communication was down to reservoir reading 2.60m. I reset the modem with power bar a couple times. Communication restored after a few mins. Reservoir was at 2.96m after restoral. Kyle Michaud
4763337			1517, Mattawa DWS	CALL	Compliance	0		400 bissett Generator running alarm	COMP		9/20/25 11:01 PM	9/21/25 03:00 AM	400 bissett Generator running alarm - September 20th 2025 Called in due to Planned power outage, made sure diesel generator started which it did. WTP was down do to reservoir level, but decided to start it a bit later on incase the power outage lasted longer than expected. it started up without any issues. Checked on all lift station generators as well. everything started as planned. Kyle Michaud



Ontario Clean Water Agency
Agence Ontarienne Des Eaux

Northeastern Ontario Region

MATTAWA WATER & WASTEWATER SYSTEMS QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Appendix E - Performance Assessment Report Water

1517 MATTAWA DRINKING WATER SYSTEM 210001905

	7 / 2025	8 / 2025	9 / 2025	<--Total-->	<--Avg-->	<--Max-->	<--Min-->
Flows							
Raw Flow: Monthly Total - RW1 - Well #1 (m³)	52,665.48	59,418.76	49,073.01	161,157.25			
Raw Flow: Monthly Total - RW2 - Well #2 (m³)	6,960.18	1,715.55	2,794.76	11,470.49			
Raw Flow: Monthly Avg - RW1 - Well #1 (m³)	1,698.89	1,916.73	1,635.77		1,750.46		
Raw Flow: Monthly Avg - RW2 - Well #2 (m³)	224.52	55.34	93.16		124.34		
Raw Flow: Monthly Max - RW1 - Well #1 (m³)	2,038.13	2,433.81	2,003.11			2,433.814	
Raw Flow: Monthly Max - RW2 - Well #2 (m³)	742.04	339.59	448.77			742.040	
Raw Flow: Monthly Total - RWT - Raw Water - Total (m³)	59,625.66	61,134.31	51,867.78	172,627.75			
Raw Flow: Monthly Avg - RWT - Raw Water - Total (m³)	1,923.41	1,972.07	1,728.93		1,874.80		
Raw Flow: Monthly Max - RWT - Raw Water - Total (m³)	2,293.71	2,433.81	2,056.27			2,433.814	
Turbidity							
Raw: Max Turbidity - RW1 - Well #1 (NTU)	0.280	0.250	0.280			0.280	
Raw: Max Turbidity - RW2 - Well #2 (NTU)	0.260	0.300	0.270			0.300	
Chemical Parameters							
Treated: Max Nitrite - TW - TW (mg/L)	< 0.003				<	< 0.003	<
Treated: Max Nitrate - TW - TW (mg/L)	1.520					1.520	
Distribution: Max THM - DW - DW (µg/l)	4.400					4.400	
Distribution: Max HAA - DW - DW (µg/l)	< 5.300				<	< 5.300	<
Chlorine Residuals							
Treated: Min Free Cl2 Resid - TW - TW (mg/L)	0.080	0.051	0.051				0.051
Treated: Max Free Cl2 Resid - TW - TW (mg/L)			1.939			1.939	
Dist: Min Free Cl2 Resid - DW - DW (mg/L)	0.410	0.580	0.590				0.135
Dist: Max Free Cl2 Resid - DW - DW (mg/L)	1.580	1.440	1.992			1.992	
Bacti Samples Collected							
Raw Bacti: # of samples - RW1 - Well #1	5	4	4	13			
Raw Bacti: # of samples - RW2 - Well #2	5	4	4	13			
Treated Bacti: # of samples - TW - TW	5	4	4	13			
Dist Bacti: # of samples - DW - DW	15	12	12	39			
Dist HPC: # of samples - DW - DW	5	4	4	13			
Treated Bacti: # of TC exceedances - TW - TW	0	0	0	0			
Treated Bacti: # of EC exceedances - TW - TW	0	0	0	0			
Dist Bacti: # of TC exceedances - DW - DW	0	0	0	0			
Dist Bacti: # of EC exceedances - DW - DW	0	0	0	0			

Appendix F - Performance Assessment Report Wastewater

1541 MATTAWA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY 110000436

	7 / 2025	8 / 2025	9 / 2025	<--Total-->	<--Avg-->	<--Max-->
Flows						
Raw Flow: Total - Raw m³/d	18,536.57	10,085.95	17,377.70	46,000.21		
Raw Flow: Avg - Raw m³/d	597.95	325.35	579.26		500.00	
Raw Flow: Max - Raw m³/d	1,071.11	622.10	703.94			1,071.11
Raw Flow: Count - Raw m³/d	31.00	31.00	30.00	92.00		
Eff. Flow: Total - Eff m³/d	18,536.57	10,085.95	17,377.70	46,000.21		
Eff. Flow: Avg - Eff m³/d	597.95	325.35	579.26		500.00	
Eff. Flow: Max - Eff m³/d	1,071.11	622.10	703.94			1,071.11
Eff Flow: Count - Eff m³/d	31.00	31.00	30.00	92.00		
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand: CBOD						
Eff: Avg cBOD5 - Eff mg/L	2.00	0.00	5.00		3.50	5.00
Eff: # of samples of cBOD5 - Eff	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Loading: cBOD5 - Eff kg/d	1.196	0.000	2.896		1.75	2.90
Biochemical Oxygen Demand: BOD5						
Raw: Avg BOD5 - Raw mg/L	180.00	0.00	176.00		178.00	180.00
Raw: # of samples of BOD5 - Raw	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Eff: Avg BOD5 - Eff mg/L	4.00	0.00	7.00		5.50	7.00
Eff: # of samples of BOD5 - Eff	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Loading: BOD5 - Eff kg/d	2.392	0.000	4.055		2.75	4.05
Percent Removal: BOD5 - Raw %	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Total Suspended Solids: TSS						
Raw: Avg TSS - Raw mg/L	146.00	0.00	172.00		159.00	172.00
Raw: # of samples of TSS - Raw	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Eff: Avg TSS - Eff mg/L	14.90	0.00	8.20		11.55	14.90
Eff: # of samples of TSS - Eff	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Loading: TSS - Eff kg/d	8.910	0.000	4.750		5.78	8.91
Percent Removal: TSS - Raw %	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Total Phosphorus: TP						
Raw: Avg TP - Raw mg/L	5.95	0.00	4.32		5.14	5.95
Raw: # of samples of TP - Raw	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Eff: Avg TP - Eff mg/L	0.89	0.85	0.37		0.63	0.89
Eff: # of samples of TP - Eff	4.00	1.00	5.00	10.00		
Loading: TP - Eff kg/d	0.532	0.277	0.213		0.31	0.53
Percent Removal: TP - Raw %	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Nitrogen Series						
Eff: Avg TAN - Eff mg/L	13.83	7.01	3.55		8.01	13.83
Eff: Avg NO3-N - Eff mg/L	0.12	0.00	0.32		0.22	0.32
Eff: # of samples of NO3-N - Eff	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		
Eff: Avg NO2-N - Eff mg/L	0.14	0.00	0.20		0.17	0.20
Eff: # of samples of NO2-N - Eff	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00		

From: [FONOM Office/ Bureau de FONOM](#)
Subject: FONOM Shares Final Report on Internal Migration to Northern Ontario
Date: Sunday, November 9, 2025 11:05:19 AM
Attachments: [4270_SuzanneMills_MigrationReport-Final.pdf](#)

Good day,

Please share this information with your Council Members and Senior Team.

In June 2024, FONOM encouraged our member municipalities to participate in a research study led by **Dr. Suzanne Mills**, now a professor at **McMaster University**. The study, funded by SSHRC, explored internal migration to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes during and after the pandemic — examining why people relocated from larger urban centres, their experiences settling in smaller communities, and the local economic and social impacts.

Dr. Mills has now completed the study, and FONOM is now sharing the **final report summary** with our members.

Please find the **attached report**, titled: ***Shifting grounds: understanding recent inter-regional migration to Northern Ontario***

Report Abstract:

Over the past 10 years, many communities in Northeastern Ontario and Nova Scotia experienced in-migration from urban areas at levels not witnessed for over half a century. This report presents results from a two-year SSHRC-funded research project examining this wave of migration. We analyzed census data and conducted interviews with 67 inter-regional migrants (56 households) and 47 key stakeholders from receiving communities across both regions. The report documents where people were moving within each region, the demographic profile of migrants, key motivations for migration, and how migrants are making a living and integrating socially post-migration. Lastly, the report looks at the effects of internal migration on receiving communities.

FONOM thanks Dr. Mills for including Northern Ontario communities in this important work and for sharing these results with our membership.

Talk soon, Mac.

Mac Bain
 Executive Director
 The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
 665 Oak Street East, Unit 306
 North Bay, ON, P1B 9E5
 Ph. 705-498-9510

Helen Keller once said, ***“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”***.



Shifting Grounds

Understanding
recent interregional
migration to the
Maritimes and
Northern Ontario



Shifting Grounds:

Understanding recent inter-regional migration to the Maritimes and Northern Ontario

McMaster University, October 2025

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Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



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Executive summary

Over the past ten years, there has been a notable shift in Canada's population dynamics. For generations, Canada's population has been growing increasingly urban. This has been driven in part by *internal* migration: migration within Canada. Drawn by economic growth and job opportunities, people tended to move from rural and peripheral areas to more urban, central, and rapidly growing regions.

As a result, while the country as a whole was growing, in some regions population growth was growing much more slowly, stagnating or even declining. **But in recent years, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, many people chose to move *away* from the country's major urban centres,** reversing longstanding patterns of outmigration for some regions. Although there were many media stories about this trend, we knew relatively little about the scale of this migration, what was driving it, or how it was playing out in receiving communities.



This report provides detailed information about this trend based on a study of two regions that were popular destinations for inter-regional migration during COVID-19: Northern Ontario and the Maritimes.

We analyzed census and administrative records and conducted interviews with 67 inter-regional migrants and 47 key stakeholders from receiving communities. This information allowed us to document where people were moving within each region, who was moving to slower-growth regions and why, how migrants were making a living and integrating socially, and how receiving communities were experiencing the influx of new residents.

Where did people move within each region?

Between 2016 and 2021 **inter-regional migration to Northern Ontario was concentrated in the near north** (Parry Sound, Manitoulin and Nipissing) followed by Northeastern Ontario more broadly. Other regions in Northern Ontario continued to see no growth or negative growth. **In the Maritimes, population growth resulting from inter-regional migration was more pronounced and widespread**, though more isolated regions with fewer amenities experienced less growth.

Who moved?

In most respects, people who moved into Northern Ontario or the Maritimes between 2016 and 2021 were similar to the pre-existing population. Some exceptions include that movers to both regions tended to be **younger** and slightly **more highly educated** than the pre-existing population. Movers were also **more likely to identify as a visible minority**.

Household incomes of those moving into the Maritimes declined post-migration. In Northern Ontario increases in household income were modest and similar to the pre-existing population. This suggests that, in general, migration was not motivated by high paying job opportunities.

The number of people working from home increased between 2016 to 2021. **The growth in working from home**, however, was **particularly strong for movers**. A greater share of movers and non-movers, however, reported working on-site at their place of employment, than working remotely from home.

Motivations for moving

Households who participated in the study typically described more than one motivation for moving. **Proximity to family and housing affordability** were the most common drivers of migration. Such motivations were **often intertwined with other motivations**. These included the desire to **slow down and work less or to pursue a passion project** like starting a new business or homesteading. Moving was also pursued as a way to **improve health and well-being**. A small number of movers to the Maritimes were attracted by what they perceived to be a **community-focused culture and more open political climate**. Some movers to both regions were seeking **safe housing and communities**.

What made the move possible?

A variety of factors made moving to Northern Ontario or the Maritimes economically feasible for our interviewees, since most were not moving in search of employment. These included the **ability to work remotely**, the **relative affordability of housing** in Northern Ontario and the Maritimes relative to large urban centres, and **retirement or COVID-related job loss**. In other cases, households sought out local employment prior to taking the leap or moved in with family or friends and searched for local employment after moving.





PICTURED ABOVE: A study participant's farm in Annapolis Valley, NS. Photo by Katie Mazer.

Life after moving

Experiences of life after moving were diverse. **While most people who moved reported that their quality of life had improved, a significant number were ambivalent about their move**, identifying unexpected economic and social challenges post-migration.

Interviewees recounted a number of benefits that flowed from their move to a more affordable locale. These included the ability to: improve their housing situation (buy a house or land or secure a more affordable rental); decrease working time or leave a stressful job; or spend more time with family or in nature. Many reported that their physical or mental health had improved as a consequence of their move.

At the same time, many migrants faced unexpected challenges after moving. A lack of local employment options in the Maritimes created economic uncertainty for some participants who worked remotely or lost employment post-move. Higher than anticipated food, energy, and renovation costs in the Maritimes also left some households economically strapped. Others faced challenges integrating in their new communities and/or experienced xenophobia, creating a sense of social isolation. Lastly, many interviewees described difficulties accessing needed services, particularly healthcare.

Remote workers often faced distinct benefits and challenges. Working remotely allowed people to keep a steady flow of employment income. Surprisingly, however, several remote workers described taking onsite employment after their move to counter social isolation or meet people in their new community.

Effects of in-migration on receiving communities and regions

Community leaders were generally optimistic about in-migration. Many described how new residents were making **positive contributions** to the economic and social life of their communities. These included **voluntarism and civic engagement, starting businesses, filling job vacancies, shopping at local businesses, and boosting local tax revenues**. The influx of people and accompanying revenue made it possible for some municipalities to increase investment in infrastructure. Those moving from other regions in Canada were also transforming communities demographically, bringing a new degree of **ethnic and age diversity** that was welcomed by community leaders.

This sense of optimism was tempered by new **challenges**, however, particularly in regions with higher levels of population growth. These included **insufficient and unaffordable housing, rising homelessness, and a lack of family doctors**. In some cases, respondents noted that internal migrants were not filling the most critical labour needs in healthcare, trades, or low-wage services. Community integration was also presented as an emergent challenge that some communities sought to address through targeted programs or events.

Ultimately, rapid population growth represents a paradox for receiving communities. Increased housing prices have led to crises of housing availability and affordability, but they have also increased the tax base on which municipalities depend to expand and maintain infrastructure and provide services.

New, diverse, and affordable housing development is needed to accommodate population growth and ease the crisis, but, in the Maritimes, development has been contentious, including among newcomers who want to preserve certain features of the rural setting to which they have moved.

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1. Introduction



Over the past ten years, there has been a notable shift in Canada's population dynamics. For generations, Canada's population has been growing increasingly urban. This has been driven in part by *internal* migration: that is, migration within Canada. Drawn by economic growth and job opportunities, people have long tended to move from rural and peripheral areas to more urban, central, and rapidly growing regions.

As a result, while the country as a whole was growing, in some regions population was growing much more slowly, stagnating, or even declining. In recent years, however, an increasing number of people have been moving *away* from the country's most populated cities and regions. The COVID-19 pandemic only amplified this burgeoning trend. News reports have suggested that shifts in personal priorities, affordability crises in larger centres, and the rapid adoption of remote work

popularized the idea of moving to smaller, more rural, and relatively affordable places.ⁱ After decades of population decline, many rural and peripheral places in Canada were recast in the media as desirable places to live, offering affordability, access to nature, a slower pace of life, and ultimately, the ability to centre 'life' over work.ⁱⁱ In many cases, places that had seen decades of population decline began to grow again.



PICTURED ABOVE: Lake Timiskaming, Temiskaming Shores, ON. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

While this surprising trend was widely reported in the media, we knew relatively little about who was moving to slower-growth regions and why, how migrants were making a living and integrating socially, and how receiving communities were experiencing this unexpected influx of new residents. This report aims to answer these questions by examining two regions that were especially popular destinations for inter-regional migration during the COVID-19 pandemic: the Maritimes and Northern Ontario.ⁱⁱⁱ

Between 2016 and 2021 (Figure 1.1), generations of decline or slow growth in the Maritimes gave way to population growth rates not seen in 50 years. While much of this growth was due to an increase in international immigration to the region, inter-provincial migration was also a significant source of growth (Figure 1.2). For the first time since the early 1980s, more people moved to the Maritimes *from other parts of Canada* than left the region.^{iv}

Figure 1.1 Population change in the Maritimes 2001-2024.^v

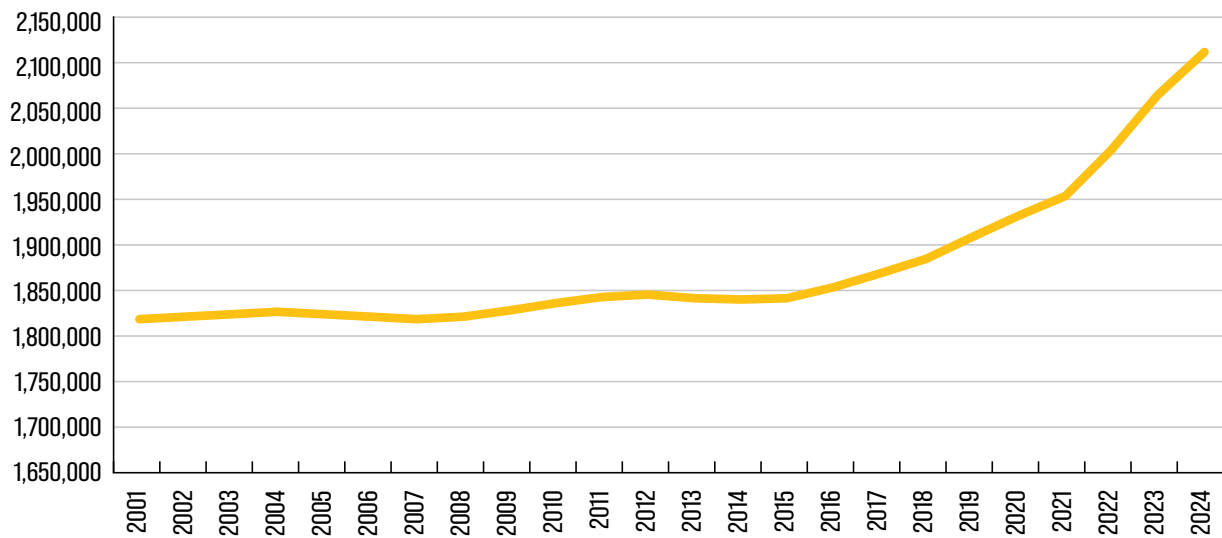
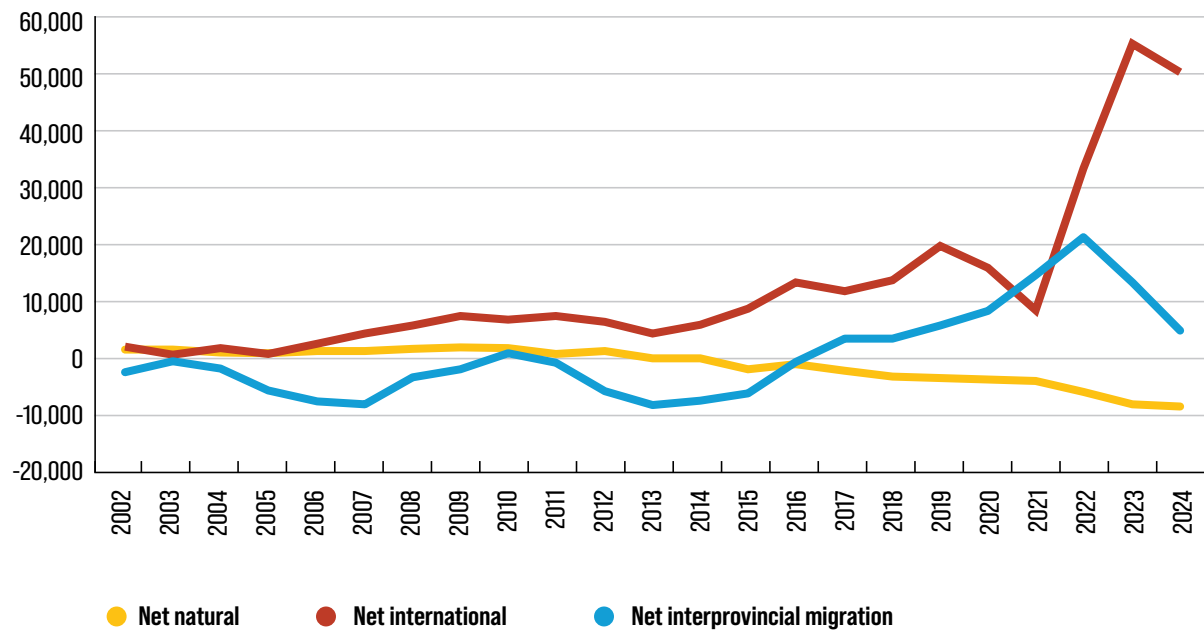


Figure 1.2 Components of population change in the Maritimes^{vi}



A similar trend, albeit less pronounced, can be observed in Northern Ontario. In Northern Ontario, longstanding population trends began to reverse in 2015/16 (Figure 1.3). Like the Maritimes, this shift was fueled by a combination of internal and international migration. Whereas internal migration to the Maritimes was fueled by people moving from other provinces, however, internal migration to Northern Ontario was predominantly fueled by intra-provincial migration from Southern Ontario (Figure 1.4).

