

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2024**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Essa Public Library May 2024 Report.
- p. 3 2. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter.
- p. 9 3. Correspondence from the Municipality of Tweed dated April 23, 2024, re: O.P.P. funding and sustainable funding for small rural Municipalities.
- p. 10 4. Correspondence from Rachael Tracey dated June 25, 2024, re: Resignation from the Essa Public Library Board.
- p. 12 5. Presentation from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, re: Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund.
- p. 43 6. Release from the County of Simcoe dated June 24, 2024, re: LINX Transit Extends Service in Bradford West Gwillimbury with Route 5 Expansion.
- p. 44 7. Release from the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility dated June 26, 2024, re: Funding helping connect older adults to programs that help them stay active and socially connected.

B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

None.

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

None.



May 2024 Report
Prepared by: Emily Nakeff

“ I've been to a lot of libraries over my life and this one is the best.”
- Patron comment

Membership

Angus (New)	85
Thornton (New)	5
<hr/>	
Apr 2023 comparison:	45
Year-to-date total	464
Total Active Cards	3,324

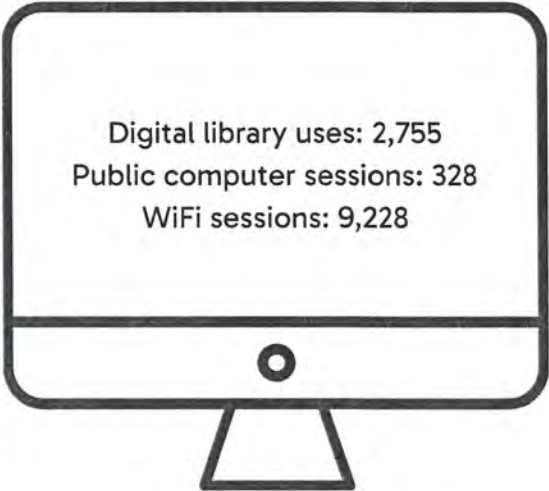
MATERIALS CIRCULATED	
ANGUS	THORNTON
8,653	1,247
46,734 TOTAL IN 2024	

MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE	
ANGUS	THORNTON
492	85
2,900 TOTAL IN 2024	

INTERLIBRARY LOANS	
61	Items borrowed from other libraries
42	Items sent to other libraries



Families enjoyed an outdoor Smile Cookie themed storytime event in Thornton.



A PLACE TO IMAGINE, DISCOVER AND CONNECT

Essa Public Library hosted a total of 69 programs in May for children, teens, adults, and seniors.

KIDS

Wiggles & Giggles - AN	100
Parachute Play	97
Songs and Stories - AN	62
Smile Cookie Storytime - TH	27
Wild Robot Escape Room - AN	8
Growing Together - AN	17
Outdoor Storytime - TH	35
Park Storytime - AN	73
Search & Find: Birds and Blooms -AN	21
Search & Find: Let's Find Leafy - AN	24
Family Movie - AN	14
Family Play Zone - AN	22

TEENS

Teen Social - AN	14
Garden Helpers - AN	9

ADULTS

Cercle de Conversation	21
Book Club - AN	8
Book Club - TH	7
Writers Group - AN	2
Hobby Circle - AN	13
Movie Night for Adults - AN	5
Running Clinic - AN	36

SENIORS

Seniors Social - AN	30
Seniors Social - TH	32
cloudLibrary Workshop - AN	7

MEDIA

BARRIETODAY.com

News More Obituaries Shop Flyers Classifieds Jobs Connect Events

HOME LOCAL NEWS

Innisfil, Essa libraries split \$15K in Smile Cookie proceeds

Essa Public Library CEO 'absolutely thrilled' with donation

BarrieToday Staff
May 24, 2024 12:00 PM



1/2 Tim Hortons store manager Darren Boyle, Essa Public Library CEO Laura Wark and Holly Elliott, co-ordinator of family engagement, are shown. Photo supplied by the Innisfil IdeaLab & Library

BRADFORDTODAY.ca

News More Obituaries Shop Flyers Classifieds Connect Events

'Bit of everything': Interest in seed libraries still growing

This month, Essa Public Library received media attention for a **\$7,804.46** donation to the Thornton Branch from the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign and the popular Seed Library, available free to patrons.



