



The Corporation of the Town of Ajax Council Information Package June 6, 2025

Durham Region Municipalities Correspondence

1. The Regional Municipality of Durham – Monitoring of Growth Trends
 - Background Materials: [Report 2025-INFO-40](#)
2. The Regional Municipality of Durham – Courtice Transit-Oriented Community District Energy System – Recommended Business Model and Governance Framework to Enable Implementation
 - Background Materials: [Report COW-2025-19](#)
3. The Regional Municipality of Durham – MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement – Government-to-Government Collaboration between the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) and the Region of Durham
4. The Regional Municipality of Durham – Sole Source Procurement for the Preparation of the GO Lakeshore East Extension Transit Station Charge Background Study
 - Background Materials: [Report COW-2025-20](#)
5. The Regional Municipality of Durham – Response to Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing the Economy Act, 2025
 - Background Materials: [Report 2025-CG-7](#)
6. City of Pickering – Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
7. City of Oshawa – City Comments on Bill 17, the Proposed 'Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025'
 - Background Materials: [Report ED-25-81](#)

Other Municipalities, Organizations and Individuals Correspondence

8. Town of Goderich – Rejection of President Trump's Rhetoric re: Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs
9. Town of The Blue Mountains – Advocating for a Reduced Provincial Tax Rate on Ontario-Made Craft Cider

10. [Municipality of Kincardine – Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act](#)
11. [City of Peterborough – Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025](#)
12. [District of Parry Sound Municipal Association – Supporting Municipal Ethics Through Access and Education](#)
13. [County of Prince Edward – Bill 5 Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025](#)
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Summary of Advisory Committee Activities

16. [Accessibility Advisory Committee](#)
17. [Heritage Advisory Committee](#)

Proclamations and Flag Raisings

18. World Sickle Cell Day – June 19, 2025
19. Pride Month 2025 – June 2, 2025
 - Flag Raising at Pat Bayly Square
20. Filipino Heritage Month – June 10, 2025
 - Flag Raising at Pat Bayly Square
21. The International Day of Action Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia – May 16, 2025
 - Flag Raising at Pay Bayly Square
22. Trinidad and Tobago Independence Day – August 29, 2025
 - Flag Raising at Pay Bayly Square

Staff Correspondence

None.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact: accessibility@ajax.ca or 905-619-2529, extension 3347.



May 28, 2025

Josef Filipowicz
Executive Director of Policy
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
Department –
Legislative Services
Division

605 Rossland Rd. E.
Level 1
PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
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durham.ca

**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

Dear J. Filipowicz:

**RE: Courtice Transit-Oriented Community District Energy
System – Recommended Business Model and
Governance Framework to Enable Implementation
(2025-COW-19), Our File: D00**

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025, adopted the following recommendations of the Committee of the Whole:

- “A) That Regional Staff be directed to collaborate with staff from the Municipality of Clarington to prepare the comprehensive business case study and conduct the public consultation required under the Municipal Act and the regulations to allow the municipalities to create a Joint Municipal Services Board (JMSB) to govern the delivery of a district energy system (DES) in the Courtice Transit Oriented Community (CTOC), and a jointly owned Municipal Services Corporation (MSC) with a mandate to develop, own, and operate the CTOC DES;
- B) That staff be directed to take necessary steps to submit a preliminary funding application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Green Municipal Fund Community Energy Systems Capital Project Stream for a combined grant and loan up to a maximum of \$10 million to support the first phase of the proposed CTOC DES project;

- C) That staff be directed to explore opportunities for public and private sector financing partnerships to support the implementation of the proposed CTOC DES, including grant funding from the federal and provincial governments, as well as project financing opportunities through the Canada Infrastructure Bank, Infrastructure Ontario, and other institutions;
- D) That staff be directed to undertake a non-binding Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) to identify potential private sector partners to enable the provision of necessary infrastructure, operational support, and expertise in DES delivery in the CTOC;
- E) That staff be directed to report back to Council before the end of Q1 2026 with a comprehensive business case study for a jointly-owned Municipal Service Board and MSC between the Region and Clarington for final approval to create both entities, including key recommendations on how the entities are proposed to be governed and managed, sources of capital to enable project implementation, available preliminary business case updates, key partnerships with third parties for project implementation and operations, as well as a detailed project implementation plan that shows how the infrastructure will be delivered in time for the high density development planned around the future Courtice GO Station; and
- F) That a copy of Report #2025-COW-19 of the Chief Administrative Officer be forwarded to local area municipalities in Durham Region, GTHA upper-tier Regional Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines, Natural Resources Canada, the Durham Region Home Builders' Association (DRHBA), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), for their information."

Please find enclosed a copy of Report #2025-COW-19 for your information.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras, M.P.A.
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk
AH/tf

- c: D. Androusenkov, Deputy Chief of Staff/Director, Stakeholder Relations,
Ministry of Energy and Electrification
The Honourable T. Hodgson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
J. Grossi, Clerk, Town of Ajax
F. Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
J. Gallagher, Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
M. Medeiros, Clerk, City of Oshawa
S. Cassel, Clerk, City of Pickering
B. Labelle, Clerk, Township of Scugog
D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
C. Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
G. Milne, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Halton
A. Adams, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Peel
C. Raynor, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Durham Region Home Builders' Association
S. Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability



May 28, 2025

Carole Saab
Chief Executive Officer
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
24 Clarence St.
Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3

Dear C. Saab:

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
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**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

RE: MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement – Government-to-Government Collaboration between the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) and the Region of Durham (2025-COW-18), Our File: C00

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025, adopted the following recommendations of the Committee of the Whole:

- “A) That the MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement (Appendix 1 to Report #2025-COW-18 of the Chief Administrative Officer) be endorsed for signature;
- B) That staff be directed to plan for a signing ceremony to occur at a mutually-agreed upon date; and
- C) That a copy of the MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement be forwarded to local area municipalities in Durham Region, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), for their information.”

Please find enclosed a copy of the MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement for your information.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras, M.P.A.
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk

AH/tf

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Legislative Services at clerks@durham.ca or at 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

- c:
- B. Rosborough, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
 - J. Grossi, Clerk, Town of Ajax
 - F. Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
 - J. Gallagher, Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
 - M. Medeiros, Clerk, City of Oshawa
 - S. Cassel, Clerk, City of Pickering
 - B. Labelle, Clerk, Township of Scugog
 - D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
 - C. Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
 - S. Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

COLLABORATION AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”)

BETWEEN

**THE MISSISSAUGAS OF SCUGOG ISLAND FIRST NATION
(“MSIFN”)**

AND

**THE REGION OF DURHAM
(the “Region”)**

1. Introduction

This Agreement forms the foundation for government-to-government collaboration between the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) and the Region of Durham (“Durham”, or the “Region”). These are herein referred to as the “Parties”, which are described as follows.