Figure 1.3 Population change in Northern Ontario 2001-2024^{vii}

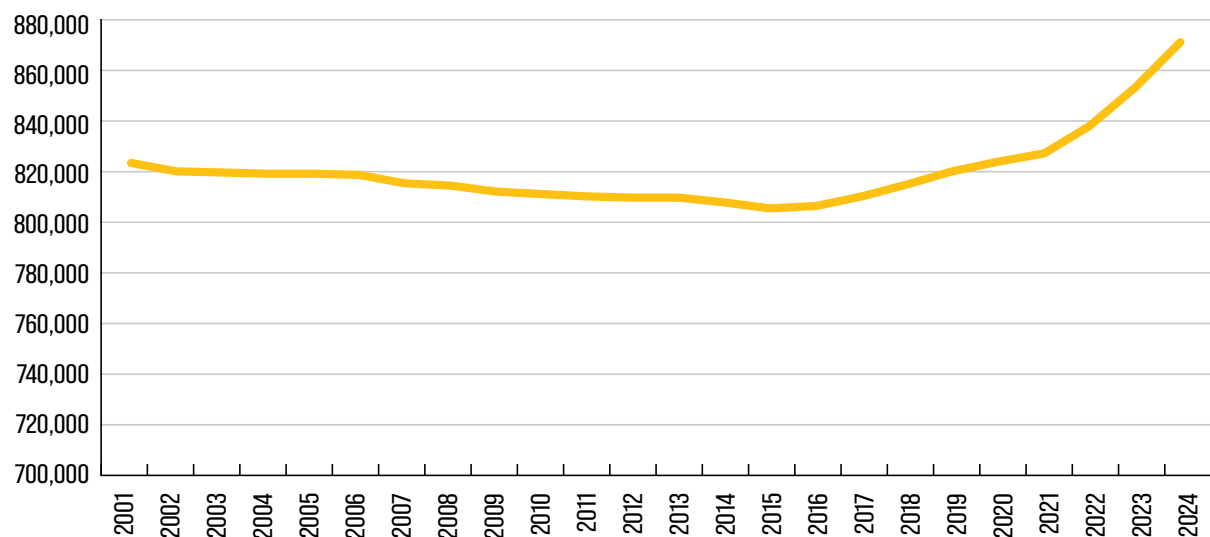
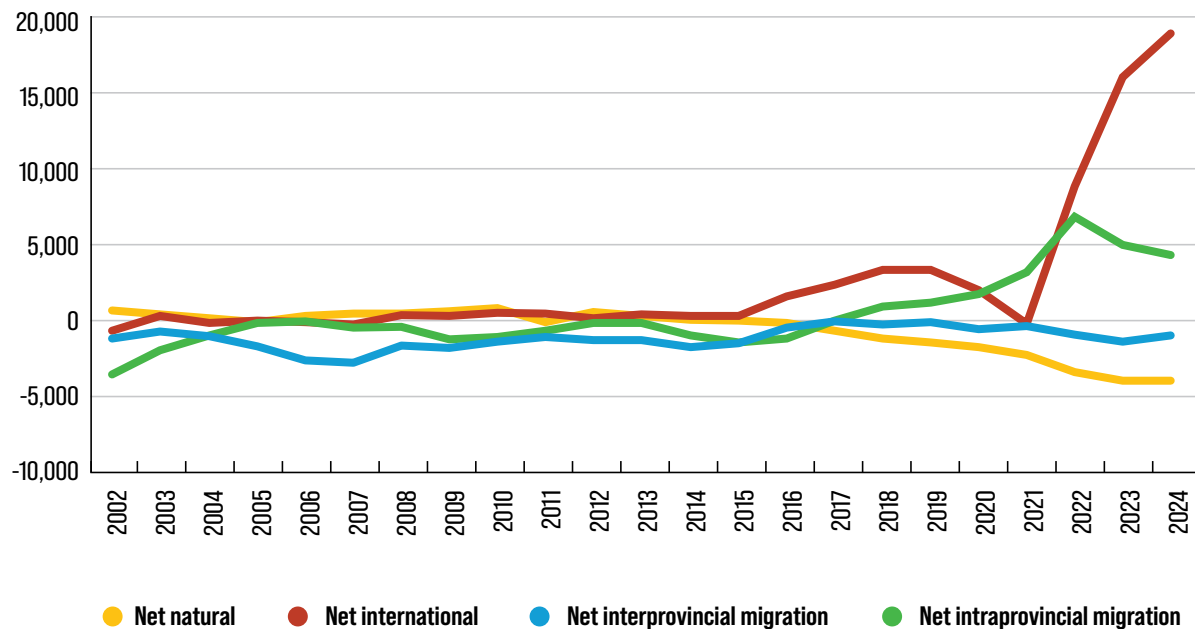


Figure 1.4 Components of population change in Northern Ontario



Understanding the social causes and impacts of these demographic changes requires investigating the motivations and experiences of movers, as well as how the changes are playing out in receiving communities.

Our research shows that people moving to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes from other regions in Canada during this period were overwhelmingly moving away from more urban and less affordable places. Their decisions to move were often *motivated* by concerns about housing affordability, a desire to be closer to family, aspirations to work less or differently, and the pursuit of a new and better way of life. Their *ability* to relocate was often linked to the option to work remotely and the relative affordability of housing in Northern Ontario and the Maritimes relative to large urban centres. Inter-regional migrants recounted a wide range of experiences in their new communities: from improved quality of life related to affordability, less work pressure, and time in nature, to precarious employment, poor access to services, social isolation, and xenophobia. For receiving communities, the recent surge in migration has ultimately brought both opportunities and challenges, creating new economic activity while also placing pressure on housing, social services, and job markets, and triggering social tensions.

Our study examined the demographics, drivers, and impacts of inter-regional migration to the Maritimes and Northern Ontario. The findings in this report challenge some of the taken-for-granted assumptions about people who moved into more affordable regions through the pandemic. They also highlight the real challenges and benefits unfolding in receiving communities. In sharing these details with community practitioners and the public, we hope to shed light on the causes of this migration shift and consequences for movers and receiving regions in a way that improves understanding, bolsters effective policy responses to current challenges, and helps plan for the future. For communities, our results can inform planning for economic development by providing insight into how to attract migrants, but also by providing information about how to foster greater integration while also meeting housing and service provision needs.



2. Methods



The research was conducted by an interdisciplinary team of professors and graduate students from McMaster University, Acadia University, Brock University, and Western University. We used a multi-sited, mixed-methods approach to investigate inter-regional migration trends in Canada and their relationship to work and livelihoods, focusing on Northern Ontario and the Maritimes.

Our approach involved the collection and analysis of qualitative data as well as the analysis of quantitative data from the Statistics Canada 2016 and 2021 Censuses. We sought to capture the objective details of this migration trend: who moved, from where, to where; inter-regional migrants' lived experiences; and the broader socio-economic implications of these migration patterns. Qualitative data collection took place in the summer and fall of 2024, and data analysis took place in 2025.



PICTURED ABOVE: Team members walking, Blomidon, NS. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

2.1 Data collection and analysis

Quantitative analysis: To generate maps and population component figures we used estimates of population change from Statistics Canada's Demography Division, measured at the level of Census Division. To compare total migrants, internal immigrants, and internal emigrants with non-movers we used 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files using two techniques. First, using migration data in the 2021 Census, we compared the demographic characteristics of those who moved into each region in 2020 and in 2016 with the demographic characteristics of pre-existing residents. Second, we used place of residence data in the 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files to: a) identify the size of communities internal migrants were leaving and moving to and b) compare the demographic characteristics of those who moved into each region from another region in Canada with that of pre-existing residents who did not move and those who moved out of each region.

Qualitative data collection and analysis: We conducted 57 in-depth narrative interviews with individuals and households who moved to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes between 2019 and 2024. We recruited participants using social media, posters placed in key localities, and referrals from interviewees to other potential participants from their own networks. In-person (76%) and virtual (24%) interviews allowed us to capture people's stories about work, migration decisions, and life after moving. We also conducted 47 interviews (32 in Northern Ontario and 15 in the Maritimes) with local stakeholders, including elected officials, planners, local economic development officers, real estate agents, business leaders, and social service providers. These interviews provided information about how internal migration was affecting the broader social and economic wellbeing of each region. All interviews were transcribed and coded thematically using qualitative analysis software (NVivo) to extract key themes.

2.2 Who we heard from

2.2.1 Inter-regional migrants to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes

We conducted 57 interviews with a total of 67 people who had moved to Northern Ontario (52%) or the Maritimes (48%). Almost all migrants to Northern Ontario who participated in our study had moved from *within Ontario* (94%). Participants who had move to the Maritimes, meanwhile, had more diverse source communities, moving from Ontario (58%), British Columbia (16%), Quebec (10%), and the Prairie provinces (9%). Most migrants interviewed were between 30 and 49 years old, with an average age of 45. Six participants identified as racialized, three identified as Indigenous and 10 identified their sexual orientation as other than heterosexual. Six participants identified as a person with disabilities.



PICTURED ABOVE: Community leader and team member in Temiskaming Shores, ON. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

Table 2.2.1 Demographic characteristics of migrant interview participants by region

	Northern Ontario	Maritimes	Total
Gender identity			
Male	14	11	25
Female	22	20	42
Age			
20-29	5	0	5
30-39	12	8	20
40-49	9	10	19
50-59	6	4	10
60-69	4	9	13
Sexual orientation			
Heterosexual	32	25	57
Gay or Lesbian	1	3	4
Bisexual/Pansexual/Queer	3	3	6
Racialized			
White	31	30	61
Racialized as non-white	5	1	6
Indigenous identity			
Indigenous	3	0	3
Not Indigenous	33	31	64
Ability/disability			
No disabilities	31	30	61
Person with disabilities	5	1	6
Highest level of education			
Graduate School or Professional deg.	8	14	22
Undergraduate degree	14	11	25
Some University	0	1	1
College or trade diploma	8	5	12
Some college	5	0	5
Highschool diploma or less	1	0	1

Most interview participants reported incomes between \$60,000 and \$140,000, however six households had household incomes below \$40,000 and five had household incomes of \$200,000 or higher. A slightly greater share of interview participants in the Maritimes reported household incomes above \$180,000 than in Northern Ontario. At the time of our interviews, most participants (52) were working for pay. Our interview sample included a significant number of people who were working remotely from home (17) or were self-employed (12). Interviewees who were not working for pay were either retired (11), unemployed (2), or engaged in performing care work (2).

2.2.2 Key informants

Interviews with 47 key informants (32 in Northern Ontario and 15 in the Maritimes) included local elected officials (12), planners, economic development officers (8), real estate agents (6), social service providers (5), and 16 other community leaders including teachers, provincial representatives, and business leaders.



PICTURED ABOVE: Team member walking in Mattawa, ON. Picture by Suzanne Mills.

3. Who moved where?



Our analysis of Census data shows that migration was uneven within each region and that migrants were diverse geographically, demographically, and socioeconomically. Although many households moved from metropolitan areas to rural areas, a significant number moved to similarly sized communities. Demographically, movers to both regions tended to be younger, more highly educated, and more likely to identify as a visible minority than the pre-existing population. Movers also represented a range of income levels. Furthermore, economic indicators suggest that those who moved into either region from other regions in Canada were not motivated by high paying job opportunities.

3.1 Where did people move?

People who moved into the Maritimes and Northern Ontario between 2016 and 2021 were often moving away from larger centres and to cities and municipalities with smaller populations. Almost 30% of migrants moving into the Maritimes and Northern Ontario were moving from a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)—a municipality of over 100,000 people—to a non-Census Area (non-CA)—a municipality with less than 10,000 people (Table 3.1). Moves from CMAs to Census Areas—municipalities from 10,000 to 100,000 people—were also common among in-migrants. In contrast, people leaving both regions were often moving to more populated municipalities. Not everyone who moved into these regions was making an urban to rural transition, however. Just over 10% of movers were moving from other rural areas in Canada and almost a quarter of in-migrants were moving from CMA to CMA. Internal migration was also uneven within each region.



PICTURED ABOVE: Blomidon, NS. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

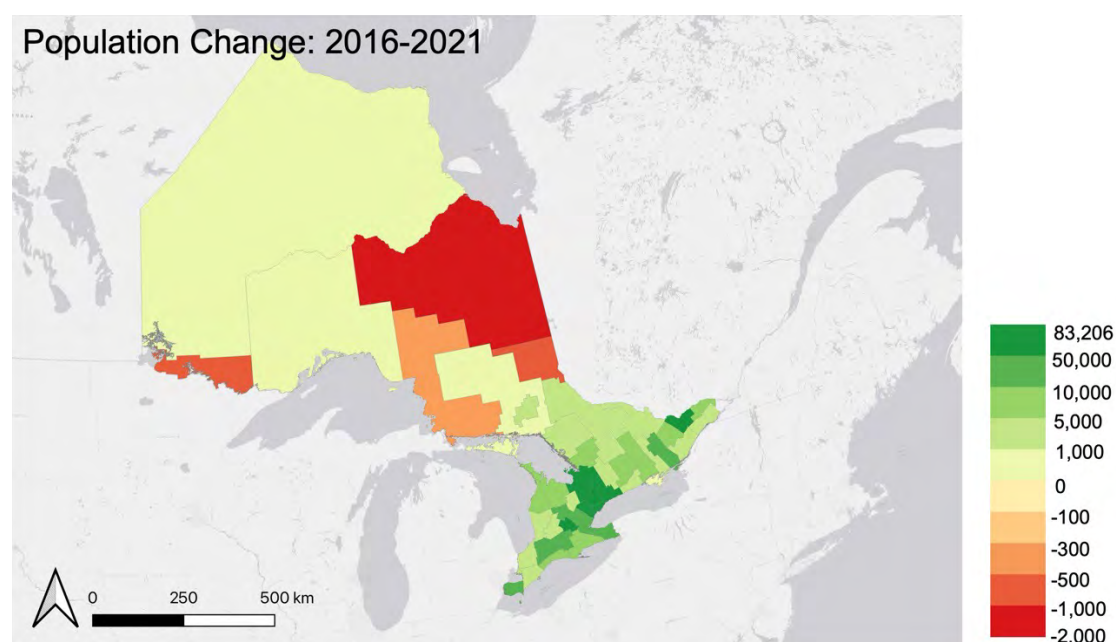
Table 3.1: Geographical size of source and receiving communities for migrants in and out of the Maritimes and Northern Ontario from 2016 to 2021, aged 25 or older in 2016 ^{viii}

	Maritimes		Northern Ontario	
	In-Migration	Out-Migration	In-Migration	Out-Migration
From CMA to CMA	14.93%	23.24%	16.01%	23.78%
From CMA to CA	16.89%	4.3%	17.43%	4.45%
From CMA to non-CA	29.18%	5.11%	27.51%	5.1%
From CA to CMA	2.31%	18.8%	2.46%	19.17%
From CA to CA	3.24%	4.13%	3.36%	4.17%
From CA to non-CA	5.23%	5.96%	4.93%	5.42%
From non-CA to CMA	2.59%	20.32%	2.74%	20.57%
From non-CA to CA	3.98%	5.73%	4.1%	5.92%
From non-CA to non-CA	10.43%	12.42%	10.13%	11.42%
External (Outside Canada)	11.22%	N/A	11.34%	N/A

3.1.1 Northern Ontario

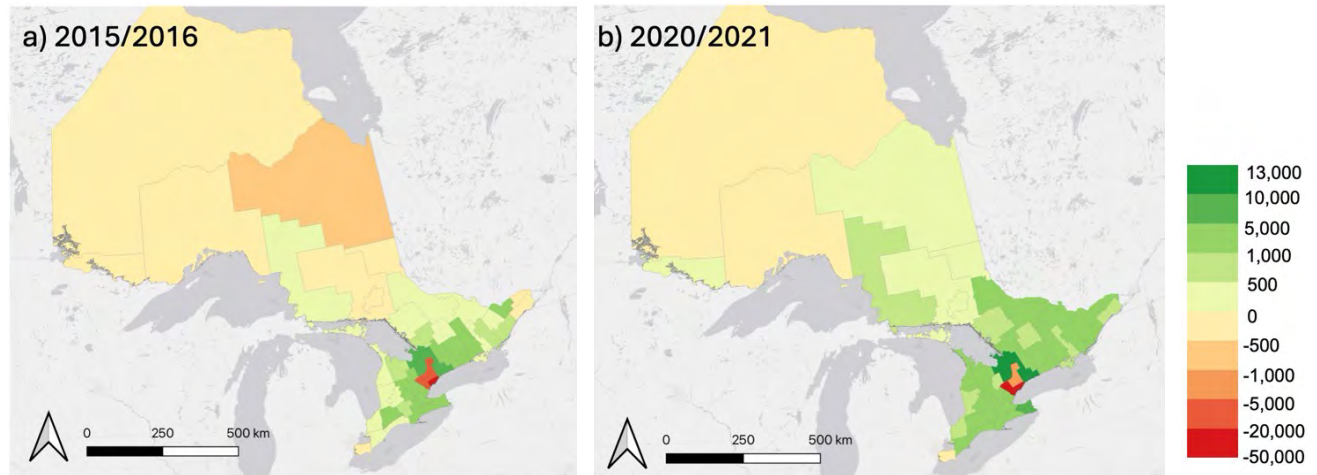
Population growth between 2016 and 2021 in Northern Ontario was largely concentrated in the near north (Parry Sound, Manitoulin and Nipissing) and northeastern Ontario more broadly (Figure 3.1.1). Other regions in Northern Ontario, continued to see no growth or negative growth.

Figure 3.1.1 Population change in Northern Ontario 2016-2021 ^{ix}



Maps of intra-provincial net migration between 2015 and 2016 and 2021 and 2022, show a flow of people away from Toronto, first to the suburbs and cottage country, and second to the near north and northeastern Ontario more broadly (Figures 3.1.1.2 a, b).

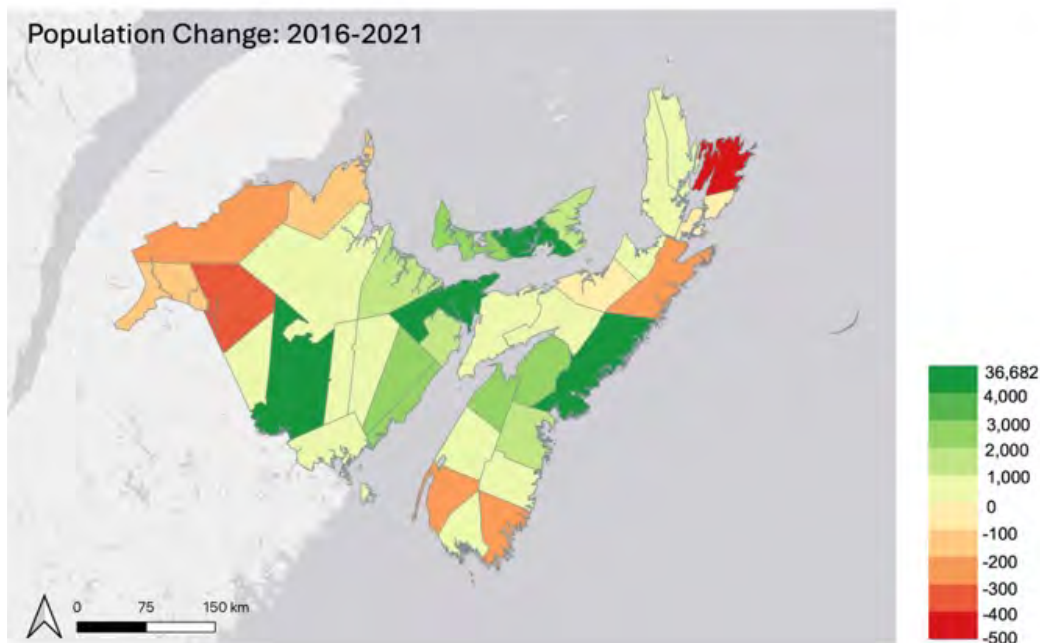
Figure 3.1.1.2 a, b Intra-provincial migration in Northern Ontario between 2015/2016 and 2020/2021^x



3.1.2 Maritimes

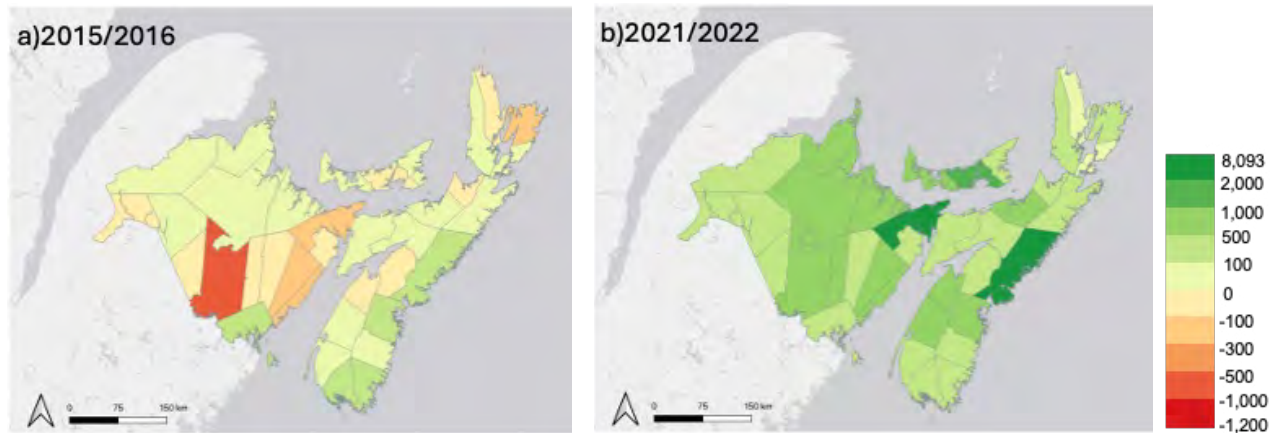
Population growth in the Maritimes from 2016 and 2021 was greatest in more populated sub-regions. These include, for example, census divisions including Halifax, NS, Fredericton NB, and Charlottetown, PEI. Other regions experienced net negative population, with Cape Breton experiencing the greatest decline.

Figure 3.1.2.1 Population change in the Maritimes 2016-2021^{xi}



Net inter-provincial migration in the Maritimes between 2015 and 2016 was slightly positive in some census divisions and neutral or slightly negative in others. Between 2020 and 2021, however, inter-provincial migration was positive in all census divisions with very high growth in the same regions that demonstrate population growth between 2016 and 2021.

Figure 3.1.2.2 a, b Inter-provincial migration in the Maritimes between 2015-16 and 2020-21^{xii}



PICTURED ABOVE: Pigs on study participant's property. Picture by Suzanne Mills.

3.2 Who moved?

In general, the people who moved into Northern Ontario or the Maritimes were quite similar to the pre-existing population. In both regions, migrants tended to be more ethnically diverse, more highly educated, and younger than those who did not move.

3.2.1 Demographic characteristics

When compared with pre-existing residents, a greater share of migrants into the Maritimes between 2016 and 2021 and between 2020 and 2021 were visible minorities and permanent residents (Table 3.2.1.1). Migrants were also younger and more likely to have a university degree than the non-migrant population, but less likely to have an apprenticeship or trades certificate. These trends were also true when internal migrants—those moving from other regions in Canada—were isolated in the analysis.

