



## The Corporation of The Township of Bonfield

### AGENDA FOR COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD May 28th, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**
4. **Adoption of previous minutes**
  - a. Regular Meeting of Council: May 14, 2024
5. **Presentations and Delegations:**
  - a. Dave Hodges – Proposed Changes to the Procedural By-Law 2023-48
  - b. Presentation from BDO – 2023 Financials
6. **Staff Reports**
  - a. Report from Public Works Manager – Report for Dust Suppression 2024
7. **Adoption of Committee Minutes/ Motions**
  - a. **Corporate Services Committee:** May 22, 2024 (recommendations)
  - b. **Emergency Services Committee:** No Minutes for this session
  - c. **Planning Advisory Committee:** May 16, 2024 (recommendations)
  - d. **Recreation Committee:** No Minutes for this session
  - e. **Police Services Board:** No Minutes for this session
8. **Items for Council Discussion:**
9. **Resolutions to be Considered for Adoption**
  - a. Resolution to adopt By-Law 2024-38 – 2024 Tax Ratios
  - b. Loyalist Township - Accessible Ontario by 2025
  - c. Municipality of Trent Hills - Funding Social Services
  - d. Town of Bracebridge - Request to the Province for New Provincial Municipal Fiscal Framework
  - e. Town of Smith Falls - Basic Income Guarantee
10. **Correspondence**
  - a. Updated Letter from Enbridge
  - b. Duane & Christina Howie - Letter Regarding User Fees
  - c. FONOM – Keeping Energy Costs Down Act
11. **Closed Session** – None for this session
12. **Confirmatory By-Law**
  - a. Resolution to adopt By-law No. 2024-37
13. **Adjournment**

*Small Community, Big Heart*





THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD  
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
May 14th, 2024

PRESENT: Narry Paquette, Chair  
Jason Corbett  
Dan MacInnis  
Donna Clark  
Steve Featherstone

STAFF PRESENT: Andrée Gagné, Deputy Clerk  
Alex Hackenbrook, Public Works Manager  
Nicky Kunkel, CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

**1. Call to Order**

**Motion 1**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis  
THAT this meeting be opened at 7:00 p.m.

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

Carried Narry Paquette

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion 2**

Moved by Councillor Featherstone  
THAT the agenda presented to Council and dated the 14th day of May 2024, be adopted as prepared.

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

Carried Narry Paquette

**3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:**

Councillor Corbett declared a pecuniary interest with agenda Item 10.g., he is one of the organizers of the cornhole tournament.

**4. Adoption of Previous Minutes**

**Motion 3**

Moved by Councillor Clark  
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 30th be adopted as circulated.

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

Carried Narry Paquette

**5. Presentation & Delegations**

**a. Presentation from the Bonfield Non-Profit Seniors Housing**

Jessica from the Community Non-Profit Seniors Housing Bonfield presented a report updating Council on the opening of the second phase of the project. Some background information was included in this report along with cash flow projections for the next five-year cycle (2024-2029) and provided data to support their projections.

**b. North Bay Mattawa Conservation – Final Inventory of Programs and Services**

Chithra Gowda of the NBMCA provided Council with a breakdown of what services they offer to the Township that form part of the annual levy. She provided Council with stats from the past three years.

## 6. Staff Reports

### 6.a Report from CAO – Risk Assessment - Intact Insurance Risk Report April 24, 2024

#### **Motion 4**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT Council receives the Intact Risk Management Report for information purposes.

Carried Narry Paquette

### 6.b Report from CAO & CBO – Building User Fees and By-Law

#### **Motion 5**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT Council accepts the report from staff reviewing the Building Department User Fees; AND FURTHER THAT By-law 2024-22 be read a second and third time and considered adopted in open session this 14th day of May 2024.

Carried Narry Paquette

### 6.c Report from CAO – Donation Policy

#### **Motion 6**

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT Council approves a donation of \$150.00 to the Bonfield Agricultural Society, \$200 to the Bonfield Food Bank and a \$200.00 donation to the Ste Bernadette Parish for the year 2024.

Carried Narry Paquette

## 7. Adoption of Committee Minutes/ Motions

#### **Motion 7**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

WHEREAS the Recreation & Fitness Committee recommended to Council to accept Nathalie Bertin's resignation from the Committee, that a letter be sent thanking her for her services; AND THAT advertising be placed on the website for members to sit on the Committee; BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT Council approves of this recommendation.

Carried Narry Paquette

## 8. Items for Council Discussion

### 8.a Resolution for Dave and Nancy Humphries

#### **Motion 8**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Clark

THAT Council for the Township of Bonfield does not agree to waive the fees for Dave & Nancy Humphries' re-zoning change of their property.

Carried Narry Paquette

## 9. Resolutions to be Considered for Adoption

### 9.a Municipality of Huron Shores – Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

#### **Motion 9**

Moved by Councillor Clark

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT the Council for the Township of Bonfield supports the Municipality of Huron Shores in urging the provincial government to promptly resume the assessment cycle.

Carried Narry Paquette

### 9.b FONOM – Declaration of Hope Day

#### **Motion 10**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT I, Mayor Narry Paquette, hereby proclaim June 7th, 2024 as “Hope Air Day” in the Township of Bonfield and that the Proclamation be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Carried Narry Paquette

### 9.c Town of Goderich – Phase-Out of Water Well Testing

#### **Motion 11**

Moved by Councillor Corbett

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT the Council for the Township of Bonfield supports the Town of Goderich in asking the Province not to proceed with the recommended phase-out of free private well testing in Ontario.

Carried Narry Paquette

### 9.d City of Peterborough – Ombudsman Letter

#### **Motion 12**

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT the Council for the Township of Bonfield supports the City of Peterborough requesting that a Bill be introduced to amend the Ombudsman Act to require the Ontario Ombudsman to provide to each municipality, if requested by the municipality, sufficient particulars of each investigation, matter or case respecting the municipality that is referred to in each of the Ombudsman’s Annual Reports to permit the municipality to fully understand and address the subject matter of each such investigation, matter or case including:

- i) a copy of each complaint, as applicable, redacted only to the extent of individuals’ personal information contained therein;
- ii) the identities of the municipality’s employees, officers and members of Council with whom the Ombudsman was consulting in respect of the investigation, matter or case; and
- iii) particulars of the outcome of the investigation, matter or case including the Ombudsman’s findings, conclusions and recommendations, if any.

Carried Narry Paquette

**10. Correspondence**

**Motion 13**

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

THAT Council receives the Correspondence circulated with the Agenda of May 14th, 2024.

Carried Narry Paquette

**11. Closed Session** (none for this meeting)

**12. Confirmatory By-Law**

**Motion 14**

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT the Council for the Township of Bonfield hereby adopts By-Law 2024-33 to confirm the proceedings of Council from April 30th, 2024 to May 14th, 2024, as presented and is considered read three times and passed this 14th day of May, 2024.

Carried Narry Paquette

**13. Adjournment**

**Motion 15**

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Carried Narry Paquette

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK

## Request to speak at next council meeting

davehodges95 <davehodges95@gmail.com>

Wed 5/15/2024 3:19 PM

To: Andrée Gagné <deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com>

You don't often get email from davehodges95@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello my name is Dave Hodges. I would like time to speak at the next council meeting. The discussion to take place will be in regards to a question period at meetings. I feel after last night's meeting that the voices of concerned citizens of this great town are not being heard properly or to the standard that the people would like. I would appreciate time to discuss with Council permanently adding a question period to each public meeting. I understand the current process as I am following it but for the average citizen these processes are foreign. I believe the process of getting on the agenda for these meetings is not clear to most. I believe this policy needs to be changed or adjusted so that everyone in the Bonfield Township can have their voice heard. In a time where governments are being held to higher transparency the voices of the people need to be heard and taken into account.

Thank you for your time

Dave Hodges

226 Railway St unit 2

Bonfield ON

7058252197

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

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## REPORT TO COUNCIL

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**MEETING DATE:** May 24, 2024  
**FROM:** Alex Hackenbrook, Public Works Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Dust Suppression - Quotes

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### RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL:

THAT Council for the Township of Bonfield awards Request for Quotes EF 2024-03 for the supply and application of dust control and road stabilization materials to Pollard Hwy Products in the amount of \$79,139.55 including H.S.T. for the volume required by the Township of Bonfield

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### BACKGROUND:

The Township of Bonfield contracts out dust suppression as we do not have the equipment to complete in house. Request for Quotes EF 2024-03 Dust Control was advertised on the Municipal Website (for Municipality of East Ferris) on Wednesday, April 10th, 2024. The RFQ closed on April 25th, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and was opened at 3:15 p.m. in the Municipal Office of East Ferris in the presence of Councilor Rick Champagne, Clerk Kari Hanselman and Director of Public Works and Engineering Antoine Boucher. Also in attendance were Connor Christanson of Pioneer Construction, Melissa Hughes of Evan Hughes Excavating, André Devost of Degagné Aggregates, and Aaron Coulas of Miller Paving.

This RFQ is for joint use between the Municipality of East Ferris and the Township of Bonfield as stipulated in the document specifications. The volume of dust control required by the Municipality of East Ferris represents approximately 37% of the total volume. Three (3) RFQ packages were issued and a total of two (2) bids were received. No addendums were issued.

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### ANALYSIS:

The RFQ was checked for Errors and Omissions and the submission by Da-Lee Dust Control was corrected with an increase of \$9.04. Unit rates for dust control have significantly increased, resulting in the low bid being \$6,151.40 over the speculated 2024 budget. This overage does not include the HST. The recommendation is to award the work based on the lowest total bid submission for both the Municipality of East Ferris and the Township of Bonfield. The price of calcium has risen significantly from previous years by approximately \$0.0575 per liter making for a higher application cost as well as a needed increase in the budget. Although quotes were

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received based upon the number of liters being 216,000 it has been confirmed that the Township of Bonfield can use only the required amount of calcium needed, being 174,000 liters. With the excess calcium availability, the Township of Bonfield can put aside a reserve of calcium for use on Development Road following the pulverization.

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**FINANCIALS:**

The following bids were submitted:

**Price including HST**

Pollard Hwy Products - 35% NaCl \$156,778.18 Incl.

Da-Lee Dust Control - 35% NaCl \$182,291.15 Incl.

**EAST FERRIS:**

Quantity – 128,700 liters of calcium

Unit price - \$0.4025 per liter

Total - \$58,535.98 inc. hst

**BONFIELD:**

**QUOTED :**

Quantity – 219,000 liters of calcium

Unit Price - \$0.4025 per liter

Total - \$98,242.20 inc. hst

**ACTUAL :**

Quantity – 174,000 liters of calcium

Unit Price – \$0.4025 per liter

Total - \$79,139.55 inc. hst

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## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Email: [pwmanager@bonfieldtownship.com](mailto:pwmanager@bonfieldtownship.com)

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Respectfully,

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Alex Hackenbrook  
Public Works Manager  
Township of Bonfield

I concur with this report,

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Nicky Kunkel  
CAO, Clerk Treasurer  
Township of Bonfield

FIGURE #1: QUOTATION EF 2024-03

ITEM NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1.	Supply, deliver and place one of the following liquid solutions as directed by the Municipal Engineer for the <u>Municipality of East Ferris.</u>				
a)	Liq. 35% CaCl <sub>2</sub> , <b>OR</b>	Litre	128700	\$ .4025	\$ 51801.75
b)	Liq. 30% Mag Chloride, <b>OR</b>	Litre	128700		
c)	Other – Dustmaster Calcium/Mag solution or equivalent	Litre	257400		
2.	Supply, deliver and place one of the following liquid solutions as directed by the Road Supt. or his/her delegate for the <u>Township of Bonfield.</u>				
a)	Liq. 35% CaCl <sub>2</sub> , <b>OR</b>	Litre	216000	\$ .4025	\$ 86940.00
b)	Liq. 30% Mag Chloride, <b>OR</b>	Litre	216000		
c)	Other – Dustmaster Calcium/Mag solution or equivalent	Litre	432000		

PLUS HST TAX: \$ 18 036.42

TOTAL ESTIMATED QUOTATION: \$ 156,778.17

**Note:**

Please provide only one Form of Quotation for each product submitted if you choose to have more than one alternative. i.e.: a) and c) or b) and c)... Also, indicate on the top left corner the alternative. (Example: Alternative 1, Alternative 2...)

Ensure that your TOTAL ESTIMATED QUOTATION price shown on this sheet is for only one alternative, for other alternatives, use the same form, but submit a separate one and include in the same envelope.

FIGURE #1: QUOTATION EF 2024-03

ITEM NO.	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1.	Supply, deliver and place one of the following liquid solutions as directed by the Municipal Engineer for the <u>Municipality of East Ferris.</u>				
a)	Liq. 35% CaCl <sub>2</sub> , <b>OR</b>	Litre	128700	\$0.468	\$60,231.60
b)	Liq. 30% Mag Chloride, <b>OR</b>	Litre	128700		
c)	Other – Dustmaster Calcium/Mag solution or equivalent	Litre	257400		
2.	Supply, deliver and place one of the following liquid solutions as directed by the Road Supt. or his/her delegate for the <u>Township of Bonfield.</u>				
a)	Liq. 35% CaCl <sub>2</sub> , <b>OR</b>	Litre	216000	\$0.468	\$101,080. <sup>00</sup>
b)	Liq. 30% Mag Chloride, <b>OR</b>	Litre	216000		
c)	Other – Dustmaster Calcium/Mag solution or equivalent	Litre	432000		

PLUS HST TAX: \$20,970.508

TOTAL ESTIMATED QUOTATION: \$182,282.108

**Note:**

Please provide only one Form of Quotation for each product submitted if you choose to have more than one alternative. i.e.: a) and c) or b) and c)... Also, indicate on the top left corner the alternative. (Example: Alternative 1, Alternative 2...)

