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June 11, 2026

Re: Item for Discussion – Resolution C-3-13/05/26 – Township of Muskoka Lakes – Flooding (May 19, 2026 Council Correspondence – Item C5)

At its meeting of June 10, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #26-GC-049, regarding Resolution C-3-13/05/26 – Township of Muskoka Lakes – Flooding (May 19, 2026 Council Correspondence – Item C5), as follows:

“WHEREAS the Town of Bracebridge and its residents experienced significant and damaging flooding during the 2026 spring freshet, resulting in extensive impacts to municipal infrastructure, private property, local businesses, roads, the natural environment, and the wellbeing of residents;

AND WHEREAS many residents experienced severe financial hardship, property damage, displacement, loss of access, and ongoing uncertainty associated with elevated water levels and flooding conditions;

AND WHEREAS municipalities within the Muskoka River Watershed have repeatedly raised concerns regarding increasing flood frequency, changing climatic conditions, watershed management practices, and the need for coordinated and transparent flood mitigation planning;

AND WHEREAS in April 2021, the Province of Ontario announced an initial investment of more than \$4 million to support thirteen projects intended to examine existing conditions within the Muskoka River Watershed, identify opportunities to reduce the impacts of flooding, and address the overall health of the watershed;

AND WHEREAS those technical studies and initiatives have since been substantially completed (Flood Modifications Review Project) and provide extensive analysis, data, and recommendations, yet many residents and municipalities remain concerned that the findings have not resulted in meaningful implementation actions or tangible flood mitigation measures;

AND WHEREAS in November 2024, the Ministry of Natural Resources committed in written correspondence, signed by the Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources, to review and make necessary amendments to the Muskoka River Water Management Plan in an effort to better mitigate flood risks throughout the watershed;
AND WHEREAS the Town and residents affected by the 2026 flooding continue to seek greater transparency, accountability, and public engagement regarding water management decisions and operational considerations leading up to and during flood events;

AND WHEREAS activation of disaster recovery assistance programs is necessary to ensure comprehensive support for all affected parties within the community;

AND WHEREAS the financial impacts of flooding are not limited to primary residences and significant losses are also experienced by owners of seasonal and second homes that contribute substantially to the provincial economy and the local tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge requests the Province of Ontario to take immediate action to:

1. Reconfirm its November 2024 commitment to undertake a comprehensive review and update of the Muskoka River Water Management Plan;

2. Reaffirm its January 2025 commitment to assess recommendations from its Muskoka Watershed Conservation and Management Initiative including updates to the Muskoka River Watershed Management Plan and "a public engagement and consultation process to hear from interested parties in the watershed, including municipal partners and other dam owners";
3. Establish, as a matter of priority, a formal implementation framework for the review and update process, including clearly defined deliverables, publicly reported milestones, firm completion timelines, assigned ministry responsibilities, and regular public progress reporting, so as to ensure the review is commenced immediately, completed in a timely and accountable manner and results in tangible flood mitigation actions and outcomes for affected watershed communities;
4. Convene one or more public information sessions within the affected watershed communities, for the purpose of hearing directly from residents impacted by the 2026 flooding event, providing information regarding water management decisions and operational considerations leading up to and during the spring freshet and responding to questions and concerns from affected residents and municipalities, all of which to be on the public record;
5. Activate the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) and Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance (MDRA) programs for all affected communities arising from the 2026 spring freshet flooding event and expedite the review and approval process to ensure timely access to financial assistance; and,
6. Amend eligibility criteria under the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) program to also include seasonal and secondary residential properties in recognition of the unique characteristics and economic realities and benefits of watershed and seasonal municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks, the MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, all first nations and municipalities within the Muskoka River Watershed, the District Municipality of Muskoka, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)."

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

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

Yours truly



Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

June 3, 2026

The Honourable Sean Fraser
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Legislative Building
284 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8

Dear Minister Fraser:

RE: Community Safety Well-Being Plan

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on June 3rd, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

Resolution No: 2026-06-03-09
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

“Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Regional Municipality of Waterloo regarding the changes to the Community Safety Well-Being Plan as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities in Ontario.”

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

cc: All Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM),
the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



April 2, 2026

Hon. Sean Fraser
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Legislative Building
284 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8

Dear Minister Fraser:

Re: Notice of Motion, Councillor C. James re: Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their regular meeting held on March 25, 2026, approved the following motion:

Whereas the Region of Waterloo's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, developed under the requirements of the Community Safety and Policing Act, identifies systemic racism, hate, and discrimination as critical risk factors impacting community safety, belonging, and well-being;

And whereas the display of a noose is widely recognized as a symbol of racial terror, violence, and intimidation, particularly against Black communities, rooted in the history of anti-Black racism;

And whereas symbols of hate, when displayed publicly, contribute to fear, trauma, and exclusion, and undermine the Region's commitments to equity, inclusion, and proactive prevention within its Community Safety and Well-Being Plan;

And whereas the Government of Canada has introduced Bill C-9 to strengthen tools to address hate-motivated offences, including provisions related to the public display of certain hate symbols;

And whereas the current draft of Bill C-9 does not explicitly include the noose as a prohibited symbol, despite its well-



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OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

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documented use as an instrument of racial intimidation and its direct relevance to community safety and well-being outcomes;

And whereas addressing hate symbols through federal legislation complements municipal efforts by strengthening upstream prevention, reducing harm, and supporting safer, more inclusive communities;

Therefore be it resolved that:

- 1. The Regional Municipality of Waterloo formally request that the Government of Canada amend Bill C-9 to explicitly include the noose as a prohibited hate symbol within the legislation;**
- 2. This motion be circulated to all Ontario municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for endorsement and support as a measure that strengthens community safety and well-being across jurisdictions.**

Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions, please contact Councillor C. James, CJames@regionofwaterloo.ca.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Oliveri".

Michael Oliveri
Legislative Services Specialist
Region of Waterloo

cc: All Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



**TOWNSHIP OF
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June 3, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

Dear Mr. Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on June 3rd, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the correspondence from the Municipality of Bluewater.

Resolution No: 2026-06-03-08
Moved by: Councillor Banks
Seconded by: Councillor Quade

"Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the Municipality of Bluewater Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box, as attached.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Rural Affairs, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and, and all municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

cc: Premier of Ontario, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Rural Affairs, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MPP and, all municipalities in Ontario

March 17, 2026

RE: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

The Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 regular meeting:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of; for 'eligible' sources only; and

WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include industrial, commercial, and institutional locations (IC & I) such as businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks; and

WHEREAS failure to include 'ineligible sources under the Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box program is in essence a provincial tax on ineligible sources; and

WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, processing of the recycling; and

WHEREAS changes may result in many small businesses and not-for-profit organizations losing access to comparable recycling services and force them to seek providers at a much higher cost than the previous services rendered through the Blue Box collection system; and

WHEREAS the rising costs of collection of recycling for industrial, commercial and institutional recycling may lead to the abandonment of recycling entirely, increasing environmental damage; and

WHEREAS landfilling needs throughout the Province of Ontario are already at capacity in many communities; and

WHEREAS The Municipality of Bluewater has approximately 150 or more "non-eligible" sources that will not be provided service from the Producer Responsibility Organization;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipality of Bluewater Council hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from small businesses and not-for-profit organizations within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

FURTHER THAT Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the local MPP for Huron-Bruce.
CARRIED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

June 1, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Changes to Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, at its regular meeting held on May 25, 2026 supported the attached resolution from the Town of Bruce Mines (Appendix A) and the County of Prince Edward (Appendix B) regarding the above noted matter.

Sincerely,

Judy Shantz, CMO
Director Municipal Governance/Clerk

C

Attorney General
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Local MPPs
Ontario Municipalities



PO Box 220
9126 Hwy. 17 East
Bruce Mines ON P0R 1C0

MAYOR: LORY PATTERNI
MUNICIPAL CLERK: JUDY DAVIS

Phone: (705)785-3493
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Email: info@brucemines.ca
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May 14, 2026

Sent by email: Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

Re: Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 – Schedule 7

At its Regular Meeting held on May 4, 2026, the Council of the Town of Bruce Mines reviewed the changes introduced through Schedule 7 of Bill 97, which amends the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

At that meeting, Council adopted a resolution expressing concern regarding these amendments and their impact on transparency and public access to information.

Enclosed is a copy of the resolution supported by Bruce Mines Council.

Sincerely,

Tarra Lapensee
Deputy Clerk
info@brucemines.ca
705-785-3493

cc:

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Bill Rosenberg, Member of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Patricia Kosseim
All Ontario Municipalities

WHEREAS THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1987, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1988; AND

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (MFIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1990, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1991; AND

WHEREAS BOTH ACTS PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A LEGAL RIGHT OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT-HELD INFORMATION, REFLECTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH INFORMATION BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THERE IS A VALID REASON TO WITHHOLD IT; AND

WHEREAS THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO HAS REINFORCED THAT ACCESS TO INFORMATION IS “ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTHY FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY” AND TO TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

WHEREAS BILL 97 (2026): PLAN TO PROTECT ONTARIO ACT (BUDGET MEASURES) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT ON APRIL 24, 2026, INTRODUCING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RULES, INCLUDING NEW EXEMPTIONS FOR MINISTERS’ OFFICES; AND

WHEREAS RECORDS HELD BY THE PREMIER, CABINET MINISTERS, PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS, AND THEIR OFFICES ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS AND ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERED FOI-ELIGIBLE RECORDS; AND

WHEREAS COUNCIL IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 REPRESENTS A STEP BACKWARD FROM LONG-STANDING PROVINCIAL COMMITMENTS TO OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES FORMALLY EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN WITH THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 (2026) AND FINDS THAT IT CONSTITUTES A REGRESSION FROM ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO REPEAL THIS PROVISION OF THE LEGISLATION; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO, DOUG FORD; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ONTARIO, DOUG DOWNEY; THE MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, BILL ROSENBERG; THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO); THE FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES (FONOM); AND THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO, PATRICIA KOSSEIM, AND THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO.



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

May 18, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 12, 2026 the following resolution regarding reinstating the requirements for compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-208

DATE: **May 12, 2026**

MOVED BY: **Councillor MacNaughton**

SECONDED BY: **Councillor Branderhorst**

WHEREAS all residents of Ontario have the right to fair, open and democratic government; and,

WHEREAS all elected representatives, municipal and provincial alike, in Ontario have a duty to faithfully execute the powers and trust placed in them and willingly swear an oath to this effect and are subject to fair public scrutiny; and,

WHEREAS the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) are essential tools to protect Ontarians against privacy breaches, and abuses of power; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario enacted Bill 97, the Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026, which received Royal Assent on April 24, 2026, and introduced significant amendments to both FIPPA and MFIPPA to alter statutory timelines and privacy governance frameworks;

WHEREAS the amendments introduced via Bill 97 have created a jurisdictional imbalance by excluding records held by provincial Ministers, their offices, and staff from the application of FIPPA, while maintaining the statutory responsibilities and administrative burdens for municipal elected officials and staff under MFIPPA, thereby establishing higher standards for transparency and personal record accountability for municipal governments;

WHEREAS excluding members of the highest offices and their staff from reasonable public access requests and records retention creates security concerns, reinforces the appearance of self-dealing and is contrary to the public interest,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Prince Edward County Council call on the Province to reinstate requirements for compliance with FIPPA to ensure that the Premier, Ministers, and their staff are subject to proper and fair public scrutiny like all other elected representatives in Ontario; and

THAT the Government of Ontario implement recommendations of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario to increase and ensure proper security, record keeping and democratic accountability; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Finance Bethlenfalvy, Bay of Quinte MPP Tyler Allsopp, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the 444 municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton, Councillor Branderhorst



May 20, 2026

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
56 Wellesley St. W
14th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2E7

Sent via email: graham.mcgregor@ontario.ca

Dear: Hon. Graham McGregor

Re: Grey Highlands Resolution 2026-341

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the May 20, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

That Council receive the Heritage Grey Highlands Committee receive HGHC2026-13 Resolution and the Town of Lincoln Resolution PED-2026-22 requesting the Province of Ontario to extend the deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties; and Whereas amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and Whereas the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and Whereas municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and Whereas the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and Whereas many municipalities, including the Municipality of Grey Highlands, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
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www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca

property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

Whereas Ontario municipalities are now in a municipal election year which may further impact progress related to reviewing and processing property designations; now

Therefore be it resolved that:

That Council respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and

The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and

This resolution be circulated to Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Graham McGregor, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Paul Vickers, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-Vanalstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Paul Vickers,
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
The Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and
All Ontario municipalities

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

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June 03, 2026

Town of Bruce Mines
- and -
Township of Stone Mills

Sent via email: bteepie@stonemills.com
info@brucemines.ca

To whom it may concern:

Re: Resolution 2026-377 Changes to FIPPA

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the June 03, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2026-377

**That Council receive the 2026-05-14 - Township of Stone Mills - Opposition to changes to Ontario's Freedom of Information Act for information; and
That Council receive the 2026-05-14 - Town of Bruce Mines - Concerns over changes to Ontario's Freedom of Information Act for information; and
That Council direct staff to send a letter of support to the Township of Stone Mills resolution 30-706-2026 and to the Town of Bruce Mines resolution on Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act, 2026 - Schedule 7 and to cc the letter to all MPP's, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC) and All Ontario Municipalities.
CARRIED.**

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-Vanalstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands
cc. All MPP's
AMO
IPC; and
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines

PO Box 220
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MAYOR: LORY PATERI
MUNICIPAL CLERK: JUDY DAVIS

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May 14, 2026

Sent by email: Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

Re: Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 – Schedule 7

At its Regular Meeting held on May 4, 2026, the Council of the Town of Bruce Mines reviewed the changes introduced through Schedule 7 of Bill 97, which amends the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

At that meeting, Council adopted a resolution expressing concern regarding these amendments and their impact on transparency and public access to information.

Enclosed is a copy of the resolution supported by Bruce Mines Council.

Sincerely,

Tarra Lapensee
Deputy Clerk
info@brucemines.ca
705-785-3493

cc:

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario
The Honourable Bill Rosenberg, Member of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Patricia Kosseim
All Ontario Municipalities

WHEREAS THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1987, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1988; AND

WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (MFIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1990, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1991; AND

WHEREAS BOTH ACTS PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A LEGAL RIGHT OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT-HELD INFORMATION, REFLECTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH INFORMATION BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THERE IS A VALID REASON TO WITHHOLD IT; AND

WHEREAS THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO HAS REINFORCED THAT ACCESS TO INFORMATION IS “ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTHY FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY” AND TO TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

WHEREAS BILL 97 (2026): PLAN TO PROTECT ONTARIO ACT (BUDGET MEASURES) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT ON APRIL 24, 2026, INTRODUCING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RULES, INCLUDING NEW EXEMPTIONS FOR MINISTERS’ OFFICES; AND

WHEREAS RECORDS HELD BY THE PREMIER, CABINET MINISTERS, PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS, AND THEIR OFFICES ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS AND ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERED FOI-ELIGIBLE RECORDS; AND

WHEREAS COUNCIL IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 REPRESENTS A STEP BACKWARD FROM LONG-STANDING PROVINCIAL COMMITMENTS TO OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES FORMALLY EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN WITH THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 (2026) AND FINDS THAT IT CONSTITUTES A REGRESSION FROM ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO REPEAL THIS PROVISION OF THE LEGISLATION; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO, DOUG FORD; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ONTARIO, DOUG DOWNEY; THE MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, BILL ROSENBERG; THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO); THE FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES (FONOM); AND THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO, PATRICIA KOSSEIM, AND THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO.

**The Corporation of The
Township of Stone Mills**

4504 County Road 4, Centreville, Ontario K0K 1N0

Tel. (613) 378-2475 Fax. (613) 378-0033

Website: www.stonemills.com



May 14, 2026

Sent Via Email Only

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

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Township of Stone Mills opposition to the changes to Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of April 13, 2026, Township of Stone Mills Council passed the following motion,

Resolution 30-706-2026

Whereas the government of Ontario is proposing changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) that would exclude records of the premier, cabinet ministers and their staff from public access requests;

AND Whereas these changes would apply retroactively and may limit access to records related to matters of public interest;

AND Whereas the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Ontario has warned that these changes would reduce transparency and accountability, Freedom of Information laws are an essential to the public trust and democratic accountability;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Stone Mills Township oppose the proposed changes to FIPPA;

1. Call on the Province to ensure records related to government business remain accessible to the public;
2. Urge the Province to consult with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the public before proceeding;
3. Direct that this motion be circulated to the Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities.

Moved By Councillor Woodcock

Seconded By Councillor Milligan

Carried

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

B Teeple

Brandi Teeple
Township Clerk
Township of Stone Mills
4504 County Road 4
Centreville, ON, K0K 1N0
Phone: 613 378-2475 ext. 225
Email: bteeple@stonemills.com

cc. All Ontario Municipalities
All MPP's



The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby

Administration

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

Friday, May 29, 2026

SENT VIA E-MAIL

RE: Municipal Heritage Register Extension

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on Monday May 25, 2026, approved the following motion:

Whereas amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

Whereas the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027, in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

Whereas many municipalities have been actively engaging in research, documentation, and consultation to ensure that listed cultural heritage resources are adequately evaluated to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of irreversible alteration or demolition before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and



The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby

Administration

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

Whereas since 2023, the Town of Grimsby has consulted over 200 property owners regarding designation, started the designation process on 63 properties, and completed designation on 49 properties, 47 of which did not go to the Ontario Land Tribunal; and

Whereas the Town of Grimsby values its heritage resources and has also been working with property owners and developers on plans to restore, adapt, and meaningfully incorporate heritage buildings into their upcoming new, large scale rental housing developments. This collaborative work is evidence that protected heritage properties are not obstacles that inherently restrict development, but valuable assets that have the potential to contribute to the betterment of both the site and future of the community; and

Whereas since 2023, the Town of Grimsby has implemented the new heritage property grant program and tax relief incentive program to support the long-term preservation of the Town's invaluable heritage resources. Thus far, 13 heritage property grants and 26 tax relief rebates have been awarded; and

Whereas the Grimsby Heritage Advisory Committee, at its meeting of May 12, 2026, recommended that Council advocate to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Grimsby endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Advisory Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to maintain the municipal heritage registers indefinitely, or if more appropriate extend the deadline to January 1, 2030, for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022.