MSIFN is member of the Williams Treaties First Nations (WTFNs), with reserve, traditional, and treaty territory lands that are within what is now known as Durham. Since time immemorial, Michi Saagiig (Mississauga) people have secured their needs from the surrounding environment. However, the cumulative impacts of development across the entire WTFN territory have greatly reduced the opportunities available for MSIFN’s rights and practices.

Implementation of the 1923 Williams Treaties by the Crown resulted in the denial of rights, including harvesting rights, and lack of proper compensation and additional lands. In 2018, the WTFNs negotiated a Settlement Agreement with the Crown that recognizes pre-existing rights, including treaty harvesting rights, for WTFN members, and facilitates the addition of up to 11,000 acres to each of the seven WTFNs’ reserve land base.

Decisions that occurred in the Region prior to 2018 may not have recognized these pre-existing rights, which has exacerbated the cumulative impacts. Decisions subsequent to

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

the Settlement Agreement may support, or extinguish, MSIFN's ability to secure an additional 11,000 acres of reserve land.

Durham Region covers a diverse landscape that includes urban centres and rural communities, as well as natural spaces and agricultural lands. These are the lands and waters with which Indigenous Peoples have had a relationship of reciprocity since time immemorial.

Within the Region of Durham there are eight local area municipalities, including the Town of Ajax, Township of Brock, Municipality of Clarington, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering, Township of Scugog, Township of Uxbridge, and the Town of Whitby. Currently home to more than 750,000 residents, Durham Region continues to be one of the fastest growing communities in Canada.

Durham supports the 2018 Settlement Agreement and looks forward to a positive future of respect and collaboration.

2. Purpose

This Agreement will help to further reconciliation between the Parties, while opening new opportunities to advance mutual goals. The Parties are committed to:

- 2.1.1** Developing and maintaining a long-term relationship that encourages trust and respect.
- 2.1.2** Learning more about one another, including each other's goals for their communities and the lands and waters within the Region.
- 2.1.3** Protecting, caring for, and restoring lands and waters for mutual benefit of their communities and support of MSIFN rights, including harvesting rights.
- 2.1.4** Collaborating on clean energy and infrastructure economic development opportunities to the mutual benefit of the Parties, the climate and natural environment, and economic reconciliation.
- 2.1.5** Considering opportunities for joint investment in revenue-generating infrastructure services where MSIFN's ability to secure low-cost capital may assist the Region in advancing and accelerating necessary infrastructure.

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

- 2.1.6** Upholding and furthering principles of reconciliation that are outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Report, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and Canada's United Nations Declaration on the federal United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (UNDRIPA).

3. Working Together

3.1 Communications and Confidentiality

The following provisions will provide the guiding communication principles for collaboration between the Parties during the implementation of this Agreement.

- 3.1.1** The Parties will engage in open, honest, meaningful, and transparent communications on matters of mutual interest or concern. Discussions can be informal, and agreements reached during discussions will be documented.
- 3.1.2** The Parties will maintain confidentiality in mutual communications when appropriate, while recognizing the nature of governance and applicable legislation, including the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act that relates to the Parties, and the First Nations Principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession, (OCAP). When OCAP principles are not in contravention of MFIPPA, they will be applied. In cases where OCAP principles contravene MFIPPA, the Region must conform to MFIPPA.
- 3.1.3** Durham will deploy resources to seek to reduce the administrative burden on MSIFN. This will include:
- a) Engaging MSIFN on matters of interest as early as possible.
 - b) Moving away from a fragmented approach to consultation files and towards approaches that are more coordinated and collaborative in nature (see 3.2.3). The Region will engage in consultation beyond the files on which it has been delegated the constitutional Duty to Consult.
 - c) Summarizing key impacts and opportunities for files provided to MSIFN (e.g., clean energy partnership opportunities, impacts on key environmental features).

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

- 3.1.4** The Parties will meet at least quarterly, but more as needed to review matters of interest under this Agreement. Specifically:
- a) Meetings will begin with general updates from both Parties and will then focus on project-specific matters with support from key project team members.
 - b) The Region will provide consistency in staff to build institutional memory and support relationship building.
 - c) Attendees will include at least two appointees made by each Party.
- 3.1.5** Within 90 days of signing, the Parties will meet to begin preparing an annual work plan.
- 3.1.6** The Parties will collaboratively establish key decision points on matters that could have irreversible impacts on the lands and waters that are critical for current and future practice of Indigenous rights.
- 3.1.7** The Region will investigate the establishment of an Indigenous Advisory Committee, similar to existing Committees of Council that provide insight and advice.

3.2 Collaboration Opportunities

The Parties agree to advance the following opportunities for collaboration:

3.2.1 Ecological Protection and Restoration

The parties commit to working together to protect lands and waters within the Region, while advancing ecological restoration opportunities that also support cultural connections to restored ecosystems, recognizing that:

- a) The Region contains lands that have historically provided sustenance and cultural connections of critical importance to MSIFN members. However, the extensive development of the Region means that many members are no longer, or have never, been able to practice their rights that depend on healthy lands and waters.
- b) Protection of remaining natural areas and their health is critical to prevent exacerbated cumulative impacts on MSIFN rights. As a shared responsibility, protection of ecosystems should occur in a manner that upholds MSIFN rights, interests, and equally values Indigenous Knowledge alongside western science/assessments.

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

- c) The high magnitude of cumulative impacts of past decisions at all levels means that restoration of lands and waters is crucial. Restoration should aim to support MSIFN member's cultural connections, while healing ecosystems that both Parties' community members rely on.
- d) Ontario's policies and programs will be treated as a minimum, the Parties will strive to higher standards whenever possible.

3.2.2 Economic Development, Partnerships, Arts and Culture

This Agreement will support economic reconciliation and climate change mitigation by:

- a) Facilitating clean energy development and partnerships, while also supporting First Nation procurement opportunities.
- b) Ensuring opportunities for the Region to learn about MSIFN businesses, to inform MSIFN with respect to the types of contractors the Region engages, and to identify and reduce barriers to entry for First Nation participation.
- c) Exploring opportunities for joint economic development initiatives, land use or acquisition or joint infrastructure investments on mutually beneficial priorities, including through participation in the Durham Economic Development Partnership (DEDP) table, and as a permanent member of the Durham Economic Task Force (DETF).
- d) Leveraging MSIFN community connections for input into art, design, and cultural opportunities, including placemaking and the identification of spaces to host community work.

3.2.3 Consultation, Accommodation and Collaboration

Within Durham, local area municipalities now provide planning files to MSIFN for consultation. To the extent possible, the Parties commit to improving the process to support MSIFN's rights and interests, including:

- a) Establishing consultation and accommodation protocols that allow for a coordinated approach that proactively considers the cumulative impacts of decisions.
- b) Approaching the creation and review of key strategic and corporate documents (e.g., infrastructure and service planning) through a lens that examines potential connections to MSIFN reserve and fee simple lands.

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

- c) Servicing considerations (e.g. public transportation, Regional roads, waste management, etc.) will include the potential for MSIFN partnerships.
- d) Durham will help identify and support opportunities for MSIFN to acquire lands under the fee simple process outlined in the WTFN Settlement Agreement.

