

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Correspondence from the Essa Public Library:
 - p. 4 a. Summer 2025 – Report.
 - p. 5 b. May 2025 – Manager’s Report.
 - p. 7 c. June 2025 – CEO Report.
 - d. June 2025 – Manager’s Report.
- p. 8 2. Correspondence from the Town of Shelburne, dated September 23, 2025,
 re: Automated Speed Enforcement.
- p. 10 3. Correspondence from the Town of Midland, dated September 25, 2025,
 re: Opposing the Elimination of Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras.
- p. 12 4. Correspondence from the Office of the Solicitor General, dated September 26,
 2025, re: OPP Cost Recovery Model.
- p. 14 5. Correspondence from the Simcoe County District School Board, dated September
 30, 2025, re: 2025 – 2026 Capital Priorities Program.
- p. 30 6. Correspondence from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, dated
 October 1, 2025, re: Draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget Booklet.
- p. 59 7. Correspondence from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit:
 - p. 61 a. October 1, 2025: Introduction of Dr. Lisa Simon, Medical Officer of Health and
 Chief Executive Officer.
 - p. 61 b. October 8, 2025: Introduction of Dr. Michelle Quaye, Public Health Physician.
- p. 62 8. Correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, dated October 8,
 2025, re: Amending Ontario Regulation 391/21.
- p.64 9. Correspondence from the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, dated October 14,
 2025, re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF).
- p. 68 10. Correspondence from County of Simcoe:
 - p. 70 a. October 8, 2025 – Release – 2025 Age Friendly Recognition Awards
 Celebrates Community Champions.
 - p. 71 b. October 8, 2025 – Release – County Urges Drivers to Follow Ontario’s Move
 Over Law.
 - p. 71 c. October 15, 2025 – Release – County of Simcoe Wraps Up Hospice
 Investment.
 - p. 73 d. October 20, 2025 – Release – County and Partners Work Together to Prepare
 for Emergencies Across the Region.

- p. 75 e. October 21, 2025 – Release – Warden Proclaims 25th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day.
- p. 76 f. October 27, 2025 – Release – New Pickleball Court Coming to Georgian Village.
- p. 77 11. Correspondence from AMO:
a. September 18, 2025 – AMO Policy Update – Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation.
- p. 80 b. October 17, 2025 – AMO President's Update – September 2025
- p. 82 c. October 21, 2025 – AMO Policy Update – Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts.
- p. 86 d. October 28, 2025 – AMO Policy Update – Bill 60, Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025.
- p. 90 e. October 29, 2025 – AMO Policy Update – Speed Camera Legislation, First – Time Homebuyer HST Relief, AMO's Homelessness Research Update & Energy Advocacy.
- p. 94 12. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter – October 16, 2025.
- p. 111 13. Correspondence from the Town of Ajax, dated October 22, 2025, re: Provincial Decision on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE).
- p. 114 14. Correspondence from the Corporation of The Municipality Of South Huron, dated October 23, 2025, re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund.
- p. 116 15. Correspondence from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority , October 2025 Board Meeting Highlights.
- p. 117 16. Correspondence from The Corporation of the City of Cambridge, dated October 30, 2025, re: Rent Protection for Tenants.

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.



**Essa
Public
Library**

SUMMER 2025 Report

Prepared by: Emily Nakeff



Public Engagement Representative, Christine, checking in returns on one of the many days our drop-box was nearly full.

“ I love our library and all the staff. You make being a senior fun.

- Facebook comment

“ I love it here. It’s my favourite library.

- Angus adult patron

PHYSICAL MATERIALS CIRCULATED

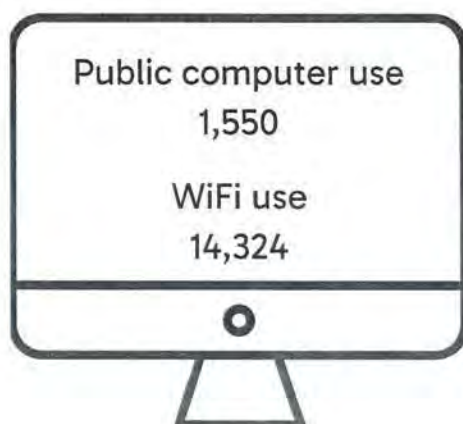
ANGUS	THORNTON
25,444	4,076
76,795 TOTAL IN 2025	

DIGITAL CIRCULATION

E-BOOKS	E-AUDIOBOOKS
1,675	969
8,303 TOTAL IN 2025	

MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE

ANGUS	THORNTON
1,284	250
3,868 TOTAL IN 2025	



Public computer use
1,550

WiFi use
14,324

New Members

Angus	265
Thornton	24
Year-to-date total	289

A place to imagine, discover, and connect.

8,729 DIGITAL LIBRARY USES

cloudLibrary



Press Reader



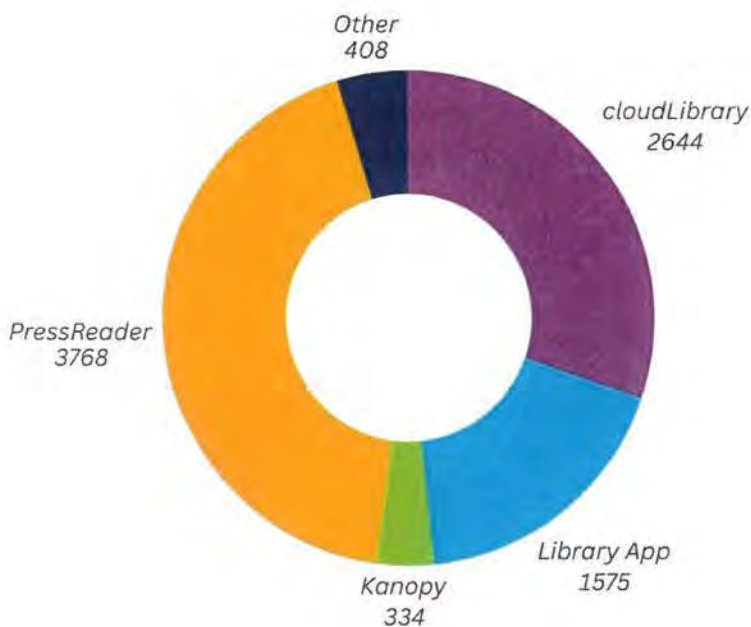
Library App



Kanopy



Other Resources



KIDS PROGRAMS

Explorers Club	95
Wiggles & Giggles - AN	63
Indigenous Storytime	12
Ready, Set, School! - AN	62
Discovery Club - AN	97
Storytime - TH	87
Storytime in the Park - AN	107
Spanish Storytime (July)	13
Family Play Zone - AN	86
Stay & Play - TH	17
Search & Find (Birds & Blooms)	82
Search & Find - Leafy (AN + TH)	596
Art Contest (AN + TH)	105
Summer Fun Kickoff	113
Summer Reading - School Visits	2,017
Canada Day at the Park	250
Family Fun Night - AN	570
Barrie Fair	124

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Garden Volunteers - AN	47
Teen Family Fun Night Volunteers	19
Teen Volunteers	13
This or That - AN	19
Tween Painting Workshop - AN	9

“Can we please come here every day?
- New child patron in Angus

ADULT PROGRAMS

Cercle de Conversation	47
Hobby Circle - AN	25
Writers Group - AN	14
Book Clubs (AN + TH)	29
Movie Night	6

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Chair Yoga	311
Sketching Class - AN	23
Sweetgrass Medicine Mist Infusion - AN	13
Paper Craft	14
Wood Craft	17

YouTube - Total Subscribers	983
YouTube - Views	1,947
Facebook - Total Followers	1,918
Instagram - Total Followers	969



SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CLUB

161,400 **25**
MINUTES READ PRIZES

CONTEST ENTRIES

596 **105**
WHERE IN THE WORLD IS LEAFY HOT AIR BALLOON

Thank you three for being so fun and welcoming to our kids this summer and always! We hold the library at the highest regard because of you wonderful people!!

Family Fun Night

570
ATTENDED
\$816
TOTAL RAISED

“ This is like, the best thing for parents. I appreciate it so much.”
- Angus patron re: Summer Reading Club



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alexia Daley Realty, REMAX | Angus Food Bank | Base Borden Military Museum | Borden Family Resource Centre | Cards with Colleen | CONTACT Community Services | Country Crafters| Early ON | Essa Fire Department | Essa Township | FOCUS Employment Services Angus | Justin & Stacey's No Frills | Landmark Paint-A-Bus | Lucy's Farm Zoo | Miya Ford Racing | Nottawasaga OPP | Nottawasaga Pines Secondary School | Party Tyme Treats and Amusements | Peggy Hill Realty | RawSpirit and Dance | Side Door Yoga Studio | Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit | South Simcoe Arts Council | Starbucks Angus | Zehrs, Alliston



A place to **Imagine. Discover. Connect.**

Manager's Report by Glenda Newbatt May 2025

Reflection

Thornton Community Room Transition

The Community Room at the Thornton branch serves as a vibrant and flexible space, hosting a variety of library programs, tutoring sessions, study groups, and meetings for community organizations. It is a popular and well used space. Typically, outside groups use the room after library hours. During open hours, it remains a hub of activity - tutors working one-on-one, families sharing time together, individuals reading or studying.

This year, we were delighted to welcome a new group: a lively gathering of seniors meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month to play cards and games. The group quickly grew in popularity, to the point where we found ourselves having to bring in card tables and folding chairs to accommodate everyone. The overflow began to impact our general seating and even our compliance with accreditation standards requiring dedicated seating for public use in the main part of the library during open hours. Additionally, our limited storage space was stretched, and safety concerns arose as fire egresses were being blocked by well-meaning players setting up where space allowed.

Recognizing the need for a long-term solution, Laura and I reimagined the room's layout. We invested in smaller, square tables with Smile Cookie funds. These tables not only better suit the needs of the card-playing seniors but also provide increased flexibility for all users. The tables are easier to rearrange, encourage a sense of personal space, and have noticeably improved the comfort level for tutors and others using the space during quieter times.

The redesign has positive ripple effects. The long tables were relocated to Angus, where they were positioned by the Teacher-Librarian as a welcome upgrade to Teen Central. The two red chairs (NPSS red) found new life there too, adding a conversational vibe in one corner of Teen Central which will be perfect for EPL's summer lounge setup.

Most importantly, we now have a safer, more organized room layout, with a clear table map ensuring that fire exits remain accessible.

This process has been a rewarding reminder of how thoughtful changes in shared spaces can lead to multiple wins - improved aesthetics, increased usability, community satisfaction, safety, and even strengthened partnerships.

Essa Public Library
A place to imagine, discover and connect
CEO Report, prepared by L. Wark
June 2025

2025-2028 Strategic Plan Tracking document [10.1]
Manager's Report, G. Newbatt [10.2]
May Library Report, prepared by E. Nakeff [10.3]
July and August Calendars [10.3a & b]

Meetings & Training:

Monthly Cyber-Security Training via Simcoe County IT
Monthly EPL H&S meetings – CEO and Worker JHSC Rep
Essa Township Senior Management Team meetings in June, Manager
Ontario Library Service: Excel Training, Coordinator of Public Engagement
Administrators of Medium Sized Public Libraries in Ontario (AMPLO) – 6June
EPL/NPSS Working Committee meeting - 18June
Working Committee Minutes, March and April [10.4]
Essa Council meeting re Trivia Fundraiser Staff Report – 18June Manager

Technology:

Andrew Eyre Simcoe County IT support – plan for final item transition for Windows11.
We are gradually working through the plan to bring us to October 2025.
A new Internal Pre-overdue Report was developed for library staff to conduct a final check in the library before automated "Overdue" notifications are issued by the system.

Thornton Branch:

- Exterior parking signage will soon be installed (Strat Plan "Spotlight a place to imagine, discover, and connect).
- Alex Fisher, Township of Essa Fire Prevention Officer, reviewed the updates to furniture and the room layout and noted that it satisfies egress requirements.
- Some paving stones crumbled and were replaced by Parks and Rec team. The condition of the sidewalk is reported to be in poor condition – it is not level, and the bricks are crumbling just below the surface. P&R is obtaining a quote for a proper fix:



- A section of ceiling lights at Thornton Branch replaced with LEDs – would have been more expensive to replace the ballast and accompanying hardware. Pridham Electric is preparing a quote to update the library spaces to LED lighting for future consideration.
- Simcoe recycling and garbage collection will cease January 2026, impacting the budget – exterior bins may be rented with Fire Services.
- Councillor Sander mentioned that there might be a future crosswalk to the gazebo.

Angus Branch:

- Work Order submitted for a larger sink in the program room declined – not possible.
- Three picnic tables delivered by Parks and Rec team.
- Parking during school days for library staff challenging.
- Paving stones to the north of the library entrance have deteriorated to a degree that the area is no longer Accessible. This has been reported to SCDSB.
- Locational sign outside Angus Branch needs repair/replacement – SCDSB responsibility
- Angus Branch no longer qualifies for Athabasca University exam invigilation due to environment standards regarding privacy and technology. This may be remedied when Quiet Booths are acquired as identified in the Strategic Plan, “Vibrant and Versatile Spaces”.

Library Board topic to ignite forward planning:

Lost and Damaged items – in consideration of inventory shrinkage.

- Patron responsibility to address costs? Unless there is a pattern?
- Collection Agency still appropriate?
- Helps to mention potential Collection Agency submission in correspondence.



A place to **Imagine. Discover. Connect.**

Manager's Report by Glenda Newbatt June 2025

Planning Forward

Event: Fall Trivia Night Fundraiser

Event Overview

- **Date & Time:** Thursday, September 25, at 7:00 pm.
- **Venue:** Banquet Hall at the Angus Recreation Centre.

Update

- Staff report submitted to Clerk –received and approved by Essa Council.
- The Special Occasions Permit is secured, and the next step is to apply for a license from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario to serve/sell alcohol.
- Still looking for prizes and donations.

Event: Ivy Days

Event Overview

- Saturday, September 6, time to be determined
- Venue: Ivy Orange Hall

Outreach Strategy

At Ivy Days, the library will connect with the Ivy community, sharing some favorite collections and programs. We'll have hands-on displays and friendly staff to highlight how the library supports learning, creativity, and acts as a community hub.

Promotion Strategy

The Ivy Orange Hall has an active and well followed Facebook page. I think we'll be successful by sharing their information and tagging them in any social media posts we put out.

Follow Up

Still exploring the structure of Ivy Days and when and where to show up.



A People Place, A Change of Pace
SHELburne
 ONTARIO CANADA

September 23, 2025

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP
 180 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Suite A
 Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3

Dear Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP

Ensuring the safety of all road users, including children and seniors, is a common priority for municipalities, the provincial government, and the public. Following the province's decision to enable Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) in 2019, there is real evidence that it is an effective and evidence-based tool for improving road safety in our communities.

A July 2025 study from SickKids and Toronto Metropolitan University demonstrated that in Toronto, ASE cameras reduced the number of speeding vehicles by 45 per cent across 250 urban school zones. This included an 88 per cent decrease in vehicles travelling more than 20 km/h over the speed limit. This study also found that when cameras are removed, speeds return to pre-ASE levels.

The Town of Shelburne is committed to reducing speeding in our community and ASE which was activated on September 5, 2025, is an important part of our traffic calming program. Our community has 4 schools and many pedestrians, we also have two provincial highways, Highway 89 and Highway 10, within our boundaries and exceptional heavy truck traffic. All roads in Shelburne have been 40 km since 2021 with limited exceptions. The Town did significant analysis in reviewing the traffic calming tools we use, including ASE. Information on our ASE is summarized on our website <https://www.shelburne.ca/living-here/automated-speed-enforcement-ase/>.

The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police view ASE not as a revenue tool, but as a traffic safety tool. Its purpose is deterrence and prevention—helping to change driver behaviour and reduce collisions. By complementing traditional police enforcement, ASE also frees up police resources to focus on other pressing public safety priorities. We are very concerned that ASE penalty costs are being called a cash grab by municipalities. We would like to request that the amount of revenue the province has collected since the implementation of ASE in 2019 for the plate look up fee (currently \$8.25) and victim component fees be released.

Improving road safety through ASE is widely supported by Ontario drivers. A survey from CAA South Central Ontario found that despite the increase in ASE tickets issued

A2



this year, nearly three-quarters of Ontario drivers support its use in targeted areas like school zones or community centres.

There were nearly 100 pedestrian deaths in Ontario in 2023. The evidence shows that if ASE cameras are removed, speeds will increase in community safety zones and more pedestrians will be at risk.

Municipalities are best placed to develop transportation plans based on their local knowledge and community input. Municipalities understand the need to use these tools thoughtfully and can be counted on to do so. We would welcome your support in encouraging Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria to work with municipalities and AMO to ensure the effective use of ASE and to improve public understanding of its importance to road safety.