Be it further resolved that the extension of the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe, will provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

Be it further resolved that this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

If you require any other additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC:

Hon. Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Sam Oosterhoff, Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association

All Ontario Municipalities

June 5, 2026

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Re: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday June 1, 2026, adopted Resolution No. 2026-0107 regarding Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2026-0107.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP, Dipl.M.A.
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Ontario Minister of Natural Resources
Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Halton area MPs and MPPs
Region of Halton
HRFA
OFA
Conservation Halton
Credit Valley Conservation
Grand River Conservation Authority
AMO
ROMA
FCM
Ontario Invasive Plant Council
Landscape Ontario
Canadian Nursery Landscape Association
All Ontario municipalities



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS

THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2026-0107

Title: Modernizing Ontario's Invasive Plants Rules to Protect Taxpayers, Municipal Lands, Agriculture, Natural Heritage and Local Gardens

Date: June 1, 2026

Moved by: Councillor J. Brass

Seconded by: Councillor C. Garneau

Item No. 12.3

WHEREAS invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species, seeds and nursery stock can cause significant damage to municipal infrastructure, roadsides, stormwater systems, parks, trails, natural heritage areas, agricultural lands, woodlots, shorelines, private property and local biodiversity;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipalities and conservation authorities are estimated to spend approximately \$50.8 million annually managing invasive species, and the average annual cost per Ontario municipality has been estimated at \$218,148, with approximately 80% of expenditures directed toward control and management rather than prevention; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS these costs are ultimately borne by local taxpayers, conservation authorities, property owners, farmers, volunteers and community groups who are often left to manage invasive species after they have already been introduced, sold, planted, escaped cultivation and spread;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through the Invasive Species Act, 2015, which allows species to be listed as prohibited or restricted, and which can make it illegal to import, possess, transport, propagate, buy, sell, lease or trade listed invasive species; (Invasive Species Centre)

AND WHEREAS the concern is not with plants that are already clearly prohibited or restricted, but with invasive species and seeds and nursery stock that may

continue to be sold or distributed before modernized provincial rules, public guidance and retail practices have fully caught up with current science and local experience;

AND WHEREAS garden centres, nurseries, landscape suppliers, seed distributors, online retailers, landscapers and residents all have an important role to play in preventing the spread of invasive plants before they become a costly municipal and environmental problem;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead program promotes native and non-invasive alternatives for healthy, diverse and wildlife-friendly gardens, and its updated Southern Ontario guide includes additional invasive plants and alternatives to help residents, gardeners and landscapers make better choices; (Ontario Invasive Plant Council)

AND WHEREAS recent local reporting in Halton Hills has highlighted the importance of choosing native alternatives to invasive garden plants, including through Grow Native Halton and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Grow Me Instead resources;

AND WHEREAS the continued sale and distribution of invasive ornamental plants undermine the work of municipalities, conservation authorities, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, local volunteers and residents who are investing time and taxpayer dollars to remove and manage these same species;

AND WHEREAS prevention at the point of sale is more cost-effective, more practical and more respectful of taxpayers than asking municipalities and property owners to pay for removal after invasive species have spread across property lines and municipal boundaries;

AND WHEREAS invasive plants do not recognize municipal boundaries, and effective prevention requires coordinated action by the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, municipalities, conservation authorities, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, the nursery and landscape sector, retailers, landowners and residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Town of Halton Hills respectfully request that the Province of Ontario, in consultation with municipalities, AMO, ROMA, conservation authorities, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Indigenous communities, agricultural organizations, environmental organizations, horticultural societies, the nursery and landscape sector, garden centres and other relevant stakeholders, undertake a review and modernization of Ontario's invasive plant regulatory framework;

AND FURTHER THAT this review include consideration of expanding and regularly updating the list of prohibited and restricted invasive plant species, including invasive plants, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, ornamental species,

seeds and nursery stock that pose a risk to Ontario's natural heritage, agriculture, municipal infrastructure, parks, trails, roadsides, stormwater systems and private property;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to prohibit the sale, distribution, propagation and trade of listed invasive plant species through garden centres, nurseries, landscaping suppliers, online retailers, seed distributors and other commercial pathways;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to develop clear labelling, public education and retailer guidance requirements so that residents, gardeners, landscapers and retailers can easily identify invasive species and choose native or non-invasive alternatives;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to work with the nursery, garden centre and landscape sectors on a practical transition plan that supports compliance, protects small businesses, promotes native and non-invasive alternatives, and prevents invasive plants from continuing to enter communities through ordinary consumer purchases;

AND FURTHER THAT the Government of Canada be requested to review and strengthen, where appropriate, federal import, border, labelling and online sales rules related to invasive plants, seeds and nursery stock entering Canada, so that provincial prevention efforts are not undermined by interprovincial or international trade;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada be requested to support municipalities, conservation authorities and community partners with stronger prevention tools, updated science-based lists, public education materials and funding programs that prioritize prevention over costly long-term control and removal;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Halton-area MPs and MPPs, the Region of Halton, HRFA, OFA, Conservation Halton, Credit Valley Conservation, Grand River Conservation Authority, AMO, ROMA, FCM, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Landscape Ontario, the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.



Mayor Ann Lawlor



June 4, 2026

Request for Support – Ontario Firefighter Certification Requirements

Dear Municipal Clerks,

The Town of Iroquois Falls is seeking support from neighboring municipalities regarding the implementation of Ontario Regulation 343/22 (Firefighter Certification), which requires firefighters performing certain suppression and extrication activities to obtain prescribed certifications by July 1, 2026.

While we support the importance of firefighter training and safety, The Town of Iroquois Falls has concerns about the impact these requirements may have on volunteer and composite fire departments, particularly in rural and northern communities.

Council recently passed a resolution requesting that the Office of the Fire Marshal revisit the mandatory certification program and consider greater flexibility while maintaining high standards of public and firefighter safety.

We respectfully ask that you share the attached resolution with your Fire Chief for review and consideration. If your municipality shares similar concerns, we welcome your support and advocacy on this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Maureen Reeder, Clerk
The Town of Iroquois Falls

ADDRESS

253 Main Street, PO Box 230
Iroquois Falls, Ontario P0K1G0

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF IROQUOIS FALLS

REGULAR MEETING

DATE: May 25, 2026

RESOLUTION NO.:2026-129

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 9. B) 3)

MOVED BY: R. Charlebois

SECONDED BY: C. Tremblay

THAT Council authorizes the Town of Iroquois Falls to engage and advocate with the Fire Marshall's Office to revisit the mandatory certification program in hopes of keeping training requirements consistent with how our local department currently delivers training and certification to ensure we can continue to meet and exceed our expectations towards emergency response and extrication.

AND THAT a copy of this motion be sent to municipalities and fire chiefs along the highway 11 corridor, CDSB and the provincial government.

DECLARED THE MOTION:

Dated at Iroquois Falls,
this 25th day of May 2026.

- CARRIED**
- DEFEATED**
- AMENDED**
- DEFERRED**


MAYOR (CHAIR)

RECORDED VOTE

NAME	FOR	AGAINST
Councillor (Jamy) Bernier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor (Keval) Brahmhatt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor (Richard) Charlebois	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor (Gilles) Giguere	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor (Ben) Lefebvre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor (Claude) Tremblay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor (Tory) Delaurier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

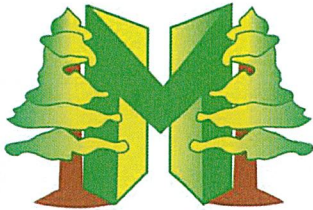
DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Choose an item.

DISCLOSED HIS/HER INTEREST(S)

VACATED HIS/HER SEAT

Abstained from discussion and did not vote on this item.



TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR

Always in Season

www.townshipofmachar.ca

Res End

Jun 2, 2026

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

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Doug Ford:

Re: Opposing proposed changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of Jun 1, 2026, Township of Machar Council passed the following motion,

86-26 McLaren, Ivens

Whereas the government of Ontario is proposing changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) that would exclude records of the premier, cabinet ministers and their staff from public access requests;

AND Whereas these changes would apply retroactively and may limit access to records related to matters of public interest;

AND Whereas the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Ontario has warned that these changes would reduce transparency and accountability, Freedom of Information laws are an essential to the public trust and democratic accountability;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Township of Machar oppose the proposed changes to FIPPA;

1. Call on the Province to ensure records related to government business remain accessible to the public;
2. Urge the Province to consult with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the public before proceeding;
3. Direct that this motion be circulated to the Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities. CARRIED.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Clerk Administrator

TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR

Resolution Number: 86-26

Moved by: Ron McLaren Blair Flowers Pearl Ivens Neil Scarlett
Seconded by: Ron McLaren Blair Flowers Pearl Ivens Neil Scarlett

Jun 1, 2026

Whereas the government of Ontario is proposing changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) that would exclude records of the premier, cabinet ministers and their staff from public access requests;

AND Whereas these changes would apply retroactively and may limit access to records related to matters of public interest;

AND Whereas the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Ontario has warned that these changes would reduce transparency and accountability, Freedom of Information laws are an essential to the public trust and democratic accountability;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Township of Machar oppose the proposed changes to FIPPA;

1. Call on the Province to ensure records related to government business remain accessible to the public;
2. Urge the Province to consult with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the public before proceeding;
3. Direct that this motion be circulated to the Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities.

Carried by: Lynda Cullen



Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0
T: 613-269-4791
W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

May 26, 2026

Re: OPP Detachment Board Resolution of Support - Traffic Calming & Speeding Mitigation Techniques

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its Regular Meeting on May 25, 2026, passed the following motion pertaining to the OPP Detachment Board Resolution of Support - Traffic Calming & Speeding Mitigation Techniques:

Resolution #: R-24-05-25-26
Moved by: Councillor Maitland
Seconded by: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive for information the resolution from the Municipality of North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board dated May 7, 2026 regarding traffic calming and speeding mitigation techniques;

AND THAT Council endorse and support the resolution from the OPP Detachment Board and direct staff to circulate the resolution of support to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Finance, MPP Steve Clark, AMO, ROMA, all Ontario Police Service Boards, and all 444 Municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca.

Thank you.

Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Clerk



May 7, 2026

Traffic Calming/Speeding Mitigation Techniques

The North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford Village OPP Detachment Board, at its Meeting on May 7, 2026, passed the following motion with the request for municipal support:

Moved by: Ian Fraser

Seconded by: Jim Goodman

WHEREAS history demonstrates that speeding and public safety concerns are increasing across Ontario;

WHEREAS the Provincial government has shown interest and allocated financial resources to certain municipalities to implement alternative measures to photo radar, reaffirming its ongoing commitment to addressing public safety issues;

WHEREAS this commitment currently applies only to municipalities utilizing photo radar as a deterrent;

AND WHEREAS such funding support would assist municipalities with limited financial resources in protecting their citizens - especially seniors and school-aged children.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grenville 1 OPP Detachment Board respectfully request North Grenville and Merrickville-Wolford Councils advocate that the province expand its stated interest and financial commitment to include all municipalities in Ontario, adopting a province-wide approach to public safety and thereby ensuring the well-being of all Ontarians;

AND THAT this resolution be sent to the following:

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Transportation

Minister of Finance

MPP Steve Clark

AMO

ROMA

All Ontario Police Service Boards

And all 444 Municipalities in Ontario

Carried.



—The TOWNSHIP of—
NORTH DUMFRIES

106 Earl Thompson Road, 3rd Floor
PO Box 1060
Ayr, ON N0B 1E0

June 1, 2026

Sent via Email: Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities

RE: Resolution – Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties

Please be advised, at the Council Meeting held on May 25, 2026 the Township of North Dumfries Council considered the enclosed resolution received from the Township of Woolwich regarding a Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties and adopted the following resolution:

“THAT the Resolution received from the Township of Woolwich regarding a Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties be received;

WHEREAS amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

WHEREAS municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS many municipalities, including the Township of North Dumfries do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Council of the Township of North Dumfries endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Advisory Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and*
- 2. The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and*
- 3. This resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.”*

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or concerns.

Sincerely,



Ashley Good, Clerk
Township of North Dumfries
519-632-8800 ext. 122
agood@northdumfries.ca

encl.



THE TOWNSHIP OF
WOOLWICH

BOX 158, 24 CHURCH ST. W.
ELMIRA, ONTARIO N3B 2Z6
TEL. 519-669-1647 / 1-877-969-0094
COUNCIL/CAO/CLERKS FAX 519-669-1820
FINANCE/RECREATION/FACILITIES FAX 519-669-9348

April 28, 2026

Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
Legislative Building
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2E7

RE: Resolution Passed by Woolwich Township Council – Request to the Province of Ontario to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties

This letter is to inform you that the Council of the Township of Woolwich passed the following resolution at their meeting held on April 28, 2026:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering a resolution passed by the Town of Lincoln regarding extending the deadlines for notices of intention to designate listed heritage properties, endorse the resolution:

WHEREAS amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the Homeowner Protection Act, 2024 to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

WHEREAS municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

WHEREAS the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS many municipalities, including the Town of Lincoln, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage Advisory Committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake property evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Heritage Advisory Committee, at its meeting of March 12, 2026, recommended that Council advocate to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of the Town of Lincoln endorse the recommendation of its Heritage Advisory Committee and respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022; and
2. The Province consider extending the deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe that would provide municipalities with adequate time to complete heritage evaluations and make informed designation decisions; and
3. This resolution be circulated to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association, and all Ontario municipalities for their information and consideration.

Should you have any questions, please contact Julia Wushke, by email at jwushke@woolwich.ca or by phone at 519-669-6004.

Yours truly,



Jeff Smith
Municipal Clerk
Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich

C.c. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Mike Harris, MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association
all Ontario municipalities

Ontario Land Tribunal
Tribunal ontarien de l'aménagement
du territoire



ISSUE DATE: May 19, 2026

CASE NO(S).:

OLT-25-000396

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER subsection 34(11) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended

Applicant/Appellant: William and Cindy Reynolds
Subject: Application to amend the Zoning By-law – Refusal or neglect to make a decision
Description: To permit severance into 3 lots & development of a residential dwelling on each new lot
Reference Number: Z24-17
Property Address: 206 Wild Rice Trail
Municipality/UT: Georgian Bay (Township)
OLT Case No.: OLT-25-000396
OLT Lead Case No.: OLT-25-000396
OLT Case Name: Reynolds v. Georgian Bay (Township)

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER subsection 53(19) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended

Applicant/Appellant: William and Cindy Reynolds
Subject: Consent
Description: To permit severance into 3 lots & development of a residential dwelling on each new lot
Reference Number: B24-08
Property Address: 206 Wild Rice Trail
Municipality/UT: Georgian Bay (Township)
OLT Case No.: OLT-25-000601
OLT Lead Case No.: OLT-25-000396

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER subsection 53(19) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended

Appellant: William Reynolds
Subject: Consent - refused by Approval Authority
Description: Applications propose to sever the Subject Property by creating two new lots
Reference Number: B24-07
Property Address: 206 Wild Rice Trail L0K 1S0

Municipality/UT: Georgian Bay
 OLT Case No.: OLT-25-000594
 OLT Lead Case No.: OLT-25-000396
 OLT Case Name: Reynolds v. Georgian Bay (Township)

Heard: March 9-13, and March 18, 2026 by Video Hearing

APPEARANCES:

Parties

Counsel

William and Cindy Reynolds

Isaac Tang
 Brett Davis
 Scott Kennedy (Student of Law)

Township of Georgian Bay

Colin Léger

Ken Otto

Aaron Platt
 Katryna Vergis-Mayo

DECISION DELIVERED BY ERIC S. CROWE AND INTERIM ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL

[Link to Order](#)

INTRODUCTION

[1] The Tribunal held a six day hearing *de novo* on appeals filed by William and Cindy Reynolds (“Applicants”) against the Township of Georgian Bay’s (“Township”) refusal of the Applicants’ application for a Zoning By-law Amendment (“ZBA”) and Consent application for the lands municipally known as 206 Wild Rice Trail (Subject Property).

[2] The intent of the applications is to facilitate the creation of two new shoreline residential lots from the Subject Property, resulting in a total of three shoreline residential lots and the development of a residential dwelling with a dock on each of the two new lots. It is intended to retain approximately 125 metres (“m”) of shoreline frontage for the property owners and provide 61 m of frontage for each new lot.

[3] In order to permit the proposed lot creation and establish permissions for future development of the new lots and retained lands, a ZBA is required to rezone the Subject Property.

[4] District of Muskoka (“District”) Staff was not opposed to the approval of the applications as long as the Township was satisfied that health and safety, as well as any identified municipal interests could be adequately addressed. Township Staff recommended approval.

[5] Having considered the evidence presented, the Tribunal is satisfied that the enclosed ZBA and Consent applications represent good land-use planning and in the Provincial interest. The Applications are consistent with the goals, objectives, and applicable policies of the Provincial Planning Statement 2024 (“PPS”), and conforms with the general intent and purpose, and applicable policies of the Official Plan of the Muskoka Planning Area (“MOP”) and the Township of Georgian Bay Official Plan (“GBOP”). In relation to the Consent Application, the Tribunal has had regard to the matters and criteria under subsection 51(24) of the *Planning Act* (“Act”) and therefore, allows the Appeals subject to conditions for the reasons set out as follows.

BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF THE APPLICATIONS

[6] The pre-consultation comments were issued by the Township dated December 15, 2023, and identified that a ZBA application would be required to create the site-specific zoning for the two deficient lots, concurrent with the consent applications. The pre consultation identified the items required in support of the applications including:

- A scoped Environmental Impact Study to address the Natural Constraint Area identified abutting the subject lands and identify any sensitive features;
- A Stage 1 Archaeology Study (Stage 1, further Stages if warranted); and
- A Tree Preservation Plan.

[7] A ZBA application and consent application were submitted to the Township on October 21, 2024.

[8] A public meeting was held on December 10, 2024. In response to comments and feedback received on the Initial Applications, a revision to the ZBA application was submitted on April 22, 2025.

[9] The Revised Application reconfigured the lots to meet the minimum lot area of 8,000 square metres as required in the parent SR6 zone. The proposed lot frontage of the New Residential Lots was increased from 60 m in the original proposal to 61 m in the Revised Applications. During the course of consultation with the District and the Township, the Staff advised the Applicants that the Applications would not require an archaeological assessment, or an environmental impact assessment, since the creation of two additional lots is not considered major development.

[10] The Resolution that the Township Council approve the application for ZBA was defeated by Council at the Planning Council meeting of May 6, 2025. Council denied Application Z24-17 for 206 Wild Rice Trail, at the Planning Council meeting of May 6, 2025. Notice of refusal of the revised ZBA application as revised (Application Z24-17) was issued May 8, 2025.

[11] The Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal of refusal of the revised ZBA applications with the Township on May 27, 2025.

[12] The Staff Report prepared for the July 11, 2025, meeting recommended provisional approval of the consent applications, subject to conditions.

[13] The Committee of Adjustment refused the consent applications on July 11, 2025.

[14] A Notice of Appeal of the Committee of Adjustment ("COA") decision relating to the Consent Applications B24-07 and B24-08 was filed on behalf of the Applicants on July 31, 2025.

TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY ZONING BY-LAW 2014-75

[16] The Subject Property is zoned '*Six Mile Lake Residential - Exception Six (SR6-6)*'. The site-specific exception requires a Minimum Front Yard for a Detached Dwelling of 30 m; northern setback of 10 m and southern setback of 70 m.

ZBA

[17] The ZBA requests to rezone the proposed severed lands from the '*Six Mile Lake Residential - Exception 6 (SR6-6)*' zone to a '*Six Mile Lake Residential –Exception XX (SR6-XX)*' zone to add the following special zone requirements in addition to, or in replacement of, the parent SR6 Zone provisions:

- a) Minimum lot frontage – 61 m
- b) A maximum of 1 dock permitted per lot, with a:
 - Maximum projection of 3.5 m;
 - Maximum length of 10 m; and,
 - Maximum width of 3.1 m;
- c) Prohibit all buildings and structures within 20 m of the front lot line (shoreline), excluding a pumphouse; and,
- d) Proposed sewage system shall be tertiary or other class system as per the recommendation of a licensed septic installer.

[18] Regarding the textual error, the proposed ZBA modification related to the retained lands seeks to correct a textual error within the existing site specific '*SR6-6*' zone, that incorrectly applied side yard setbacks of 10 and 70 m to a dwelling, whereas these were intended to only apply to dock structures as confirmed per By-law 1999-116. This would result in the 5 m side yard setback of the SR6 zone to appropriately apply to the retained lands as intended.

APPEALS TO BE HEARD TOGETHER, PARTICIPANT AND PARTY STATUS

[19] Prior to the hearing, during the Case Management Conference on November 3, 2025, the Tribunal ordered to have the appeals be heard together. In addition, Ken Otto was granted Party status and Brenda Pritchard was granted Participant status

[20] The Tribunal was in receipt of and considered the contents of Brenda Pritchard's statement which raised concerns on, allowing further severance on the remaining lands will in effect create a precedent, the applications do not comply with Six Mile Lake District rules or *Act* in terms of frontage, setback or side yard, safety issue and further dockage on this lot will create an extremely dangerous situation for boaters and etc., who use the narrow channel.