3.3 Terms and Conditions

The Parties agree to abide by the following terms and conditions:

- a) Reasonable capacity funding will be provided to facilitate MSIFN participation in this Agreement.
- b) This will be a living document that can be revised from time-to-time with mutual agreement of the Parties. The parties will review the Agreement annually to ensure that it is serving its intended purpose.
- c) The Agreement will have an initial five-year term that can be extended by mutual agreement, in writing.
- d) The Agreement can be terminated with 30 days written notice by either Party, which should include reasoning for termination. Prior to issuing written notice, the Parties agree to meet and work towards resolution of any concerns. During the 30-day written notice period, the Parties will meet and attempt to address the reasoning for termination given in the notice.
- e) Any disputes will be elevated to MSIFN's Chief and/or assigned Councillor, along with Durham's Regional Chair.
- f) This Agreement does not constitute consultation, and does not superseded MSIFN's inherent, Aboriginal, or Treaty rights.

Appendix 1- MSIFN-Durham Bilateral Agreement

SIGNED THE _____ day of _____ 2025.

**MISSISSAUGAS OF SCUGOG ISLAND
FIRST NATION**

REGION OF DURHAM

Chief Kelly LaRocca

Regional Chair and CEO John Henry

Councillor Sylvia Coleman

Signatory 2

Councillor Jeff Forbes

Signatory 3

This Letter Has Been Forwarded
To The Eight Area Clerks

Sent Via Email



May 28, 2025

Jaclyn Grossi
Clerk
Town of Ajax
65 Hardwood Ave S
Ajax, ON L1S 2H9

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
Department –
Legislative Services
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**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

Dear J. Grossi:

**RE: Sole Source Procurement for the preparation of the GO
Lakeshore East Extension Transit Station Charge
Background Study (2025-COW-20), Our File: T05**

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025, adopted the following recommendations of the Committee of the Whole:

- “A) That a sole source contract for the preparation of the Transit Station Charge Background Study be awarded to a consultant team led by N. Barry Lyon Consultants (NBLC), including Watson & Associates Economists Limited, with an upset limit of \$175,000, to be funded from the anticipated Transit Station Charge (TSC), with interim financing to be sourced at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance;
- B) That authorization be provided to proceed with the Transit Station Charge Background Study as soon as possible as per the GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023;
- C) That the Region advise the Province that it will contribute all the funds it collects from the Transit Station Charge over 30 years following approval of the TSC by-law after deducting financing and any other related costs, toward the cost of the four new GO Train Stations;

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Legislative Services at clerks@durham.ca or at 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

- D) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the necessary agreements and contracts to implement the above-noted actions; and
- E) That a copy of Report #2025-COW-20 of the Commissioners of Finance and Community Growth and Economic Development be forwarded to the area municipalities for their information.”

Please find enclosed a copy of Report #2025-COW-20 for your information.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras, M.P.A.
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk
AH/tf

c: N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance
L. Loverly, Director, Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development



SENT VIA EMAIL

May 29, 2025

Jaclyn Grossi
Clerk
Town of Ajax
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax, ON L1S 2H9

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
Department –
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**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

Dear Ms. Grossi:

**RE: Region of Durham Response to Bill 5, Protect Ontario by
Unleashing the Economy Act, 2025 (2025-CG-7), Our File:
C13**

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025, adopted the following recommendations:

“A) That the letter dated May 16, 2025, found in Attachment #1 to Report #2025-CG-7 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, be endorsed as the Region of Durham’s response to Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing the Economy Act, 2025, including the following key comments:

- i) The Region supports efforts to streamline the approvals process for mining projects in Ontario when it does not come at the expense of safeguarding against environmental and community impacts;
- ii) The Region is supportive of mechanisms that would result in increased local procurement in the electricity sector. Limiting competition, however, could increase costs if local or preferred suppliers are more expensive than international alternatives, which may result in increased electricity prices for ratepayers;
- iii) Proposed amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990, fail to address systemic issues in archaeological resource management, such as delayed consultation with Indigenous communities and unilateral provincial control over Indigenous artifacts and cultural heritage. Additionally, the proposed amendments exacerbate already weakened heritage protections brought in through Bill 23. Any exemptions under the Ontario Heritage Act could result in negative impacts, including the destruction of Indigenous artifacts and burial sites;

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 extension 2097.

- iv) The new proposed regime for endangered species and at-risk species is designed for more flexible permitting and registry-based approvals, rather than automatic prohibitions on activities that harm listed species or their habitats. Additionally, narrowing the definition of habitat in the ESA to just the immediate area surrounding dwelling sites excludes protection of broader ecosystems that endangered and at-risk species rely on for survival. While these changes could expedite development approvals, they may also reduce environmental oversight;
 - v) The “trusted proponent” model under the Special Economic Zones Act, 2025, may create a two-tier development system, favouring select private businesses with fewer regulations; and
 - vi) The Region should be included in consultations related to the identification of Special Economic Zones within Durham and the selection of “trusted proponents” that would operate within the region; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2025-CG-7 be forwarded to the Region’s local area municipalities, conservation authorities, and Williams Treaty First Nations.”

Please find enclosed a copy of Report #2025-CG-7 for your information and be advised that, in accordance with recommendation B) contained in the report, a copy of Report #2025-CG-7 has also been forwarded to each of the Region’s local area municipalities, conservation authorities, and Williams Treaty First Nations.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras,
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk

AH/vw

Enclosed

c: C. Goodchild, Director of Community Growth

Sent by Email

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
1550 Kingston Rd., Suite 213
Pickering, ON L1V 1C3
peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Subject: Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 26, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS individuals and families receiving income support through Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are facing increasing challenges in meeting basic needs due to rising costs of living;

And Whereas Statistics Canada notes that people with disabilities have a higher poverty rate and a lower rate of employment than the overall population;

And Whereas the annual income support for Ontario Works is currently \$8,796.00 and \$16,416.00 for Ontario Disability Support Program. These supports have not increased sufficiently to keep up with inflation and the cost of living. Such costs are anticipated to continue increasing;

And Whereas the low income measure for a single person in Greater Toronto Area is estimated to be approximately \$27,343 annually, and the deep income poverty threshold is determined to be \$20,508;

And Whereas Food Banks, including our local Food Banks, provide a necessary service with increasing demands in our communities;

And Whereas the Pickering Food Bank served 1,722 adults, and 1,054 children in February 2025;

And Whereas food banks are already reducing their distribution capacity; and it is anticipated that due to developing economic circumstances, such as the current tariff war, there will be increased unemployment, increased food prices, and a heightened demand for food distribution, while donations continue to decline;

And Whereas these economic trends will continue to erode the purchasing power of OW and ODSP recipients, increasing reliance on food banks and placing additional pressure on municipalities and community organizations;