Sincerely,
Mayor Wade Mills
wmills@shelburne.ca

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Association of Municipalities of Ontario Policy Centre, policy@amo.on.ca



The Corporation of the Town of Midland

575 Dominion Avenue
Midland, ON L4R 1R2
Phone: 705-526-4275
Fax: 705-526-9971
info@midland.ca

September 25, 2025

Via Email doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Council Resolution Opposing the Elimination of Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Cameras

Please be advised that Town of Midland Council passed the following Resolution at their September 24th, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor MacDonald
Seconded By: Councillor Ball

Resolution Number: RES-2025-247

WHEREAS a 2025 CAA survey of 1,500 Ontario drivers found 73 per cent actually support the use of speed cameras and 76 per cent say they deter speeding. A recent SickKids study also found they cut speeding around Toronto schools nearly in half;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) who said "Employing ASE tools has been proven to reduce speeding, change driver behaviour, and make our roads safer for everyone — drivers, cyclists, pedestrians, and especially children and other vulnerable road users";

AND WHEREAS the Town of Midland entered into legal and good faith implementation of Provincially approved automated speed enforcement cameras to reduce speeds in our school and community safety zones and has committed to the continued installation of traffic calming infrastructure in our community whose funding source is fines from offenders rather than law abiding taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the Premier has announced his intention to introduce legislation to ban automated speed enforcement;

BE IT resolved that Midland Council send this resolution expressing our opposition to any attempts to usurp this community safety initiative in our community and that copies be circulated to the MMAH, the MTO, AMO and Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

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Yours Truly,

Sherri Edgar

Sherri Edgar

Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk

cc. Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, minister.mah@ontario.ca
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, prabmeet.sarkaria@pc.ola.org
MTO, mtinfo@ontario.ca
AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca
Ontario Municipalities

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Solicitor General

Office of the Solicitor General

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Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca

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Sans frais : 1 866 517-0571
Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca



132-2025-3641

By email

September 26, 2025

Dear Heads of Council and Chief Administrative Officers of OPP-Policed Municipalities:

The Ministry of the Solicitor General has undertaken a review of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) cost recovery model. I would like to extend my gratitude for your participation and input into this process.

I am writing to inform you that because of the review, regulatory amendments have been made to Ontario Regulation 413/23: Amount Payable by Municipalities for Policing from Ontario Provincial Police under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*. These amendments are in effect and will inform the 2026 annual billing statement to be issued shortly.

Firstly, an 11 per cent cap is established on the increase in policing costs owed by municipalities for the 2026 calendar year when compared to 2025, excluding the costs related to any service enhancements.

Secondly, a new discounts table will be established in regulation and will apply to the 2026 billing year and going forward. This new discount table introduces a lower eligibility threshold to receive a discount. Municipalities will now receive calls for service and overtime discounts when they are three or more standard deviations from the average calls for service weighted time to property count ratio, rather than the current regulatory threshold of five standard deviations.

The amendments have been approved by Cabinet and have been filed with the Registrar of Regulations. They will be accessed publicly online through the [e-Laws page](#) – and will be available here within the next few business days.

The preparation of 2026 annual billing statements is underway and statements are targeted for release in November 2025.

As we undertook this review, we heard loud and clear that greater clarity, predictability and stability in the OPP cost recovery model, and associated billing statements, is critical to municipalities as annual budget processes are undertaken. These amendments were contemplated, and ultimately decided upon, based on those concerns and the direct feedback that we heard from OPP-policed municipalities.

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Should you have any questions about the regulatory updates, please reach out to solgeninput@ontario.ca.

Please direct any questions about your annual billing statements to the Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau at opp.municipalpolicing@opp.ca.

Thank you again for your partnership.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner
Solicitor General

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety
Ministry of the Solicitor General

Thomas Carrique, C.O.M.
Commissioner, Ontario Provincial Police



Sept. 30, 2025

VIA EMAIL: smacdonald@essatownship.on.ca

Essa Township
5786 Simcoe County Road 21
Utopia, ON
L0M 1T0

Dear Mayor Macdonald,

On Sept. 8, 2025, the Ministry of Education launched the 2025-26 Capital Priorities Program. This is the mechanism for publicly funded school boards in Ontario to apply to the Ministry for funding to construct capital projects such as new schools, replacement schools and additions. As in past cycles, the Ministry requires that boards adhere to specific criteria when developing their business cases. The proposals must address current accommodation needs related to accommodation pressures and facility conditions, while also ensuring viable utilization and a positive investment return. Building on last year's focus and submissions, the Ministry continues to focus on finding solutions to speed up the construction of new schools, reduce approval requirements, and create greater transparency and accountability. Boards again are being encouraged to submit 'shovel-ready' projects that can be built quickly.

On Sept. 24, 2025, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) approved a prioritized list of the board's most urgent capital projects (see enclosed report) for the Ministry's consideration. These 10 projects and their associated business cases will be submitted to the Ministry of Education by Oct. 8, 2025. What these projects all have in common is that they are on sites already owned, or will be in the immediate future, are noticeably justifiable from a need's perspective, and are approaching design completion. In some cases, site plan approvals have been granted and where they have not, we are continuing to advance our site plan and building permit applications accordingly. The board considers these 'shovel-ready' and would be able to proceed immediately upon a Ministry of Education approval. The project submitted to the Ministry that is in your municipality is:

- Baxter Central PS addition

One of the major factors that impacts the timelines of project completion, and that are largely out of the SCDSB's control, are municipal approvals (site plan, building permit, etc.). As a result, we are respectfully requesting that you and your staff consider a commitment to expedite and/or prioritize the noted project if Ministry approvals are received. We strongly feel that a letter of support from yourself, for the project itself and a commitment to expediency, will demonstrate to the province that we are collectively well prepared and determined to achieve a quick and timely path to project completion. This may also assist and enhance the chances of approval of the project.

While there are no guarantees that the Ministry of Education will approve any of the submitted priorities, the SCDSB wants to ensure that we are in the best possible position in the event an

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approval is granted. Due to the overwhelming accommodation pressures within the jurisdiction, it is essential to get these facilities up and running to help support growth as fast as possible. If you are willing to provide a letter of support, please email a copy to Corry Van Nispen, Superintendent of Business and Facility Services (cvannisp@scdsb.on.ca), at your earliest convenience. Any correspondence received will be promptly submitted to Ministry staff for inclusion in our submission packages. I sincerely appreciate your time and consideration and if you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dana Powell, Chairperson
Simcoe County District School Board

c: Dawn Stephens, Director of Education
Corry Van Nispen, Superintendent of Business and Facility Services

encl: Report No. B-4-b, Capital Priorities Program 2025-26

To: The Chairperson and Members of the Simcoe County District School Board

From: Superintendent of Business and Facility Services

Capital Priorities Program 2025-26

1. Background

On Sept. 8, 2025, the Ministry of Education released Memorandum 2025: Launch of 2025-26 Capital Priorities Program (Appendix A). A summary of the 2025-26 Capital Priorities Program and relevant criteria is as follows:

- i. the submission deadline for all capital funding requests is Oct. 8, 2025;
- ii. school boards are asked to submit detailed project proposals to address current accommodation needs related to:
 - a. accommodation pressures;
 - b. school consolidation;
 - c. facility condition, with health and safety considerations; and,
 - d. access to French language schools.
- iii. provide high level summary information on future, longer term growth needs related to the Housing Supply Action Plan municipal growth plans;
- iv. provide a priority ranking for the proposals;
- v. school boards have an opportunity to request Child Care Capital funding for childcare projects associated with larger capital priorities project;
- vi. the detailed project submissions will need to include fully completed business cases that identify a utilization equal to, or greater than 100 per cent (including areas schools) in the fifth year after the proposed school opening date;
- vii. replacement school proposal will need to provide a positive investment return (Net Present Value greater than \$0);
- viii. for repeat submissions, boards are able to use a streamlined process;
- ix. boards leveraging repeat designs will receive a higher score than boards using new designs;
- x. projects are expected to include a completion date with a clear and detailed schedule for milestones and deliverables; and,
- xi. school boards are encouraged to identify opportunities to work together on joint-use project submissions.

The Ministry of Education has continued to focus on project readiness assessment and design standardization. For the project readiness assessment, boards are to provide a summary of key project milestones. The ministry is requesting detailed information regarding site identification, design plans, project timelines, and cost estimates. Priority will be given to projects that are best positioned to be completed in a timely manner. Submissions will require details regarding sites planned or acquired, design plans with cost estimates, and a clear schedule with project milestones indicating a path to project completion.

On May 28, 2025, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) approved the 2025-26 Accommodation Plan. In this, staff recommended several business cases be advanced in anticipation of the next Ministry of Education Capital Priorities Program submission. These projects were deemed urgent in nature due to accommodation or facility condition pressures and were as follows (note that these were not prioritized at the time).

Capital Priorities Recommended for the 2025-26 Submission		
School Name	Type of Construction	OTG
Elementary Panel		
Ardagh Bluffs PS addition	Growth Accommodation	138
Baxter Central PS addition	Growth Accommodation	92
Emma King ES addition	Growth Accommodation	184
Huronia Centennial ES addition	Growth Accommodation	262
New Tottenham elementary school	Growth Accommodation	426
New Stayner elementary school	Growth Accommodation	403
Nottawa ES addition	Growth Accommodation	144
Warnica PS replacement school	Growth Accommodation	665
Secondary Panel		
Collingwood replacement secondary school	Replacement School	1,134
New Bradford secondary school	Growth Accommodation	1,277

OTG = On-the-ground Ministry rated capacity.

2. Current

Upon release of the criteria for the 2025-26 Ministry of Education Capital Priorities Program, staff reassessed the board's needs and readiness of potential projects. After reexamining enrolment trends, development data, and cross-referencing the board's draft Education Development Charge Background Study, no significant changes in accommodation needs were discovered. Similar to the last submission, staff are recommending priorities that are considered urgently needed, but also shovel ready, or will be in a reasonable amount of time. Continued emphasis on site ownership, the ability to quickly design and cost the project, and having clear timelines, and construction milestones are recommended. Similar to the last cycle, there are no limits to the number of business cases boards may submit. Due to the number of accommodation needs of the SCDSB, the necessity to balance these needs against staff's ability to provide robust business cases, engage architects and other consultants, and provide detailed costing

and project planning for multiple projects in condensed timelines must be considered. Considering the aforementioned, the prioritized projects, staff recommend being submitted to the Ministry of Education are illustrated in the following table (Figure 1). Note that the proposed capacity of these projects will be refined pending Board approval and subsequent finalization with the board's architects and consultants. A more detailed illustration of these recommended priorities and the remaining projects that were included in the 2025-26 Accommodation Plan and how they compare with the Ministry of Education's criteria can be found in Appendix B.

Data, projections, and reference materials supporting these projects can be found at: [2025-26 Accommodation Plan](#) – Sections 1 and 2; and [2023 Education Development Charge Draft Background Study](#) – Forms A, B, C, D, E, F.

Figure 1

Prioritized Recommended 2025-26 Submissions			
Priority	School Name	Type of Construction	OTG
1	Warnica PS replacement school	Growth Accommodation	665
2	New Tottenham elementary school	Growth Accommodation	426
3	Emma King ES addition	Growth Accommodation	184
4	Huron Centennial ES addition	Growth Accommodation	262
5	New Bradford secondary school	Growth Accommodation	1,277
6	Ardagh Bluffs PS addition	Growth Accommodation	138
7	Nottawa ES addition	Growth Accommodation	144
8	Baxter Central PS addition	Growth Accommodation	92
9	New Stayner elementary school	Growth Accommodation	403
10	Collingwood replacement secondary school	Replacement School	1,134

OTG = On-the-ground Ministry rated capacity.

3. Conclusion

Accommodation planning and the Ministry's Capital Priorities Program processes continuously evolve and require flexibility in order to adapt to Provincial and Ministry of Education initiatives, and the ever-changing environment in the County of Simcoe. Staff are recommending the submission of business cases for the capital priorities as set out in this report to best meet the accommodation needs of the SCDSB, while also balancing the need to meet ministry criteria. Note that staff will continue with site acquisition urgency and design activities after this capital cycle for any priorities not approved by the Ministry, and for those not submitted, so that the SCDSB will be in a prominent position when the next call for submissions is announced.

Recommendation

That the Board approve the capital priority list and direct staff to submit the necessary project submissions to the Ministry of Education by Oct. 8, 2025, as set out in Report No. B-4-b, Capital Priorities Program 2025-26, dated Sept. 24, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by:

Corry Van Nispen
Superintendent of Business and Facility Services

Sept. 24, 2025

As

Appendix A – Pages 1 to 8
Launch of 2025-26
Capital Priorities Program

Ministry of Education

Ministère de l'Éducation

Capital and Business Support
DivisionDivision du soutien aux
immobilisations et aux affaires315 Front Street West 15th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 0B8315, rue Front Ouest 15^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 0B8

Date: September 8, 2025

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
Children's Service Leads, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs)
and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs)
Secretary/Treasurers of School AuthoritiesFrom: Didem Proulx
Assistant Deputy Minister
Capital and Business Support Division

Subject: Launch of 2025-26 Capital Priorities Program

The Ministry of Education is pleased to invite school boards to submit proposals for funding consideration through the 2025-26 Capital Priorities program. This funding round will build on the momentum of two consecutive record investments in education Capital Priorities, totaling \$2.6 billion.

As you are aware, the Capital Priorities program provides funding to address boards' highest priority capital needs. With Ontario's population increasing steadily, there is a continued need to focus on shovel-ready projects that will help meet the needs of growing communities.

The ministry has been working closely with school boards, municipalities and other key partners to transform the education capital system to build modern schools faster, better utilize school capacity and enhance accountability and transparency.

Projects selected for funding in 2025-26 will reflect these priorities by demonstrating a need to: meet an accommodation pressure, provide access to French-language rights holders, or replace a school that meets certain conditions. In addition, the ministry will continue to assess and score proposed projects' readiness and use of standardized design.

2025-26 Capital Priorities Program Submissions – At a Glance

- The deadline for all capital funding submissions is **October 8, 2025**. No submission will be accepted after this date.
- Business Case Templates, Program Guidelines, Design Catalogue and other supporting material are available for download from the SharePoint site shared in the email to the school board.
- School boards will submit proposals through the Capital and Business Support Division SharePoint site.
- For the 2025-26 Capital Priorities program, school boards are asked to:
 - Submit detailed project proposals to address **current** accommodation needs related to:
 - Accommodation Pressures;
 - School Consolidation;
 - Facility Condition, with health and safety considerations; and
 - Access to French Language schools.
 - Provide high level summary information on future, long-term enrolment projections linked to municipal growth plans.
 - Provide a priority ranking for the proposals.

Consistent with the 2024-25 Capital Priorities program:

- Detailed project submissions must include fully completed business cases that identify an accommodation need, students who do not have access to a French Language school, or a need to replace a school due to its condition.
- The Accommodation Pressure metric will remain unchanged:
 - Current utilization (SY 2024-25) must be equal to or greater than 95%, including nearby area schools; and
 - For the proposed scenario with the new project, utilization for the project and area schools must reach 100% or higher by year five after the project's completion.
- Projects are expected to include a completion date with a clear, detailed schedule for milestones and deliverables. It is recommended that projects should include a Class D cost estimate. Boards are restricted from including any cost escalation in their estimations.
- School boards are encouraged to identify opportunities to work together on joint-

use project submissions.

- School boards continue to have an opportunity to request Child Care Capital funding for child care projects associated with a larger Capital Priorities project.

NEW for the 2025-26 Capital Priorities program:

- All school boards will benefit from a simplified business case template, which will allow boards to clearly articulate project need.
 - For repeat submissions, boards will be able to use a streamlined process.
- School boards leveraging repeat designs, either from the EDU Design Catalogue or from other recent projects, will receive a higher score than boards using new designs.
- Consistent with the 2024-25 Capital Priorities program, for replacement school proposals, the Net Present Value of the project must be positive, meaning that the replacement project should be more cost-effective than undertaking renewal work to the existing building. Further, replacement school proposals that demonstrate a time-sensitive health and safety need will be given priority.
- To better support northern and rural boards, teacherages may be included in planning considerations.
- To support enhanced decision making that takes into account the needs of French-language boards, a new French Language Access Evaluation Matrix will be introduced.
- For French-language school boards, this round of Capital Priorities can serve as a one-window intake opportunity for standalone Canada-Ontario Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official-Language in Education child care proposals.
- **OPTIONAL:** School boards can include proposed school names as part of the intake process.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

As with previous years, project submissions must demonstrate a critical and urgent pupil accommodation need in order to be considered for funding approval. These pupil accommodation needs may include accommodation pressures, replacement schools and French language access. In addition to addressing pupil accommodation needs, projects may also include the creation of new licensed child care spaces.

PROJECT READINESS ASSESSMENT

School boards are asked to provide evidence of project readiness assessment. Priority will be given to projects that are best positioned to be completed in a timely manner. Submissions will require details regarding sites planned or acquired, design plans with cost estimates, and a clear schedule with project milestones indicating a path to project completion.

DESIGN STANDARDIZATION

The Ministry of Education recognizes the importance of ensuring that school board capital assets are used effectively and efficiently to support the needs of growing communities.

As part of the 2025-26 program, the ministry will continue to prioritize shovel-ready projects, including those leveraging repeat designs. Design standardization presents opportunities to help save time and money by accelerating the design and approvals processes.

Consistent with the last round of Capital Priorities, school boards must either submit a design from the EDU Design Catalogue or leverage another repeat design. Where a standardized design is not possible, the school board may be permitted to submit a new design. For further details on design submissions and applicable criteria, please refer to the “Project Submissions” section below.

URBAN AND INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS

The ministry recognizes that intensification in high density urban areas may require new and different approaches. As residential development is expected to continue to be high in urban areas, where finding suitable land for the construction of a school may be challenging, the ministry encourages school boards to pursue opportunities to explore new, innovative ways to build school, such as vertical schools and podium schools.

BOARD PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

As part of the Capital Priorities evaluation process, school boards will be assessed on their past performance in delivering capital projects, including the following:

- Enhanced Capital Accountability Framework compliance
- Existing inventory of active projects
- Time to completion
- Cost overages
- Adherence to space benchmarks

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Successful projects will result in a Project Commitment, which will include a clear schedule, budget and scope of the project as submitted by the school board and agreed upon by the ministry. The Project Commitment will establish expectations for successful project delivery.