[21] The concerns raised by the Participant are addressed below as part of the Tribunal's analysis of the matter.

SUBJECT SITE AND SURROUNDING AREA

[22] The Subject Property is located in the northeast portion of the Six Mile Lake Waterfront Community area and is accessed via Wild Rice Trail (private road) which connects to Berwick Road.

[23] The Subject Property has approximately 3.68 hectares ("ha") of lot area and a frontage of 250 m on a bay of Six Mile Lake in a narrow waterbody known as Wild Rice Bay. A detached dwelling, accessory building and dock occupy the lands which contain a mix of natural vegetation and is densely forested. Granite rock dominates the shoreline.

[24] The shore to shore width of the portion of Six Mile Lake where the Subject Property is situated is less than 120 m, which defines it as a narrow waterbody under the MOP. Directly in front of the Subject Property, the channel width at its narrowest point is approximately 45 m in width. Narrow waterbodies are common within the

Township. Mr. Otto's property is situated directly across the channel from the Subject Property.

[25] The surrounding area is typified by shoreline residential lots with varying lot area and frontage values. The majority of properties on Six Mile Lake, and those in close proximity to the Subject Property, are vegetated with varying topography along the shoreline area. Properties within the immediate area of the Subject Property benefit from a variety of shoreline structures (docks, boathouses) along their water frontages.

LEGISLATIVE TEST

[26] The Applications require sufficient regard for the matters of Provincial interest listed at section 2 of the *Act* and have regard to the decisions of the Council as required pursuant to section 2.1(1) of the *Act*, including consistency with the PPS and conformity with the MOP and GBOP.

[27] Section 51(24) of the *Act* provides the criteria for which an approval authority must have regard when considering approval of a draft plan of subdivision. When determining whether provisional approval is to be granted for a consent under S. 53 (12) of the *Act*, the approval authority is to have regard to the matters under subsection 51 (24).

ORDER OF EVIDENCE AND WITNESS

[28] It was agreed upon by the Parties that the following order of evidence and witnesses would govern the Hearing:

For the Applicant:

1. Derek Witlib, Land Use Planning (summonsed)
2. Gordon Nielsen, Ecology and Boating Impact and Safety
3. Victoria Lemieux, Land Use Planning

For the Township:

4. Jane Graham, Coastal Engineering and Boating Safety
5. Genevieve Scott, Land Use Planning

For Mr. Otto:

6. Jamie Robinson, Land Use Planning

[29] Evidence in support of the applications was provided by the above noted witnesses. All experts were duly qualified to provide expert opinion evidence in their above noted field.

[30] The individuals qualified to provide expert opinion evidence adopted their Written Witness Statements and Reply Witness Statements, with such added minor corrections as required and noted during their oral evidence.

[31] Ms. Graham advised this was her first time appearing before the Tribunal or its predecessors and corrected her original Witness Statement in her Reply Statement and by oral evidence that she has not been previously qualified as an Expert by the Tribunal to provide opinion evidence in either Coastal Engineering or Boating Safety.

AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS (“ASF”)

Planning ASF

[32] There was a consensus between the Land Use Planning experts, Victoria Lemieux (Applicant), Genevieve Scott (Township) and Jamie Robinson (Mr. Otto), in which they provided an “Agreed Statement of Facts” (ASF) on several points including the land designations within the OP’s and ZBL.

[33] The ASF confirms that the lands are designated ‘*Waterfront Area*’ in the MOP and are designated ‘*Waterfront*’, Six Mile Lake Inland Waterfront Community in the

GBOP. The lands are zoned 'Six Mile Lake Exception Six (SR6-6)', a zone in the Township's ZBL.

[34] The ASF identifies the property frontage on a Narrow Waterbody as defined in the GBOP illustrated on Schedule F- Six Mile Lake Inland: Waterfront Community. The land meets the definition of '*rural areas*' and '*rural lands*' within the PPS. Residential development, including lot creation, where services, is a permitted use on *rural lands*. In addition, the proposed lots meet the minimum area requirement of the GBOP and ZBL (minimum 0.8 ha). As a condition of consent for applications (B24-07) and (B24-08) Township staff provided that Site Plan Control is required prior to any site alteration or development.

Marine and Boating Safety ASF

[35] There was a consensus between the Marine and Boating Safety experts, Mr. Nielson (Applicant) and Ms. Graham (Township & Mr. Otto), in which they provided an ASF on several points including the Subject Property has frontage on a "*narrow waterbody*" as defined in the GBOP.

[36] It was agreed that evidence from these two experts is to be focused to boating-related matters, including those relating to boating safety within the channel of a narrow waterbody on which the proposed lots are located, sight lines through the channel, safety of other water-contact recreational uses, new docks and their relationship to the channel, boating and water-contact recreational uses, and boating congestion.

[37] In addition, except as it may relate to the location and design of the docks, these experts will not be speaking to other environmental or character-related matters, including in relation to the attributes of the proposed lots beyond their shoreline frontages, other aspects of development on the proposed lots, water quality or visual impacts.

POSITION OF THE PARTIES

Applicant

[38] The Applicants assert the proposed applications have been reviewed by the District who were not opposed to the Applications and Township staff's revised application, which included a recommended approvals subject to conditions. The proposed development maintains the character of Six Mile Lake Waterfront Community and the potential boating safety concerns in relation to the proposed docks can be properly addressed through the location and design of the docks. The proposed applications meet all the legislative requirements, and the Applicants request that the Appeals be allowed subject to conditions.

Township

[39] In contrast, the Township contends the proposed development is inconsistent with the basic character pattern of waterfront development, and the applications do not conform to the PPS, S. 2 of the *Act*, MOP or BGOP and S. 51(24)(c) of the *Act*. The Proposed development would restrict navigable space and create potential safety hazard and conflicts between boaters and contribute to unsafe conditions. The Township and Mr. Otto requests that the Tribunal dismiss the Appeals.

ISSUES AND EVIDENCE

[40] These opposite findings reflect the respective differing opinions of the Parties' experts/positions and highlight policies of the GBOP which are in dispute. These provisions constituted the focus of the analysis proffered by the respective Parties' experts and it is upon these policies that the Tribunal finds this case turns on.

SECTION 2 OF THE PLANNING ACT

[41] Section 2 of the *Act* set out the matters of provincial interest for which approval authorities must have regard when making land use planning decisions.

[42] Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson contend that the applications do not conform with s. 2 of the *Act* of policy (o) “*the protection of public health and safety.*” Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson testified that the Applications have not demonstrated conformity to subsection (o) as it relates to navigation and boating safety requirements.

[43] Ms. Lemieux testified that the Development Applications have regard for numerous policies for the applicable matters of Provincial interest as set forth within s. 2 of the *Act*, such as having regard to the protection of ecological systems, including natural areas, features and functions. Having regard for the orderly development of safe and healthy communities through consideration of the surrounding immediate area, existing character, and activity on the adjacent waterbody. Having regard for the adequate provision of a full range of housing as they seek to create two additional residential housing opportunities within the Township. The Applications seek to provide this additional housing on an underutilized parcel of land zoned and designated for residential purposes, and that do not require the extension of municipal services.

Finding

[44] The Tribunal prefers the evidence of Ms. Lemieux and finds the ZBA has appropriate regard for matters of Provincial interest under s. 2 of the *Act*. The protection of public health and safety is upheld through consideration of the surrounding immediate area, existing character, and activity on the adjacent waterbody. The Applications have regard for the protection of public health and safety by proposing a restricted number and projection of docks, that there will be no impacts to boating congestion or safety which have been reviewed by Mr. Nielsen a qualified professional on matters of boating safety. There are no natural heritage features or Type 1 Fish Habitat on, or abutting, the Subject Property.

[45] Therefore, based on this evidence, the Tribunal finds the Applications have regard for the applicable matters of Provincial interest as set forth within s. 2 of the *Act*.

SECTION 2.1(1) OF THE PLANNING ACT

[46] Section 2.1 (1) of the *Act* requires that the Tribunal to have regard of the Township's decision.

[47] The decision of the Committee of Adjustment ("COA") stated that in consideration of all written and oral submissions made relating to the subject revised ZBA and Consent, the applications are **denied**.

[48] Mr. Robinson highlighted the public meeting comments that only two people were in favor of the Applications and 23 individuals opposed. He stated that for a small development it could be viewed as a substantial amount that were opposed.

[49] Counsel for the Applicant's provided case *Ottawa (City) v. Minto Communities Inc.*, 2009 CanLII 65802 (ON SCDC) ("*Minto*") in reference to the *Act* which requires that the Tribunal to have regard of the Township's decision and its public interest mandate.

[50] In reference to the public interest mandate the Member states in Paragraph 30 found in *Minto* case;

[30] ...At first instance, that public interest is determined by Municipal Council, but on an appeal the Board has the obligation to exercise its independent judgment on the planning merits of the application and to assess the proposal and the positions of the parties from the perspective of applicable legislation, regulations, provincial plans, the provincial policy statement, official plans and bylaws and even the potential impact on neighbouring municipalities. In doing so, it brings its own expertise to bear.

[51] The Tribunal agrees that "*the decision to be made by the Board transcends the interests of the immediate parties because it is charged with responsibility to determine whether a land planning proposal is in the public interest*". Even though there are 23 community members opposing these applications, the Tribunal is required to consider the broader interest which has been done in this case.

[52] In reference to have regard to Council decisions the Member states in *Minto* case

paragraph 31 and 33;

[31] ...The legislature used language that suggests minimal deference when choosing the words "have regard to", considering the many other expressions it could have used to signal the level of deference...

[33] ...the Board does not have to find that the Council decision is demonstrably....unreasonable to arrive at an opposite conclusion.

[53] The Tribunal agrees with the *Minto* case that "*the Board has an obligation to at least scrutinize and carefully consider the Council decision, as well as the information and material that was before Council....the Board also ought to carefully and explicitly consider the specific reasons expressed by Council.*" Even though Council's reasons for denying the applications in this case were nebulous, the Tribunal did consider Council's reasons as well as all the information and material that was before it.

Finding

[54] The Applicant's counsel highlighted there was no professional planning opinion provided in objection to Township staff's recommendation at the Township Council meeting where the revised ZBA and Consent was refused. Even though a professional planning opinion is not always warranted for the COA to make a decision, it may have been prudent in this case since the Township's planning staff recommended approval of the ZBA and Consent which were subsequently both denied.

[55] Township Counsel submits:

To suggest that the Tribunal should offer complete deference to staff's decisions disregards the scope of the Tribunal's authority and standard practice and its role in the planning law regime. A requirement for such deference would fetter the decision-making authority of Council, the Committee, and the Tribunal.

The Tribunal agrees with this statement and in this case, it has not taken **complete deference** to Township Staff's decision. The Applications are the result of careful consideration of comments received throughout the approval process to date from both the Township and the surrounding community. The Tribunal understands that 23

community members opposed these applications, however, the Tribunal makes its decisions on facts, procedural fairness, and a broader public interest mandate “*even the potential impact on neighbouring municipalities*” and is satisfied that it has done so in this case.

[56] Therefore, The Tribunal has had regard to the Township’s decision pursuant to s. 2.1 (1) of the *Act* and has considered of all written and oral submissions, and factual information made including the Participant statement and public comments in the meeting minutes.

SECTION 51 (24) OF THE PLANNING ACT

Medland Plan of Sub-Division (2000)

[57] Section 51(24) of the *Act* provides the criteria for which an approval authority must have regard when considering approval of a draft plan of subdivision. When determining whether provisional approval is to be granted for a consent under section 53(12) of the *Act*, the approval authority is to have regard to the matters under subsection 51(24). Subsection 51(24)(b) of the *Act* requires Approval Authorities to consider whether an application is premature or in the public interest.

[58] The parcel comprising the Subject Property was originally created through an application for a plan of subdivision process for the “Medland Subdivision”, which was draft approved in 1994 and a subdivision agreement through the Ontario Municipal Board (“OMB”) mediation was executed between the owner and the Township in March of 2000.

[59] The Medland Subdivision properties are located on the shores of Six Mile Lake, at the north end of Hungry Bay. The subdivision consists of lands totalling 23.87 ha in the Township and includes the Subject Property.

[60] An Environmental Evaluation was completed for the Medland Subdivision in May 1992, the evaluation recognized the importance of shoreline vegetation to Fish and

Wildlife habitat, as well as to water quality and aesthetics and recommended that a 30 m setback for all primary buildings, structures and facilities including sewage treatment systems be established for the lots and that a shoreline buffer be established within that setback. The report also recommended that the buffer area remained as undisturbed as possible while permitting viewing in shoreline access paths.

[61] The Township requested that the plan be redlined in order to combine proposed lots 12 and 13 (Subject Property). This was requested in order to increase the size of the lots in this area which have steep slope constraints and front onto a narrow waterbody. Lots 1-6 (north of the Subject Property) have lot frontages of 60 m or larger.

[62] Ms. Scott testified at the time of draft plan approval for the Medland Subdivision in 1994, the Township identified concerns related to development at the Site's location given the steep slopes and narrow waterbody impacting this location. The draft plan of subdivision was subsequently redlined to address these planning concerns. Two of the proposed lots were merged into one lot, being the Subject Property, to increase lot area and shoreline frontage at this location.

[63] Ms. Scott opines, the Applications do not have regard for the matters in S. 51(24) of the *Act*, specifically the criteria:

- (a) the effect of development of the proposed subdivision on matters of provincial interests referred to in section 2;
- (b) whether the proposed subdivision is premature or in the public interest;
- (c) whether the plan conforms to the official plan and adjacent plans of subdivision, if any;

[64] Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson, testified, lots in this portion of Six Mile Lake were developed with larger areas, frontages and 30 m front yard setback requirements with the intention to maintain undisturbed shoreline and reduce boating safety impacts in the narrow waterbody. They assert the underlying Medland Subdivision was designed and imposed restrictions to address the topographical and narrow water body constraints on this Site. They testified the creation of the lots in the Medland Subdivision move

development away from the shoreline due to the steep slopes and constraint with the narrow waterbody.

[65] According to Ms. Scott who testified she relied on the evidence of Ms. Graham; the Proposed Development would restrict navigable space and create potential safety hazard and conflicts between boaters. Based on this evidence, with respect to the potential boating safety impacts of the proposed developed on the narrow waterbody, it is Ms. Scott's opinion that the Applications have not demonstrated conformity to the Medland Subdivision pursuant to subsection 51(24) of the *Act*.

[66] In contrast, Mr. Witlib testified that there is nothing precluding lands created by a plan of subdivision to be further subdivided. He advised that the background documentation on the Medland Subdivision had no evidence or study that a Boating Impact Assessment was done specific to the Wild Rice Bay channel. In his opinion, there was some subjective reasoning which led to the OMB to adjust the sizes of the lots to make large lot sizes.

[67] Ms. Lemieux advised the background studies for the Medland Subdivision did not include that a Boating Impact Assessment was done specific to the Wild Rice Bay. Ms. Lemieux acknowledges there was some subjective reasoning which led the OMB to adjust the sizes, however, there were no background studies that could be found for the reason to enlarge lot sizes and various lot frontages to 250 m, 177 m, and 134 m or that deductions had something to do with narrowness of channel.

[68] Counsel for the Applicant and Counsel for Mr. Otto both agree that the Medland Subdivision is *instructive* but not determinative. There are new relevant policies in place such as the narrow waterbody policies which came into effect 2014, after the Medland plan of subdivision.

[69] Ms. Lemieux testified that the Consent applications seek to create two new shoreline residential lots from an existing lot of record that was created more than 25 years ago through approval of the "Medland Subdivision". The proposed lot creation has considered the public interest and incorporates proposed measures in respect of that

interest, including: restrictions on the number and dimensions of docks; prohibition of buildings and structures within the front yard (except a pumphouse); and enhanced septic review requirements through the proposed ZBA, with shoreline vegetation retention; dwelling and septic locations that are anticipated to minimize blasting, site alteration and tree removal to be evaluated and monitored through the Site Plan Control approval process (included within recommended Consent conditions by Township staff); and, boat congestion and safety.

Finding

[70] The Tribunal finds there was no explicit language in the creation of the Medland Subdivision, to move development away from the shoreline as suggested by Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson interpretations. The fact is that the Township combined lots 12 and 13 (Subject Property) and this was requested in order to increase the size of the lots in this area which have steep slope constraints and front onto a narrow waterbody.

[71] The Tribunal prefers the evidence of Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Witlib, the Applications have regard for the protection of public health and safety by proposing a restricted number and projection of docks, which have been reviewed by Mr. Nielsen a qualified professional on matters of boating safety. The Subject Property is not located within, or adjacent to, identified wetlands or type one fish habitat. It is understood that the Subject Property, as is the majority of Six Mile Lake, is identified to be located within Stratum 2 – Deer Wintering Habitat. The Applications conform with the applicable policies of the MOP and GBOP which permits development or site alteration subject to meeting certain criteria. The Applications will still be evaluated and monitored through the Site Plan Control process.

[72] In any event, the Subdivision agreement has been discharged, as confirmed by Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson. Any stipulations or regulations that may or may not have stemmed from the Subdivision agreement are not binding on the Subject Property. The Medland Subdivision is *instructive* but not determinative.

[73] As opined by Ms. Lemieux, which the Tribunal agrees, while the Medland Subdivision is informative in providing historical context for how the Subject Property was created, it does not prohibit or freeze further development applications that are appropriately evaluated and considered based on current legislation and planning policies and other relevant factors, including the evolution of the character of Six Mile Lake.

[74] Therefore, the Tribunal finds that the consent application has regard to the matters and criteria under subsection 51(24) of the *Act*.

PROVINCIAL PLANNING STATEMENT 2024 (PPS)

[75] The PPS “*provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development*”. Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson opine the applications are not consistent with the PPS policy “*the protection of public health and safety*”.

[76] Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux both contend the creation of two new lots and accompanying residential dwellings proposed by the ZBA is consistent with the direction in Policy 2.6.1 of the PPS, which permits residential development and lot creation where site conditions are suitable for the provision of appropriate sewage and water services.

[77] Ms. Lemieux testified the Applications have regard for the protection of public health and safety by proposing a restricted number and projection of docks, which have been reviewed by Mr. Nielsen, a qualified professional on matters of boating safety.

[78] Township Counsel submits, the Applicant’s overall justification for the proposed development is that it satisfies Provincial housing objectives. Similarly, Counsel for Mr. Otto submits that the Applicants reliance on the housing supply policies of the PPS stretches the intent of that policy.

[79] The Parties argued whether these proposed dwellings are part of intensification under the PPS when there is no evidence that the proposed dwellings will not be a seasonal, recreational, cottage use or provide year-round housing.

Finding

[80] The Tribunal finds the ZBA is consistent with the PPS. The Subject Property is located on 'rural lands', as defined by the PPS, and as such, are lands appropriate for low density residential development. The Tribunal agrees with Township's and Mr. Otto's Counsel, that the Applicants reliance on the housing supply policies of the PPS stretches the intent of that policy, however, the Tribunal finds those stretches is reasonable and does not break it. The Applicants are not relying solely on the Province's broader housing supply issue, even though it has not been determined that the proposed dwellings will be a seasonal, recreational, cottage use or provide year-round housing.

[81] In addition, preferring the evidence of Mr. Nielsen in reference to boating safety, the Tribunal finds the Applications are consistent with the PPS specifically in relation to "*the protection of public health and safety*".

OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE MUSKOKA PLANNING AREA (MOP)

[82] The Subject Property is designated '*Waterfront Area*' in the MOP. The Subject Property is identified to be within the 'Deer Wintering Area Stratum 2' designation and having Type 2 Fish Habitat along the shoreline. Development and site alteration is permitted within these areas, in accordance with the policies of the MOP and as such, no further studies were required as part of the Applications.