Ensure that your TOTAL ESTIMATED QUOTATION price shown on this sheet is for only one alternative, for other alternatives, use the same form, but submit a separate one and include in the same envelope.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD  
CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
May 22, 2024 @ 7:00pm

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Chair Dan MacInnis Donna Clark  
Steve Featherstone Jason Corbett  
Narry Paquette

STAFF PRESENT: Nicky Kunkel, CAO Clerk-Treasurer  
Alex Hackenbrook, Public Works Manager

No.1  
Moved by: Jason Corbett Seconded by Donna Clark  
THAT the Corporate Services Committee Meeting be opened at 7:00 pm.  
Carried

No. 2  
Moved by: Narry Paquette Seconded by Jason Corbett  
THAT the agenda for the Corporate Services Committee Meeting for May 22, 2024 be approved as circulated.  
Carried

No. 3  
Moved by: Steve Featherstone Seconded by Jason Corbett  
THAT the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held May 2, 2024 be adopted as amended.  
Carried

No. 4  
Moved by: Jason Corbett Seconded by Narry Paquette  
THAT the Corporate Service Committee recommends the draft 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets to Council for adoption.  
Deferred

No. 5  
Moved by: Donna Clark Seconded by Steve Featherstone  
WHEREAS the Corporate Services Committee received reports on the replacement of the backhoes on March 5, and April 11, 2024 with quotes for a new backhoe and excavator; and Further that the Committee receive this updated report of May 22, 2024. NOW THEREFORE, the Committee recommends to Council the purchasing of new equipment, a backhoe & excavator, from John Deere allowing for standardizing the fleet with two new pieces of equipment from the same supplier.  
Carried

No. 6  
Moved by: Steve Featherstone Seconded by Jason Corbett  
THAT this meeting be adjourned at 8:15 pm.  
Carried

Chair

Secretary



**REPORT TO CORPORATE  
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

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**MEETING DATE:** May 22nd, 2024  
**FROM:** Alex Hackenbrook, Public Works Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Equipment Replacement

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

WHEREAS the Corporate Services Committee received reports on the replacement of the backhoes on March 22, and April 11, 2024 with quotes for a new backhoe and excavator; and Further that the Committee receive this updated report of May 22, 2024. NOW THEREFORE, the Committee recommends to Council the the purchasing of new equipment, a backhoe & excavator, from John Deere allowing for standardizing the fleet with two new pieces of equipment from the same supplier.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Corporate Services Committee was presented with an "Equipment Replacement" report on March 6, 2024 where as the Public Works Manager suggested replacing the existing two backhoes with a backhoe and an excavator to allow more in-house work that can be done on the Township's schedule. A further report, along with quotes and equipment specifications was presented to the Committee on April 11, 2024 with a suggestion of purchasing through multiple suppliers (Case & John Deere). The Committee was open to the purchase with borrowing funds from the Township Reserves and paying it back over a shorter period of time with interest. Staff were instructed to bring a final report forward in May.

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**ANALYSIS**

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The final low quotes received were:

1. Backhoe

The John Deere 2024 320P Backhoe Loader w/ extendable dipper stick, has a machine price total \$217,000. After the trade in of the 2015 backhoe at \$50,000 the total price is \$167,000. The second lowest quote was from CAT at \$191,000. CAT did not provide any trade-in values.

2. Excavator

John Deere quoted a total for a 2023 135P Excavator at \$291,000 plus taxes net of a corporate promotion province wide of \$54,000. After trade-in value of \$20,000 for the 2004 Case 580SM it brings the price down to \$271,000. Case also provided a quote close at \$271,200, with a trade in value to reduce it to \$236,000.



Upon review of such things as specifications, service locations / mechanics, trade-in value, corporate incentives, parts availability, delivery time & lastly experienced customer service; it is recommended by the Public Works Manager that both the backhoe & excavator be purchased through John Deere Equipment.

With purchasing through a single supplier, it would allow the department to interchange parts & fluids for both pieces of equipment as well as have the same Certified Mechanic perform any maintenance, repairs & warranty work that is required. Comparable to other suppliers, John Deere has a mobile mechanic located in Corbeil.

After receiving the quotes of the equipment along with trade-in values, John Deere came in the highest with \$20,000 for the 2004 Case 580SM & \$50,000 for the 2015 Case 580SN. That was a total trade-in value of \$70,000. The next closest quote received for trade-in value was \$20,000 less at a total of \$50,000.

John Deere also stated that they can deliver the Excavator by the end of the month & the backhoe by mid June. This is a quicker delivery time than most for equipment, allowing the department to perform scheduled work quicker & without the delays of breakdowns that are happening all too often with the age of the current departmental equipment.

In dealing with CAT & Case for current equipment needs, delays in both service, parts & communication have been experienced. That being said we have not yet had to deal with John Deere for service, only for parts ordering in the past, which has went well.

**OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- 1) Council approves the purchasing of this new equipment through John Deere as the supplier, which would keep both pieces of heavy equipment the same brand therefore allowing for easier fleet management with such things as parts ordering / suppliers, required repairs, fluid changes & mechanic work, both warranty & maintenance.
- 2) Council approves the purchasing of this new equipment with a backhoe purchased from John Deere & an Excavator purchased from Case.
- 3) Council chooses to not approve the purchasing of equipment from any supplier listed here or in the previous report & approves the required repairs to both the 2004 Case 580SM & 2015 Case 580SN needed.

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

130011: govmanagers/bonfieldtownship.com



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- 4) Council chooses to review purchasing of equipment from the suppliers listed & hold off on any major repairs that are required to both Public Works Department backhoes.
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## Recommendation:

That the Corporate Services Committee recommends to Council the purchasing of new equipment, a backhoe & excavator, from John Deere allowing for standardizing the fleet with two new pieces of equipment from the same supplier.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "AH", written over a horizontal line.

Alex Hackenbrook, Public Works Manager

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nicky Kunkel", written over a horizontal line.

Nicky Kunkel, CAO Clerk-Treasurer



# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD

Planning Advisory Committee

May 16, 2024

PRESENT:

Narry Paquette  
Jason Corbett  
Eric Foisy

Gina Langlois  
Kamil Wroblewski

STAFF PRESENT:

Nicky Kunkel – CAO/Clerk  
Ann Carr, Planning Administrator

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

## 1. Call to Order

**MOVED BY: Narry Paquette**

**SECONDED BY: Eric Foisy**

MOTION #1

THAT this meeting be opened at 6:02 p.m.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

## 2. Adoption of Agenda

**MOVED BY: Gina Langlois**

**SECONDED BY: Kamil Wroblewski**

MOTION#2

THAT the agenda presented to the Planning Advisory Committee dated the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024 be adopted as prepared.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

## 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest-none

## 4. Adoption of Previous Minutes

**MOVED BY: Kamil Wroblewski**

**SECONDED BY: Narry Paquette**

MOTION#3

THAT the Minutes of the Planning Advisory Committee of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

## 5. Presentation & Delegations-none





THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD  
Planning Advisory Committee  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**6. Consent Applications**

6.a Planning Report for consent B1/2024-Lot Addition, Trunk Road, Raymond

**MOVED BY: Kamil Wroblewski      SECONDED BY: Nary Paquette**

**MOTION#4**

The Planning Advisory Committee recommends to Council that consent application B1/2024, Denis and Denise Raymond, be approved with the following conditions:

1. That this approval applies to the transfer as applied for which shows a lot addition from CONCESSION 10 LOT 14 PCL 14276 AND CONCESSION 9 LOT 14 REM PARCEL 3885 NIP; to CONCESSION 9 PART LOT 14 RP 36R-10559 PART 1 PCL 28896 NIP. Zoned Rural (RU).
2. That the following documents be provided:
  - a. the original executed transfer (deed), a duplicate original & 1 photocopy for our records
  - b. a copy of the survey plan deposited in the Land Titles Office, if required
  - c. an electronic copy of the survey emailed to: [planning@bonfieldtownship.com](mailto:planning@bonfieldtownship.com)
  - d. a schedule describing the severed parcel attached to the transfer for approval purposes
  - e. a schedule that provides a registrable legal description attached to the transfer for the retained land for approval purposes, if required.
3. If there is a forced road situation a 20-metre road allowance or whatever amount is required for road purposes shall be transferred to the Municipality (at the owner's expense) across the whole lot or parcel for which the severance was taken and compensation shall be awarded as per the Compensation Grid for The Transfer of Forced Roads.
4. That the building setbacks for all buildings must meet the requirements of the Zoning By-Law for the retained and/or severed lot(s), whichever are affected at the time of survey.
5. A fee of 5% in lieu of parkland dedication for each transfer document shall be deposited in the office of the clerk prior to the stamping of any transfer document regarding a subdivision or a consent for each new lot. For the purpose of determining the amount of payment, the Pay Grid to Determine Payment of up to 5% in lieu of Land to be conveyed for Park or other Recreational Purposes shall apply.
6. If any, all tax arrears must be paid prior to the stamping of Transfer Documents for a new lot.
7. The survey will represent the lot addition lot lines, on Concession 9 Lot 14 REM PARCEL 3885 Nip; as well as the retained land.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

Claude Foisy, Trisha Bradford and Noel Foisy attended the public hearing for Consent Application B1/2024 to discuss their concerns regarding the westerly abutting property line.

**8. Other Business**



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD  
Planning Advisory Committee  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

8.a Report – Prime Agricultural Technical Report for JL Richards

**MOVED BY: Gina Langlois**

**SECONDED BY: Eric Foisy**

**MOTION#5**

WHEREAS JL Richards provided the Planning Advisory Committee with a report regarding the designation of Prime Agricultural Lands and that the Planning Administrator provided a technical report supporting the letter received from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food at the Official Plan Review in 1997;

THEREFORE, the Planning Advisory Committee recommends to Council, to accept the report that will be presented to JL Richards concerning the designation of the Prime Agricultural Lands within the Official Plan.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

**9. Correspondence**

9.a Correspondence-Proposed Changes to PPS 2023 and Proposed Changes to the Planning Act.

**MOVED BY: Kamil Wroblewski**

**SECONDED BY: Gina Langlois**

**MOTION#6**

WHEREAS the Planning Advisory Committee discussed the proposed changes and that comments from the discussion will be posted to the consultation website on behalf of the Committee.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

The Committee voiced concern that the intent of land planning processes will be lost with the proposed changes.

**10. Unfinished Business**

10.a Second Draft of the Official Plan Review

**MOVED BY: Narry Paquette**

**SECONDED BY: Eric Foisy**

**MOTION#7**

WHEREAS the Planning Advisory Committee has reviewed the second draft of the Official Plan, and that any further changes or comments will be made and that the next draft of the Official Plan will be presented to Council and a Public Consultation will commence thereafter.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

The Committee went through the comments from JL Richards that required comments from the Township and made recommendations to address the information required.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD  
Planning Advisory Committee  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**11. Adjournment**

**MOVED BY: Kamil Wroblewski**

**SECONDED BY: Eric Foisy**

**MOTION#8**

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

**CARRIED Chair, Jason Corbett**

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CHAIR

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SECRETARY

## REPORT

**TO:** Council  
**DATE:** May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**FROM:** Ann Carr, Planning Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** Agricultural Land Evaluation System (ALES) Study

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### Introduction/Background:

JL Richards conducted an agricultural land evaluation systems (ALES) study to evaluate potential areas of prime agricultural land within the Township of Bonfield. The purpose of this study was to update the Official Plan which has regard to provincial interests listed under Section 2 of the *Planning Act* and is also consistent with the policy statements issued under Section 3 of the *Planning Act*. Official Plans as well as land use policies that are provided for in the *Planning Act* must conform with provincial plans and cannot conflict with them.

In order to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement 2020 (PPS), municipalities must designate "prime agricultural areas" in their official plans if applicable.

Prime agricultural areas are defined in the PPS as meaning:

*"Areas where prime agricultural lands predominate. This includes areas of prime agricultural lands and associated Canada Land Inventory Class 4 through 7 lands, and additional areas where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture. Prime agricultural areas may be identified by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAFRA) using guidelines developed by the province as amended from time to time. A prime agricultural area may also be identified through an alternative agricultural land evaluation system approved by the province."*

### **Presented Analysis and Findings from JL Richards:**

ALES is an (OMAFRA) approved approach for informing the designation of prime agricultural areas for Official Plans. This study uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data to help determine which areas meet the characteristics of prime agriculture. The ALES process is more of a visual exercise than the alternative Land Evaluation and Area Review (LEAR) analysis method that relies heavily on the GIS modeling to assist the process.

OMAFRA suggests that Soil Classes 1 to 3 and Organics (Prime soil classes) are considered high priority when looking at prime agriculture. Analysis was performed on Bonfield's parcel layer to identify the percentage of Soil Class 1 to 3 and Organics. The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and the Agricultural Canada Annual Crop Inventory (ACI) was used to locate existing agricultural activity in Bonfield. The MPAC and ACI mapping datasets were used to analyze the areas with more than 50% prime soil class to see if other areas should be included in the agricultural boundary. All analysis was done only on the lands outside of the Hamlet areas (Bonfield and Rutherglen).

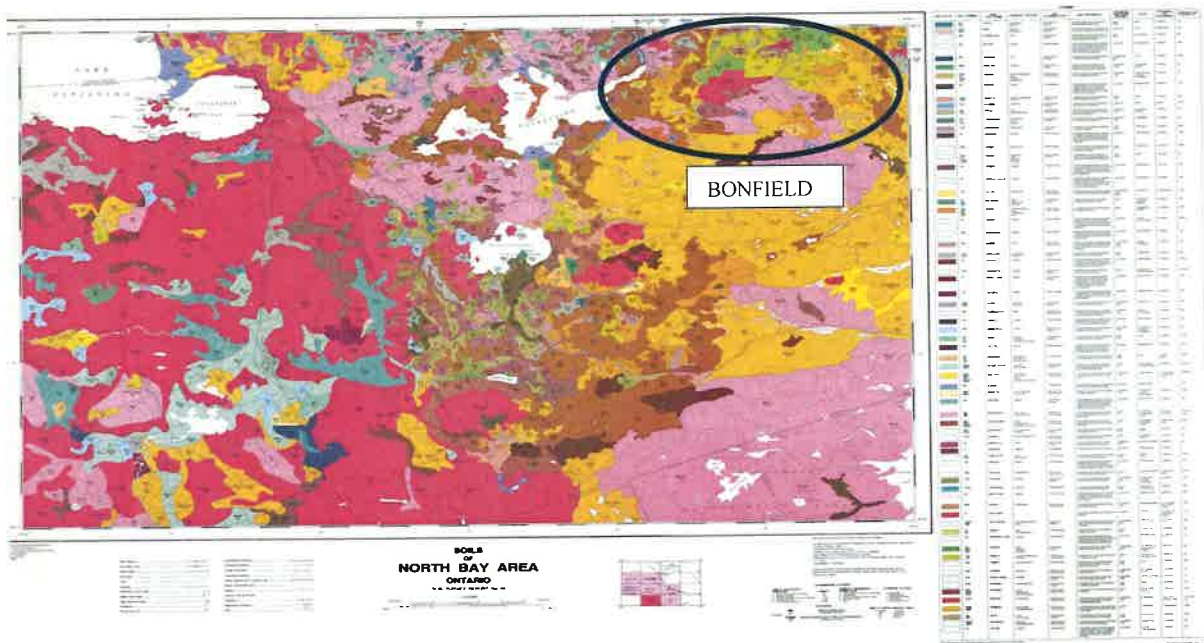
JL Richards findings concluded that approximately 5280 ha, across 332 lots outside of the Hamlet areas (Bonfield and Rutherglen) contained 25% or greater amounts of Class 1-3 or organic soils. The majority of these soils being class 2 and 3 soils.