Now therefore it be resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. That staff send a letter to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, to strongly urge that the Ontario Provincial Government significantly raise the payments of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program and the increases be reflected in the upcoming Provincial Budget and that the increased amount aligns with inflationary costs and thereby decrease the pressure on food banks and the reliance on municipalities and taxpayers to supplement the gap in financial need; and,
2. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Regional Municipality of Durham, all Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: Robert Cerjanec, MPP Ajax
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

All Ontario Municipalities

Chief Administrative Officer

June 5, 2025

File: 12-03-3626

Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent via email to: PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca
chetan.kania@ontario.ca
mto.ero@ontario.ca

Re: City Comments on Bill 17, the Proposed "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025"

Please be advised that the Economic and Development Services Committee at a meeting held on June 2, 2025 dealt with the above-noted matter and adopted the following recommendation:

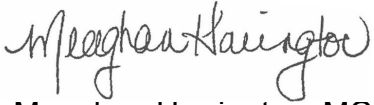
"That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025, including Attachment 3, be endorsed as the City's comments on the Province's proposed amendments to certain Acts under Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025".
2. That Economic and Development Services staff be authorized to submit the comments contained in Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 related to Bill 17, "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025" in response to the associated proposals posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario website, together with the related resolution of the Economic and Development Services Committee, to the Province for its consideration, and to provide a subsequent follow-up once Council has considered this matter.
3. That staff be authorized to forward a copy of Report ED-25-81 dated May 28, 2025 and the related Council resolution to the Region of Durham, Durham area municipalities, and Durham area M.P.P.s."

Please find enclosed a copy of Report ED-25-81 for your consideration in response to Bill 17, the Proposed "Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025".

Please be advised that Report ED-25-81 is being sent in advance of City Council's endorsement in order to meet the commenting deadline. In the event that Report ED-25-81 is not supported by City Council, staff will ask the Province to consider the comments as withdrawn.

If you require further information or clarification, please contact Raisa Chowdhury at the address shown or by telephone at (905) 436-3311, extension 2052 or by email to rchowdhury@oshawa.ca.



Meaghan Harrington, MCIP, RPP, Manager
Policy

RC/k

Attachment

- c. Region of Durham
Durham area municipalities
Durham area M.P.P.s

Friday, May 9, 2025

RE: Notice of Motion – Town of Goderich Rejection of President Trump’s Rhetoric Regarding the Annexation of Canada and Trade Tariffs

To Whom It May Concern;

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, March 17, 2025, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS President Trump's rhetoric about the annexation of Canada is both offensive and unacceptable, undermining Canada's sovereignty and the respectful relationship between our two nations;

WHEREAS the Government of the United States, under President Trump, intends to impose unjustified trade tariffs on Canada that will cause harm to both nations' economies, local businesses, and workers;

WHEREAS the above noted actions contradict the principles of diplomatic dialogue and fair trade that Canada has long championed in our international relations;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Goderich has a responsibility to defend the values of peace, cooperation, and mutual respect, and safeguard the interests of our community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich condemns divisive and harmful rhetoric regarding the potential annexation of Canada, and categorically rejects trade tariffs imposed by President Trump;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich send the attached letter to American municipal and business leaders that the town has had longstanding friendly relationships with expressing our concerns and

advocating for the return of a constructive and positive relationship between our countries:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Goderich encourages other Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions, advocate to their municipal and business partners in the United States and join us in a collective voice to preserve the dignity and sovereignty of our nation.

CARRIED

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

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/mp

Friday, May 9, 2025

We are writing today to advise of the Town of Goderich's deep concern regarding recent rhetoric from the American federal government including threats to annex Canada, and American tariffs on Canadian goods. As a community that values the long-standing cooperation between our nations, we appeal to you as leaders in your community to advocate for the end of such damaging rhetoric and policies.

Canada is a proud nation with our own democratic system, values, and identity. As Canadians, we hold a deep commitment to our sovereignty and independence, and we are overwhelmingly opposed to President Trump's annexation rhetoric. American threats to annex Canada disregard the liberty, democracy, and self-determination that both of our nations hold in high esteem. They undermine the peace and respect that have long defined the relationship between our two countries, they are an affront to Canadian values and destabilize our cooperative future.

American tariffs on Canadian goods present significant economic problems for both our countries. Canada is the United States' largest trading partner with over \$700 billion in goods and services exchanged annually (*Government of Canada, 2024*). American and Canadian businesses rely on our integrated supply chains to thrive. Tariffs will disrupt this flow of goods, raise prices for consumers, and hurt local businesses on both sides of the border. In fact, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has estimated that American tariffs on Canadian goods could result in up to \$40 billion in losses for American businesses and consumers (*U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 2023*).

Like many other municipalities in Canada, the Town of Goderich shares strong ties with the United States through trade, tourism, and business. These connections have fostered economic development, supported jobs, and created a robust relationship that benefits communities on both sides of the border. We ask that you, as local leaders, urge your federal government to end the rhetoric of annexation and any other threats or economic actions that disrupt our strong, peaceful, and mutually beneficial relationship. The economic and social consequences of continued tensions are felt in all communities that depend on cross-border trade, tourism, and cooperation.

We urge you to advocate for policies that foster collaboration and mutual respect. As community leaders, we have a unique role to play in building bridges between our nations. We are at our best when we work together, and it is crucial that we continue to nurture the strong, cooperative relationship we have built to foster peace and prosperity between our countries.

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



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Bazinet", is positioned above the typed name.

Trevor Bazinet, Mayor
Town of Goderich
tbazinet@goderich.ca
/mp

From: Carrie Fairley <cfairley@thebluemountains.ca>

Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 2:47 PM

To: premier@ontario.ca; peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; Jones, Trevor <trevor.jones@pc.ola.org>; Saunderson, Brian <brian.saunderson@pc.ola.org>; Vickers, Paul <paul.vickers@pc.ola.org>; Grey County <Tara.Warder@grey.ca>; nina.tangri@pc.ola.org

Cc: Town Clerk <townclerk@thebluemountains.ca>; Council <council@thebluemountains.ca>; SMT <SeniorManagementTeam@thebluemountains.ca>

Subject: Advocating for a Reduced Provincial Tax Rate on Ontario-Made Craft Cider

You don't often get email from cfairley@thebluemountains.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do NOT reply, click links (embedded links) or open attachment(s) unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

This email is being sent to the attention of Premier Doug Ford, Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Honourable Trevor Jones, , MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers, MPP Nina Tangri, Grey County and to all municipalities in Ontario, with a request to support the following Resolution that was passed by Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains at the May 14, 2025, Special Meeting of Council:

WHEREAS the Town of The Blue Mountains boasts a robust agricultural sector and a thriving agritourism industry, with numerous local cideries contributing significantly to the local economy, employment, and tourism;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's craft cider industry is experiencing substantial growth, with over 60 craft cideries across the province, many of which are situated in rural communities and utilize 100% Ontario-grown apples and are 100% made in Ontario, thereby supporting local agriculture and local economies;

AND WHEREAS under the current provincial tax structure, cider is officially classified and taxed at the same rate as imported wine which results in higher markups and taxes compared to craft beer, despite cider's comparable production processes and market positioning;