Table 3.2.1.1 Demographic characteristics of migrants into the Maritimes in 2016 and 2021^{xiii}

	Migration status (All)		
	Non-Migrant	5 years ago	1 year ago
Immigration Status in 2021			
Canadian-born	93.82	61.33	65.5
Permanent residents	5.92	25.14	19.04
Temporary residents	0.26	13.52	15.46
Gender			
Female	52.14	49.89	49.74
Male	47.86	50.11	50.26
Age in 2021			
25 to 34	14.12	33.98	36.21
35 to 44	15.16	26.42	22.28
45 to 54	17.73	14.42	15.26
55 to 64	22.19	13.78	15.05
65 or older	30.8	11.4	11.2
Visible Minority			
White	92.01	65.94	69.5
Visible minority	3.92	30.89	27.38
Indigenous	4.07	3.17	3.12
Highest Education Level in 2021			
Secondary or less	42.96	26.99	26.74
Apprenticeship or trades certificate	9.15	6.46	6.29
Some post-secondary education below bachelor's degree	26.15	22.69	23.37
Bachelor's degree	14.71	25.13	27.05
Above bachelor's level	7.04	18.73	16.55

Demographic trends among migrants were similar in Northern Ontario. A higher share of recent migrants were permanent residents and visible minorities than the non-migrant population (Table 3.2.1.2). Migrants were also, on average, younger than non-migrants. Similar to migrants to the Maritimes, a greater share of migrants had a bachelor's degree or higher than non-migrants. Once again, these trends were also evident among internal migrants.

Table 3.2.1.2 Demographic characteristics of migrants to Northern Ontario in 2016 and 2021 ^{xiv}

	Migration status (All)		
	Non-Migrant	5 years ago	1 year ago
Immigration Status in 2021			
Canadian-born	93.35	76.89	77.78
Permanent residents	6.56	14.26	14.04
Temporary residents	0.09	8.85	8.18
Gender			
Female	51.32	48.83	50.11
Male	48.68	51.17	49.89
Age in 2021			
25 to 34	14.51	32.94	35.52
35 to 44	15.07	19.32	18.79
45 to 54	16.63	14.05	14.41
55 to 64	22.82	18.24	18.17
65 or older	30.97	15.45	13.12
Visible Minority			
White	83.30	73.79	73.85
Visible minority	1.97	17.76	16.71
Indigenous	14.73	8.44	9.44
Highest Education Level in 2021			
Secondary or less	45.47	35.48	34.29
Apprenticeship or trades certificate	8.72	7.15	6.79
Some post-secondary education below bachelor's degree	29.36	27.17	26.86
Bachelor's degree	11.85	18.67	19.70
Above bachelor's level	4.59	11.53	12.37



3.2.2 Economic characteristics

Available indicators suggest that the economic situation of people who moved into Northern Ontario and the Maritimes between 2015 and 2020 was not very different from the pre-existing population in these regions. Levels of home ownership in 2015/2016 and average household incomes were relatively similar between these populations.

In Northern Ontario, both movers and non-movers had almost identical average levels of home ownership in 2015/16, 69.5% versus 68.9% respectively. In the Maritimes, movers had a slightly higher level of home ownership in 2015/16 than the non-migrant population (73.1% versus 69.5%).

Household income

Figure 3.2.2.1 shows how average total household after-tax income in the Maritimes changed between 2015 and 2020, broken down by migration status. In 2015, non-migrant and in-migrant households had similar income levels, while out-migrant households were somewhat lower. By 2020, incomes for non-migrant and in-migrant households had both declined slightly, averaging around \$74,800 and \$74,650. In contrast, out-migrant households experienced a substantial increase, reaching \$107,100. This suggests that households leaving the region tended to have higher incomes by 2020, while those staying or moving into the region saw stagnant or declining after-tax incomes.

Figure 3.2.2.1 Average total household after-tax income by migration status in the Maritimes ^{xv}

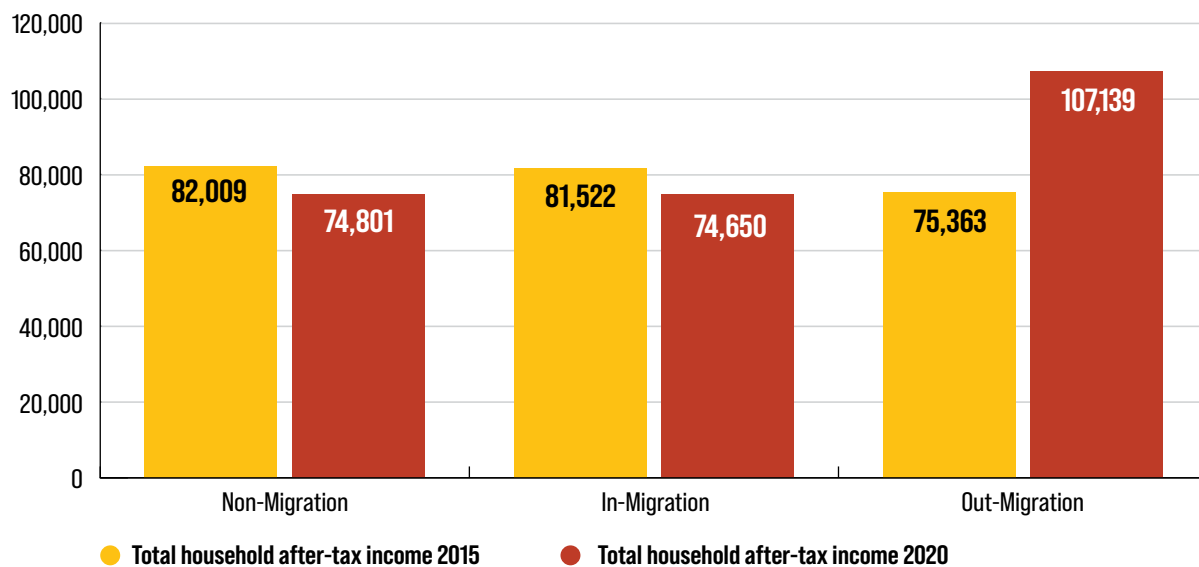
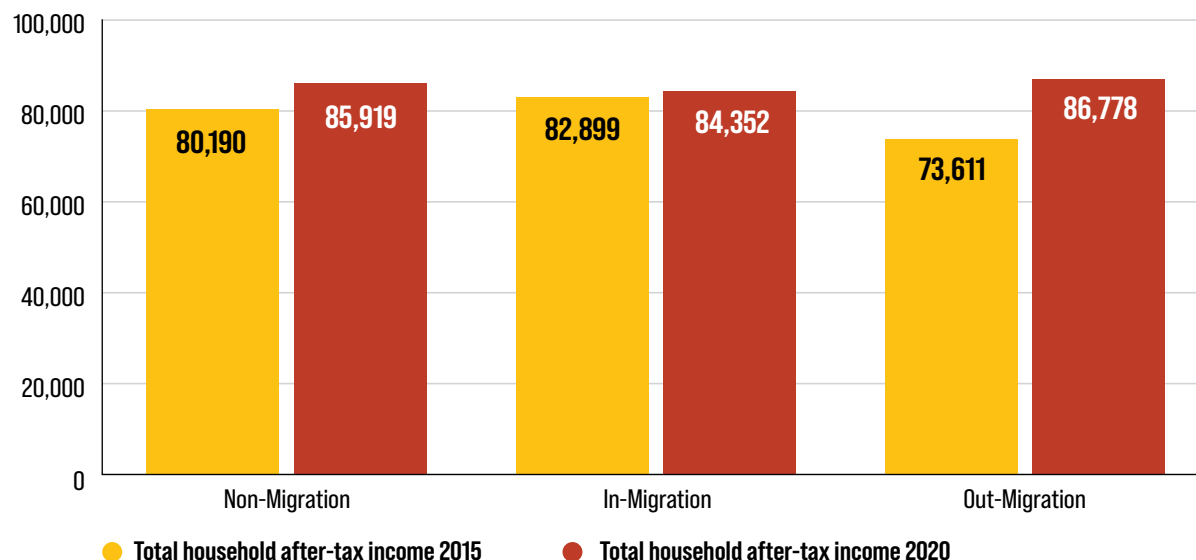


Figure 3.2.2.2 shows the same information for Northern Ontario. In Northern Ontario, average total household after-tax income shifted differently across migration groups between 2015 and 2020. Non-migrant households saw more substantial income growth, rising from about \$80,200 to \$85,900, while in-migrant households experienced only a modest increase, from \$82,900 to \$84,400. Out-migrant households, however, showed the most dramatic change: their incomes were the lowest in 2015 at \$73,600 but grew sharply to \$86,800 by 2020, making them the highest-income group overall. This pattern highlights that households leaving Northern Ontario experienced the greatest financial gains, while those staying or moving in had smaller income increases.

These results suggest that people are still leaving these regions in search of higher paid employment. In contrast, those moving into each region were not likely motivated primarily by economic considerations.

Figure 3.2.2.2 Average total household after-tax income by migration status in Northern Ontario^{xvi}



3.2.3 Employment characteristics

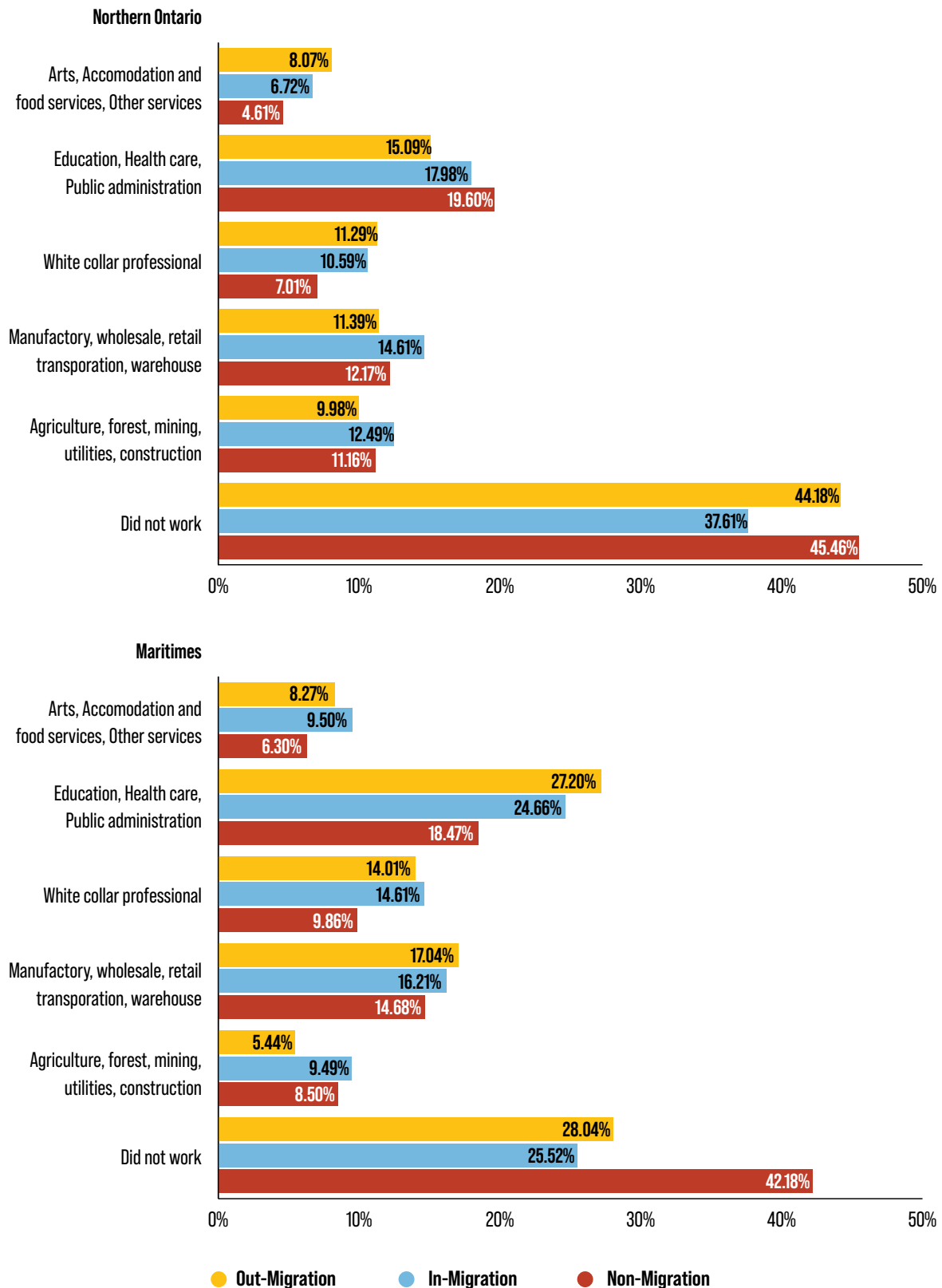
Industry sector

Figure 3.2.3.1 shows the distribution of industry sectors among Northern Ontario and Maritime residents in 2020/21, broken down by migration status.

In Northern Ontario, a large share of all groups reported not working in 2020/21, with rates ranging from 37.6% among in-migrants to 45.5% among non-migrants. Education, health care, and public administration were the most common sectors for employment, particularly for non-migrants (19.6%). Out-migrants were more represented in agriculture, forestry, mining, utilities, and construction (10%) compared to other groups, while in-migrants were more concentrated in manufacturing, retail, transportation, and warehousing (14.6%). White-collar professional roles were also more common among in-migrants (10.6%) and out-migrants (11.3%) than non-migrants (7.0%). Overall, the data suggest that while non-migrants were more likely to work in public sector roles, in- and out-migrants showed stronger ties to professional and goods-producing industries.

In the Maritimes, non-migrants had the highest share reporting they did not work (42.2%), compared to 28.0% of out-migrants and 25.5% of in-migrants. Education, health care, and public administration was the dominant employment sector for all groups, particularly among out-migrants (27.2%). In- and out-migrants were also more represented in white-collar professional roles (14.6% and 14.0%, respectively) than non-migrants (9.9%). Meanwhile, in-migrants had the largest share in manufacturing, retail, transportation, and warehousing (16.2%), slightly ahead of out-migrants (17.0%). Employment in arts, accommodation, and food services was higher for in-migrants (9.5%) than the other groups, while agriculture and resource-based work was relatively small overall but most common among in-migrants (9.5%). Overall, migrants tended to be more engaged in professional, service, and goods-producing sectors, while non-migrants showed higher reliance on public sector jobs and had a larger proportion not working.

Figure 3.2.3.1 Industry sector of employment 2020/21, migrants, non-migrants, and out-migrants in Northern Ontario and the Maritimes^{xvii}



Location of work

As anticipated, a higher percentage of the population reported home as their primary location of work in 2021 than in 2016. Out-migrants from both regions were most likely to report working from home in 2021 followed by in-migrants. Those who did not move were least likely to report working from home in 2021. Somewhat surprisingly, however, many of those who moved were working onsite in 2021/2022.

Figure 3.2.3.2 a Percent of workers reporting working from home as primary location of work by migration status in Northern Ontario, 2016 and 2021^{xviii}

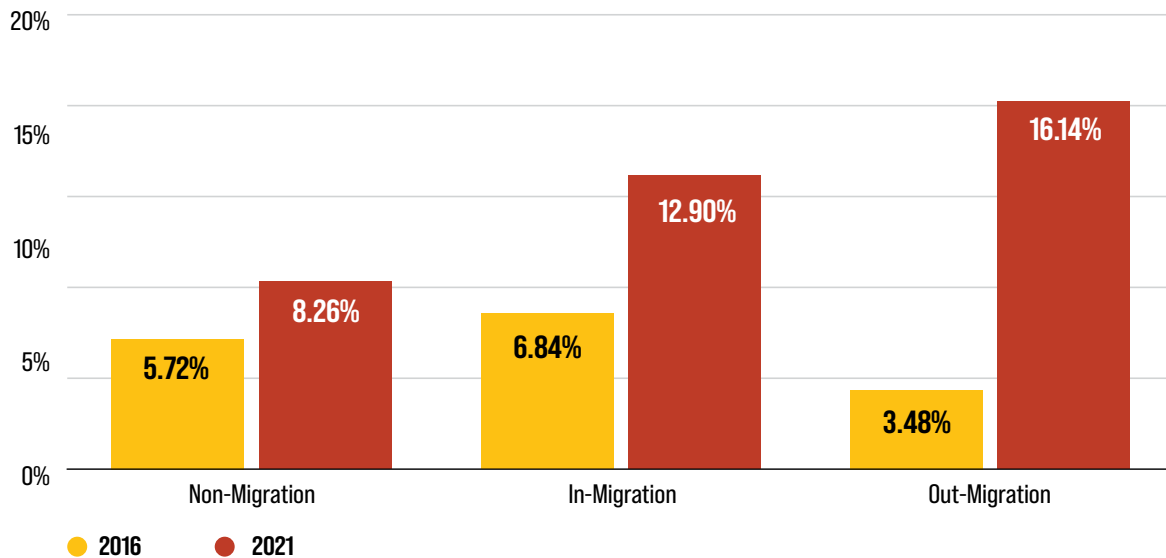
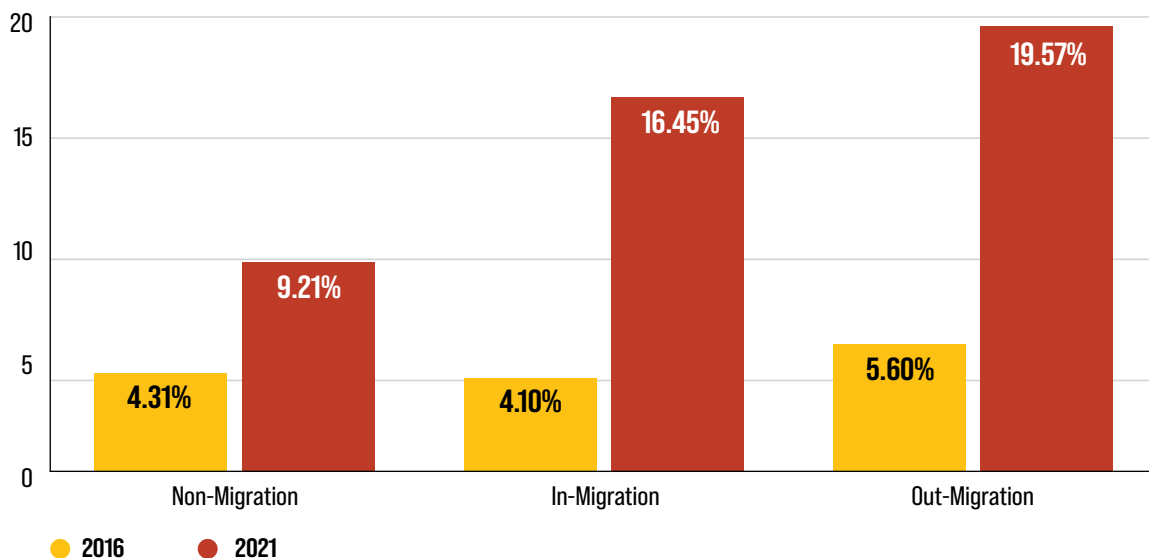


Figure 3.2.3.2 b Percent of workers reporting working from home as primary location of work by migration status in the Maritimes, 2016 and 2021.



4. Why did people move?



Across interviews, COVID-19 often acted as a catalyst for moving, granting new weight to priorities that had been simmering beneath the surface of everyday, busy, urban life. Participants described an increased pull toward re-emphasizing family and rebalancing work, often alongside a slower pace of life and improved well-being. These aims interacted with the possibilities of working remotely and reducing housing costs, both of which made the moves possible. In this section, we distinguish between motivating factors for migration and factors that made it economically feasible to move, since most of those we interviewed were not moving to take up specific jobs in their new communities.



PICTURED ABOVE: Beach in North Bay, ON. Photo by Bonnie Evans.

4.1 Motivations for moving

Motivations for moving were diverse and multi-fold, although proximity to family (39 interviews) and housing affordability (35 interviews) were most common. In fact, 23 households were motivated by both the desire to find more affordable housing (or reconfigure housing costs) and to be close to family. In the Maritimes, proximity to family was a more pronounced consideration, whereas in Northern Ontario, housing affordability was slightly more salient. These motivations were often intertwined with other goals. For example, proximity to family was often accompanied by a desire to work differently and pursue a different lifestyle (11 interviews). Moving to a region with a slower pace of life was often seen as an antidote to poor health and well-being related to work and everyday life in more urban settings (reported in 12 interviews). We also found some unexpected motivations for migration. For example, safety was a motivation for six households, and political climate prompted three households to move to the Maritimes.

4.1.1 Proximity to family

The desire to live closer to family was a widespread motivator for internal migration; 39 interviews mentioned it as a motivation factor, even if not the primary one.

Many participants described a desire to return to a place where they or their partners grew up and still had relatives. In some cases, return migration was motivated by a desire to return to the landscapes and home communities of their youth. In other cases, movers wanted to live close to family in order to ease care demands. Several households with young children moved to be closer to grandparents so that they could be more present in their children's lives and, in some cases, help with childcare. Others moved so that they could provide care for aging parents. Both of these motivations were heightened by pandemic lockdowns.



PICTURED ABOVE: Wolfville, NS. Photo by Katie Mazer.

“The whole connection to [community] is because this is where my husband is from. He grew up here.”

(Interview 105_NO)

“...when the pandemic kind of took place, we had just had our daughter, and PEI was, you know, there was the Atlantic bubble. We just struggled to find opportunities for our daughter to meet her grandparents and that sort of thing. And we kind of realized, you know, if we’re ever gonna move home, now is the time...We wanted our daughter to have a relationship with her grandparents.... So we were really thinking about that as our #1 objective.”

(Interview 40_M)

“My mom has a lot of chronic pain and various health stuff going on.... So, I came back...because I knew that my mom had a couple surgeries and kind of worked out for me as well.”

(Interview 31_NO)

For some households who were moving away from family in Southern Ontario in their quest for affordability, proximity to family influenced *where* they chose to move. This meant choosing to relocate to areas in northeastern Ontario that were within a half-day drive to connections further south rather than to the Maritimes or northwestern Ontario.

4.1.2 Housing affordability

Housing affordability was a significant motivator for people moving to Northern Ontario [18] and the Maritimes [17]. Participants described being motivated by the desire to secure cheaper rents, the prospect of buying their first home, or the possibility of leveraging a regional divergence in the cost of housing to reduce debt and improve their lifestyle by buying land or working less. Escalating housing prices in urban areas in Ontario and British Columbia, before and through the pandemic, acted as a significant driver of internal migration to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes.

In several cases, renters were motivated to move to more affordable regions for cash-flow relief, to arrest debt accumulation, to escape poor housing conditions or to find an affordable apartment after being evicted.

One woman who lived in an expensive city in BC, moved to find an apartment with affordable rent after being evicted from her apartment:

“The bottom line, the reason I moved was economic. I looked for probably two months straight. I can’t remember how many places I looked at trying to find a place and, I mean, I had lived there for 30 years. But the rents were just getting stupid.”