**Planning Advisory Committee Review:**

The information was presented to the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) as part of the Official Plan review in December 2023. Concerns were raised by the Committee members pertaining to the large area of the Township that could potentially be constrained and restricted in development due to the designation of prime agricultural lands. At this time, Co-Chair Paquette recalled a letter from OMAFRA in 199, during the then OP review, 7 stating that the Township of Bonfield did not have prime agricultural designation. These concerns and the letter prompted this report.

Although in 1997 the Township did receive notice that there were no soils indicative of prime agriculture, 1997 was the first year that the province introduced a policy statement. The first Provincial Policy Statement, tabled in 1996, was of a different legislative animal than it is today. The discretionary nature of the PPS was the result of permissive language that it contained, functioning more as a guideline than a policy with binding authority. Phrasing such as “shall have regard to” enabled a planner to exercise their good judgment and did not encroach on local control. When the PPS was updated in 2005, the language changed, mandating that land planning matters “shall be consistent with” Policy Statements issued under the Planning Act.

Mapping of soil classes of North Bay Area, Soil Survey No.54, was developed in 1986. This map indicated that the Township of Bonfield had Orthic Humic Gleysol soils that were noncalcareous clay loam, silty clay or clay lacustrine materials which represented moderately poor (5) drainage conditions. Soils also showed to have an agricultural capability of 4WD. Which means class 4 soils, W= excess water, D= undesirable soils structure with low permeability.



Although in 1986 the mapping classified the soils of Bonfield to be poorly drained, technologies and methodologies have changed in proper drainage and the ability to drain fields of water through farm field tiling. Bonfield has a record of two farm tiles within the municipality. Farmers are also reimbursed costs for tiling through OMAFRA. The soils of yesteryear are able to be used in spite of what the soil was identified as before.

Agricultural Land Evaluation System (ALES) and Land Evaluation and Area Review (LEAR) are two recognized methodologies for informing the designation of prime agricultural areas, if a study is needed. A study using these approaches may be conducted to help identify prime agricultural areas or the agricultural land base more broadly, for designation in official plans. In municipalities where the land outside settlement areas meets the definition of a prime agricultural area, a study may not be required in order to designate the area in an official plan.

OMAFRA's prime agricultural area webpage explains that prime agricultural areas are not only areas where Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Classes 1 to 3 land predominates, but often also include associated CLI Classes 4 to 7 lands. It should be noted that organic soil is mapped in CLI but does not have a CLI rating. Even so, lands with organic soils should be carefully considered during an ALES exercise. Organic soils can be very productive for agriculture, particularly if improvements are undertaken (e.g., installation of tile drainage) or when used for crops such as certain vegetables that thrive in organic soil. The CLI agricultural capability mapping from Ontario GeoHub should be used as it provides the most current information. Additionally, prime agricultural areas include areas where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture.

CLI1 is the classification of climate and soil capability to produce common field crops (corn, soybeans, small grains, forages) In the CLI rating system there are seven classes. Soils descend in quality from Class1, which is highest, to Class 7 soils which have no agricultural capability for common field crops. CLI\_1 is the limitation subclass. In Ontario, The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs report titled "Use of Soil and Canada Land Inventory Information for Agricultural Land Use Planning" provides the following definitions for climate and soil capability and limitation sub-classes:

The two main components of CLI are: 1) the capability class, and 2) the capability subclass. The capability class indicates the general capability of the soil for growing common field crops. Seven capability classes are defined and are explained in Table 1. The capability subclass indicates the primary type of limitation or hazard for growing common field crops. Thirteen subclasses are defined and are explained in Table 2.

**Table 1: Capability classes - Class and Explanation**

Classes 1, 2 and 3 - Capable of sustained use for growing common field crops; all or most crops can be grown.

Class 4 - Marginal for sustained use for common field crops; choice of crops that can be grown is limited.

Class 5 - Capable of use only for permanent pasture and hay.

Class 6 - Capable of use only for unimproved pasture.

Class 7 - No capability for agriculture.

**Table 2: Capability subclasses - Subclass and Explanation**

C - Adverse climate

D - Undesirable soil structure and/or permeability

E - Damage from erosion

- F - Low fertility
- I - Flooding (Inundation) by rivers, streams, or lakes
- M - Low moisture holding capacity (droughtiness)
- P - Surface stoniness
- R - Shallowness to bedrock
- S - Two or more of subclasses D, F, M and N
- T - Adverse topography
- W-Excess wetness

In general, areas with a concentration of agricultural uses, productive soils, with a low degree of fragmentation, and investments into agricultural uses and associated infrastructure are characteristic of prime agricultural areas.

### **MUNICIPAL APPROACHES TO DESIGNATION**

- Most municipalities with concentrations of prime agricultural land designate prime agricultural areas in their official plans. These municipalities must ensure the full meaning of "prime agricultural areas," as described above, is included in their designated area.
- In Southwestern Ontario, many municipalities designate all the land outside settlement areas as prime agricultural areas. This reflects the widespread quality of the agricultural soil and prevalence of farming in the area.
- In other parts of the province, it is common for municipal official plans to have both "prime agricultural area" and "rural lands" designations. This usually means that the area outside of settlement areas has a broader mix of prime agricultural land and lower capability land.



**Prime agricultural areas: more uniform land use, higher-capability land**



**Rural lands: more fragmented land uses, lower-capability land**

(Figure 1)

### **DESIGNATION PROCESS**

- In municipalities where the land meets the definition of a prime agricultural area, a study may not be required
- In areas with more diverse soils, a municipality usually starts the designation process, working with OMAFRA, to conduct a study to identify candidate areas for a prime agriculture area designation. These studies (e.g., Land Evaluation and Area Review - LEAR, Agricultural Land Evaluation System - ALES) typically involve analyzing maps and information as described above.

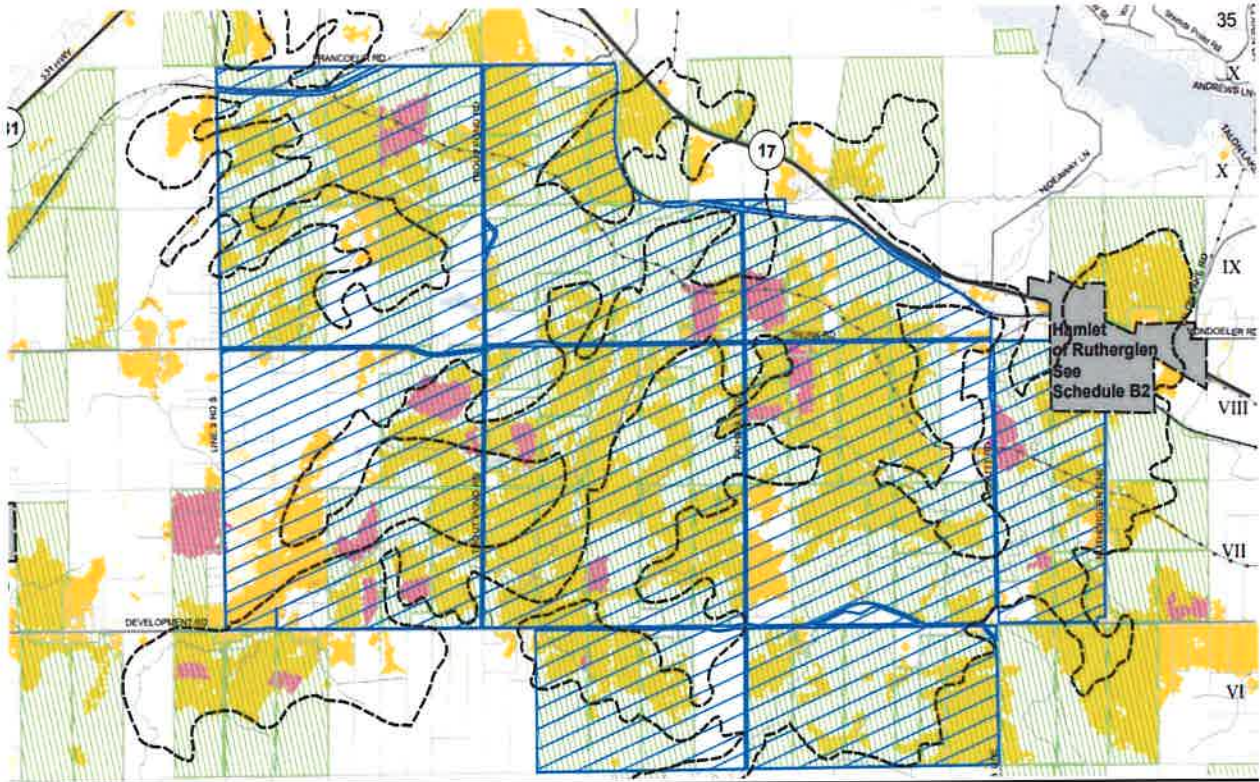
### **SIZE OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL AREAS**

1. Prime agricultural areas are working landscapes where normal farm practices are promoted and protected. Normal farm practices may include activities that result in impacts such as noise, dust, vibration, smoke, flies, light, and odor that may not be compatible with sensitive non-agricultural uses.
2. Complaints and conflict between agricultural and non-agricultural uses can impair agricultural operations. Having large continuous areas for agriculture is essential for normal farm practices to occur with minimum disruption from other uses.
3. Many farm operators need to move large, slow moving farm equipment on roads to plant, cultivate, harvest and transport crops. It can be more dangerous and difficult for operators to work efficiently if fields are distant or if sensitive land uses or traffic issues exist.
4. Some parts of the agri-food supply chain depend on a critical mass of primary agriculture in close proximity to remain viable (e.g., to ensure sufficient feedstock for facilities such as large grain dryers, distribution centers or food processors).
5. For these reasons, provincial policy protects prime agricultural areas from non-agricultural uses and recommends that large continuous areas be reserved for agriculture.
6. For the Agricultural System in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, OMAFRA identified prime agricultural areas as clusters 250 hectares and larger that have predominantly good soil, considering the amount of land in agricultural production and parcel fragmentation in the surrounding area. Outside the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the PPS encourages municipalities to use an agricultural system approach to foster a thriving agri-food sector.
7. Smaller agricultural areas may not be prime agricultural areas unto themselves. They may be rural lands that together with prime agricultural areas help to create a continuous, productive land base for agriculture.



**1.ANALYSIS OF AREA FROM HAMLET TO HAMLET:**

JL Richards mapping of soils from Hamlet of Bonfield to Hamlet of Rutherglen. (Figure 2)



**Bonfield**  
 CANTON - TOWNSHIP

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**ALES Study**

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**Township of Bonfield**

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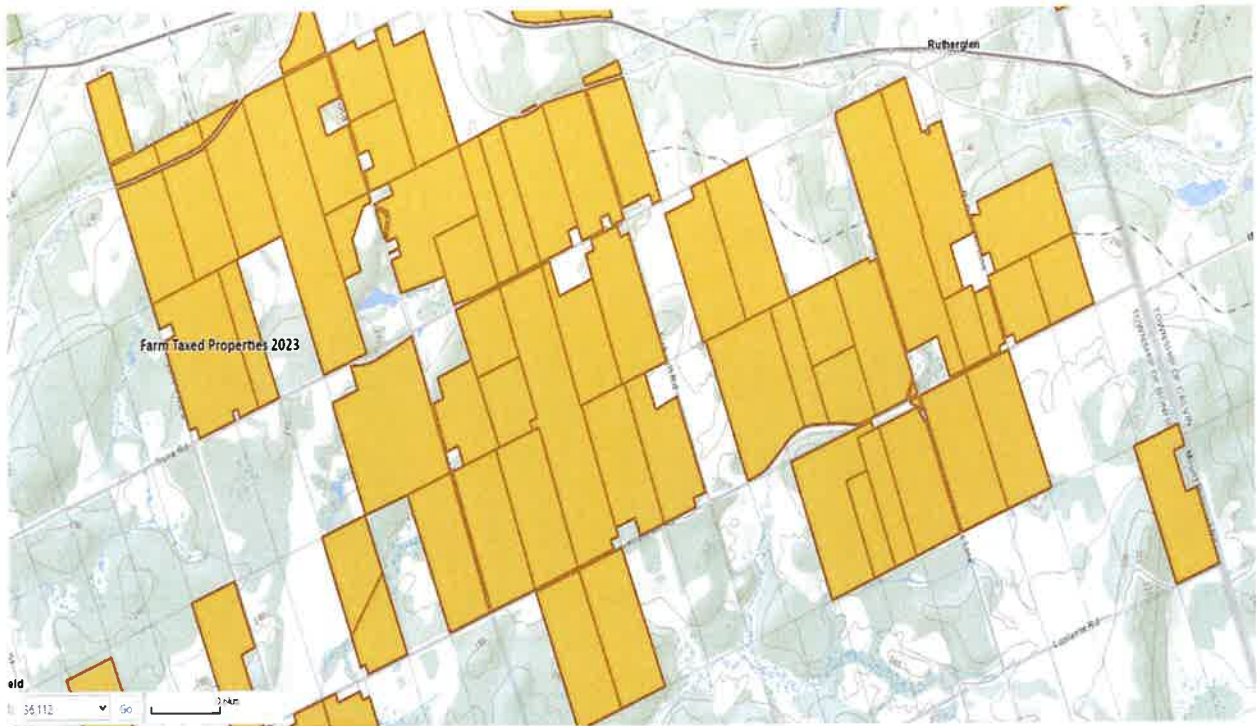
**Existing Agriculture Analysis**

- Legend**
- 1 Line
  - Utility Line
  - Roadway
  - Roadway
  - Roadway
  - Roadway
  - Roadway
  - Roadway