**Nottawasaga Futures is a community
economic development agency serving the
South Simcoe Area.**



New Contact Number Announcement

Please take note of our new phone
and fax numbers:

Phone 705-502-0311

Fax 705-502-0313

Make it happen with Nottawasaga Futures

Have an idea? Need funding?

We custom design our loan products for your business.

Flexible terms with approvals made by real people.
Contact us today to find out how we can help!

ced@nottawasaga.com

When your business succeeds, so do we!

 nottawasaga.com



Nottawasaga Futures



Nottawasaga Futures provides tailored loan products to meet your unique needs.

Whether you're looking to upgrade equipment, expand your business, or launch a startup, we can design the ideal loan for you.

Contact us at ced@nottawasaga.com.



Nottawasaga Futures is proud to shine a spotlight on MonX Design, a pioneering startup located in Bradford West Gwillimbury, Ontario, that is revolutionizing the housing landscape with its innovative approach to tiny house architecture. Founded and led by Brandon Mills, MonX Design is making waves by combining sustainable living principles with practical design solutions, offering customizable tiny homes that cater to a multitude of lifestyles and needs.

Click to view the complete article <https://cfwesternontario.ca/monx-design-spotlighting-innovation-in-simcoe-county/>



Hire for Talent: Mental Health in the Workplace

**A Survey on the Experiences
of Small and Medium-Sized
Enterprises (SMEs) in Rural
and Remote Canada**

Join our Hire 4 Talent Employer Research Program Survey

Supported by the Government of Canada's Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities, this initiative aims to gather insights from employers to advance inclusive employment practices across Canada. We believe your perspective would be invaluable. Participation comes with compensation and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Your involvement would greatly contribute to our mission of promoting inclusive hiring practices.

Two Employer Experience Surveys will take place September 2024 and January 2025

We are seeking 10 employers to complete three separate Employer Experience Surveys.

- Each participating employer will receive a \$250 honorarium per survey completed.
- Surveys will take approximately 15-20 minutes and will collect essential information on your business and experiences with disability hiring.
- Responsibilities include distributing the survey via email and ensuring completion by the specified deadline.

Please email ced@nottawasaga.com if you would like to participate



Twelfth Annual NEWCOMER RECOGNITION *awards*

Award Criteria

The Newcomer Recognition Awards celebrates the contributions of immigrants living in Simcoe County and the businesses, organizations, and groups supporting enhanced opportunities for a growing and changing demography.

Individual Awards

Immigrant Mentor

An immigrant who has invested time and energy to support positive experiences for other immigrants in Simcoe County.

Examples: leadership in an ethnocultural group, using social media to connect local immigrants, organizing social activities.

Inclusive Housing Practices

A property owner who demonstrates a commitment to providing safe and affordable housing for newcomers in Simcoe County.

Examples: Promoting available units through ethnocultural groups, adjusting rental application requirements for equitable access, and providing neighbourhood information to foster a sense of belonging.

Service Excellence

A representative of a funded immigrant service delivery organization that exceeds their employment responsibilities to enhance client outcomes and opportunities.

Examples: Responding to community crisis situations, developing an innovative service delivery plan, and maximizing resources to create new immigrant programming.

Small Business Owner

An immigrant who has achieved success in the development/operation of a new (less than five years) business or entrepreneurial venture in Simcoe County. **Examples:** innovative business model or programming, transfer of global experience to a Canadian venture, contribution to the economic development of Simcoe County.

Teaching Excellence

A Simcoe County educator who consistently incorporates multiculturalism in one or more of the following:

- planning and/or policy development
- curriculum
- community relations
- school culture

Examples: providing a welcoming environment, celebrating diverse cultures, and connecting with newcomer families.

Youth Community Champion

A youth 25 years of age or younger who strengthens community awareness about, and advocates for, newcomer equity and the celebration of cultural diversity in Simcoe County. **Examples:** Organizing cultural events, volunteering with newcomers, or participating on a local committee to improve outcomes for immigrant residents.

announced that the 2024 Newcomer Recognition Awards nominations are now officially open! [Please visit their website](#) to access the online form and to learn more about the 13 award categories.