(Interview 16_M)

In other cases, people moved to escape poor housing conditions. One social media worker from Ontario explained her and her partner’s motivation to move up north:

“We just wanted kind of a fresh start. The building that we were living in was not great. It was a really crappy one-bedroom apartment that was right above a dumpster. We had cockroaches so we were constantly getting fumigated. It was just a terrible situation.... But there really wasn’t anything else in [city] that was affordable, but not like a total slum, you know. So, we were like sinking so much money into accommodation, not getting ahead, not paying down any debt, actually accumulating debt because like, at one point, we were using credit cards for everything else because so much of our money was going to rent bills.... We couldn’t even probably afford to live there now. Just like we’re totally priced out.”

(Interview 7_NO)

In these cases, and others, moving to a more affordable region was a strategy to escape the price squeeze of housing in expensive markets and, in many cases, to improve the quality of their rental housing.

The ability to buy a first home was a motivating factor for many migrants, especially young people in their 20s and 30s who felt that owning a residence in their previous cities was impossible. As one young couple explained, the affordability of housing in northeastern Ontario made it possible to own a home for their growing family:

“I opened Realtor.ca, I scrolled, and my jaw almost hit the floor. And then messaged [partner’s name], and I said, ‘Hey, we’re moving to [city in Temiskaming region]’ We had been looking a couple of times around [previous community in Southern Ontario].... We were actually pretty hopeless, to be honest, about the housing situation...and we were at the point where, it was like, okay, well, whatever, let’s dive in. We want to own a house.”

(Interview 21_NO)

Besides being able to buy a house, some participants were motivated by the opportunity to purchase cheaper plots of land, guided also by the motivation to lead a different way of life, have more open space, and to farm or homestead. These examples reflect a common pattern observed across both regions. Lower rents and housing prices provided migrants with multiple attractive options: the ability to reduce debts, purchase a first home, buy land, or as we will see in the next section, work less or differently.



Homesteading

The lower cost of land in the Maritimes and Northern Ontario made it possible for several households to pursue homesteading. These households sought greater self-sufficiency by producing more of their own food.

“Obviously, it [dream of farming] wasn’t going to happen in Southern Ontario,” he explains, “I had travelled to Nova Scotia before and I thought it was very lovely and I knew that land up there was cheap.”

(Interview 20_NO)

“Having the ability to provide for ourselves, and means other than financial, was a huge motivator for us, and that was, I guess, the huge motivator for me, moving up full-time and kind of going very limited with my business, so that I can [do farm work].”

(Interview 1_NO)

Another participant described how moving allowed her husband to leave his desk job:

“[He was] just wanting to be more of a farmer. He got into goats. Now he keeps goats and breeds them, and we use them for food. He was milking one of them at one point but hasn’t done that recently. He’s essentially, you know, worked in the bush a good part of his life, but for the past 10 or so years before we came up was pretty much, you know—he was a manager. He was on the desk. And so I think being up here allows him to have both of those things. He still does his same job. But he can, you know, go out and work in in the bush. You can work with the animals still have that kind of lifestyle.”

(Interview 105_NO)

These quotes illustrate how the decision to move to more remote areas, especially in Northern Ontario, was also influenced by the desire to work differently, not in paid work on the labour market, but on their land, providing for themselves. This desire became feasible when affordable acreage, a regional divergence in the cost of housing, and remote work allowed for financial security.

4.1.3 Ability to work less or differently

Often enabled by a cheaper housing market, the desire to work less or differently was also a key motivator for many migrants to Northern Ontario (7) or the Maritimes (14).

In several cases, the lower price of housing made it possible for individuals to leave jobs that were stressful or that had long work hours or both. In several cases, it meant a deliberate income/quality of life trade off. The move to PEI, coupled with the sale of a lucrative property in British Columbia enabled one participant to leave a high-pressure job and work part-time as a consultant, prioritizing his health and time with family:

“I was losing my temper with my kids. I was not the same person. And so, having the financial stability to be able to step aside... I’ve gone from making well north of \$150,000 a year to under \$40,000.”

(Interview 100_M)

Several couples described how the ability to be mortgage-free after moving to their new destination made it possible for one member of the household to take time away from paid work to focus on family or healing. As one participant described:

“So, we had a long journey with [child who passed away] and then the grief afterwards, and it all kind of rolled into we need a simpler life.... So, we actually came with no mortgage... So, that way, my husband could have time off.... Had we not moved, we’d probably be divorced.

(Interview 12_M).

Although, in this case, the break from work was temporary, in others it was permanent. Moving to a lower cost region allowed some participants to retire earlier than expected or work less and dedicate a greater share of their time to unpaid work in the home or community.



4.1.4 Way of life

Many participants were also attracted by what they perceived to be a slower and more community-centric way of life in their new locales. Interviewees often linked this desire to aspirations for improved health and wellbeing. One participant described how she moved to escape the fast pace of an urban area that she felt was negatively affecting her health:

“So essentially, I wanted to get away from the city hustle and bustle. Like, it was just getting too much for me for my mental health. I suffered from a lot of anxiety, and I thought that came from something else, but I think it came from just traffic, just everything combined.”

(Interview 11_NO)

Other participants were pulled by a culture that they perceived as down to earth and honest. As one participant described:

“There’s no filters, there’s no manipulation, there’s no hidden agendas.”

(Interview 15_M)

When asked why they moved to Northern Ontario, another respondent replied:

“Mindset. [Back in the city] I just, sometimes, I felt like you had to keep up with the Joneses, so you had to have all. Now here, we are the Joneses. They’re keeping up with us. That’s what our neighbour always tells us.”

(Interview 5_NO)

However, as this quote illustrates, the participants also (unintentionally) brought with them aspects of the very culture they were trying to escape.

Access to nature in Northern Ontario and the Maritimes was seldom the primary motivating factor, although it was often discussed as an added benefit, with several participants describing the allure of snowmobiling, being surrounded by nature, or having close proximity to water.

4.1.5 Safety and political climate

Several participants, particularly those who moved from low-income neighbourhoods, described how the desire to live in a safer community or to find safer housing motivated their move:

“We were getting people breaking into our cars. We had to step over a guy who was passed out on heroin in the morning, walking our kids to school. There were all these little things that sort of added up.”

(Interview 100_M)

For another participant who moved from a low-income neighbourhood of the GTA to Northern Ontario, the move provided the opportunity to obtain safer housing.

“But then these guys in their mid-20s, who were heavy, heavy, heavy drug addicts started showing up. And we were finding needles in the garbage area on our floor. There was one day that there was blood streaked across the wall from the elevator to his room.... We had my daughter while we lived there, and I started getting increasingly nervous about home invasion.”

(Interview 30_NO)



PICTURED ABOVE: A multi-use trail in the Annapolis Valley, NS, shares space with local farms. Photo by Katie Mazer.

In three cases, rising hostilities and shifting community norms that hindered feelings of safety and belonging motivated relocation. For one heterosexual couple living in western Canada, increasing hostility in their small town towards members of the 2SLGBTQAI+ community influenced their decision to move the Maritimes:

“I was on the committee where we decided to paint rainbow crossing in the town.... Anyway, we needed police escorts to paint this crosswalk. Yes, it was that bad, I know.... We couldn’t find any like-minded people. We had to search far and wide and that really helped us decide to just pull the plug there and go somewhere else.”

(Interview 103_M)

Similarly, a lesbian couple reported that their move to the Maritimes was in large part driven by a desire to feel more welcome in their community.

“We’ve seen Alberta over the last couple of years, it just taking a dive, and we weren’t feeling as safe as we once felt in Alberta.... People were getting a lot more aggressive and targeting queer communities. And we’re part of that. And so, it made the decision so much easier. Because we saw a real increase in hate crime during that time. So, we’re out of there.”

(Interview 102_M)

As these quotes illustrate, for some, the move was also motivated by a search for everyday acceptance, linking political climate to personal and family well-being and safety.



PICTURED ABOVE: Overlooking the Bay of Fundy, NS. Photo by Katie Mazer.

4.2 What allowed people to move?

Many factors lessened the risks associated with migration and made the move economically feasible for households. These included the ability to exploit the gap in the cost of housing between regions, the ability to work remotely, job flexibility, or retirement. In other cases, moving to live with family or to a locale with lower costs lessened the economic insecurity resulting from job loss or leaving work.

4.2.1 Divergence in regional housing costs

Selling in a high-priced market and buying in a lower-priced destination enabled the move for many participants (24 interviews) by unlocking equity and creating a cash buffer for transition. In some cases, this buffer meant that migrants did not need to have jobs lined up before the move:

“We found a rental here...because we were literally kind of going in blind. We did lots of research, but we don’t know if we’ll find jobs in this area. So [we decided] we’ll rent for a year and then see how it works out, and we were very fortunate that the sale of our house gave us that cushion! You know, not have to work for a little bit until we figured out life here, and so we just took the plunge and went for it.”

(Interview 102_M)

In Northern Ontario, another participant emphasized how the timing of his home sale during the height of the market transformed his family life, allowing him to retire early and live a slower pace of life:

“[We] had a big mortgage. So we decided to sell our house right at the peak. We made a ton of money on it, which was good and got rid of our mortgage.... So, we bought the house in [Northern Ontario community] for cash. So, we’re sitting down there trying to figure out what to do with lots of money in the bank and no expenses.”

(Interview 3_NO)

In both regions, participants described how proceeds from the sale of their homes allowed them to buy property outright, downsize monthly costs, or live off the proceeds while settling into a new location. This lowered barriers to moving and sometimes made it possible to move without immediate local employment.

4.2.2 Remote work and job flexibility

For many households (24), the ability for at least one person to work remotely increased the feasibility of the move by providing income security. One interviewee moving back to her home community in Nova Scotia described remote work as a safety cushion for her and her husband. *“Yeah...I’m not like the most risky person,”* she describes, *“so I feel for us to be able to keep our jobs and not completely give up everything.”* (Interview 96_M).

Other respondents described how the pandemic had prompted their organization to normalize working remotely, making it possible for them to “make the leap” to a new destination.

“... It was really easy to translate to doing everything online, like for our team to all be working online. And then it meant that when we were able to... when we were thinking about moving up here, it was kind of a non-issue because I work remotely.”

(Interview 21_NO)



PICTURED ABOVE: Sign in Nipissing region, ON. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

One participant who bought a small house and land in the greater Nipissing region sought out remote work because it would allow him the flexibility to pursue farming:

“I was working an in-person job and, I knew that if I could go to fully remote—that you could very easily strike a balance between being outside and doing farm work and then just heading inside on lunch breaks and stuff. And then of course, also being remote means, even if you’re in a remote location as in living rurally, you can have access to jobs that wouldn’t be available within a 30 or an hour of that type of house.”

(Interview 20_NO)

Similar to remote work, job flexibility often enabled relocation (13). Participants in entrepreneurial or freelance roles were often able to work remotely and serve clients at a distance. Some participants who moved to Northern Ontario negotiated hybrid work arrangements in which they returned to the office weekly or monthly. In other cases, fly-in, fly-out work or the ability to transfer within a provincial or federal organization made the move possible. Finally, workers with skills in fields with high demand (such as nursing) were often very confident in their ability to find work in their new locale. In a minority of cases, migrants opened local businesses in their new locales, ventures which both allowed the move and were part of the draw of moving.

4.2.3 Retirement/Job Loss

Leaving work voluntarily or involuntarily also freed migrants from the need to live close to their prior place of employment. Participants who retired post-move were often able to get by on different combinations of pensions, RRSPs, severance packages, and proceeds from property sales. In other cases, moving to lower cost destinations provided households with more financial security after a member had lost their job.

One household, for example, decided to move to the Maritimes after the main income earner was laid off close to retirement age. Retirement savings, coupled with more affordable housing in the new locale, made it feasible for both members of the couple to retire earlier than expected:

“I was an engineer, so I was paid reasonably well.... Even when the company didn’t give me a raise for five years, we were OK. So, in terms of moving, even though [spouse] was working part-time, it wasn’t as though we would be taking a major economic hit. We were planning on retiring. We were working towards retiring. We could have maybe used a couple of more nails, but we were OK.”

(Interview 36_M)

Loss of employment also acted as a catalyst for six participants who were not nearing retirement to move. In these cases, job loss prompted moving by either facilitating a more substantial change of lifestyle or by helping reduce costs. One Northern Ontario mover’s decision to downshift was initially driven by job loss:

“I was a senior executive at [company], a US company. Anyway, that didn’t work out so good. And, before COVID, I got restructured out of the business sort of unexpectedly... That precipitated a lot of the things that happened...so the job thing happened and sort of had the opportunity to sort of look at what else can we do in life.”

(Interview 3_NO)

In some cases, income support that accompanied job loss provided a financial cushion that eased the process of relocation. Severance packages, employment insurance (EI), and the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) created short-term income bridges for households as they looked for local or remote employment in their new locale. In one case, severance packages were used for a downpayment on a house. In another case, participants’ ability to relocate was made possible by a CERB-related cushion after layoffs.



4.2.4 Family support

Family support also enabled households to move to Northern Ontario (7) and the Maritimes (8). Family often provided access to temporary or permanent housing, property, childcare, and other everyday supports.

Many participants stayed with their parents, in-laws, siblings, or other relatives upon arrival in their new destinations or relocated into family-owned properties. Moving in with family allowed households to save money or mitigate debt in a time of economic uncertainty and transition. As one couple explained, moving in with parents cushioned the blow of job loss:

“I officially got let go at the end of September. And at the beginning of December, but by that time, I moved into a friend’s home from Toronto in October and decided, ‘You know what, let’s just move back,’ because there was no job opportunities in Ontario at the time. Let’s just go back to Nova Scotia. We were living with my parents... for about four months.”

(Interview 45_M)

Family also played an important role in coordinating the everyday logistics of the move, through providing storage, sharing vehicles, and offering on-the-ground knowledge to find rentals, trades, and even jobs. Similarly, family served as a local support network when migrants needed support with childcare.

While not universal, family support served as a safety net for movers across regions and life stages, often working in tandem with other enablers, such as remote work and the rent gap. This support also smoothed the path to participants’ broader goals of securing affordable housing and adopting a slower, more community-oriented way of life.



PICTURED ABOVE: Scots Bay, NS. Photo by Katie Mazer.

5. Life after moving



Participants reported that their lives changed in many ways after moving. Many shifted the structure of their work lives, supplementing remote work with local jobs or starting something new. With more time and greater affordability, most participants experienced improvements to their standards of living and quality of life. Some participants felt less beholden to paid work and reported having more time for other things. While most participants encountered friendly neighbours and local hospitality, forming meaningful relationships was more difficult. Isolation and loneliness were not uncommon, and some reported experiences of social exclusion, racism, and homophobia. Across both regions, participants were struck by the poor quality of and access to services and infrastructure.



PICTURED ABOVE: Forest near Temagami, ON. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

5.1 Work and livelihood

The precise ways in which working life changed after moving varied greatly across our interviews. Some participants continued to work remotely in the jobs they had held prior to moving. Others pursued passion projects, switched to local in-person jobs, or engaged in a combination of these activities, often supplemented by remote work. Those who had found work in their fields in their new communities often reported benefiting from a healthier work culture. Almost 40% (26) of participants reported working locally in some capacity, while 40% (27) reported working remotely at some point over the course of their move. For many interviewees (40%) their earnings had decreased since moving.

While many participants continued to work remotely after moving, they often supplemented this employment with other activities. For many of these workers, taking a local on-site job in addition to their remote work was a way to meet people and get to know the community. For these participants, their local jobs—including retail work, service jobs, and municipal roles—were typically modest in terms of hours and income.

Other participants, feeling unhappy with remote work, transitioned completely to local jobs after moving. This was generally a strategy for reducing isolation and feelings of dissatisfaction related to working remotely. Transitioning from remote to local work often required taking a pay cut, but for these migrants the social connection of working on-site was worth the financial sacrifice.

As noted in the previous section, some participants used their remote jobs or the sale of a higher priced property to transition into lower-paid but more meaningful local work (e.g., social service or non-profit) or passion projects (e.g., farming), or to enable their spouse to make such a transition or take time away from paid work altogether. Several migrants who had used the move to reduce their working hours or leave a stressful job also ended up transitioning to local employment post move to help with household finances.

The pivot from remote to local work was sometimes prompted by post-pandemic changes to workplace policy that reduced access to remote work. For one participant from the Maritimes, for example, while remote work had allowed them to move to the region to care for a parent, subsequent changes in workplace policy forced them to quit and develop a strategy for working locally:

“They wanted me to be able to go into the office more often because, you know, return-to-office is a thing now. So, I just quit.... Last year, 2023, Nova Scotia had this thing... where NSCC, the government, will pay for... certain courses. I’m taking a course now at the Community College.”

(Interview 43_M)

While remote work played a major role in facilitating inter-regional migration, it doesn’t tell the whole story. For many participants, remote work served as the bridge that made relocation possible, but it did not provide a local anchor after the move. Seeking daily contact, integration, a stronger sense of belonging, or more gratification from their work, many participants sought out local jobs. Importantly, however, these transitions to local work were often only available to people with other sources of income: whether supplementary remote work, a spouse’s steady income (often through remote work), disposable income resulting from decreased housing costs, or the availability of other assets. For others, lower wages and lack of available local work were barriers to making such a transition.



5.2 Affordability

Moving resulted in a significant perceived improvement in the standard of living for most participants in our study. In 60% of our interviews (57% in Northern Ontario and 62% in the Maritimes), participants described greater affordability related to smaller or no mortgage payments, lower rent, lower property taxes, and fewer incidental expenses. Even for households that did not see an increase in disposable income, interviewees often *felt* better off because of increases to their space or assets, or reductions to their debt. Despite this overall trend, some participants in both regions conveyed an ongoing sense of “financial precarity” (Interview 13_M), particularly those who were unable to find stable employment in their new locale. Homeowners reported greater improvements to their standard of living than renters.

Especially in Northern Ontario, many participants described how the financial gains from the move showed up in their everyday budgets. Participants often reported that a lower cost of living, coupled with lower fixed costs, allowed more room for discretionary spending and left participants with a feeling of economic relief. As one participant living in the Mattawa region recounted:

“Like just overall, it’s affordable and you have kind of money to spend how you kind of want to, right? Either that’s saving it or spending it or whatever. You feel like your hard work pays off. I felt in the city, no matter what I did, I was in a loop of constantly trying to figure it out. Am I saving enough? Maybe I’m not. Do I have money for this? I didn’t know what the cause of that was until I was out of it. It’s hard to see when you’re in it.”

(Interview 11_NO)

In contrast, movers to the Maritimes were more likely to report that budgets remained tight despite cheaper housing prices. While the move may have improved their housing situation and afforded them more space, for many movers the high cost of living, including food, electricity, oil heating, and taxes, reduced disposable income, sometimes offsetting other financial gains. Many interviewees reported being surprised by the high cost of living, and some felt these unanticipated costs had dashed their hopes that moving would liberate them from financial stress. This situation was made more difficult by the frequent divergence between movers’ expectations and the reality on the ground. This was especially true for renters who wanted but were unable to buy a house upon moving. As one renter who moved to Nova Scotia from BC recounted:

“The dream was to move here and it was more affordable and I still had money in the bank for a down payment and maybe I could buy a house. Well, what I’m finding, what I’m learning is—and people moving here may or may not know—there’s a harsh reality that’s hidden. Right now, I’m feeling as though a house that I could afford to buy is not one I could afford to live in because it’s a fixer-upper or whatever.”

(Interview 16_M)

In addition to the ability to afford more secure or spacious housing, interviewees reported taking on building and renovation projects. These construction projects, supported by lower carrying costs, equity release, and sometimes the ability to take time away from paid work, ranged from DIY fixes to major upgrades and, in a few cases, building from scratch.



5.3 Quality of life

In addition to enhanced economic well-being, participants also reported improvements to their quality of life: lower stress, improved health, calmer routines, better access to nature, and more time for family, recreation, and personal projects. These improvements to quality of life were generally connected to movers' ability to slow down and to their perceptions of their new communities as quiet, green, or safe.

Ten participants (15%) specifically highlighted how the move improved their mental well-being. One participant in their thirties described the impact of leaving the dense, high-pressure environment of the GTA:

"It's the best decision that I think I made for my husband and I, especially for myself. Again, I've only been able to recognize how bad my mental health was. And now that I'm so much better, I wouldn't change it for the world. Because now I'm...just at peace, and that's just priceless."

(Interview 11_NO)

Participants who left stressful jobs also described how moving had given them more time for activities beyond work and commuting, and better access to nature, contributing to improvements in overall health. As this mover to the Maritimes explains:

"It's hard to explain how amazing it's been, because... it's just been a totally different mindset. Like I've been able to garden this year.... I've been outside.... So, you know, just things like that where I'm able to, you know go and be present. Be part of my kids' activities every single time like I'm there. It's been so good. I can't even describe to you."

(Interview 100_M)

Not all participants, however, recounted such dramatic improvements to wellbeing, with a small number (3 interviews) reporting declines in personal health and well-being after the move, generally related to social isolation and a reduced range of activities. In other words, improvements in overall wellbeing were linked to participants' success integrating into the community.

5.4 Integration into community

Community integration was the most contested aspect of the move in both regions: while 70% (47) of respondents expressed positive impressions about integrating into their new communities, 57% (38) expressed negative impressions.

Many movers reported forming social connections easily, often with other newcomers or neighbours. The most frequent positive impression participants shared with us was that people in their new communities were friendly. Participants frequently contrasted the hospitality, mutual aid, and culture of "showing up" in their new communities with the lack of neighbourliness in their previous communities. Some participants reported this left them with a sense of security and comfort they hadn't experienced in their previous homes. For some participants, who anticipated being marginalized in rural and small-town contexts, the friendliness was surprising:

"I remember the first week I was here living in [town], my neighbor across the street, who I had never met... they came by, knocked on my door. They're just like, 'Oh, I see you guys have recently moved up here, and I have this present for you.' And it was a giant basket filled with fresh produce.... It's just everyone was so lovely."

(Interview 23_NO)

But not all participants experienced this friendliness and, even among those who did, it did not necessarily lead to meaningful social integration. Especially among racialized and 2SLGBTQIA+ movers, some felt more a sense of ostracization than neighbourliness. And even for participants who felt their new communities were friendly, this friendliness was sometimes experienced as superficial and didn't always translate into the ability to form meaningful relationships. Participants reported a flipside to small-town social life that made integrating difficult: insider-outsider dynamics, gatekeeping, gossiping, and episodes of racism and homophobia. While the factors shaping peoples' experiences of belonging are complex and multi-faceted, participants generally had better luck integrating if those around them *perceived them as belonging* in their new community, based on their demographics and class.