School boards will be responsible and accountable for implementing appropriate measures to ensure that projects are completed within the schedule, budget and scope established in the Project Commitment.

The ministry will meet with school boards to review project progress reports on a regularly scheduled basis to monitor the progress of approved projects.

PROJECT SUBMISSIONS

Submission templates, guidelines and design catalogue can be downloaded from the Capital and Business Support Division SharePoint site.

School boards will submit proposals through the SharePoint site to be considered for funding approval. A complete submission will include the following:

1. Business Case - Part A (Excel Template) will include:
 - a. Project Information
 - b. Closest Facilities
 - c. Space Template
 - d. Enrolment Projections
 - e. Child Care Joint Submission (If Applicable)
 - f. Child Care Space Template (If Applicable)
 - g. Cost Estimates -
 - i. Boards are restricted from including cost escalation in their calculations.
 - ii. Recommended, projects should include Class D cost estimates.
 - iii. Cost estimation documentation must be submitted with the proposal.
 - h. Submission Check
2. Business Case - Part B (Written Report) will include:
 - a. A written description of the project, including detailed information on the rationale, proposed scope of work and demonstration of why alternative options are not feasible.
 - b. Evidence and details on how site identification and design plans and cost estimates were derived. Identify the Land Priorities funding needed.
Note: This does not mean Land Priorities funding will be provided automatically. Requests for Land Priorities funding will be assessed

against current inventory of surplus property.

- c. Detailed information on costing estimates and assumptions made.
- d. Detailed project plan that includes timelines for key project milestones.
- e. Details on the submitted design, including when the design was last used, associated costs and supporting documentation.

3. Design

- a. School boards should submit, at minimum, schematic designs based on either:
 - i. EDU Design Catalogue; or
 - ii. Recent school board repeat design that at a minimum meets the following criteria:
 - Tendered since 2021
 - Board must provide documentation on project cost for the repeat build that includes prior cost and updated cost estimate for the future build. This includes construction costs + soft costs like permit fees and furniture and fixtures. However, the cost estimate excludes unique site costs/demolition and site preparation costs.
 - Design space has to align with ministry space benchmark requirements for the specific pupil places being requested, including complying with 90% of the total space benchmark. The design of school washrooms must meet ministry requirements for universal barrier free washrooms as well as gender specific multi-stall/communal washrooms.
 - The ministry will only consider minor modifications to a repeat design, including instances where design changes need to be made to accommodate the site or the design is scaled up or down to include or remove additional classroom spaces and required washrooms. Other modifications to a repeat design would be considered a new design. Submission of schematic design for original repeat and proposed design for new project.

New elementary school projects should proceed under one of the two options above. For other projects where a repeat design may not be feasible, school boards may be provided an exception and submit a new design. These projects include:

- additions/renovations;
- projects with unique site constraints;
- podium or vertical schools;
- secondary schools; and
- schools in joint-use facilities.

NOTE: Projects submitted without a design **may be ineligible** for funding.

4. Long Term Projections

- a. Boards are asked to provide details of their longer-term growth needs for addressing current and projected pupil accommodation needs and should be related to municipal growth plans.
 - i. Boards covering the Urban Growth Centres identified in *A Place to Grow* **are required** to submit long term enrolment projections with their 2025-26 submission. A list of areas can be found here: [Ontario's housing supply progress - Dataset - Ontario Data Catalogue](#)
- b. Please see program guidelines for further information.

Please refer to the **Checklist** to ensure your board has included all required documentation.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

The ministry will host information sessions for the Capital Priorities program in **September**, on the following dates:

- September 11, 2025 – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- French session: September 11, 2025 - 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- September 12, 2025 - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

These sessions will provide school board staff with support regarding the completion of Capital Priorities business cases.

MINISTRY CONTACT

If you have any questions regarding the Capital Priorities program, or require additional information, please contact the Capital Analyst assigned to your school board or:

- Christopher Wu, Manager, Capital Program Branch at 647-534-9048, or Christopher.Wu@ontario.ca,
- Sophie Liu, Manager, Capital Program Branch at 647-402-9597 or Sophie.Liu@ontario.ca, or
- Teuta Dodbiba, Director, Capital Program Branch at 647-229-5613 or Teuta.Dodbiba@ontario.ca.

We look forward to reviewing submissions that advance the Ontario government's

commitment to meeting the needs of students and school boards across the province.

Sincerely,

Didem Proulx
Assistant Deputy Minister
Capital and Business Support Division

- c. Senior Business Officials
Superintendents and Managers of Facilities Managers of Planning Early Years Leads
CAOs of Consolidated Municipal Service Managers CAOs of District Social Services
Administration Boards
Holly Moran, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Years and Child Care Division, Ministry of Education
Didier Pomerleau, Assistant Deputy Minister, French-Language Education Division, Ministry of Education
Andrew Locker, Director, Field Services Branch, Ministry of Education
President, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)
President, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
President, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) President, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
Executive Director, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO)
Executive Director, Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO) Executive Director, Ontario Principals' Council (OPC)

A5

Priority	Project	Project Type	~Proposed Capacity	Eligibility	Utilization Requirements Met ¹	Site Ownership	Site studies complete	Architect	Design Status	Timelines ²	Cost Estimate Status ³	Joint Use	Urban And Innovative Schools	Child Care Centre
1	Waukena PS	Replacement School	665	✓ (facility condition)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓			
2	New Tottenham elementary school	New School	426	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓			
3	Emma King PS	Addition	184	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓			
4	Huron Central PS	Addition	262	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Designed	✓	✓			
5	New Bradford secondary school	New School	1,277	✓ (accommodation)	✓	Negotiations in progress	Partial	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓	Interest indicated		✓
6	Arlagh Bluff PS	Addition	138	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Designed	✓	✓			
7	Notawa ES	Addition	144	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓			
8	Baxter Central PS	Addition	92	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Designed	✓	✓			
9	New Stayner elementary school	New School	403	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Repeat design	✓	✓			
10	Collingwood CI	Replacement School	1,134	✓ (facility condition)	✓	TBD	✓	✓	Partial	TBD	In progress			
NA	New Alliston elementary school	New School	501	✓ (accommodation)	✓			✓	Partial					
NA	New Barrie SW elementary school (Salem)	New School	593	✓ (accommodation)	✓			Partial						
NA	Coldwater PS	Addition	167	✓ (accommodation)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Feasibility analysis		✓			
NA	New Michener West elementary school	New School	501	✓ (accommodation)	✓			Partial	Repeat design					✓
NA	Collington PS	Replacement School	521	✓ (facility condition)	✓	✓	✓	✓						
NA	New Craighurst elementary school	New School	403	✓ (accommodation)	✓			Partial						
NA	New Everell elementary school	New School	403	✓ (accommodation)	✓									
NA	New Innes secondary school	New School	1,134	✓ (accommodation)	✓									
NA	New New Tecumseth secondary school	New School	1,134	✓ (accommodation)	✓									
NA	New Cribt (Innes) elementary school	New School	593	✓ (accommodation)	✓				Feasibility analysis				✓	
NA	New Salem (Barrie SE) secondary school	New School	1,134	✓ (accommodation)	✓			Partial						

¹ As per Ministry guidelines, priority given to projects with a 100% utilization (including area schools) in the 5th year after opening date

² Board able to commit to stipulated timelines as set in Ministry templates

³ Third party cost consultant report obtained or costing of recent comparable tender available



Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Township of Essa
5786 Simcoe County Road 21 ON L0M 1T0

October 1, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council of Township of Essa:

I am pleased to provide you with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) Draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget booklet ([here](#) and attached) which was approved for circulation and input at the September 26, 2025, NVCA Board meeting. I invite your feedback by November 28, 2025.

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7.8 million, reflecting a 2.8% (or \$101,307.36) increase in municipal operational levy apportioned across our 18 municipalities with your apportionment outlined below. NVCA's draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget aligns with Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and O. Reg. 686/21 and reflects our commitment to responsible financial management, transparent oversight, and responsible stewardship. It prioritizes flood management, natural heritage protection, education, recreation, and climate resilience while recognizing population growth and hazard mitigation challenges. The plan invests in responsible asset management and fair, competitive wages for our dedicated staff. By leveraging grants, user fees, partnerships, and revenue-generating activities, we maximize the value of every municipal dollar and ensure long-term sustainability.

At the direction of the NVCA Board, and as part of responsible fiscal management and stewardship, NVCA has made changes to how programs and services are classified under Categories 1 and 3. These changes are a result of a thorough review and strategic reclassification with no elimination of services. Core stewardship and restoration work, such as floodplain reconnection and erosion mitigation, have been reclassified from Category 3 to Category 1, where they more appropriately reflect the direction of O. Reg. 686/21. The outcome is a 31% reduction in Category 3 charges and a very modest increase to Category 1. We continue to deliver programmes like forestry and environmental education in Category 3 which don't directly support flood and erosion hazard mitigation.

Wages remain our largest expense at 82% of the consolidated budget. Even with a projected decrease of \$9,000 in 2026 due to a reduction in FTEs, costs have risen 4.1% per-employee. You will also notice several revenue shifts including a \$132,500 increase in provincial grants for stewardship, a \$67,000 drop in federal contributions, and gains from private grants, education programs, Tiffin Centre operations, and investment income. Unfortunately, planning revenue is expected to continue to decline due to market slowdown and a provincial fee freeze. To offset planning revenue impacts, NVCA is investing in technology upgrades, expanded online services, enhanced staff training, and strategic initiatives like the Priority Lands Framework. This approach ensures service continuity and long-term watershed resilience, with no elimination of services.

The Township of Essa's proposed 2026 operational levy contribution is \$248,490.84. The capital asset levy will be \$14,035.74. This represents a total of \$262,526.58 contribution for 2026.

Below is how it is broken down into the Category 1 and Categories 2 & 3:

Category 1 Operational Levy - \$232,082.76

Categories 2 & 3 Operational Levy - \$16,408.29

Category 1 Asset Levy - \$11,970.38

Categories 2 & 3 Asset Levy - \$2,065.36

Please contact Kerry Jenkins at 705-424-1479 ext. 272 or kjenkins@nvca.on.ca if your council would like to schedule a deputation or a meeting with staff to discuss this draft budget.

With careful financial planning, expert operational management, strong governance, and a clear focus on efficiency, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with integrity. I am confident this Business Plan and Budget reflect both NVCA's responsibility to its member municipalities and to the residents of the watershed.

Thank you for your Municipality's support of NVCA's Category 1 and 3 programs.

Yours truly,
**Jennifer
Vincent**

Digitally signed by
Jennifer Vincent
Date: 2025.10.01
13:55:23 -04'00'

Jennifer Vincent
Chief Administration Officer

Copies: Sarah Corbett, Clerk
Councillor Pieter Kiezebrink, NVCA Board Member
Debbie Dollmaier, Finance Manager



2026 DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

VISION

A sustainable watershed that is resilient to the effects of climate change, urban growth and other stressors and provides for safe, healthy and prosperous people and communities.

MISSION

Working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

WHAT WE VALUE

An abundance of clean water, clean air and fertile soils that provide for healthy people and ecosystems.

Distinctive landforms and waterways including the Georgian Bay coastline, Niagara Escarpment, Minesing Wetlands and others that give our watershed a unique sense of place.

Natural heritage systems and the ecosystem services they provide, particularly as they support resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

A wealth of resources within the capacity of our watershed to provide for thriving communities, successful economies and sustainable agriculture, now and in the future.

Quality recreational opportunities that our hills, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways and coastline provide for residents and tourists alike.

Message from our Chair

I am pleased to present the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)'s 2026 Business Plan and Budget. This document reflects our strong commitment to prudent financial management, transparent oversight, and responsible stewardship of both the natural environment and the public funds entrusted to us.

From the outset, the Board has been clear that this balanced budget must be responsive to the needs of our member municipalities. We have delivered on that direction by significantly reducing "Category 3" costs, as requested, and by holding our overall operating levy increase to approximately 3 per cent, as we committed. These results were achieved not by deferring our responsibilities, but by undertaking a rigorous review process with our new CAO, senior staff, and the Board Chair and Vice-Chair to ensure NVCA is operating as a leaner, more efficient organization.

At the same time, this Business Plan and Budget safeguards what our communities value most – a safe, healthy and prosperous watershed. It protects fair and competitive wages for our dedicated staff; invests in responsible asset management; continues our award-winning environmental education programmes; and prioritizes NVCA's vital role in managing floods, protecting natural heritage, and supporting the resilience of our watershed in the face of growth and climate change. Through grants, user fees, strong partnerships and our own revenue-generating activities, we continue to leverage all financial resources to ensure the highest possible value for every municipal dollar.

With careful financial planning, expert operational management, strong governance and a clear focus on efficiency, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with integrity. I am confident this Business Plan and Budget reflect both the responsibility we owe to our member municipalities and the trust placed in us by the residents of the watershed.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan Scott

Councillor, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

Chair, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority



Message from our CAO

As the new Chief Administrative Officer, I'm pleased to present NVCA's 2026 Business Plan and Budget. This marks my first contribution to this important process, and I'm proud of the leadership, insight, and dedication shown by NVCA staff and senior management throughout its development.

This year's planning process was shaped by a strong commitment to deliver high-quality services to our 18 member municipalities and our many partners. Using a new integrated planning tool, staff undertook a thorough review of programs and priorities to ensure we are investing wisely in what matters most – working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic, and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

The Nottawasaga Watershed is a remarkable landscape with over 40% natural cover and a thriving agricultural sector. Yet it faces growing pressures from urban expansion and climate change. NVCA's work helps ensure that development is balanced with natural hazard risk reduction, and that communities are safeguarded from the impacts of flooding and erosion. Our restoration efforts - rivers, streams, wetlands, grasslands and forests - deliver co-benefits to water quantity and quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and long-term resilience across the region.

We also continue to provide environmental education and recreational opportunities that connect people to nature and support physical and mental well-being. These programs, along with our core services, are made possible through a combination of municipal support, grants, user fees, partnerships, and revenue-generating activities – all designed to deliver maximum value for every dollar invested.

With clear direction from the Board of Directors and a talented, committed team, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with confidence, relevance, and integrity.

Jennifer Vincent
CAO, NVCA



The background of the page is a photograph of autumn foliage. In the upper half, there are green and yellow leaves against a blue sky. In the lower half, there are brown and yellow leaves, some of which are covered in a layer of white snow. The text is centered in a white rectangular box.

2025 accomplishments

In 2025, NVCA made meaningful progress in advancing its mission and laying the groundwork for continued success. Through innovation, collaboration, and a renewed focus on service excellence, NVCA delivered impactful results in environmental stewardship, engineering, planning, and community engagement – setting the stage for the priorities outlined in the 2026 Business Plan and Budget.

Operational improvements were a key focus. Enhanced internal processes, increased staffing capacity, and the launch of a new e-permitting platform enabled NVCA to clear a backlog of over 100 planning and permitting applications. These achievements reflect our commitment to a strong culture of client service and collaboration, and position NVCA to continue delivering timely, transparent, and responsive service in 2026.

To support effective, integrated, and informed decision support systems, NVCA updated regulation mapping, modernized its rain gauge network, reviewed its restoration services delivery model, and initiated a watershed-wide study to better understand how rainfall and snowmelt contribute to downstream impacts. These efforts are critical to inform flood forecasting and watershed management strategies, helping reduce the risk of flooding and erosion across our communities.

Following the March ice storm, NVCA's Lands team cleared over 15 km of trails across Nottawasaga Bluffs, Petun and Edenvale Conservation Areas — reinforcing our commitment to safe, accessible natural spaces. In addition, restoration work continued with over 74,000 trees planted, approximately 300 hectares of Phragmites mapped along with targeted removal, and six stream and wetland projects implemented, completed, and monitored.

Community engagement was strengthened through events such as the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival, displays at community events, and the launch of an interactive self-guided tour at the Fort Willow Conservation Area. A new communications strategy will further enhance public understanding and support for NVCA's programs and services in 2026.

Residents and visitors connected with nature through NVCA's conservation areas and environmental education programs. Increased capacity at Camp Tiffin welcomed more children and families, while partnerships with the Simcoe County District School Board and Indigenous community members brought meaningful, land-based teachings into classrooms. Together, these experiences fostered a deeper connection to the watershed and a shared sense of responsibility for its care.

Internally, NVCA continued to invest in its people and culture, reinforcing its aspiration to become an employer of choice in the region, a workplace where staff are empowered to lead, innovate, and grow.

These accomplishments provide a strong foundation from which the 2026 Business Plan and Budget were developed. For more detailed updates, look for NVCA's 2025 Annual Report available in Spring 2026!

Executive Summary

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7,841,981, reflecting a year-over-year increase of \$180,372.37, including a \$101,307.36 increase in municipal levy. This budget ensures NVCA has the resources needed to sustainably manage the Nottawasaga Watershed while balancing environmental, social, and economic priorities.

The 2026 Business Plan and Budget was developed through a comprehensive review of programs and priorities to ensure investments deliver maximum value and impact. This review resulted in service delivery efficiencies, better alignment of service categories, increased non-levy revenues, and a significant reduction in Category 3 costs. These changes demonstrate NVCA's commitment to fiscal responsibility and responsiveness to municipal needs, while continuing to support core services and programs.

NVCA's Board of Directors leads the formal budget approval process. Staff prepare a draft aligned with strategic, legislative, and municipal priorities. After consultation and revisions, the Board approves the Business Plan and Budget using a weighted vote based on Modified Current Value Assessment (MCVA) apportionment, ensuring alignment with watershed community needs.