The submission deadline is September 20, 2024.



5560 Thank Yous!

South Simcoe Streams Network would like to send out a HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who joined us for our Spring Tree Planting Events. Together, 5560 native trees & shrubs were planted at 13 sites along our streams in South Simcoe. 627 community, corporate, and student volunteers contributed 1990 hours during 16 events!

We could not have done all this fantastic work without your contributions.

We would also like to thank the following for all their support; County of Simcoe Tree Program, Dufferin-Simcoe Land Stewardship Network, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Township of Essa, Town of New Tecumseth, Alliston Trillium Ford Lincoln, F&P Manufacturing, Nottawasaga Steelheaders, Somerville Nurseries Inc, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Bradford Home Depot, Angus No Frills, and all the Private Landowners.

Summer event announcements are coming soon!

Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting



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

Moved by P. Valiquette
Seconded by J. Palmateer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sarah Corbett

Subject: Resignation - EPL and OLS Representative

From: Laura Wark <Laura@EssaLibrary.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:22 PM
To: Sarah Corbett <scorbett@essatownship.on.ca>
Cc: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: Fw: Resignation - EPL and OLS Representative

Updated effective date of resignation.

With thanks,
Laura

L. Wark, CEO
Essa Public Library
705-424-6531 ext. 201 | essalibrary.ca
8505 County Road 10, Unit #1 | Angus, ON
L3W 0A7

From: Rachael Tracey
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2024 1:26 PM
To: Laura Wark <Laura@EssaLibrary.ca>; Glenda Newbatt <Glenda@EssaLibrary.ca>
Subject: Re: Resignation - EPL and OLS Representative

Thank you. On further reflection, I believe I need to change the effective date to 15 July.

This way I am still guaranteed to be a resident of Essa. After this date, I will be moving and am not sure of my change of address date. I don't want to break any rules.

Rachael Tracey, CD

Service above Self / Servir d'abord

Positive Space Ambassador | Ambassadrice de l'Espace positif

From: Rachael Tracey
Sent: June 20, 2024 10:01
To: Laura Wark <lwark@essa.library.on.ca>; Judith Hunter
Cc: Glenda Newbatt <gnewbatt@essa.library.on.ca>
Subject: Resignation - EPL and OLS Representative

A4

Good morning everyone,

Regretfully, I must resign from the Essa Public Library Board.

This is due to accepting a Public Service posting to CFB Trenton with a start date at the end of July. I am just waiting on the official offer, but I wanted to advise you of this change so there is time for a new member to be selected over the summer. The effective date of my resignation will be 31 July 2024.

To say it has been an absolute honour and privilege to get to know all of you and work alongside you, would be an understatement. Being a member of the EPL Board helped centre me and allow me to give back to my community and to an organization that is doing incredible things for the betterment of the community it serves.

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to serve my community and meet you all. I look forward to spending one last Board meeting with you on Monday.

If the position falls through, could I re-apply?

Sincerely,

Rachael Tracey, CD

Service above Self / Servir d'abord

Positive Space Ambassador | Ambassadrice de l'Espace positif

[EXTERNAL]

Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund

Similarities and changes, overview of the MFA, and next steps
June 2024

Summary of similarities and changes

Little has changed



Similarities

Most things are unchanged:

- **Allocations**
Will follow the existing model.
- **Eligibility**
Eligibility criteria are unchanged.
- **Funds**
Terms regarding the use, transfer, and retention of funds are unchanged.
- **Insurance and indemnification**
- **Asset management**
Will continue to guide CCBF investment.
- **Records and audit approach**
A risk-based audit will continue to be used.
- **Communications**
Will continue to be a focus for the federal government.
- **Default and termination**

Changes

Some changes have been made:

- **Resilience**
The disaster mitigation category is now the resilience category.
- **Staff costs**
Are now eligible – with limitations – under the capacity-building category only.
- **Equity**
Municipalities are expected to consider GBA+ lenses when undertaking projects.
- **Record retention**
Municipalities must retain records for at least six years.