Experiences of racism spanned experiences of repetitive subtle commentary, bullying and slights, and overt racist rhetoric on social media. One participant living in the Timmins region describes the casual racism they have encountered since moving:

"I've had people say, 'Oh, your English is very good.' Initially, that was a compliment.... Then you keep hearing, keep hearing, keep hearing and then you're like, what is happening? And then yeah, at one point...[this] lady is like, 'Oh, your English is very good.' I was like, 'Your English is good too'."

(Interview 32_N0)

One gay participant, who had moved to the Maritimes, describes how racism and homophobia intersected with local suspicion of outsiders and generalized xenophobia:

"And two months into the [new] job, I started looking for another job because of just how mean and cruel people were. Yeah. I was othered.... It was people like me that brought COVID, it was people like me who are moving from Ontario and Alberta and they're buying up all the homes and they are and they're making it unaffordable for people here.... All that stuff, you know, multiculturalism and LGBTQ, obviously... it was really hard coming into a culture where it was...so in your face, the isolationist attitude of, you know, we take care of ourselves.... [My husband] has one friend who is from Ontario and...she said to me, be prepared to go through it for about five years because they won't give you a chance. They won't give you a chance unless you [have] been here for five years."

(Interview 29_M)

Even among participants who were not otherwise marginalized, many movers to the Maritimes felt there was some local suspicion and resentment toward recent in-migrants for their perceived role in driving up the cost of housing. While some participants put this sentiment in context, expressing concern about the housing affordability crisis, other participants struggled with the sense of not being fully welcome. One participant, who grew up in the Maritimes and moved back during the pandemic, described a sense of being socially ostracised:

"When we moved in here...not a single neighbor from anywhere...came by to say, like, welcome.... [At work] I often, you know will, you know, say 'In my experience working at [a workplace in Ontario]' or whatever, and I think a lot of people just hear that and go like, 'Oh, here we go again. This guy from Ontario telling us how to do it in PEI.' And, you know, so I've really tried hard to, like, get that out of my lexicon."

(Interview 40_M)

On top of these social dynamics, work and family structures also impacted participants' ability to integrate socially. Isolation, loneliness, and struggles with community integration were more common among remote workers, retirees, and participants who defaulted to family rather than forming new ties. By contrast, finding ways to be out in the world and connecting with people helped with social integration. Participants in almost half our interviews (42%) reported using volunteering and community involvement as a strategy to integrate socially. Many of these movers recounted how community activities had helped them meet people, contribute to local life, and become part of the community more quickly.



5.5 Service and infrastructure challenges

Study participants consistently reported limited access to essential services. This manifested most obviously in a lack of reliable healthcare, but extended to municipal services, shopping, and other aspects of daily life. Overall, while these service and infrastructural challenges did not erase the overall benefits of moving, they did temper them.

Participants in 72% of our interviews reported challenges accessing healthcare. In both regions, people described years-long waitlists for family physicians. Those who had been able to secure a provider had often done so through personal connections, luck, or medical urgency (e.g. pregnancy). Participants without doctors relied on walk-in or nurse practitioner clinics, telehealth and, in some cases, family doctors in their previous home communities.

Participants reported long wait times at emergency rooms, out-of-pocket costs, and the stress of uncertainty. That is, participants were less concerned with the inconvenience of poor access to healthcare, and more worried about the transfer of risk, time, and costs to households—especially those with elderly family members or chronic conditions. One participant who moved to the North Bay region from Southern Ontario described how these interconnected challenges play out in that context:

“Basically...there’s a couple of walk-in clinics, but they’re not staffed by doctors. The doctors are telehealth. So, you would go to a walk-in clinic and talk to the nurse there, and then the nurse would relay your concerns to a doctor over a video feed. And that’s the extent of it. And they can’t really do much for you. So, for most things, they’re going to send you to the hospital anyway.... You just go straight to the hospital. There are nurse practitioners, but because they’re not covered by OHIP, you have to pay to see them. So, it’s like \$130 per [visit].”

(Interview 7_NO)

Movers’ lack of access to primary care providers may often be more a function of their relocation than of the places they moved. Communities across the country are facing doctor shortages but, in moving, many gave up family doctors and landed at the back of horribly long waitlists. Participants also noted regional differences in quality of care: most notably, the diminished availability of specialist care in more peripheral regions relative to major urban regions. Participants noted that major procedures and specialist care sometimes required travelling to the region’s larger cities. Some even recounted preferring to travel to see specialists in their previous community rather than risk waiting for an appointment locally. For some, the regional divergence in availability of care came as a shock. While the need to travel for care is often normalized in rural regions, movers were more likely to see it as a deficit. As one participant, who had moved to the Maritimes, said: *“I pray every day [that] I’m healthy”* (Interview 101_M).

Beyond healthcare, 60% of interviews—an equal number from both regions—highlighted other service and infrastructural challenges, related to childcare, municipal and professional services, recreational programs, and consumption opportunities. For a small number of interviewees, access to some services (e.g., childcare) improved after the move.

In some cases, as with the general shortage of childcare or public transit, these challenges flowed in part from a failure of local services and infrastructure to expand in step with population growth. Poor access to these and other services can make basic activities like working or grocery shopping difficult or impossible. In other cases, participants were frustrated by a lack of amenities and services—like delivery services or longer business hours—they had taken for granted while living in well-resourced metropolitan areas. Finally, in cases where sports or other recreational activities had been an important part of participants’ lives and identities prior to moving, some experienced the reduced access to organized activities as a meaningful loss.





PICTURED ABOVE: Rail bridge, Mattawa, ON. Photo by Suzanne Mills.

5.6 Regrets and return migration

Most participants in the study stood by their decisions to move, but a meaningful minority (19% of interviews) voiced ambivalence or clear regret.

One participant, who had quit her job in Southern Ontario and, with her spouse, purchased a farm in rural Nova Scotia aiming to do something creative, interesting, and good for the earth, described feeling conflicted about whether she would make the same decision again. While she embraced the opportunity to reframe her life and pursue her values, they had encountered unanticipated environmental and business challenges and, at the time of the interview, were anticipating having to sell the farm in the coming years. She explained:

“Yeah, I don’t know. The thing is, part of me is, you know, you only live once, and you’ve gotta seize things. Seize opportunities as they come up and do them, like that part of me operates on that. But then the other part of me is very realistic and...I guess there are two, you know, the two people sitting on the shoulder. I can’t honestly answer.”

(Interview 39_M)

Other participants felt overwhelmingly negative about their moves. Seven interviewees had returned or planned to return to their previous communities. These participants were isolated and/or bullied, forced to return to in-person work, struggling to find local work, or worried about their poor access to services. Some people also struggled with cultural and class differences in their new communities, while some recounted that they had held romantic or false impressions of the place they were moving. Among those considering or desiring to go back to their previous communities, some worried about whether they could even afford to live in the inflated urban housing markets they had previously left.

Overall, regrets and returns were not the dominant outcomes in our study, but when they did occur, they followed a consistent pattern: the factors that made the move possible eroded, essential services proved too thin, and participants struggled to integrate or fit into their new communities.

With these household trajectories in view, we now turn to the receiving communities themselves, their capacities, strains, and the policies that shape them.

6. Effects of in-migration on receiving communities



Community leaders and officials in our study communities were generally optimistic about the increase in inter-regional migration. Notably, while our study was focused on internal migration, in both Northern Ontario and the Maritimes, key informants often did not differentiate between international migration and internal migration; rather, they described the benefits and challenges of *population growth* generally.

Interviewees described how new residents were contributing to the economic and social vibrancy of their communities through volunteerism and civic engagement, and by starting businesses, filling job vacancies, shopping locally and boosting local tax revenues. These newcomers were also transforming regions and communities demographically, bringing welcome ethnic and age diversity.

In addition to social benefits, community key informants described how in-migration could spur investment in local infrastructure, including housing, recreational facilities, and internet services. However, in areas that had seen dramatic population growth, key informants were clear that, in addition to these widely reported benefits, their communities were also facing some acute challenges: namely, insufficient and unaffordable housing, rising homelessness, shortages of family doctors and other social service capacity, infrastructure deficits, and social divisions.



PICTURED ABOVE: Downtown Mattawa, ON. Picture taken by Suzanne Mills.

6.1 Local responses to population growth

Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some municipalities and provincial governments were already focused on attracting newcomers as a response to their aging populations. Most of these efforts focused on increasing international migration through a range of programs and immigration pathways.

But some municipalities in Northern Ontario and provincial governments in the Maritimes developed programs that explicitly sought to draw new residents from elsewhere in Canada. These campaigns expanded with the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, as governments worked to capitalize on the shift to remote work and people's desires to escape city life. One municipality in Northern Ontario, for instance, rented billboards in Toronto in their attempt to attract residents.

While both Northern Ontario and the Maritimes began to see increased population growth in the mid-2010s—resulting from internal and international migration—key informants in both regions noted that, with the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, spikes in inter-provincial and intra-provincial migration fundamentally altered the scale and pace of population growth.

Importantly, population growth has been uneven *within* both regions, with some towns growing rapidly while many more remote areas continue to crave more growth. Key informants from areas that did not see as high levels of population growth, more commonly in Northern Ontario, often reflected on the benefits that flowed from additional in-migration. Those from high growth regions of Northern Ontario or from the Maritimes, in contrast, often spoke of both the benefits and challenges that have resulted from rapid and unforeseen population growth. Among these interviewees, many recounted the acute pressure population growth has placed housing, services, and infrastructure, emphasizing that sustainable and just development requires ensuring that investment in social and physical infrastructure keep pace with demographic change.

Real-estate agents in both regions described how interest in buying properties increased dramatically in their regions during the pandemic:

Northern Ontario:

"It was almost like a tsunami, like a huge wave of people that came up." (Interview 65_NO)

Maritimes:

"And COVID just was like lighting a match, it just went insane there." (Interview 72_M)

6.2 How in-migration has benefited communities

Key informants in both regions described how people moving into their regions were making positive contributions to community social and economic life in a number of ways. As one real-estate agent in Nova Scotia remarked:

"I look at the mix of people who live in the Annapolis Royal area right now, and you know, there's some very, very intelligent, highly skilled people that that are involved in the community. And spend their money locally.... It's a different community than it was, but I think for the most part it's a better community than it was."

(Interview 95_M)



6.2.1 Volunteerism and community engagement

Community leaders from both regions noted the high levels of volunteerism and community involvement among recent internal migrants.

Not only are new residents eager to fill important volunteer roles in the community, but they also bring renewed energy to community clubs and institutions that have experienced a decline in activity in recent years. For example, as one key informant explained, some of the community halls in the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia have been revitalized due to the *“influx of new people who are interested in going back to that old model of community halls where you hold card games and have potlucks”* (Interview 90_M).

Some municipalities actually used volunteering to foster civic engagement and inclusion through partnerships with settlement agencies and community organizations that connect new migrants with local volunteering opportunities, clubs and services. Events such as “Welcome North Bay” and “Lunch and Learn” are examples of such efforts happening in Northern Ontario.

Key informants from both regions also reported that new residents have injected their communities with new ideas, diversity and vibrancy. One municipal elected official in the Maritimes recounted this sentiment, which was shared by elected officials in both regions:

“I think once we get over the hump of ‘You’re changing my town,’ yeah, there’s lots of positive things. You bring a vibrancy, you bring people with different ideas, new—you know, new ideas about what a library could be like, or... a rec centre.”

(Interview 71_M)

In some aging communities in the Maritimes, the younger age profile and family structure of recent in-migrants is seen as a community asset.

6.2.2 Increased consumer activity

Key informants reported that one positive effect of in-migration was increased consumer activity. Informants noted that, even when new migrants are not directly engaged in the labour market, they stimulate demand for goods and services and support existing businesses and municipalities through their consumption. As house prices and property taxes have risen, newcomers have contributed to expanding the local tax bases that funds municipal services and infrastructure.

Reflecting this increased consumer activity, interviewees recounted that new businesses had been opening in their communities. In Northern Ontario, one participant described how in-migration and new interest from investors has catalyzed the expansion of the retail sector, both in terms of new businesses and franchises opening and the revitalization of long-term vacant commercial properties. One informant estimated that the service industry had expanded by 25%. As demand has increased with population growth, trades businesses—contractors, roofers, plumbers, etc.—are also expanding more into northern communities.

6.2.3 Starting businesses and working local jobs

In-migrants are also investing in local businesses in Northern Ontario and the Maritimes. The local benefits of these new businesses flow outward to the community when they hire staff and buy local goods and services.

One senior economic development officer for a regional economic development organization in the Maritimes described how the ability to work remotely allowed some new residents to take the risk of making a major life transition and establishing a local business:

“I’d see the businesses, folks that were coming and bringing like a knowledge-based remote job with them, and maybe trying to—in using that as like a backbone so that they could then pursue a dream or a passion, like getting into farming, or tourism and hospitality, or running that cute little general store, or even a restaurant and things that oftentimes were very different from their career background.”

(Interview 70_M)



PICTURED ABOVE: New housing development in Wolfville, NS. Photo by Katie Mazer.

In both regions, key informants described return migration of locals who had left for education and work opportunities, emphasizing the skills, capital, and experience they brought back to the region.

Respondents in both regions were hopeful that in-migrants from within Canada would increasingly fill local labour needs. Despite persistent vacancies in key sectors (e.g., healthcare, professional services), community leaders—particularly in Northern Ontario—noted that internal migrants were filling local vacancies in a variety of sectors. As one economic development officer from Northern Ontario emphasized, increasing labour supply was necessary to foster an economic environment that can support new business activity:

“If you don’t have that—the people either investing within the community starting new businesses, you know, obviously supporting existing businesses, supporting the companies in terms of for labour relation...then you don’t really have anything. If a company is looking for 25 or 30 employees, and they can’t fill those spots, that’s massive right. Like, who knows if a company can survive that way? But at least now with the population growth, at least, hopefully, we’re filling those roles as much as we can.”

(Interview 68_NO)

6.2.4 New community resources

In some cases, local communities gained new community resources as part of municipalities’ broader attempts to appeal to new residents and the increased tax revenue that accompanied this population growth. As one participant explained, *“We’re putting in a pool and rec center, which may help make things a little more appealing for professionals wanting to come up here”* (Interview 68_NO). While such investments were a strategy to attract new residents, they were also made possible by increases in tax revenue resulting from migration.

These investments, however, were sometimes uneven. For example, while informants in the Maritimes described widespread investment in rural internet infrastructure—including in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic—similar initiatives were not available in many municipalities in Northern Ontario. As one key informant in the Mattawa-Nipissing corridor described:

“Fiber optic is like a delusion. Like that’s never coming here. That’s sort of the mentality. We don’t matter enough, but we’re not a big enough center for them to invest.”

(Interview 65_NO)

As interviewees emphasized, quality internet is a primary consideration for remote workers looking to relocate, but it also brings broader community benefits.

6.3 Challenges of population growth

6.3.1 Labour market mismatch

While new migrants participate in the labour market in diverse ways, their presence has not resolved longstanding labour shortages in specific sectors. In both regions, key informants described a labour market characterized by persistent skills mismatches and recruitment challenges. As one interviewee from the community sector in Northern Ontario described:

“There’s lots of jobs and lots of job vacancies. But hiring specific talent is really hard. I don’t get the sense that the people who have moved up are people who have those designations...we have hardly any lawyers, any accountants.”

(Interview 85_N0)

Remote workers, semi-retirees and small business owners moving to Northern Ontario and the Maritimes did not always have the technical skills, professional credentials or availability most needed in local labour markets. In some areas, key informants noted that most in-migrants were retired and not actively participating in the labour market. In both regions, interviewees noted ongoing labour shortages in healthcare, education, skilled trades, and professional services. Informants in the Maritimes speculated that in-migration has exacerbated these shortages by increasing demand for services. As one of participant observed, *“there is still a nursing shortage and teaching shortage and middle-class job shortages that may be driven by increased economic activity of remote work”* (Interview 74_M). Labour shortages are also present in low-wage sectors, including seasonal and service-sector jobs, where local demographic shifts, particularly aging populations and youth out-migration, have reduced the available labour force.

As population growth has failed to resolve certain labour shortages, governments have taken more focused measures to fill these gaps. In PEI, for example, the provincial government has worked to raise local awareness about professions in high demand and recruit workers, conducting international recruitment missions focused on nursing, construction, and other in-demand areas. In both regions, temporary and permanent international migrants were filling labour market gaps in retail, food, and accommodation sectors. In Northern Ontario, international migrants were also filling trades vacancies in mining services and other sectors. Some informants highlighted their communities’ desire to facilitate international migrants on temporary work permits staying in Canada over the long term, emphasizing the importance of creating a clear path to permanent residency for temporary foreign workers.

While most migrants to Northern Ontario were able to find on-site employment if it was desired, even if not in their field, in the Maritimes remote work has created new vulnerabilities for workers because it has allowed a pool of workers to move to the region that is more diverse and skilled than the local job market. Specialized or highly skilled in-migrants facing job loss or transition may confront a choice between relocation or underemployment. Return-to-office mandates and hybrid work arrangements also threaten to disrupt these migration patterns. While some migrants have adapted by changing jobs or commuting long distances, informants reported that some have returned to their prior communities once unable to work remotely.



6.3.2 Lack of social integration

Key informants reported that in-migrants sometimes face challenges with social integration. In some cases, they related these challenges to the “cliquey,” “narrow-minded,” or “difficult to break into” nature of some communities. Interviewees described parts of the Maritimes, in particular, as only superficially welcoming. One real-estate agent in the region recounted that she frequently hears that, **“people [here] are very friendly, but they don’t want to be your friend”** (Interview 72_M).

Social isolation was sometimes exacerbated by migrants’ unrealistic expectations about the place to which they were moving. This was especially the case with migration to the Maritimes. Informants reported that romantic preconceptions lead to disappointment and “sober second thoughts” among inter-regional migrants when their realities ultimately did not match this image. Some speculated that this dynamic had driven some migrants to return home.

Sometimes social tensions are rooted in cultural differences between rural and small-town communities and the larger urban centres from which in-migrants have often moved. As key informants described it, urbanites sometimes have expectations of individual privacy and private entitlement to space and resources that clash with the cultural norms in their new communities, and this can make social integration more difficult.

While our research was focused on inter-regional migrants, some informants spoke to the distinct challenges facing international newcomers in both regions, including racism and xenophobia. One business owner in Northern Ontario described his as **“such a narrow-minded community,”** explaining that, **“They do not like any outsiders. Unless you’re white-skinned”** (Interview 59_NO). Temporary migrant workers, meanwhile, face structural barriers to social integration. In Northern Ontario, informants reported that international students often leave the region upon graduation due to a lack of opportunities. Key informants are aware that lack of social integration leads to people leaving their new communities. One participant in Northern Ontario described it as a “revolving door”: **“We’ll bring in four newcomers... three leave, one stays. We’ll bring in another four...three leave, one stays”** (Interview 84_NO).

Municipalities and community organizations are taking steps to support the integration of inter-regional and international newcomers, sometimes through the same programs. In the Maritimes, for example, the Annapolis Valley Welcome Network uses volunteering as both a settlement strategy and a community-building tool. In Temiskaming Shores, the municipality began providing funding to One Light Diversity, a settlement organization created by an inter-regional newcomer. These networks connect newcomers to long-time residents to build relationships and share practical knowledge about life in the region while fostering a welcoming environment to support quality of life and retention of newcomers in the community.

6.3.3 Housing and affordability crisis

Rapid population growth in both regions has intensified pressures on housing and social services, heightening concerns about affordability, displacement, and increased housing insecurity and homelessness. Respondents in both regions described how the lack of housing availability and affordability has reached crisis levels.

While lack of new housing construction and public investment in affordable housing are longstanding trends that pre-date this wave of inter-regional migration, increasing investment churn and the influx of new residents to these regions brought a budding housing crisis to an apex. This was exacerbated by the differential in house prices between inter-regional migrants’ home communities and the regions into which they moved. Key informants shared the common perception that many in-migrants were able to pay unprecedented prices for local houses because they had made significant earnings on property sales in their previous communities. One real-estate agent from Northern Ontario captured this sense that in-migrants **“could sell their box in the sky in Toronto and walk away with hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and come up here and buy a castle and live like kings”** (Interview 86_NO).

While new residents coming from more expensive housing markets might continue to see Northern Ontario and the Maritimes as affordable relative to their previous communities, home ownership has quickly slipped out of reach for many local residents. In turn, as more people are priced out of buying homes, the rental market has also become increasingly unaffordable. This trend is more pronounced in the Maritimes, where population growth, and subsequent pressure on the housing market, have been more dramatic.

Across communities in Northern Ontario, interviewees emphasized the growing tension between rising demand and the region's limited capacity to expand its housing stock. Many informants noted that their communities lack infrastructure, funding, or interest from developers. Here, the crisis has been exacerbated by speculative property purchases, investments in high-end housing, and conversion of short-term rentals.

In the Maritimes, informants emphasized that the housing supply is constrained not only by limited development capacity and a shortage of skilled labour, but also by restrictive zoning regulations and local resistance to densification and new development, including from new residents. While some municipalities have approved large-scale developments, these are not generally affordable for most. The prohibitive cost of housing means that housing insecurity now also affects middle-income earners, including those who are in high-demand occupations, like teachers and nurses. In Nova Scotia, some participants emphasized that the provincial government should play a more active role in changing regulations across the province to accelerate the pace of appropriate housing development.

Perhaps the most visible impact of the housing crisis is a notable increase in homelessness and social service use in both regions. Key informants in both Northern Ontario and the Maritimes generally described shifting patterns of inequality and a marked increase in more extreme levels of poverty as their communities have grown more bifurcated. In both regions, participants noted a dramatic increase in unhoused residents, recounting that many towns had seen encampments established, often for the first time, and unprecedented levels of service use. Given the rapid escalation of this crisis and the small size of many municipalities, towns are scrambling to provide supports to unhoused residents while feeling significantly under-resourced.

Elected officials from both regions commented on the rise of housing insecurity and heightened poverty:

“Our poor have gotten much poorer. Typically, in areas like this, in small towns and rural areas, poor people used to be the people who inherited the house that had been in the family forever. And that’s what they had. And they had the old car. They probably grew a garden, but now it’s more than that. There is a lower level of poverty. And it’s people who aren’t housed.... So, when I first started here in 2016, downtown Kentville was a real anomaly because we had Open Arms shelter on our main street.... And there was probably, at the time, ten people who were unhoused. Now I wouldn’t even want to guess. I would say it’s probably 40s and 50s.”

(Interview 76_M)

“Now we’re seeing it [unhoused population] very visibly in our community. As much as we might see more homes being built, we’re also seeing more people who are unhoused and the costs that are associated with helping, supporting and providing services for individuals who require assistance.... We really struggle with trying to balance providing services that are municipally mandated, but then also having more expectations from the community.”