The municipal levy represents approximately 53% of total funding, with the remainder sourced from grants, fees, and other revenue streams.

1

Strategic development of Business Plan and Budget by senior management & staff

June 2025

2

CAO approved draft Business Plan and Budget

August 2025

3

Board of Directors approves circulation of draft Business Plan and Budget

September 26, 2025

4

Business Plan and Budget shared with Municipal partners

October 1, 2025

5

Municipal review period ends

November 28, 2025

6

Board of Directors' weighted vote based on the Modified Current Value Assessment levy apportionment

December 12, 2025

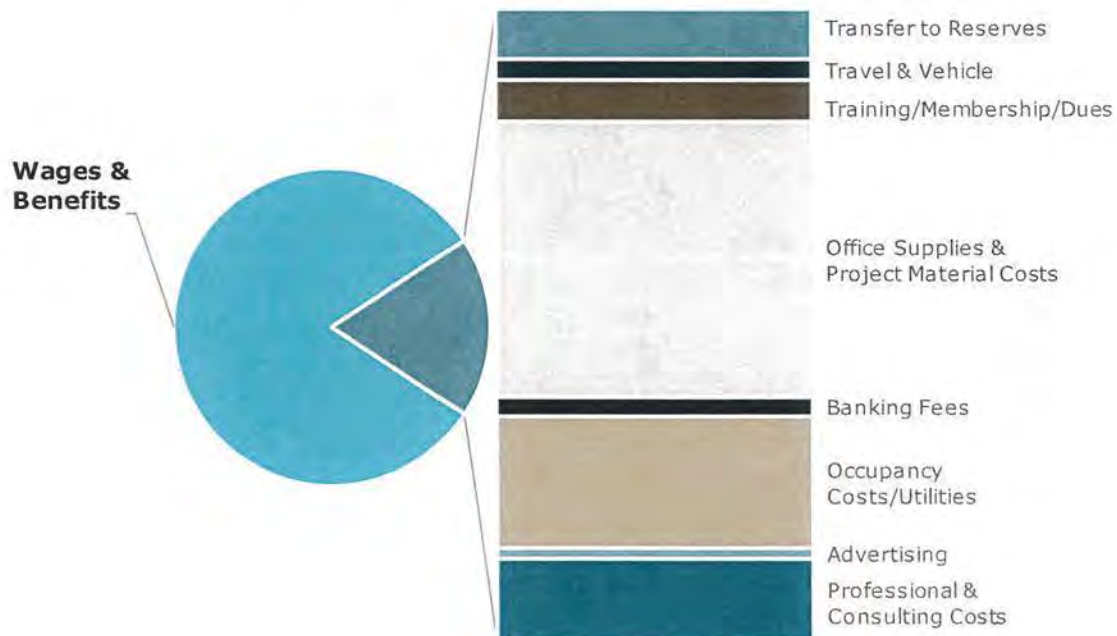
Total NVCA Budget



2026 Operating Budget

Operating Budget	2025	2026	% of 2026 Operating Budget
Wages & Benefits	\$5,690,314.17	\$5,681,268.84	82%
Transfer to Reserves	\$120,000.00	\$102,000.00	1%
Advertising	\$19,100.00	\$19,100.00	0%
Travel & Vehicle	\$51,250.00	\$41,500.00	1%
Banking Fees	\$38,500.00	\$38,500.00	1%
Training/Membership/Dues	\$78,350.00	\$83,750.00	1%
Office Supplies & Project Material Costs	\$532,884.46	\$551,652.16	8%
Occupancy Costs/Utilities	\$263,060.00	\$265,410.00	4%
Professional & Consulting Costs	\$178,750.00	\$177,000.00	3%

2026 Operating Budget



2026 Operational Funding Sources

Funding Sources	2025	2026	% of 2026 Funding Sources
Municipal Operational Levy	\$3,585,281.63	\$3,686,589.00	53%
Municipal Projects	\$96,050.00	\$112,715.00	2%
MNR Transfer Payment - Flood	\$97,307.00	\$97,307.00	1%
Federal & Provincial Contributions	\$412,500.00	\$477,500.00	7%
Private Contributions	\$666,280.00	\$686,280.00	10%
Self-Generated Funds	\$2,124,590.00	\$1,889,590.00	27%
Operational Reserves	-\$9,800.00	\$10,200.00	0%

2026 Funding Sources

Municipal
Operational
Levy

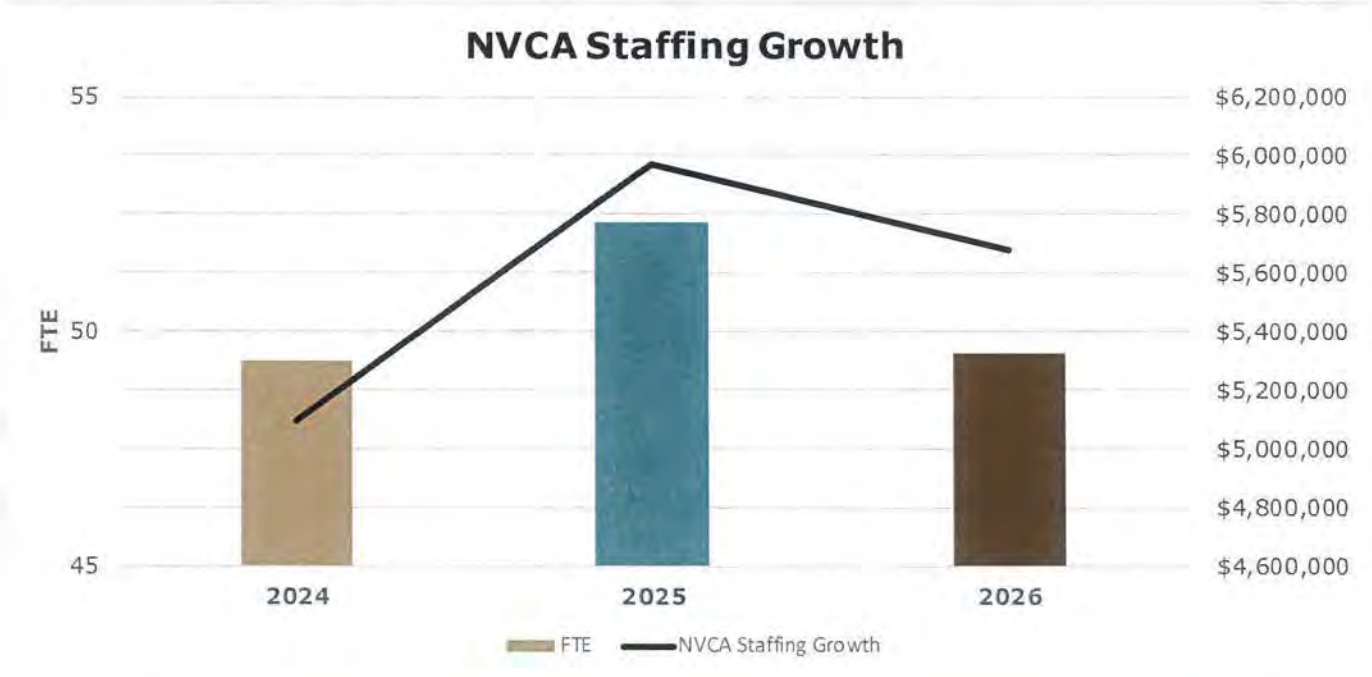


Municipal Projects
MNR Transfer Payment - Flood
Federal & Provincial
Contributions
Private Contributions
Self-Generated Funds
Operational Reserves

Staffing changes

In 2024, NVCA operated with approximately 49 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. To address a backlog in regulation and planning files, in 2025, three FTEs were added. With the backlog now resolved and a forecasted slowdown in housing development for 2026, NVCA has proactively managed staffing levels by holding select vacancies. These positions may be reinstated as planning and permitting revenues increase, ensuring NVCA continues to meet its obligations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. In addition, operational efficiency is being enhanced through technology upgrades and expanded use of online services. This approach allows the organization to remain agile while maintaining service levels.

While the total FTEs have decreased year-over-year, compensation per employee increased 4.1% for 2026. NVCA will also develop a human resources strategy focused on advancing NVCA as an employer of choice, with an emphasis on early career development and support for seasonal/contract staff and summer students.

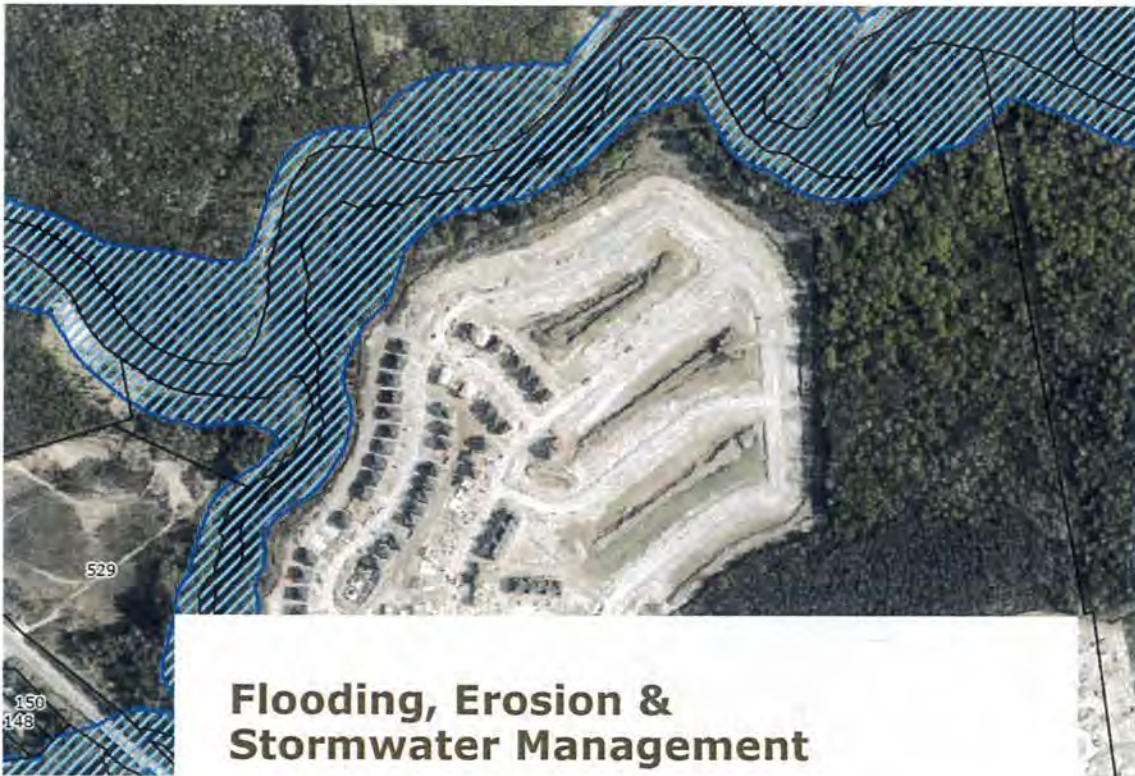


2026 Commitments

The 2026 Commitments section outlines NVCA's strategic priorities and planned initiatives that support the delivery of core services and the advancement of watershed health. These commitments reflect NVCA's dedication to good governance, operational transparency, and service excellence.

Developed in alignment with legislative requirements, municipal expectations, and strategic goals, the commitments guide departmental actions across conservation, hazard management, education, and stewardship. They are foundational to NVCA's continued responsiveness to the needs of our watershed communities.





Flooding, Erosion & Stormwater Management



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Natural Hazards Management

Maintain and enhance the flood forecasting network to provide timely monitoring of weather conditions and river flows to determine if there is a risk of flooding.

Review *Conservation Authorities Act* and *Planning Act* applications as well as technical documents to meet legislated, Conservation Ontario, and municipal timelines.

Post timely flood messages to NVCA's website and issue timely flood messages to municipalities, school boards, emergency response agencies, health units, and other relevant organizations as needed.

All flood structures are in a state of good repair and operated by following NVCA's Flood Structure Safety Review recommendations, NVCA's Natural Hazard Infrastructure Operational Plan, and legislative requirements.

Update NVCA's hydrology model to better understand the amount of rain/snowmelt that different areas contribute to the larger Nottawasaga Watershed, and as funding opportunities permit, update NVCA's hydraulic models to better understand depths of flooding throughout the Nottawasaga Watershed.

Watershed studies, plans, & strategies

Develop five-year and ten-year strategies for New Lowell Conservation Area.

Evaluate Pretty River Dike at Oliver Crescent for public safety and the function of the Pretty River Dike.

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Engage with landowners to implement wetland focused restoration projects that prioritize wetland offsetting projects.



Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Establish strategic delivery of stewardship and restoration programs across all watershed municipalities on a five-year rotation.

Implement the Nottawasaga River Restoration Program and phosphorus offsetting projects by securing funding for three restoration projects and planting 7,000 trees with watershed communities.

Implement flooding and erosion focused restoration projects.

Natural Hazards Management

Assist municipal partners in delivering on their infrastructure/assets management programs.



Enhance business excellence through governance & technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency & efficient operations

Natural Hazards Management

Develop a dashboard to improve efficiency, transparency and communication of planning and permit applications.





Conservation Priorities



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Conservation & Management of Conservation Lands

Draft the Priority Lands Framework for Watershed Health, a strategic roadmap to identify, secure, and restore lands identified as critical to the long-term resilience of the watershed.

Complete initial assessments of the natural environment on NVCA properties.

Natural Hazards Management

Complete all scheduled wetland compensation project monitoring activities.



Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Reforest approximately 40 hectares of forest by planting 70,000 trees.

Celebrate 3 million trees planted by NVCA's Forestry program.

Watershed studies, plans, & strategies

Develop a Watershed-based Stewardship Strategy to ensure the Nottawasaga Watershed is resilient to future change, and long-term funding model is secured.



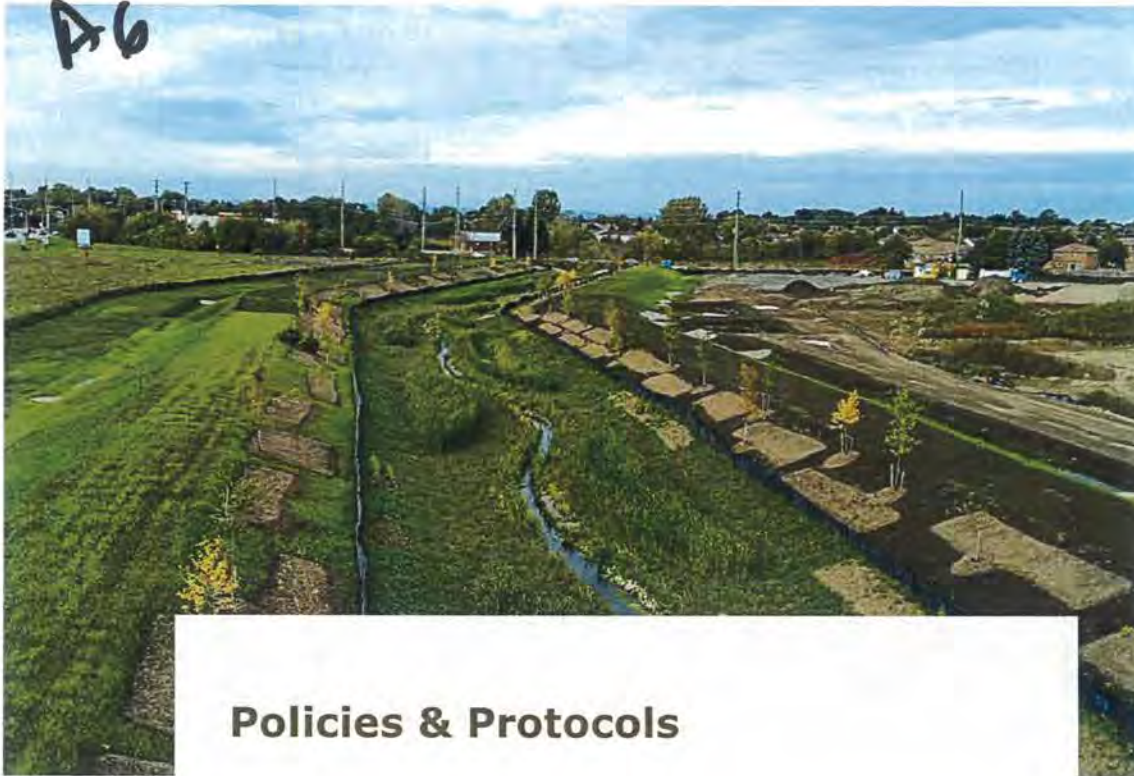
Communication, outreach, & education

Inspire conservation through outdoor experiences & education.

Launch animal of the year campaign.

Continue Nature School, Camp Tiffin, school board programming, & external bookings.

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Policies & Protocols



Enhance business excellence through governance and technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency and efficient operations

Governance

Prepare the NVCA 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan.

Develop a human resources strategic plan to advance NVCA as an employer of choice.

Enhance support and collaboration across NVCA departments.

Natural Hazards Management

Complete the update of the Planning and Regulation Guidelines.

Complete the update of the 2013 Natural Hazards Technical Guide and Stormwater Technical Guide.



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Natural Hazards Management

Review and update NVCA regulation mapping.

Conservation & Management of Conservation Lands

Develop a framework for property management plans to understand the ecology, threats, recreational and conservation opportunities on NVCA-owned lands.