AND WHEREAS this tax disparity places Ontario's craft cider producers at a competitive disadvantage compared to craft brewers, despite the fact that Ontario cider utilizes 100% Ontario-grown apples and is 100% made in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Craft Cider Association (OCCA) has been actively advocating for a tax structure that levels the playing field between craft cider and craft beer, recognizing the potential for job creation, economic growth, and the promotion of local agriculture;

AND WHEREAS the Town acknowledges and appreciates the Province's investment in marketing and promotional support for the craft cider industry, but maintains that long-term sustainability and competitiveness for Ontario cider producers requires an adjustment to the underlying tax framework;

AND WHEREAS this motion is meant to support, not oppose, initiatives for fair taxation of the Ontario Craft Cider industry the Province of Ontario may be considering.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains:

1. Supports the efforts of the Ontario Craft Cider Association in advocating for a fair and equitable tax structure for Ontario-made craft cider.
2. Urges the Province of Ontario to review and amend the current tax regulations to align the tax rate of craft cider with that of craft beer, thereby fostering a more balanced and supportive environment for local cider producers.
3. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's recent investment in marketing initiatives for the cider sector, while calling for complementary reform of the tax and markup structure that continues to disadvantage cider producers relative to other craft alcohol categories;
4. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers and MPP Nina Tangri and the County of Grey requesting their consideration and support.
5. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, encourages other municipalities with vested interests in agriculture and agri-tourism to adopt similar resolutions, amplifying the collective voice advocating for the prosperity of Ontario's craft cider industry.

Warm regards,



Carrie Fairley

Acting Deputy Clerk

Secretary-Treasurer to Committee of Adjustment

Town of The Blue Mountains, 32 Mill Street, P.O. Box 310, Thornbury, ON N0H

2P0

Tel: 519-599-3131 ext. 219 | Fax: 519-599-7723

Email: cfairley@thebluemountains.ca | Website: www.thebluemountains.ca

As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication support or alternate formats.

Council Meeting

Motion # 05/14/2025 - 14
Title: Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act
Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Moved by: Jennifer Prenger
Seconded by: Beth Blackwell

Whereas the Ontario government has fast-tracked Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025 (Bill 5), such that it was referred to the Standing Committee on the Interior on May 6, 2025, after being first read on April 17, 2025, and

Whereas the written submission deadline for participation on Bill 5 is May 26, 2025, at 6:00 PM (EDT), and

Whereas Bill 5 would enact the Special Economic Zones Act, 2025; amend/repeal the Endangered Species Act, 2007 and replace it by enacting the Species Conservation Act, 2025; and amend various Acts including the Ontario Heritage Act, the Mining Act, the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, and the Electricity Act, 1998 and to revoke various regulations in relation to development and procurement, and

Whereas Bill 5 will allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to create zones anywhere in Ontario where municipal and provincial laws will not apply, and where projects or proponents can be exempted from requirements under provisions of an Act or of a regulation, including environmental and heritage laws, and

Whereas the provisions of Bill 5 as written include anti-democratic principles and risks undermining civil liberties, Indigenous rights, the environment and local government oversight, and

Whereas the Municipality of Kincardine believes that the provincial priorities of housing, resource development and economic development can be achieved without subverting existing laws, undermining municipal authority, threatening the environment, restricting industry growth, or undermining informed consent with Indigenous communities; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Kincardine hereby opposes Bill 5; and
That Council formally express its opposition to Bill 5 in favour of preserving democracy, transparency, accountability, the environment, civil liberties, and Indigenous rights; and

That Council encourage the province to prioritize democratic principles and governance systems that support responsible development, environmental preservation, and acknowledge our responsibility to future generations; and

That Council formally request that the Ontario government reject Bill 5; and

That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, ; the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; MPP Lisa Thompson; all Ontario municipalities; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and the Standing Committee on the Interior.

Carried.

Jennifer Lawrie

Clerk

**Resolution of Council
City Council Meeting**

Title: Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025
Date: May 20, 2025

WHEREAS:

- 1. A municipality's parks and open spaces are critical infrastructure that support a strong community, and the public's shared and safe use of the municipality's parks and open spaces is integral to ensuring that support.**
- 2. Ontario's municipalities are struggling to maintain their parks and open spaces for their shared and safe use by the public as a result of the increasing proliferation of encampments and illicit activities related thereto.**
- 3. Municipalities that enforce their standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in their parks and open spaces must have regard to the availability of shelter space for those who need shelter.**
- 4. On January 27, 2023, Justice Valente of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice rendered his judgment in Waterloo (Regional Municipality) v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained (2023), [2023] O.J. No. 417 (Waterloo Decision) which declared that the municipality's by-law violated section 7 of the Charter and was therefore inoperative insofar as it applied to prevent encampment residents from erecting temporary shelters on a site when the number of homeless individuals in the region exceeded the number of accessible shelter beds.**
- 5. The Waterloo Decision's analysis of the adequacy of shelter beds suggests an unworkable and unclear standard that goes beyond the number of shelter spaces and that includes the requirement to provide shelter spaces that must accommodate illicit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk. The result is that municipalities are impaired in their enforcement of their standards and have lost or are losing control of their parks and open spaces.**
- 6. On December 12, 2024, the provincial government introduced Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024. Among its various initiatives, Bill 242 proposed to amend section 2 of the Trespass to Property Act by adding aggravating factors that must be considered in the court's determination of a penalty under that section. However, the key challenge was that a municipality's exercise of its rights at common law and under section 9 of the Trespass to Property Act to remove encampments from the municipality's parks and open spaces remained potentially subject to the unworkable and unclear standard for the adequacy of shelter space suggested by the Waterloo Decision.**
- 7. On January 13, 2025, Council of the City of Peterborough resolved to request the provincial government to amend Bill 242 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.**
- 8. Bill 242 died on the order paper as a result of the recent provincial election.**
- 9. On April 30, 2025, the provincial Government re-introduced the legislation in the form of Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025. Bill 6 is substantively the same as Bill 242.**
- 10. In these circumstances, municipalities continue to need provincial legislation that clearly defines a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.**

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved:

1. That the provincial government be respectfully requested to amend Bill 6 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
2. That, without limitation, Bill 6 provide that a municipality will have met the standard for shelter space for the purposes of the municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces:
 - a) despite the establishment and enforcement of shelter rules including rules that prohibit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk; and
 - b) if an official designated by the municipality is satisfied that the number of available shelter spaces is at least equal to the aggregate of the number of individuals actually seeking shelter and the number of individuals against whom the municipality is planning to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to:
 - a) Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
 - b) Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
 - c) Honourable Robert Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
 - d) Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
 - e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and to
 - f) Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

The above resolution, adopted by City Council is forwarded for your information and action, as required. Thank you.