[83] Section J4.4.2 of the MOP states that;

new residential shoreline lots shall have a minimum lot area of 0.4 hectares and a minimum water frontage of 60 metres. Larger lot area and frontages may be required to accommodate the proposed use, address environmental constraints or land use compatibility matters, or in consideration of lake character.

[84] Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson both testified that an Official Plan Amendment (“OPA”) was required for the consent. However, Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux testified that that the Township didn’t request an OPA during the complete application stage.

[85] In Mr. Witlib’s opinion, the proposal balances the District’s objectives of protecting ecological functions/features, visual aesthetics, and the natural appearance of lakes with accommodating single unit residential development. By mirroring the existing pie-shaped lot fabric and aligning with established frontages, the proposal ensures compatibility with the surrounding development. The lot fabrics exceed the District’s minimum area requirements.

[86] Ms. Lemieux testified that the Subject Property is designated ‘*Waterfront Area*’ within the MOP. Both resource-based recreational uses including low density, single unit recreational dwellings, and limited year-round low density single unit residential development is permitted within this designation.

Finding

[87] The Tribunal prefers the evidence of Mr. Witlib, that the Township staff recommended approval of the ZBA in that it conforms to the narrow waterbody policies and did consider the MOP and GBOP which provides flexibility and the applications conform with those policies.

[88] Although, there are cases where the Parties submit additional amendments than what is actually required to ensure that the Application conforms to a specific OP or ZBA, this is not the case in this circumstance. There is no ambiguity from the Township in what was required to make a complete application.

[89] In reference to Counsel of Mr. Otto’s submission, although the Township staff did not require an OPA, the absence of an OPA does not relieve the Applicants of the obligation to demonstrate conformity with the MOP and BGOP. To say a requirement for an OPA would be procedurally unfair does not excuse the requirement that Applications conform with the BGOP.

[90] The Tribunal finds the evidence of Ms. Lemieux persuasive, who relies on the fact that the examples listed in F.5.9.5.4 of the GBOP are not a closed list to satisfy herself that an OPA is not required in this case as the test in F.5.9.5.4 has been met. The Tribunal agrees with Counsel for the Applicants' submission that a broad and liberal interpretation with a view to furthering its policy objectives was done by Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Witlib. This reading also acknowledges the goal of the Six Mile Lake waterfront community policies, which permits a limited amount of new development so long as the natural heritage and aesthetic integrity of Six Mile Lake is protected. Gentle intensification of the Subject Property does not warrant an OPA.

[91] The Tribunal finds there is some degree of a principle of fairness, and agrees with the Applicants Counsel that if an OPA is required, notwithstanding the absence of notice to the Applicants by any municipal or public authority tasked with reviewing the Applications to file an OPA, and notwithstanding the flexibility built into the very provisions of the GBOP at issue, the Applicants would have an "impossibility of success".

[92] District staff were not opposed to the Applications, and the District did not seek Party or Participant status to the appeals regarding to the Applications and the Township didn't request an OPA during the complete application stage.

[93] Therefore, the Tribunal finds the ZBA and Consent applications conform to the policies and general intent and purpose of the MOP.

TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY OFFICIAL PLAN (GBOP)

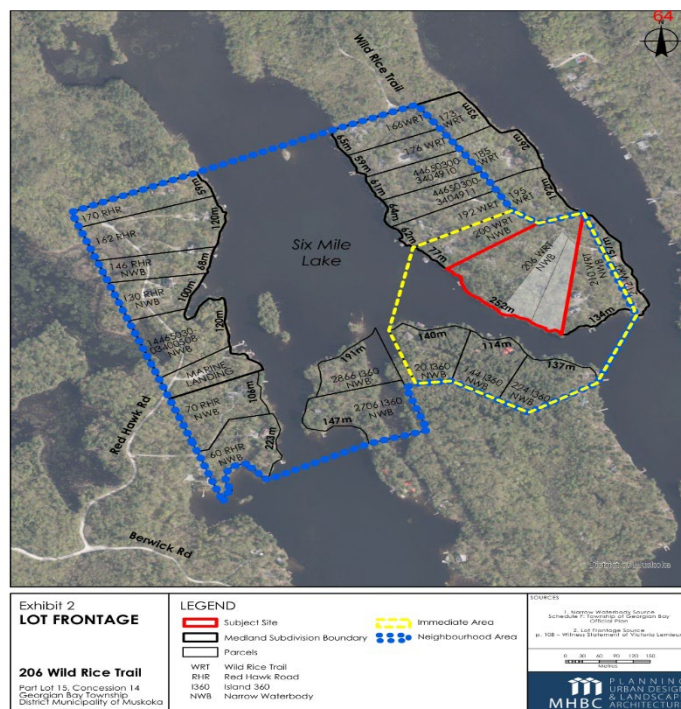
Character/ Land Use Compatibility

[94] The Subject Property is designated "*Waterfront – Six Mile Lake Inland Waterfront Community*" within the BGOP. This designation permits single family dwellings (recreational dwellings) and accessory structures.

[95] The BGOP defines 'Character' as:

... the collection of built, cultural and natural heritage attributes that define a given area. Such attributes can be historical in nature, can have evolved over time, or can be based on modern built form and land use patterns. Character is not static, but rather evolves over time, adapting to new circumstances and/or new planning policies.

[96] Mr. Robinson and Ms. Scott describe the Immediate and Neighborhood only to the proximity of Wild Rice Bay and not the more historic lots along Hungry Bay Road, with properties across the channel from the Subject Property (see **Exhibit 18** Tab 21 Neighborhood & Immediate context Map);



[97] Mr. Robinson testified that the broader context or surrounding area was not relevant due to character being defined only to specific policies concerning narrow waterbodies and lot frontages on narrow water bodies.

[98] Mr. Robinson suggested that a narrow waterbody assessment on frontage includes character and compatibility of lots. In contrast, Mr. Witlib testified that a narrow waterbody doesn't deal with character and that a narrow waterbody is a technical matter involving navigation safety. Mr. Witlib testified that you cannot look at policies in a vacuum or in isolation.

[99] Disagreement of the Parties focused on the historical lots of Kings Bay which were relatively smaller lots. Counsel for Mr. Otto highlighted that these existing historical lots were legal non-conforming lots.

[100] In contrast, Ms. Lemieux advised the Tribunal that she conducted a development analysis review of existing shoreline residential properties within three identified areas as Area A - Immediate Area, Area B - Neighborhood Area, and Area C - Northeast Area. According to Ms. Lemieux this review included measuring and analyzing the lot area, lot frontage, setback from the primary dwelling to the water and projection of existing shoreline structures (docks, boathouses).

[101] Ms. Lemieux testified that these measurements were taken using the measurement tools embedded within the District of Muskoka Geohub Interactive Mapping Tool and are based on available parcel fabric layers and aerial imagery. The use of this tool is considered the common method for property evaluation by the District and Township staff, when no up to date survey information is readily available.

[102] Ms. Lemieux's lot analysis, Immediate area includes properties that are directly adjacent to the Subject Property, as well as those that share the same continuous stretch of shoreline. According to Ms. Lemieux, together, these properties effectively form a defined shoreline area where development on one property is visually and functionally experienced alongside development on the others when viewed from the water. The waterbody within this shoreline area is made up of Wild Rice Bay, King's Bay, and the connecting channel of water along the Subject Property frontage. The properties along the west and east side of Wild Rice Trail form the northern shoreline of this area, and the properties along a portion of Red Hawk Bay, Hungry Bay Island and Hungry Bay Road, representing the remaining shoreline lots. The Immediate Area is represented by a total of 44 shoreline residential properties.

[103] Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux advised that the historical lots provide context to the surrounding area and character is established by the neighborhood area. Mr. Witlib explained that the lots on the same side or other side of a street comparison and the

proposed lots would be indistinguishable from same side of street or bay from Mr. Otto's lot or adjacent lots to Mr. Otto's lot.

[104] Ms. Lemieux testified, the proposed retained lot fabric aims to maintain the bulk of the existing mature vegetation area on the retained lands to avoid fragmentation. This will aid in ensuring that the existing character of the Subject Property and surrounding area is maintained in a primarily natural state, to be regulated through the site plan control process.

[105] Mr. Witlib testified that from the 'view from canoe' looks at the character of property, and the preservation and ecological characteristics inform your view of assessment. In Mr. Witlib's opinion, the 'view from the canoe' shows proposed lots and frontages being very consistent with existing lots on the north side of Wild Rice Bay and very similar size and frontages within Six Mile Lake.

[106] Counsel for the Township submits that Ms. Lemieux's concept of what constitutes the relevant surrounding area goes far beyond the standard "city block" analysis typically employed in character assessments.

[107] Counsel for the Applicant highlighted case *Vincent v. Georgian Bay (Township)*, 2022 CanLII 48580 (ON LT) ("*Vincent*"). This case references compatibility and surrounding area context and in paragraph 41 and 42:

...60 Beverley Street not only represents a similarly sized cottage on a similarly sized lot, it is also one of the most recent developments, signalling the evolving character of the bay. The Tribunal accepts this opinion and similarly finds that character is not expected to be static or judged solely on the basis of a majority.

[42] The Tribunal further does not accept Mr. Ramsey's overly mathematical approach to assessing character. When it comes to character, the Tribunal finds that size is not everything.

Finding

[108] The Tribunal finds the evidence of Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux persuasive in reference to character and compatibility. They both conducted site visits to the Subject

Property compared to Mr. Robinson who travelled the channel by boat and Ms. Scott who didn't visit the Subject Property and described her analysis mainly as a tabletop exercise. The Tribunal understands a site visit isn't always necessary, but in this case in weighing the evidence specifically on character and compatibility, the Tribunal agrees with the Applicant's Counsel that Mr. Witlib's and Ms. Lemieux's evidence was direct, cogent and extensive.

[109] The Tribunal prefers the evidence of Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux who advised the Tribunal that the Subject Property is not unique since the site's physical characteristics of land with a granite shoreline and mainly mixed tree cover are located throughout Wild Rice Bay. The proposed lots provide for reasonable building and septic envelopes and provide opportunity for significant mature vegetation retention throughout the shoreline area. The Tribunal finds the GBOP policies provide an opportunity, where appropriate, that by way of a ZBA the provided minimum lot area and frontage values may be reduced.

[110] The proposed lot fabric has been designed to ensure that a significant mature vegetation retention throughout the shoreline area of the Subject Property. The evidence has shown that eight existing lots had comparable or similar lot frontages and lot areas as the proposed new lots. Further, the design of the proposed lot fabric aims to maintain the majority of the existing mature vegetation area on the retained lands to avoid fragmentation, which can be regulated through the site plan control process.

[111] The Tribunal finds the evidence of Ms. Lemieux comprehensive and persuasive where she completed a comprehensive lot analysis (44 lots in the Immediate area) and reviewed evolving development trends and built form changes on Six Mile Lake. The proposed new lots fall within the median range of lot areas, lot frontages, and front yard setbacks in both her Immediate Area and Neighbourhood Areas. The creation of two new lots that are comparable in size to the immediate area and surrounding area, along with restrictions to such development, are compatible with and fit well within the character of the neighbourhood. The proposed lot fabrics are compatible with existing,

as well as achieve compliance with the minimum lot area requirement and have the same (if not similar) lot frontage as other lots on Wild Rice Trail.

[112] The Tribunal agrees with Counsel for the Applicants, that Mr. Robinson and Ms. Scott selected a restrictive Immediate Area and Neighbourhood Area (six lots and 20 lots, respectively) that excluded existing lots in the area, including those along Hungry Bay Road that were geographically proximate and functionally connected (through the waterway) to the Subject Property.

[113] As noted by the Township's Counsel, "*Ms. Lemieux's data led Ms. Lemieux to a full mischaracterization of the lots immediately north of the Subject Property (referring to the colours she applied to the lots north of the Subject Property in her visual evidence)*". Even though Ms. Lemieux's acknowledged her mistake of the lots immediately north of the Subject Property with corresponding colours, the Tribunal finds this was not detrimental to her overall analysis and this error as suggested, was not fundamental to her entire conclusions on neighbourhood character.

[114] The Tribunal agrees with the Member in *Vincent* case, that the appropriate assessment of character "*in selecting the area to assess for character, it is preferable to take an area without excluding specific lots*" and the Tribunal should not adopt an "*overly mathematical approach*"; rather, "*[w]hen it comes to character [...] size is not everything*".

[115] The Tribunal finds the creation of two new lots that are comparable in size to the immediate area and surrounding area, along with restrictions to such development, are compatible with and fit well within the character of the neighbourhood. Therefore, the Tribunal finds the Applications conform to the policies of the GBOP.

Frontyard Setbacks

[116] Six Mile Lake Waterfront Community requires an appropriate building setback (minimum of 20 m from the high-water mark) as per policies of Sections D.2.2 and D.3. The proposed ZBA seeks to modify the existing 30 m dwelling setback requirement to

20 m, which is in keeping with these applicable policies and is also in compliance with the SR6 zoning provisions and surrounding built form.

[117] Mr. Witlib testified that from his site visit, the proposed lot fabric provides building and septic envelopes that reflect those within the SR6 zone and other similar shoreline residential setback requirements, being 20 m (building) and 30 m (septic), within the Township's ZBL. According to Mr. Witlib he completed a site visit, and the request is based on the existing topographical elements of the Subject Property, which is a substantial rock ridge that traverses the Subject Property parallel to the shoreline area, dropping down (depression) towards where approximately the 30 m setback location would be for these lots, making an ideal septic system location. Mr. Witlib explained that by maintaining the future septic systems at the 30 m setback location (as required by the ZBL), which is in concert with the natural topography of the site, this is anticipated to provide additional naturalized 'protection' from drainage and filtration away from the shoreline area.

[118] Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux have similar opinions from both of their site visits, noting that if a 30 m setback for a building envelope is maintained, this same rock ridge would require significant blasting and site alteration in order to prepare the lands appropriately for a building site. In order to minimize blasting and site alteration, this would require locating the building envelopes closer to the shoreline. This proposal works in concert with the naturalized topography of the site and minimizes conflict that may result in both said site alteration, as well as unnecessary removal of mature vegetation that may impact the visual buffering of built form from the lake.

[119] Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux testified any concerns regarding removing foliage or any change to front yard setback such as blasting could be controlled at site plan control stage. A site plan agreement will bound the owner to certain landscaping conditions to ensure maintaining the existing setback.

[120] Ms. Lemieux advised the Township has previously granted relief to a 20 m front yard setback for the lands adjacent to the Subject Property (Parkinson property - north), which is reflective of the standard SR6 zoning permissions.

Finding

[121] The Tribunal finds that it is reasonable based on the existing topographical elements of the Subject Property, which demonstrated that the proposed 20 m setback from the shore with a prohibition on front yard structures would permit opportunities for vegetative screening and is very similar to Mr. Otto's property across from the Subject Property.

[122] Mr. Witlib and Ms. Lemieux had persuasive evidence who both agreed that it is anticipated that the majority of mature vegetation within the shoreline areas of both the proposed severed and retained lands will remain, in accordance with the applicable zoning provisions for shoreline activity areas and that this will further be reviewed and regulated through the Site Plan Control process.

[123] Township counsel in closing submissions, submitted that more should have been done to demonstrate that there will be no impacts to views. In contrast, Counsel for the Applicants, highlighted in *Vincent* case in reference to visual impact, which the Member states in Paragraph 49;

[49] The Tribunal notes that Mr. Ramsay opined that that the Applicants have not met the policy F.5.9.7.4 test because, in his opinion, they had to prove that the visual impact of the proposed dwelling will not be significant through a visual impact study. The Township takes the position that, in the absence of such a study, it is not possible to make a determination as to the visual impact of the proposed building.

[124] The Tribunal finds that arguments from Counsel for the Township is the approach rejected in *Vincent* case which states in Para 50; *"While the visual evidence provided is not perfect and could be better, it is also unreasonable to insist that the Applicants must provide a complex and costly visual impact study report in the present case. To repeat,*

the Tribunal finds the visual evidence submitted is satisfactory to conform with policy F.5.9.7.4 if it applies.”

[125] The Tribunal agrees with both Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Witlib, who affirmed that the use of site plan control was appropriate to preserve existing vegetation on the Subject Property and visual aesthetics of Six Mile Lake, as the Township’s ZBL requires preservation of a “natural state shoreline area” where at least 75 percent of the native vegetation within the first 15 m from the shoreline is preserved.

[126] Therefore, the Tribunal finds the Applications conform to the required development and septic setbacks from the narrow waterbody within both the Waterfront and Six Mile Lake policies. The Tribunal is satisfied there is no visual impacts on views and the use site plan control is appropriate to preserve existing vegetation on the Subject Property.

Lot Frontage

[127] Section F.3.3.2.1 of the GBOP states that minimum lot requirements, except as further qualified in the GBOP is a minimum lot area of 0.4 ha and a minimum lot frontage of 60 m. Section F.5.9.5 provides the Six Mile Lake Community specific minimum lot requirements for new lot creation which state a minimum lot area of 0.8 ha, and minimum lot frontage shall be 120 m for all new lots. Further, Subsection F.5.9.5.4 states the following:

Circumstances may occur where smaller requirements are appropriate and desirable. Variances to these standards may be considered by a Zoning By-law Amendment or application to the Committee of Adjustment provided the intent of the Official Plan is maintained. Situations in which variances may be considered include:

- a) A property with large frontage and a smaller lot area; or if a large lot area exists and the frontage is somewhat less than the requirement. Increased building setbacks and landscaping measures that maintain or enhance the visual integrity of the area may be required as conditions of development in such instances; and...

[128] Ms. Lemieux testified, Section F.5.9.5 also specifically recognizes that there are circumstances in which smaller requirements are appropriate and desirable, including when there is a property with a large lot area and a frontage “*somewhat less than the requirement*”, where landscaping measures can be required as conditions of development. In this case, the proposed new lots would benefit from existing mature trees which would shield the new residential dwellings from the shoreline.

[129] Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson testified, the Applications reflect a significant reduction in the frontage requirements (50% reduction) versus a situation where the frontage is “*somewhat less*” as per the Section F.5.9.5.4. The request to reduce frontage requirements from **120 m to 61 m** at this location, in conjunction with a reduced building front yard setback from **30 m to 20 m**, does not conform with the policy goals related to softening visual impacts of development along shoreline areas affected by narrow water bodies.

[130] Section F.5.9.5.4 of the GBOP provides for situations where a variance to the lot area and frontage requirements may be considered, which includes (in part);

if a large lot area exists and the Frontage is somewhat less than the requirement. Increased building setbacks and landscaping measures that maintain or enhance the visual integrity of the area may be required as conditions of development in such instances

[131] Counsel for the Township submits the objectives of the Township’s Six Mile Lake policies relate to “limited development” and the protection of the “aesthetic integrity” of Six Mile Lake (Policy F.5.9.1.1 of the GBOP).

[132] Section D.2.3.1 of the GBOP states that “*where a Narrow Waterbody exists, an increase in lot water frontage shall be required. The following provisions shall be utilized as guidelines in directing development on Narrow Waterbodies:*

- a) Lakes – a lot frontage of up to 120 metres (400 feet) may be imposed.”

[133] In the following section D.2.3.2, the GBOP states that;

in order to determine if the lot frontage should be increase, regard shall be made for the severity of the narrowness of the channel and the impact of development on:

- a) Water Quality;
- b) Density;
- c) Navigation and channel congestion;
- d) Views; and,
- e) Other matters as deemed appropriate by the Township upon review of a site specific application.

[134] Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Witlib view policies such as D.2.3 and F.5.9.5 of the GBOP as inherently flexible, as they include several subsections which acknowledge that there may be variations therefrom.

