



The Corporation of The Township of Bonfield

AGENDA FOR COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD February 13th, 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: January 30, 2024
5. **Presentations and Delegations**
 - a. None for this session
6. **Staff Reports**
 - a. Report from Deputy Clerk regarding Animal Control renewal contract with NB&DHS
7. **Adoption of Committee Minutes/ Motions**
 - a. **Corporate Services Committee:** None for this session
 - b. **Emergency Services Committee:** None for this session
 - c. **Planning Advisory Committee:** None for this session
 - d. **Recreation Committee:** Minutes of February 5, 2024;
 - e. **Police Services Board:** None for this meeting
8. **Items for Council Discussion**
 - a. FONOM Conference – May 6-8, 2024 Registration
9. **Resolutions to be Considered for Adoption**
 - a. MP Todd Doherty requiring the posting of 988 posters in all municipal buildings
 - b. Town of Mono declares road safety emergency
 - c. Prince Edward County regarding expanding the life span of fire apparatus
 - d. City of Mississauga regarding significant reforms to the Landlord and Tenant Board
 - e. Township of Clearview regarding cemetery transfer/ abandonment administration & management support
 - f. Township of Georgian Bluffs asking the Province to undertake a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review
 - g. By-law 2024-08 being a by-law to amend By-law 2023-48 being a by-law to govern the proceedings of Council.
10. **Correspondence**
 - a. Municipality of Calvin – Provincial & National Fire Fighting Strategy
 - b. City of Brantford - Reliable and Accessible Public Rail Transit - CN Rail Letter
 - c. Library Board Minutes – February 5, 2024

Small Community, Big Heart



- d. FONOM - Municipal Resolution for consideration - Social and Economic Prosperity Review
- e. Letter from DNSSAB Chair Mark King regarding Reaching Home Funding.

11. **Closed Session**

12. **Confirmatory By-Law**

- a. Resolution to adopt By-law No. 2024-07

13. **Adjournment**



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
January 30th, 2024

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

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

No. 1 Call to Order

No.1

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

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

Carried Narry Paquette

No. 2 Adoption of Agenda

No.2

Moved by Councillor Featherstone
THAT the draft agenda presented to Council and dated the 30th day of January, 2024 be adopted as amended by adding under Item 11. Closed Session, Section 239 (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

Carried Narry Paquette

No. 3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None for this session

No. 4 Adoption of Previous Minutes

No.3

Moved by Councillor Featherstone
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 9th, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

Carried Narry Paquette

Councillor Corbett spoke on Motion #15 of the January 9th, 2024 Council meeting minutes. He emphasized that the Integrity Commissioner's Report stated that the Respondent (Councillor Featherstone) did not contravene Section 10 of the Township of Bonfield Code of Conduct. He indicated that the report is posted on the Municipal Website for residents to review. Councillor Corbett also informed the Public that this claim cost the Municipality over \$10,000. He explained that the Integrity Commissioner is an important resource for the public to ensure Council is accountable and encouraged anyone who was considering filing a complaint to reach out to the CAO prior to the submission to ensure there is full understanding of the Council Code of Conduct.

No. 5 Presentation & Delegations (none for this session)

6. Staff Reports

6.a Report Planning Administrator regarding North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority's plan review agreement

No.4

Moved by Councillor Featherstone
That Council hereby receives the report regarding services provided by the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority; AND FURTHER THAT Council enters into the agreement with the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority for categories 1, 2 and 3 services mandated under their jurisdiction in accordance with R.S.O. 1990, c. C27, Conservation Authorities Act.

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

Carried Narry Paquette

7.b Emergency Services Committee

- Minutes of January 15, 2024, were received by Council. Councillor Clark spoke to the Community Risk Assessment that is currently being developed and the motor that is being installed in one of the trucks to have it operational again.

7.c Planning Advisory Committee - None for this session

7.d Recreation Committee

- Minutes of January 8, 2024; Recommendations from the Minutes

No.11

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

That the Recreation and Fitness Committee recommends to Council that an application for the Ontario Arts Presenter Project be submitted on behalf of the Township of Bonfield.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.12

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor Clark

THAT the Recreation and Fitness Committee recommends to Council to accept the attached schedule of meetings for the year 2024.

Carried Narry Paquette

7.e Police Services Board

- Minutes of January 17, 2024; Recommendations from Minutes

No.13

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT Narry Paquette, be appointed as Chair of the Township of Bonfield Police Service Board.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.14

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor Corbett

THAT Marc Vaillancourt be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Township of Bonfield Police Services Board.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.15

Moved by Councillor MacInnis

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT the Township of Bonfield Police Services Board submits to Council, the attached 2024 Police Services Board Budget for approval.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.16

Moved by Councillor Clark

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

THAT the attached Schedule of Meetings for 2024 be approved by the Township of Bonfield Police Services Board; AND THAT the Schedule of Meetings for 2024 be submitted to Council.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.17

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor MacInnis

THAT the Township of Bonfield Police Services Board submit their annual membership fee for the year 2024 in the amount of \$879.83 to the OAPSB once funding becomes available.

Carried Narry Paquette

No.18

Moved by Councillor Featherstone

Seconded by Councillor Clark

That Narry Paquette, Marc Vaillancourt and Andrée Gagné be approved to attend the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards 2024 OAPSB Spring Conference and AGM at the Blue Mountain Resort held June 3rd to June 5th, 2024 and that all expenses be paid as set out by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield.

Carried Narry Paquette

REPORT TO COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: February 13th, 2024
FROM: Andrée Gagné, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
SUBJECT: North Bay Humane Society Animal Control Services

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the contract with the North Bay & District Humane Society be renewed for a one-year term; AND THAT staff provide a full cost analysis report on providing the services in house versus contracting out to the North Bay & District Humane Society.

BACKGROUND:

Previous to 2012, the duties of Animal Control was included in the job description of the full-time Labourer. This position became vacant in 2012 and was not filled under the direction of Council.

In 2012, an Animal Control Officer/ Livestock Valuer was hired under contract to respond to every call and provide said services for the geographical limits of the Township of Bonfield.

Duties included:

- enforce municipal Animal Control By-Laws, including by-laws pertaining to animals other than dogs;
- respond to all calls of dogs running at large, dog attacks, creating a nuisance, injured or abused dogs, live trapping of cats in accordance with Corporate Policies and Administration Procedures;
- enforce the policies & procedures for the regulation and control of cats;
- preside at Court, if and when required, as a result of charges laid for animal control violations;
- patrol as a result of difficult cases and only at the request of Council;
- treat all animals in a humane fashion and properly care for all animals when impounded;
- report all dog bites to the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, immediately;
- may be required to attend the annual Rabies Clinics;
- issue dog tags;
- collect impoundment fees and return to the Corporation;
- record data and maintain records as directed by the Ministry;
- purchase food and supplies at the Corporation's expense, according to policies;
- feed, water, exercise and care for all impounded animals;
- maintain equipment;
- clean and maintain dog pound as directed by Ministry Regulations;
- deliver all unclaimed dogs to the Humane Society or alternate location at the end of the redemption period set out in the By-Law 2013-09;

REPORT TO COUNCIL

In 2018 the Animal Control Officer/Livestock Valuer retired and the Township retained the services of the North Bay & District Humane Society.