Become a destination for recreation and increase visitors at key NVCA properties by improving infrastructure at one conservation area per year.

Develop a framework for public engagement to track issues, infrastructure and properties on NVCA lands.

Develop property management plans that balance ecological and recreational priorities to complete at least one property management plan.



Water Quality & Quantity



Enhance business excellence through governance & technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency & efficient operations

Drinking Water Source Protection

Use enhanced GIS technology to aid in the management of significant drinking water threats efficiently.

Watershed-scale data collection, management & modelling

Improve the efficiency and security of watershed monitoring data by advancing a watershed monitoring database.

Communication, outreach, & education

Enhance knowledge transmission and translation by initiating development of a watershed monitoring dashboard.



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Drinking Water Source Protection

Timely completion and acquisition of drinking water permits under the *Clean Water Act*.

Manage significant drinking water threats by completing inspections and Risk Management Plans in accordance with legislative timelines.

Watershed-scale data collection, management & modelling

Deliver monitoring activities as per the Watershed Monitoring Strategy.

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Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Implement NVCA's Healthy Waters programs, monitoring, and services.





Engagement & Education



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Engage and share information with watershed communities through public engagement booths, website updates, social media and newsletters.

Continue to build NVCA photo and video library



Communication, outreach, & education

Host community engagement opportunities

Inspire conservation through outdoor experiences & education through hosting community engagement opportunities, offering high quality, nature-based rental experiences and becoming a desirable nature-based filming location.

Deliver high quality, curriculum-based programming for local school boards, Tiffin Nature School and Camp Tiffin offerings.

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Governance



Enhance business excellence through governance and technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency and efficient operations

Governance

The NVCA Board is supported to effectively and efficiently discharge their responsibilities.

Update NVCA website with relevant, timely, and accurate information about NVCA services and programs.

Deliver the 2026 Business Plan and Budget on time and within budget by applying continuous improvement practices, tracking performance metrics, and fostering collaboration across teams to ensure efficient, accountable service delivery.

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Municipal Funding

In 2025, NVCA committed to continued growth, but with a more moderate levy increase following two consecutive years of growth and significant levy increases. Reflecting on this commitment, the 2026 Business Plan and Budget propose a levy increase of \$101,307.36, substantially lower than the \$399,981.36 increase approved for 2025.

NVCA's 2026 budget supports the costs required to meet legislative obligations, address local environmental needs, and meet municipal and public service standards.

It complies with O. Reg. 402/22 and continues to use the MCVA for general levy apportionment and benefit-based distribution for water and erosion control structures.

NVCA's Business Plan and Budget framework organizes programs and services into three categories, consistent with Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the requirements of O. Reg. 686/21. This structure ensures transparency, accountability, and alignment with provincial legislation and municipal agreements.

2026 Funding Sources for Program Delivery



Category 1

Mandatory programs and services defined in O. Reg. 686/21 that may be funded with municipal levy.

Some of the funding sources for Category 1 programs include:

- Municipal levy
- User fees, such as fees collected through Development Planning & Permits applications
- Drinking Water Source Protection
- Provincial transfer payments for flood forecasting and flood control structure expenses

Category 2

Programs and services delivered at the request of a municipality, with funding under agreement with the benefiting municipality.

To carry out these programs under Categories 2 & 3, NVCA draws revenues from a variety of sources:

- Funded through cost apportionment agreements with participating municipalities
- User fees, such as conservation area admissions, environmental education programs, tree planting, and property rentals, among other sources
- Donations and in-kind contributions
- Program and capital projects
- Provincial and Federal contributions
- Foundations,

Category 3

Other programs and services that the Authority determines are advisable to implement within our watershed jurisdiction.

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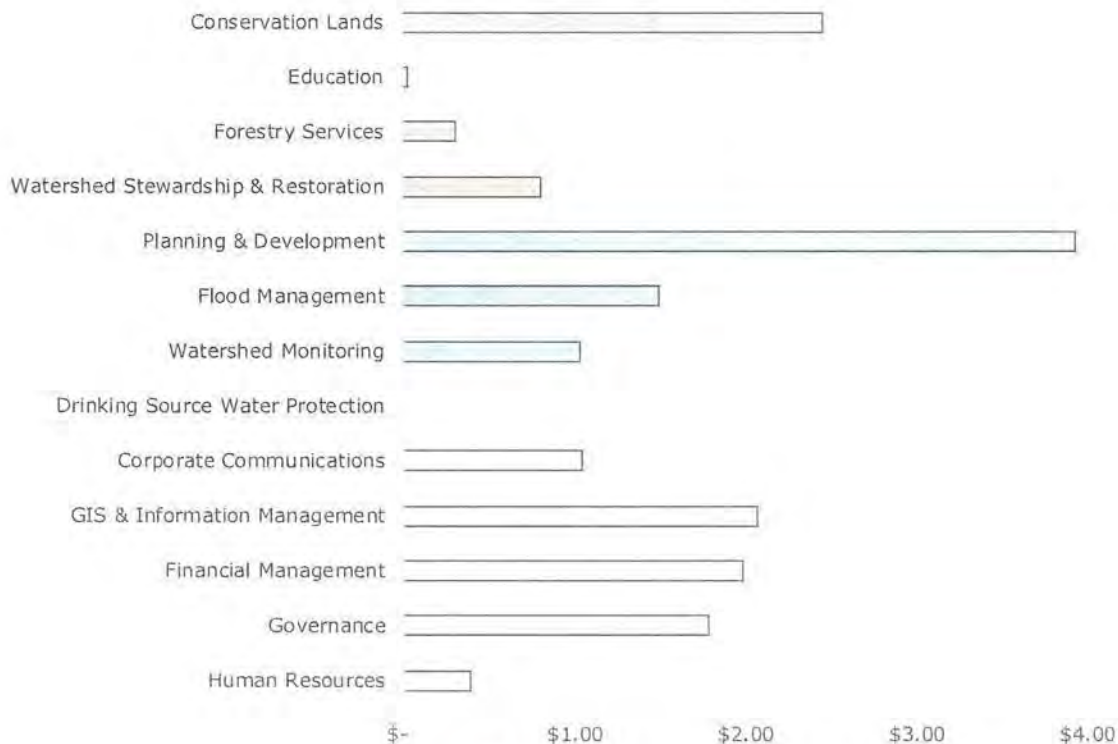
Cost per resident

NVCA's 2026 budget represents an investment of \$17.36 of levy per watershed resident, aligning with the provincial average for conservation authorities. For every dollar contributed through the municipal levy, NVCA delivers an estimated \$34 in value through programs that reduce flood and erosion risks, restore and protect natural areas, and provide hands-on environmental experiences to thousands of students, residents, and families.

This return on investment reflects NVCA's commitment to delivering high-impact, cost-effective programs that benefit watershed residents today and into the future.

Program Name	Cost/ Resident
Conservation Lands	\$2.46
Education	\$0.03
Forestry Services	\$0.31
Watershed Stewardship & Restoration	\$0.81
Planning & Development	\$3.94
Flood Management	\$1.50
Watershed Science	\$1.04
Drinking Source Water Protection	\$ -
Corporate Communications	\$1.04
GIS & Information Management	\$2.08
Financial Management	\$1.98
Governance	\$1.79
Human Resources	\$0.39

Cost/ Resident



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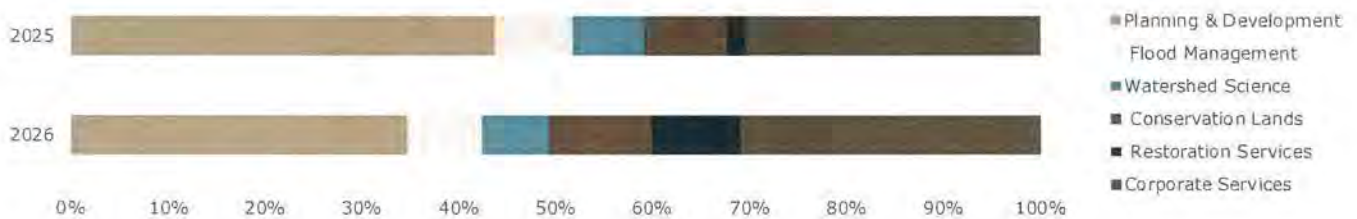
2026 Category 1 Draft Budget

As outlined in NVCA's Inventory of Programs and Services, Category 1 includes provincially mandated services under the *Conservation Authorities Act* that support watershed management and natural hazard protection. The 2026 operating budget for Category 1 is organized by business units to reflect all associated costs.

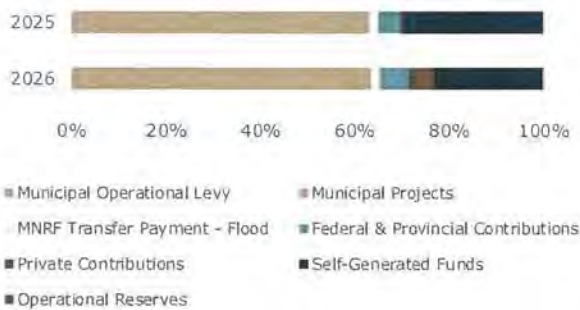
A review of programs led to reclassifying certain restoration services from Category 3 to Category 1, recognizing their direct benefits to hazard mitigation.

Fleet services were also restructured, separating workshop operations and relocating them to the Tiffin Centre cost structure for improved transparency. To support the expanded scope of Category 1, a municipal levy increase of \$218,690.96 is proposed, offset by a \$117,383.60 reduction in Category 3, resulting in a net increase of \$101,307.36. This levy is apportioned among NVCA member municipalities using MCVA percentages provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

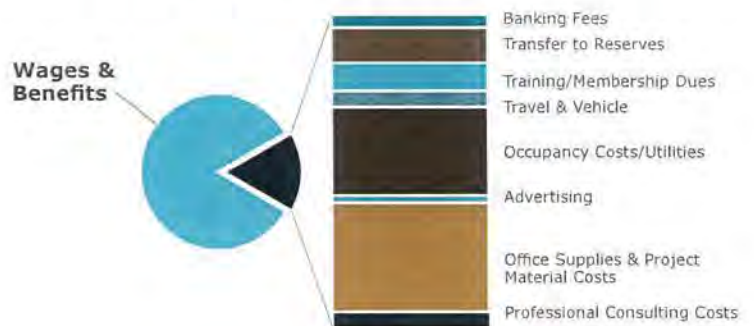
Category 1 Operating Budget by Department



Category 1 Funding Sources



Category 1 Operating Budget



2026 Categories 2 & 3 Draft Budget

For the 2026 budget, NVCA is reducing municipal levy support for Category 2 and 3 programs by \$117,383.60. This is primarily due to the reclassification of certain restoration services—previously under Category 3—that now fall under Category 1 due to their direct hazard mitigation benefits, as approved by the NVCA Board of Directors.

Like Category 1, this levy is apportioned among member municipalities using MCVA percentages from the Ministry of

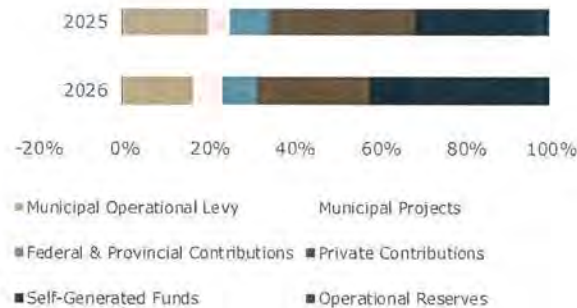
Natural Resources. Categories 2 and 3 generate about 84% of their budgets from external sources. Levy support remains vital to leverage these funds, covering staff hours that qualify as matching contributions and non-billable time.

For every levy dollar invested in Category 3, NVCA secures approximately \$5.21 in additional funding. These contributions help offset costs and have enabled the reduction in the 2026 Category 3 levy requirement.

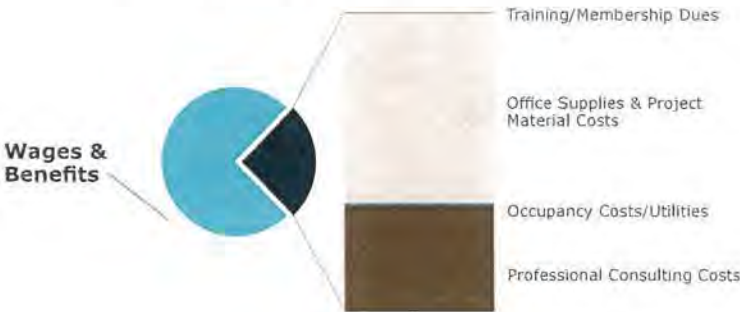
Category 3 Operating Budget by Department



Category 3 Funding Sources



Category 3 Operating Budget



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Summary of Municipal Contribution

Municipality	2025 MCVA Apportionment Percentage	2026 MCVA Apportionment Percentage	2025 Operating Levy	2026 Draft Operating Levy	\$ Increase
			\$3,585,281.63	\$3,686,589.00	
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.04%	4.23%	\$144,967.28	\$156,097.55	\$11,892.43
Township of Amaranth	0.22%	0.22%	\$7,826.67	\$8,165.79	\$378.99
City of Barrie	14.75%	14.74%	\$528,796.77	\$543,451.14	\$17,307.80
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.47%	1.49%	\$52,631.93	\$55,066.58	\$2,703.51
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	4.28%	4.27%	\$153,292.30	\$157,325.19	\$4,801.03
Clearview Township	4.93%	5.00%	\$176,897.80	\$184,395.81	\$8,398.34
Town of Collingwood	10.27%	10.29%	\$368,186.91	\$379,361.07	\$13,026.41
Township of Essa	6.80%	6.74%	\$243,627.06	\$248,490.84	\$6,077.06
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.34%	0.34%	\$12,017.86	\$12,361.13	\$403.62
Town of Innisfil	7.30%	7.28%	\$261,851.04	\$268,483.22	\$7,943.06
Township of Melancthon	0.48%	0.47%	\$17,013.33	\$17,363.83	\$429.28
Town of Mono	3.58%	3.52%	\$128,496.49	\$129,594.66	\$1,730.92
Mulmur Township	1.59%	1.56%	\$56,851.81	\$57,599.27	\$1,028.69
Town of New Tecumseth	13.40%	13.17%	\$480,320.18	\$485,501.65	\$7,551.96
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.36%	7.26%	\$263,901.83	\$267,491.52	\$4,895.74
Town of Shelburne	2.17%	2.21%	\$77,951.19	\$81,576.84	\$4,023.95
Township of Springwater	7.76%	7.82%	\$278,117.47	\$288,457.16	\$11,748.10
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.28%	9.38%	\$332,527.70	\$345,809.42	\$14,970.16

Asset Management

The capital asset levy, which funds the Asset Management Plan (AMP), is shared by the municipal partners based on their modified apportionment percentage.

The AMP is based on the annual approval of the asset management plan by the Board of Directors.

Capital Asset Levy

Municipality	2026 MCVA Apportionment Percentage	2026 Asset Levy	Category 1	Category 3
		\$234,005.00	\$194,290.00	\$39,715.00
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio	4.23%	\$9,898.41	\$8,218.47	\$1,679.94
Township of Amaranth	0.22%	\$514.81	\$427.44	\$87.37
City of Barrie	14.74%	\$34,492.34	\$28,638.35	\$5,853.99
Town of The Blue Mountains	1.49%	\$3,486.67	\$2,894.92	\$591.75
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury	4.27%	\$9,992.01	\$8,296.18	\$1,695.83
Clearview Township	5.00%	\$11,700.25	\$9,714.50	\$1,985.75
Town of Collingwood	10.29%	\$24,079.11	\$19,992.44	\$4,086.67
Township of Essa	6.74%	\$15,771.94	\$13,095.15	\$2,676.79
Municipality of Grey Highlands	0.34%	\$795.62	\$660.59	\$135.03
Town of Innisfil	7.28%	\$17,035.56	\$14,144.31	\$2,891.25
Township of Melancthon	0.47%	\$1,099.82	\$913.16	\$186.66
Town of Mono	3.52%	\$8,236.98	\$6,839.01	\$1,397.97
Mulmur Township	1.56%	\$3,650.48	\$3,030.92	\$619.55
Town of New Tecumseth	13.17%	\$30,818.46	\$25,587.99	\$5,230.47
Township of Oro-Medonte	7.26%	\$16,988.76	\$14,105.45	\$2,883.31
Town of Shelburne	2.21%	\$5,171.51	\$4,293.81	\$877.70
Township of Springwater	7.82%	\$18,299.19	\$15,193.48	\$3,105.71
Town of Wasaga Beach	9.38%	\$21,949.67	\$18,224.40	\$3,725.27

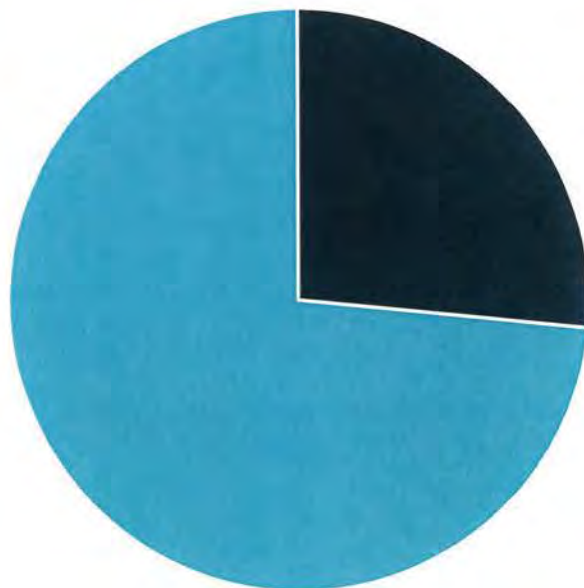
Reserves

These amounts will be put into reserves to help pay for the repair, maintenance and replacement of the assets as identified in the AMP.