[135] Counsel for the Applicants highlight paragraph of case *Chmiel v. Georgian Bay (Township)*, PL071204, (page 11) from the Book of Authorities of Counsel for Mr. Otto, in assessing whether the intent of the OP is met, the Tribunal ought to engage in “*more than an arithmetical question: it is one that should be focused on perceptible results*”, including considering mitigative measures, and whether there is something “*substantive on which to find the proposed By-law non-compliant with the OP.*”

[136] Counsel for the Township submits:

To approve the proposed lots – with a 50% reduction in frontage on a channel that is less than a third of the width of what constitutes a narrow waterbody – would be a significant disregard for the Township’s Official Plan and would render those policies effectively meaningless. Mr. Robinson characterized it as “blowing a hole in the Official Plan.”

Finding

[137] The Tribunal finds the evidence of Ms. Lemieux persuasive that the Six Mile Lake policies allow for reduced lot area and lot frontage standards, provided that the overall intent of the GBOP is maintained (F.5.9.5.4). This policy suggests that the GBOP does not intend to prescribe absolute lot size standards; rather, it anticipates that variations

may be considered in appropriate circumstances. Therefore, the Tribunal finds a minimum lot frontage of 61 m for the new lots is an appropriate exercise of this policy flexibility.

[138] The Tribunal agrees with Ms. Lemieux's interpretation of the narrow water policy that the Township has provided a "baseline" in D.2.3.1 of the GBOP, with a qualifier that an increase in lot frontage up to 120 m may be imposed on narrow water body as a guideline.

[139] The Tribunal gives the GBOP a broad liberal interpretation with a view to furthering its policy objectives as the Courts have suggested. The Tribunal agrees with Counsel for the Applicants, *"assigning the appropriate level of flexibility to the qualifiers in D.2.3.2, D.2.3.4, and F.5.9.5.4 is in keeping with the direction from the courts on interpreting OP policies. Indeed, whether lot frontages need to be increased or not is a matter that ought to be reviewed on a site-specific basis."*

[140] The Tribunal finds the Applications meet the minimum lot area of 0.8 ha as required in the parent SR6 zone. The proposed lot frontage of the lots was initially increased from 60 m in the original proposal to 61 m in the Revised Applications and the 61 m frontage for each of the new proposed lots conform with policy D.2.3 of the GBOP and the relief sought does not far exceed the intent of those policies.

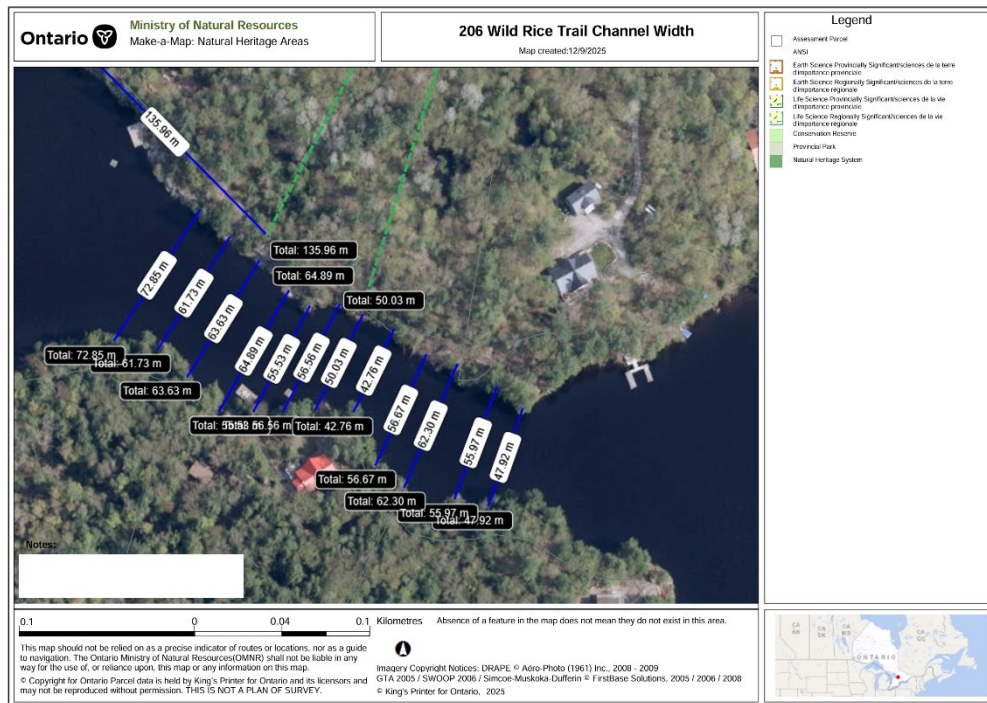
[141] The Applications meet the minimum lot area, shoreline frontage and development and servicing (septic) setback requirements of the MOP and GBOP and the Tribunal is satisfied that approved Applications are not *"blowing a hole"* in either OP or stretches the interpretation of the Township OP policies to the point where they to lose their effective meaning.

NARROW WATERBODY - BOATING SAFETY - DOCKS

[142] Section D.2.3 of the GBOP provides policies related to '*Narrow Waterbodies*'. The definition of a narrow waterbody within the GBOP is as follows, in part:

'A waterbody on a lake which has a minimum distance of less than 150 metres from shoreline to shoreline.'

[143] There was very little dispute between the Boating safety experts that the Wild Rice Bay channel is approximately 360 m long with the width varying between 43 m and 61 m and agree the Wild Rice Bay channel has a minimum distance of less than 150 m from shoreline to shoreline as depicted in the Map below (**Exhibit 5 - Appendix D**);



[144] Mr. Nielsen testified, he designed a survey methodology that would allow him to collect boating information on a single day during the peak of the boating season, to help inform of his opinions. He completed that assessment on Sunday, July 20, 2025, which he described as a day with good weather and otherwise good conditions for boating. From his experience, the data collected on July 20, 2025, can be considered to be representative of typical boat traffic during the busy summer period in this area of Six Mile Lake. Mr. Nielsen explained, the size of development determined a single day compared to more days for a larger development such as a marina.

[145] Mr. Nielsen testified that he observed boating activity within the Channel, as well as within Wild Rice Bay to its north and within the other channel to the west. The boating activity was collected from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., which is typically the peak period of boating activity within the day, following standard methods that his office routinely employs in Boating Impact Studies.

[146] Mr. Nielsen testified his observations indicate that the Wild Rice Bay Channel is not that busy. According to Mr. Nielsen, the creation of docks which have a short projection from shore and in locations where they can take advantage of indentations in the shoreline, which will keep these docks and boats moored to them outside of areas being used by power boats. Boaters moving through the Channel have good sight lines as they traverse the Channel, as will those egressing these docks, so in his opinion there are no concerns that the use of these docks will lead to potential collisions between power boats.

[147] Mr. Nielsen testified that the Applicants had set up a trail/wildlife camera that the camera collected data from July 22, 2025, through September 12, 2025. On October 5, 2025, he attended the site to observe where the camera was set up (from both the land and the Wild Rice Bay Channel) and obtained a copy of the raw data files from that camera, which he has subsequently reviewed and assessed. The results of this data showed that over the 47-day observation period, a total of 1,350 power boats and non-motorized watercraft were documented as passing through the Channel between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

[148] Mr. Nielsen opined, he is satisfied that the potential boating safety concerns in relation to the proposed docks can be properly addressed through the location and design of the docks. It is also his opinion that some of the other concerns adjacent residents have in relation to present boating activity in the Wild Rice Bay Channel can be substantially addressed through the implementation of additional mitigation measures.

[149] Ms. Lemieux testified that from a planning perspective, she would highlight that the GBOP does not require a Boat Impact Assessment or Marina Impact Assessment for new development such as that which would be facilitated by the Applications.

Docks

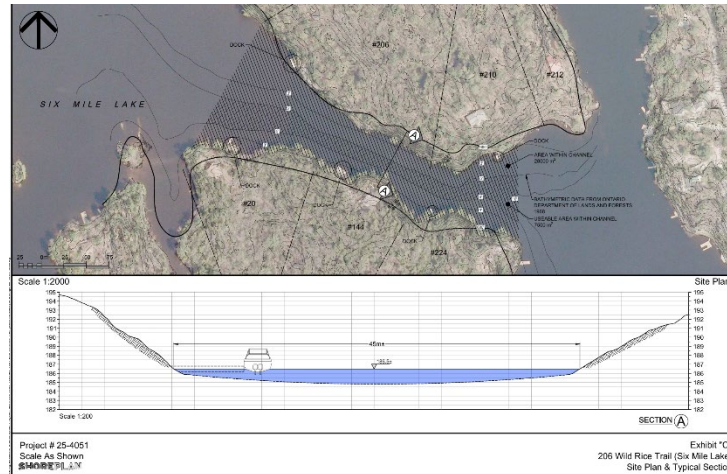
[150] Section 4.1.13.6 of the Township ZBL 2014-75 regulates docks, boathouses and boatports in narrow waterbodies. In accordance with this section, a dock will be subject to the following: maximum projection of 7 m, maximum length of 10 m, and a maximum width of 3.1 m.

[151] Mr. Witlib testified two docks are permitted on the proposed new lot as of right. He advised it is common to see multiple docks on larger properties as a utility dock and pleasure dock.

[152] Ms. Lemieux testified that the Subject Property has a shoreline lot frontage of 252.27 m. In this case, even without the new lots that would be created by the Applications, this would mean that the Applicants could erect up to four docks along the shoreline next to the waterbody.

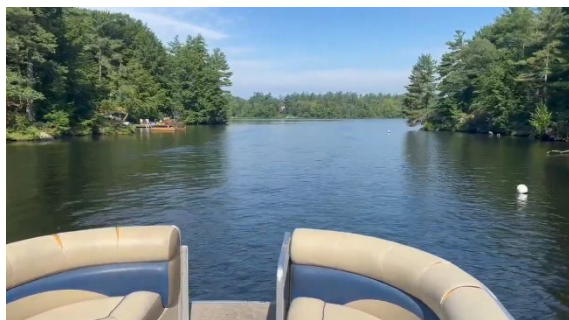
[153] Ms. Lemieux advised that the ZBA would also limit the proposed lots to only a maximum one dock per lot, the dimensions of the docks (including a modified restriction on dock projection of 3.5 m), and prohibit buildings or structures within the front yard, except for a pumphouse, for the new lots.

[154] Ms. Graham (expert for the Township and Mr. Otto) provided a diagram of the centre channel that boats would use to traverse the channel described as "*Useable area within Channel*" (see **Exhibit 18** Tab 34).



[155] Ms. Graham testified, the depth of 1.5 m is the depth boats would normally use in narrow waterbodies. When asked by the Applicants Counsel if the situation of two new proposed docks in the channel creates a concern and would cause impacts despite the facts docks are in shallower waters, she stated, yes. Ms. Graham also elaborated that individuals on docks and normal activity along the shoreline would also create distractions as well.

[156] Ms. Graham provided a south to north video (see screen shot of video below) taken by Mr. Otto (**Exhibit 18** Tab 38), which shows a boat travelling from a south to north direction through the channel with the passing of of two white jugs/buoys to delieneate where docks ends would be placed of the two proposed docks. Ms. Graham acknowledged that she could not verify the distance from the shore since they were placed there by Mr. Otto, but believed they were placed further from the shore than what is planned for the acutal dock end placements.



[157] Ms Graham asserts that with the addition of the proposed two docks in the channel, the boats would require the need to veer away from the docks and the centre line of the channel.

[158] Ms. Graham was asked by the Tribunal that the boat in the video didn't seem to veer away from the proposed docks as depicted in the video and her explanation on this point was somewhat nubulous.

[159] On re-examination, Counsel for Mr. Otto also asked if two boats were passing at the same time in the channel and had to veer where would the boats go considering the shortest width of the channel with a peninsula (pinch point) protruding out. Ms. Graham testified that they would need to veer into the Mr. Otto's basin and basically have no where to go because of the pinch point of the peninsula.

[160] Mr. Nielsen provided a photo from the trail camera with a date stamp of 08/03/2025 (**Exhibit 5** - Appendix I), two boats (with one boat towing a person in a tube) passing one another in the channel across from Mr. Otto's property who has a floating swim platform and dock visible. Mr. Nielsen testified that this photo was to indicated that two boats could pass each other safely in the narrow waterbody even with a proposed dock on the Subject Property.



Two boats passing one another, the one appearing to be towing a tube.

Finding

[161] The Tribunal finds the evidence of Mr. Nielsen and Ms. Lemieux persuasive. The experience of Mr. Nielsen with over 36 years as an environmental consultant including working since the 1970's, on issues relating to boating impact and congestion as significant evidence. The Tribunal understand Ms. Graham also has extensive experience in coastal engineering and boating safety, however, experience is not always the only factor in assessing experts. Mr. Nielsen and his firm have completed over 50 Boating Impact Assessments and Opinions. Mr. Nielsen was forthright in his testimony and never wavered in his opinion on cross examination, as well as provided compelling and convincing testimony throughout this hearing.

[162] In contrast, Ms. Graham acknowledged her experience was with larger lakes and developments and completed more of a literature review (table top) exercise and reached conclusions only from a mathematical formula. Ms. Graham testified that she visited the Subject Property from a boat for two to three hours and testified that she did not observe a single boat in the narrow water body in front of the Subject Property. The difference of evidence collected and relied upon by the two experts is quite stark.

[163] The Tribunal discovered that it was also evident that some of the studies that Ms. Graham relied on were questionable to narrow water bodies in relation to the Township or even the Country. Ms. Graham relied on a North Carolina study on Lake Lure and while being cross examined, she acknowledged that she applied guidance for some of this report but not applied use patterns for carrying capacity of boats. Ms. Graham also acknowledged, she has never personally completed a boating impact study or opinion, nor a boating capacity study. Ms. Graham wavered in her evidence while testifying on several occasions and withdrew part of her witness statement (Para 73) in the intensive cross examination from the Applicant's Counsel.

[164] In contrast, while Mr. Nielsen noted that the Wild Rice Bay Channel has virtually no boating capacity, he affirmed that this does not render it unsafe for boating. The Channel is used for transiting to and from various portions of the lake. Mr. Nielsen

advised the Tribunal that boats adjust their behaviour when traversing locations such as the Channel, and such areas are not inherently unsafe.

[165] During cross examination, Ms. Graham was asked if she assessed the additional activity of two new docks and the activity that it could be generated and she answered no. Ms. Graham then started to slip into using her own personal experiences and subjective views on a few occasions such as shoreline activity to try and compare that to specific activity to the Wild Rice Bay channel, and testimony in relation that boat owners usually push docks further away from vegetation since it will clog their motors.

[166] The Tribunal finds this was not compelling evidence and more subjective without facts for the Tribunal to consider and for these reasons, amongst others, the Tribunal gave very little weight to her evidence.

[167] Counsel for the Township suggested that Mr. Nielsen was an ecologist and not an engineer with no experience in transportation engineering and his *“anecdotal observations were not technical in nature and his methodology is not unlike what a layman would record about boating”*. As noted previously, Mr. Nielsen and his firm have completed over 50 Boating Impact Assessments and Opinions. Mr. Nielsen’s methodology is reasonable and if there was a concern or issue with Mr. Nielsen’s professional background this should have been raised in qualifying Mr. Nielsen to provide expert opinion evidence in the area of Ecology and Boating Impact and Safety, which was not done and qualified on consent by all Parties. With the Tribunal’s review of Mr. Nielsen’s experience and qualifications as noted, this submission from the Township Counsel holds very little water.

[168] In contrast, Mr. Robinson acknowledged that Mr. Nielsen had done a *“pretty good job”* in his assessment of boating safety and never questioned the methodology used. Although, Ms. Graham and Ms. Scott questioned Mr. Nielsen’s methodology on boating safety and during cross examination, the Tribunal finds Mr. Nielsen’s methodology on boating safety as reasonable and applicable to the GBOP policies. Mr. Nielsen conducted his boating impact opinion on a busy weekend day during peak

boating season with good boating weather. His observations were supplemented by data from a trail camera.

[169] Mr. Nielsen acknowledged that it was his firm's first time using a trail camera to capture photos and data, even though he never placed or set up the camera himself and relied only on the raw data to come to his conclusions. Mr. Nielsen explained that technology has changed and he and his firm will probably consider the use of these trail cameras in his future Boating Impact Assessments and Studies.

[170] Cross examination of Mr. Nielsen from both the Township and Mr. Otto's Counsel was thorough and intensive. Opposing Counsel highlighted the trail camera, and questioned the collection or chain of data, on how Mr. Nielsen collected and used this data. Township counsel highlighted the Instructional manual, which states the photo range of only 27 m and the other side of the channel from the camera being over that distance.

[171] Mr. Nielsen testified that he didn't know what that specification means, such as a guarantee or not, *"irregardless the camera surely caught things. I cant say what the camera didn't capture, it seemed to be doing a good job on their side of the channel and well beyond from center of channel."*

[172] The Tribunal finds the fact that the photos were clear, date stamped and captured boats through the channel including the opposite shoreline which could be clearly seen, made these opposing submissions somewhat mute.

[173] The Tribunal agrees with Mr. Nielsen, the level of boat traffic congestion in the narrow waterbody is neither considerable nor notable. Mr. Nielsen observed an average of eight boats per hour passing through the Wild Rice bay Channel on a Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This number is far less than the average in most of boating studies that Mr. Nielsen has completed. He advised that the trail camera data confirmed that the average boat count during the time between 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. range for all weekends and long weekends was 7.9 boats per hour.

[174] The Tribunal finds the addition of two docks will not impact navigability of the Wild Rice Bay Channel or congestion of it. The Channel sight lines are clear which will cause no safety issues and the two docks will not make boats veer or be pushed from one side to the other away from the docks. Mr. Nielsen described having two docks in the Channel, that “*it wont make any difference for boats navigating through the channel.*” In addition, concerns residents have in relation to present boating activity in the Channel can be substantially addressed through the implementation of mitigation measures.

[175] Counsel for the Applicants highlighted case, *Campion, Re 2011 CarswellOnt 12864 OMB (“Campion”)*. Paragraph 65 states;

...The Board accepts the fact that there is a lot of boat traffic, but it is like living on a heavily travelled street - you notice the traffic and make the appropriate adjustments. Mr. List pointed to a policy in the Official Plan that water activity cannot be controlled by land use regulations.

[176] In the above case, the Ontario Municipal Board (“OMB”) found the existence of boat traffic to be an insufficient reason to deny the kinds of proposals being sought in the underlying application. The OMB held that the proposed consents and ZBA would not conflict with the relevant narrow waterbody policy, nor pose an unreasonable public safety risk. While noting there was significant boat traffic in the vicinity of the Subject Property, the OMB affirmed this could be managed with appropriate adjustments by boaters. As articulated by the OMB, boat traffic “*is like living on a heavily travelled street – you notice the traffic and make the appropriate adjustments.*”

[177] Mr. Nielsen and Ms. Lemieux evidence was persuasive that the Applications would not result in an increase in boat traffic or congestion that would cause boating safety or navigability concerns. According to Ms. Lemieux, this approach is also consistent with the policy framework set out in the GBOP as it relates to studies required to assess boating safety and the Township ZBL that regulates the erection of docks, including docks within a narrow waterbody.

[178] In addition, the Tribunal finds the docks proposed by the Applications, which are limited by the proposed ZBA to a projection of 3.5 m, even after conservatively accounting for a boat with width of 3.0 m, will be outside the portion of the Wild Rice Channel that is primarily used by boaters and will not cause any boating safety concerns.

Mitigation Measures

[179] Counsel for the Applicant highlighted Schedule 5 of the *Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations (1st Edition June 2025)* (“VORR”), which Municipalities can use to create speed limits and limit power-driven vessels from 30 m within a shoreline.

