

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA  
CONSENT AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018**

**A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

- p. 1 1. Correspondence from the Minister of Seniors Affairs dated March 2018, re: Nomination for the 2018 Senior of the Year Award.
- p. 2 2. E-mail from the Ontario Community Environment Fund (MOECC), dated March 19, 2018, re: Funding Available through the Ontario Community Environment Fund to Help Restore and Protect Eligible Watersheds – Applications Due May 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.
- p. 3 3. Correspondence from the City of Barrie dated March 19, 2018, re: Barrie Collingwood Railway (BCRY) – Status of Planning Approvals & Request for Market Assessment Study.
- p. 8 4. E-mail from Nottawasaga Pines High School dated March 27, 2018, re: Community Clean-up by Students.
- p. 9 5. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO):
  - p. 11 a) March 19, 2018 - Speech from the Throne Delivered Today in the Legislature.
  - b) March 27, 2018 - One-Third Tax Free Exemption for Municipal Officials.
- p. 13 6. Letter from Bernie Pitts dated March 26, 2018, re: Next Step Spelling Bee.

**B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION**

None to be presented.

**C – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR REVIEW AND REPORT TO COUNCIL**

None to be presented.

Minister of  
Seniors Affairs

6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
400 University Avenue  
Toronto ON M7A 2R9  
Tel.: (416) 314-9710  
Fax: (416) 325-4787

Ministre des Affaires  
des personnes âgées

6<sup>e</sup> étage  
400, avenue University  
Toronto ON M7A 2R9  
Tél.: (416) 314-9710  
Télééc.: (416) 325-4787



March 2018

Dear Mayor, Reeve and Members of Council:

I am pleased to invite you to submit a nomination for the **2018 Senior of the Year Award**. This annual award was established in 1994 to give each municipality in Ontario the opportunity to **honour one outstanding local senior**; who, after the age of 65, has enriched the social, cultural, or civic life of his or her community. The award pays tribute to this accomplishment, while simultaneously showing how seniors are making a difference in the lives of those around them.

[Click here to submit a nomination.](#)

**Deadline: April 30, 2018**

A certificate will be provided by the Ontario government and include as signatories: Her Honour the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor, myself, Minister of Seniors Affairs, and the local Head of Council.

The Government of Ontario is proud to work with municipalities on this initiative. Seniors have generously offered their time, knowledge and expertise to make this province a great place to live and it is important we recognize their valuable contributions.

If you have questions, please contact the Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat:

Email: [ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca](mailto:ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca)  
Phone: 416-314-7526  
Toll-free: 1-877-832-8622  
TTY: 416-327-2391

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dipika Damerla".

Dipika Damerla  
Minister

**From:** Ontario Community Environment Fund (MOECC) <[OCEF@ontario.ca](mailto:OCEF@ontario.ca)>  
**Sent:** March-19-18 3:53 PM  
**To:** Ontario Community Environment Fund (MOECC) <[OCEF@ontario.ca](mailto:OCEF@ontario.ca)>  
**Subject:** Funding available through the Ontario Community Environment Fund to help restore and protect eligible watersheds – Applications Due May 15

Hi there,

I am inviting you to apply for funding through the Ontario Community Environment Fund (OCEF) to fund projects that restore and protect affected watersheds.

OCEF invests money collected from environmental penalties in projects that restore and protect watersheds where a violation or environmental impact happened. This year, \$133,000 is available across nine watersheds throughout the province.

Since 2010, OCEF has invested close to \$1.5 million in 82 projects that improve local watersheds, help fight climate change and protect the health of Ontario's Great Lakes and inland waters.

Not-for-profit organizations, First Nations and Métis communities, municipalities, schools, colleges, universities and conservation authorities have access to these government grants, for local projects in eligible watersheds.

Applicants can use the funding for land and water-based projects, including community based restoration, research, education or outreach and capacity building.

Past projects have successfully restored riverbanks by planting native trees and plants. They have also helped protect the Great Lakes from invasive species, improved fish and wildlife habitat, improved drinking water for First Nation communities, and helped improve air quality to fight climate change in communities across Ontario.