Some of the 2026 expenditures as per the AMP:

- Dam safety review for Utopia Dam, urgent repair work to be completed at Tottenham and New Lowell Dams
- Parts replacement on lands, flood and monitoring equipment to extend life, as well as replacement of some end-of-life equipment, specifically some flood loggers & communicators due to cellular upgrade requirements
- Computers, server upgrades and network hardware
- Replacement of two vehicles.

Funding for 2026 Assets



■ Capital Asset Levy ■ Capital Asset Reserves



Looking Ahead to 2026

NVCA's 2026 Business Plan and Budget reflect our ongoing commitment to responsible financial management, strategic planning, and transparent operations. With targeted investments and service enhancements, we continue to protect watershed health and build resilient communities. Guided by our Board of Directors and supported by our municipal partners, NVCA is ready to deliver meaningful results for the people and ecosystems of the Nottawasaga Watershed.



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Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0

T: 705-424-1479 • admin@nvca.on.ca



@nottawasagaca

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October 1, 2025

To: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit partners and public health organizations

RE: Introduction of Dr. Lisa Simon, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

On behalf of the Board of Health, I am pleased to share that on October 1, 2025, Dr. Lisa Simon will begin her role as the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's (SMDHU) Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer (MOH/CEO), following the retirement of Dr. Charles Gardner on September 30, 2025. Dr. Simon's appointment as MOH/CEO is considered Acting until formal approval is received by the Minister of Health, as required under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

Dr. Simon is regarded highly and known broadly as a respected public health professional. She has been part of the health unit since 2011, serving as Associate Medical Officer of Health (AMOH), and brings a deep understanding of our region with a proven track record of leadership and a clear, forward-looking vision for public health. Her training and career—shaped by a strong commitment to upstream, population-based approaches—has spanned both local and international settings. Throughout, Dr. Simon has consistently focused on reducing health disparities and advancing equity in the communities she serves.

As MOH/CEO, Dr. Simon will be responsible for providing public health medical leadership to protect and promote the health of the population and prevent disease, and for providing strategic leadership and management of all operations and public health programs and services for the populations in Simcoe Muskoka. This work will expand upon her contributions as AMOH, where she provided public health medical leadership for SMDHU's strategic initiatives in health equity and Indigenous engagement, co-led the multi-sector Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy, supported emergency response efforts—including planning and engagement for the COVID-19 pandemic—and contributed to chronic disease prevention, child and youth health, health data initiatives, and health care system partnerships.

She holds a medical degree from the University of Calgary, a Master of Public Health from the University of Toronto, and completed her residency training in Public Health and Preventive Medicine, as well as Family Medicine, at McMaster University. Dr. Simon also serves as a faculty member of the Public Health and Preventive Medicine residency program at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

Dr. Simon brings a deep commitment to collaborative leadership, evidence-informed practice, and meaningful community engagement in advancing public health across Simcoe Muskoka. The Board of Health is delighted to welcome her into this new leadership role and is confident in

□ **Barrie:**
15 Sperling Dr.
P: 705-721-7520
F: 705-721-1495

□ **Barrie Clinic:**
403-80 Bradford St.
P: 705-721-7520
F: 705-721-7848

□ **Collingwood:**
280 Pretty River Pkwy.
P: 705-445-0804
F: 705-445-6498

□ **Cookstown:**
2-25 King St. South
P: 705-458-1103
F: 705-458-0105

□ **Gravenhurst:**
2-5 Pineridge Gate
P: 705-684-9090
F: 705-684-9887

□ **Huntsville:**
34 Chaffey St.
P: 705-789-8813
F: 705-789-7245

□ **Midland:**
A-925 Hugel Ave.
P: 705-526-9324
F: 705-526-1513

□ **Orillia:**
120-169 Front St. S.
P: 705-325-9585
F: 705-325-2091

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her ability to guide the health unit forward with vision and integrity. We invite our partners and community members to join us in warmly welcoming Dr. Simon as MOH/CEO and look forward to the continued progress we will achieve together under her leadership.

Dr. Simon can be contacted going forward at MOH@smdhu.org or through the Executive Assistant, Melissa Nickason at melissa.nickason@smdhu.org or (705) 721-7520 ext. 7079.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Ann-Marie Kungl
Chair, Board of Health

AMK/HH/mn

cc: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health

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F: 705-325-2091



October 8, 2025

To: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit partners and public health organizations

RE: Introduction of Dr. Michelle Quaye, Public Health Physician

I am very pleased to share that the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has welcomed Dr. Michelle Quaye to our leadership team. Dr. Quaye joined us on September 22, 2025 as a Public Health Physician, and will be transitioning into an Associate Medical Officer of Health (AMOH) role in mid-2026.

Dr. Quaye brings strong clinical and academic expertise, as well as a deep commitment to community health. She is a practicing family physician, and her Public Health and Preventive Medicine specialty training has taken her to a range of local, provincial, and international settings. She also holds a Master of Public Health in Health Policy and Systems and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

In addition to her professional background, Dr. Quaye has demonstrated substantial community leadership. In recent years, she has served in leadership roles with Girl Guides of Canada and with several medical training environments to deepen diversity and equity throughout all training stages. These experiences reflect her collaborative approach, commitment to community, and dedication to better serving diverse populations—all qualities that align strongly with the values of SMDHU.

We are delighted to have Dr. Quaye join our organization and are confident that her expertise, perspective, and passion for public health will be valuable assets to our health unit and to our community partnerships.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Lisa Simon
 Lisa Simon, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCPC
 Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

LS/HH/mn

cc: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health

□ Barrie: 15 Sperling Dr. P: 705-721-7520 F: 705-721-1495	□ Barrie Clinic: 403-80 Bradford St. P: 705-721-7520 F: 705-721-7848	□ Collingwood 280 Pretty River Pkwy. P: 705-445-0804 F: 705-445-6498	□ Cookstown 2-25 King St. South P: 705-458-1103 F: 705-458-0105	□ Gravenhurst 2-5 Pineridge Gate P: 705-684-9090 F: 705-684-9887	□ Huntsville 34 Chaffey St. P: 705-789-8813 F: 705-789-7245	□ Midland A-925 Hugel Ave. P: 705-526-9324 F: 705-526-1513	□ Orillia 120-169 Front St. S. P: 705-325-9565 F: 705-325-2091
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REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

150 Frederick Street, 2nd Floor
Kitchener ON N2G 4J3 Canada
Telephone: 519-575-4400
TTY: 519-575-4608
Fax: 519-575-4481
www.regionofwaterloo.ca

October 8, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford,
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

Re: Amending Ontario Regulation 391/21

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their Sustainability, Infrastructure, and Development meeting held on October 7, 2025 approved the following motion:

Whereas under Ontario Regulation 391/2, Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of for 'eligible' sources only; and

Whereas 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include business improvement areas, places of worship, daycares, camp grounds, public facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks; and

Whereas the province amended Ontario Regulation 391/2 to not expand services for new public space recycling; and

Whereas should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Ag



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

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Fax: 519-575-4481
www.regionofwaterloo.ca

Therefore, be it resolved that Region of Waterloo Council request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21, Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources as stated above; and

Further that Council request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

That Minister McCarthy be asked to provide more information on the estimated \$171M in savings for municipalities through this program.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions please contact Dorothy McCabe, Councillor DMcCabe@regionofwaterloo.ca

Regards,

Chris Fraresso, Legislative Services Specialist

cc: Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks
Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Rob Flack, Minister of Affairs and Housing
Robin Jones, AMO President
Waterloo Region municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities
First Nation Councils



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

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Spencerville, Ontario
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VIA EMAIL

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
All Upper- and Lower-Tier Municipalities in Ontario

Please be advised that at its Regular Council meeting held on Monday, September 29, 2025, the Council of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario's rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities' ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.



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6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.
7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

If you have any questions, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,

Natalie Charette
 Interim Clerk
clerk@twpec.ca

A9



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Release

County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2025 Age-Friendly Recognition Awards celebrates community Champions

Midhurst/October 8, 2025 – The County of Simcoe is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 Age-Friendly Recognition Awards, honouring individuals and businesses who have made outstanding contributions to creating inclusive, accessible, and supportive environments for older adults across the region.

The awards follow a public nomination process held throughout the summer of 2025, during which residents were invited to spotlight those who exemplify age-friendly values in their work, volunteerism, and community leadership. Nominations were received from across Simcoe County, reflecting the deep commitment to enhancing quality-of-life for seniors in diverse and meaningful ways.

On the evening of October 7, the following recipients were celebrated for their contributions.

Congratulations to Individual Age-Friendly Recognition Award recipients:

- Beth Dubeau, *Penetanguishene*
- Linda Myles, *Oro-Medonte*
- Monica Menecola, *Clearview*
- Neill Latter, *Orillia*
- Rick Groves, *Barrie*
- Tayla Nesbitt, *Orillia*
- Saveria Caruso, *Barrie*

Congratulations to Age-Friendly Business Recognition Award recipients:

- Back to Barbering, *Orillia*
- Beach Builders Home Hardware Building Centre, *Wasaga Beach*
- Centre de Santé Communautaire CHIGAMIK Community Health Centre, *Midland*
- Foodland Beeton, *New Tecumseth*
- Habitat for Humanity Huronia & Restores, *Barrie/New Tecumseth/Essa/Collingwood*
- Hear Right Canada, *Orillia*
- The Hive Restaurant & Pub, *Wasaga Beach*
- MacLaren Art Centre, *Barrie*
- North Simcoe Arts, *Midland*
- Orillia Thrift Store, *Orillia*
- Quest Art School + Gallery, *Midland*
- Royalty Care, *Barrie/Orillia*
- Swiss Chalet, *Wasaga Beach*

Quotes:

"These awards shine a light on the incredible efforts happening across Simcoe County to support our aging population. From grassroots volunteers to forward-thinking businesses, our communities are working together to ensure that older adults can thrive, stay connected, and feel valued." ~ *Warden Basil Clarke*

"These awards highlight the power of community-driven change. The recipients are not just meeting the needs of older adults, they're reimagining what it means to age with dignity, purpose, and connection. Their leadership is helping build communities where age is embraced as a strength and we are proud to recognize their contributions." ~ *Jane Sinclair, General Manager of Health and Emergency Services*

About Age-Friendly Simcoe County

The County of Simcoe is committed to fostering inclusive, supportive communities where older adults can thrive. Since 2015, Simcoe County has aligned with the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Communities framework to guide the development of its Positive Aging Strategy. The first strategy (2018–2023) laid the foundation for age-friendly infrastructure, planning, services, and programs across

the region. Building on years of research, community engagement, and shared priorities, the County recently unveiled its revitalized Positive Aging Strategy (2025–2030) following a comprehensive needs assessment in 2023. This forward-thinking plan continues to promote programs and services that enhance quality of life for aging residents.

In recognition of its leadership and commitment, Simcoe County received official designation in 2025 as a member of the World Health Organization's Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The County also provides practical tools, resources, and assessment guides to help organizations implement meaningful changes and adapt to the evolving needs of older adults. To learn more about Simcoe County's Age-Friendly program, including the Business and Individual Recognition Awards, visit www.simcoe.ca/age-friendly, emailing agefriendly@simcoe.ca or calling 705-726-9300 ext. 3127.

About County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen 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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Honouring the 2025 Age-Friendly Recognition Award winners at the County of Simcoe Administration Centre on October 7.



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1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Urges Drivers to Follow Ontario's Move Over Law

Midhurst/October 8, 2025 – The County of Simcoe and County of Simcoe Paramedics are reminding motorists to stay alert and follow Ontario's Move Over law, a critical, life-saving regulation designed to protect emergency responders and roadside workers.

"Every day, our emergency responders and roadside workers put their lives on the line to protect and care for our residents and visitors," said Warden Basil Clarke. "The Move Over law isn't just a legal obligation, it's a moral one. Slowing down and moving over gives these professionals the space they need to do their jobs safely and return home to their families. Let's all do our part to keep them safe."

In Ontario, drivers are required to slow down and, if it is safe to do so, move over one lane when either approaching stopped emergency vehicles or when emergency vehicles approach them with flashing lights activated. This includes paramedics, police, fire, and tow trucks.

Failure to comply could result in fines ranging from \$400 to \$2,000, three demerit points, and even a possible driver's licence suspension for up to two years if convicted.

"When our paramedics are responding to emergencies, every second counts, and so does every inch of space," said Sarah Mills, Director and Chief, County of Simcoe Paramedic Services (CSPS). "The Move Over law is a critical safeguard that allows paramedics and other emergency personnel to work without fear of being struck by passing vehicles. We urge all drivers to abide by the law. Give us a Brake. Slow down. Move over."

County of Simcoe Paramedic Services are doing their part to improve road safety, recently unveiling their Paramedic Driving Enhancement Program (PDEP), a new initiative aimed at strengthening the driving skills of paramedics. This advanced training program is designed to elevate driver proficiency and ultimately enhance road safety across the community.

Developed in partnership with the Canada Safety Council and Hamilton Paramedic Services, PDEP delivers targeted instruction tailored to the unique driving conditions faced by paramedics. The program includes five hours of classroom education and two hours of supervised, in-vehicle training, followed by a graduated driving matrix that ensures new recruits are assessed and signed off before transporting patients independently.

CSPS is also working with the Safety Council of Canada to develop a standardized driver safety curriculum for paramedic colleges across Ontario.

For more information on Ontario's Move Over law, visit www.simcoe.ca/moveover.

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County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County of Simcoe Wraps Up Hospice Investment

Midhurst/October 15, 2025 – County of Simcoe Councillors recently presented a cheque for \$437,987 to representatives of the Simcoe County Hospice Alliance, marking the final installment of the County's five-year commitment to enhancing residential hospice and palliative care services across the region.

Launched in 2021, this strategic investment has supported community expansion, capital projects, and Infection Prevention and Control upgrades at hospice centres throughout Simcoe County. Over the past five years, the County has contributed more than \$2.3 million to help strengthen compassionate end-of-life care for residents.

This year's funding was distributed among Alliance partners as follows:

- Hospice Georgian Triangle - \$128,081
- Hospice Simcoe - \$98,763
- Mariposa House Hospice – \$77,371
- Matthews House Hospice - \$75,445
- Hospice Huronia - \$58,327

The County of Simcoe remains committed to supporting vital health care services and ensuring that residents have access to high-quality hospice care close to home.

Quotes

"We're proud to support the Simcoe County Hospice Alliance in their mission to provide dignity, comfort, and care to residents and families during life's most vulnerable moments. This funding reflects our commitment to building up community-based health care and ensuring that every resident has access to high-quality end-of-life support close to home." ~ *Warden Basil Clarke*

"On behalf of the hospices across Simcoe County, I want to express our sincere gratitude to the County of Simcoe for their ongoing commitment to hospice infrastructure. This partnership has been instrumental in helping our organizations expand programming and continue delivering exceptional, compassionate care to individuals and families throughout the region." ~ *Trish Rawn, Chief Executive Officer, Hospice Georgian Triangle*

About the Simcoe County Hospice Alliance

The Alliance was formed to look at regional planning and project capital needs across Simcoe County for area hospice centres. This group is comprised of representatives from [Hospice Georgian Triangle](#) in Collingwood, [Hospice Huronia](#) in Midland, [Mariposa House Hospice](#) in Orillia, [Matthews House Hospice](#) in Alliston, and [Hospice Simcoe](#) in Barrie. From 2017 to 2019, the County also provided \$1.5 million as part of its previous three-year commitment towards creating greater access.

About the County of Simcoe

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Warden Basil Clarke, County Councillors, and staff joined representatives from the Simcoe County Hospice Alliance to celebrate the successful completion of the County's five-year funding commitment to regional hospice and palliative care.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County and partners work together to prepare for emergencies across the region

Minister Dunlop and Warden Clarke thank local emergency responders for their quick action during spring ice storm

Midhurst/October 20, 2025 – Last week, Minister Dunlop and Warden Clarke joined to kick off and welcome emergency responders from across Ontario to the County's annual Simcoe Emergency Response Conference. Thanking emergency responders from across the province and Simcoe County, the two took a moment to acknowledge the incredible response locally and from supporting communities during the ice storm earlier this year.

Preparing for emergencies takes regional collaboration, planning, coordination and partnerships. In 2005, the County of Simcoe established a committee to proactively plan and bring together emergency managers and response personnel from local municipalities and partner organizations to coordinate emergency planning in the area.

The Simcoe Emergency Response Committee (SERC) has grown to include representatives from over 45 organizations including local municipalities, emergency services, volunteer organizations, hospitals, public health, education sector, conservation authorities and utilities.

Friday's semi-annual meeting included presentations on flood risks, a showcase on the volunteers involved with Georgian Bay Volunteer Search and Rescue, mass fatality planning, and key lessons learned during Ottawa's May 2022 derecho response.

With Simcoe County's commitment to emergency management and public safety in mind, throughout 2025 the County has focused on training and preparing communities across the region to respond to a variety of possible emergencies that could occur. From large, complex county-wide simulations to targeted municipal tabletops, the County is ensuring that Emergency Management's mission *To Prepare, Protect and Provide for the Greater Good* is upheld across the region.