Changes

New requirements related to housing have been introduced:

- **Housing needs assessments (HNAs)**
Are required for single- and lower-tier municipalities with a 2021 census population of 30,000 or more by March 31, 2025 (and are encouraged for other municipalities with housing pressures).
- **Housing outcomes resulting from CCBF investment**
Will need to be reported for each project that ended construction in the reporting year.
- **Some related costs are eligible for CCBF funding**
HNAs and studies, strategies, or systems related to housing or land use are eligible under the capacity-building category.

Changes

We've streamlined some reporting requirements and clarified others:

- **Incrementality**

CCBF funds are still expected to complement existing funding for municipal infrastructure – but you are no longer required to monitor a “base amount” or the incremental use of funds.

- **Insurance**

Insurance is still required – but you are not longer required to submit a Certificate of Insurance each year.

- **Wording**

We revised the wording – but not the content – of many sections to clarify requirements.

AS

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Overview of the Municipal Funding Agreement (MFA)

Key terms and conditions

Allocations

Funds will be:

- **Distributed on a per-capita basis**

In accordance with census population counts.

- **Split 50/50 in two-tier systems**

Though municipalities can optionally transfer funds to their upper- or lower-tiers by by-law.

- **Transferred in two installments**

Typically in July/August and November ([s. 5.5](#)).

See www.buildingcommunities.ca for your community's allocation.

Allocations

Deposit funds in either:

- **An interest-bearing account**

As soon as practical to maximize interest earnings ([s. 5.6](#)).

- **A permitted investment**

In accordance with your investment policy and provincial legislation and regulation ([s. 5.6](#)).

Allocations

Interest earnings and investment gains:

- **Are CCBF funds themselves**

And must therefore be treated as such ([s. 5.7](#)).

- **Must be reported to AMO each year**

As part of your annual report ([Schedule D](#)).

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Allocations

Funds can be:

- **Banked**

For a maximum of five years – earning interest and saving up for larger projects ([s. 5.8](#)).

- **Transferred**

To another municipality or organization by by-law – to support investments in joint projects and shift funds from one tier to another ([ss. 5.3 and 5.4](#)).

- **Invested in eligible projects**

To build, enhance, or renew local infrastructure, remediate brownfields, or build capacity for long-term planning ([s. 5.1](#)).

Eligible projects

Funds can be invested across 18 categories of projects ([s. 3](#) and [Schedule A](#)).



Broadband connectivity



Brownfield redevelopment



Capacity-building



Community energy systems



Cultural infrastructure



Drinking water



Fire halls



Local roads and bridges



Public transit



Recreational infrastructure



Regional and local airports



Resilience



Short-line rail



Short-sea shipping



Solid waste



Sport infrastructure



Tourism infrastructure



Wastewater

23

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Eligible projects

Some infrastructure is explicitly ineligible ([Schedule A](#)).



Health infrastructure and assets

Hospitals, long-term care facilities, convalescent centres, senior centres, ambulances, etc.



Professional sports facilities

Arenas, stadiums, and other facilities used by professional and semi-professional teams

Eligible projects

Prioritize projects that:

- **Support growth in the housing supply where it makes sense to do so**
In accordance with your housing needs assessment ([s. 8.3](#)).
- **Address infrastructure needs in your community**
In accordance with your asset management plan ([s. 7.1](#)).

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Eligible projects

Keep these items in mind as you select projects:

- **Complementarity**

CCBF funds should complement – without replacing or displacing – other sources of funding for municipal infrastructure ([s. 16.10](#)).

- **Stacking**

There are no stacking limits on the CCBF – but CCBF funds are considered to be federal funds when combined with other federal funding programs ([s. 5.12](#)). Stacking limits associated with those programs apply ([s. 5.13](#)).

Eligible expenditures

Limit CCBF funding to eligible expenditures ([Schedule B](#)):

- **Infrastructure investments**

Costs associated with acquiring, planning, designing, constructing, or renovating a tangible capital asset and related debt financing charges.

- **Capacity-building costs**

For projects eligible under the capacity-building category (as described on the next slide).

- **Joint communications and signage costs**

For joint communications activities and federal infrastructure signage.

- **Employee costs**

As described on a subsequent slide.