(Interview 73_NO)

Ultimately, rapid population growth represents a paradox. Increased housing prices have led to crises of housing availability and affordability, but they have also increased the tax base on which municipalities depend to expand and maintain infrastructure and provide services. New, diverse and affordable housing development is urgently needed to accommodate population growth and ease the crisis, but development is often contentious, including among newcomers who want to preserve the rural setting to which they have moved. These conditions are more acute in the Maritimes and in the more southern parts of Northern Ontario, where population growth was far beyond what anyone had anticipated. But the situation in these areas offers a sober lesson on the dire consequences that ensue when upper levels of governments fail to create conditions that can support population growth by investing in housing and services.



7. Key conclusions



The aim of our study was to provide a more in-depth understanding about recent inter-regional migration to the Maritimes and Northern Ontario. Some of our findings conformed to stories depicted in the media and common-sense assumptions about the move. Other findings, however, complicate or question these assumptions. Our key conclusions are as follows:

1. Inter-regional migrants are demographically and socioeconomically diverse. Migrants in our study represented a greater diversity of income levels than what was typically presented in the media.
2. Housing affordability, family, and work-life balance are becoming important drivers of inter-regional migration in Canada. In our study proximity to family, housing affordability and the desire to work less or slow down were the main motivations for migration.
3. Remote work and flexible work arrangements allow people to move to places without onsite employment opportunities that match their skills.
4. Reliance on remote work to live in small communities introduces new forms of precarity. Remote workers in our study were more vulnerable to job loss and unemployment.
5. Movers are typically active participants in community life. Participants were eager to integrate in their new communities, often joining clubs or volunteering.
6. Movers who did not match the demographic profile of dominant groups in their new community had a harder time integrating socially.
7. Inter-regional migration has endowed previously declining municipalities and regions with renewed energy and resources.
8. Inflated housing markets can have far reaching impacts. As housing became less affordable in more populated regions, out-migration had ripple effects on housing markets in other regions.
9. The influx of new residents in some communities made longstanding under-investment in services, housing, and infrastructure across Canada visible.
10. In both regions, inter-regional in-migration unrelated to work began before and continued after the COVID-19 pandemic.



Notes

- ⁱ Lukas Althoff et al., “The Geography of Remote Work,” *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 93 (March 2022): 103770, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.regsciurbeco.2022.103770>; Laura Churchill Duke, “Remote Work Boom: Lifestyle, Lower Costs Making Nova Scotia Attractive Location for New and Relocating Businesses,” PNI Atlantic, April 14, 2021, <https://www.saltwire.com/atlantic-canada/remote-work-boom-lifestyle-lower-costs-making-nova-scotia-attractive-location-for-new-and-relocating-businesses-100575874>; Julie Gordon, “So Long Toronto: COVID-19 Pandemic Hastens Canada’s Urban Exodus,” Reuters, January 14, 2022, <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/so-long-toronto-covid-19-pandemic-hastens-canadas-urban-exodus-2022-01-13/>.
- ⁱⁱ Nicole Bogart and Heather Wright, “What’s behind the Rapid Population Growth in Regions in B.C. and the Maritimes?” CTVNews, February 9, 2022, <https://www.ctvnews.ca/lifestyle/article/whats-behind-the-rapid-population-growth-in-regions-in-bc-and-the-maritimes/>; Darren MacDonald, “Greater Sudbury, North Bay Post Strong Population Growth in Latest Census,” CTVNews, February 10, 2022, <https://www.ctvnews.ca/northern-ontario/article/greater-sudbury-north-bay-post-strong-population-growth-in-latest-census/>; Michael MacDonald, “‘Remarkable Turnaround’: Census Figures Show the Maritimes Are Growing Rapidly” Global News, February 9, 2022, <https://globalnews.ca/news/8606454/remarkable-turnaround-census-figures-show-the-maritimes-are-growing-rapidly/>; CBC News, “How One Northern Ontario Village Is Luring Big-City Escapees,” CBC Sudbury, May 23, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/burk-s-falls-weekend-opening-1.6461347>; Adam Ozimek, Remote Workers on the Move [October 29, 2020]. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3790004> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3790004>.
- ⁱⁱⁱ The Maritimes includes the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. In this report Northern Ontario includes the following census divisions: Nipissing, Parry Sound, Manitoulin, Sudbury, Greater Sudbury, Timskaming, Cochrane, Algoma, Thunder Bay, Rainy River, and Kenora.
- ^{iv} Statistics Canada. *Table 98-10-0001-01 Population and dwelling counts: Canada, provinces and territories*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/9810000101-eng>; Statistics Canada, “Maritimes Population Growing at Its Fastest Pace since the Mid 1970s,” StatsCAN Plus, March 3, 2022, <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/o1/en/plus/478-maritimes-population-growing-its-fastest-pace-mid-1970s>.
- ^v Statistics Canada. *Table 17-10-0005-01 Population estimates on July 1, by age and gender*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710000501-eng>.
- ^{vi} Calculated for Maritime provinces using data from Statistics Canada. *Table 17-10-0153-01 Components of population change by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015301-eng>. Net natural increase = Births – Deaths, Net international immigration = Immigration + Net non-permanent residents – Net emigration.
- ^{vii} Calculated for Northern Ontario Census Divisions using data from Statistics Canada *Table 17-10-0152-01 Population estimates, July 1, by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015201-eng>. Net natural increase = Births–Deaths, Net international immigration = Immigration + Net non-permanent residents – Net emigration.
- ^{viii} Calculated from linked 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.
- ^{ix} Statistics Canada *Table 17-10-0152-01 Population estimates, July 1, by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015201-eng>.
- ^x Statistics Canada *Table 17-10-0152-01 Population estimates, July 1, by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015201-eng>.
- ^{xi} Statistics Canada. *Table 17-10-0153-01 Components of population change by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015301-eng>.

- xii Statistics Canada. *Table 17-10-0153-01 Components of population change by census division, 2021 boundaries*. <https://doi.org/10.25318/1710015301-eng>.
- xiii 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.
- xiv 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.
- xv Calculated from linked 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.
- xvi Calculated from linked 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.
- xvii Calculated from linked 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files using North American Industry Classification System [NAICS] Canada 2017 version 3.0. <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3VD.pl?Function=getVD&TVD=1181553>. Industry sectors were grouped. *Arts, Accommodation and food services, Other Services* includes: 71 (Arts, entertainment and recreation); 72 (Accommodation and food services); 81 Other services (except public administration). *Education, Health Care, Public Administration* includes 61 (Educational services); 62 (Health care and social assistance); 91 (Public administration). *White collar professional* includes: 51 (Information and cultural industries); 52 (Finance and insurance/management of companies and enterprises); 53 (Real estate and rental and leasing); 54 (Professional, scientific and technical services); 56 (Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services). *Manufacturing, wholesale, retail, transportation, warehouse* includes: 31 (Manufacturing); 41 (Wholesale trade); 44 (Retail trade); 48 (Transportation and warehousing). *Agriculture, forest, mining, utilities and construction* includes 11 (Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting); 21 (Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction); 22 (Utilities); 23 (Construction).
- xviii Calculated from linked 2016 and 2021 Census of Canada Master Files.





Stephen Galka
622 Vanessa Crescent,
Mississauga, Ontario, L5H 2N3

Delivered via Canada Post Registered mail

November 12, 2025

Mayor Raymond A. Belanger
Corporation of the Town of Mattawa,
160 Water Street,
P.O. Box 390
Mattawa, Ontario, P0H 1V0,

Subject: Request for Reconsideration of exorbitant charges for Minor Variance application

Dear Mr. Mayor,

In early July of 2025, I received an invoice from The Town of Mattawa for \$1,195.26 (copy enclosed) relating to "Planning Costs" in regards to a minor variance application that was approved at council on March 3, 2025, application A1-25.

This was a very simple and routine minor variance application to permit the square footage of accessory buildings on my property from the required 780 square feet to 880 square feet. At the time of my application, I paid \$500 (receipt enclosed) and am now being asked for more than double that in extra fees – for a total of nearly \$1,700 for this simple routine minor variance.

I have been advised that "outside consultants" were required. I submit that outside involvement was totally unfounded and unnecessary in such a simple minor variance request; and potentially an abuse to Mattawa constituents.

I submitted an e-mail request on July 14, 2025 to appeal this exorbitant charge and a follow-up e-mail on August 3, 2025 (copy enclosed). I have not had a reply to either of my requests for appeal. Instead, I have received a statement of past-due account that threatens to cut off municipal services (copy enclosed).

I request that this ridiculously excessive charge be cancelled immediately. If your council refuses to do so, then, with all due respect, please be advised that I shall take this matter to the Ontario Ombudsman and any other Ontario authority I can find to investigate potential municipal abuse.

Please feel free contact me at 905-301-6167 or sgalka@sympatico.ca at your convenience if you require any further information.

Yours truly,


Stephen Galka

Town of Mattawa

160 Water Street P.O. Box 390 Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0
Phone: (705)744-5611 Fax: (705)744-0104

INVOICE

INVOICE DATE Jul 03, 2025		PAGE 1
CUSTOMER # 2996	ACCOUNT # CL-0844	
INVOICE NUMBER 2025-00192		

SOLD TO:

GALKA STEPHEN
622 VANESSA CRES
MISSISSAUGA ON L5H 2N3

PAYMENT TERMS:

Payment Due in 30 Days.
Interest will be charged at 1.25% if
payment is not received within 30
days from the date of this invoice.

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
	Planning Costs - Committee of Adjustment	1,295.2600	1,295.26 N
	Less Deposit for Committee of Adjustment	-100.0000	100.00 -N
	COMMENTS: Committee of Adjustment File A1-25 Location: 391 Mattawan Street Planners costs minus deposit at time of application		
REMIT TO: Town of Mattawa 160 Water Street P.O. Box 390 Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0		SUBTOTAL:	1,195.26
		AMOUNT DUE:	1,195.26

Town of Mattawa
160 Water Street, PO Box 390
Mattawa ON. P0H 1V0

GENERAL RECEIPT

Stephen Galka
391 Mattawan St
Mattawa ON P0H 1V0

General Receipt #: 240832-001
Receipt Date: 16/12/2024
Receipt Amount: **500.00**
Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents

General Receipt Items	Amount
Committee of Adjustment 391 Mattawan St File # A2-24	400.00
Deposit for Planning Costs for Committee of Adjustment File # A2-24	100.00
TOTAL:	500.00

Paid By Mastercard 500.00

Town of Mattawa
160 Water Street, PO Box 390
Mattawa ON. P0H 1V0

GENERAL RECEIPT

Stephen Galka
391 Mattawan St
Mattawa ON P0H 1V0

General Receipt #: 240832-001
Receipt Date: 16/12/2024
Receipt Amount: **500.00**
Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents

General Receipt Items	Amount
Committee of Adjustment 391 Mattawan St File # A2-24	400.00
Deposit for Planning Costs for Committee of Adjustment File # A2-24	100.00
TOTAL:	500.00

Paid By Mastercard 500.00

Subject: Fwd: Galka - Appeal of Invoice # 2025-000192

From: Steve Galka <sgalka@sympatico.ca>

Date: 2025-08-03, 8:54 p.m.

To: info@mattawa.ca

To Mattawa Council:

With reference to my e-mail sent July 14, 2025 (below), please confirm receipt and advise when my appeal will be considered.

Regards

Steve Galka
sgalka@sympatico.ca
(905) 301-6167 (Cell)

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Galka - Appeal of Invoice # 2025-000192

Date:Mon, 14 Jul 2025 12:09:17 -0400

From:Steve Galka <sgalka@sympatico.ca>

To:info@mattawa.ca

To Mattawa Council:

I wish to appeal the invoice # 2025-00192 dated July 3, 2025 received today for \$1,295.26.

This invoice is in respect of a committee of adjustments application that I made several months ago.

My application was for a very simple request to allow 880 sq ft of accessory building land coverage instead of the 780 sq ft per the current bylaw.

I have been charged an exorbitant and unrealistic cost for a very simple "Yes" or "No" decision by the council.

I have been advised that outside consultants were used where such involvement was totally unfounded and unnecessary in such a simple request.

Please confirm receipt of this e-mail.

--

Regards

Steve Galka
sgalka@sympatico.ca
(905) 301-6167 (Cell)

Town of Mattawa
160 Water Street
P.O. Box 390
Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0
Phone: (705)744-5611 Fax: (705)744-0104
Email: info@mattawa.ca

Monday, October 27, 2025

GALKA STEPHEN
622 VANESSA CRES
MISSISSAUGA ON L5H 2N3

STATEMENT

Customer #	Account #	Customer Name	Description	As Of Date
2996	CL-0844	GALKA STEPHEN	General	10/27/2025

BALANCE LISTING

Item	Current	Arrears	Total
PLANNING - Planning Costs - Committee of	0.00	1,195.26	1,195.26
INT - Interest	0.00	29.88	29.88
Totals:	0.00	1,225.14	1,225.14

You account is now past due. This may result in the non use of municipal services moving forward. To avoid any service interruption and further interest charges please send payment before the 1st of the month.

Please contact us if you require copies of any invoices or have questions.

E. & O. E.

From: [MSONorth \(MMAH\)](#)
To: [MSONorth \(MMAH\)](#)
Cc: [Paraco, Enrique \(MMAH\)](#); [Edwards, Leisel \(MMAH\)](#)
Subject: Invitation to the 2025 Northern Council Workshop – Virtual Learning Series #2
Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 10:37:59 AM
Attachments: [Save The Date - Number 2 -2025 Virtual Northeast Municipal Workshop Series-Fall 2025.pdf](#)

To: Heads of Council, CAOs and Clerks

Please share this message with all members of your council and DSSAB board members—they won't want to miss this exciting new opportunity.

We're pleased to invite members of council and DSSAB board members to participate in the second round of the 2025 Northern Municipal Council Workshop – Virtual Learning Series. These new series will provide valuable learning sessions focused on key municipal topics.

We encourage council and DSSAB members to take advantage of this important professional development opportunity.

Note: To facilitate the registration process, please register for each session individually using the two links provided beside each session outline in the attached RSVP. These links are highlighted in yellow for your convenience. Kindly note that each participant is required to complete the registration on their own behalf.

Kind regards,

MMAH – Municipal Services Office North



SAVE THE DATE

**Municipal Services Office - North
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

2025 Northern Municipal Council Workshop - Virtual Learning Series

Date: Please see schedule below for all virtual learning series.

Location: Microsoft teams

Agenda:

The Municipal Services Office – North is pleased to invite you to a virtual workshop series where members of council from across Northern Ontario will come together to engage with experts and one another on timely and relevant topics. These sessions will offer essential learning opportunities in key areas such as municipal governance and finance. We encourage you to mark your calendar and take part in this valuable series—you won't want to miss it.

Who Should Attend:

All virtual sessions delivered by seasoned speakers will be of interest to both experienced municipal council and staff and those who are newer to municipal governance and operations.

Why attend:

We are arranging an impressive list of guest speakers with significant municipal knowledge and leading practices to share. Participants will engage with and hear about experiences and approaches to common challenges. Attendees will leave the workshop with a greater understanding of how to tackle current municipal issues and govern effectively and democratically.

Virtual series details and registration links:

Note: To facilitate the registration process, please ensure you register for each session individually using the link beside each session. Kindly note that each participant is required to complete the registration on their own behalf.

1. Navigating Complaints and Community Engagement Challenges

Date and time: December 4, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM EST

Agenda:

Time	Presentation	Speakers	Registration
4:30 PM to 4:40 PM	Welcoming Remarks	Brandon Portelance, Municipal Advisor, MMAH, MSO-N Sudbury	Click here to register
4:40 PM to 5:40 PM	Resolution-Ready Councils - Local Complaint Policies and Procedures: Clear complaint policies are key to accountability and trust between councils and residents. This session outlines the importance of effective pathways for managing public concerns and resolving complaints locally.	Lauren Chee-Hing, Counsel, Ontario Ombudsman	
5:40 PM to 6:40 PM	Mitigating Challenges in Citizen Engagement: Hear about the City of Timmins' R-Zone Program and how it can help municipalities manage difficult interactions while safeguarding staff and maintaining respectful, effective communication with ratepayers.	City of Timmins	
6:40 PM to 6:50 PM	Closing Remarks	Leisel Edwards, Municipal Advisor MMAH, MSO-N Sudbury	

2. Social Media Communications and Conducting Effective Council Meetings

Date and time: December 11, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM EST

Agenda:

Time	Presentation	Speakers	Registration
4:30 PM to 4:40 PM	Welcoming Remarks	Sarah Cormier, Municipal Advisor, MMAH, MSO-N Sudbury.	Click here to register
4:40 PM to 5:40 PM	Social Media and Official Communication Policies: Explore how social media and official communication policies intersect with Codes of Conduct, open meeting rules, and council–staff relations, and what this means for effective governance.	Redbrick Communications	
5:40 PM to 6:40 PM	Conducting Effective Council Meetings:	Malcolm White, Consultant, Ironside consulting.	

	<i>The objective of this session is to equip council members with strategies and best practices to ensure meetings are productive, focused on informed deliberation and sound decision-making. Participants will learn how to foster collaboration, maintain order, and create an environment that supports transparent governance.</i>		
6:40 PM to 6:50 PM	Closing Remarks	Ellen Beaudry, Municipal Advisor, MMAH, MSO-N Sudbury	

3. Building Effective Engagement Relationships with Indigenous Communities

Date and time: January 29, 2025, from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM EST

Agenda:

Time	Presentation	Speakers	Registration
4:30 PM to 4:40 PM	Welcoming Remarks	Sarah Cormier, Senior Municipal Advisor, MMAH, MSO-N Sudbury	Registration details for this series will be shared closer to the date. Please add to your calendars and stay tuned for updates.
4:40 PM to 5:40 PM	Stronger Together: Building First Nation–Municipal Partnerships: <i>Hear about practical tools, resources, and knowledge products that can support collaboration between First Nations and municipalities. The goal is to foster understanding and encourage partnerships that drive mutual economic benefits through learning, capacity building, and shared development.</i>	First Nation-Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI)	
5:40 PM to 6:40 PM	Indigenous Voices in Municipal Councils: <i>This panel features Indigenous representatives who serve on municipal councils. They will share their perspectives on strengthening Indigenous–municipal relationships and their experiences representing their communities at the local level.</i>	-Sheryl Fort, Township of Hornepayne, Mayor -Susan Nelson, Township of Cochrane, Councillor -Wendy Landry, Municipality of Shuniah, Mayor	
6:40 PM to 6:45 PM	Closing Remarks	Leisel Edwards, Municipal Advisor, Local Government and Housing, MSO-N Sudbury	

Inquiries:

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(Sudbury)**

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INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: AMY LECLERC, MUNICIPAL CLERK
WAYNE CHAPUT, CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL

TITLE: ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT FOR COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
FILE A1-24

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

REPORT NO: 25-71R

BACKGROUND

In 2024 Pauline Backer applied to the Committee of Adjustment under File A1-24 requesting permission to reduce her yard setbacks in order to building a deck on her home.

The committee approved the file with conditions set below:

Resolution Number 03-24-C
Moved by D'Arcy Lamothe
Seconded by Fern Levesque

The request is hereby granted subject to the following conditions:

1. An encroachment agreement with the municipality for frontage of the property.
2. A reduced deck size to comply with lot coverage of 9%.
3. All taxes paid in full.

CARRIED

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The reason for the encroachment agreement is due to the fact that her property falls onto municipal the sidewalk and the front steps and concrete pad are on municipal property. We are unsure as to the reasoning behind the property being on the municipal sidewalk.

When the Committee of Adjustment reviewed the request it was brought to their attention that the property owner was encroaching on municipal property and their decision was to get her to do an encroachment agreement with the Town.

The agreement was provided to staff for review and to be brought forward to Council for final approval.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

Committee of Adjustment

ATTACHMENTS

Encroachment Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the report and approve the agreement as presented. The official by-law for the encroachment agreement will be brought back to Council at the December 8th regular meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-71R titled Encroachment Agreement for Committee of Adjustment File A1-24.

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the encroachment agreement for the location 250 Bangs Street and directs the Clerk to return at the next regular meeting with a by-law to enter into the agreement.

THIS AGREEMENT made in duplicate this 10th day of July, 2025

BETWEEN:

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

Hereinafter called "the Town" of the First Part

OF THE FIRST PART,

AND

PAULINE BACKER

Hereinafter called "Backer" of the Second Part"

OF THE SECOND PART.

WHEREAS:

The Town is the owner of Bangs Street, as shown on Plan 1 for the Town of Mattawa, in the District of Nipissing and registered as PIN 49102-0205.

Backer is the owner of Part of Lot 4 on the south side of Valois Drive as shown on Plan 1 for the Town of Mattawa, in the District of Nipissing registered as PINs 49102-0060 and 49102-0694.

Parts of the residence on the lands of the Party of the Second Part encroach onto Bangs Street, as illustrated on Schedule "A annexed hereto;

Backer has applied to the Town to continue such encroachment as particularized on Schedules "A" attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained (the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is by each of them hereby confirmed) the parties hereto covenant and agree with each other as follows:

1. The encroachments of the residence of the Party of the Second Part set out on Schedule "A" annexed hereto and respectively labeled SIDWALK, FLAG STONE STEPS AND WALK and CONCRETE PAD shall be deemed to have been made and continue hereafter with the license of the Party of the First Part with the intent that the Party of the Second Part shall not acquire an easement or right in respect of the lands of the Party of the First Part, subject, however, to the following provisos and conditions:
2.
 - a) Should the said building or any part thereof, be raised, removed or destroyed, any rebuilding or replacement thereof would be such as to ensure that there is no encroachment on the lands of the Party of the First Part as a result of such rebuilding or replacement, without the permission of the Party of the First Part.
 - b)
 - c) Should the Party of the First Part, for any reason, require the removal of any or all of the said encroachment, the Party of the Second Part will, on twelve (12) months notice in writing by the Party of the First Part to the Party of the Second Part forthwith remove same at their expense.
 - d) If the Party of the Second Part wishes to demolish any of the structures that encroach on the land of the Party of the First Part, the Party of the Second Part may terminate this agreement by giving the Party of the First Party one months' notice. Prior to

the expiry of the period of the notice the Party of the Second Part shall discontinue the use of the encroaching structures.