This conference is the latest in a series of emergency management training held across the region this year, including simulations in Oro-Medonte, Orillia, and Alliston to test and improve response protocols, while training emergency responders in simulated real-world scenarios. In these scenarios held throughout 2025, emergency responders were asked to test their response protocols for a variety of simulations, including a mass casualty incident ("*Festival Frenzy*") in June, a hazardous materials (HAZMAT) incident ("*Plume Watch*") in September, and an emergency social services shelter operation ("*Rink Side Refuge*") in October. These exercises were large-scale, involving multiple agencies from across the region.

In addition to large-scale exercises, the County has been proactively running crucial Local Area Municipality Training and Tabletop Exercises to ensure preparedness at the municipal level to reinforce local emergency plans across the region. These localized training sessions are being completed in several local communities throughout 2025, including:

- Adjala-Torsoronto
- Bradford West Gwillimbury
- Clearview
- Collingwood
- Essa
- New Tecumseth
- Penetanguishene
- Springwater
- Wasaga Beach

The County's emergency management program helps create disaster-resilient communities that are ready to meet the challenges of emergencies that might arise across our region. With these exercises, the County continues to collaborate with municipalities, emergency responders, and partners from across the region *to prepare, protect and provide for the greater good*. For more information on emergency preparedness, visit simcoe.ca/BePrepared.

About the County of Simcoe

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Warden proclaims 25th Annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day

Midhurst/October 21, 2025 – Warden Basil Clarke has proclaimed October 21, 2025, as the 25th Annual Child Care Worker & Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, recognizing the vital contributions of early years professionals across the region.

Across Simcoe County, over 2,000 individuals work in a total of 226 licensed child care programs and licensed home child care agencies, with a system capacity of over 12,000 licensed spaces. The County of Simcoe is the Child Care Service System Manager for the region including the cities of Barrie and Orillia. In addition to the 226 licensed child care programs and home child care agencies, the system includes three special needs resourcing agencies, and 30 EarlyON Child and Family Centres located across the county.

Years of research confirm that high-quality early learning and childcare significantly benefit children's intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development. Trained and knowledgeable educators are the cornerstone of quality in early years programs.

In honour of their commitment to children, families, and community well-being, the County of Simcoe proudly designates October 21, 2025 as a day to celebrate and thank these exceptional educators.

About the County of Simcoe

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Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Pickleball Court coming to Georgian Village

Midhurst/October 27, 2025 – Georgian Village in Penetanguishene is serving up fun for older adults, thanks to a one-time funding grant through the *Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program* to support with the construction of a new Pickleball Court.

This exciting initiative will further enhance recreational opportunities for residents of Georgian Village and across the community, while also supporting priorities from the County's recently released [Positive Aging Strategy](#), such as healthy aging, social inclusion, and intergenerational engagement. Pickleball is a fast-growing sport known for its accessibility and low-impact nature, making it especially popular among older adults. It offers a great aerobic workout, improves balance and coordination, and encourages social interaction, all vital components of aging well.

"This is a very exciting project for Georgian Village," said Warden Basil Clarke. "Pickleball is more than just a sport, it's a way to bring people together, celebrate active living, and strengthen community connections. I look forward to celebrating the grand opening in the spring and excited to continue to offer more programs and supports for all our residents. Thank you to the Federal Government for supporting this initiative."

The new court will serve as a hub for physical activity, mentoring, and community connection. Seniors will have the opportunity to share their skills through volunteer-led lessons and events, creating meaningful intergenerational relationships and helping to combat ageism and loneliness. For those who prefer to watch and socialize, bench seating will be installed to ensure everyone can participate in the vibrant community atmosphere.

The Pickleball Court is anticipated to open to the public in the spring of 2026.

About the Age-Friendly Positive Aging Strategy

Since 2015, Simcoe County has aligned with the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Communities framework to guide the development of its Positive Aging Strategy. The first strategy (2018–2023) laid the foundation for age-friendly infrastructure, planning, services, and programs across the region. Building on years of research, community engagement, and shared priorities, the County recently unveiled its revitalized [Positive Aging Strategy](#) (2025–2030) following a comprehensive needs assessment in 2023. This forward-thinking plan continues to promote programs and services that enhance quality of life for aging residents.

About the County of Simcoe

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Subject:

FW: AMO Policy Update – Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 1:47 PM

To:

Subject: AMO Policy Update – Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the contents to be safe.



AMO
Policy



AMO Policy Update – Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation

Top Insights

- AMO continues to advocate to the province to work with municipalities on the effective use of **Automated Speed Enforcement** as a proven tool for improving road safety. AMO is sharing tools to help municipalities across the province amplify this advocacy.
- The province has announced allocation of its 2026 \$400 million **Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund**, with an increase to the minimum grant threshold.

Call to Amplify Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy

Following the province's decision to enable Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) in 2019, there is real evidence that it is an effective and evidence-based tool for improving road safety in our communities.

AMO has been engaging with municipalities and stakeholders to understand the impact of the program across the province. The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police [released a statement](#) earlier today supporting the use of ASE tools as an important element in enhancing traffic safety.

AMO calls on Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria to work with municipalities and AMO to ensure the effective use of ASE and to improve public understanding of its importance to road safety.

For municipalities, AMO has developed a social media toolkit ([Images](#) and [Canva Templates](#)), [MPP letter template](#), and [resolution template](#) to support this advocacy with the province.

2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Allocation

2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund allocation notices were sent to eligible municipalities on Tuesday, September 16th. The province's [announcement](#) confirmed it is allocating the previously announced \$400 million provincial investment.

Under [the program](#), the province is providing \$400 million to 423 small, rural and northern communities for core municipal systems such as roads, bridges, water and wastewater. The province has also increased the minimum grant amount for municipalities to \$125,000 from \$100,000, which reflects the higher cost of building and the need for more infrastructure investment.

AMO welcomes the province's infrastructure investment and an increase to the minimum grant. As a predictable and reliable source of infrastructure investment, this fund is critical to enabling municipalities across the province to deliver the services Ontarians depend on.

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

A11a

*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

To unsubscribe, please [Opt Out](#)

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

Subject: FW: AMO President's Board Update - Sept 2025

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 2:30 PM

To:

Subject: AMO President's Board Update - Sept 2025



AMO President's Update - September 2025

The AMO Board met on September 26th at the AMO office in Toronto. Discussions were shaped around the Premier's move to ban speed cameras, and AMO's continued efforts in support of your key priorities. We also looked ahead to some key upcoming events in October.

Watch AMO President, Robin Jones's recap of key board meeting updates below.



Automated Speed Enforcement

The AMO Board supported AMO's continued push to the Province to work with municipalities to strengthen the Automated Speed Enforcement program – which they brought in five years ago – rather than ban it outright.

We know speed cameras work. They are an effective tool that supports safer streets, efficient enforcement and fair enforcement. And, it's appropriate for speeders to pay fines to be reinvested in traffic safety measures, rather than law-abiding taxpayers.

Automated Speed Enforcement

The AMO Board supported AMO's continued push to the Province to work with municipalities to strengthen the Automated Speed Enforcement program – which they brought in five years ago – rather than ban it outright.

We know speed cameras work. They are an effective tool that supports safer streets, efficient enforcement and fair enforcement. And, it's appropriate for speeders to pay fines to be reinvested in traffic safety measures, rather than law-abiding taxpayers.

Ultimately, this should be a local decision. Municipal councils are an accountable, elected order of government and can be trusted to use all available road safety tools responsibly.

Code of Conduct & Integrity Commissioner Process

The AMO Board had approved a proactive advocacy position and approach to the implementation of Bill 9, the Municipal Accountability Act, which is likely to be passed by the legislature this fall.

Health Survey

AMO staff received approval to develop a report to release key findings regarding municipal spending in health services. This report will inform AMO's broader advocacy on access to health and the need for a new provincial-municipal framework.

Other Priorities

Meanwhile, the AMO team remains focused on your key priorities. Stay tuned for updates on our advocacy on matters like advice to the province on Building Faster Fund improvements, and opposition to Bill 30's proposed overreach into local municipal decision making, and more.

Upcoming Events

Healthy Democracy Forum - Oct 18 & 19th

Offering practical ways of making democracy stronger -- including improving turn out for the 2026 municipal election, encouraging candidate participation, and improving civility. More information [linked here](#).

Local Government Week - Oct 19-25th

Check out Local Government Week resources to celebrate and spread the word about why municipalities matter. Get the [resources here](#).

AMO's Trade and Tariff Forum - Oct 24th

Get an in-depth look at the impact of economic uncertainty on Ontario municipalities and gain expert insights on how to manage those challenges. Program and registration information [linked here](#).

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Subject: FW: AMO Policy Update - Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 3:41 PM

To:

Subject: AMO Policy Update - Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts



AMO
Policy



AMO Policy Update – Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts

Top Insights

- The province has introduced Bill 56, a red tape reduction bill including changes to as-of-right labour mobility, speed cameras, drinking water approvals, and forest management approvals. The province has also announced a review of Ontario's economic development permit system, a "Made-in-Ontario" vehicle procurement policy and streamlined mining approvals.
- AMO provided the province with advice on how to best implement the plan to defer residential development charge payments until occupancy.

- AMO continues advocacy to reduce the burden on Provincial Offenses Courts by supporting the use of an Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) for building code enforcement.

Bill 56, *Building a More Competitive Economy Act*, 2025

Yesterday, the government tabled its newest [red tape reduction bill](#). The bill and [additional communications](#) include a number of initiatives of interest to the municipal sector including:

Items in Bill 56

- Changes to require professional regulators to deem skilled workers certified in other provinces eligible to work in Ontario within 10 days. Municipalities are listed in the *Ontario Labour Mobility Act*. While AMO found no municipally regulated professions, local licensing practices may be affected; municipalities may wish to review their local licencing practices to determine if they are impacted by this proposal.
- Changes to allow health professionals from 16 additional regulated professions to work as-of-right in Ontario up to six months while applying for registration with their regulatory College.
- Despite significant concerns from municipalities, police chiefs, schools, and health care experts, the province has moved ahead with amendments to the *Highway Traffic Act*. The changes would remove municipal authority to operate Automated Speed Enforcement systems, permit the Minister to direct municipalities to install signs in school zones, and provide authority for the province to install signs where a municipality does not comply. Red light cameras are not implicated in this change and will still be permitted.
- Changes to the *Clean Water Act* to streamline drinking water approvals by allowing source protection authorities to approve routine updates to source protection plans, and regulatory updates to simplify and accelerate the process for creating new drinking water sources.
- Changes to the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* to reduce administrative burdens by eliminating annual wood harvest approvals and enabling the

forest industry to prepare a single forest management plan spanning multiple management units.

- Amendments to the *Species Conservation Act* to address a lack of clarity and consistency of language for species-at-risk and habitat protection orders.
- Technical corrections to the *Ontario Heritage Act* to reflect the current trade agreement.

Additional Narrative Items

- Conducting a review of Ontario's economic development permits to identify duplicative, outdated, or unnecessary permits or approvals that could be removed or streamlined through a digital portal.
- Proclaiming sections of the *Mining Act* to implement the One Project One Process approvals process.
- Consulting on a "Made-in-Ontario" vehicle procurement policy for the public sector including municipalities.

Building Code Amendments Submission

AMO [submitted comments](#) to the Regulatory Registry advising the province on how to best implement the plan to defer residential development charge payments until occupancy, introduced under Bill 17 in the spring. To mitigate the risk of non-payment, top recommendations emphasized that municipalities must receive and verify the development charge payment before occupancy permit approval. AMO developed recommendations in consultation with municipal financial staff as well as Chief Building Officials.

AMO Supports Advocacy to Remove Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts

AMO has [sent a letter](#) to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing supporting advocacy from Ontario's Building Officials and homebuilding sector calling on the province to allow municipalities to use an Administrative Monetary Penalty System for building code enforcement. This builds on AMO's broader advocacy to reduce the burden on Provincial Offences Courts to address backlogs. It would also free up the capacity of building officials to focus on issuing building permits to deliver homes faster.

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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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[EXTERNAL]



And

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 10:54 AM

To:

Subject: AMO Policy Update - Bill 60, Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025



AMO
Policy



AMO Policy Update – Bill 60, *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025*

Top Insights

The omnibus Bill 60 contains several significant municipal proposals, most notably:

- Draft regulations for development charge modernization, aligning with joint advice from AMO and the Ontario Home Builders' Association.
- Creation of a public corporation for water and wastewater services, beginning with Peel Region.
- Prohibitions on municipalities reducing motor vehicle lanes, including for new bike lane installation.
- Measures to shorten Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) processes and eviction timelines.

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And

Bill 60 *Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act 2025*

Last Thursday, the government tabled its latest omnibus bill. The bill and additional communications include a large number of initiatives impacting the municipal sector.

Top items of interest

- **Development charges (DCs):** Responding to joint AMO-Ontario Home Builders' Association advocacy for DC modernization over cuts and discounts, the province introduced draft regulation based on Bill 17's framework changes. AMO is pleased the province adopted our joint technical advice developed over the summer, which standardizes calculation of DCs, including land and local service costs, and introduces new transparency measures, such as annual DC statement tabling to council. These changes will improve local municipal-developer relations by reducing questions and friction on DC fee calculation, reducing the incidence of lengthy appeals.
- **Peel Region water and wastewater services:** The bill introduced a pilot public corporation model for water and wastewater services, specifically targeting Peel Region. This legislation will transfer jurisdiction over these services from the Peel Region to the three lower-tier municipalities – Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon – and establish this new public corporation to manage infrastructure funding. While governance shifts to a professional board of directors, the structure ensures that assets remain publicly owned, a key outcome advocated by AMO. The intent of this model is to create new revenue streams by allowing the constituent municipalities to borrow capital for water/wastewater investments from the public corporation. AMO is pleased that the province is committed to maintaining public asset ownership while exploring innovative utility models and ways to fund growth infrastructure. However, AMO's prior analysis indicated these models are best suited for small and medium-sized municipalities, not large, complex regions like Peel. AMO continues to advocate that the use of public corporations for water and

And

wastewater services must remain voluntary, not mandatory.

- **Vehicle lanes:** Bill 60 proposes to prohibit municipalities from reducing motor vehicle lanes for new bike lanes or other purposes (to be defined by regulation). This follows 2024's Bill 212 changes to constrain local bike lane decisions, which AMO opposed and continues to oppose now. Municipalities, relying on local knowledge and community input, are best positioned to balance traffic flow with active transportation, road safety, and community needs. Biking is a key tool for combating congestion; bike lanes are an essential element of multi-modal planning that removes cars from the road for short trips and transit connections, thus alleviating congestion, not causing it.

Other Bill proposals

- Changes to the LTB with a focus on strengthening landlord rights, providing shorter timelines for tenant evictions, and improving the speed and effectiveness of the LTB to address the active case backlog. While AMO recognizes that landlords need adequate rights to provide rental opportunities and increase housing supply, Ontario needs a balanced approach that provides tenants with strong protection from unlawful and illegal evictions such as bad faith renovations.
- Streamlining approvals for developments near transit and through Community Improvement Plans, expanding use of minor variances as-of-right, and prohibiting municipal green building standards.
- Creating a new legislative authority to create harmonized road construction standards for municipalities.
- Streamlining environmental approvals and making it easier to use excess soils where there is a low risk of contamination.

Items announced for future consultation

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In addition to these legislative and regulatory changes, the government announced a commitment to consult on a review of the Ontario Building Code, streamlined official plans and digital approvals, expanding the use of communal and small-scale water and wastewater systems, and implementing harmonized road construction standards. The government has already walked back plans to consult on potential changes to end-of-lease provisions.

AMO will continue collaborating with the province to advise on and advocate for municipal interests in housing and economic growth and will formally comment on the bill during the standing committee process.

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

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From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 4:59 PM

To:

Subject: AMO Policy Update – Speed Camera Legislation, First-Time Homebuyer HST Relief, AMO's Homelessness Research Update & Energy Advocacy



AMO
Policy



**AMO Policy Update – Speed Camera Legislation, First-Time Homebuyer HST Relief,
AMO's Homelessness Research Update & Energy Advocacy**

Top Insights

- The province is fast-tracking its Bill banning municipal speed cameras, limiting MPP debate and bypassing public consultation.
- AMO commends the province for providing tax relief to first-time homebuyers.
- AMO is working with OMSSA, NOSDA and municipal partners to update data from our groundbreaking January 2025 homelessness report.
- AMO provided the province with advice on how to best implement a data centre strategy that protects utility capacity needed to deliver housing and economic priorities.

- The province announced a new advisory panel to recommend ways to strengthen local electricity distribution, responding to AMO's call for new Local Distribution Company (LDC) funding approaches.

Province to Fast-Track *Bill 56, Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025*

The provincial government will fast-track their red tape reduction Bill tabled earlier this month, which included amendments to the Highway Traffic Act to remove municipal authority to operate Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE). The government's proposal would halt debate in the legislature at the second reading stage and bypass the legislative committee stage that typically follows.

By eliminating this essential component of the democratic process, the government removes the public's ability to comment and provide feedback on the Bill's numerous proposals, many of which will directly impact municipalities. See [AMO's previous post](#) for a summary of these proposals. AMO is disappointed in the government's decision as we had planned to use the legislative committee process to provide comments and detail the impacts of the Bill for the municipal sector. However, we look forward to providing feedback on the Bill through any future Regulatory/Environmental Registry postings.

AMO has written to Minister Sarkaria advocating for early collaboration with municipalities on the design of the new road safety funding program to ensure investments translate to improved road safety and highlighting the significant sunk costs municipalities have invested into ASE in accordance with provincial regulation.