FINANCIAL:

Cost of North Bay & District Humane Society is \$12,000 per year, whereas cost of a contracted Animal Control Officer was an average \$13,520.00.

Chart compares some of the services.

	Animal Control Officer	NB&DHS
Services	Enforce all by-laws pertaining to Animal Control including Livestock Valuer	Enforce By-Laws affecting the control and keeping of animals, including cats
Training	Provided by Township	Provided by NB&DHS
Equipment	Provided by Township	Provided by NB&DHS
Hours	7:00 am – 8:00 pm After hours – Emergencies only	9:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday to Friday After hours – fees Charged
Call/ Response Volume	Average calls per year for 2014 to 2018 were 454 This includes all calls, cats, dogs, wildlife, OPP assistance, court appearance	Average calls per year for 2019 to 2023 were 15, however NBDHS only recorded the original complaint and not returned calls to same complainant – as well, they claim that they do not do cats where the by-law states they should
Staff/ Wage Costs	30.00/ hr – all calls recorded in minutes Average of \$13,520/ year	\$12,000 per year After hours: \$110 per hour \$.055 vehicle per kilometre vehicle fee

REPORT TO COUNCIL

SUMMARY:

It is difficult to compare the former Animal Control Officer to the North Bay & District Humane Society, as both provide vastly different services. The Animal Control Officer enforced the 2013-09 By-Law in its entirety, as the NB&DHS only enforces part of the By-Law.

Council must consider what level of service they wish to provide the residents. Based on this information, a financial report can be prepared outlining all options and how it will impact the current budget.

Respectfully,

I concur with this report,



Andrée Gagné
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer



Nicky Kunkel
CAO



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD
Minutes of the Recreation & Fitness Committee Meeting
February 5th, 2024 at 5:00 pm

PRESENT: Steve Featherstone, Chair
Dan MacInnis
Cassandra Pugh
Sylvie Lamothe
Lise Houle
Renée Contant
Nathalie Bertin

PRESENT VIA ZOOM :

ABSENT:

STAFF: Casandra Klooster, Secretary

1. Call to order

Moved by Nathalie Bertin

Seconded by Lise Houle

THAT the Recreation & Fitness Committee Meeting be opened at 5:01 p.m.

Carried Chair, Steve Featherstone

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Cassandra Pugh

Seconded by Renee Contant

THAT the draft agenda dated the 5th day of February, 2024 be adopted as amended by adding New Year's Eve Report under Unfinished Business.

Carried Chair, Steve Featherstone

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None for this session

4. Adoption of Previous Minutes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 8th, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

5. Reports

5.1 NYE Dance

A report was given on the NYE Dance. The event raised \$2648.50, which will be split evenly and donated to the Bonfield Fire Department, and Bonfield Summer Camp.

6. New Business

6.1 Grants from the Ontario Arts Council

Information was given on a report from the Ontario Arts Council explaining the economic and cultural impact of developing a thriving arts community. The committee will investigate future grants that support growth in this sector.

7. Unfinished Business

7.1 OAC Grant

Committee discussed the OAC Grant Application. An application is being developed to submit to the OAC to receive funds to support bringing professional artists to Bonfield. This would take the form of a Winter Festival in February of 2025, and would focus on celebrating Bonfield's history using storytelling, music, and lectures.

7.2 Family Day

Committee discussed the upcoming Family Day event and the possibility of a lack of snow impacting the event. It was decided that the event will continue as planned to be reevaluated closer to the event.

7.3 2024 Trade Show

Committee discussed the upcoming Trade Show set for April 13th, 2024. The committee agreed that inviting a speaker from either the Caisse or The Business Centre would be a great addition to the event.

7.4 Easter Egg Hunt

The Committee discussed the Easter Egg Hunt and decided on a different format to allow each child to leave with the same goodies.

7.5 Community Day

The Committee discussed Community Day, and how we can support the event.

7.6 Canada Day

Committee discussed the Canada Day event and decided on a condensed schedule to have the event end at 5pm. Entertainment will be contacted and finalized to perform at the event.

7.7 Summer Camp

Committee discussed upcoming Bonfield Summer Camp, and the need to support members of the community who may face financial barriers to attending.

7.8 2024 Events

Committee discussed the need to plan for 2024 events, and how to promote them to residents.

8. Correspondence

None for this session

9. Information

None for this session

10. Next Meeting

March 4th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Moved by Nathalie Bertin

Seconded by Lise Houle

THAT the Recreation & Fitness Committee Meeting be adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Carried Chair, Steve Featherstone


CHAIR

SECRETARY

Thirteen weeks until the start of the 2024 FONOM Municipal Conference

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

Sun 2/4/2024 7:13 PM

 1 attachments (510 KB)

2024-FONOM-Registration (January 31).pdf;

Please share this with your Council and Senior Staff

"Unlocking the North's Potential".

2024 FONOM Conference

Hosted by the City of Greater Sudbury, May 6-8, 2024

Holiday Inn 1696 Regent St. Sudbury, Ontario (705) 522-3000

Don't miss out! This year's **in-person** Conference will be informative for municipal representatives on issues relevant to Northern municipalities.

This year's Conference includes displays from a selection of exhibitors and the opportunity to network and discuss leading practices with other municipal representatives.

Need a place to stay? Book a hotel room at the [Holiday Inn and Conference Centre](#) by calling 705-474-5800. Use booking code: 'FON'

Registration Ends April 19 at 4:30 pm

To register and for more information, visit:

meethere@greatersudbury.ca

Please contact the City of Greater Sudbury Tourism Department for all conference inquiries.

Phone: 1-866-451-8525

Email: meethere@greatersudbury.ca

A new fillable form is attached!

Talk soon, Mac.

Mac Bain

Executive Director

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

615 Hardy Street North Bay, ON, P1B 8S2

Ph. 705-498-9510



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



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD
BY-LAW NO. 2024-08**

**BEING A BY-LAW TO AMEND BY-LAW 2023-48 TO GOVERN THE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD, ITS COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, subsection 238 requires that every municipality and local board shall pass a procedural by-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield deems it necessary to enact a by-law to reflect current practices, procedures and statutory requirements;

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

1. That section 4.6 and 4.7 of By-law 2023-48 regarding Committees and Boards be amended as follows:
 - a. That any committee exceptions be repealed and removed
 - b. That it be stated that all Committees of Council shall be held in the Committee Room located at the municipal office; and
 - c. That Committees of Council meetings be required to publicly post the agendas, minutes and recordings
2. That this By-law shall take effect upon adoption

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND CONSIDERED PASSED
THIS 13th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024.

MAYOR

CLERK

Member to sit on the hiring committee
for the CBO/ By-law Enforcement
position

Member to sit on the hiring committee
for the Fire Chief position



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Todd Doherty

Member of Parliament
Cariboo-Prince George

Dear Mayor Narry Paquette,

It's been 3 long years since the government passed my motion to bring 988 to Canada. I'm pleased to report that the easy to remember 3-digit suicide prevention hotline is live and you can call or text 988 anywhere in Canada.

While I'm extremely proud of this common-sense Conservative policy that will save lives, our work is not done.

I'm hoping your council will pass a motion requiring all municipal/city properties to display the 988 information poster. You can find the electronic version of the poster at: <https://988.ca/get-involved>

I will be forever grateful of the collaborative work that municipalities have done in assisting me in getting this message out. This assistance ultimately resulted in this historic accomplishment that has, and will, continue to help save countless lives each and every day.