[180] Ms. Graham testified that the Township has not restricted the waters channels in Wild Rice Bay and neither of her clients, Mr. Otto or the Township requested an application for a VORR schedule.

[181] It is Ms. Graham’s opinion; this is not an effective deterrent and that the strongest mitigation measure available would be to restrict further dock creation on the Wild Rice Bay Channel.

[182] The Tribunal is satisfied with the mitigation measures suggested by Mr. Nielsen that the Township can restrict the speed limit through VORR for the channel in Wild Rice Bay, along with the use of Buoys or signage and the continuing enforcement of the Police Marine units that will contribute for the safety of the Channel. As Mr. Nielsen noted, which the Tribunal agrees, overcapacity situations do not mean that conditions are dangerous for boating, but simply that extra vigilance is warranted. Boaters generally do show additional vigilance as they use such areas. As noted in the *Campion* case and is relevant to this case, boat traffic “*is like living on a heavily travelled street – you notice the traffic and make the appropriate adjustments.*”

Private Road Access

[183] Mr. Robinson advised the Tribunal that the Applicant will be required to submit an application to the Directors of the Wild Rice Trail Association to consider an increase in the number of “eligible lots” (i.e. the two additional lots created by consent) and fulfil the requirements as required in Section 12 of the Wild Rice Trail Association By-law passed November 29, 2010, prior to being approved as “eligible lots” and only there after granted the right to use the “Wild Rice Trail”.

[184] Ms. Scott asserts, the Applications have not demonstrated that legal access to the new lots can be provided. According to Ms. Scott, it is premature to approve the Applications without written confirmation from the Wild Rice Trail Association that access across Wild Rice Trail is permitted.

[185] All Parties’ Counsel agreed that the Subject Property has water access even though in wintertime this would be dependent on ice as noted by Mr. Otto’s Counsel.

[186] Mr. Nielsen and Mr. Robinson had no issue of prematurity of the Applications concerning road access and Ms. Scott advised water access would be tied to water safety if the Tribunal does not prefer the evidence of Mr. Nielsen regarding water safety.

[187] Ms. Lemieux highlighted that there is also no indication that the Wild Rice Trail Association would not grant access to the new lots, rather, the Trail Association By-law provides opportunity to apply for new membership (Section 12) provided that *“each newly created eligible lot shall be no less than 2 acres and 200 ft of frontage and will not materially affect the reasonable enjoyment of other members.”*

[188] In reference to the prematurity argument concerning private road access, the Tribunal finds the Subject Property has water access and meet the lot requirements that would allow the Applicant to apply for membership for the private road association therefore, there is no prematurity issue to approve the Applications without written confirmation from the Wild Rice Trail Association.

CONDITIONS

[189] The Applicant further confirms that it accepts, in principle, the nine conditions of approval that were recommended by Township staff in response to the Consent Applications, which are noted below:

1. THAT the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment provide written confirmation that conditional approval of Consent Application B24-08 (Lot "B") is in effect.
2. THAT the Clerk of the Township provide written confirmation that a Zoning By-law Amendment is in force and effect recognizing the lot frontage.
3. THAT the Owner provide a property tax certificate or, correspondence from Township Financial Services, indicating that all property taxes have been paid up-to-date with respect to the properties subject to this Decision.
4. THAT the Owner pay 5% in lieu of parkland dedication for the severed lands in accordance with Section 51.1(3) of the Planning Act to the Township of Georgian Bay. The Township shall retain an appraiser at the applicant's expense, or the applicant may retain an appraiser with an AACI, CRA or DAR designation, to prepare the appraisal based on the land value of the severed lands as of the day before the day of the approval of the provisional Consent Decision.
5. THAT a draft Reference Plan be completed by an Ontario Land Surveyor (OLS), and a digital copy (pdf) filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment.
6. THAT a copy of the deposited Reference Plan (R-Plan) be provided to the Secretary-Treasurer.
7. THAT a draft transfer be prepared by a Solicitor and submitted to the Secretary Treasurer, in preparation for the creation of the Certificate of Official, describing the parcel(s) created by consent.
8. THAT all fees and disbursements (legal, engineering, planning), if any, incurred by the Township with respect to the applications be paid for by the respective owners.
9. THAT the Owner, at their cost, shall enter into a Consent Agreement with the Township regarding and registered upon the Subject Lands for the purpose of ensuring that Site Plan Control is required prior to any site alteration or development.

[190] Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson contend, a Boating Safety Impact Assessment, Environmental Report, and Tree Preservation Plan should have formed a complete application requirement of the Applications and that the Applicant now should be responsible for ensuring these or similar assessments should be completed even though the Township didn't require them for a complete application.

[191] Ms. Lemieux testified that her review of the policies in the GBOP that require a Boat Impact Assessment or Marina Impact Study, or similar studies, would be required by Township staff as part of a complete application where it is the opinion of staff that the development would be of a commercial nature, or so substantial that it would warrant this level of review to ensure that safety concerns associated with boat traffic and new shoreline structures are adequately addressed to protect the public.

[192] Ms. Lemieux testified in this case, the Township did not require the completion of a Boat Impact Assessment, a Marina Impact Assessment, or any other related study or plan in order to deem the Original Applications complete in October 2024. At no point throughout the remainder of the development process, including through a review of the Applications, did the Township require any additional studies or plans to be submitted. Township staff recommended approval of the Applications as submitted.

[193] The Tribunal finds this recommendation to have the Applicants supplement studies which were not required by the Township, patently unreasonable to the Applicants. Without getting into the costs for the Applicants for these additional studies or the reasonableness and other factors, the Tribunal finds Ms. Scott and Mr. Robinson did not make a compelling argument for such a recommendation or condition, therefore, the Tribunal will dismiss their recommendations in their entirety.

[194] Ms. Scott also submits an archaeological assessment should also be a condition if the applications are approved. Ms. Scott did not make a compelling argument or provide any facts for such a recommendation for a condition, therefore, the Tribunal will also dismiss this recommendation in its entirety.

[195] The Tribunal agrees with Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Witlib, that Site Plan Control would apply to the new lots prior to any proposed development or site alteration occurring, in accordance with the Township's ZBL 2024-045 (Site Plan Control By-law) and further to the conditions of approval for the Consent Applications as recommended by staff.

[196] Ms. Lemieux explained that through this process, the Township will evaluate, monitor, and require a number of technical matters be addressed to its satisfaction, such as: vegetation retention and additional plantings; lot grading and drainage; site alteration; landscaping; specific building and septic locations; pedestrian access to and from the waterbody; phosphorous management and construction mitigation measures; and other matters as permitted under the *Act*.

[197] Mr. Witlib testified, Township Staff use site plan control to ensure a natural state of the shoreline is maintained such as existing tree buffer and proposed development control of location, and width of shoreline activity to preserve shoreline characteristics so not to have cleared or manicured lawns.

[198] As noted in *Vincent* case, paragraph 50 states:

...While the visual evidence provided is not perfect and could be better, it is also unreasonable to insist that the Applicants must provide a complex and costly visual impact study report in the present case.

[199] Counsel for the Applicants submits that there is a principle of fairness in how Mr. Robinson and Ms. Scott on their recommendations and conditions is now being questioned by the Applicant in relation to additional studies are not only unfair, but contrary to the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice.

[200] Without delving into specifics, on the face of it, the Applicants were never requested by any municipal authority to file an OPA, provide additional studies, reports, or evaluations to demonstrate how perceived impacts could be addressed.

[201] The Tribunal is satisfied that the nine conditions of approval (in paragraph [189]) that were recommended by Township staff and accepted by the Applicants are appropriate.

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITION

[202] In conclusion, the Consent and ZBA Applications are consistent with the PPS, conform to the OP of the District and Township, have appropriate regard for the criteria set out in s. 51(24) of the *Act*, and represents good planning and has regard for matters of provincial interest set out in s. 2 of the *Act*.

[203] The Tribunal finds the character of the surrounding area has continued to evolve throughout the years. Evidence has shown many properties have been developed, or redeveloped, including the demolition and reconstruction of original cottages, shorelines structures, and conversion of seasonal structures to year-round permanent residences. This has been shown through the evidence of a review of *Planning Act* applications that were considered by both Township Council and COA from 2020-2025. Planning activity since the historical Medland Subdivision was approved within the Six Mile Lake community, including *Planning Act* applications and the recent OPA 22 approved by Township's Council demonstrate that the character of the lake is not stagnant and continues to have physical changes to the area.

[204] The proposed development will result in the orderly development of the Subject Property in a manner similar in size and function to the surrounding area and will not create a precedent as an outlier in terms of lot size, frontage, or built form. The proposed lot creation is not expected to negatively impact access to, or enjoyment of, the shared water resource for the community. The Tribunal agrees it will not set a "slippery slope" as described by the Applicant's Counsel for future approvals, especially given the limited number of lots that would be eligible for future severance, and each application ought to be determined on their individual merits.

INTERIM ORDERS

[205] **THE TRIBUNAL ORDERS ON AN INTERIM BASIS THAT** subject to the satisfaction of the prerequisite conditions described in paragraph [206] below (“Conditions”):

- (a) William and Cindy Reynolds’ (Applicant’s) appeal seeking an amendment of the Town’s Zoning By-law No. 2014-75 to permit the Development on the Subject Property is allowed and the proposed amendment appended as **Attachment 1** hereto being Revised Draft Zoning By-law Amendment is approved.
- (b) The Applicant’s appeal seeking a Consent in respect of the development proposed for the Subject Property in the Township is allowed and the provisional consent is to be given subject to the conditions set out below in paragraph [206];

[206] A final Order shall not be issued by the Tribunal in respect of the draft planning instruments described above in paragraph [205] (a) (b), until the Conditions described below are met:

1. THAT the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment provide written confirmation that conditional approval of Consent Application B24-08 (Lot “B”) is in effect.
2. THAT the Clerk of the Township provide written confirmation that a Zoning By-law Amendment is in force and effect recognizing the lot frontage.
3. THAT the Owner provide a property tax certificate or, correspondence from Township Financial Services, indicating that all property taxes have been paid up-to-date with respect to the properties subject to this Decision.
4. THAT the Owner pay 5% in lieu of parkland dedication for the severed lands in accordance with Section 51.1(3) of the Planning Act to the Township of Georgian Bay. The Township shall retain an appraiser at the applicant’s expense, or the applicant may retain an appraiser with an AACI, CRA or DAR designation, to prepare the appraisal based on the land value of

- the severed lands as of the day before the day of the approval of the provisional Consent Decision.
5. THAT a draft Reference Plan be completed by an Ontario Land Surveyor (OLS), and a digital copy (pdf) filed with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment.
 6. THAT a copy of the deposited Reference Plan (R-Plan) be provided to the Secretary-Treasurer.
 7. THAT a draft transfer be prepared by a Solicitor and submitted to the Secretary Treasurer, in preparation for the creation of the Certificate of Official, describing the parcel(s) created by consent.
 8. THAT all fees and disbursements (legal, engineering, planning), if any, incurred by the Township with respect to the applications be paid for by the respective owners.
 9. THAT the Owner, at their cost, shall enter into a Consent Agreement with the Township regarding and registered upon the Subject Lands for the purpose of ensuring that Site Plan Control is required prior to any site alteration or development.

[207] The Applicant's shall seek Final Orders from the Tribunal in respect of the matters set out in paragraphs [206] above by on or before December 31, 2026, or failing such, shall provide a detailed status report by that date.

[208] This Member shall remain seized of this proceeding including all matters arising from the Interim Orders made above.

"Eric S. Crowe"

ERIC S. CROWE
MEMBER

Ontario Land Tribunal

Website: olt.gov.on.ca Telephone: 416-212-6349 Toll Free: 1-866-448-2248

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ATTACHMENT 1**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY****BY-LAW 2025-0XX**

Being a By-law to amend Zoning By-law 2014-75, as amended, with respect to lands legally described as Lot 7 on Plan 35M-673, Part of Lot 15, Concession 14, in the Township of Georgian Bay, District of Muskoka.

(206 Wild Rice Trail)

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Georgian Bay enacted Bylaw No. 2014-75, to regulate the use of land within the Township of Georgian Bay; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Georgian Bay deems it expedient and in the public interest to amend By-law No. 2014-75; and

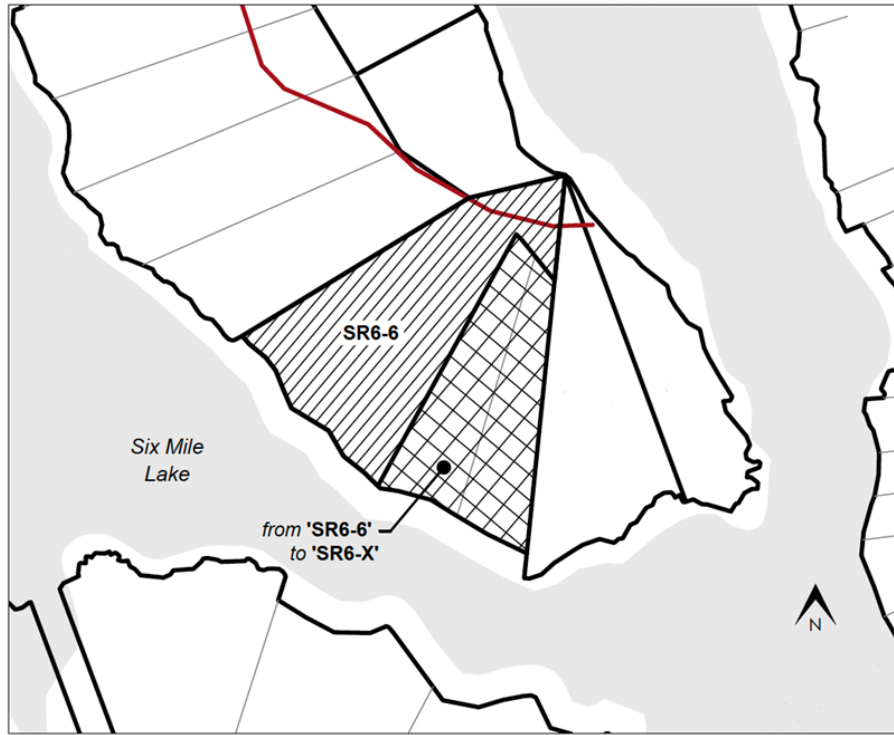
WHEREAS authority to pass such a by-law is provided by Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 13* and amendments thereto;



NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Schedule 'A' (Map No.111) to Zoning By-Law No. 2014-75, as amended, is hereby further amended by rezoning 16,000 square metres of the Subject Lands to a Six Mile Lake Residential Exception Zone (SR6-XX).
2. Table 6.8 in Subsection 6.5 of the comprehensive Zoning By-law 2014-75, as amended, is amended by adding the following new Six Mile Lake Residential – Exception XX Zone (SR6-XX):

Schedule 'A'

Lot 7 on Plan 35M-673, Part of Lot 15, Concession 14, in the Township of Georgian Bay, District of Muskoka (206 Wild Rice Trail)



-  LANDS TO REMAIN WITHIN THE 'SHORELINE RESIDENTIAL EXCEPTION 6' (SR6-6) ZONE SUBJECT TO TEXT CHANGE.
-  LANDS TO BE REZONED FROM THE 'SHORELINE RESIDENTIAL EXCEPTION 6' (SR6-6) ZONE TO THE 'SHORELINE RESIDENTIAL EXCEPTION X' (SR6-X) ZONE.

Ontario Land Tribunal
Tribunal ontarien de l'aménagement
du territoire



ISSUE DATE: June 03, 2026

CASE NO.: OLT-25-000597

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER subsection 34(19) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 13, as amended

Appellant:	OBD Developments Inc., OBM Marina Inc., and OBG Golf Inc.
Subject:	By-law No. 2025-053
Description:	To amend the comprehensive Zoning By-law 2014-75
Reference Number:	Z24-15
Property Address:	67 Links Trail
Municipality/UT:	Township of Georgian Bay/District of Muskoka
OLT Case No.:	OLT-25-000597
OLT Lead Case No.:	OLT-25-000597
OLT Case Name:	OBD Developments Inc., OBD Marina Inc., and OBG Gold Inc. v. Georgian Bay (Township)

BEFORE:

“Carmine Tucci”

CARMINE TUCCI)	Wednesday, the 4 th
MEMBER)	
)	day of March, 2026

THIS MATTER, having come before the Ontario Land Tribunal (the “Tribunal”) for a settlement hearing in writing on March 4, 2026, in respect of an appeal by OBD Developments Inc., OBM Marina Inc., and OBG Golf Inc. (“OBD”), pursuant to subsection 34(19) of the *Planning Act*, R. S. O. 1990, c. P. 13, as amended, (the “Appeal”) of the Township of Georgian Bay’s Amending By-law No. 2025-053 (the “Housekeeping By-law”);

AND THE TRIBUNAL, having been advised by the Parties, OBD and the Township of Georgian Bay, that a full uncontested settlement had been reached, on consent;

AND THE TRIBUNAL, having received and considered the settlement materials filed by the Parties consisting of:

- i. Affidavit of Jeff Kratky, a Registered Professional Planner and member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and Canadian Institute of Planners, sworn on February 20, 2026;
- ii. Draft Order;
- iii. Executed Minutes of Settlement (the “Minutes”) including Schedules ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’, ‘D’, and ‘E’

AND THE TRIBUNAL, having been advised that the Parties jointly request that the Tribunal allow the Appeal in part and amend the Housekeeping By-law as reflected in Schedules ‘A’ to ‘E’ of the Minutes;

AND THE TRIBUNAL, having accepted the uncontradicted opinion evidence of Jeff Kratky;

AND THE TRIBUNAL, finding that the Housekeeping By-law, as revised by Schedules ‘A’ to ‘E’ appended to the Minutes, contains only clarificatory and editorial amendments to the Township’s Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2014-75 (the “Zoning By-law”) and that these revisions enhance the readability and accessibility of the relevant provisions for the public;

AND THE TRIBUNAL, finding that the Housekeeping By-law does not result in any change to the substantive meaning or effect of the Zoning By-law;

AND THE TRIBUNAL, being satisfied that the Housekeeping By-law, as amended by Schedules ‘A’ to ‘E’ of the Minutes, has regard for matters of provincial interest listed in

section 2 of the *Planning Act*, is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, conforms to the District of Muskoka and Township of Georgian Bay Official Plans, represents good planning, and is in the public interest;

NOW THEREFORE

THE TRIBUNAL ORDERS THAT the appeal against By-law No. 2025-053 of the Township of Georgian Bay is allowed in part and By-law No. 2025-053 is hereby amended as set out in Schedules ‘A’ to ‘E’ of the filed Minutes of Settlement, appended to this Order as Attachment 1. In all other respects, the Tribunal Orders the appeal is dismissed.