- 3. The Party of the Second Part agrees to indemnify and save harmless the Party of the First Part from all claims, demands, loss, costs, charges and expenses which the Party of the First Part may sustain, incur, or be liable for in consequence of the authority hereinbefore granted.
- 4. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the respective successors, assigns, heirs, executors and administrators of the parties hereto.
- 5. Notice of this Agreement shall be registered on title to the title to the lands of the Party of the Second Part at her own expense.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties have hereunto set their hands and seals.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED	) CORPORATION OF THE
- in the presence of -	) TOWN OF MATTAWA
	)
	)
	) _____
	) Mayor
	)
	)
	) _____
	) Clerk – Treasurer
	)
	)
	)
_____	) _____
as to the signature of Pauline Backer	) Pauline Backer
	)



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BELANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
PREPARED BY: COUNCILLOR BIGELOW & COUNCILLOR MICK
TITLE: COMMUNITY SAFETY & WELL-BEING IN MATTAWA
DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025
REPORT NO: 25-72R

BACKGROUND

1. Define Homelessness – What it actually means in Mattawa, Ontario
2. Eliminate Community and Municipal Homeless Stigma
3. Action Plan – Community Safety and Well-Being Committee (CSWB)
4. Economic Development and CSWB
5. “Mountain View” Dorian Rd Development

- Urban Homelessness in Ontario

Urban centers, particularly in Southern Ontario, have long grappled with visible homelessness. In 2024, over 80,000 Ontarians were known to be homeless, marking a 25% increase since 2022. Without significant intervention, projections suggest this number could double in the next decade, potentially reaching nearly 300,000 individuals in an economic downturn.

- Rural and Northern Homelessness: A Hidden Crisis

While often perceived as an urban issue, homelessness is increasingly prevalent in rural and northern Ontario. Since 2016, rural communities have experienced a more than 150% increase in homelessness, compared to an average of about 50% across all communities. In Northern Ontario, the rise is even more pronounced, with an estimated 204% increase since 2016.

Rural homelessness is frequently "hidden," involving individuals living in temporary, provisional accommodations or in situations that are unsustainable. These individuals often do not access supports and services, making the issue less visible but no less critical.

- What Ontario Already Provides & Municipality's Role

Key notes:

- The **Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)** provides funding through provincial allocations to Service Managers (municipalities or District Social Services Administration Boards) to develop and deliver programs for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Municipalities / Service Managers are responsible for planning, administration, and funding programs locally (e.g. shelters, outreach, and prevention) under provincial legislation.
- There are Indigenous Supportive Housing Programs for Indigenous persons living off-reserve.
- The province has increased funding for homelessness prevention, supportive housing, emergency shelters, etc.

Current Context in Mattawa

The Town of Mattawa, with a population of approximately 1,900, faces unique challenges related to housing affordability and homelessness. While the absolute numbers are small compared to urban centres, the impacts on residents and the community are significant. As housing development increases this also creates a caveat where the increased population statistically increases the need for preventative services.

Implementing a 5-10 year strategy outlines practical, small-scale actions to ensure homelessness in Mattawa is **rare, brief, and non-recurring**, in line with the Ontario Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) and the Nipissing District Social Services Administration Board (NDSSAB).

- **Population:** ~ 1,900
- **Estimated homelessness risk:** 18–38 residents at risk; 3–15 residents experiencing homelessness at any given time. Based off of district statistics.
- In small Ontario towns, typically **1–2% of the population is at risk of homelessness**, and 0.2–0.4% may be unhoused at any given time.
- **Existing supports:**
 - *Mattawa Women's Resource Centre* – 10-bed shelter for women & children.
 - *Community Living Mattawa* – Supported housing for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- **Identified gaps:**
 - No emergency shelter for men or general populations
 - Limited transitional housing options
 - No dedicated housing support/outreach worker(s)
 - Lack of drop-in or warming/cooling spaces
 - No documented/anticipated numbers

Partnerships

- **Nipissing DSSAB** – Main funding and planning partner
- **Mattawa Women's Resource Centre** – Shelter and transitional housing
- **Community Living Mattawa** – Supported living expertise
- **Faith groups & service clubs** – Space and volunteer support for drop-in/warming centre
- **Indigenous organizations** – Partnership for culturally safe housing
- **Habitat for Humanity / CMHC** – Affordable housing development

Challenges Specific to Mattawa

Any plan will need to address particular constraints:

- **Limited resources:** small tax base, limited municipal budget, fewer non-profits locally, fewer shelters or specialized services.
- **Geographic isolation:** fewer nearby alternative service providers, possibly transportation issues, more expensive to build/operate housing.
- **Smaller scale:** programs that make sense in big cities (many clients, economies of scale) may be harder/less efficient in small towns.
- **Social stigma / understanding:** in small communities, sometimes less awareness; people may resist shelters or “bringing homelessness closer.”
- **Workforce & expertise limitations:** fewer professionals (e.g. in addiction, mental health, social work) locally.

	Possible Actions
Shelter & Housing Supply	• Establish or expand emergency shelters (or partner with nearby towns or non-profits to provide them) • Create transitional housing (short term, with supports) to help people move off the street and into more stable situations ✓ Increase affordable housing supply (e.g. non-profit housing, co-ops, subsidies) • Offer rent-geared-to-income units or rent supplements so that rents are affordable relative to people's incomes • Repair/maintain existing social housing stock so it stays safe, livable, and available.
Support Services	• Case management: help people navigate supports, get IDs, health care, mental health/substance use treatment, find jobs, etc. • Outreach services: proactively find people in need (e.g. those living in encampments or unsheltered) and connect them with supports and shelter • Day-programs: provide meals, social supports, laundry/showers, drop-in spaces so people have stable places to go during the day • Supportive housing: housing tied to services (mental health, addictions, nursing care if needed) so people can stay housed long-term.
Prevention	• Rental arrears assistance / rent bank programs to help people avoid eviction • Utility arrears / reconnection assistance • Landlord-tenant mediation and landlord outreach to keep people in housing • Programs to address people exiting institutional settings (e.g. hospitals, corrections, child welfare) so that transitions don't lead to homelessness • Affordable housing policy: inclusionary zoning, incentives for developers to build affordable units.
Coordination, Data & Planning	• Maintain a "by-name list" of people experiencing homelessness to help coordinate services and know who needs what. Ontario mandates this in HPP. • Collaboration with non-profits, health services, Indigenous organizations, mental health, addictions services etc. to ensure supports are available. • Municipal plans / strategies on homelessness: setting goals, measuring outcomes. • Use federal/provincial funding, ensuring applications are strong and that local needs are clearly expressed.
Advocacy & Policy	• Advocate to the provincial and federal governments for more funding, flexible funding, and policy that supports small/rural municipalities • Push for policies that protect renters, improve tenant rights, rent control or caps, protections from evictions • Advise on regional approaches: sometimes small towns cannot do everything themselves; regional cooperation (sharing shelters, mobile services, etc.) can help.
Low-Barrier / Harm Reduction	• Ensure that shelters and supports are low barrier (i.e. minimal requirements, flexible rules) so that those with addictions or mental health challenges are not excluded • Harm reduction services (e.g. safe supply, needle exchange, overdose prevention) might be needed, depending on needs in the community • Trauma-informed, culturally appropriate services (especially for Indigenous people) • Ensure that women, children, families, youth have services targeting their needs (e.g. shelters for women escaping violence, youth shelters).

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Vision: Eliminate the latent possibility of low-income & vulnerable populations from becoming unsupported by available services preventing homelessness. Every resident of Mattawa will have a safe, affordable, and stable housing with access to the support services they need.

Goals

1. Prevent homelessness whenever possible – Access to services & information
2. Provide low-barrier, safe emergency options for those in crisis
3. Establish transitional and long-term housing pathways
4. Build local capacity through partnerships and funding
5. Reduce stigma and increase community awareness

Phase 1:

- A. Create Mattawa's Community Safety and Well-being Committee and Apply to Grants**
- B. Implement References For All Available Services**
- C. Economic Development and CSWB**

A. Community Safety and Well-Being Committee

Municipal involvement:

The Director of Community Services provides strategic leadership and oversight of municipal programs related to housing, homelessness, social support, and community well-being. This role is responsible for developing policies, coordinating services, managing budgets, and fostering partnerships with service providers, Indigenous organizations, and regional agencies to support vulnerable populations.

As homelessness becomes less “visual”, the CSWB committee then focuses on low-income vulnerable populations – actions that prevent populations going from low-income to a hidden homelessness statistic.

Key Committee Responsibilities in Homelessness/Low-Income Response:

- Strategic Leadership
 - o Develop and implement the municipality's Community Services and Homelessness Action Plans
 - o Lead initiatives aligned with provincial/federal strategies (e.g., Homelessness Prevention Program - HPP, Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit - COHB)
- Program Management
 - o Oversee municipal shelter services, transitional housing, outreach, and food security programs
 - o Monitor performance metrics and conduct evaluations to ensure service quality and impact
- **Budgeting & Funding**
 - o Prepare and manage department budgets; oversee financial compliance and reporting
 - o Identify, apply for, and manage government **grants** and funding opportunities.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**

- o Build and maintain relationships with community organizations, health and social service agencies, Indigenous partners, and other municipalities.
- o Convene regular meetings with homelessness networks and advisory committees.
- **Policy & Advocacy**
 - o Draft and recommend policies to Council related to housing, equity, accessibility, and poverty reduction
 - o Ensure policies are responsive to the needs of youth, seniors, people with disabilities, and marginalized groups
- **Public Education & Communications**
 - o Lead public awareness campaigns to reduce stigma and promote community support.
 - o Serve as the municipal spokesperson for homelessness and housing services when required.
 - o Engage with people with lived experience to shape responsive policies
- **Additional Duties**
 - o Represent the municipality in regional homelessness planning committees
 - o Oversee emergency shelter responses during extreme weather
 - o Track and report on homelessness data, trends, and service impacts

Committee Development / Review:

- Membership Example not limited to -
- 2 Municipal Councillors
- 1 Municipal staff (Community Services Director)
- Non-profit/service provider representative(s)
- Health or mental health professionals – Social workers, CAMH etc.
- Indigenous community representative
- Youth, senior, or LGBTQ2S+ representative
- Individual with lived experience of homelessness

CSWB Strategic Priorities & Actions

Priority 1: Prevention

- Launch a **Rent & Utility Arrears Fund** (\$10–15K/year) to prevent evictions.
- Mediation and incentives for local landlords to retain vulnerable tenants.
- Provide **transportation supports** (gas cards, bus/taxi vouchers) to connect residents with North Bay services.

Priority 2: Emergency Response

- Establish **2–3 low-barrier emergency beds** (short-term, flexible).
- Create a **drop-in / warming space** in partnership with churches or service clubs — offering meals, showers, laundry, internet, and referrals.

Priority 3: Transitional Housing

- Repurpose a small building or duplex into **3–6 transitional housing units**.
- Include part-time support staff for case management and life skills coaching.

Priority 4: Long-Term Affordable Housing

- Develop **8–12 rent-geared-to-income units** through partnerships with CMHC, Habitat for Humanity, or NDSSAB.
- Prioritize families, seniors, and individuals with complex needs.

Priority 5: Supportive Services

- Fund **one full-time housing support/outreach worker** to connect residents with DSSAB, Ontario Works/ODSP, and housing programs.
- Partner with Indigenous organizations to ensure culturally appropriate supports.
- Explore youth-specific housing supports for those at risk of homelessness.

5. Implementation Timeline

Short-Term (0–2 years):

- Launch Rent & Utility Arrears Fund.
- Pilot 2–3 emergency beds (possibly motel partnerships).
- Open small drop-in/warming space.

Medium-Term (2–5 years):

- Establish 3–6 transitional housing units
- Strengthen landlord engagement and incentives
- Build stronger partnerships with Indigenous housing providers
- Hire a full-time outreach worker

Long-Term (5+ years):

- Construct 8–12 affordable housing units.
- Expand supportive services for residents with mental health or addiction challenges.

B. Implement References to Available Services

Low-income/homeless individuals in Ontario—especially those in communities like Mattawa—can access a wide range of programs and services to help return to school/training/subsidies. The hurdle is obtaining access to the appropriate information.

Examples not limited to -

Advancing Education / Jobs

1. **OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program)**
2. **Second Career / Better Jobs Ontario**
3. **Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) Program**
4. **Ontario Works – Education and Training Supports**
5. **Canada Learning Bond (for Parents)**
6. **Scholarships & Bursaries for Adults**

Government Assistance Programs

1. **Ontario Works (OW)**
2. **Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)**
3. **Housing and Homelessness Services**
4. **Subsidized & Affordable Housing**
5. **Utility and Emergency Financial Assistance**

6. **Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)**
7. **Legal Assistance**
8. **Local Office Contact Information**

DNSSAB Mattawa Office

Address: 540 Valois Drive, Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0
Phone: (705) 744-0395
Toll-Free: (844) 961-2618
Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Collaboration between the CSWB & Economic Development Officer

1. Shared Interests

- **CSWB Committee focus:** Prevent crime, promote public safety, and improve social supports (housing, health, youth, seniors, vulnerable groups).
- **EDO focus:** Strengthen Mattawa's economy, attract businesses, support workforce development, and improve quality of life.

These roles intersect because:

- Stable housing and community safety make Mattawa more attractive to investors, employers, and residents.
- Strong economic development creates jobs, incomes, and stability that reduce homelessness and crime risk.

2. Practical Ways to Collaborate

A. Housing & Homelessness

- **CSWB:** Identifies housing gaps and risks (e.g., homelessness, unsafe rentals, low-income populations).
- **EDO:** Works on incentives for new housing developments, partnerships with CMHC/Habitat, and reusing vacant/derelict properties.
- **Collaboration:** Jointly pursue grants and advocate for affordable housing as both a **safety priority** and an **economic driver**.

B. Downtown Revitalization & Safety

- **CSWB:** Focus on safe public spaces, reducing loitering and petty crime, improving lighting and community policing.
- **EDO:** Works on making downtown attractive for new businesses and tourism.
- **Collaboration:** Implement “crime prevention through environmental design” (CPTED) in downtown upgrades — safer streets = stronger business climate.

C. Employment & Training

- **CSWB:** Connects vulnerable populations (homeless, youth, and at-risk individuals) to supports.
- **EDO:** Builds partnerships with employers, colleges, and job training programs.
- **Collaboration:** Develop targeted training/apprenticeship programs for at-risk residents, linking safety with employment opportunities.

D. Funding & Advocacy

- **CSWB:** Qualifies for provincial/federal safety, housing, and well-being funds.
- **EDO:** Qualifies for economic development, workforce, and infrastructure funds.
- **Collaboration:** Jointly apply for grants, framing projects as both **safety improvements** and **economic development** (e.g., housing projects, downtown revitalization, youth programs).

E. Community Image & Attractiveness

- **CSWB:** Improves quality of life by reducing visible homelessness and supporting vulnerable residents.
- **EDO:** Markets Mattawa as a good place to live, work, and invest.
- **Collaboration:** A town known for being **safe, caring, and inclusive** has a stronger brand for attracting businesses and residents.

3. Examples of Joint Initiatives

- 1) **Affordable Housing Development:** CSWB builds the case for safety/well-being, EDO supports the business case and connects with developers.
- 2) **Community Hub / Drop-In Centre:** CSWB designs the service model, EDO explores economic reuse of underutilized spaces.
- 3) **Workforce Integration:** CSWB identifies vulnerable residents who could work; EDO partners with local businesses to place them in jobs.
- 4) **Downtown Improvements:** CSWB ensures designs improve safety; EDO aligns them with business attraction strategies.
- 5) **Grant Applications:** Both bodies co-sign proposals to strengthen funding chances (e.g., housing, safety, revitalization).

4. Governance & Coordination

- Invite the **Economic Development Officer** to sit as a member (or advisor) on the CSWB Committee.
- Schedule **quarterly joint planning sessions** to align community safety actions with economic priorities.
- Share data (housing demand, safety indicators, and business climate feedback).

The CSWB Committee ensures **Mattawa is safe and supportive**, while the EDO ensures **Mattawa is growing and prosperous**. Working together, they can link **housing + safety + economic development** into one cohesive strategy that benefits the whole community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION:

ONTARIO REGULATION 414/23

made under the

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING ACT, 2019

Made: November 10, 2023

Filed: December 18, 2023

Published on e-Laws: December 18, 2023

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLANS - PUBLICATION AND REVIEW

Publication of plan

1. (1) A municipal council shall publish its community safety and well-being plan on the Internet within 30 days after adopting it.
- (2) For greater certainty, the municipal council may publish the plan in any other manner or form it desires.

Deadline for review and revision of community safety and well-being plan

2. (1) For the purposes of subsection 255 (1) of the Act, a municipal council must review and, if appropriate, revise its community safety and well-being plan within four years after the day the plan was adopted and every four years thereafter, subject to subsection (2).
- (2) If the community safety and well-being plan was adopted before July 1, 2021, the first review and, if appropriate, revision of the plan must be completed before July 1, 2025, and subsequent reviews and revisions must be completed within every four years thereafter.

Commencement

3. **This Regulation comes into force on the later of the day subsection 256 (1) of Schedule 1 (*Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*) to the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019* comes into force and the day this Regulation is filed.**

ATTACHMENT:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended to approve this report and be brought back to old business for further discussion.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Mattawa receives report # 25-72R titled Community Safety & Well-Being in Mattawa.

AND FURTHER THAT Council put this report on Old Business for future discussions.



INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED FOR: MAYOR BÉLANGER AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: AMY LECLERC, MUNICIPAL CLERK

TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBERS FOR 2026

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

REPORT NO: 25-73R

BACKGROUND

Under Section 44 of the Planning Act a Committee of Adjustment is automatically assigned responsibility for processing applications relating to minor variances to certain types of by-laws, non-conforming uses and permitting specific uses where a by-law defines them in general terms.

Each year Council is required to appoint 3 members of Council to sit on the Committee of Adjustment. A Member-at-Large is also required to participate on the committee which was appointed in 2024 by Council. D'Arcy Lamothe was appointed to the Committee for the term of council which will end on December 31, 2026.

This committee has a Terms of Reference which is followed by all parties involved.

Meetings for the Committee of Adjustment are held when an application is submitted to staff from a resident of the Municipality and the meeting will be called by the Secretary of the Committee. The application is processed through the Municipal Office with comments received from each department that is affected by the request. Once the process is complete the Committee members will be provided a complete package and advised the date of the meeting.

Support staff that will be assisting the application process, providing the meeting package and attending the meetings will be the Chief Administrative Officer, Clerk, Chief Building Official, Planning Consultant as well as other key staff when required.

ANALYSIS & DISCUSSION

This current year Council appointed Councillors Gardiner, Levesque and Bigelow to the committee and there was three meetings to date.

In advance of the 2026 year staff is requesting that Council discuss among themselves which 3 members will be appointed to the committee and the Clerk will bring back the by-law at the next meeting of Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Member-at-Large that will be sitting on the Committee of Adjustment will receive an annual remuneration of 100.00 payable on December 31st of each year for the term of Council.

RELEVANT POLICY/LEGISLATION

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13

ATTACHMENTS

Committee of Adjustment Terms of Reference & Planning Act insert

RECOMMENDATIONS/RESOLUTION

It is recommended that Council accept this report and appoint 3 members of Council to the Committee of Adjustment for the 2026 year.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa receives Report # 25-73R titled Appointment of Committee of Adjustment Members for 2026.

AND FURTHER THAT Council appoints Councillors _____, _____ and _____ to the Committee of Adjustment for 2026 which will be formally adopted by By-law at the next meeting of Council.



TOWN OF MATTAWA COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE

PURPOSE

The Committee of Adjustment is a statutory tribunal with authority delegated to it by the Council of the Town of Mattawa under the provisions of the Ontario Planning Act to hold public hearings to make decisions on applications submitted to the Town of Mattawa Planning and Development Services Department for minor variances, alterations in legal non-conforming uses and consents for severances.

The Committee operates independently from Council and its decisions may be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board.

The Committee of Adjustment may:

- Authorize minor variance from the provisions of the Zoning By-Law for land, buildings or structures or their use.
- Permit the enlargement or extension of an existing legal non-conforming building or structure.
- Permit the use of land, building or structure for a purpose that is similar to the existing legal non-conforming use or is more compatible with the uses permitted by the Zoning By-Law.
- Permit the use of land, building or structure for any purpose that conforms with the uses defined in general terms in the Zoning By-Law.

OPERATION

The Committee of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body, somewhat court-like in its operation, charged with observance and protection of applicable planning law and also with protecting the rights of the individuals affected by the decisions made. The common law principles of natural justice require the Committee of Adjustment to ensure that individuals affected by their decisions have their equivalent of “a day in court”. The Committee must also satisfy legal requirements concerning notice, public hearings, notices of decisions and recording of proceedings. The Committee of Adjustment is governed by procedures detailed in the Planning Act, and also by the Municipal Act, the Statutory Powers Procedure Act, the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The Committee of Adjustment is guided by planning policies and controls established by the Council of the Town of Mattawa through the Official Plan, Zoning By-law and other by-laws for controlling development and planning policies and legislation of the Province of Ontario, including the Planning Act, statements of Provincial interest as defined in policy statements, implementation guidelines and Provincial plans.

The goal of the Committee of Adjustment is to provide for and conduct a fair hearing by:

- Allowing anyone wishing to speak to an application an opportunity to do so;
- Giving due diligence to the consideration of each application;
- Openly having all discussions about each application and making all decisions in public

- at the hearing;
- Making rational decisions with appropriate, well-thought-out conditions;
- Clearly stating the reasons for their decisions.

Committee of Adjustment hearings are attended by Committee of Adjustment members, Municipal Planning Staff, the Chief Building Official, the Secretary-Treasurer, applicants and/or their representatives and any member of the public who wishes to speak regarding an application or observe the proceedings.

Meeting Schedule and Location

The Committee of Adjustment shall meet at a minimum once per year. For ease of planning, every attempt will be made to hold the regular meetings on a consistent day. Additional meetings may be held through a special meeting request to the Secretary-Treasurer and dependent on availability of Committee members.

The Committee of Adjustment meetings take place in Dr. S. F. Monestime Council Chambers at the Town of Mattawa Municipal Office at 160 Water Street, Mattawa and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATION

Membership, Appointment, Term of Office, Quorum, Voting

The Committee of Adjustment is composed of four members.

Applications for Committee of Adjustment appointments are requested at the beginning of the term of Council and a total of four members are appointed by By-Law which consists of three Members of Council and one member at large.

Members of the Committee are eligible for reappointment, and where a member ceases to be a member before the expiration of their term, Council will appoint another eligible person for the unexpired portion of the term.

At the beginning of each term, the members of the Committee of Adjustment will appoint a Chair. When the Chair is absent the Committee will appoint another member as Acting Chair. The members may rotate through the position of Chair during the appointed term.

Three members constitute a quorum.

Voting is by simple majority on the application, a tie vote means the application is refused.