John Kennedy

John Kennedy, City Clerk



District of Parry Sound Municipal Association

c/o Township of McKellar, 701 Hwy 124 McKellar, ON P0G 1C0

President: Lynda Carleton **Secretary-Treasurer:** Karlee Britton

RE: Supporting Municipal Ethics Through Access and Education

The District of Parry Sound Municipal Association (DPSMA), representing the twenty-three Municipalities within the District of Parry Sound, held its Spring 2025 meeting on May 23, 2025, in the Municipality of Callander. At this meeting, the following resolution was carried:

Moved by: Kathy Hamer (Municipality of McDougall)

Seconded by: Daniel O'Halloran (Township of McMurrich Monteith)

Whereas democracy is an open process – one that requires ongoing engagement between citizens and their elected officials; and

Whereas ethics and integrity are at the core of public confidence in government and in the political process; and

Whereas proper policies and procedures protect the democratic process; and

Whereas sections 223.2 and 223.3, Municipal Act, 2001 state all municipalities are required to adopt a Code of Conduct for members of Council and to appoint an Integrity Commissioner; and

Whereas it is the role of the Integrity Commissioner to educate member of Council on the Councillor Code of Conduct policy as well as to investigate alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct, at the municipality's expense; and

Whereas there are many new elected officials each term of Council who need access to information and proper training in order to do the work effectively and responsibility; and

Whereas Municipal Affairs and the Ombudsman's Office are hesitant to give information, so there is nowhere to ask questions and learn; and

Whereas the only source of information is to pay for fee-for-service on a case-by-case basis from the Integrity Commissioner which is very cost-prohibitive for small municipalities; and

Whereas Council is expected to oversee the management of taxpayers money and taxpayers deserve to know where their tax dollars are being spent;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the District of Parry Sound Municipal Association calls upon the Ontario government to provide free access to information so that Councils can be effective in their role in our democratic system; and

Further That the DPSMA hereby requests that Municipal Affairs and/or the Ombudsman's Office and/or the Integrity Commissioner provide, if requested by a municipality, sufficient particulars of each investigation to permit the municipality to fully understand and address the subject matter of each investigation.

Further That this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka and to all Ontario Municipalities for support.

Forwarded on behalf of the District of Parry Sound Municipal Association; For questions and/or inquires, please contact:



Karlee Britton | Secretary-Treasurer
District of Parry Sound Municipal Association
clerk@mckellar.ca
(705) 389-2842 x4

cc:

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
Municipalities within the District of Parry Sound
All Ontario Municipalities

May 28, 2025

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 27, 2025 the following resolution regarding Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025 was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 205-317

DATE: May 27, 2025

MOVED BY: Councillor MacNaughton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to many Acts within one bill which undermine environmental protections in order to "unleash the economy"; and

WHEREAS multiple inclusions will impact habitat, biodiversity protections and environmental integrity without proper process including but not limited to:

- **the repeal and replacement of the Endangered Species Act with a weaker act;**
- **the creation of a Special Economic Zones Act which will permit exemptions from legislated environmental protections;**
- **changes to provisions to the Mining Act which provide sweeping powers to the Minister of Energy and Mines that are poorly defined, subject to caprice, or possibly designed to enable exemption from environment protection; and**

WHEREAS proposed changes will override local planning authority, provincial legislation, and bylaw enforcement for the benefit of specific preferred proponents over the rights of Ontarians; and

WHEREAS First Nations citizens have an enshrined right to access their own archeology and Canadians have an enshrined responsibility to seek free, prior and informed consent from First Nation neighbours regarding land use; and

WHEREAS several proposed changes could imperil the health of lands and water for which First Nations have traditional and treaty rights; and

WHEREAS the provisions of the Special Economic Zones Act are not clear enough to ensure that there are adequate legal and environmental protections to offset risks to Ontarians and First Nations members, to provide adequate safeguards against bad faith environmental practice; and protect against unsafe labour practice as identified by labour sector organizations; and

WHEREAS fairness is enshrined in both Canada's and Ontario's laws yet proposed changes seem to permit prejudicial regulatory practice (e.g. codifying permissions for "trusted proponents" over others); and

WHEREAS the wording of the changes to the Electricity Act seem to support Canadian ownership of energy suppliers but appear to potentially restrict development of specific types of energy and could impact local renewable energy development; and

WHEREAS there is no evidence that undermining of environmental protections, local legal frameworks, and the rights of First Nations communities in Ontario are a necessary step to "unleash the economy"; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward supports any regulation that could encourage energy providers to Buy Canadian but urges the province to clarify the proposed provisions of the Energy Act and ensure they foster local green energy development; and

THAT the province remove the elements in Bill 5 that would reduce current environmental protections, reduce protections for species at risk, and reduce legal protection from bad faith actors in special economic zones; and

THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward urges the Province to further define Special Economic Zones and their purpose with more clarity and ensure that activities within such zones are equally subject to the local and provincial laws that support all of Ontario and First Nations people and foster our social, cultural and environmental prosperity;

AND FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward expresses solidarity with the concerns of our neighbouring community, Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and members of the Haudenosaunee Nation and support Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and their letter to the province of May 16th 2025, attached; and THAT this resolution be shared with the Honourable Doug Ford, Premiere of Ontario; Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and



From the Office of the Clerk
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727
clerks@pecounty.on.ca | www.thecounty.ca

Housing; Todd McCarthy Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Tyler Allsopp, Member of Provincial Parliament for Bay of Quinte; Chief Don Maracle, Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte; AMO; ROMA; and the Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

Yours truly,

Victoria Leskie, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton





Annette Groves
Mayor

Her Worship, Mayor Annette Groves
Office of the Mayor
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford,
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

Illegal land use, including unauthorized development, unapproved land alterations, and other non-compliant activities, poses significant threats to the Town's agricultural viability, water quality, and ecosystem health, in addition to decreasing adjacent land values and undermining public trust in land-use governance enforcement.

There have been approximately 1,300 properties investigated in Caledon for illegal land use since 2015, with the majority of instances being for the operation of illegal transportation depots.

Illegal transportation depots and parking lots undermine the success of Caledon's largest industry and employment sector. The prevalence of illegal transportation depots and parking lots, and their disregard for architectural and landscape standards, reduce the appeal for investment in prestige employment lands.

Penalties prescribed by the Planning Act are insufficient to deter violations, as they do not adequately reflect the economic gains derived from illegal land use activities and even maximum fines are difficult to obtain. The existing provisions in the Municipal Act specifically disallow municipalities from licensing transportation depots and truck parking.