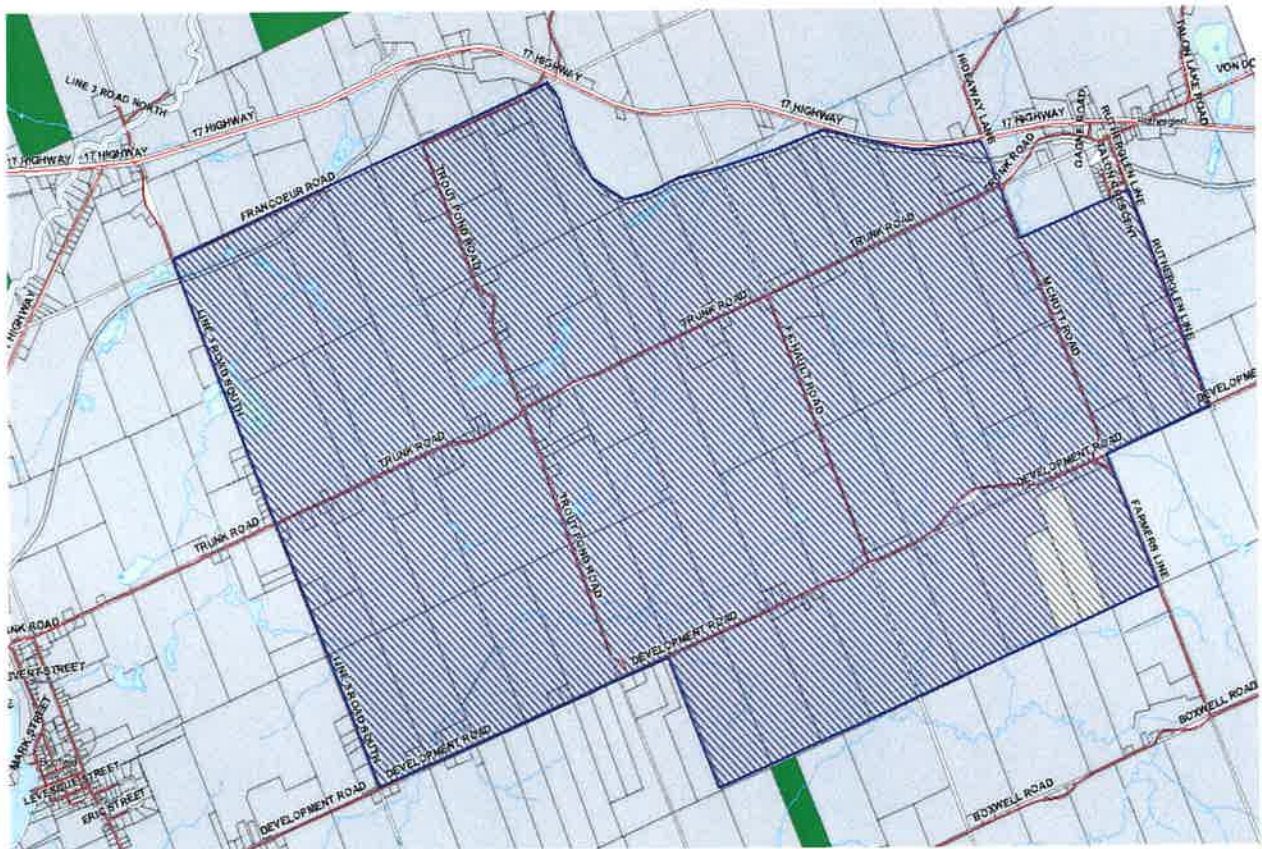
- Legend**
- Agriculture Version 1
  - Set Class 1, 2, 3 and Openness
- AG Canada Crop Inventory 2021**
- Expanded Agriculture
  - Pasture/Rangeland
  - Drain

- MPAC Agriculture Properties**
- 200 - Farm Property without Any Buildings/Structures
  - 201 - Farm with Residence - 1000 or More Secondary Structures, No Farm Outbuildings
  - 210 - Farm with Residence - With Secondary Structures, with Farm Outbuildings
  - 211 - Farm with Residence - with Farm Outbuildings, with Farm Outbuildings
  - 220 - Farm with Residence - with Farm Outbuildings, with Farm Outbuildings
  - 228 - Farm with Over 10
  - 240 - Mixed Residential/Commercial/Industrial/Land (Classified by a Non-Farm with a Future Farm Potential)
  - 241 - Land Owned by a Non-Farm Occupied with a Non-Farm Residence with a Future Farm Potential
- Print Date: 16-Aug-2023  
 Job No: 31988

Farm taxed Properties in 2023 in the designated area: (Figure 3)



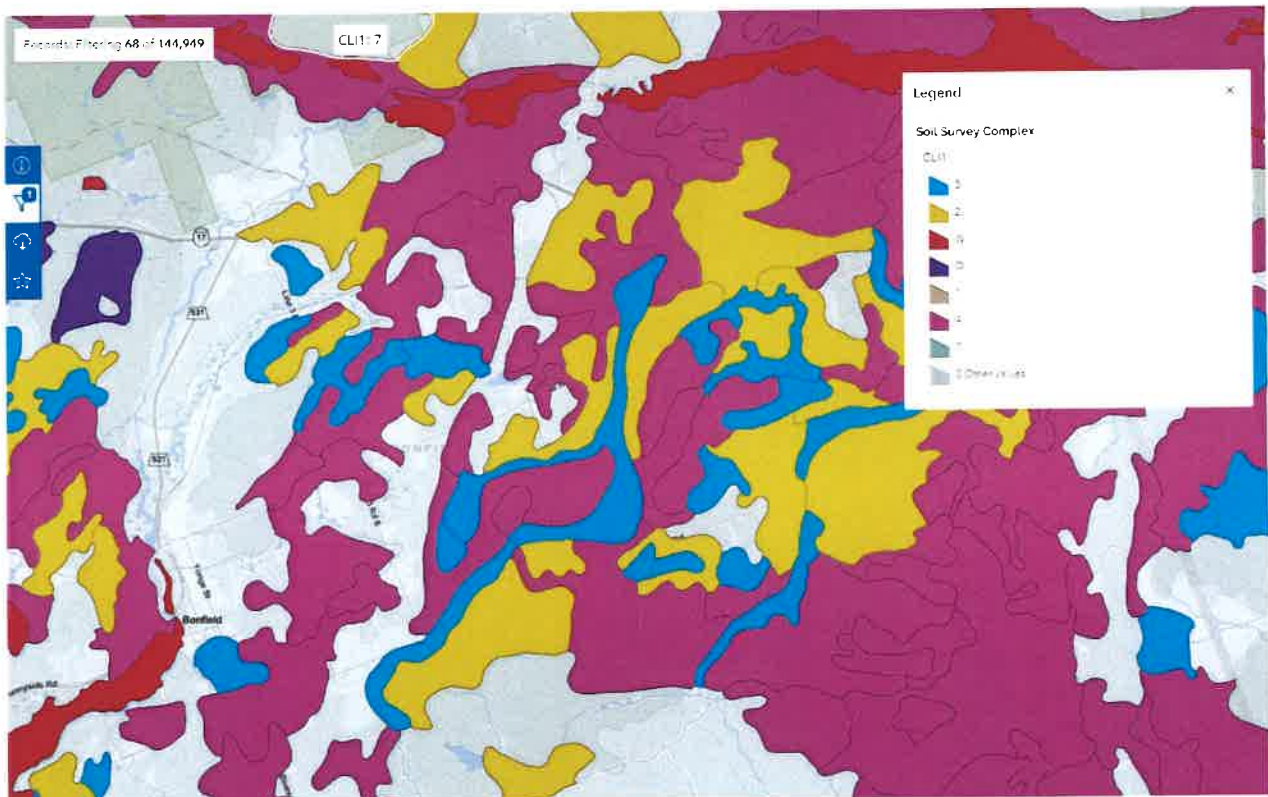
Identified 2624 ha of soils and farm classes with JL Richards ALES (Figure 4)



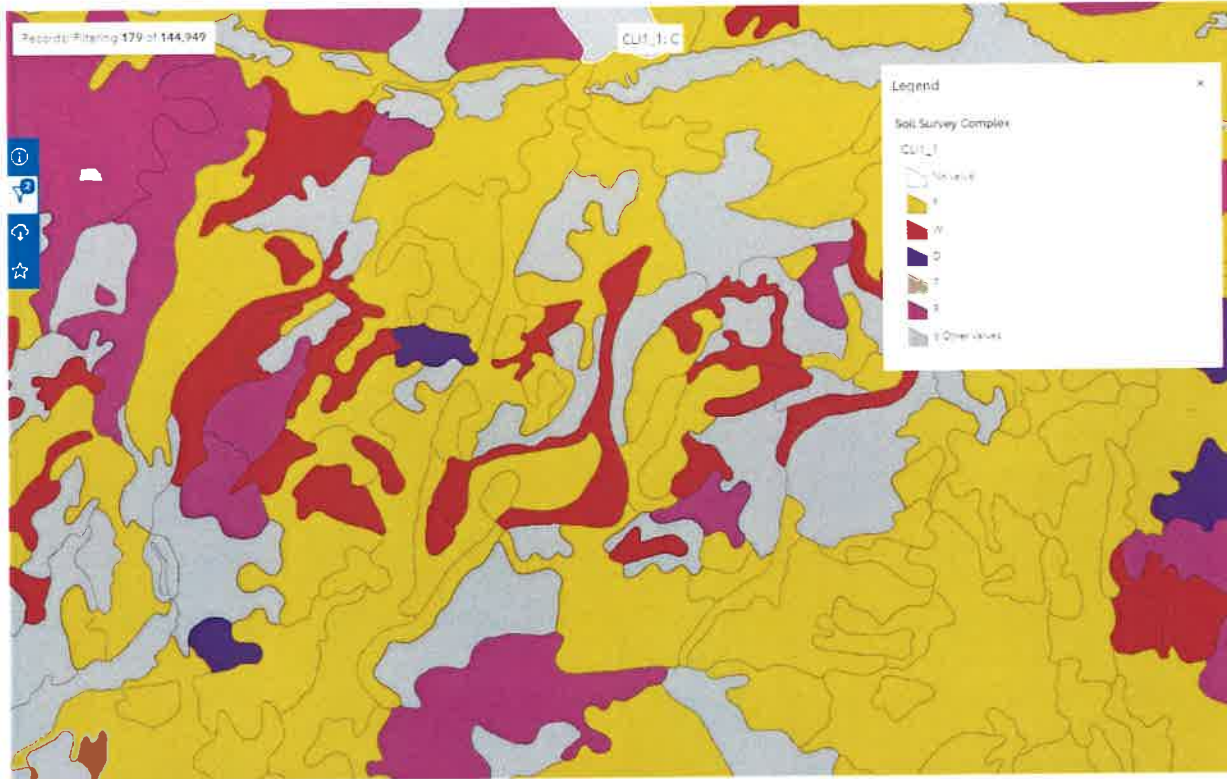
Ariel Imagery shows that the area is indicative of some agricultural practices with fragmentation. (Figure 5)



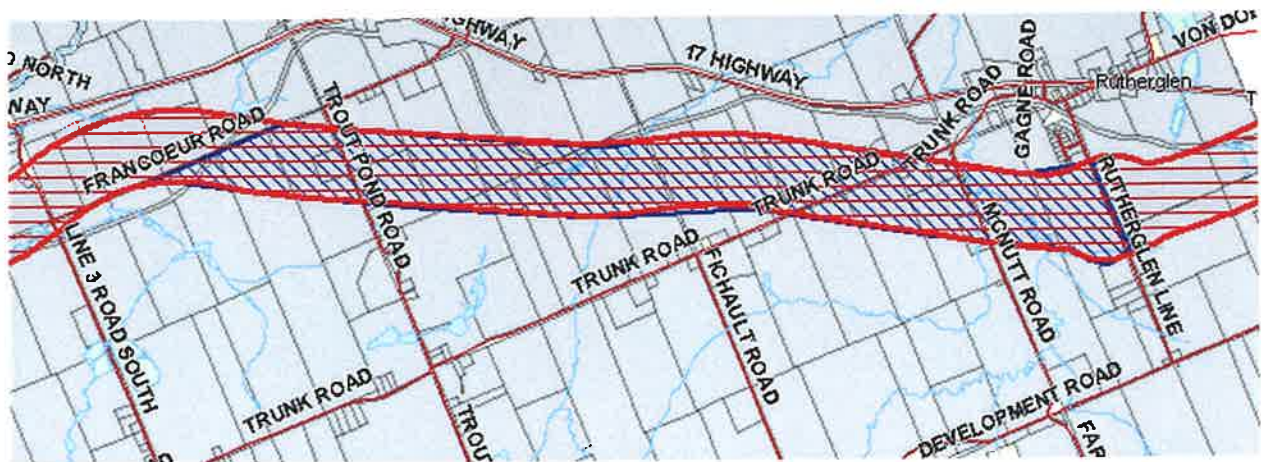
Capability Classes of Soil-GeoHub CLI soil class is predominately 4. (Figure 6)



Capability Subclasses-GeoHub CLI\_1 soil subclass is predominately identified as Low Fertility. (Figure 7)



Below is the parcel fabric showing the MTO area of interest for new highway development which is 340 ha of the 2250 ha. (Figure 8)



When using the information provided in the figures to analyze considerations of prime agricultural designation and then compare it to the general considerations:

**Areas With a Concentration of Agricultural Uses:**

There are several farm taxed properties within the proposed designation (figure 3). However, these farms are indicative of pasture and forging and for equestrian farms that are in the area.

The map provided by JL Richards (figure 2) provides for the lack of crops being harvested within the area and concurs that the area is for the purpose of pasture/forging. There are no cash crops within the designation. There are also 4 active aggregate pits within the designation.

### **Productive Soils**

Using the Land Information Ontario Data Description for Soil Survey Complexes prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the agricultural mapping on Geo Hub (figures 6 and 7) the area does provide for soil classes 2 to 3; (Figure 6). However, it is fragmented within the proposed designation. Class 2 and 3 soils are described as “Class 2-moderate limitations on use of for crops. Class 3-moderately severe limitations on use for crops.” The subclasses of the area which contain class 2 and 3 class soils (Figure 7) identify with a sub class of “W” which is defined “subject to excessive water saturation in the soil profile.” Most soil classes in the area are class 4 described as “severe limitations on use for crops” with a subclass of “F” which represents “low inherent soil fertility. Organics and class 1 soils were not present in the mapping in the proposed area.

### **Low Degree of Fragmentation**

When comparing figure 1 with figure 5 you can visually see that the lands compared to rural land use with lower capability lands. The Ministry of Transportation has also demonstrated how the area will be more fragmented with the plans of developing a highway through the area and would remove 340 ha of lands in the area. (Figure 8)

### **Investments into Agricultural Uses and Associated Infrastructure are Characteristic of Prime Agricultural Areas**

The Township of Bonfield currently has two (2) tile drains on record. One being located in the designated area, the other is in the rural area. The tile is located just outside of the boundaries for the hamlet of Rutherglen. Municipally owned infrastructure is not set up or based on agricultural uses. There are no grain silos or receiving facilities, or agriculture supportive of an economy for such uses.