There is a draft resolution below, but please feel free to change it to whatever works best for your council.

Thank you for continuing to prioritize the mental health of those within your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Todd Doherty'.

Todd Doherty, MP

Cariboo-Prince George
Shadow Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

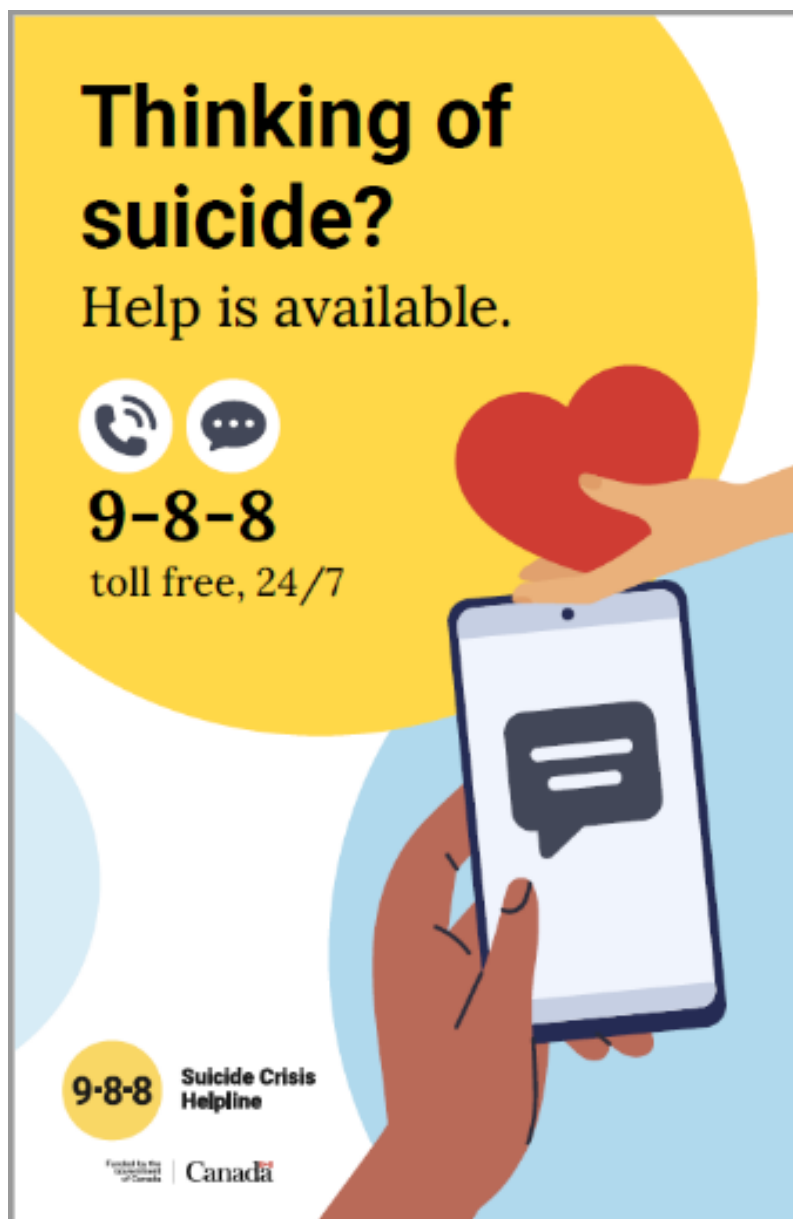
Draft motion:

Display of 988 Crisis Line Information Poster

WHEREAS Canada has adopted 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;

AND WHEREAS _____ Town Council/Municipality/City recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT _____ Town Council/Municipality/City continues to endorse the 988 crisis line initiative; and will display the 988 information poster in all municipal/City buildings.



Andrée Gagné

From: Fred Simpson <fred.simpson@townofmono.com>
Sent: January 17, 2024 9:24 AM
To: Premier of Ontario Premier ministre de l'Ontario; minister.mto@ontario.ca
Cc: sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org; minister.fin@ontario.ca; Denise Holmes; jwilloughby@shelburne.ca; Jessica Kennedy; Meghan Townsend; Michelle Dunne; Nicole Martin; Roseann Knechtel; Tracy MacDonald; resolutions@amo.on.ca
Subject: Mono Council Declares Road Safety Emergency
Attachments: Premier & MTO, Town of Mono Declares Road Safety Emergency.pdf

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria:

On January 9th, 2024, Council for the Town of Mono passed the following resolution declaring a **Road Safety Emergency**, calling on the province to take action to address traffic safety through measures including public education, increased Highway Traffic Act fines and expanded use of Automated Speed Enforcement.

Resolution #4-1-2024

Moved by Elaine Capes, Seconded by Melinda Davie

WHEREAS road safety is of continuing and increasing concern to Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS, the number of traffic collisions, injuries and fatalities are at unacceptable levels[i];

AND WHEREAS, recent statistics and media reports show increasing fatalities and police roadway activities[iii];

AND WHEREAS, speeding is a leading contributing factor in many accidents including fatalities[iiii];

AND WHEREAS, fines for basic speeding have not increased for three decades or more thus losing at least 50% of their deterrent value through inflation;

AND WHEREAS, over 60% of all other Highway Traffic Act (HTA) Set Fines remain at \$85, an amount also suggesting no increase in decades[iv];

AND WHEREAS, municipalities are frustrated in their attempt to roll out Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) with current rules that restrict it to less than 80 km/h speed zones and make it contingent upon declaring Community Safety Zones where not warrant except to use ASE;

AND WHEREAS, Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs) are the logical and efficient means of dealing with offences including parking violations, red light camera infractions and ASE charges, the Regulations involving its use are mired in red tape leading to unnecessary complexity and cost.

BE IT RESOLVED that we call on other municipalities and the Province of Ontario to recognize a Road Safety Emergency and take the following actions;

1. Launch a province wide road safety educational program to be funded from a portion of monies currently spent by the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) to advertise games of chance and lotteries in Ontario.
2. Review and increase all HTA fines and penalties to reflect a deterrent amount and consequence that sends a message that driving is a privilege subject to conditions.
3. Permit municipalities to deploy ASE in 80 km/h zones or less without having to declare Community Safety Zones and without onerous conditions.
4. Establish a Working Group with municipalities to identify and recommend elimination of regulatory red tape associated with the use of ASE and AMPs.
5. Develop mechanisms that ensure POA fines and penalties do not lose their deterrent effect over time.
6. Work with municipalities to create better means of collecting outstanding POA fines and Victim Surcharge monies estimated to exceed \$1 billion as far back as 2011[v].

"Carried"

[i] The Preliminary 2022 Ontario Road Safety Annual Report indicates a total of 25,165 fatal and personal injury collisions and of that, some 530 fatal collisions (3.9 persons per 100,000 in Ontario).

[ii] https://www.caledonenterprise.com/news/map-fatal-collisions-nearly-doubled-in-caledon-in-2023/article_3131acaf-acae-5b21-bee4-a67a33600c33.html. Since publication of this article, the number of Caledon fatalities has increased to nearly 20 last year. The Town of Mono has experienced an explosion of traffic stop occurrences, up over 300% since 2019.