In June 2023, the Town of Caledon wrote to your office requesting increased authority for municipalities to manage illegal land use including the ability to physically bar entry to properties and increase maximum penalty amounts for individuals and corporations. The Town has also made similar requests to the Honourable Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones, the Ministry of the

Attorney General, the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

At the June 3, 2025 General Committee Meeting, Council expressed support for a motion to strengthen municipal authority to effectively manage illegal land use by:

1. Amending the Planning Act to allow for a municipality to:

a. require a person to pay an administrative penalty if the municipality is satisfied that the person has contravened section 41, section 46, subsection 49 (4) or section 52 or who contravenes a by-law passed under section 34 or 38 or an order made under section 47; whereas municipalities cannot currently administer administrative penalty systems under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act and Building Code Act,

b. issue orders to discontinue a contravening activity or perform work to correct a contravention under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act, whereas the Act does not currently allow it.

c. enable a matter or thing to be done at a person's expense in default of it being done in accordance with an order made under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act; further, that the costs of such action taken by a municipality may be recovered by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes, whereas municipalities cannot currently perform remedial work under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act,

d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it,

e. increase the maximum penalty amounts to \$50,000 for an individual and \$100,000 for a corporation on a first conviction and \$25,000 for each day the contravention continues after a conviction for an individual and \$50,000 for a corporation, additionally, amending the Act to allow municipalities to establish minimum fines under Zoning and Site Plan Control by-laws and continuing offence penalties on a first conviction.

2. Amending the Municipal Act to allow for a municipality to:

a. provide a system of licenses under a business licensing by-law for the local parking and storage operations of transportation businesses, including transportation depots and parking lots, whereas municipalities cannot currently regulate the minimum standards appropriate for the community through Ontario Regulation 583/06 (Licensing Powers),

b. close a business operating without a license or engaged in egregious illegal land uses that significantly harm nearby residents, the environment, and public safety; whereas municipalities cannot currently close or prevent illegal land use or operations from continuing,

c. physically bar entry to properties where illegal land uses that have significant detrimental impacts on adjacent residential properties, the environment or create unsafe situations,

d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it

A copy of the notice of motion has been enclosed for your reference. For more information regarding this matter, please contact my Chief of Staff, Catherine Monast, directly by email at catherine.monast@caledon.ca or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4539. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mayor Annette Groves

Town of Caledon

The Honourable Ruby Sahota, Minister of Democratic Institutions and MP for Brampton North-Caledon, ruby.sahota@parl.gc.ca

Kyle Seeback, MP for Dufferin—Caledon, Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Transport and Internal Trade
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,
sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation minister.mto@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, doug.downey@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario, amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association, roma@roma.on.ca

City of Toronto, clerk@toronto.ca

York Region, regional.clerk@york.ca

City of Vaughan, clerks@vaughan.ca

Town of Richmond Hill, clerks@richmondhill.ca

Town of Markham, customerservice@markham.ca

Town of Aurora, info@aurora.ca

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, clerks@townofws.ca

King Township, clerks@king.ca

Town of Newmarket, clerks@newmarket.ca

Township of East Gwillimbury, clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca

Town of Georgina, info@georgina.ca

Region of Durham, clerks@durham.ca

Town of Ajax, clerks@ajax.ca

Township of Brock, Clerks@brock.ca

Municipality of Clarington, clerks@clarington.net
City of Oshawa, clerks@oshawa.ca
City of Pickering, clerks@pickering.ca
Township of Scugog, mail@scugog.ca
Township of Uxbridge, info@uxbridge.ca
Town of Whitby, clerks@whitby.ca
Brant County, info@brant.ca
City of Brantford, clerks@brantford.ca
Region of Peel, regional.clerk@peelregion.ca
City of Brampton, cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca
City of Mississauga, city.clerk@mississauga.ca
Dufferin County, info@dufferincounty.ca
Township of Amaranth, info@amaranth.ca
Township of East Garafraxa, clerks@eastgarafraxa.ca
Town of Grand Valley, mail@townofgrandvalley.ca
Township of Melancthon, info@melancthontownship.ca
Town of Mono, ClerksOffice@townofmono.com
Township of Mulmur, info@mulmur.ca
Town of Orangeville, clerksdept@orangeville.ca
Town of Shelburne, clerk@shelburne.ca
Haldimand County, info@haldimandcounty.on.ca
Halton Region, accesshalton@halton.ca
City of Burlington, cityclerks@burlington.ca
City of Hamilton, clerk@hamilton.ca
Town of Halton Hills, clerks@haltonhills.ca
Town of Milton, townclerk@milton.ca
Northumberland County, matherm@northumberland.ca
Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, info@ahtwp.ca
Municipality of Brighton, general@brighton.ca
Town of Cobourg, clerk@cobourg.ca
Township of Cramahe, clerk@cramahe.ca
Township of Hamilton, clerks@hamiltontownship.ca
Municipality of Port Hope, admin@porthope.ca
Municipality of Trent Hills, info@trenthills.ca
Peterborough County, info@ptbocounty.ca
Township of Asphodel-Norwood, info@antownship.ca
Township of Cavan Monaghan, services@cavanmonaghan.net
Township of Douro-Dummer, info@dourodummer.on.ca
Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, havbelmet@hbmtwp.ca
Township of North Kawartha, reception@northkawartha.on.ca
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, info@osmtownship.ca
Township of Selwyn, clerkadmin@stjosephtownship.com
Municipality of Trent Lakes, info@trenthills.ca
City of Peterborough, clerk@peterborough.ca
Wellington County, kimc@wellington.ca
Town of Erin, clerks@erin.ca
Town of Minto, info@town.minto.on.ca
Township of Centre Wellington, clerks@centrewellington.ca
City of Guelph, clerks@guelph.ca
Township of Mapleton, clerk@mapleton.ca
Township of Puslinch, admin@puslinch.ca

Township of Wellington North, township@wellington-north.com
Simcoe County, info@simcoe.ca
City of Barrie, cityinfo@barrie.ca
Town of Innisfil, inquiry@innisfil.ca
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, clerk@townofbwg.com
Town of New Tecumseth, info@newtecumseth.ca
City of Orillia, clerks@orillia.ca
Town of Collingwood, townhall@collingwood.ca
Township of Essa, llehr@essatownship.on.ca
Township of Oro-Medonte, info@oro-medonte.ca
Town of Wasaga Beach, clerk@wasagabeach.com
Town of Midland, clerks@midland.ca
Town of Clearview, info@clearview.ca
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Township of Tay, deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca
Township of Ramara, ramara@ramara.ca
Town of Penetanguishene, scooper@penetanguishene.ca
City of Kawartha Lakes, clerks@kawarthalakes.ca
Regional Niagara, clerk@niagararegion.ca
Town of Fort Erie, clerk@forterie.on.ca
Town of Grimsby, Administration-Office-General@grimsby.ca
Town of Lincoln, clerks@lincoln.ca
City of Niagara Falls, clerk@niagarafalls.ca
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, clerks@notl.com
Town of Pelham, clerks@pelham.ca
City of Port Colborne, CustomerService@portcolborne.ca
City of St. Catharines, clerks@stcatharines.ca
City of Thorold, clerk@thorold.com
Township of Wainfleet, mkirkham@wainfleet.ca
City of Welland, clerk@welland.ca
Township of West Lincoln, clerk2@westlincoln.ca
Regional Waterloo, regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca
City of Kitchener, clerks@kitchener.ca
City of Waterloo, olga.smith@waterloo.ca
City of Cambridge, servicecambridge@cambridge.ca
Township of Wilmot, info@wilmot.ca
Township of Wellesley, gkosch@wellesley.ca
Township of Woolwich, mail.woolwich@woolwich.ca
Township of North Dumfries, mail@northdumfries.ca

132 copies of the below template letter were received by the Municipal Clerk between May 26 and 28, 2025 from individuals across Ontario.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Clerks](#)
Subject: Petition to the Ontario Government: Stop Bill 5!
Date: Monday, May 26, 2025 8:18:34 AM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do NOT reply, click links (embedded links) or open attachment(s) unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Clerks Ajax,

As a resident in Durham region, and a supporter of responsible growth and democratic local government, I am writing to urge you to speak out against Bill 5: The Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025.