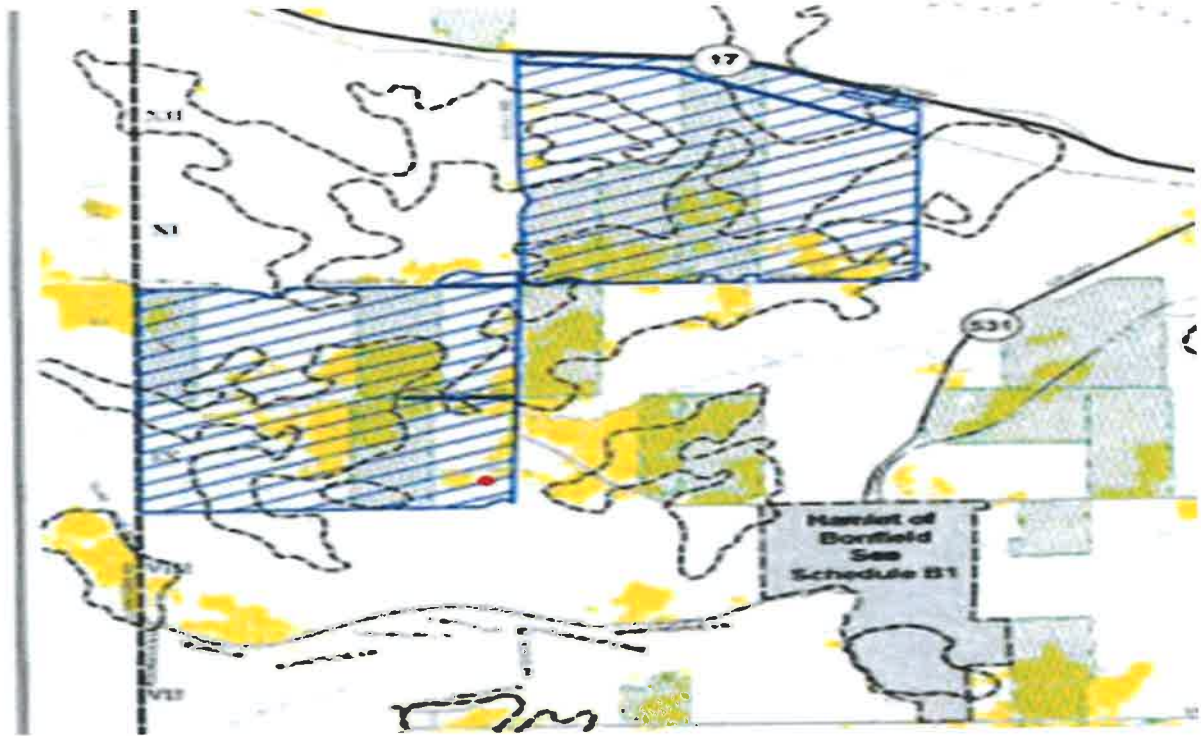
### **Township of Bonfield Official Plan Review and Provincial Policy Statements**

The Rutherglen Hamlet is being considered for boundaries expansion as the employment area is adjacent to the Rutherglen Hamlet which has no more lands for residential development. There is a subdivision currently abutting the lands which is proposed for in JL Richard’s ALES study as a Prime Agricultural designation. Without the expansion the ability to provide housing to the employment area would cease if the area was designated “prime agricultural”.

The Provincial Policy Statement for Rural Areas in Municipalities section, 1.1.4.2 directs planning in “rural areas, rural settlement areas shall be the focus of growth and development and their vitality and regeneration shall be promoted.” Further 1.1.5.2(d) also describes “agricultural uses, agricultural-related uses, on farm diversified uses and normal farm practices in accordance with the provincial standards.” Which the current Official Plan demonstrates., and the Township has desire to strengthen the Minimum Distance Separations Formulae within the Official Plan.

**2. MAPLE ROAD ANALYSIS:**

JL Richards Identified Area Adjacent to Maple Road (Figure 9)



**ALES Study**

**Township of Bonfield**

**Existing Agriculture Analysis**

**Legend**

- 1 -
- 2 -
- 3 -
- 4 -
- 5 -
- 6 -
- 7 -
- 8 -
- 9 -
- 10 -

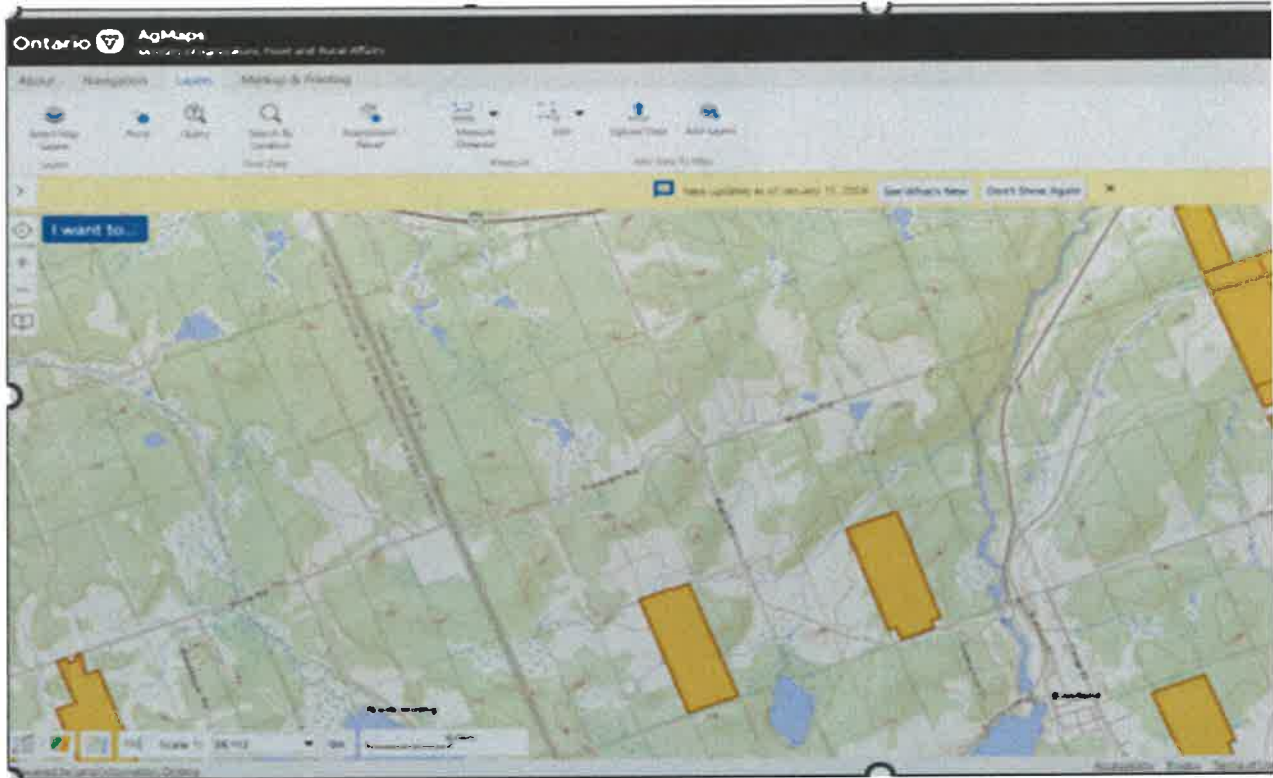
**Legend**

- Agriculture Version 1
- Soil Class 1, 2, 3 and Organic
- AG Canada Crop Inventory 2021
- Exposed lands barren
- Residual/empty
- Cropland

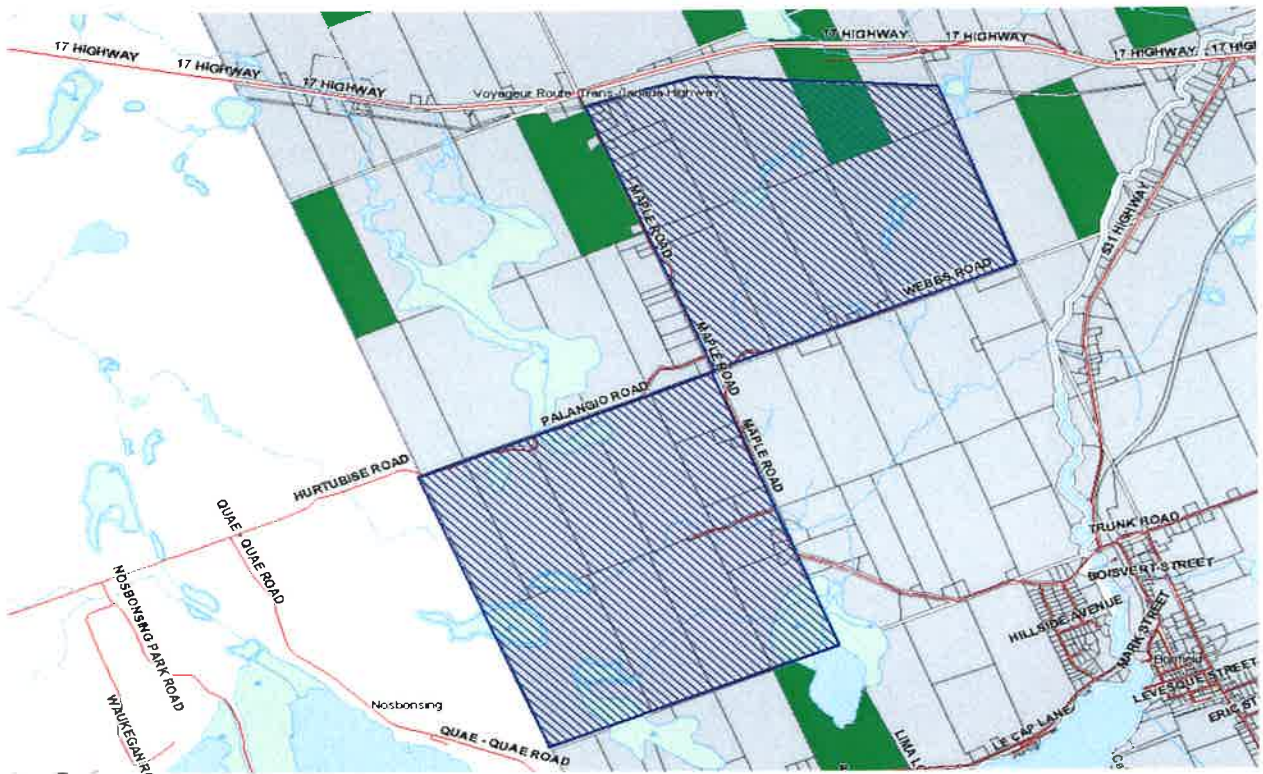
**MPAC Agriculture Properties**

- 200 - Farm Property Without Any Building Structures
- 201 - Farm With Residence / With Or Without Secondary Structures, No Farm Outbuildings
- 210 - Farm Without Residence / With Secondary Structures, With Farm Outbuildings
- 211 - Farm With Residence / With Or Without Secondary Structures, With Farm Outbuildings
- 220 - Farm Without Residence / With Commercial/Industrial Operation
- 230 - Farm With Grand PA
- 240 - Vacant/Residential/Commercial/Industrial Land Owned By A Non-Farmer With A Person Being Farmed
- 250 - Land Owned By A Non-Farmer Impressed With A Non-Farm Residence With A Person Being Farmed

Farm Taxed Property in Area (Figure 10)



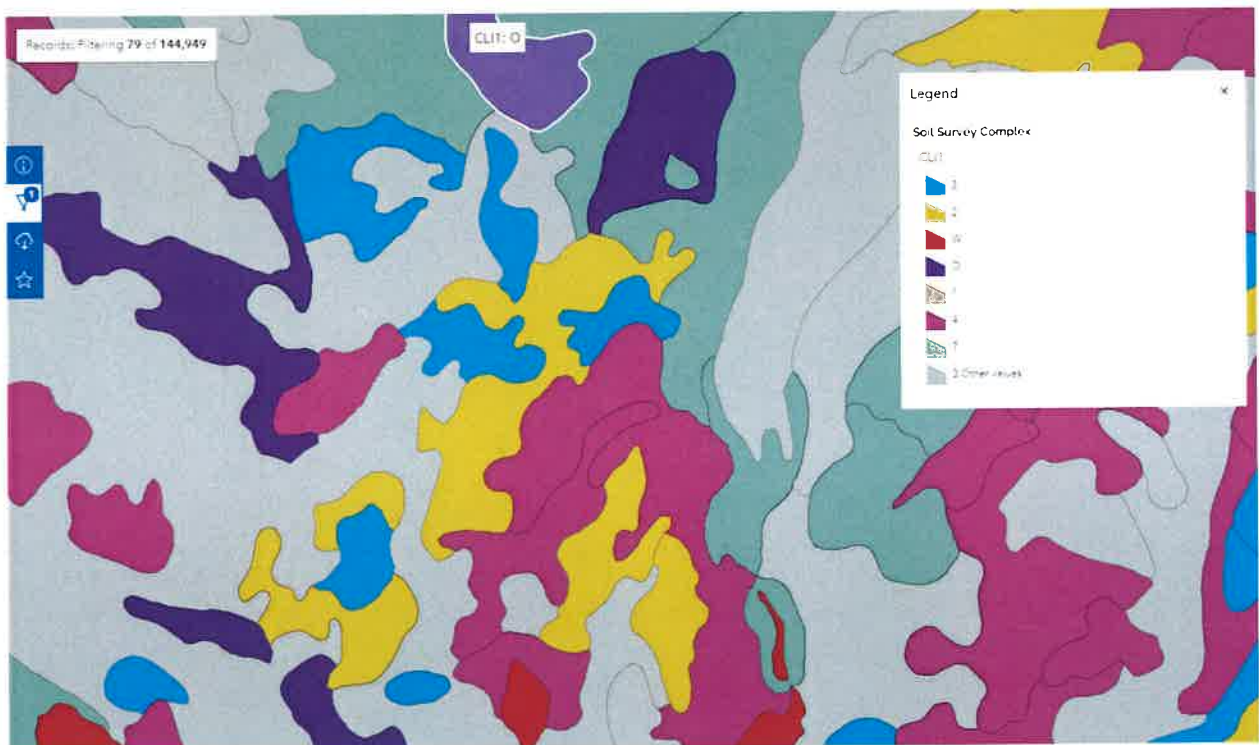
Identified 725 ha of soils and farm classes with JL Richards (Figure 11)



Aerial Imagery depicts the fragmentation of the lands. (Figure 12)