[iii] Speeding convictions account for over 50% of all HTA convictions - see <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/statistics/>.

[iv] <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/provincial-offences/set-fines/set-fines-i/schedule-43/>.

[v] <http://oapssb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/OAPSB-POA-WHITE-PAPER-FINAL-1-Nov-2011.pdf>. This report, prepared by the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, suggests a number of effective mechanisms to collect unpaid fines including garnishment of Federal income tax refunds and other payments as is currently done in other provinces.

Respectfully,

Fred Simpson

Clerk

Town of Mono

519.941.3599, 234



This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify fred.simpson@townofmono.com.



January 15, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria:

On January 9th, 2024, Council for the Town of Mono passed the following resolution declaring a **Road Safety Emergency**, calling on the province to take action to address traffic safety through measures including public education, increased Highway Traffic Act fines and expanded use of Automated Speed Enforcement.

Resolution #4-1-2024

Moved by Elaine Capes, Seconded by Melinda Davie

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AND WHEREAS, the number of traffic collisions, injuries and fatalities are at unacceptable levels[i];

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^[iv] <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/provincial-offences/set-fines/set-fines-i/schedule-43/>.

^[v] <http://oapssb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/OAPSB-POA-WHITE-PAPER-FINAL-1-Nov-2011.pdf>. This report, prepared by the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards,

suggests a number of effective mechanisms to collect unpaid fines including garnishment of Federal income tax refunds and other payments as is currently done in other provinces.

Respectfully,

Fred Simpson, Clerk

Copy: Minister of Finance
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Dufferin-Caledon MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario municipalities

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Subject: PEC Resolution - Expand the life span of fire apparatus

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The Right Honourable Premier Ford, et al:

Please see the attached resolution from the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements. This resolution was

approved at the January 16, 2024 Meeting of Council. We kindly ask for a response within 30 days of receipt.

If you have any questions, or would like to set up a meeting on this important matter, please contact the undersigned.

Warmly,

Catalina Blumenberg (she/her)

Clerk

The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward

T: 613.476.2148 ext. 1021 | C: 613.503.2384

cblumenberg@pecounty.on.ca



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January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown



A Notice of Motion for significant reforms at the Landlord and Tenant Board

Stephanie Smith <Stephanie.Smith@mississauga.ca>

Thu 1/18/2024 4:08 PM

To:311@toronto.ca <311@toronto.ca>;scarr@gorebay.ca <scarr@gorebay.ca>;clerksoffice@carling.ca <clerksoffice@carling.ca>;admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca <admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca>;admin@dnetownship.ca <admin@dnetownship.ca>;admin@eganville.com <admin@eganville.com>;admin@frontofyonge.com <admin@frontofyonge.com>;admin@greatermadawaska.com <admin@greatermadawaska.com>;admin@hiltontownship.ca <admin@hiltontownship.ca>;admin@jocelyn.ca <admin@jocelyn.ca>;deputyclerk@merrickville-wolford.ca <deputyclerk@merrickville-wolford.ca>;admin@midland.ca <admin@midland.ca>;admin@mindenhills.ca <admin@mindenhills.ca>;admin@nipissingtownship.com <admin@nipissingtownship.com>;admin@northstormont.ca <admin@northstormont.ca>;admin@papineaucameron.ca <admin@papineaucameron.ca>;admin@porthope.ca <admin@porthope.ca>;admin@puslinch.ca <admin@puslinch.ca>;admin@ryersontownship.ca <admin@ryersontownship.ca>;admin@siouxlookout.ca <admin@siouxlookout.ca>

 1 attachments (44 KB)

0001-2024 A Notice of Motion Landlord and Tenants Board.pdf;

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

Good afternoon,

The Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting on January 17, 2024 adopted Resolution 0001-2024 regarding A Notice of Motion for significant reforms at the Landlord and Tenant Board to alleviate the housing and homelessness crisis in Mississauga. An Acting Mayor's letter is to follow.

Thank you,



Stephanie Smith

Supervisor, Legislative Services

905-615-3200 ext.3831

Stephanie.smith@mississauga.ca

[City of Mississauga](#) | Corporate Services Department,
Legislative Services Division, Secretariat and Access & Privacy Section

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MISSISSAUGA

RESOLUTION 0001-2024
adopted by the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
at its meeting on January 17, 2024

0001-2024

Moved by: D. Damerla

Seconded by: M. Reid

WHEREAS the administration of residential tenancies in Ontario is generally the prerogative of the Provincial Government;

AND WHEREAS Mississauga has over 71,000 tenant households and 27% of its population are tenants;

AND WHEREAS the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) is an adjudicative tribunal created by the Provincial Government to resolve disputes between landlords and tenants through mediation or adjudication, resolve eviction applications from co-ops, and provide information to landlords and tenants about their rights and responsibilities;

AND WHEREAS the LTB offered in-person services at its regional location at 3 Robert Speck Parkway in Mississauga, offering daily on-site mediation, tenant duty counsel services, counter staff services for Mississauga residents, and hearings were scheduled for addresses located in Mississauga and Brampton five days per week;

AND WHEREAS the LTB moved to a remote service model in September 2020 and two months later decided to permanently remove all in-person services post pandemic;

AND WHEREAS this decision has created a digital divide for people living in rural and remote areas, people living with poverty who do not have sufficient broadband or devices to participate, people who do not speak French or English, survivors of intimate partner violence where home is not a safe space to conduct a hearing, and individuals with disability, literacy, or numeracy challenges, with the Advocacy Centre of Tenants Ontario finding in 2021 that 55.6% of tenants participated by phone compared to only 26% of landlords;

AND WHEREAS the LTB in 2018 allowed the terms of experienced adjudicators to elapse which created an adjudicator shortage creating delays that drew the Ombudsman of Ontario to investigate the Board such that in January 2020, landlords were waiting 7 weeks and tenants 8 weeks for their hearings;

AND WHEREAS the backlog was 22,803 cases when the investigation was announced in January 2020, the removal of in-person services and other operational decisions increased the backlog to 53,057 cases by March 2023. Some of those operational decisions included;

1) Removing regional scheduling and having disputes from across the province heard at every hearing block which precluded adjudicators from understanding the local

housing conditions and becoming familiar with the parties in order to issue just decisions;

- 2) Toronto and Ottawa matters are heard most often at the LTB with Mississauga applications given less priority, and homelessness prevention programs could no longer efficiently help residents without a hearing block dedicated to them;
- 3) The permanent closure of the regional office in Mississauga and elsewhere has slowed the LTB's ability to address urgent matters, parties cannot easily access documents without overcoming several digital barriers, and residents can not ask questions from knowledgeable and experienced staff to ensure that simple mistakes are caught prior to the day of their hearing;
- 4) Only select virtual hearing blocks are assigned mediators and moderators (virtual concierge helps participants on the day of their hearing to navigate the process) leaving adjudicators by themselves to manage the virtual waiting area, move people to breakout rooms and adjudicate the complex matters before them;
- 5) Where there are multiple applications regarding the same address they are heard in separate hearing blocks and assigned to different adjudicators which is both inefficient and creates a situation where unfair and inconsistent outcomes may arise;
- 6) Hallway conversations that used to resolve a large number of applications before proceeding to adjudication are no longer possible with virtual hearings with most matters proceeding directly for adjudication and increasing the Board's backlog;