“Matthew D.J. Bryan”

MATTHEW D.J. BRYAN
REGISTRAR

Ontario Land Tribunal

Website: olt.gov.on.ca Telephone: 416-212-6349 Toll Free: 1-866-448-2248

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Attachment 1

Housekeeping By-law 2025-053
Approximate Page 134 of 2xx

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5						
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements						
RM4-3(H) By-law 2014-75, By-law 2021-037, By-law 2025-053, & OLT-25-000597		Dwelling, Detached Dwelling, Semi-Detached Dwelling, Duplex Dwelling, Triplex Dwelling Fourplex Dwelling, Townhouse Dwelling, Apartment, not Exceeding Six Units		Regulations for Permitted Uses:						
				Dwelling Type	Minimum Lot Frontage	Minimum Lot Area	Minimum Yard Requirements			
							Front	Rear	Interior Side	Exterior Side
				Single Detached	15m	540sq.m.	6m	7.5m	2m	6 m
				Semi-Detached	9m/unit	360sq.m./unit	6m	7.5m	2m and 0m between attached units	6 m
				Duplex	15m/unit	465sq.m./unit	6m	7.5m	2m	6 m
				Triplex	9m/unit	240sq.m./unit	6m	7.5m	2m and 0m between horizontal attached units	6 m
				Fourplex	9m/unit	630sq.m.	6m	7.5m	2m and 0m between horizontal attached units	6 m
				Townhouse	6m	240sq.m./unit	6m	7.5m	2m and 0m between horizontal attached units	6 m
				Apartment	9m/unit	630sq.m.	7.5m	7.5m	4m and 0m between horizontal attached units	7.5m

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				<p>i) The minimum outdoor amenity space for triplex dwellings, fourplex dwellings, apartment dwellings, and townhouse dwellings are as follows: Triplex Dwelling Unit 40 Sq. M. Per Dwelling Unit Fourplex Dwelling Unit 40 Sq. M. Per Dwelling Unit Townhouse Dwelling Unit 30 Sq. M. Per Dwelling Unit Apartment Dwelling Unit 20 Sq. M. Per Dwelling Unit</p> <p>ii) Maximum Building Height 11m and 3 storeys</p> <p>iii) Maximum number of dwelling units with horizontal attached walls – Townhouse Dwellings 8</p> <p>iv) No driveway or garage shall exceed 40% of the width of a lot.</p> <p>v) No part of any garage shall extend beyond the front face or a porch or screened porch of the dwelling unit.</p> <p>vi) For the purposes of this Zone, the following definitions shall apply.</p> <p>Condominium means a condominium corporation as designated in the Condominium Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 19.</p> <p>Driveway a defined area providing access for motor vehicles from a public or condominium private road to facilities such as a parking area, parking lot, loading space, private garage, building or structure.</p> <p>Outdoor Amenity Space means landscaped and activity areas which cannot be traveled upon by motor vehicles located on a condominium lot used for a dwelling type permitted in the Zone. Outdoor amenity space only applies to the requirements of Paragraph (i) for the RM4-3 Zone. Outdoor amenity space area does not apply to the calculation of condominium lot coverage for the RM4-3 Zone. Outdoor amenity space area includes the area of land used by a swimming pool, pool pump house, gazebo, hot tubs, and whirlpools.</p> <p>Pool House means an accessory building to a permitted residential dwelling type in the Zone associated with a swimming pool on a condominium lot. A</p>

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				<p>pool house is an accessory use to the condominium and includes changerooms and washrooms. Accessory buildings and structures are subject to Section 4.1 of the Zoning By-law.</p> <p>Notwithstanding Section 4.1.6(b) of the Zoning By-law, the minimum setback for a pool house in this Zone shall be 3.3 metres from a condominium private road. For clarity, Section 4.1.6(a) of the Zoning By-law applies to a pool house in this Zone.</p> <p>Notwithstanding Section 4.1.5 of the Zoning By-law, the minimum yard setback for a pool house in this Zone shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 2.0 metres to the POTL line or condominium lot line for an interior side yard; b) 4.0 metres to the POTL line or condominium lot line for a rear yard; and c) 3.3 metres to the POTL line or condominium lot line for a front yard. <p>Lot means all lands that comprise a registered condominium.</p> <p>Lot Area means the sum total of all land in the condominium lot including buildings for a permitted dwelling type and common areas. Common areas include outdoor amenity space, condominium private roads, and any parking areas and driveways for units.</p> <p>Lot Coverage in the RM4-3 Zone for the purpose of the lot coverage requirements in Section 9.3 of this By-law for the RM4 Zone means the numerator divided by the condominium lot area. The numerator shall be the gross floor area of all principal and accessory buildings or structures used for permitted dwelling types, minus private condominium roads, minus parking areas, and minus pool mechanical equipment in a pool house instead of a separate pump house.</p> <p>POTL means Parcel of Tied Land.</p> <p>Yard, Front and Exterior Side means the land on the condominium lot located between principal building(s) used for a permitted dwelling type measured from either the front lot line separating a condominium lot from a road, or the POTL line separating land associated with a condominium unit</p>

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5																											
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements																											
				<p>from the right(s) of way including condominium private roads. The minimum yard requirements for the Zone shall be measured from the exterior wall of a permitted dwelling type to the appropriate lot or POTL line.</p> <p>Yard, Rear and Interior Side means the land on the condominium lot located between principal building(s) used for a permitted dwelling type measured from either the rear or interior side lot line separating a condominium lot from another lot, or the POTL rear or interior side lot line separating land associated with a condominium unit from another condominium unit. The minimum yard requirements for the Zone shall be measured from the exterior wall of a permitted dwelling type to the appropriate lot or POTL line.</p> <p>vii) Notwithstanding the provisions of this By-law to the contrary, within the Blocks identified on Schedule A and in the RM4-3(H) Zone, the following maximum densities shall be permitted in the blocks identified on schedule "A" of By-law 2006- 74, as outlined in Appendix G of this By-law:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Block Number (Schedule A)</th> <th>Maximum Number of Single Dwellings per Block (Single Detached)</th> <th>Maximum Total Number of Units per Block</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>15</td> <td>81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>10</td> <td>47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>25</td> <td>129</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>55</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>29</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>50</td> <td>62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>200</td> <td>482</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Block Number (Schedule A)	Maximum Number of Single Dwellings per Block (Single Detached)	Maximum Total Number of Units per Block	1	15	81	2	10	47	3	25	129	13	55	93	14	29	50	15	50	62	16	20	20	Total	200	482
Block Number (Schedule A)	Maximum Number of Single Dwellings per Block (Single Detached)	Maximum Total Number of Units per Block																													
1	15	81																													
2	10	47																													
3	25	129																													
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Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				<p>viii) Notwithstanding the provisions of this By-law to the contrary, where there is a conflict between Section 9.3 (Zone Requirements) and Provision viii) of this exception zone, the regulations in the first table shall prevail.</p> <p>ix) For the purpose of this zoning by-law, the erection of any buildings or structures shall only occur if sufficient water and sewer capacity exists, as determined by the municipality, to service the proposed buildings and structures on site.</p>
RM4-3A(H) Bylaw 2019-38 By-law 2025-053, & OLT-25-000597		Dwelling, Townhouse		<p>In addition to the provision of the RM4-3 Zone, the following provisions shall apply:</p> <p>A maximum of 173 townhouse dwelling units shall be permitted.</p> <p>Regulations for Townhouse Dwellings:</p> <p>i) In this Zone, the minimum yard requirements for a townhouse dwelling type in the RM4-3 Zone table shall instead be:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a) 3.3 metres in the condominium front yard and exterior side yard; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b) 2.5 metres and 0.0 metres between horizontal attached units in the condominium rear yard and interior side yard.</p> <p>ii) A parapet, guard and railing not exceeding 1.2 metres shall not be considered part of building height; and a structure providing access to roof terrace shall not be considered a storey if less than 15 square metres in footprint and not more than 3 metres in height, measured from floor to flat roof.</p> <p>iii) Outdoor amenity space in the RM4-3A Zone includes pool house(s), decks, and terraces.</p> <p>iv) A maximum driveway width of 3.2 metres for internal units and 6 metres for end units shall apply.</p> <p>v) Decks, balconies, terraces and porches which are covered or uncovered, more than 1.2 metres above finished grade are permitted to project 4.0 metres into</p>

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				<p>a required setback, however a minimum setback of 1.2 metres shall be required from any lot line.</p> <p>vi) Patios which are partially covered or uncovered and their steps and landings equal or less than 1.2 metres above the finished grade are permitted to project 4.75 metres into a required setback, however all of them shall be setback a minimum of 1.2 metres from any lot line.</p> <p>vii) Parking spaces shall be setback a minimum of 4 metres from the intersection of two private roads.</p> <p>viii) A minimum setback for a two car garage is 4.5 metres from a front lot line.</p> <p>ix) Buildings and structures shall not be subject to the setback requirements of Section 4.4 (d).</p> <p>The holding provisions shall be removed subject to entrance(s) to Honey Harbour Road being completed to the satisfaction of the District.</p> <p>For the purposes of this exception the following definitions shall apply:</p> <p>Patio: means a partially covered or uncovered and unenclosed accessory structure which is equal or less than 1.2 metres above the finished grade designed for lounging or sunbathing and is attached to a building.</p> <p>Deck: deck means a partially covered or uncovered and unenclosed accessory structure which is more than 1.2 metres above the finished grade designed for lounging or sunbathing and is attached to a building.</p> <p>Balcony: Balcony means a raised platform or structure projecting above finished grade from the main building, not supported by the ground, with or without steps to provide access to the ground.</p>

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				Porch: Porch means a roofed structure that is attached to a building and is open along one or more sides. For the purpose of this By-law, a Porch may include entrances to a building but shall not constitute a covered entrance.
RM4-3B Bylaw 2019-37, By-law 2025-053, & OLT-25-000597		Dwelling, Townhouse		<p>In addition to the provision of the RM4-3 Zone, the following provisions shall apply:</p> <p>A maximum of 52 townhouse dwelling units shall be permitted.</p> <p>Regulations for Townhouse Dwellings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) In this Zone: Yard, Front and Exterior Side means the land on the condominium lot located between principal building(s) used for a permitted dwelling type measured from either the front lot line separating a condominium lot from a road, or the unit side of the curb on a condominium private road(s). The minimum yard requirements for the Zone shall be measured from the exterior wall of a permitted dwelling type to the appropriate lot line or curb. ii) In this Zone, the minimum yard requirements for a townhouse dwelling type in the RM4-3 Zone table shall instead be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 3.5 metres in the condominium front yard and exterior side yard; and b) 1.3 metres and 0.0 metres between horizontal attached units in the condominium rear yard and interior side yard. iii) A parapet, guard and railing not exceeding 1.2 metres shall not be considered part of building height; and a structure providing access to roof terrace shall not be considered a storey if less than 15 square metres in footprint and not more than 3 metres in height, measured from floor to flat roof. iv) Decks and terraces shall be considered outdoor amenity space. v) A maximum driveway width of 3.2 metres for internal units and 6 metres for end units shall apply.

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
				vi) Decks, balconies, terraces and porches which are covered or uncovered, more than 1.2 metres above finished grade are permitted to project 4.0 metres into a required setback, however a minimum setback of 1.2 metres shall be required from any lot line. vii) Patios which are partially covered or uncovered and their steps and landings equal or less than 1.2 metres above the finished grade are permitted to project 4.75 metres into a required setback, however they shall be setback a minimum of 0.0 metres from any lot line. viii) Parking spaces shall be setback a minimum of 4 metres from the intersection of two private roads. ix) A minimum setback for a two car garage is 4.2 metres from a front lot line. x) Buildings and structures shall not be subject to the setback requirements of Section 4.4 (d). xi) Table 9.6, item v) of the RM4-3 (H) zone does not apply (Driveway or garage maximum width). For the purposes of this exception the following definitions shall apply: Patio: means a partially covered or uncovered and unenclosed accessory structure which is equal or less than 1.2 metres above the finished grade designed for lounging or sunbathing and is attached to a building. Deck: deck means a partially covered or uncovered and unenclosed accessory structure which is more than 1.2 metres above the finished grade designed for lounging or sunbathing and is attached to a building. Balcony: Balcony means a raised platform or structure projecting above finished grade from the main building, not supported by the ground, with or without steps to provide access to the ground.

Schedule 'A' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 9.6 – RM4 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
RM4-3C(H) By-law 2021-037, By-law 2025-053, & OLT-25-000597				<p>Porch: Porch means a roofed structure that is attached to a building and is open along one or more sides. For the purpose of this By-law, a Porch may include entrances to a building but shall not constitute a covered entrance.</p> <p>* For added certainty in consideration of yard setbacks, the entire condominium block will be considered as one lot.</p>

Schedule 'B' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 12.3 – CM1 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
CM1-7 Bylaw 2019-39, & OLT-25-000597	Accessory Restaurant			Maximum Number of Boat Slips – 60 Maximum Lot Coverage – 50% Maximum Building Height – 15 metres Minimum Interior Side Yard Requirement: 1.5 metres Minimum setback from High Water Mark – 5.5 metres A setback of 0 metres shall apply for parking spaces from a lot line and a setback of 1.3 metres for parking spaces from a building or structure. Buildings and structures shall not be subject to the setback requirements of Section 4.4 (d).

Schedule 'C' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 16.3 – OS1 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
OS1-5 By-law 2014-75, & OLT-25-000597	Golf Course			

Schedule 'D' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 17.3 – EP1 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
EP1-6 By-law 2014-75, & OLT-25-000597	Passive Nature Trails Accessory Building			Maximum Floor Area (Accessory Building) – 15 sq. m.

Schedule 'E' – OLT-25-000597 Minutes of Settlement Amendment to 'Table 17.4 – EP2 Exceptions'

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Exception Number	Additional Permitted Uses	Only Permitted Uses	Uses Prohibited	Modifications and Additional Requirements
EP2-1 OLT-25-000597	Passive Nature Trails Accessory Building		Boathouse	Maximum Floor Area (Accessory Building) – 15 sq. m.

May 28, 2026

Hon. Graham McGregor
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
14th Floor, 56 Wellesley St W
Toronto, ON M7A 2E7

Sent via email to: graham.mcgregor@ontario.ca

Subject: Town of Orangeville resolution re: Request to the Province to Extend the Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties

Dear Minister McGregor,

The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville requests your consideration and support for the following resolution that was passed at the May 25, 2026 meeting of the Council of the Town of Orangeville.

Resolution Number: 2026-193

Moved by Councillor Sherwood

Seconded by Councillor Macintosh

Whereas amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act under the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 introduced timelines requiring municipalities to issue Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on municipal heritage registers as of December 31, 2022, originally requiring action by January 1, 2025; and

Whereas the Province subsequently amended the legislation through the *Home-owner Protection Act, 2024* to extend the deadline to January 1, 2027 in response to concerns raised by municipalities and heritage stakeholders; and

Whereas municipalities require sufficient time and resources to undertake research, documentation, consultation, and evaluation to determine whether listed properties warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas the removal of listed properties from municipal heritage registers if the prescribed timelines are not met may place cultural heritage resources at increased risk of demolition or irreversible alteration before municipalities have the opportunity to properly evaluate their cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas the Heritage Orangeville Committee comprises of a handful of dedicated volunteers who are not able to review the current non-designated register containing 454 properties on or before the deadline of January 1, 2027; and

Whereas many municipalities, including the Town of Orangeville, do not have dedicated heritage planning staff and must rely on volunteer Heritage committee members or external heritage consultants to undertake the evaluations, which can result in additional financial and administrative pressures; and

Whereas Heritage Orangeville Committee, heritage consultants or staff members would need to review the municipal heritage register, research the heritage value and interest of listed non-designated properties, contact owners of such properties, determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

Whereas the above noted work involving 454 listed properties in the Town of Orangeville is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by January 1, 2027 with the current resources available given other competing interests including reviewing and supporting new housing development proposals; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are facing significant workloads associated with evaluating listed properties; and

Whereas the Heritage Orangeville Committee, at its meeting of March 19, 2026, discussed and supported advocating to the Province of Ontario for a further extension to the current deadline;

Now therefore be it resolved that The Council of the Town of Orangeville respectfully request that the Province of Ontario further amend the Ontario Heritage Act to extend the January 1, 2027 deadline to January 1, 2030, or another reasonable timeframe for issuing Notices of Intention to Designate for properties listed on the municipal heritage non-designated register; and

That the Town Clerk be directed to send a copy of this motion to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Councils across the province, and the Ontario Municipal Heritage Committee Association.

Carried

If you have any questions, please contact clerk@orangeville.ca.

Sincerely,
Ishita Soneji
Council Co-ordinator/Assistant Clerk
Corporate Services
Town of Orangeville

cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, via email
Hon. Syliva Jones, Members of Provincial Parliament, via email
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), via email
Community Heritage Ontario, via email
All Ontario Municipalities, via email



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2026 - 072

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: June 2, 2026

Councillor **G. ASHFORD**
Councillor **J. BELESKEY**
Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**
Councillor **B. KEITH**
Councillor **D. McCANN**
Councillor **C. McDONALD**
Mayor **J. McGARVEY**

MOVED BY:


SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: DEFEATED: Postponed to:

That the Council of the Corporation of Town of Parry Sound supports the request by the Durham District School Board regarding school board governance with the following requests:

1. That the Province of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process prior to making any decisions regarding changes to school board governance, including the potential elimination of trustees;
2. That the Province of Ontario ensures that any future governance model maintains strong local representation and reflects the diverse needs of communities across the province, including Northern and rural municipalities; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Education, the Ontario Ombudsman, the Durham District School Board, The Near North District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, the Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), local Members of Provincial Parliament, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey

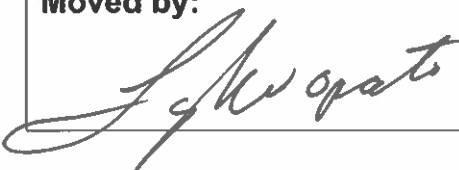
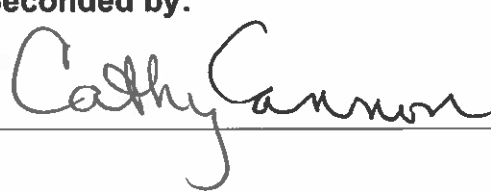


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Resolution # RC26104	Meeting Order: 4
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of the Durham District School Board has requested that a province-wide consultation process be undertaken prior to any governance changes or decisions that would result in the elimination of school board trustees; and

WHEREAS the potential elimination of elected school board trustees represents a significant and fundamental shift in Ontario's education governance structure; and

WHEREAS school board trustees serve as a longstanding and essential democratic link between local communities and the public education system, ensuring that community voices are reflected in decision-making processes; and

WHEREAS changes of this magnitude should not proceed without evidence-based research, transparency, and meaningful public engagement to fully understand potential impacts; and

WHEREAS the Municipality of Wawa recognizes the importance of local representation in addressing the diverse and unique needs of communities, including rural, remote, and Northern municipalities; and

WHEREAS the removal of school board trustees may result in unintended consequences that could negatively impact community representation, accountability, and responsiveness within the education system; and

WHEREAS transparency regarding the rationale, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of any proposed governance changes is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring informed dialogue;



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports the request of the Durham District School Board for the Province of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process prior to making any decisions regarding changes to school board governance, including the potential elimination of trustees;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of Municipality of Wawa supports the call for an independent review by the Ombudsman's Office regarding the potential impacts of removing school board trustees, particularly with respect to fairness, openness, transparency, and accountability;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of Municipality of Wawa urges the Province of Ontario to ensure that any future governance model maintains strong local representation and reflects the diverse needs of communities across the province, including Northern and rural municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Education, the Ontario Ombudsman, the Durham District School Board, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), local Members of Provincial Parliament, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann	
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato	

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR - MITCH HATFIELD	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
<i>Mecheline Hatfield</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

May 29, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 26, 2026 the following resolution regarding the Better Regional Governance Act was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-246

DATE: **May 26, 2026**

MOVED BY: **Councillor MacNaughton**

SECONDED BY: **Councillor Branderhorst**

WHEREAS electoral representation is the keystone of Canadian democracy; and,

WHEREAS the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026 (Act) received royal assent on May 7th; and,

WHEREAS the Act allows the provincial government to interfere with shape and composition of certain local and regional governments in Ontario without consultation, clear rationale or democratic process; and,

WHEREAS the Act allows the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, without consultation, clear rationale, or democratic process to appoint or vacate heads of council; and

WHEREAS the Act allows any appointed, non-elected head of council to have the voting rights of an elected mayor which may include strong chair powers; and

WHEREAS these changes are part of a series of anti-democratic decisions that undermine municipal authority and centralize local decision making at the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Prince Edward County Council, in solidarity with the impacted municipalities, urge the Province to recommit to local democracy, empower municipalities to determine their own composition, and restore the requirement that all local governments and regional council members including regional chairs be directly elected by their communities to ensure heads of council remain directly accountable to local voters; and,