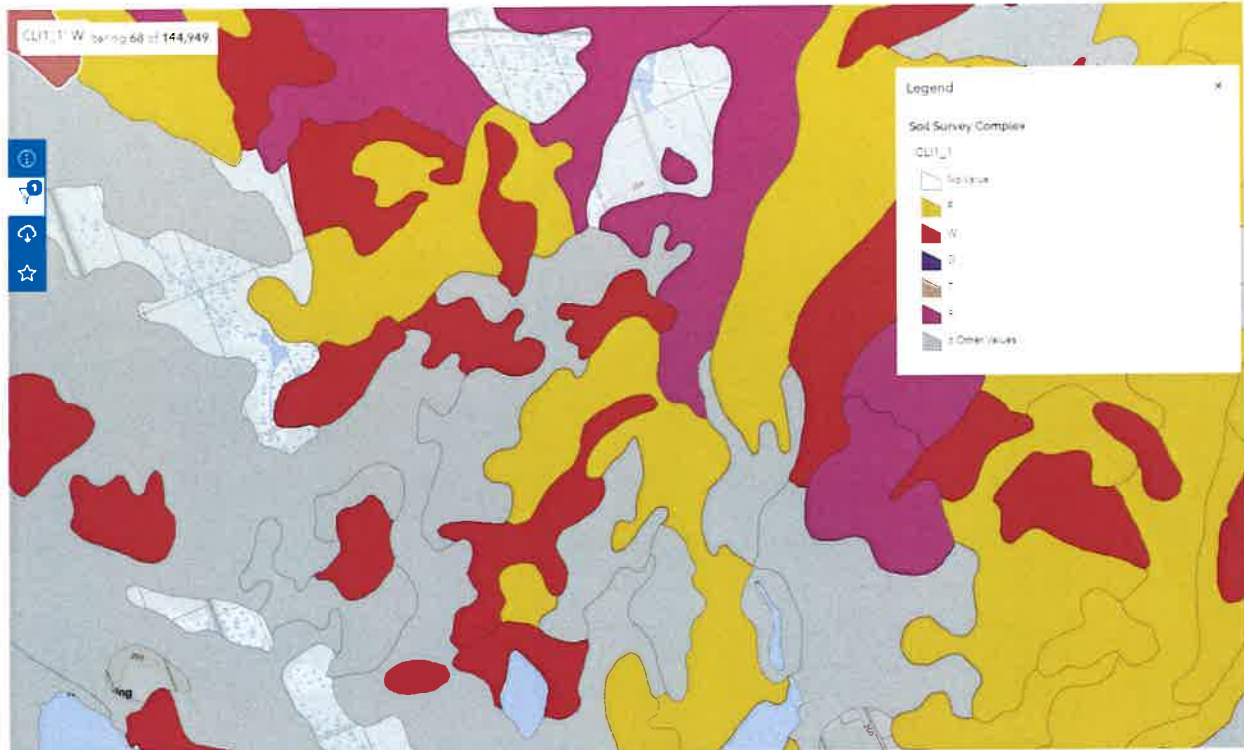


Capability Classes of Soil-GeoHub CLI soil class is mixed predominately class 5. (Figure 13)





Capability Subclasses-GeoHub CLI\_1 soil subclass is predominately identified as Low Fertility. The grey area is made up of Subclass S (contains F and M) (Figure 14)



When using the information provided in the figures to analyze considerations of prime agricultural designation and then compare it to the general considerations:

#### **Areas With a Concentration of Agricultural Uses:**

There are no concentrations of agricultural uses in the designated area. See figure 12.

#### **Productive Soils**

Using the Land Information Ontario Data Description for Soil Survey Complexes prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the agricultural mapping on Geo Hub (figures 13 and 14) the area does provide for soil classes 2 to 3; (Figure 13). However, it is fragmented within the proposed designation with soil classes ranging throughout all classes. The predominant soil class is class 5, described as “Class 5- Very severe limitations preclude annual cultivation, improvements feasible.” These areas also contain a sub class of “S” which is described as a “combination of F and M. “F” meaning low inherent fertility and “M” low inherent moisture holding capacity.” The subclasses of the area which do contain class 3 soils (Figure 14) identify with a sub class of “W” which is defined “subject to excessive water saturation in the soil profile.” Class 2 soils with a subclass of “F” which represents “low inherent soil fertility. Organics and class 1 soils were not present in the mapping in the proposed area.

### Low Degree of Fragmentation

When comparing figure 1 with figure 12 you can visually see that the lands compare to rural land use with lower capability lands. Maple Road is not indicative of agriculture and the lands have been severed to serve as single family dwellings.

### Investments into Agricultural Uses and Associated Infrastructure are Characteristic of Prime Agricultural Areas

Municipally owned infrastructure is not set up or based on agricultural uses. There are no grain silos or receiving facilities, or agriculture supportive of an economy for such uses. The area also abuts several water tributaries and swamps making the area difficult to farm or use fertilizers.

### Township of Bonfield Official Plan Review and Provincial Policy Statements

The Provincial Policy Statement for Rural Areas in Municipalities (1.1.4) Further, 1.1.4.2 of the Provincial Policy Statement directs planning in “rural areas, rural settlement areas shall be the focus of growth and development and their vitality and regeneration shall be promoted.” Further 1.1.5.2(d) also describes “agricultural uses, agricultural-related uses, on farm diversified uses.

### In Summary:

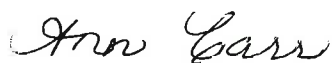
Using the criteria provided by OMAFRA it is a municipalities obligation to preserve prime agricultural lands as per the Provincial Policy Statement. After investigating further, the methodologies of the ALES study and observing the topography of the lands and investigating the soil classes and sub-classes it is understandable how the letter given to the Township of Bonfield on April 15, 1997 from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food had facilitated that “given the scattered nature of farms and variable soil classes and the predominance of poor soils, the Ministry would not require any strict policies to protect agricultural areas within Bonfield Township.” Furthermore, it was provided for to consider agricultural practices during land planning through the use of the minimum distance separation formulae and policies, which has already strengthened in recent years.

Using compatibility land use strategies and implementing these strategies, the Township shall reserve current agriculture practices for the purpose of grazing and forging. Cash crops are not an indictive practice for the municipality and there is no infrastructure in place to support an economy based on agricultural practices.

The Rutherglen Hamlet needs the support of land to facilitate our growing community as trending patterns of rural living are evident in our population growth over the last several years. Furthermore, Rutherglen Hamlet needs housing lands to support that the OP Employment Lands are designated in the vicinity.

Therefore, the Township of Bonfield does not support a prime agriculture zone. However, the proposed Official Plan does strengthen the practices to preserve the few farms we have and supports the Provincial Policy Statement with the permitted uses of rural lands and well thought out land severance policies.

Respectfully



Ann Carr, Planning Administrator

I concur with this report,



Nicky Kunkel, CAO

Appendix: Letter to Township of Bonfield from Ministry of Agriculture and Food April 15, 1997



Ministry of  
Agriculture  
and Food

Ministère de  
l'Agriculture et  
de l'Alimentation

R.R. # 3,  
95 Dundas Street  
Brighton, Ontario  
K0K 1H0

Agriculture & Rural Division

Tel: (613) 475-1630  
Fax: (613) 475-3835

April 15, 1997

Doug Laplante  
Secretary - Planning Advisory Committee  
Bonfield Township Municipal Office  
335 Highway 531  
Bonfield, Ontario  
POH 1E0

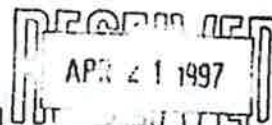
Dear Sir:

RE: Official Plan Update - Five Year Review  
Bonfield Township, Nipissing District

Staff of this Ministry have completed a review of the above-noted proposal in view of the Provincial Policy Statement (1997), specifically Section 2.1 - Agricultural Policies. The following comments are provided.

Given the scattered nature of farms and variable soil classes, and the predominance of poor soils, this Ministry would not require any strict policies to protect an agricultural area within Bonfield Township. Consequently, we recommend that the rural area be designated and zoned as Rural.

To protect livestock facilities from the encroachment from new development and to spatially separate new or expansions to livestock facilities from development, we recommend that Minimum Distance Separation I & II (March 1995) be referenced in the official plan and comprehensive zoning by-law. In addition, within the Rural designation and zone, agricultural uses be recognized and permitted to allow for the continuance of agricultural operations. Farm related severance should also be permitted.



-2-

While the above represents the Ministry's interpretation of provincial policy with regard to agricultural land, it does not reflect an overall provincial position. There may be planning concerns or interests of other agencies that should be regarded, in addition to any municipal planning considerations.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact this office.

Yours truly,



Ray Valaitis  
Rural Planner

copy: Shahan Deirmenjajan, Area Planner, MMAH  
Sharon Johnston, Municipal Advisor, OMAFRA

(MMAH1b.rcv)

Sources:

[Use of soil and Canada Land Inventory \(CLI\) information for agricultural land use planning in Ontario | ontario.ca](#)

[Soil Survey Complex - Data Description.pdf \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

<https://geohub.lio.gov.on.ca>

Memo from JL Richards dated August 18, 2023

MPAC

[Publication 851: Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas | ontario.ca](#)

[Classifying Prime and Marginal Agricultural Soils and Landscapes: Guidelines for Application of the Canada Land Inventory in Ontario \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD**

**BY-LAW NO. 2024-38  
BEING A BY-LAW FOR ESTABLISHING TAX  
RATIOS FOR THE YEAR 2024**

**WHEREAS** pursuant to Section 308 of The Municipal Act, 2001, c.25, as amended, (The Act), a municipality shall pass a by-law in each year to establish the tax ratios for that year for the Municipality;

**AND WHEREAS** tax ratios are the ratios that the tax rate for each property class must be to the tax rate for the residential/farm property class where the residential/farm property class tax ratio is 1 and the tax ratio for the farmlands property class and the managed forests property class prescribed under the Assessment Act is .25;

**AND WHEREAS** pursuant, to Section 313 of The Act, it is necessary for the Council of the Township of Bonfield to establish tax reductions for the prescribed subclasses;

**NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. For the year 2024, the tax ratio for property in:
  - a) the residential/farm property class is **1.000000**;
  - b) the commercial property class is **1.006700**;
  - c) the industrial property class is **1.261000**;
  - d) the pipelines property class is **0.782262**;
  - e) the farmlands property class is **0.250000**;
  - f) the managed forest property class is **0.250000**;
  - g) the landfill property class is **2.549296**;
2. The tax rate reduction factor for:
  - a) the vacant land and excess land subclasses in the commercial property class is **0.70**;
  - b) the vacant land and excess land subclasses in the industrial property class is **0.65**;
3. For the purposes of this By-Law:
  - a) the commercial property class includes all commercial office property, shopping centre property and parking lot property;
  - b) the industrial property class includes all large industrial property;
4. This By-Law shall come into force and take effect immediately following third reading.

**READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 28TH DAY OF MAY 2024.**

---

MAYOR

---

CLERK

April 24, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queens Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Motion regarding Accessible Ontario by 2025**

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 23, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

**Resolution 2024-93**

Moved by Councillor Proderick  
Seconded by Councillor Willis

**WHEREAS** the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

**WHEREAS** Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

**WHEREAS** at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

**WHEREAS** the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;



**WHEREAS** people with disabilities and advocates note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

**WHEREAS** Loyalist Township is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of Loyalist Township strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Honourable Raymond Sung Joon Cho Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, Honourable Micheal Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities for their support.

**Motion carried.**



Sincerely,

*Anne Kantharajah*

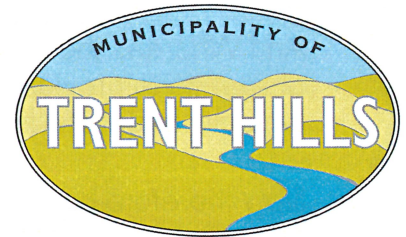
Anne Kantharajah  
Township Clerk  
[akantharajah@loyalist.ca](mailto:akantharajah@loyalist.ca)  
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: Honourable Raymond Sung Joon Cho Minister of Seniors and Accessibility  
Honourable Micheal Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services  
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus  
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township  
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Proderick, Loyalist Township  
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township  
Ontario Municipalities



April 25, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier's Office  
Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
[doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)



Come for a visit. Stay for a lifestyle.

**Re: Northumberland Inter-Municipal Task Force on Housing and Homelessness motion re: Funding Social Services**

At its meeting of April 25, 2024, Council considered the update brought forward by Councillor Rob Pope re: Northumberland Inter-Municipal Task Force on Housing and Homelessness motion re: Funding Social Service and passed the following motion:

Motion No. THC-240425-21

Moved by Councillor Rob Pope  
Seconded by Councillor Daniel Giddings

Whereas Ontario is experiencing a housing crisis, with housing costs far exceeding affordable levels by any standard including in Northumberland County;

And Whereas the prevalence of homelessness is quickly increasing beyond the capacity of local governments to create new emergency, transitional, or affordable housing;

And Whereas homelessness is a condition that can largely be prevented with adequate resources, but that nonetheless puts an increasing number of residents at risk of considerable harm or death;

And Whereas insufficient housing and social services fail not only to provide for those experiencing homelessness, but also cause significant economic costs to lower and upper tier municipalities as well as to the province in the form of higher policing, first responder, healthcare, and economic development costs, among others;

And Whereas insufficient housing and social services fail not only to provide for those experiencing homelessness, but also cause significant social costs in communities that experience social estrangement, insecurity, and fear associated with increased crime and visible drug use, all of which causes considerable social and political unrest;

And Whereas the Province of Ontario dictates the requirement for social services including emergency shelters, but limits their operation through insufficient funding, thereby causing said economic and social costs at the upper and lower tiers of municipal governance;

And Whereas the municipalities of Northumberland County recognize our moral and legal obligation to provide adequate shelter and public safety for all residents, but are limited in our capacity to unilaterally do so by constrained finances;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Trent Hills, along with other Northumberland County municipalities, call upon the Province of Ontario to significantly increase funding for housing, shelters, and other necessary social services to ensure adequate levels of service to meet the needs of our residents;

And that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, to the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South, and to all Ontario municipalities.

Carried.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Municipality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Douglas Irwin', written in a cursive style.

J. Douglas Irwin  
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

March 14, 2024

**Re: Item for Discussion – Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework**

At its meeting of March 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-053, regarding Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework, as follows:

“WHEREAS the current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge calls on the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

1000 Taylor Court  
Bracebridge, ON  
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264  
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262  
public works fax: (705) 645-7525  
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); the Muskoka and Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



# The Corporation of the Township of Georgian Bluffs

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April 30, 2024

## **Re: Resolution to Support - Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework**

To whom I may concern,

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Georgian Bluffs considered the above-noted matter and passed resolution RES2024-071 at the April 10, 2024, meeting of Council:

RES2024-071

Moved By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

**That staff forward a letter in support of the resolution from the Town of Bracebridge.**

Carried

The resolution from the Town of Bracebridge is attached below.