AND WHEREAS the Ombudsman released its report in May 2023 and found that

- 1) "A significant number of tenants, in contrast to landlords, do not have access to video technology and must participate in hearings by phone," while the landlord and the adjudicators are in a video hearing room. Some tenants lack access to phones, rendering their participation in virtual hearings impossible without accommodation (Ombudsman's report, para. 198);
- 2) Virtual hearings are "chaotic," with participants struggling and sometimes failing to join their hearing, or "losing audio connection part way through." Adjudicators reported being unable to find and share documents on screen during a hearing. People are inappropriately placed on mute. Tenants cannot review documents when the landlord presents them and cannot share their screen if they have relevant evidence to rebut the landlord's evidence (Ombudsman's report, para. 215-220);
- 3) Delays in issuing Orders. The former Associate Chair admitted, "this is not ideal – let me be clear. We used to do 4 [days to issue orders], now we're at 30. We have a serious problem." (Ombudsman's report, para. 238);
- 4) Landlord applications took an average of 6 to 9 months to be heard but tenant applications about maintenance and tenants' rights issues took up to 2 years with some applications from 2017 yet to be resolved. (Ombudsman's Report, para. 6);
- 5) It was unconscionable to permit tenant applications to lie dormant for up to six years. "The official said the Board generally prioritized scheduling of landlord applications to reduce the backlog, because it could hear more applications in the available time. While tenant applications may be more time intensive, this does not justify shelving them in order to process landlord matters that can be more expeditiously disposed of. The Board should immediately triage the outstanding tenant matters"; (Ombudsman's report, para. 148);

AND WHEREAS the Ombudsman concluded that “[d]espite the dozens of specific recommendations I have already made, addressed at improving efficiencies ... at virtually every stage, I believe that more is required...Over the past few years, the Board has proven itself unequipped for the task of reducing its extraordinary backlog of applications..[the] Board is fundamentally failing in its role of providing swift justice to those seeking resolution of residential landlord and tenant issues.” (para. 306)

AND WHEREAS delivering computers or flip phones to parties and introducing an IT support line this year is insufficient to overcome the digital divide experienced by self-represented tenants when in-person services were taken away from their communities;

AND WHEREAS we have a housing crisis that is evidenced by the following:

- 1) In Canada, more than 235,000 people experience homelessness in any given year, and 25,000 to 35,000 people may be experiencing homelessness on any given night;
- 2) From 2022 to 2023, “Asking Rents” have increased across Ontario by from 10% to 35%, with 31.4% of Ontario’s renters being in core housing need;
- 3) In Mississauga, 39% (compared to 38% in Ontario) of renters spend more than 30% of their household income on rent, 17% (compared to 15% in Ontario) spend more than 50% of their household income on rent;
- 4) There has been an increase in all notices of eviction because of rapidly escalating rental prices, vacancy decontrol, and the impact of financialized housing;
- 5) Hearing delays at the LTB create larger arrears, which results in tenants being ineligible for accessing rent banks and other programs for support. Larger rental arrears also increase operating debts for social housing providers placing their rent-geared-to-income program in jeopardy;
- 6) With the LTB in disarray, and our housing and preventing homelessness supports restricted due to the LTB’s dysfunction, sustainable tenancies are lost. If a tenant is evicted from an affordable unit, that affordable unit is lost forever from the community because of vacancy decontrol;

AND WHEREAS homelessness and the housing crisis is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

AND WHEREAS the LTB has failed and continues to fail in its stated role and process which has had an impact on residents across the province and on municipal human services which cannot compensate for the services and gaps created by the tribunal;

AND WHEREAS the Ministries of the Attorney General and of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Premier of Ontario, and all Members of Provincial Parliament are mandated to provide a fair and efficient landlord and tenant adjudicative process that does not contribute to increased homelessness, but supports all tenants and in particular low-income residents, vulnerable people, and other equity-seeking individuals escape poverty, precarious housing, and systemic disadvantage;

AND WHEREAS in 2019 the Provincial government cut Legal Aid Ontario funding in the amount of \$130 million;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED

- 1) Council send a letter to Mississauga MPPs, the Attorney General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Premier of Ontario (and all municipalities in Ontario), Tribunals Ontario, and the Landlord and Tenant Board highlighting the impact that the LTB's decision to remove all in-person services has had on Mississauga residents and the current housing crisis;
- 2) Request that the Government of Ontario immediately move forward on all 61 recommendations of the Ombudsman's Report;
- 3) Request that Tribunals Ontario bring back in-person hearings to ensure effective access to justice for all participants, at the same time permitting digital access where both parties are agreeable;
- 4) Request that the LTB bring back regional scheduling to improve access to housing and homelessness supports, to provide better service for people living with poverty who do not have sufficient broadband or devices to participate in virtual hearings, people who do not speak French or English, survivors of intimate partner violence where home is not a safe space to conduct a hearing, and individuals with disability, literacy, or numeracy challenges, and so that Adjudicators will have increased familiarity with the community;
- 5) Request that the LTB reopen counter service at 3 Robert Speck Parkway and all LTB regional offices so that LTB staff can provide parties with documents on the day of the hearing, can provide immediate support to parties for emergency matters, can minimize delays as documents can be reviewed for minor errors when they are filed, and can provide support for applicants and respondents in-person and can refer parties to appropriate resources;
- 6) Request that LTB operations are improved by revising LTB Forms and Notices to ensure they are written in plain language, by mailing correspondence to parties in a timely manner as an alternative to logging on to the portal, by improving website navigation, by reinstating the essential participation of mediators at every LTB session, and by improving back-office processes to ensure relevant documents are included in the LTB Portal promptly;
- 7) Request that the LTB create a Navigator Program to assess remote hearing suitability, to inform tenants of Tenant Duty Counsel and other community supports (such as interpreters and homelessness prevention programs), and to offer mediation services prior to the LTB hearing, and;
- 8) Request that the LTB conduct an annual review of all of its processes to ensure that is providing fair and accessible services, and to publicly post the findings in a transparent manner.
- 9) That the Provincial government re-instate funding to Ontario Legal Aid services in the amount of \$130 million.

Recorded Vote	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councillor S. Dasko	X			
Councillor A. Tedjo	X			
Councillor C. Fonseca	X			
Councillor J. Kovac	X			
Councillor C. Parrish	X			
Councillor J. Horneck	X			
Councillor D. Damerla	X			
Councillor M. Mahoney	X			
Councillor M. Reid	X			
Councillor S. McFadden			X	
Councillor B. Butt	X			

Carried (10, 0, 1 Absent)



CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

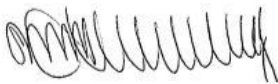
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities



Staff Report

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



Received December 21, 2023
C-2023-442

December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katelyn Johns'.

Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

January 10, 2024

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Re: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support Request

Please be advised that at its meeting of January 9, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wainfleet passed the following motion:

“**THAT** the Township of Wainfleet receive C-2023-430 from the Township of Clearview and C -2023-442 from the Township of Tay regarding cemeteries and that we send a resolution of support for their correspondences to all appropriate parties.”

Should you have any questions, please contact me at achrastina@wainfleet.ca or 905-899-3463 ext. 224.