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A5

Eligible expenditures

Costs eligible under the capacity-building category are listed in [Schedule B](#).

- **Long-term plans**

Capital investment plans, integrated community sustainability plans, integrated regional plans, housing needs assessments, and asset management plans.

- **Asset management**

Studies, strategies, systems, software, third-party assessments, plans, or training.

- **Housing and land use**

Studies, strategies, systems, or plans.

- **Long-term infrastructure management**

Studies, strategies, or plans.

- **Related initiatives**

Provided that they strengthen your ability to improve local or regional planning.

Eligible expenditures

Some employee costs are now eligible under [s. 4 of Schedule B](#) – but only:

- **Under the capacity-building category**
e.g., to hire staff to improve asset management systems.
- **To a maximum of 40% of your annual allocation or \$80,000 (whichever is less)**
These thresholds will be reviewed on a regular basis.

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Eligible expenditures

Some expenditures are explicitly ineligible ([Schedule C](#))

- **Routine repair and maintenance costs**
i.e., operating costs and costs that do not result in the construction, material enhancement, or renewal of infrastructure
- **Internal costs**
e.g., overhead, operating, and administrative costs
- **Land costs**
e.g., land acquisition or expropriation costs
- **Rebated costs**
e.g., rebated HST
- **Costs incurred before they were eligible**
i.e., costs incurred before the creation of the Fund in 2005 and costs incurred before categories were added in 2014 and 2021
- **Investments in health infrastructure**
As mentioned on a prior slide
- **Investments in professional and semi-professional sports facilities**
As mentioned on a prior slide
- **Legal fees**

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Reporting requirements

Submit an annual report by April 30th ([s. 6](#) and [Schedule D](#)). Include:

- **Financial information**

Namely interest earnings, disposals, transfers, and expenditures.

- **Project information**

Describing each project that started, ended, or was ongoing in the year.

- **Results**

Outputs and outcomes – including those relating to the housing supply – for each project.

- **Other information**

Such as progress made in the implementation of asset management.

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Reporting requirements

Report projects before construction begins ([s. 6](#) and [s. 2 of Schedule E](#)). Include:

- **Basic information**

Namely the title, category, and description (i.e., scope of work and objectives).

- **Expected timelines**

Particularly the anticipated start and end dates.

- **Expected CCBF funding**

i.e., the amount of CCBF funds allocated to the project.

- **Expected outcomes**

i.e., the outputs and outcomes that are expected to result from the project.

Asset management

Continue to develop and implement your asset management systems by:

- **Meeting provincial targets**

e.g., as set out in O. Reg. 588/17 (s. 7.1).

- **Improving asset data**

Particularly data describing asset conditions, costs, levels of service, and risks (s. 7.2).

Housing needs assessments

Complete a housing needs assessment if your community (s. 8.1):

- **Is a single- or lower-tier municipality; and**
Upper-tier municipalities are exempt.
- **Had a population of 30,000 or more on the 2021 census.**
Smaller municipalities are exempt.

Other municipalities are also encouraged to complete a housing needs assessment – particularly if they have housing pressures that can be alleviated through infrastructure investment.

Housing needs assessments

Housing needs assessments must be:

- **Prepared in accordance with Canada's guidance**
Guidance is forthcoming ([s. 8.2](#)).
- **Used to prioritize CCBF investments**
As described on a prior slide ([s. 8.3](#)).
- **Published on your municipality's website**
And publicly accessible ([s. 8.4](#)).
- **Submitted to AMO by March 31st, 2025**
Along with the URL to the document on your website ([s. 8.5](#)).

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Reinvestment requirements

Reinvest revenues generated from the disposal of CCBF-funded assets.

- **Report the sale, lease, encumbrance, or disposal of CCBF-funded assets**

Email us if you sell, lease, or dispose of an asset within five years of the date of completion of the corresponding project ([s. 12](#)).

- **Report revenues generated**

With your annual report ([Schedule D](#)).

- **Reinvest revenues in eligible projects**

These revenues are considered to be CCBF funds and must be treated accordingly ([s. 12](#)).