This legislation, if passed, would deal a serious blow to local decision-making, environmental protection, and the ability of municipalities like ours to manage growth in a sustainable and fiscally responsible way.

Why Bill 5 Should Concern Every Municipal Leader:

- It overrides local planning authority:

The creation of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) allows the Province to bypass municipal planning rules, official plans, and environmental policies — without local council input or public consultation.

- It undermines environmental protections:

The repeal of Ontario's Endangered Species Act weakens safeguards for sensitive lands, wetlands, and headwaters that many municipalities — including ours — have worked hard to protect.

- It exposes municipalities to financial risk:

Fast-tracked sprawl without proper planning threatens infrastructure capacity, increases flood risk, and shifts long-term costs to municipal taxpayers. These are costs we cannot afford to inherit.

- It weakens transparency and public trust:

Decisions affecting our community could be made behind closed doors in Toronto, bypassing the local democratic processes that ensure development reflects community needs and values.

I'm Asking You to Take Action!

As elected representatives of Durham Region, I urge you to:

- Pass a Motion to Publicly oppose Bill 5 and its threat to local governance -

Draft Motion - Motion: Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

- Work with fellow councillors and mayors across Ontario to call on the province to withdraw the Bill

- Advocate for a planning process that respects municipal authority, public input, and environmental sustainability

We need our local leaders to defend the principles of accountability, local control, and good planning.

Bill 5 puts our future at risk. Please speak out now — before decisions are taken out of your hands entirely.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Summary of Accessibility Advisory Committee Activities

Report To: Council
 Prepared By: Sarah Moore, Legislative Specialist
 Date: As of May 28, 2025



Accessibility Advisory Committee – May 21, 2025 (AAC-2025-05)

Agenda Item	Decision(s)/Motion(s)
<p>Autism Home Base Kelly Ng, Outreach and Inclusion Manager - Autism Home Base</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Ng presented an overview of Autism Home Base, its programs, services, mission, partnerships, community engagement, Lived Experience Autism Program training, and sensory-friendly spaces.
<p>Capital Projects, Parks, and Trails Tan Nguyen, Landscape Designer - Operations & Environmental Services</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Nguyen presented information on the following completed and 2025 scheduled projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meadows North Park ○ Cricket Field and Clubhouse Reconstruction ○ Harwood Ave MUP ○ Snowling Trail ○ Daste Parkette ○ Exeter Park Retrofit ○ Fairgrounds (ARC) ○ Hermitage Park West Playground ○ Town Hall Parking Lot Reconstruction ○ Remmer Neighbourhood Park ○ Lord Elgin park Retrofit ○ St. Catherine of Siena Park Retrofit ○ Accessible Pedestrian Signals • He sought feedback from the Committee on accessibility features of the projects presented.
<p>National AccessAbility Week Planning</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee reviewed several National AccessAbility Week details including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Final event schedule ○ Member participation and availability ○ Council delegation – May 20, 2025

Town of Ajax Summary of Advisory Committee Activities – May 2025

Agenda Item	Decision(s)/Motion(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promotion and communications
<p>Upcoming Important Dates, Events and Initiatives</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members reviewed several forthcoming important dates and event scheduled in the Month of June
<p>Follow-up Item(s) from March 19, 2025 Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members discussed several follow-up items from the previous meeting, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exploring feasibility of a StopGap pilot program and potential partnerships ○ Durham Region Transit joining the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program ○ Accessible Aquatics Recreation Equipment ○ 2025 Regional Accessibility Awards Nomination ○ Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility - Desk Audit ○ Town of Ajax Abilities Centre - 2025 Accessibility Award Nomination

To access Advisory Committee Meeting minutes and agendas, please visit www.ajax.ca/meetings.

Summary of Heritage Advisory Committee Activities

Report To: Council
 Prepared By: Sarah Moore, Legislative Specialist
 Date: As of May 27, 2025



Heritage Advisory Committee – May 7, 2025 (HAC-2025-05)

Agenda Item	Decision(s)/Motion(s)
<p>Heritage Impact Statement – 145-149 Kings Crescent</p>	<p>N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Sawchuck reviewed the Heritage Impact Statement prepared by David Eckler and David Dio. • He noted that the report concluded that the property did not meet the criteria for designation and recommended no further action.
<p>Delegation: Red Bricks Community -Tyler Hunting</p>	<p>N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler Hunting, Delegate, raised concerns about the integrity and thoroughness of the Heritage Impact Statement for 145-149 King’s Crescent. He emphasized the historical significance of the property. • T. Hunting requested that the Committee recommend that Ajax Council conduct a full public heritage review of the property. • The Committee discussed the Heritage Impact Statement and the concerns raised by the delegate. • Members asked the Delegate questions about seeking expert input on the heritage aspects of the property and sought clarification on his request for a public heritage review. • Members asked staff about the subjectivity of reviewing and applying O. Reg. 9/06 criteria, and the experience of the independent Heritage Impact Statement author.
<p>Heritage Permit – 13 Elizabeth Street</p>	<p>Moved by: N. Burnett Seconded by: P. Pryjma</p> <p>That staff approve Heritage Permit application HP01/25 to permit the installation of a new iron fence.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>

Town of Ajax Summary of Advisory Committee Activities – May 2025

Agenda Item	Decision(s)/Motion(s)
Plaque Unveiling	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Sawchuck provided an update on the agenda and planning for the upcoming plaque unveiling event for the DIL Supervisor Apartments, scheduled for May 23, 2025.
Audley Spirit Walk	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Sawchuck updated the committee on the Audley Spirit Walk. • Committee Members were asked to provide distinguishing features and physical attributes for the characters to be portrayed in the Audley Spirit Walk in advance of the next meeting.
Jane’s Walk Results	<p style="text-align: center;">N/A – information item only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Sawchuck recapped the May 3, 2025 Jane’s Walk event, noting the positive feedback and participation it received. • Members asked questions regarding promotion of the event and options to expand communication efforts for future walks.

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Summary of Heritage Advisory Committee Activities

Report To: Council
 Prepared By: Sarah Moore, Legislative Specialist
 Date: As of May 27, 2025



Heritage Advisory Committee – May 7, 2025 (HAC-2025-05)

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Town of Ajax Summary of Advisory Committee Activities – May 2025

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