Regards,



Amber Chrastina
Deputy Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Niagara West, Sam Oosterhoff
Ontario Municipalities

Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Stasia Carr <scarr@gorebay.ca>

Fri 1/19/2024 3:53 PM

To: 'Stephanie Smith' <Stephanie.Smith@mississauga.ca>; 311@toronto.ca <311@toronto.ca>; clerksoffice@carling.ca <clerksoffice@carling.ca>; admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca <admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca>; admin@dnetownship.ca <admin@dnetownship.ca>; admin@eganville.com <admin@eganville.com>; admin@frontofyonge.com <admin@frontofyonge.com>; admin@greatermadawaska.com <admin@greatermadawaska.com>; admin@hiltontownship.ca <admin@hiltontownship.ca>; admin@jocelyn.ca <admin@jocelyn.ca>; deputyclerk@merrickville-wolford.ca <deputyclerk@merrickville-wolford.ca>; admin@midland.ca <admin@midland.ca>; admin@mindenhills.ca <admin@mindenhills.ca>; admin@nipissingtownship.com <admin@nipissingtownship.com>; admin@northstormont.ca <admin@northstormont.ca>; admin@papineaucameron.ca <admin@papineaucameron.ca>; admin@porthope.ca <admin@porthope.ca>; admin@puslinch.ca <admin@puslinch.ca>; admin@ryersontownship.ca <admin@ryersontownship.ca>; admin@siouxlookout.ca <admin@siouxlookout.ca>

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

Please see the resolutions below passed by Gore Bay Council on January 8th, 2024.

15692

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Aaron Wright

WHEREAS, our municipality does not currently exclusively operate a cemetery, but does so in partnership with our neighboring municipality Gordon Barrie Island; AND WHEREAS, a letter has been received containing recommendations for support by Ontario municipalities; AND WHEREAS Gore Bay Council acknowledges the operation of a cemetery poses additional burdens; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Gore Bay supports the recommendations outlined in the received letter from Clearview Township pertaining to the operation of a cemetery in a municipality's jurisdiction and this resolution be circulated to Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Mike Mantha and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

Stasia Carr

Clerk

Town of Gore Bay

15 Water Street

Gore Bay, Ontario

P0P 1H0

(705)282-2420 x.2

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The Corporation of the Township of Georgian Bluffs

January 18, 2024

Re: Township of Georgian Bluffs Resolution - AMO - Social and Economic Prosperity Review

To whom I may concern,

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Georgian Bluffs considered the above-noted matter and passed resolution RES2024-004 at the January 17, 2024, meeting of Council:

Moved By: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

WHEREAS 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



The Corporation of the **Township of Georgian Bluffs**

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT 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.

Thank you,

Rayburn Murray
Deputy Clerk
Township of Georgian Bluffs
519-376-2729 x. 603 | rmurray@georgianbluffs.ca



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: "But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity.” He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, “We’re really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet.”

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, “It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector.”

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



February 2, 2024

Larry Brock, MP Brant
108 St. George Street, Suite #3
Brantford, ON N3R 1V6

Sent via email: larry.brock@parl.gc.ca

Will Bouma, MPP
96 Nelson Street
Suite 101
Brantford, ON N3T 2X1

Sent via email: will.bouma@pc.ola.org

To whom it may concern:

Please be advised that Brantford City Council at its meeting held January 30, 2024 adopted the following:

12.1.10 Reliable and Accessible Public Rail Transit - CN Rail

WHEREAS Canadians deserve access to reliable and efficient passenger rail service; and

WHEREAS in 2021 the Canadian Minister of Transportation announced that the federal government would be pursuing opportunities to enhance passenger rail services in southwestern Ontario; and

WHEREAS passengers continue to experience long delays and disruptions to service, related to interruptions caused by CN Rail's freight systems and refusal to give priority to passenger rail service; and

WHEREAS Metrolinx and VIA, in extending or improving commuter train service from Aldershot through to Brantford, Woodstock, Ingersoll and London, is reliant on access to CN rail lines; and

WHEREAS CN Rail views increased passenger rail service on its lines as being incompatible with its primary business of moving freight and is unlikely to cooperate in extending commuter rail service on its lines in southwestern Ontario without direction from the federal government; and

WHEREAS CN Rail has shown a disregard for Municipal property maintenance standards in respect to the maintenance of their rail lines and blocks municipalities attempts to enforce municipal property standards upon their rail lines; and

WHEREAS CN Rail's consistent failure to provide a timely response to development applications adjacent to rail right of ways imposes inordinate delays and expense for builders and municipalities, further jeopardizing the ability of municipalities to address the housing crisis; and

WHEREAS there is a complete lack of federal regulations providing VIA and Metrolinx with any degree of priority or guaranteed access to rail rights of way or directing CN Rail to work cooperatively with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS The City of Brantford CALLS UPON the Federal Government to assist other levels of government as they take steps address the need for reliable and accessible public rail transit, timely processing of housing developments and the prompt and equitable enforcement of municipal property standards;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRANTFORD requests that the Federal Government enact the necessary legislative and regulatory provisions:

- i. providing VIA and Metrolinx with priority right of way over freight rail lines, and further;
- ii. directing CN Rail to work positively and cooperatively with municipal and provincial governments in the processing of land development applications, and the prompt and timely enforcement of municipal property standards;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario Municipalities; and to the Member of Provincial Parliament Will Bouma, Member of Parliament Larry Brock, Federal Minister of Transport Pablo Rodriguez, Provincial Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, President and CEO at Metrolinx, President and Chief Executive Officer of VIA Rail Canada Inc and President and Chief Executive Officer of CN.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier
City Clerk, cgauthier@brantford.ca

cc Ontario Municipalities
Federal Minister of Transport, Pablo Rodriguez
Provincial Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
President & CEO, Metrolinx

President & CEO, VIA Rail Canada Inc
President & CEO, CN



REGULAR MEETING OF THE LIBRARY BOARD, Monday February 5, 2024
365 Hwy 531, Bonfield ON POH 1E0

PRESENT: Leslie Larocque, Britney Morin, Gail Johnston, Storme Van Rassel

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Donna Clark STAFF: Jeannette Shields

24-08 Moved by: Gail Johnston Secinded by: Storme Van Rassel
THAT the Library Board Meeting be opened at 7:07pm.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-09 Moved by: Gail Johnston Secinded by: Britney Morin
THAT the Library Board Regular Meeting Agenda be approved as prepared.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-10 Moved by: Storme Van Rassel Secinded by: Leslie Larocque
THAT the minutes of the Library Board Meeting held January 8, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-11 Moved by: Storme Van Rassel Secinded by: Britney Morin
THAT reports circulated be approved as presented.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-12 Moved by: Gail Johnston Secinded by: Storme Van Rassel
The Bonfield Public Library Board agrees to set up an Interac-e-Transfer as an alternative Method of payment for patron to transfer money from their participating bank to the Library Board Caisse Alliance chequing account #92100427378.
And furthermore an alternative method of paying invoices on behalf of the Bonfield Public Library Board.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-13 Moved by: Britney Morin Secinded by: Storme Van Rassel
The Board approves the 2024 membership renewal of the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries in the amount of \$75.00 from the Caisse account

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-14 Moved by: Britney Morin Secinded by: Gail Johnston
That the Bonfield Public Library Board authorizes the transfer of \$538.00 dollars from The Board Account to the 2024 Operating Library Budget account #1-75-751-731-000 Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Rebate-Revenue.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-15 Moved by: Gail Johnston Secinded by: Storme Van Rassel
The Bonfield Public Library approves the amendment of the CIRC-2 Membership Types policy.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-16 Moved by: Storme Van Rassel Secinded by: Britney Morin
The Bonfield Public Library Board approves the proposed 2024 library operating budget in The amount of \$98,245.00.