Communications

We will hold a separate webinar on this – but in short:

- **Report projects in advance of construction**
To help us plan communications activities ([s. 2 of Schedule E](#)).
- **Install federal infrastructure signage**
In accordance with [federal guidelines](#) ([s. 3 of Schedule E](#)).
- **Alert us before holding media events or announcements**
We require at least 15 business days' notice ([s. 5 of Schedule E](#)).
- **Acknowledge federal funding**
When promoting or communicating progress on CCBF projects ([ss. 4 and 7 of Schedule E](#)).
- **Work with us**
If we reach out to promote CCBF investments in your community ([s. 8 of Schedule E](#)).

Annual timeline

Projects can be reported or updated at any time – but key dates are:

- **April 30th**

Annual reports are due ([s. 6.1](#)).

- **Before the construction season begins**

Report ongoing and upcoming CCBF projects ([s. 6.2](#) and [s. 2.1 of Schedule E](#)).

- **July/August**

We expect to transfer the first half of your annual allocation ([s. 5.5](#)).

- **November**

We expect to transfer the second half of your annual allocation ([s. 5.5](#)).

Next steps

Implementation of the MFA and additional training



Next steps

As soon as possible:

1. **Pass a municipal by-law authorizing the MFA.**
Your municipality may decide what form this takes.
2. **Have appropriate officers sign the MFA.**
In accordance with your by-laws and policies.
3. **Submit the signed MFA and by-law to ccbf@amo.on.ca.**
We cannot distribute funds to your community until this step is complete.

Next steps

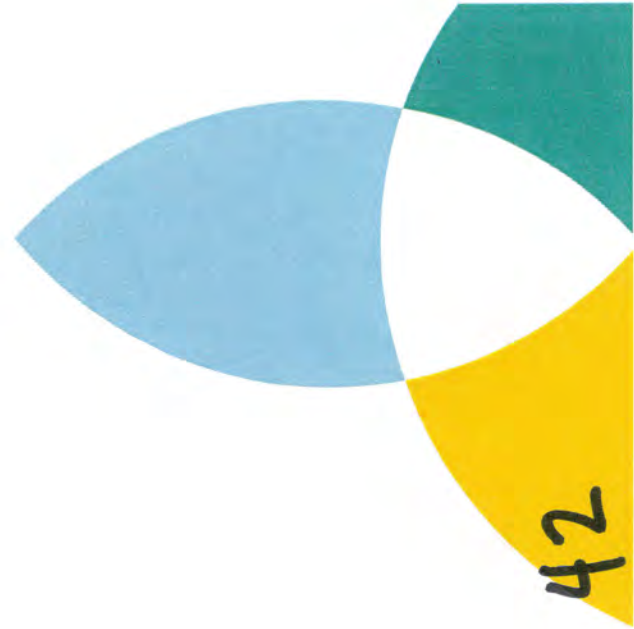
Look for forthcoming sessions on:

- **Housing needs assessments**

We expect the Government of Canada to hold sessions in July.

- **Communications requirements**

We will hold a separate webinar for communications staff this summer.

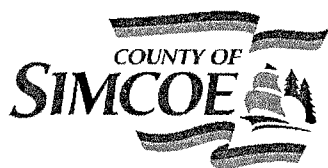


Questions?

ccbf@amo.on.ca

<https://ccbf.amo.on.ca>

<https://www.buildingcommunities.ca>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LINX Transit extends service in Bradford West Gwillimbury with Route 5 expansion

Midhurst/June 24, 2024 – The County of Simcoe's LINX Transit service is expanding its presence in Bradford West Gwillimbury by adding stop extensions to Route 5 with service scheduled to begin on July 2, 2024. This expansion will help make daily commutes smoother and more convenient for those travelling in the area.

With the expansion of Route 5, there will be 13 brand-new bus stops placed along Holland Street in BWG. These stops have been strategically placed to better serve residents, whether they're heading to work, school, or out for leisure activities.

Route 5 is a vital path for residents, as it also acts as a gateway to essential connections. By riding along Route 5, you can reach the Bradford Go station hassle-free, you can access the New Tecumseth Rec Centre and BWG Leisure Centre effortlessly, and you can seamlessly transfer between LINX and BWG Transit services. Whether it's groceries, shopping or dining, Route 5 provides access to the heart of the town centres of Alliston, Beeton, and Bradford.