The deadline to submit an application is **May 15, 2018 at 5:00 PM**. It is expected that applicants will be notified of the result by fall, 2018.

For more information please email [océf@ontario.ca](mailto:océf@ontario.ca) or call me at 416-314-0067.

### **Scotty McCaw**

Project Manager – Ontario Community Environment Fund (OCEF)  
Project Coordinator – Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund (GLGCF)  
Operations Integration Branch, Drinking Water and Environmental Compliance Division  
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change  
135 St. Clair Avenue West  
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5  
[Scotty.mccaw3@ontario.ca](mailto:Scotty.mccaw3@ontario.ca)  
416-314-0067



TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: BARRIE COLLINGWOOD RAILWAY (BCRY) – STATUS OF PLANNING APPROVALS & REQUEST FOR MARKET ASSESSMENT STUDY

WARD: N/A

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: M. BALOGUN, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, X5035

SUBMITTED BY: S.SCHLICHTER, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT,

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Z. LIFSHIZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INVEST BARRIE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That further to motion 17-G-200 approved by Council on September 17, 2017, CANDO Rail Services be authorized to temporarily cease the pursuit of planning approvals with the Township of Essa to bring the Utopia Rail Yard into legal conformance with the Township's Zoning By-law, for the lands located at 8716 Simcoe Road #56 (Concession 6, E Pt Lot 30, 51R-27836, Parts 1 & 2), by re-zoning the property to a 'General Industrial' use that would include a bulk fuel transfer facility under the Township's By-law.
2. That the Director of Business Development and Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet be authorized to sign on behalf of the City of Barrie as a co-owner of the lands, any documents required to revoke the planning application(s) and ancillary document(s) associated with CANDO Rail Services' submission for planning approvals.
3. That the City of Barrie conduct an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study in partnership with the County of Simcoe to assess the future potential of the BCRY given the current infrastructure, industry interests, zoning parameters, and the general macroeconomic environment of short line rail service across Ontario.
4. That the City of Barrie contribute to 50% of the costs of the Economic Feasibility and Impact Study to a maximum of \$25,000 from the Industrial Land Reserve (13-04-0430).
5. That based upon the outcomes of the Economic Feasibility and Impact Study, the City of Barrie be authorized to enter into discussions with the County of Simcoe to determine the County's interest in retaining the jointly owned Utopia Rail Yard and report back to General Committee for the approvals as required.

**PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

6. The purpose of this Staff Report is request authorization to temporarily cease planning applications with the Township of Essa to re-zone the Utopia Rail Yard to a 'general industrial' designation that would include a bulk fuel transfer facility, in order to complete an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study with the County of Simcoe.

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Business Opportunity and Planning Approvals

7. In 2017, CANDO Rail approached City staff on behalf of CANDO Fuels, an affiliated entity, about a business opportunity involving the transfer of fuel (gasoline, diesel, ethanol, biodiesel, and ethanol blended gasoline) at the Utopia Rail Yard from railcar to truck (transloading) using state of the art fuel handling equipment and containment systems, where it would then be delivered to gas stations across the Barrie and Simcoe County area.
8. The business opportunity for a bulk fuel terminal presented the potential to significantly increase rail car volume on the BCRY to 1,000 to 2,500 carloads per year, up from the 200-300 carloads that are currently being moved on the line annually, in addition to service and other capital improvements.
9. The feasibility of pursuing the business opportunity was dependent on obtaining the appropriate planning approvals with the Township of Essa as the Utopia Rail Yard is currently designated as Agricultural according to both the Township of Essa's Official Plan (2001) and Zoning By-Law (2003-50), making the rail yard use legal, but non-conforming.
10. On September 17, 2017, Council adopted motion 17-G-200, which stated:  