Carried: Leslie Larocque

24-17 Moved by: Britney Morin Secinded by: Gail Johnston
THAT the Library Board meeting be adjourned at 7:56pm

Carried: Leslie Larocque

Secretary

Chairperson

Motion for Consideration - Comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review

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

Sun 2/4/2024 4:59 PM

 2 attachments (67 KB)

Policy Document -Supportive- comprehensive social and economic prosperity review.docx; Municipal Resolution for consideration - Social and Economic Prosperity Review (1).docx;

Good morning

Please share this email with the Council and Senior Staff

AMO has released its 2024 pre-budget submission, [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#), calling on the provincial government to sit down with municipalities and work together on a joint review of municipal finance, including a detailed analysis of Ontario's infrastructure investment and service delivery needs.

The FONOM Board believes this is a critical step and hopes the Province will partner with AMO, FONOM, and other Municipal organizations in the Review. The Board passed the attached resolution, asking the Province of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

I have attached a Draft Resolution for your Council to consider, along with the email addresses for those mentioned in the Further paragraph.

Please let me know if you have any questions

Talk soon, Mac.

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

FONOM

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

**Annual FONOM Northeastern Ontario
Municipal Conference**

**Hosted by the City of Greater Sudbury
May 6, 7, & 8th, 2024**



February 2, 2024

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the **Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities** asks the Province of Ontario to 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

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Leaders of the Opposition, and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.



February 7, 2024

RE: Reaching Home Funding Allocations

Hello Mayors and Councils of Nipissing District,

I am writing to the mayors and council of the 11 municipalities that form part of the District of Nipissing, to seek your support. The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) has seen reduced federal funding for the Reaching Home program for 2026-27 and 2027-28 in the amount of \$738,144 for each year. The Reaching Home program provides federal funding to urban, Indigenous, rural, and remote communities to help them address their local homelessness needs. This abrupt change will present significant financial challenges for the funded agencies providing homelessness services and supports with Reaching Home funds. Communities across Canada are advocating with the Federal Government to reconsider the funding cuts, and we are asking you to do the same. (See attached Board Report #HS-2024-003 for details on the funding cuts.)

The DNSSAB has also written letters to MPs Rota and Serré, also attached, asking them to advocate for reconsideration of the Reaching Home funding decreases.

We have provided a draft recommendation below should you wish to join this advocacy in support of our district's most vulnerable individuals. We ask that you bring this recommendation or one of your own design to your council and, if passed, to share that resolution with our local federal representatives.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

THAT (your municipality) supports the stabilization of the Federal Government's Reaching Home funding to the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board as the Community Entity; and,

THAT funding be maintained, at minimum, at current levels for future fiscal years; and,

THAT this resolution be shared with local federal representatives.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support,

District of Nipissing
Social Services
Administration Board



Conseil d'administration
des services sociaux
du district de Nipissing

Kindest regards,

Mark King

Chair, District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

Cc: Melanie Shaye, Acting CAO, DNSSAB

Enc/ Board Report #HS-2024-003

BOARD REPORT #HS-2024-003

FOR INFORMATION
or
 FOR APPROVAL

Date: January 31, 2024

Purpose: Reaching Home Funding Allocations

Department Head: Stacey Cyopeck, Director of Housing Services

Approver: Melanie Shaye, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) approve Report HS-2024-003 outlining the recommended allocation of Reaching Home Winter Unsheltered Incremental funding for the 2023-24 Fiscal year; and,

THAT the DNSSAB receive and approve the recommended investment of the Reaching Home funding allocation for 2024-2028; and,

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) advocate to the Federal Government for stabilization of Reaching Home funding, including that the funding in future fiscal years, at minimum, be maintained at current levels, as outlined in the report.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maximize Impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remove Barriers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seamless Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Learn & Grow
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BACKGROUND

Reaching Home Funding began in 2019, replacing the Homelessness Partnering Strategy. North Bay/Nipissing is one of 64 Designated Communities across Canada. The funding has Directives that are tied directly to the implementation of Coordinated Access and the compilation of data using the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS).

The DNSSAB, as Community Entity (CE), signed an original agreement with Canada for a total of \$1,190,764 base funding over five years:

Funding	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	TOTAL
Base RH Allocation	\$229,153	\$219,153	\$250,486	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$1,190,764

Figure 1: Original Reaching Home 2019-2024 Funding

Reaching Home funding in Nipissing has been used to fund shelter supports, overflow, and, over the last two years, Warming Centre operations during the winter months. The funding has also been instrumental in the development and implementation of several local pilot projects, including the Housing Unit Stability and Recovery pilot, Suswin Outreach supports, and the Salvation Army's Emergency Rehousing Program.

Reaching Home Community and Capacity Innovation funding has been essential in the development and implementation of Coordinated Access Nipissing.

FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

During the pandemic, incremental funding was added to the base amount and this funding had less stringent parameters for eligible expenses. In Nipissing, the incremental funding was primarily used to enhance and supplement funding for agencies continuing to offer services to households experiencing homelessness during the pandemic.

Funding Years	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	TOTAL
Incremental	\$0	\$0	\$603,702	\$548,263	\$540,808	\$1,692,773
Base RH Allocation	\$229,153	\$219,153	\$250,486	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$1,190,764
TOTAL RH Allocation with Incremental	\$229,153	\$219,153	\$854,188	\$794,249	\$786,794	\$2,883,537

Figure 2: Reaching Home 2019-2024 with Incremental Funding

In 2022, the incremental funding was combined in an amended Agreement with the original base funding and, for 2022-23 and 2023-24, Nipissing used the enhanced base funding to fund new core services within the community, including the Warming Centre with the Gathering Place (TGP) and housing supports with the Brain Injury Association of North Bay and Area (BIANBA).

In late November of 2023, Infrastructure Canada (INFC) advised DNSSAB of the funding allocations for 2024-2028:

Funding	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	TOTAL
Incremental	\$492,158	\$492,158	\$0	\$0	\$984,316
Base RH Allocation	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$983,944
TOTAL	\$738,144	\$738,144	\$245,986	\$245,986	\$1,968,260

Figure 3: Reaching Home Funding 2024-28

In 2024-25 and 2025-26, overall funding for the fiscal year decreases by \$48,650 from the 2023-24 total funding. Funding for 2026-27 and 2027-28 will fall back to pre-pandemic levels. This decrease will add significant funding pressure within the system and could result in the loss of services and capacity.