Qualifications for Members at Large

- A demonstrated commitment to, and interest in the community;
- An understanding of the planning framework and planning instruments, including the Town of Mattawa Official Plan, Zoning By-law, as amended, and other by-laws for controlling development and planning policies of the municipality and the Province of Ontario, including the Planning Act, policy statements, implementation guidelines and Provincial plans;
- Ratepayer of the Town of Mattawa;
- Organized, available and committed to conduct site inspections of subject properties and attend all Committee meetings;

- Objective and have an open mind in order to fully consider the evidence provided;
- Access to a computer and an e-mail address in order to receive and respond to Committee communications and information, including hearing and application notices and agenda packages with large text and graphics files.

Remuneration

Remuneration for the member at large shall consist of an annual honourarium of \$100.00 payable by December 31st of each year.

Term of Office

The members of the committee who are not members of a municipal council shall hold office for the term of the council that appointed them and the members of the committee who are members of a municipal council shall be appointed annually. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (3).

Duties and Responsibilities

Chair

- Presides at all Committee of Adjustment hearings and meetings and exercises authority and performs duties as required;
- Provides guidance and leadership to the Committee in the completion of its mandate;
- Ensures that decorum is maintained at each meeting and that rules of procedure and conduct are observed.

All Members

- Review applications sent to them in advance of the meeting;
- Visit the site of each application prior to the meeting;
- Attend the Committee of Adjustment hearings, consider applicant(s), agency(ies) and public comments and make decisions in public regarding applications;
- Contribute time, knowledge, skill and expertise to the fulfillment of the Committee's mandate.

Code of Conduct

Municipal Act, Planning Act, Statutory Powers Procedure Act

Committee of Adjustment decisions will be made at a public hearing. All information pertaining to an application will be presented at the hearing and all discussion on the specifics of an application will take place at the hearing.

Closed session meetings may only be held in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act.

All members shall also refer to the 'Code of Conduct Policy for Members of Council and Local Boards', (By-Law 19-08).

Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Committee of Adjustment Members may have pecuniary conflict of interest as they have decision-making ability. Members should be cognizant of any conflict of interest or perceived conflict in terms of issues which may serve to benefit them personally.

Where a Member, either on their own behalf or while acting for, by, with or through another, has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter and is present at a Committee of Adjustment hearing at which the matter is considered, the Member shall:

1. Disclose the interest in its general nature before or as soon as possible after the matter is considered at the meeting by completing and submitting the Declaration of Pecuniary Interest Form to the Secretary-Treasurer;
2. Not take part in the discussion or voting on any question in respect to the matter;
3. Not attempt to influence the voting before, during, or after the meeting; and
4. Immediately leave the meeting or part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration, if the meeting is closed to the public.

Where the interest of a Member has not been disclosed by reason of the Member's absence from the hearing, the Member shall disclose the interest, and comply with the requirements listed above, at the first Committee hearing attended by the Member after the hearing at which the matter was considered.

Every declaration of interest made, where the meeting is open to the public, is recorded in the minutes of the meeting by the Secretary-Treasurer.

Every declaration made, where the meeting is not open to the public, is recorded in the minutes of the next meeting that is open to the public.

Every municipality shall establish and maintain a Declaration of Pecuniary Interest Registry.

Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Committee of Adjustment Members will act to protect the privacy of individuals with respect to personal information contained in application forms and information circulated to the Committee and to ensure that personal information is used solely for the purposes of processing the application.

Administrative Support Staff

Secretary-Treasurer (non-voting position)

- Responsible for all Committee of Adjustment administrative duties.

Departmental Representatives / Planners (non-voting position)

- Act as subject matter experts and provide information to assist the Committee of Adjustment in reaching decisions.

Public Hearing Process

- Call to Order
- Chair welcomes those in attendance, introduces Committee members and staff and provides an explanation of procedures:
 - Everyone present will be given an opportunity to comment on the applications being heard;
 - Comments and questions are to be addressed through the chair;
 - Decision notice will be sent to the applicant or agent and any person who files a

- o written request;
 - o Reminder of appeal period in accordance with The Planning Act;
- Pecuniary Interest of Committee of Adjustment members declared as applicable
- Discussion and Decisions on the applications presented including addressing requests for Withdrawal or Adjournment.
- Adoption of Minutes of Previous Hearing
- Adjournment of the meeting and next Committee of Adjustment Hearing Date announced

Minor Variances

The Zoning By-law regulates how land and buildings are used and where buildings and structures can be located. This by-law also specifies lot sizes and dimensions, parking requirements, building heights and other regulations necessary to ensure proper and orderly development. However, sometimes it is not possible or desirable to meet all of the requirements of the Zoning By-law. In that case, a property owner may apply for approval of a minor variance. A minor variance provides relief from a specific Zoning By-law requirement, excusing a property owner from meeting the exact requirements of the By-law.

For the Committee to approve this type of application, the Planning Act requires that the Members must be satisfied that the application meets all of the following four tests:

- Is considered to be a minor change from the Zoning requirements (an evaluation of impact rather than a numerical value)
- Is desirable for the appropriate development or use of the land, building or structure;
- Maintains the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan and
- Maintains the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law, as amended.

Legal Non-Conforming Uses

Legal Non-Conforming Uses are uses of property that met all of the requirements of the Zoning By-law (and any other requirements) when they were established but no longer comply because the zoning requirements have changed. To ease the hardship this change could place on a property owner, the Committee can consider applications for extensions or enlargements of buildings or uses that no longer comply with the Zoning Bylaw as well as applications for a change from one legal non-conforming use to another use.

For the Committee to approve this type of application, the Planning Act requires that the Members must be satisfied that:

- The non-conforming use was officially permitted before the current Zoning By-law was approved
- The non-conforming use has continued, uninterrupted since that time
- The extended or enlarged building or use is located entirely within the original property limits
- In the case of a change in use, that the proposed use is similar to or more compatible to the new uses permitted by the Zoning By-law.

Any application process may be subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee considers advisable.

Accounting

The Committee of Adjustment budget forms part of the Planning and Development Services Department Budget. All financial commitments of the Committee, including provision for Committee Members to attend training, workshops and conferences, are processed through the Planning and Development Services Department in accordance with municipal policies.

References

Planning Act Terms for Committee of Adjustment

Committee of adjustment

44 (1) If a municipality has passed a by-law under section 34 or a predecessor of such section, the council of the municipality may by by-law constitute and appoint a committee of adjustment for the municipality composed of such persons, not fewer than three, as the council considers advisable. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (1).

Copy of by-law to Minister

(2) Where a by-law is passed under subsection (1), a certified copy of the by-law shall be sent to the Minister by registered mail by the clerk of the municipality within thirty days of the passing thereof. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (2).

Term of office

(3) The members of the committee who are not members of a municipal council shall hold office for the term of the council that appointed them and the members of the committee who are members of a municipal council shall be appointed annually. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (3).

Idem

(4) Members of the committee shall hold office until their successors are appointed, and are eligible for reappointment, and, where a member ceases to be a member before the expiration of his or her term, the council shall appoint another eligible person for the unexpired portion of the term. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (4).

Quorum

(5) Where a committee is composed of three members, two members constitute a quorum, and where a committee is composed of more than three members, three members constitute a quorum. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (5).

Vacancy not to impair powers

(6) Subject to subsection (5), a vacancy in the membership or the absence or inability of a member to act does not impair the powers of the committee or of the remaining members. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (6).

Chair

(7) The members of the committee shall elect one of themselves as chair, and, when the chair is absent through illness or otherwise, the committee may appoint another member to act as acting chair. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (7).

Secretary-treasurer, employees

(8) The committee shall appoint a secretary-treasurer, who may be a member of the committee, and may engage such employees and consultants as is considered expedient, within the limits of the money appropriated for the purpose. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (8).

Remuneration

(9) The members of the committee shall be paid such compensation as the council may provide. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (9).

Filing of documents, etc.

(10) The secretary-treasurer shall keep on file minutes and records of all applications and the decisions thereon and of all other official business of the committee, and section 253 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* or section 199 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, as the case may be, applies with necessary modifications to such documents. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (10); 2002, c. 17, Sched. B, s. 16; 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (11).

Rules of procedure

(11) In addition to complying with the requirements of this Act, the committee shall comply with such rules of procedure as are prescribed. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 44 (11).

Section Amendments with date in force (d/m/y)

Powers of committee

45 (1) The committee of adjustment, upon the application of the owner of any land, building or structure affected by any by-law that is passed under section 34 or 38, or a predecessor of such sections, or any person authorized in writing by the owner, may, despite any other Act, authorize such minor variance from the provisions of the by-law, in respect of the land, building or structure or the use thereof, as in its opinion is desirable for the appropriate development or use of the land, building or structure, if in the opinion of the committee the general intent and purpose of the by-law and of the official plan, if any, are maintained. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (1); 2006, c. 23, s. 18 (1); 2009, c. 33, Sched. 21, s. 10 (11).

Criteria

(1.0.1) The committee of adjustment shall authorize a minor variance under subsection (1) only if, in addition to satisfying the requirements of that subsection, the minor variance conforms with,

- (a) the prescribed criteria, if any; and
- (b) the criteria established by the local municipality by by-law, if any. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (1).

Same

(1.0.2) For the purposes of subsection (1.0.1), criteria that were not in force on the day the owner made the application do not apply. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (1).

Criteria by-law

(1.0.3) The council of a local municipality may, by by-law, establish criteria for the purposes of clause (1.0.1) (b) and the following provisions apply, with necessary modifications, in respect of the by-law:

1. Clause 34 (12) (a).
2. Subsections 34 (13), (14.1) to (15), (17) to (19.0.1), (20) to (20.4), (22) to (25.1) and (25.2) to (26). 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (1); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 3, s. 14; 2019, c. 9, Sched. 12, s. 13 (1).

Coming into force

(1.0.4) A by-law under subsection (1.0.3) comes into force,

- (a) if no notice of appeal is filed in respect of the by-law and the time for filing appeals has expired, on the day after the last day of the time for filing appeals;
- (b) if all appeals in respect of the by-law are withdrawn and the time for filing appeals has expired, on the day after the last day on which an appeal was withdrawn;
- (c) if the Tribunal dismisses all appeals and the time for filing appeals has expired, on the day after the last day on which an appeal was dismissed;
- (d) if the Tribunal allows an appeal in respect of the by-law and amends the by-law, on the day after the last day on which the Tribunal makes a decision disposing of the appeal; or
- (e) if the Tribunal allows an appeal in respect of the by-law and directs the municipality to amend the by-law, on the day after the day the municipality passes the amending by-law. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (1); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, ss. 80, 98 (1).

Restriction

(1.1) Subsection (1) does not allow the committee to authorize a minor variance from conditions imposed under subsection 34 (16) of this Act or under subsection 113 (2) of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*. 2006, c. 23, s. 18 (2).

Same

(1.1.1) Subsection (1) does not allow the committee to authorize a minor variance from those provisions of a by-law that give effect to policies described in subsection 16 (4). 2016, c. 25, Sched. 4, s. 6.

(1.2)-(1.4) REPEALED: 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (1).

Other powers

(2) In addition to its powers under subsection (1), the committee, upon any such application,

- (a) where any land, building or structure, on the day the by-law was passed, was lawfully used for a purpose prohibited by the by-law, may permit,
- (i) the enlargement or extension of the building or structure, if the use that was made of the building or structure on the day the by-law was passed, or a use permitted under subclause (ii) continued until the date of the application to the committee, but no permission may be given to enlarge or extend the building or structure beyond the limits of the land owned and used in connection therewith on the day the by-law was passed, or
- (ii) the use of such land, building or structure for a purpose that, in the opinion of the committee, is similar to the purpose for which it was used on the day the by-law was passed or is more compatible with the uses permitted by the by-law than the purpose for which it was used on the day the by-law was passed, if the use for a purpose prohibited by the by-law or another use for a purpose previously permitted by the committee continued until the date of the application to the committee; or
- (b) where the uses of land, buildings or structures permitted in the by-law are defined in general terms, may permit the use of any land, building or structure for any purpose that, in the opinion of the committee, conforms with the uses permitted in the by-law. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (2).

Power of committee to grant minor variances

(3) A council that has constituted a committee of adjustment may by by-law empower the committee of adjustment to grant minor variances from the provisions of any by-law of the municipality that implements an official plan, or from such by-laws of the municipality as are specified and that implement an official plan, and when a committee of adjustment is so empowered subsection (1) applies with necessary modifications. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (3).

Time for hearing

(4) The hearing on any application shall be held within thirty days after the application is received by the secretary-treasurer. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (4).

Notice of hearing

(5) The committee, before hearing an application, shall in the manner and to the persons and public bodies and containing the information prescribed, give notice of the application. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (5); 1994, c. 23, s. 26 (1).

Hearing

(6) The hearing of every application shall be held in public, and the committee shall hear the applicant and every other person who desires to be heard in favour of or against the application, and the committee may adjourn the hearing or reserve its decision. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (6).

Oaths

(7) The chair, or in his or her absence the acting chair, may administer oaths. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (7).

Decision

(8) No decision of the committee on an application is valid unless it is concurred in by the majority of the members of the committee that heard the application. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (3).

Same

(8.1) The decision of the committee, whether granting or refusing an application, shall be in writing, shall be signed by the members who concur in the decision and shall,

- (a) set out the reasons for the decision; and
- (b) contain a brief explanation of the effect, if any, that the written and oral submissions mentioned in subsection (8.2) had on the decision. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (3).

Written and oral submissions

(8.2) Clause (8.1) (b) applies to,

- (a) any written submissions relating to the application that were made to the committee before its decision; and
- (b) any oral submissions relating to the application that were made at a hearing. 2015, c. 26, s. 29 (3).

Conditions in decision

(9) Any authority or permission granted by the committee under subsections (1), (2) and (3) may be for such time and subject to such terms and conditions as the committee considers advisable and as are set out in the decision. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (9).

Agreement re terms and conditions

(9.1) If the committee imposes terms and conditions under subsection (9), it may also require the owner of the land to enter into one or more agreements with the municipality dealing with some or all of the terms and conditions, and in that case the requirement shall be set out in the decision. 2006, c. 23, s. 18 (3).

Registration of agreement

(9.2) An agreement entered into under subsection (9.1) may be registered against the land to which it applies and the municipality is entitled to enforce the agreement against the owner and, subject to the *Registry Act* and the *Land Titles Act*, against any and all subsequent owners of the land. 2006, c. 23, s. 18 (3).

Notice of decision

(10) The secretary-treasurer shall not later than ten days from the making of the decision send one copy of the decision, certified by him or her,

- (a) to the Minister, if the Minister has notified the committee by registered mail that he or she wishes to receive a copy of all decisions of the committee;
- (b) to the applicant; and
- (c) to each person who appeared in person or by counsel at the hearing and who filed with the secretary-treasurer a written request for notice of the decision,

together with a notice of the last day for appealing to the Tribunal. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (10); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (2).

Additional material

(11) Where the secretary-treasurer is required to send a copy of the decision to the Minister under subsection (10), he or she shall also send to the Minister such other information and material as may be prescribed. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (11).

Appeal to Tribunal

(12) The applicant, the Minister or a specified person or public body that has an interest in the matter may within 20 days of the making of the decision appeal to the Tribunal

against the decision of the committee by filing with the secretary-treasurer of the committee a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection accompanied by payment to the secretary-treasurer of the fee charged by the Tribunal as payable on an appeal from a committee of adjustment to the Tribunal. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (3); 2021, c. 4, Sched. 6, s. 80 (5); 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (2).

Transition

(12.1) For greater certainty, subsection (12), as it reads on the day subsection 13 (2) of Schedule 9 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, applies to an appeal on and after that day even if the decision is made before that day. 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (3).

Same, retroactive effect

(12.2) An appeal under subsection (12) made before the day subsection 13 (2) of Schedule 9 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force by a person or public body not referred to in subsection (12) of this section as it reads on the day subsection 13 (2) of Schedule 9 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force shall be deemed to have been dismissed on the day subsection 13 (2) of Schedule 9 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force unless,

- (a) a hearing on the merits of the appeal had been scheduled before October 25, 2022; or
- (b) a notice of appeal was filed by a person or public body referred to in subsection (12) of this section in respect of the same decision to which the appeal relates. 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (3).

Same, hearing on the merits

(12.3) For the purposes of clause (12.2) (a), a hearing on the merits of an appeal is considered to be scheduled on the date on which the Tribunal first orders the hearing to be scheduled, and is not affected by an adjournment or rescheduling of the hearing. 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (3).

Same

(12.4) For greater certainty, a hearing on the merits of an appeal does not include mediation or any other dispute resolution process, settlement negotiations, a case management conference or any other step in the appeal that precedes such a hearing. 2022, c. 21, Sched. 9, s. 13 (3).

Record

(13) On receiving a notice of appeal filed under subsection (12), the secretary-treasurer of the committee shall promptly forward to the Tribunal, by registered mail,

- (a) the notice of appeal;
- (b) the amount of the fee mentioned in subsection (12);
- (c) all documents filed with the committee relating to the matter appealed from;
- (d) such other documents as may be required by the Tribunal; and
- (e) any other prescribed information and material. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (3).

Exception

(13.1) Despite subsection (13), if all appeals under subsection (12) are withdrawn within 15 days after the last day for filing a notice of appeal, the secretary-treasurer is not required to forward the materials described under subsection (13) to the Tribunal. 1999, c. 12, Sched. M, s. 26; 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (4).

Decision final

(13.2) If all appeals under subsection (12) are withdrawn within 15 days after the last day for filing a notice of appeal, the decision of the committee is final and binding and the secretary-treasurer of the committee shall notify the applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the clerk of the municipality. 1999, c. 12, Sched. M, s. 26.

Where no appeal

(14) If within such 20 days no notice of appeal is given, the decision of the committee is final and binding, and the secretary-treasurer shall notify the applicant and shall file a certified copy of the decision with the clerk of the municipality. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (14); 1994, c. 23, s. 26 (3).

Where appeals withdrawn

(15) Where all appeals to the Tribunal are withdrawn, the decision of the committee is final and binding and the Tribunal shall notify the secretary-treasurer of the committee who in turn shall notify the applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the clerk of the municipality. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (5).

Hearing

(16) On an appeal to the Tribunal, the Tribunal shall, except as provided in subsections (15) and (17), hold a hearing of which notice shall be given to the applicant, the appellant, the secretary-treasurer of the committee and to such other persons or public bodies and in such manner as the Tribunal may determine. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (5).

Dismissal without hearing

(17) Despite the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act* and subsection (16), the Tribunal may, on its own initiative or on the motion of any party, dismiss all or part of an appeal without holding a hearing if,

- (a) it is of the opinion that,
- (i) the reasons set out in the notice of appeal do not disclose any apparent land use planning ground upon which the Tribunal could allow all or part of the appeal,
- (ii) the appeal is not made in good faith or is frivolous or vexatious,
- (iii) the appeal is made only for the purpose of delay, or
- (iv) the appellant has persistently and without reasonable grounds commenced before the Tribunal proceedings that constitute an abuse of process;
- (b) the appellant has not provided written reasons for the appeal;
- (c) the appellant has not paid the fee charged by the Tribunal; or
- (d) the appellant has not responded to a request by the Tribunal for further information within the time specified by the Tribunal. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (5); 2019, c. 9, Sched. 12, s. 13 (2); 2021, c. 4, Sched. 6, s. 80 (1).

Representation

(17.1) Before dismissing all or part of an appeal, the Tribunal shall notify the appellant and give the appellant the opportunity to make representation on the proposed dismissal but this subsection does not apply if the appellant has not complied with a request made under clause (17) (d). 2000, c. 26, Sched. K, s. 5 (3); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 80.

Dismissal

(17.2) The Tribunal may dismiss all or part of an appeal after holding a hearing or without holding a hearing on the motion under subsection (17), as it considers appropriate. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (5).

Powers of Tribunal

(18) The Tribunal may dismiss the appeal and may make any decision that the committee could have made on the original application. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (18); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 80.

Amended application

(18.1) On an appeal, the Tribunal may make a decision on an application which has been amended from the original application if, before issuing its order, written notice is given to the persons and public bodies who received notice of the original application under subsection (5) and to other persons and agencies prescribed under that subsection. 1993, c. 26, s. 56; 1994, c. 23, s. 26 (7); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 80.

Exception

(18.1.1) The Tribunal is not required to give notice under subsection (18.1) if, in its opinion, the amendment to the original application is minor. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (5).

Notice of intent

(18.2) Any person or public body who receives notice under subsection (18.1) may, not later than thirty days after the day that written notice was given, notify the Tribunal of an intention to appear at the hearing or the resumption of the hearing, as the case may be. 1993, c. 26, s. 56; 1994, c. 23, s. 26 (8); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (6).

Order

(18.3) If, after the expiry of the time period in subsection (18.2), no notice of intent has been received, the Tribunal may issue its order. 1993, c. 26, s. 56; 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (6).

Hearing

(18.4) If a notice of intent is received, the Tribunal may hold a hearing or resume the hearing on the amended application or it may issue its order without holding a hearing or resuming the hearing. 1996, c. 4, s. 25 (2); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (6).

Notice of decision

(19) When the Tribunal makes an order on an appeal, the Tribunal shall send a copy thereof to the applicant, the appellant and the secretary-treasurer of the committee. 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (7).

Idem

(20) The secretary-treasurer shall file a copy of the order of the Tribunal with the clerk of the municipality. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 45 (20); 2017, c. 23, Sched. 5, s. 98 (8).

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

11.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa adopt By-Law 25-16 being a By-law to repeal By-law 24-06 and dissolve the Standing Committees of Council.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MATTAWA

BY-LAW NUMBER 25-16

BEING a by-law to repeal By-law 24-06 and dissolve the Standing Committees of Council.

WHEREAS on February 26, 2024 the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa enacted By-law 24-06 to establish the Standing Committees of Council;

AND WHEREAS Council at their regular meeting of November 10, 2025 passed judgement to dissolve the Standing Committees of Council.

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

1. **THAT** the Standing Committees of Council be removed from the Council Governance Policies and Procedure By-law.
2. **THAT** By-law 24-06 is hereby repealed.
3. **THAT** all previous by-laws with respect to the Standing Committees of Council are hereby rescinded.
4. **THAT** this By-law shall come into effect on the day of it's passing.

READ A FIRST and SECOND TIME, this 24th day of November, 2025.

READ THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED, this 24th day of November, 2025.

Mayor

Clerk

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

15.0

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council proceed In Camera (Closed) session pursuant to section 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended at _____ p.m. in order to address the following:

Item 15.2 Litigation Matter - litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

16.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

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

DATE: MONDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2025

18.1

THE CORPORATION TOWN OF MATTAWA

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR _____

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR _____

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this regular meeting adjourn at _____ p.m.