LINX Transit continues to be committed to affordability. With fares ranging from \$2 to \$4 per ride, it's a budget-friendly way to travel. Plus, residents can count on LINX for reliable service throughout the year, regardless of weather conditions. The buses run hourly with the first trips starting at 5:20 a.m. and last departing at 5:20 p.m.

Download the [Transit App](#) to track your next bus in real time. For more information on LINX and LINX Plus Transit services, please visit linx.simcoe.ca.

LINX Transit is not only a cost-effective and convenient way to travel, but it also contributes to a more sustainable environment by reducing the number of vehicles on the road. By choosing LINX Transit, you're positively impacting Simcoe County. Enjoy your ride!

The County of Simcoe is composed of 16 member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

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Brandon Maron
Public Relations Consultant
County of Simcoe, Services Simcoe Branch
705-903-7882 (mobile)
brandon.maron@simcoe.ca

Collin Matanowitsch
Manager, Public Relations
County of Simcoe, Service Simcoe Branch
705-734-8386 (mobile)
Collin.Matanowitsch@simcoe.ca

Sarah Corbett

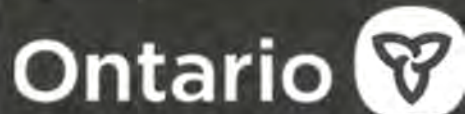
Subject: Ontario Celebrates Seniors Community Grants Recipients

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2024 2:02:40 PM

To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: Ontario Celebrates Seniors Community Grants Recipients



NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Celebrates Seniors Community Grants Recipients

Funding helping connect older adults to programs that help them stay active and socially connected

June 26, 2024

[Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing up to \$6 million through the Seniors Community Grant Program to support 282 community projects that help seniors and older adults stay fit, active, healthy and socially connected, close to home.

"The Seniors Community Grants Program is a great example of how our government is working for local communities," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "We are pleased to provide funding for so many programs that bring older people together to avoid being socially isolated, learn new skills, get fit, enjoy group activities and stay connected to their neighbours and friends."

Up to \$25,000 per project is invested in local programs, services and events to provide seniors with opportunities for greater social inclusion, volunteerism and community engagement. The Seniors Community Grants Program is a unique Ontario government grant designed to reduce social isolation, fight ageism and create positive connections.

Examples of innovative Seniors Community Grants projects receiving funding this year include:

- Art Therapy workshops to 500 older adults and seniors living in Markham and across York Region
- Educational workshops on topics such as cyber safety, nutrition, mental health and introductions to various new sports and fitness activities in Port Hope
- Weekly opportunities for approximately 45 older adults to connect with high-school aged students in a musical and social setting in Waterloo



- Developing volunteerism opportunities, creating and delivering seniors' social and educational programming in Picton
- Providing new opportunities for older newcomer adults to stay active and connected in their communities in Sault Ste. Marie

This announcement comes as Ontario marks [Seniors Month](#), a time to celebrate the accomplishments of seniors in the province. Earlier this month, Ontario announced annualized funding for over 300 [Seniors Active Living Centres](#) that connect seniors to activities, programs and services in their communities.

Over 100 Seniors Active Living Fairs are also expected to take place in 2024-25 which will provide more opportunities for seniors to learn about supports and programs in their community. Last year, over 100 in-person, virtual and northern fairs were held throughout the province. To find a fair near you, visit [this link](#).

Quick Facts

- See the full list of [2024-25 Seniors Community Grants](#).
- Since 2018, Ontario has invested in over 1700 Seniors Community Grants.
- See the full list of [Seniors Active Living Centres](#).
- The number of seniors aged 65 and over is projected to increase significantly, from 2.8 million or 18.4 per cent of population in 2022, to 4.4 million, or 20.3 per cent by 2046.

Additional Resources

- [A Guide to Programs and Services for Seniors](#)

Media Contacts

Wallace Pidgeon

Minister's Office

Wallace.Pidgeon@ontario.ca

Media Desk

Communications Branch

Msa Media@ontario.ca