"That in order to facilitate new business opportunities for the Barrie Collingwood Railway (BCRY) and to bring the Utopia Rail Yard into legal conformance with the Township of Essa's Zoning Bylaw, CANDO Rail Services (CANDO Rail) be authorized to submit the required planning applications to obtain the necessary approvals for the lands located at 8716 Simcoe Road #56 (Concession 6, E Pt Lot 30, 51R-27836, Parts 1 and 2) to be changed to a 'General Industrial' use that would include a bulk fuel transfer facility under the Township's By-law, and any requests for site specific provisions to the satisfaction of the Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet and Director of Business Development."
11. In the fall of 2017, CANDO submitted the zoning by-law amendment application to the Township of Essa in order to bring the Utopia Yard to legal conformance from an Agricultural zone to a General Industrial site. As well, preliminary documents for the site plan application for the bulk fuel transfer facility were provided to the Township of Essa.
12. On December 20, 2017, the public meeting was held to contemplate the Planning applications for the Utopia Rail Yard. More than 200 Essa residents attended the meeting and the majority were overwhelmingly opposed to a bulk fuel transfer terminal. Given that the re-zoning and site plan application were to be submitted together per the Township's recommended process, public feedback suggested there was no interest in supporting a re-zoning that would permit for the transfer of fuel at the Utopia Rail Yard. Further, Township Staff notified CANDO that in addition to a re-zoning application, an Official Plan Amendment would also be required to facilitate the site plan application for a fuel transfer terminal on the site.
13. As a result of the public meeting and the addition of the Official Plan Amendment requirement for planning approvals for the Utopia Rail Yard, CANDO has determined that given the time sensitivity of their business opportunity, they will not proceed with a site plan application for a fuel transfer terminal and begin searching for another site to fulfil their client's request for a fully functional and community supported bulk fuel transfer facility in Central Ontario.
14. As the contracted operator of the BCRY, CANDO retains a significant interest in the re-zoning of the Utopia Rail Yard in order to facilitate future business opportunities for the line, which could lead to increased car volumes for the line.



Economic Feasibility and Impact Study

- 15. In the fall of 2017, the County of Simcoe officially became the owner of the Town of Collingwood's former interest in the BCRY, which includes a 50% interest in the rail yard and facility in Utopia. The City retains the remaining 50% interest.
- 16. The County is seeking to assess the short and long term benefits and liabilities with retaining its 50% share of ownership of the Utopia Rail Yard. Completing an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study to determine the economic opportunities and viability of the short-line rail operation and yard will assist the County in informing its assessment.
- 17. Staff are seeking to conduct an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study in partnership with the County of Simcoe to determine the economic benefit and potential of retaining the rail line and Utopia Yard. Specifically, the study will assess market potential to attract new business given current infrastructure, industry interests, zoning parameters, and the general macroeconomic environment of short line rail service across Ontario. The Study will determine the economic benefits and liabilities of the BCRY. It will also outline what impacts it will have on businesses if the rail line were to cease operation.
- 18. The County of Simcoe and City of Barrie are proposing to cost share the study to a maximum of \$50,000, in which the County of Simcoe would be responsible for a 50% share of the cost.

ANALYSIS

- 19. A re-zoning and site plan application is still active with the Township of Essa as submitted by CANDO. CANDO will not be pursuing a site plan application for a fuel transfer terminal on the site, given the significant public feedback in opposition to re-zoning the property to a general industrial designation that would include a fuel transfer terminal as a permitted use.
- 20. As owners of the BCRY line, it is in the City of Barrie and County of Simcoe's best interest to conduct an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study to determine what market opportunities could exist to grow traffic on the line and the associated property uses that would be appropriate to facilitate those opportunities before proceeding with the re-zoning application. Some of the background documents prepared as part of the re-zoning application made by CANDO could still be utilized as part of a future application submission.
- 21. Current annual car volumes for the Barrie portion of the BCRY are approximately 200 cars, leaving substantial opportunity to grow the number of carloads on the line. The County of Simcoe and the City of Barrie continue to promote the BCRY in its investment attraction activities and with existing Barrie and County companies along with the rail operator, CANDO.
- 22. The BCRY has been running at a deficit for a number of years. Conducting an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study is a critical component in determining the business case for the rail over the short and long-term and will assist the County in determining their interests in Utopia Rail Yard.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- 23. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

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## ALTERNATIVES

24. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

### Alternative #1

General Committee could choose not to temporarily cease the re-zoning application submitted to the Township of Essa to bring the Utopia Yard to legal conformance.