Thank you,

Rayburn Murray  
Deputy Clerk  
Township of Georgian Bluffs  
519-376-2729 x. 603 | [rmurray@georgianbluffs.ca](mailto:rmurray@georgianbluffs.ca)

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SMITHS FALLS**  
**Regular Council Meeting**

**Resolution Number** 2024-04-074  
**Title:** Basic Income Guarantee  
**Date:** Monday, April 8, 2024

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**Moved by** J Miller  
**Seconded by** P McKenna

WHEREAS, per Statistics Canada data, in 2020 the median after-tax household income in Smiths Falls was \$56,400, the lowest of any lower or single-tier municipality in Lanark County (Beckwith the highest, at \$107,000), and compared to \$77,000 for Lanark County as a whole;

WHEREAS, per the 2021 Census of Canada 1490 out of 9085 residents of Smiths Falls (16.4% of the total) lived in low income, based on the Low Income After Tax (LIM-AT) measure;

WHEREAS, of the 1490 Smiths Falls citizens living in low income in 2021, 120 of them were children five years old or younger, 215 of them were children between the ages of six and 17, and 365 of them were seniors aged 65 or over;

WHEREAS, the level of income is one of the most important social determinants of health, and relates to many other determinants including education and literacy, healthy behaviours, one's social environment, and employment and work conditions;

WHEREAS, low income is strongly correlated with a wide range of negative health outcomes, including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and poor mental health, and with shorter life expectancies compared to higher income persons;

WHEREAS, the minimum wage in Ontario and the maximum amounts of financial support available through Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are deeply insufficient to meet the basic needs of full-time minimum wage workers, or of individuals or families drawing OW or ODSP support;

WHEREAS, ongoing, widespread, and rapid changes in labour markets, including due to outsourcing, artificial intelligence, automation, and advance of the "gig" economy, are causing more and more people to be exposed to labour changes beyond their control, adding to their vulnerability to low income;

WHEREAS, basic income is a means by which individuals, families, and whole communities can be less vulnerable to negative changes in health, relationship or family status, and labour markets, and better able to navigate transitions and challenging circumstances;

WHEREAS, basic Income is money distributed to eligible people, regularly, reliably, and without work requirement, and which, absent other income, should meet basic human needs;

WHEREAS, basic income exists in Canada in the form of longstanding programs like the Canada Child Benefit and the Guaranteed Income Supplement for seniors, programs with demonstrated positive impacts on basic income recipients, economies, and our greater society;

WHEREAS, there is need to establish basic income security for working-age adults in Canada who, at present and in general, lack sufficient social protection against low income;

WHEREAS, there is a growing body of evidence that basic income is not a disincentive on the pursuit or retention of employment and that, further, basic income is more likely to support such pursuit or retention given its stabilizing effect in the lives of people;

WHEREAS, the gross cost of a basic income program is reduced to a net cost once various funding options are exercised and the fiscal benefits of basic income are realized (e.g., basic income as a local economic stimulus);

WHEREAS, Canada, one of the wealthiest nations in the world, has the fiscal capacity to support a

basic income guarantee for working-age adults;

WHEREAS, the call for basic income in Canada has been and is being made by public health authorities, including the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit per its November 2023 report on food insecurity within the health region;

WHEREAS, the call for basic income in Canada has been and is being made by many other interests, including a growing number of municipalities in Ontario and beyond, and by a range of provincial and federal parliamentarians;

WHEREAS, a 2022 national public opinion poll suggests that six in 10 adults in Canada support the concept of basic income;

AND WHEREAS, the Town of Smiths Falls wishes to add its municipal voice to the call for a basic income guarantee for working-age adults in Canada.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Town of Smiths Falls supports the concept of a basic income guarantee for working-age adults to help combat low income and economic vulnerability within our community;
- 2) That the Town of Smiths Falls calls upon the federal and the provincial and territorial governments to collaborate on the design, introduction, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of a national basic income guarantee program for working-age adults;
- 3) That the Council of the Town of Smiths Falls directs the Mayor to write (a) a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, copy to relevant federal ministers and to Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston MP Scott Reid; and (b) a letter to Ontario Premier Doug Ford; copy to relevant provincial ministers and to Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston MPP John Jordan, calling on these orders of government to collaborate on the design, introduction, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of a national basic income guarantee program for working-age adults;
- 4) That the Council of the Town of Smiths Falls directs the Mayor to write a letter to each of the Mayor's counterparts in the lower-tier municipalities in Lanark County, encouraging each municipality to also pass a resolution similar to that adopted by the Town of Smiths Falls;
- 5) That a copy of this resolution be shared with all other municipalities in Ontario, and with the presidents of the Eastern Ontario Mayors Caucus, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

**Carried**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



# SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

## RECORDED VOTE

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: April 8/2024.

ISSUE: 9.3 Basic Income Guarantee

BYLAW/RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER	YEA	NAY
J Brennan		✓
D Quinn		✓
J Miller	✓	
P McKenna	✓	
S Robinson		✓
C McGuire	✓	
S Pankow	✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

Carried

Defeated

*Kastello*  
Clerk

*- requested by J. Brennan*



May 2024

Your Worship and Members of Council,

I am writing to provide an update on the ongoing activity regarding Enbridge Gas' rate rebasing application and the Government's introduction of the Keeping Energy Costs Down Act.

Enbridge Gas raised numerous concerns with the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of our rate rebasing application. We took action by appealing the decision in Divisional Court and filing a Motion to Review evidence with the OEB. Many municipalities and stakeholders across Ontario passed motions to support access to natural gas and continue to bring the issues that matter to your municipalities forward – your voices matter tremendously in this important conversation.

We commend the Government of Ontario for its definitive action in support of affordable energy and consumer choice with the introduction of Bill 165, the [Keeping Energy Costs Down Act](#). The legislation reinforces the critical role of natural gas in keeping energy costs down for Ontarians and the importance of natural gas and its associated infrastructure in achieving Ontario's energy transition in a measured and practical way. The Standing Committee on the Interior considered Bill 165 in April 2024, where interested parties, including many municipal voices, delivered presentations and provided submissions. Bill 165 received royal assent on May 16, 2024.

This legislation is an important step to addressing energy affordability, resiliency, and reliability. However, there continues to be critical barriers that must be addressed to ensure the remainder of the OEB's decision does not have significant negative impacts on Ontario's growth plans. The reduction in capital continues to put at risk thousands of planned connections in 2024 and will significantly constrain our ability to invest in energy projects that contribute to addressing Ontario's economic development, competitiveness, and emissions reductions. It is imperative that strategic investments in the energy infrastructure are backed by a supportive regulatory environment that ensures the availability of capital to meet Ontario's growing demand for affordable, reliable, and resilient energy. To that end, the Government must send a clear signal in its Natural Gas Policy Statement that for capital investments in energy infrastructure, which are required to meet Government policy goals, the OEB shall ensure cost-recovery mechanisms that provide regulatory certainty for recovery of these capital investments.

In addition, on April 26, Enbridge Gas filed evidence for Phase 2 of our rate rebasing application. Our Phase 2 application was structured to provide our customers with what they have identified is most important to them: the continued safe and dependable delivery of natural gas at a reasonable cost while simultaneously taking measured steps to advance an orderly transition to a sustainable energy future for Ontario. This is an open and public process. Interested groups or individuals can find out more information on the [OEB's website](#) under case number EB-2024-0111.

We have shared information on the role of natural gas in Ontario and facts to correct the record on numerous claims being circulated by activists that are simply untrue. We encourage municipalities and stakeholders to become familiar with the facts before voting or making decisions. You can find information and resources on our website at [Natural Gas Matters | Enbridge Gas](#) and reach out with questions at any time.

As local leaders across the province, your voice on the future of Ontario's energy system matters. Access to affordable energy supports economic development, housing growth and energy reliability. We encourage you to continue to highlight the need for natural gas and its infrastructure for Ontario today and into the future.

As always, we welcome the opportunity to discuss any of these items with you. Please reach out to your municipal advisor or find us at [municipalaffairs@enbridge.com](mailto:municipalaffairs@enbridge.com).

With thanks,



Heidi Bredenholler-Prasad  
Vice President and Chief Customer Officer  
Enbridge Gas Inc.

## Keeping Energy Costs Down Act

FONOM Office/ Bureau de FONOM <fonom.info@gmail.com>

Wed 5/22/2024 9:49 AM

 1 attachments (133 KB)

Phase Two Letter of Comment - EB-2024-0111 .pdf;

Good Morning

Please share with Council and Senior Management

Attached is the draft letter of comment, a document of significant importance that the FONOM Executive urges the Council to consider adopting.

The letter includes themes of access to affordable energy, the importance of affordable energy for growth, and a measured energy transition – similar to the themes that Enbridge brought forward for Phase One and in deputations from various municipal perspectives for the **Keeping Energy Costs Down Act**. Our suggestion to municipalities is to provide a comment letter so the critical issues are included on the record and in your impactful voice.

Allow me to guide you through the process of submitting a Letter of Comment to the OEB. The attached PDF of the Procedural Order provides detailed instructions.

PO 1\_EGI\_Rebasing\_Phase 2\_20240426.PDF

Here are a few critical points for submitting a letter:

- Please quote file number, EB-2024-0111 for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's online filing portal.
- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any follow-up questions, please contact Kristen at [807-252-8417](tel:807-252-8417) or [Kristen.Oliver@enbridge.com](mailto:Kristen.Oliver@enbridge.com), and she will respond as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your time and for bringing this to your Council.

Please let me know if you wish me to send you a WORD version of the Letter.

Talk soon, Mac.



**Annual FONOM Northeastern Ontario  
Municipal Conference**  
Hosted by the City of Greater Sudbury  
May 6, 7, & 8th, 2024



Mac Bain  
Executive Director  
The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities  
615 Hardy Street North Bay, ON, P1B 8S2  
Ph. 705-498-9510



**Enbridge Gas Inc.**

**Application to change its natural gas rates and other  
charges beginning January 1, 2024**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1  
April 26, 2024**

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Enbridge Gas charges for natural gas distribution, transportation and storage, beginning January 1, 2024. The OEB is reviewing the application in three phases.

On August 17, 2023, the OEB approved a settlement proposal between Enbridge Gas and the intervenors on some Phase 1 issues (Phase 1 Settlement Proposal).<sup>1</sup> After a hearing, the OEB issued its Decision and Order on the remaining Phase 1 issues on December 21, 2023 (Phase 1 Decision).<sup>2</sup> An Interim Rate Order for 2024 rates was issued on April 11, 2024.<sup>3</sup>

This Procedural Order addresses a number of initial procedural matters for Phase 2 of the proceeding.

**Administrative Matters**

A new file number, **EB-2024-0111**, has been assigned to Phase 2 of the proceeding.

For greater certainty, all intervenors in Phase 1 are considered to be intervenors in Phase 2; and any of them that were eligible for cost awards in Phase 1 are also eligible in Phase 2.

In Phase 2, parties may refer to any evidence filed in Phase 1.

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, August 17, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, December 21, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> EB-2022-0200, Interim Rate Order, April 11, 2024.

## Phase 2 Issues List

A draft Phase 2 issues list is attached as Schedule A to this procedural order. The starting point for this draft was the issues list approved early in Phase 1<sup>4</sup>. It has been updated to reflect (a) the changes that were agreed to in the Phase 1 Settlement Proposal, and (b) the findings and directions in the Phase 1 Decision. For simplicity, the draft Phase 2 issues list has been re-numbered.

At this time, the OEB is making provision for written submissions on the draft Phase 2 issues list. To be clear, the Phase 2 issues previously approved in the January 27, 2023 Issues List Decision, as revised by the August 17, 2023 Decision approving the Phase 1 Settlement Proposal, are final. Submissions on the draft Phase 2 issues list should be limited to the characterization of the Phase 2 issues stemming from the Phase 1 Decision, as identified in the footnotes to the draft Issues List in Schedule A.

In the Phase 1 Decision, the OEB found that the revenue horizon for small-volume customers (excluding projects under the current phase of the Natural Gas Expansion Program) should be reduced to zero years starting in 2025, and deferred implementation matters to Phase 2. Enbridge Gas filed a motion to review that finding, as well as certain others. On February 12, 2024, at Enbridge Gas's request, the OEB stayed the Phase 1 Decision insofar as it pertains to the customer revenue horizon issue until April 30, 2024 (since extended to June 28, 2024).<sup>5</sup> The Government of Ontario has tabled legislation that would, if passed, authorize regulations to override the Phase 1 findings on the customer revenue horizon. Accordingly, the draft issues list for Phase 2 does not include any issues relating to the customer revenue horizon.

## HRAI Intervention Request

On January 10, 2024, the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) filed a letter with the OEB requesting intervenor status in Phases 2 and 3 of the proceeding, as well as cost eligibility.

HRAI stated that it intends to deal with the effect of a new Enbridge Gas unregulated activity being carried out within the regulated utility, called Enbridge Sustain.

HRAI explained that Enbridge Sustain is a business involving the sale, installation, servicing and financing of solar, electric vehicle, heat pumps, geothermal, and other

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<sup>4</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Issues List and Expert Evidence and Procedural Order No. 2, dated January 27, 2023

<sup>5</sup> EB-2024-0078, Order for a Partial Stay, February 12, 2024.

energy-related equipment for residential and commercial buildings in Ontario, which is being carried out as an unregulated ancillary business by Enbridge Gas.

HRAI stated that Enbridge Gas did not disclose the Enbridge Sustain initiative on the record of Phase 1 of the proceeding and the materials on the energy transition do not reference Enbridge Sustain, despite it being a key part of Enbridge Gas's strategy to deal with declining market demand for natural gas space and water heating.

HRAI noted that its interests are related to 2025 and beyond and the issues already approved for Phases 2 and 3. Specifically, HRAI noted that the Phases 2 and 3 issues that it has substantial interest in are:

- Incentive Rate Mechanism
- Utility/Non-utility Cost Allocation
- Revenue Horizon on New Connections
- Energy Transition Technology Fund
- Earnings Sharing Mechanism

HRAI added that, "The OEB may conclude that establishing a specific Enbridge Sustain issue, dealing with all aspects of this, a new initiative by a regulated entity that the OEB has not yet had a chance to consider, is the best approach for Phase 2 in terms of regulatory efficiency."

On January 17, 2024, Enbridge Gas filed a letter objecting to HRAI's intervention request. In its letter, Enbridge Gas disputed that the business activities of Enbridge Sustain are relevant to the above issues and that those issues are ratepayer issues for which HRAI is not itself a ratepayer. Enbridge Gas stated that HRAI is not directly impacted by the Incentive Rate Mechanism, Earnings Sharing Mechanism or the Energy Transition Technology Fund. Enbridge Gas further stated that if questions related to Enbridge Sustain are relevant in Phases 2 and 3, they may be pursued by the active intervenors in this proceeding representing ratepayer interests and that HRAI's participation is not necessary.