On December 22, 2023, the DNSSAB received notification from INFC that winter incremental funding of \$222,599 was designated to Nipissing for priorities specific to homelessness pressures associated with unsheltered populations over the winter months. The funding may be used for eligible expenses from November 1, 2023, and must be fully expensed by April 30, 2024. Due to the short timelines for the winter incremental funding, Community Advisory Board (CAB) concurrence was not required for allocation decisions and INFC recommended that the funding be used to top up existing projects rather than create new projects. The incremental funding brings the total allocation for 2023-24 to \$1,009,393.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the DNSSAB support the following recommendations from the Community Advisory Board (CAB) at the meeting held January 10, 2024:

Incremental Winter Funding 2023-24:

CAB Motion #2024-04:

- Fund temporary beds from November 2023 to April 2024 for individuals relocated as the result of an encampment intervention.
- Extend the Peer Outreach Support Team staffing and security weekday and weekend hours with True Self to April 30, 2024
- Enhance the staffing for the Warming Centre and allocate extra costs for security. With these enhancements, the expected total costs will be \$389,460.

Reaching Home Activity Area	Description	Anticipated Funding Allocation (\$)	Service Provider
Temporary Accommodations (<i>new</i>) (e.g., Leasing hotel/motel spaces to temporarily expand shelter space through the winter)	3 Units of temporary housing from November 2023 to April 2024 for individuals from encampment	\$40,020.00	Low Income People Involvement
Client Support Services (e.g. Hiring outreach workers to support those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, purchasing cold-weather supplies, expanding service availability)	Street Outreach and Security (extension of POST project to April 30 th , 2024)	\$69,067.96	True Self
	Extended Staffing and operational funding for Winter Warming Centre	\$24,835.00	The Gathering Place
	Security and other costs	\$55,286.19	DNSSAB
Administration costs associated with the delivery of the above expenditures (<i>up to a maximum 15% of the contribution for the CE</i>)	Administrative tasks for C.E. – reporting, financial accountability to INFC	\$33,389.85	DNSSAB
TOTAL		\$222,599.00	

Figure 3: Winter Incremental Funding Allocation Recommendations

2024-25 Base Funding

2024-25 Allocations to Sub-Projects:

CAB Motion #2024-05:

- At the January 2024 CAB meeting, the CAB passed Motion #2024-05 recommending that all Sub-Project Agreements currently funded through the 2023-24 base Reaching Home Funding have their Funding Agreements amended to extend current funding to March 31, 2025. The funding shortfall will be taken from the Coordinated Access project funding, which will leave a balance of \$17,857.15 to be used for Coordinated Access and a Point in Time (PiT) count that is mandatory in the Fall of 2024.

Funded Sub-Projects	Budget
CCNB Shelter Supports Rehousing	\$162,407
CCNB Supporting Youth in Transitional Housing	\$73,716
BIANBA Housing Support Program	\$110,449
CCNB Youth Housing Support Program	\$110,993
TGP Cold Weather Unsheltered Hub	\$152,000
TOTAL	\$609,565

Figure 4: 2024-25 Project Funding Allocation Recommendations

- The extension for 2024-25 will allow for service and staffing stability.
- During the 2024-25 fiscal year, a thorough service evaluation and review of all currently funded sub-projects will be conducted jointly with the CAB to plan for 2025-26.

2024-28 Funding Decreases

- The abrupt changes announced for the Reaching Home Funding for 2026-27 and 2027-28 will present significant financial challenges for the DNSSAB and the agencies providing homelessness services and supports that are funded with Reaching Home funds. Communities across Canada are advocating with the Federal Government to reconsider the funding cuts.

NEXT STEPS

- Upon approval, current agreements with Sub-Project Agencies will be amended to reflect the funding allocations for 2023-24 and 2024-25.
- Recommend that DNSSAB communicate via letter with the Member of Parliament for Nipissing District, Anthony Rota, and Member of Parliament for Nickel Belt, Marc Serré, to advocate for reconsideration of the Reaching Home funding decreases.
- Recommend that DNSSAB collaborate with other leadership organizations, including AMO, NOSDA, OMSSA and CAEH within existing advocacy campaigns.

AUTHOR: Stacey Cyopec, Director of Housing Services

February 7, 2024

Anthony Rota
Member of Parliament for Nipissing Timiskaming
375 Main Street West
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 2T9
anthony.rota@parl.gc.ca

Re: Reductions in Reaching Home Funding

Dear MP Rota:

The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) has been the Community Entity for the North Bay/Nipissing Community Advisory Board since signing the original Reaching Home Funding agreement with Canada in 2019. Since that time, this community has been in receipt of a total of \$3,106,136 over five years (2019-2024). This includes incremental funding of \$1,919,872 on top of base funding that was added during the pandemic (2021-2024). The additional funding has been essential to the provision of core community services including shelter supports and diversion, overflow beds and, over the last two years, Warming Centre operations during the winter months. The funding has also been instrumental in the development and implementation of several local pilot projects, including the Housing Unit Stability and Recovery pilot, Suswin Outreach supports, and the Salvation Army's Emergency Rehousing Program.

In late November of 2023, Infrastructure Canada (INFC) advised DNSSAB that the funding allocations for 2024-2028 would be decreasing by nearly \$1,000,000.00 to pre-pandemic levels with the loss of any incremental funding for 2026-2028. This decrease will add significant funding pressure within the system and could result in the loss of services and capacity.

It has become clear that the pandemic shone a bright light on the issue of homelessness – one that does not seem to have abated. The continued shortage of affordable housing, economic uncertainty and lack of access to mental health and addiction supports means that we are unlikely



to see a decline in need any time soon. Any loss of funding that, in turn, decreases services or capacity can only be expected to exacerbate the situation.

The DNSSAB respectfully requests that the District's MPs advocate for reconsideration of the cuts to Reaching Home Funding, and that the funding in future fiscal years, at minimum, be maintained at current levels.

Sincerely,

Mark King,

Chairperson

District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

Cc: Marc Serré, Member of Parliament for Nickel Belt

Melanie Shaye, A/CAO District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

Encl: Board Report HS2024-03 Reaching Home Funding Allocations

February 7, 2024

Marc Serré

Member of Parliament for Nickel Belt

206 King Street, Suite 3

Sturgeon Falls, Ontario

P2B 1R7

marc.serre@parl.gc.ca

Re: Reductions in Reaching Home Funding

Dear MP Serré:

The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) has been the Community Entity for the North Bay/Nipissing Community Advisory Board since signing the original Reaching Home Funding agreement with Canada in 2019. Since that time, this community has been in receipt of a total of \$3,106,136 over five years (2019-2024). This includes incremental funding of \$1,919,872 on top of base funding that was added during the pandemic (2021-2024). The additional funding has been essential to the provision of core community services including shelter supports and diversion, overflow beds and, over the last two years, Warming Centre operations during the winter months. The funding has also been instrumental in the development and implementation of several local pilot projects, including the Housing Unit Stability and Recovery pilot, Suswin Outreach supports, and the Salvation Army's Emergency Rehousing Program.

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The DNSSAB respectfully requests that the District's MPs advocate for reconsideration of the cuts to Reaching Home Funding, and that the funding in future fiscal years, at minimum, be maintained at current levels.

Sincerely,

Mark King,

Chairperson

District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

Cc: Anthony Rota, Member of Parliament for Nipissing--Timiskaming

Melanie Shaye, A/CAO District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

Encl: Board Report HS2024-03 Reaching Home Funding Allocations

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD

BY-LAW NO. 2024-07

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 January 30, 2024 to February 13, 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 13th DAY OF February 2024.

MAYOR

CLERK