Staff does not recommend this option as residents of the Township of Essa have expressed their opposition to a re-zoning of the Utopia Yard that would include the use for a bulk fuel terminal facility. While CANDO is no longer pursuing a bulk fuel terminal facility for the property, it would be prudent for the City of Barrie to wait until an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study are completed to ensure that the uses identified in the re-zoning application are aligned with market opportunities to grow the rail business.

### Alternative #2

General Committee could choose not to authorize the Economic Feasibility and Impact Study for the BCRY.

Staff does not recommend this option as the Economic Feasibility and Impact Study will provide a clear picture on the type of business opportunities that are realistic for the BCRY, and whether these options will allow the line to break-even or be profitable. Both the City and the County need to obtain a better understanding of the economic feasibility and long-term viability of the line in order to determine its approach to its current shared ownership for the Utopia Rail Yard and short-line service through Barrie to Innisfil.

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

25. The City will equally share in the costs of the Economic Feasibility and Impact Study with the County of Simcoe. Both the County and City are estimating the total cost of the study to be \$50,000. The City of Barrie would be responsible for 50% of the cost to a maximum of \$25,000.
26. Given that the BCRY is intended to service the industrial sector, Staff are requesting the funds be allocated from the industrial land reserve.

## LINKAGE TO 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN

27. The recommendations included in this Staff Report support the following goal identified in the 2014-2018 Strategic Plan:

Vibrant Business Environment



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- 28. The BCRY has been operating a deficit for a number of years. Conducting an Economic Feasibility and Impact Study is a critical component in determining the business case for the rail over the short and long-term.
  - 29. Temporarily ceasing the re-zoning application will allow the City to complete the impact study and better inform any future applications.



**From:** Cryer, Stephanie <[stcryer@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:stcryer@scdsb.on.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 27, 2018 1:33 PM  
**To:** Terry Dowdall <[tdowdall@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:tdowdall@essatownship.on.ca)>; Laura Wark <[lwark@essa.library.on.ca](mailto:lwark@essa.library.on.ca)>; Glenda Newbatt <[gnewbatt@essa.library.on.ca](mailto:gnewbatt@essa.library.on.ca)>; [keith@angusbordenmusic.ca](mailto:keith@angusbordenmusic.ca); MacKinnon Rory <[Rory.MacKinnon@post.mcdonalds.ca](mailto:Rory.MacKinnon@post.mcdonalds.ca)>; Veronica vanLeeuwen <[veronica5@live.ca](mailto:veronica5@live.ca)>; [leaann@thompsondesignandprint.com](mailto:leaann@thompsondesignandprint.com); [kovatsj@hotmail.com](mailto:kovatsj@hotmail.com); Sandie Macdonald <[smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca)>; Michael Smith <[msmith@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:msmith@essatownship.on.ca)>; Ron Henderson <[rhenderson@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:rhenderson@essatownship.on.ca)>; Colleen Healey <[chealey@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:chealey@essatownship.on.ca)>  
**Cc:** Neale, Trevor <[tneale@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:tneale@scdsb.on.ca)>  
**Subject:** Community Clean-Up

Hi everyone,

My name is Stephanie Cryer, and I am the Leadership teacher at Nottawasaga Pines Secondary School. We are currently organizing a community clean-up with Mr. Trevor Neale's science class. On April 20 at 8:30-9:30am, our students will be volunteering to pick up garbage in the local area. We are currently looking for community partners who would be willing to work with us, to show that we're all active participants taking responsibility for our environment.

If you would like to join us, please let me know.

Thank you,  
 Stephanie Cryer

Leadership Teacher & Librarian  
 Nottawasaga Pines Secondary School  
 705-424-5030  
[stcryer@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:stcryer@scdsb.on.ca)

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**From:** AMO Communications <[communicate@amo.on.ca](mailto:communicate@amo.on.ca)>  
**Sent:** March-19-18 3:05 PM  
**To:** Greg Murphy <[gmurphy@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:gmurphy@essatownship.on.ca)>  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Speech from the Throne Delivered Today in the Legislature

March 19, 2018

## **Speech from the Throne Delivered Today in the Legislature**

Ontario Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell delivered the Speech from the Throne laying out the government's future priorities.