Tax Break for New Homebuyers

Yesterday, the province [announced](#) a new rebate for the provincial portion of the HST for first-time home buyers of most new and substantially renovated homes. This mirrors proposed federal policy, combining to give first-time buyers a full HST break on qualifying homes under \$1 million. Provincial and federal plans allow for a phased HST reduction for first-time buyers for qualifying homes between \$1-1.5 million. AMO commends the province on taking steps to reduce the cost of new homes for first-time home buyers. This

tax relief could boost buyer demand and help increase new home construction – an important priority for municipalities and the province.

Homelessness Research

AMO has partnered with OMSSA, NOSDA and HelpSeeker Technologies to update some of the data included in [Municipalities Under Pressure: The Human and Financial Cost of Ontario's Homelessness Crisis](#). The original report was successful, in large part, because we had full participation from all 47 municipal service managers. AMO is encouraging all impacted municipalities and District Social Services Administration Boards to participate and support AMO's continued advocacy on the homelessness crisis.

AMO's Advocacy on Ontario's Data Centre Plan

AMO [submitted comments](#) to the province with advice on how to best implement its [plan](#) to prioritize the connection of large-load facilities, including data centres, to Ontario's electricity grid. Given escalating electricity capacity constraints, AMO supports the province's prioritization framework for data centres to avoid them impeding housing and economic growth. We recommended criteria for data centre prioritization and asked that the final process involve collaboration with municipalities and retain local planning approval authority.

New Local Electricity Distribution Panel

On Monday, the province [announced a new advisory table](#) named the "Panel for Utility Leadership and Service Excellence" (PULSE). PULSE's industry and municipal members will make recommendations to the province on local distribution company (LDC) funding and service delivery. Ontario's LDCs will need upwards of \$120 billion to meet growing electricity demands over the next 25 years. Making sure that LDCs can fund and deliver infrastructure when and where it is needed is critical to supporting local housing and economic growth. AMO is pleased that the panel will be responding to our call for new funding and financing mechanisms to renew and expand LDC infrastructure.

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

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Subject: FW: Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter

From: Robin Brown <robin@nottawasaga.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 1:56 PM

To: Sarah Corbett <scorbett@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter



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

Nottawasaga Futures Business Loans



Every day, entrepreneurs are starting and growing great businesses in our community.

To find out more about working with our team, contact us:

www.nottawasaga.com , 705-502-0311, ced@nottawasaga.com

Serving our local business community since 2004.

Small Business Week 2025



Nottawasaga Futures

Small Business Week 2025

Thursday Oct 30, 2025
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

The Gibson Centre for Community, Arts & Culture
63 Tupper St. W, Alliston, ON L9R 1E4





Morning:
MIND OVER MONEY
"Unlock hidden wealth,
overcome roadblocks, and
achieve long-term success!"
– Nick Rezzara, Co-Found
Wealth

Afternoon:
SOAP WORKSHOP
"Merge with the wild
beauty of raw butters +
sun-kissed oils"
– MUD + OTIS



Register by
Email: robin@nottawasaga.com
Phone: 705-502-0311

Learn about programs and supports from our
partners, and **How to Start a Small Business**
by Nottawasaga Futures.

Free with donation to our local Food Bank.

In partnership with...



We're excited to welcome Taygen Mc Allister of Mud + Otis for a Wild Beauty Cold Process Soap Workshop. Taygen was our 2023 Entrepreneur of the Year recipient and we are happy to have her join us to speak about her journey while celebrating the joy of

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creating.

A hands-on experience that merges creativity, nature, and skincare. Together, we'll create natural, handcrafted soap using raw and nourishing ingredients, while learning the art and science behind cold process soap-making. Formulate your own custom 5oz loaf of soap, tailored with your choice of clays, essential oils, and botanicals.

Thursday October 30

The Gibson Centre

Registration 8:30

- Mind Over Money with Nicholas Rezzara - Co-Found Wealth
- Interactive workshop with with Taygen Mc Allister Mud + Otis
- Networking
- How to Start a Small Business with Nottawasaga Futures
- News and updates from our municipalities.

Admission is a donation to our local Food Banks

Bring three items and enter the draw for some great swag.

Bring a cash donation of \$10 or more and receive two tickets.

We'll be serving coffee and tea, goodies from Bake My Day in the morning and lunch from the Pink Peony.

Register: robin@nottawasaga.com

Filming in New Tecumseth



Since 2001, Nottawasaga Futures has been the liaison between local host communities, residents, and production companies to ensure a positive experience for all involved while filming in any of our partner municipalities: the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Township of Essa, Town of Innisfil, and the Town of New Tecumseth.

This summer saw an influx of filming in New Tecumseth and we received the following from Leona Hoffer following a Christmas shoot at her cafe Pink Peony in Alliston. Thank you Leona for sharing your experience!

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the incredible opportunities to be part of the Brain Power Production of “Christmas in the Ballroom” and “The Christmas Club” holiday movie productions. It was a true honor to be a small part of these movie productions with such talented and passionate teams.

Being involved in these projects has been an invaluable experience—both professionally and personally. From the very beginning, I was inspired by the creative vision and professionalism that guided every aspect of the production(s). The atmosphere on set was not only motivating but also deeply collaborative, and I am grateful to have had the chance to “peek behind the curtain” being a small part alongside individuals who are so dedicated to their craft.

This opportunity allowed me and my newly founded business to grow in ways I could not have imagined, and I am especially thankful for the dedication and planning that you and Nottawasaga Futures invested into such opportunities. This collaboration has resulted in community excitement, introduced new customers to my establishment, and the excitement that my staff and customers experienced was truly heartfelt. I am proud to have contributed to projects of such high quality and artistic integrity.

Working with Brain Power Production was such a pleasure. The team was very professional and committed to their craft. We had the pleasure of providing food and beverage / catering to the cast and crew many times over.

Please extend my thanks to everyone on the team. I look forward to the possibility of working together again in the future and wish continued success to you, Nottawasaga Futures and the entire production company. Simply being a small part of these exciting opportunities has exceeded all my expectations and truly an experience that I won't soon forget.

With heartfelt thanks,

Leona Hoffer

Pink Peony Cafe

Entrepreneurship Opportunities

A red graphic with white concentric circular patterns in the corners. A white rounded rectangle in the center contains the text and logos.

 **PARTNERSHIP
ANNOUNCEMENT**

ySpace | **YORK U** **X** **Bradford
West
Gwillimbury**

**YSPACE AND TOWN OF
BRADFORD WEST
GWILLIMBURY (BWG)**

are partnering to **provide local
entrepreneurs** with resources and
connections to the Greater Toronto
Area Innovation Ecosystem.

[Learn more →](#)

CALLING ALL BWG ENTREPRENEURS!

Got a business idea? Already running a business? Just starting out?
This is for YOU!

We're thrilled to announce our game-changing partnership with York University's YSpace that brings world-class business programming right here to Bradford West Gwillimbury!

What you'll get access to:  Free one-on-one business consultations
 Expert mentorship & training  Networking events with experienced founders  \$100,000+ in startup perks (Google Cloud, HubSpot & more!)  Connections to investors & VIP industry events
 Access to the GTA's largest innovation ecosystem

Whether you're a tech startup, main street retailer, home-based service provider, or someone with a business idea you've been sitting on—this program is designed for YOU.

No more driving to Toronto for world-class resources. It's all happening right here in BWG!

-  Program runs October 2025 - March 2026
-  First event kicks off in October
-  Open to ALL BWG residents

Ready to take your business to the next level?  Apply now:

<https://www.yorku.ca/yspace/yspace-bwg/>

South Simcoe Streams Network



Join us for our last tree planting event of 2025!

Date: Saturday October 25th

Time: 9:30am - 12:30pm.

Where: Sheldon Creek, off County Road 50 in Adjala.

Registration: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BB37P3J>

Hope to see you there!

Did you miss our October 4th event?

26 community members helped plant 378 trees and shrubs along a newly restored portion of the Nottawasaga River in Adjala.

This event was part of a larger river restoration project completed this

summer in partnership with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority.

This project has enhanced water quality, aquatic, and riparian habitats, including the creation of a new wetland. We would like to thank the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters for their generous support of this restoration project.

If you would like to join our mailing list or learn more about the South Simcoe Streams Network, please contact:

Theresa@nottawasaga.com

If you would like to support our restoration efforts **Donations** can easily be made through our Go Fund Me page at <https://gofund.me/767c440a>

Upcoming Events



Registration is open for the 2025 Manufacturer's Forum!

Are you ready to lead through disruption, embrace innovation, and unlock new growth opportunities?

Join us for “**Building Tomorrow Today**”, a high-impact event featuring sessions on:

- Change Management
- Risk Mitigation & Resilience
- Artificial Intelligence
- Digitalization
- Product & Market Diversification

  November 13, 2025 |   Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston, ON

Let's shape the future of manufacturing—together.

To register and learn more about the Forum, visit:

<https://edo.simcoe.ca/mfg-forum/>

#ManufacturersForum2025 #SimcoeCounty #InnovationInIndustry

#ManufacturingLeadership #DigitalTransformation #AlinManufacturing

Seasonal Wrapsody



A Sale of Handcrafted
Items by Local Artisans

Sat. Nov 1, 2025

9am to 4pm

Admission \$5



www.nottguild.ca/seasonal-wrapsody
seasonalwrapsody@gmail.com



The Gibson Centre,
63 Tupper St. W, Alliston

Hosted by: Nottawasaga Handweavers and Spinners Guild

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For more information on NT Temps click here www.nttemps.com.

Financial Support and Resources

- [Nottawasaga Futures Community Investment Fund](#)
- [Steps to Consider Before Starting a Business](#)

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- [Canada - Ontario Job Grant](#)
- [Ontario Business Registry](#)
- [Business Benefits Finder](#)
- [Canada Business App](#)
- [Delia: Funding for Women-owned Enterprises](#)
- [Ontario Automotive Modernization Program](#)
- [Southwestern Ontario Development Fund](#)
- [Business advisory services for small & medium-sized businesses](#)
- [Business Continuity Plan](#)
- [Youth Small Business Program](#)
- [Starting a Business in Canada](#)
- [Canada Tariff Information](#)

Book a Free Consultation

Click here for information on our projects

Click here for NT Temps Job Listings

Click here to go to our website

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Contact us at ced@nottawasaga.com

705-502-0311

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TOWN OF AJAX
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax ON L1S 3S9
www.ajax.ca

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Sent by E-Mail

October 22, 2025

Re: Provincial Decision on Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE)

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on October 20, 2025:

Whereas, the Province of Ontario filed enabling regulations in December 2019, to prescribe the locations, fines, and signage for municipalities to utilize Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras (ASE) as a tool to address speeding and improve public safety; and

Whereas, the Province's ASE legislative framework, together with provincial encouragement in 2019, has led municipalities such as Ajax to implement ASE technology to improve safety, reduce speeding, and prevent serious collisions and fatalities; and

Whereas, the Provincial government, through the Ministry of Transportation, is responsible for the legislation, regulations and program standards governing municipal ASE programs; and

Whereas, some cities have implemented ASE programs without appropriate restraint, Ajax is part of the vast majority of municipalities who have implemented best practices endorsed by the Ministry of Transportation and the Ontario Traffic Council - including speed thresholds, advanced signage and public notification of ASE camera locations - that prioritize public safety while also ensuring transparency in the program, resulting in safer roads; and

Whereas, consistent with local, regional, national and international research, the Town of Ajax's ASE program has resulted in significant reductions in speed, increased speed compliance in Community Safety and School Zones, and

changes in driver behaviour as outlined in the October 23, 2023, Council report titled "Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Program Update"; and

Whereas, the Town of Ajax has not generated any net revenue from the Automated Speed Enforcement program. However, the Town has made considerable investments into resources and infrastructure to support this program, and entered into service agreements that cannot easily be cancelled; and

Whereas, despite clear evidence and proven results from municipalities like Ajax, municipalities were caught off guard by the Premier's sudden announcement to cancel ASE programs across the province, made without adequate notice and consultation; and

Whereas, the Premier's concerns regarding ASE can be addressed through amendments to provincial legislation, regulations and program standards that enable municipalities to utilize ASE within prescribed guidelines, without an outright ban on the technology; and

Whereas, on September 10, 2025, Mayor Collier wrote a letter to Premier Doug Ford calling on the continuation of ASE and offered to meet to highlight how these programs can be implemented with appropriate restraint and serve as valuable tools for improving safety that are supported by local residents.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That Ajax Council formally opposes the Province's decision to abruptly cancel ASE, a public safety tool enabled through provincial regulations in December 2019; and
2. That Ajax Council requests the Provincial government to amend their legislation, regulations, and program standards governing ASE as follows:
 - a) Restrict the use of ASE to School locations
 - b) Use of ASE in areas that do not contain schools must be approved by the Minister of Transportation, supported by data clearly Internal demonstrating the need and a description of why alternative traffic calming measures are not suitable for the location.
 - c) Develop a revised fee schedule for ASE tickets that reduces the cost for lower speed infractions while maintaining higher penalties for excessive speeding and stunt driving
 - d) Develop new signage to include language indicating that the location is speed camera enforced

- e) Develop more visible ASE signage that includes the speed limit
 - f) That the Ministry of Transportation provide greater oversight and enforcement of Municipal ASE programs through regular audits; and
3. That should the provincial government proceed with banning the use of ASE despite Ajax and other municipalities immediate actions to address concerns and requests to work collaboratively with the Province and other municipalities to continue these programs, the Province be requested to reimburse municipalities for all costs incurred to implement ASE program; and
 4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation, Rob Cerjanec, MPP for Ajax, local MPPs across the Region of Durham, John Henry, Chair of the Regional Municipality of Durham, the Regional Municipality of Durham, all Ontario Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), and the Ontario Traffic Council.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or Thomas.street@ajax.ca

Sincerely,



Thomas Street
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor S. Lee
Councillor R. Tyler Morin
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MPP
Durham Region Local MPPs
Durham Regional Chair John Henry
The Regional Municipality of Durham
All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police
Ontario Traffic Council

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CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

October 23, 2025

Via email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office

Room 281

Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their October 20, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

418-2025

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025, Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson, AMO, OSUM, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator

Municipality of South Huron

kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

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Encl.

cc: Minister of Infrastructure Hon. Kinga Surma, kinga.surma@pc.ola.org;
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack,
rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy,
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; MPP Lisa Thompson,
lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; OSUM,
osum@osum.ca; FCM, resolutions@fcm.ca; and all Ontario Municipalities

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NVCA October 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: November 28, 2025, held virtually

For the full meeting agenda, including documents and reports, visit [NVCA's website](#).

2024 First Quarter Budget Report

In the first nine months of operations of NVCA, expenditures are tracking slightly lower, with 63.03% of the budgeted expenses (with 75% of the budget year completed).

Revenues are also tracking just slightly behind, with 68.99% of the budgeted revenues recognized. The revenue shortfall is primarily due to fewer permitting and planning requests. This is partially offset by increased revenues from Camp Tiffin and events.

In response to the reduced revenues, staff have reduced expenditures through deferring the filling vacant Senior Planner position, as well as not backfilling for a maternity leave, resulting in an approximate savings of \$123,000.

Should this financial trend continue to year-end, NVCA is forecasted to end the fiscal year in a neutral position, supported by ongoing mitigation measures.

Tree plant in Beeton

Come out to help plant native trees and shrubs along the Beeton Creek!

Date: November 5, 2025, 10 am – 1 pm

Location: 6406 8 Line New Tecumseth, ON L0G 1A0

[Register here](#)

PA Day Camp Tiffin

Adopted from our traditional summer camp program, this special edition of Camp Tiffin encourages outdoor exploration, guided excursions in the forest fueled by student interest.

Dates: November 14, 2025

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation
8195 8th Line, Utopia ON

[Register here](#)

Upcoming Events

Planting the Riverbank

Help Friends of the Mad River and NVCA plant and propagate native shrubs to reforest the river banks!

Date: November 1, 2025, 1 pm – 3 pm

Location: Carruthers Memorial Conservation Area, South Avening, ON, on Airport Road (County Road 42) Clearview, ON

[Register here](#)

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge
Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division
shawj@cambridge.ca

October 30, 2025

Re: Rent Protection for Tenants

At its Council Meeting of October 28, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

WHEREAS this council understands that the need for affordable rental housing not only applies to new builds but also to the protection of existing affordable units.

WHEREAS the removal of rent control in 2018 on any new residential rental unit opened the door to excessive year over year rent increases and the resulting anxiety and mental anguish that come with unpredictable rental costs and loss of housing security.

WHEREAS the loss of rent control has caused a high number of people across Ontario to be forced out of their homes due to their inability to afford their rent increases.

AND WHEREAS without protection from excessive and malicious rent increases, many Cambridge renters will also be at risk of being priced out of their own homes.

WHEREAS unlimited rent increases can be used as a tool by landlords acting in bad faith to remove existing tenants in order to replace them with new tenants at increased rates.

WHEREAS providing housing stability, maintaining affordable housing stock, and protecting renters from unfair rent increases is of utmost importance to this council.

AND WHEREAS This council recognizes that landlords are essential to a flourishing and affordable housing system,

AND WHEREAS maintaining Ontario as a location that is attractive to landlords is of utmost importance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. Cambridge City Council request the Province of Ontario provide adequate protection against excessive and malicious rent increases for all rental units occupied for residential purposes while maintaining the ability for landlords to operate a viable and sustainable business, and that the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge send a letter to Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MPP Jess Dixon, MPP Brian Riddell, and other municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Jennifer Shaw
City Clerk

CC: (via email)
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
MPP Jess Dixon
MPP Brian Riddell
Ontario Municipalities