Enbridge Gas submitted that the cost allocation issue between Enbridge Gas regulated utility and Enbridge Sustain raised by HRAI is not relevant to Phase 2 as the operations and maintenance (O&M) budget was resolved in the Phase 1 Settlement Proposal (aside from the cost allocation issue in Phase 2 relating to gas storage costs). Enbridge Gas stated that it is unclear if HRAI's perspective on how new customers will be served in a zero revenue horizon context is relevant to Phase 2 without an updated Phase 2 issues list and if HRAI's true interest is to provide evidence on the paths towards energy transition, its intervention request should focus on that.

On January 24, 2024, HRAI filed a letter in response to Enbridge Gas. In that letter, HRAI reiterated its position that its interests relate to the Phase 2 and 3 issues. HRAI stated that Phases 2 and 3 are intended to set rates for 2025-2028 and if Enbridge Gas is using utility advantages including cross-subsidies in a rapidly growing competitive business, that will affect what rates will be just and reasonable for customers in 2025-2028. HRAI further stated that it has unique knowledge of the industry within which Enbridge Sustain operates which other intervenors in the proceeding cannot provide as all gas and non-gas heating equipment in new construction is supplied by HRAI members.

Enbridge Gas submitted that if HRAI is granted intervenor status, it should not be granted cost eligibility as it is an organization representing commercial interests of HVAC contractors who would not individually qualify for cost awards for issues related to their business concerns.

In its reply letter, HRAI noted that if HRAI and its members ensure that their intervention is about just and reasonable rates, and only that, then ratepayers will benefit. HRAI submitted that the OEB should grant it cost eligibility with the caveat that an award of costs is dependent on responsible intervention that benefits customers.

At this time, the OEB is making provision for HRAI, Enbridge Gas and intervenors to provide, as part of their written submissions on the draft Phase 2 issues list, submissions on whether the scope of Phase 2 of this proceeding should include questions related to Enbridge Sustain (HRAI and Enbridge Gas may wish to rely solely on the correspondence they have already filed, or they may choose to supplement it). The OEB will make a determination on HRAI's intervention request, including cost eligibility, once the Phase 2 issues list has been finalized.

### **Environmental Defence Motion**

On February 2, 2024, Environmental Defence filed a Notice of Motion seeking an interlocutory order prohibiting Enbridge Gas from using ratepayer funds to promote the expansion of gas service, policies geared toward the expansion of gas service or lessened regulatory oversight.

In the cover letter to its Notice of Motion, Environmental Defence submitted that if the OEB believes the issues raised in the Notice of Motion should not be dealt with by way of an interlocutory motion, then the issues be added to the Phase 2 issues list.

On February 7, 2024, Enbridge Gas filed a letter objecting to Environmental Defence's motion on a number of grounds, including that the motion amounts to a collateral attack on the approved Phase 1 Settlement Proposal – the parties agreed to an overall O&M

budget amount without stipulation as to how Enbridge Gas could spend the budget amount.

Enbridge Gas submitted that if the OEB determines that it will consider Environmental Defence's request, there is no reason to do so on an expedited basis separate from the ongoing proceeding. Enbridge Gas submitted that if the OEB intends to add the issues raised by Environmental Defence in its motion, that Enbridge Gas be granted an opportunity to make submissions on the scope of any additional issues for Phase 2.

At this time, the OEB is making provision for Environmental Defence, Enbridge Gas and intervenors to provide, as part of their written submissions on the draft Phase 2 issues list, submissions on the expansion of the scope of Phase 2 of this proceeding to include the issues raised by Environmental Defence in its Notice of Motion (Environmental Defence and Enbridge Gas may wish to rely solely on the correspondence they have already filed, or they may choose to supplement it).

### **GEC Change of Counsel**

On December 15, 2023, counsel to Green Energy Coalition (GEC) filed a letter advising that a new lawyer, Amanda Montgomery, will be representing GEC.

In its January 17, 2024 letter, Enbridge Gas indicated that the new lawyer is already listed as a representative for Environmental Defence in this proceeding. Enbridge Gas requested that the OEB direct that the interventions of GEC and Environmental Defence be combined with single cost eligibility. Enbridge Gas submitted that throughout Phase 1 of the proceeding, the positions of GEC and Environmental Defence have been virtually indistinguishable.

On January 24, 2024, counsel to GEC and Environmental Defence filed a letter noting Enbridge Gas's position that GEC and Environmental Defence have been virtually indistinguishable is without merit and provided several reasons for that conclusion. The letter also noted that it anticipates that the two intervenors will coordinate closely in Phases 2 and 3 of the proceeding and that, where appropriate, they may file joint submissions. The letter further stated that the clients of each intervenor have distinct interests and there would be little to gain by combining the interventions of GEC and Environmental Defence.

The OEB is satisfied that GEC and Environmental Defence have distinct interests and therefore does not see a need to require the interventions of GEC and Environmental Defence to be combined. However, the OEB expects the two intervenors to continue to coordinate their efforts, and will consider each of their contributions when it is time to assess cost claims. Section 5.01(b) of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* states



that, in determining the amount of cost award to a party, the OEB may consider, amongst other things, whether the party “made reasonable efforts to combine its intervention with that of one or more similarly interested parties”.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

**THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:**

1. Enbridge Gas shall file (and send a copy to every other party) its written submission on the draft Phase 2 issues list (including whether the issues list should reflect the issues raised in HRAI’s intervention request and Environmental Defence’s motion) no later than **May 6, 2024**.
2. Parties wishing to file a written submission on the draft Phase 2 issues list (including whether the issues list should reflect the issues raised in HRAI’s intervention request and Environmental Defence’s motion) shall do so (and send a copy to every other party) by **May 13, 2024**.
3. Enbridge Gas may file (and send a copy to every other party) a written reply submission no later than **May 21, 2024**.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB’s [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2024-0111** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB’s online filing portal](#).

- Filings should clearly state the sender’s name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB’s website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) for assistance.

- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Khalil Viraney at [Khalil.Viraney@oeb.ca](mailto:Khalil.Viraney@oeb.ca) and OEB Counsel, Ian Richler at [Ian.Richler@oeb.ca](mailto:Ian.Richler@oeb.ca).

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

**DATED** at Toronto, **April 26, 2024**

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Nancy Marconi  
Registrar

**Schedule A**  
**Enbridge Gas Inc.**  
**EB-2024-0111**  
**Draft Phase 2 Issues List**

**Enbridge Gas Inc.**  
**Rebasing Application – Phase 2**  
**Draft Issues List**

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**Phase 2**

***A. Incentive Rate Setting Mechanism***

- 1) Are the proposed Price Cap Incentive Rate-Setting Mechanism, Annual Rate Adjustment Formula, and term appropriate?
- 2) Are the proposed elements of Enbridge Gas's Price Cap Incentive Rate-Setting Mechanism appropriate?
- 3) Is the proposed approach to incremental capital funding appropriate, including the proposed inclusion of overhead costs in ICM amounts?<sup>1</sup>
- 4) Is the proposed earnings sharing mechanism appropriate?
- 5) Is Enbridge Gas's proposal for annual proceedings for clearance of deferral and variance accounts and presentation of utility results (and any ESM amounts) and scorecard results appropriate?
- 6) Is the proposed mechanism to reduce the capitalized indirect overhead balance by \$50 million in each year of the IRM term and expense it as O&M appropriate?<sup>2</sup>
- 7) How should Enbridge Gas be incentivized to implement economic alternatives to gas infrastructure and how should the recovery of its costs be treated?<sup>3</sup>
- 8) Are the proposed scorecard Performance Metrics and Measurement targets for the amalgamated utility appropriate?

***B. Storage***

- 9) Should the cap on cost-based storage service for in-franchise customers established in the NGEIR decision remain at 199.4 PJ?
- 10) Is the purchase of storage service at market-based rates by Enbridge Gas from Enbridge Gas for in-franchise customers appropriate?
- 11) Is the proposal to add 10 PJ of market-based storage at a cost not currently included in the 2024 Test Year gas cost forecast appropriate?
- 12) Is the allocation of capital assets and costs between utility and non-utility (unregulated) storage operations appropriate, including Enbridge Gas's proposal to recover Dawn to Corunna project costs in 2024 rate base?

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, p. 95; EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, dated August 17, 2023, Schedule A, p. 25

<sup>2</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, pp. 98, 99 and 140

<sup>3</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, p. 52 and p. 108

**Enbridge Gas Inc.**  
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- 13) How should the determinations made for the Phase 2 Storage issues be addressed and implemented, including any required changes to 2024 costs and revenues, the Gas Supply Plan and gas supply deferral and variance accounts?
- 14) Is the proposed harmonized methodology for determining the amount of storage space and deliverability required to serve in franchise customers appropriate, and is the proposed allocation of storage space and deliverability among customers appropriate?<sup>4</sup>

***C. Energy Transition Capital Spending, Technology Fund & Voluntary RNG Program***

- 15) Are the specific proposed parameters for an Energy Transition Technology Fund and associated rate rider appropriate?
- 16) Is the proposal to establish a new Energy Transition Technology Fund Variance Account appropriate?<sup>5</sup>
- 17) Are the specific proposals to amend the Voluntary RNG Program and to procure low-carbon energy as part of the gas supply commodity portfolio, appropriate?
- 18) Are the energy transition safe bet proposals with capital spending in the IRM term appropriate?<sup>6</sup>

***D. Operating Expenses***

- 19) In relation to the 2024 Test Year gas cost forecast,
  - a) Are the 2024 load balancing costs including storage appropriate?<sup>7</sup>
  - b) Is the proposed harmonized approach to determining operational contingency space appropriate?<sup>8</sup>
- 20) Is the annual amount for site restoration costs calculated appropriately, and is the long-term forecast of the total funds required for site restoration costs appropriate?<sup>9</sup>

***E. Other***

- 21) Has Enbridge Gas appropriately reviewed the energy comparison information in its informational and marketing materials, and taken appropriate actions based on its review?<sup>10</sup>
- 22) Has Enbridge Gas appropriately responded to relevant OEB directions and commitments from previous proceedings, in relation to Phase 2 issues?

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<sup>4</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, dated August 17, 2023, Schedule A, p. 61

<sup>5</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, dated August 17, 2023, Schedule A, pp. 55-57

<sup>6</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, p.16

<sup>7</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, dated August 17, 2023, Schedule A, p. 35

<sup>8</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision on Settlement Proposal, dated August 17, 2023, Schedule A, p. 36

<sup>9</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, pp. 94 and 140

<sup>10</sup> EB-2022-0200, Decision and Order, dated December 21, 2023, pp. 47 and 140

*[Add your letterhead]*

Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th floor  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4  
Sent via email to: [Registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:Registrar@oeb.ca)

OEB registrar

Re: **Securing access to natural gas for Ontario's future**

On behalf of *[insert association name]*, I am submitting a letter of comment on Enbridge Gas Inc.'s Rate Rebasing Application **Phase 2 (EB-2024-0111)**.

*[Insert association name]* applauds the work the Government of Ontario has done to continue to advance access to affordable energy and propel economic growth, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and the Keeping Energy Costs Down Act.

*[Insert association name]* supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition; one that leverages existing natural gas infrastructure and invests in lower-carbon alternatives such as renewable natural gas and hydrogen – in addition to building incremental electricity supply.

An integrated approach to Ontario's energy transition, where pipes and wires work together, will ensure Ontario maintains an energy system that is resilient and cost-effective while supporting the province's decarbonization efforts.

*[Insert association name]* recognizes that growing communities and new developments have growing energy needs, to support housing developments, new businesses, community centres, hospitals, schools, greenhouses, grain dryers and industrial parks – and all Ontarians benefit from this growth.

Municipalities are planning for immense future growth and need assurance that affordable, resilient natural gas will be available to support economic and community development – this energy certainty is crucial, as is preserving customer choice.

Natural gas meets 40 percent of Ontario's energy needs, plays a critical role in Ontario's energy evolution, and supports the reliability of Ontario's electricity system. We would like to ensure that hearings like this represent municipal voices and priorities like our own on the need for natural gas and natural gas infrastructure to support the province's diversified energy mix.

Best regards,

*Name*

CC: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy  
President of AMO, Colin Best  
[municipalaffairs@enbridge.com](mailto:municipalaffairs@enbridge.com).

To: Mayor Narry Paquette and Councillors

Date May 16, 2024

From Duane and Christina Howie

RE: new by-laws

Hello, Mayor Narry and the Councillors of the Bonfield Township. We are a long-time resident struggling to put food on the table and keep a roof over our heads, plus paying increasing utilities bills. We viewed the new By-law to discover the new animal control act where we need tag on Dogs and Cats fee and the fire regulations acts for igniting a fire pit fee and other fees deriving around fire intervention on our own property.

Our food cost is increasing and the affordability of housing is sky-rocketed out of control. We can not afford any more fees added to the already inflation of land taxes and rising prices on township services. The people are taxed beyond our capability to keep a roof over our loved one's heads and pay the outstanding utility bills to run the family household.

Please, reconsidered not adding more fees to the people of Bonfield Township. I appose the increase fees added to the animal control act and the campfire and thereof the fire act for 2024 and here after. The Township of Bonfield and all parties attach, must allow us to live strong and free.

Thank you, for allowing me to be heard,

*Christina & Duane Howie*  
Duane and Christina Howie

RECEIVED  
MAY 23 2024

To: Mayor Narry and Councillors

Date: May 17, 2024

From Adrianna Lankoza

Re: Service Charges

I am writing this letter to inform you of my concerns regarding increase taxes on property taxes, animal control act and campfire fees coming up in the town of Bonfield. I am a single grandmother of three children struggling with the increase in building my own home and meeting my household finances to budget. Please, hear me out!

My family loves living in Bonfield Township, the people are kind and the country life here is fabulous, but I am struggling with the increase of food cost and paying my utilities, with the expense of raising three grandchildren. People are having a hard-time, with the food cost, utility cost and core inflation hitting our homes. We can not afford increase taxes and new fees added to our expenses.

I appose a land tax increase, township service charges increase and extra fees applied to our existing services charges for the town of Bonfield. We, the people want to live here to enjoy this beautiful country. Thank you, for hearing me out.

Yours,  
Adriana Lankocz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adriana Lankocz', written in a cursive style.



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD**

**BY-LAW NO. 2024-37**

**BEING A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS** it is the desire of Council to confirm all Proceedings and By-Laws:

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. THAT the Confirmatory Period of this By-Law shall be for all Regular Council and Special Meetings from May 14, 2024 to May 28, 2024 inclusive.
2. THAT all By-Laws passed by the Council of the Township of Bonfield during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.
3. THAT all resolutions passed by the Council of the Township of Bonfield during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.
4. THAT all other proceedings, decisions and directions of the Council of the Township of Bonfield during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.

**READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 28th DAY OF MAY 2024.**

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MAYOR

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CLERK