Government priorities of importance to municipal governments are:

- Continuing to make significant capital investments across Ontario in public infrastructure – roads, bridges, transit systems, schools, and hospitals.
- Focusing on areas that are struggling to achieve economic growth by investing in workers and businesses and support for regional, rural, and remote economies.
- Reinforcing the importance of addressing climate change.
- Continuing its plan for 100,000 child care spaces.
- Maintaining commitment of 5,000 new beds in the next four years as part of a 10-year plan to create 30,000 new long-term care beds and, by 2022, LTC residents will have access to 15 million more hours of care from health care professions.

Other items of community interest include:

- Expanding home care to provide more services for seniors at home, and to provide financial relief for families who are caring for aging seniors.
- Making investments in mental health and addictions services.
- Ensuring more people without a drug and dental benefits plan will have access to more affordable prescription drugs and dental care.

AMO will be in the March 28<sup>th</sup> Budget lock-up. Watch that evening for our briefing and analysis.

**AMO Contact:** Monika Turner, AMO Director of Policy, [mturner@amo.on.ca](mailto:mturner@amo.on.ca), (416) 971-9856 ext. 318.

A5a

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**From:** AMO Communications [<mailto:communicate@amo.on.ca>]  
**Sent:** March-27-18 4:34 PM  
**To:** Lisa Lehr  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - One-Third Tax Free Exemption for Municipal Officials

March 27, 2018

## **One-Third Tax Free Exemption for Municipal Officials**

In March 2017, the federal budget announced the government's intention to eliminate the one-third tax free exemption for municipal elected officials beginning in 2019. The 2018 federal budget delivered last month did not signal any change from that plan.

AMO's Board of Directors passed a resolution last June seeking the involvement of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) on this matter. FCM has advised they have been raising this issue with federal officials over the past months but again, there have been no signs to suggest a change of plan for 2019.

While 2019 is nine months away, a municipal government may want to begin considering what course of action to take or at least to note it as a matter for the incoming council after the fall's municipal election.

AMO would also like to thank the 144 municipal treasurers who took part in our salary survey. Over 90% of survey respondents indicated their municipality uses the exemption. This information was provided to FCM in support of their advocacy efforts.

Here are some examples from the survey which illustrate the impact of this change in 2019:

- The cost increase for a central Ontario municipality with a council of nine and a population of 30,000 will be at least \$28,000.
- The cost increase for an eastern Ontario county council of seventeen and a population of 77,000 will be at least \$74,000.
- The cost increase for a southwestern Ontario municipality with a council of seven and a population of 24,000 will be at least \$14,000.

For almost half of Ontario's municipal governments, a one per cent property tax increase raises only \$50,000.

Also available for member municipal governments is 2017 survey results on council salaries. Use your AMO login to access the salary survey information available on the Dashboard. If you have forgotten your login details, please email [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca).

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**From:** bernie pitts  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2018 9:44 AM  
**To:** Keith White  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Next Step Spelling Bee

Hi Keith,

Hope all is well. It looks like we are in the last gasps of Winter, which means driving season is just around the corner. Can't wait! The reason for this email is to extend an invitation to you and your colleagues at the Township to our 9th annual spelling bee. You can enter a team of three and participate in the Bee, or you can just come out for a nice prime rib dinner and network with many of your counterparts from the New Tecumseth township staff and local business owners.

Shira wanted me to pass on our appreciation for the continuing support from Essa Township. There would be no cost for you and any of you colleagues from the township for the dinner, and the team fees would be covered by a corporate sponsor if you decide to put a team in. If you know of any local businesses or individuals that would like to participate, just give me a call and I can provided more details. In a nutshell, we offer corporate sponsorships ranging from 5000 down to 300 to enter a team, 150 for a private team of three, and 50 for individual tickets, which just covers the cost of the meal. There will also be a silent auction and prizes for best team costumes, esprit de corps, etc.

The spelling bee will be held at The Club at Bond Head on 7 Apr from 5 - 9 pm. By all accounts, it is a very enjoyable evening with fabulous food, interesting people and lots of laughs.

I realize this is short notice, but if you could let me know if there is any interest on your end, I can get tickets to you and make any other required arrangements. Just give me a call if you have any questions Keith.

Thanks,

Bernie