THAT Council urge the province to restrict any further changes or expansion of the Act in any way that could undermine the democratic vigour of any additional municipality; and,

THAT this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, and Member of Provincial Parliament, Tyler Allsop; and



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

THAT this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Yours truly,

Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton, Councillor Branderhorst



May 29, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 26, 2026 the following resolution seeking support for sustainable funding for Public Health Units was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-244

DATE: May 26, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Nieman

WHEREAS Ontario public health units and agencies provide a vital service to Ontarians that keeps people healthy, out of hospitals and out of the acute care system;

WHEREAS rural-urban equity in Ontario's public healthcare delivery is essential for a thriving provincial economy that keeps people at work and contributing;

WHEREAS Ontario's public health units & agencies sector has received a mere 1% in its annual budget increase from Queen's Park since 2018, a sum significantly below inflation and real-world cost increases;

WHEREAS public health faces steadily increasing demands, such as a 231% increase in respiratory outbreaks supported in Ontario's long-term care homes, hospitals, and retirement homes since 2018, as well as a 637% increase in Infection Prevention & Control complaints follow-ups;

WHEREAS according to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), municipalities across Ontario spend close to \$4 billion on health despite receiving less than \$2 billion in provincial grants, and Canada's Constitution Act 1867 clearly asserts provincial responsibility for health;

WHEREAS Ontario consistently ranks at the bottom for provincial health spending per capita, at \$876 below the average of other provinces using 2022-2023 data;

WHEREAS 60% of Ontario's hospitals are overwhelmed and in dire operating deficits, yet the Canadian Public Health Association asserts that investment in Ontario public health's preventative and health promotion initiatives delivers a 4:1 return on investment, for example, for every dollar spent on upstream public health vaccine immunization of children, \$16 in downstream hospital and primary health care costs are saved;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to shoulder an escalating percentage of public health unit costs while also asked to solve complex social determinates of health such as rural homelessness and food insecurity but with limited revenue tools;

WHEREAS the province and federal governments continue to collect significant revenue from local/municipal property transactions through the Land Transfer Tax and Goods & Services Tax;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward requests:

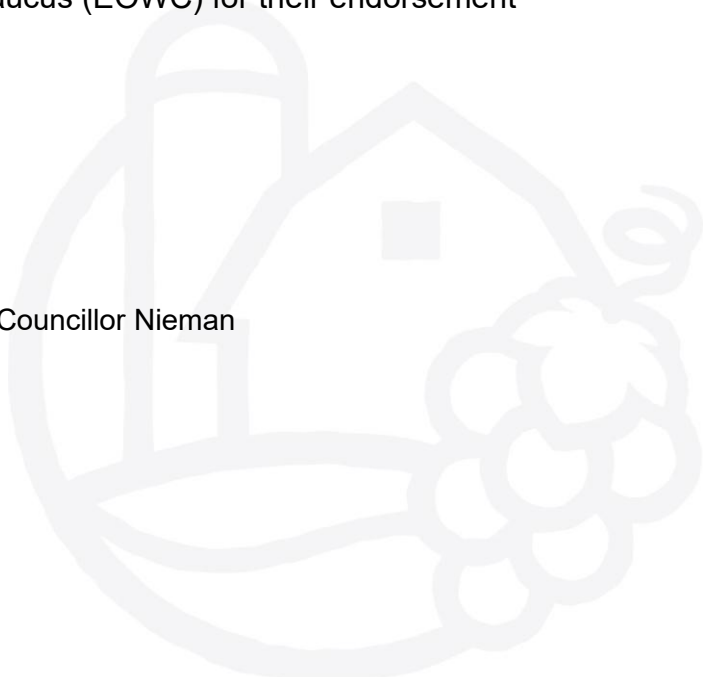
1. **THAT** the Provincial Government redistribute a portion of the Land Transfer Tax to municipalities to address public health funding gaps and the rising % share of municipal contributions to public health units;
2. **THAT** when the province announces its new Ontario Public Health Standards, it also commits to minimum annual funding increases tied to Ontario's consumer price inflation, currently holding at 2.4%;
3. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Bay of Quinte Member of Parliament, Chris Malette, and Member of Provincial Parliament, Tyler Allsop; and
4. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Nieman





The Corporation of the Municipality of Red Lake

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED BY: Councillor Geary

NO 104-26

SECONDED BY: Councillor Krystoff

DATE: May 19th, 2026

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are required to maintain a police service or detachment board; and

WHEREAS policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of rising costs to implement provincial mandates; and

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has asserted that the fiscal framework that enables municipalities to provide critical policing and public safety services is broken, and AMO requests an urgent update to the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship; and

WHEREAS double-digit increases in municipal annual Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) budgets are unsustainable, especially as Ontario municipal police services tackle provincial responsibilities, including mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which place police resources under enormous financial strain; and

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly attributable to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (the Act); and; and

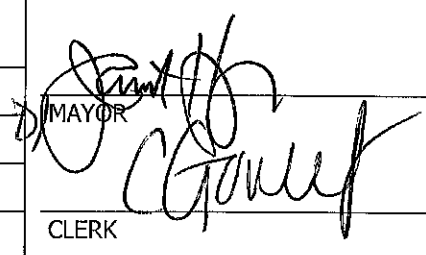
WHEREAS the costs of other measures, such as providing provincial court security, are rising and are not part of providing core, adequate, and effective municipal policing; and

WHEREAS these developments especially negatively impact rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Red Lake hereby requests that the Province provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act, not general increases to police budgets; and

FURTHER THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to expeditiously review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities, so that communities with changing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Solicitor-General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Police Governance Ontario (PGO), and all Ontario municipalities for their endorsement.

				CARRIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED <input type="checkbox"/>
Declaration of Interest (*)	NAME OF COUNCIL MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS		
	BADIUK, Warren			 MAYOR CLERK	
	GEARY, Debra				
	HAGER, Janet				
	KRISTOFF, Jamie				
	MOTA, Fred				
* General Nature Thereof: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

Distribution: File - distribution - Executive Assistant

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Dear Mayor, Councillors, and Municipal Staff,

We are writing to bring to your attention upcoming TC Energy drilling activity in Georgian Bay, expected to take place from June through September.

While TC Energy's public notice frames the 2026 drilling program as routine and necessary for design refinement (see [Notice of In-Water Activity – Summer 2026](#)), it provides no disclosure of the results of similar drilling conducted in 2025, leaving a critical gap in the information needed to assess whether further lakebed disturbance is justified.

Given that the 2026 program is described as a continuation of similar offshore drilling conducted in 2025, its purpose remains broadly defined as informing project design.

In this context, the absence of publicly disclosed findings from prior work raises significant transparency concerns.

At this stage—particularly in the context of an ongoing federal Impact Assessment—adequate disclosure should extend beyond procedural descriptions of current activities. Rather, it should meet a higher standard of clarity, accountability, and public accessibility.

This is not simply a question of information availability, but of whether decision-makers and the public are being provided with sufficient evidence to assess the necessity and proportionality of continued lakebed disturbance. Adequate disclosure should include, at minimum:

- A consolidated summary of 2025 geotechnical findings, including soil and bedrock conditions encountered, and any constraints or risks identified
- An explicit statement of unresolved uncertainties or data gaps that necessitate additional 2026 drilling
- A clear rationale for the scope, location, and number of new boreholes, including how these differ from or build upon prior investigations
- Disclosure of any anomalous or adverse findings (e.g., permeability concerns, instability, or unexpected subsurface conditions) that may have implications for environmental risk
- An explanation of how new data will materially influence project design decisions, rather than simply contribute to general knowledge
- A commitment to timely public reporting of results, prior to any further advancement of the project or pre-development work
- Clarification of how results will be independently reviewed and integrated into the federal Impact Assessment process, including opportunities for public scrutiny.

Without this level of disclosure, it is difficult for municipalities, residents, or decision-makers to assess whether repeated disturbance of the lakebed is justified, proportionate, or aligned with the precautionary principles expected in a project of this scale and sensitivity.

This work is proceeding just as the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada has determined that the Ontario Pumped Storage Project will require a full federal impact assessment—a process that has not yet defined its scope or safeguards.

Federal agencies, including the Department of National Defence and Health Canada, have already raised concerns on the public record regarding potential impacts to a nearby drinking water intake and the lack of confirmed mitigation measures.

At present, no federal determination has been made as to whether the project can proceed at the site, and key questions regarding risk, oversight, and prior drilling results remain unanswered.

Given the visible nature of this activity and the importance of Georgian Bay to local communities, residents are likely to look to their municipal representatives for clear information and guidance.

We encourage municipalities to seek clarification on:

- Request full public disclosure of the results of TC Energy's 2025 drilling program
- Seek a clear justification for the need for additional 2026 lakebed drilling
- Share any unresolved concerns with provincial and federal representatives (MPPs and MPs) given the ongoing federal Impact Assessment
- Advocate for coordinated oversight to ensure that no further work proceeds without transparency and public confidence

This is ultimately a question of transparency and coordination across jurisdictions: who is responsible for ensuring that industrial activity proceeds only with appropriate safeguards and public confidence? We would be pleased to provide additional information or assist in any way.

As a volunteer-led organization, we rely on community support to continue this work.

Sincerely,

Save Georgian Bay Association

tbuck@savegeorgianbay.ca

pat@savegeorgianbay.ca

For more information visit our web site: savegeorgianbay.ca

Save Georgian Bay is the recipient of Ontario Nature's 2024 Corporate Award for Conservation.

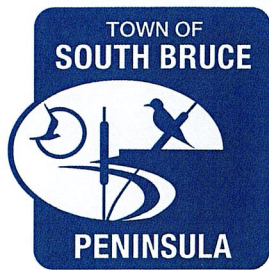


Join us! Go to our website at savegeorgianbay.ca and sign our petition, volunteer, or donate. **Help spread the word!** Visit us on social media – *like, comment and share!*

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Excerpt from Council Meeting Minutes – June 2, 2026

19. Notice of Motion – Deputy Mayor Hull – Affirming Outdoor Education as an Essential Part of Public Education in Ontario

Deputy Mayor Hull explained the importance of outdoor education and how this motion is in response to the closure of the Toronto District School Board outdoor education centre. He explained that he is asking for the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department to be mindful of outdoor nature-related opportunities for citizens; he is not asking for a formal report.

Discussion included staff evaluation and making a change to the motion to recognize the work staff currently undertake regarding outdoor opportunities.

R-151-2026

It was **Moved** by C. Hull, **Seconded** by J. Kirkland and **Carried**

Whereas outdoor and experiential education provides students with critical opportunities to improve mental health, physical well-being, environmental literacy, teamwork, leadership, resilience, and academic engagement;

And whereas access to nature and outdoor learning opportunities should not depend on a family's income, geography, or ability to afford private camps, cottages, or outdoor recreation;

And whereas many students, especially those living in urban communities, rely on publicly funded school programs as their primary opportunity to experience forests, trails, waterways, dark skies, overnight camping, and land-based learning;

And whereas closures of Outdoor Education Centres risk creating long-term negative consequences for student wellness, environmental stewardship, and equitable access to experiential learning opportunities;

And whereas knowledgeable and experienced outdoor education staff are essential to delivering safe, inclusive, and curriculum-based learning experiences;

And whereas municipalities that benefit from tourism connected to parks, trails, and natural spaces depend on environmentally responsible stewardship by visitors.

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of South Bruce Peninsula requests the Province of Ontario to:

1. Recognize outdoor education as an essential educational service and commit to equitable access for all Ontario students, and
2. Halt the closure of outdoor education centres and restore stable funding for programming across Ontario;

And that the Town's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department continues to evaluate how it can increase nature-related educational opportunities for citizens of all ages and abilities;

And further that this motion be forwarded to the Bluewater District School Board Trustees, MPP Paul Vickers, the Ontario Minister of Education MPP Paul Calandra, AMO, ROMA, The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario, and all other municipalities across Ontario.



AMANDA FUSCO
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk
Corporate Services Department
Kitchener City Hall, 2nd Floor
200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7
Phone: 519.904.1402 Fax: 519.741.2705
amanda.fusco@kitchener.ca
TTY: 519-741-2385

SENT VIA EMAIL

May 21, 2026

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

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on April 13, 2026, passed the following resolution regarding the Heritage Helping Housing Building Grant:

"That the City of Kitchener call on the Province of Ontario to implement a new housing-focused Heritage Helping Housing Building Grant of \$10 million per year to encourage the creation of additional housing units within heritage buildings; and further,

That staff be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Rob Flack, the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Honourable Graham McGregor and John Ecker, Chair, Ontario Heritage Trust, AMO, all Ontario MPPs and to all municipalities across the province."

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'A. Fusco'.

A. Fusco
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Cc: Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
John Ecker, Chair, Ontario Heritage Trust, AMO
Ontario MPP's
Ontario municipalities
Sloane Sweazey, Senior Policy Advisor, City of Kitchener



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

June 9, 2026

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

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford

Re: Heritage Helping Housing Building Grant

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their June 1, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

257-2026

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Marissa Vaughan

That South Huron Council supports the May 21, 2026 correspondence of the City of Kitchener regarding the Heritage Helping Housing Building Grant; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, the Ontario Heritage Trust, AMO and all Ontario municipalities.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron

kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

- cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Hon. Graham McGregor, graham.mcgregor@pc.ola.org, Ontario Heritage Trust, john.ecker@heritagetrust.on.ca; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca; and all municipalities in Ontario.



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

June 10, 2026

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

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford

Re: Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their June 1, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

258-2026

Moved By: Aaron Neeb

Seconded by: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

That South Huron Council supports the May 13, 2026, correspondence of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Solicitor General, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, the Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, AMO, ROMA and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca

519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc:

Minister of the Solicitor General, Hon. Michael Kerzner, michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org; Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Kinga Surma, kinga.surma@pc.ola.org; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack, rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, info@oafc.on.ca; Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, admin@ontariofirefighters.org; Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, communication@ffao.on.ca; AMO resolutions@amo.on.ca; ROMA, roma@roma.on.ca; and all municipalities in Ontario.

Date: 13 May 2026

15

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Netty McEwen

Seconded By: Councillor John van Klaveren

Support for Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Fire Services in Ontario

WHEREAS Municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the province through statutes, regulations, codes, and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operational requirements;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation;

AND WHEREAS current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably;

AND WHEREAS volunteer firefighters represent approximately **70–75% of firefighters in Ontario**, protecting the majority of communities across the province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently **the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services**;

AND WHEREAS other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements;

AND WHEREAS the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility;

AND WHEREAS reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector;

AND WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming respectfully calls upon the Province of Ontario to **transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program** that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements;

AND FURTHER THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for **operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite and full-time fire departments across Ontario**;

AND FURTHER THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated for endorsement to:

- The County of Lambton
- Lambton County Fire Chiefs Association
- All municipalities
- Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs
- Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association

AND FURTHER THAT, upon endorsement, this resolution be submitted to:

- Steve Pinnsoneault MPP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex
- Bob Bailey MPP Sarnia-Lambton
- The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General
- The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

✓

Carried

Defeated

Deferred

From: Ashley Sloan <ashley@southstormont.ca>
Sent: June 4, 2026 2:38 PM
To:
Subject: South Stormont Resolution - Food Insecurity Crisis

Good day,

Please find below Resolution No. 115/2026, as passed by Council of the Township of South Stormont on May 27, 2026.

Resolution No.: 115/2026
Moved By: Deputy Mayor Andrew Guindon
Seconded by: Councillor Jennifer MacIsaac

Whereas food insecurity is defined as the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, a marker of pervasive material deprivation (poverty), and posing a serious public health problem because of its association with higher rates of numerous diseases and chronic health conditions and a higher risk of early death;

And whereas chronic stressors like disability, precarious work, and/or the cost-of-living crisis, and acute shocks like COVID-19, illness or eviction, make it more difficult to afford life's basic needs and live free from poverty;

And whereas current social assistance rates are woefully inadequate, making it impossible to afford a healthy diet; and

And whereas the Eastern Ontario Health Unit estimates that 1 in 4 households are food insecure;

And whereas over 36% of food bank visitors were children;

And whereas food banks are not funded by the Government of Canada and Government of Ontario;

And whereas Ontario non-profits, including food banks, are collectively experiencing stagnant and declining resources amidst climbing demand, and increased reserve use.

Now therefore be it resolved;

1. That Council declare food insecurity an emergency (crisis) in South Stormont; and
2. That Council request the Provincial Government immediately raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs; and

3. That Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments act to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income; and
4. That Council request that the Provincial and Federal Governments include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies; and
5. That Council develop a working relationship with Food Banks United and other local food programs to:
 - Communicate local needs and resources.
 - Advocate on behalf of people experiencing food insecurity at the local government level.
 - Strategize solutions to immediate food insecurity needs.

Result: CARRIED

Kind regards,



Ashley Sloan, AMP

Manager of Information and Customer Services
Deputy Clerk
Marriage Officiant

Email: ashley@southstormont.ca

Phone: 613-534-8889 ext. 204

2 Mille Roches Road, PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0

<https://www.southstormont.ca>

Township of Southgate

Administration Office

185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

June 4, 2026

Re: Support for the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan – Canada Post Rate Reduction for Libraries

Please be advised that at the June 3, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate approved the following:

No. 2026-225

Moved By Councillor John

Seconded By Councillor Shipston

Be it resolved that Southgate Council receive the correspondence from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan and the Township of Perry for information; and

That Council call on the Federal Government to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution rates for library materials; and

That a copy of this and associated correspondence be forwarded to the Minister of Government Transformation, Public Services and Procurement, MP Alex Ruff, MPP Paul Vickers and all Ontario Municipalities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green

Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

Encl: Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan – Canada Post Rate Reduction for Libraries

CC:

Honourable Joël Lightbound, Minister of Transformation, Public Services and Procurement

Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Paul Vickers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Ontario Municipalities



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

May 6, 2026

RE: Canada Post Rate Reduction for Libraries

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on May 6th, 2026, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan approved the following:

Resolution No: 2026-05-06-09

Moved by: Councillor Quade

Seconded by: Councillor Keller

“Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the correspondence from the Township of Perry to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials, and;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Perry, Minister of Government Transportation, Public Services and Procurement, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke MP and MPP and all Ontario Municipalities.”

CARRIED

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson

Deputy Clerk

Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026-078

Moved By: Joe Lumley Seconded By: Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Joel Lightbound, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement, Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka, Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities for support.

Carried:

Defeated:


Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
Council	For	Against
Councillors Jim Cushman		
Joe Lumley		
Margaret Ann MacPhail		
Paul Sowrey		
Mayor Norm Hofstetter		

**Township of Southgate
Administration Office**
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

June 4, 2026

Re: Support for the Municipality of Wawa – Opposing Proposed Changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised that at the June 3, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate approved the following:

No. 2026-226

Moved By Deputy Mayor Dobreen
Seconded By Councillor Shipston

Be it resolved that the Township of Southgate receive correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa and the Township of Stone Mills re: Proposed Changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA); and

That Southgate Council oppose the proposed changes to FIPPA; and

1. call on the Province to ensure records related to government business remain accessible to the public; and
2. urge the Province to consult with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the public before proceeding; and

Further, that this resolution and supporting documentation be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the appropriate Minister, all MPPs and Ontario municipalities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green

Lindsey Green, Clerk
Township of Southgate

Encl: Municipality of Wawa – Opposing Proposed Changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

CC:

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
All MPP's
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Resolution # RC26106	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: <i>Joseph Opato</i>	Seconded by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>

WHEREAS the Township of Stone Mills passed Resolution No. 30-706-2026 opposing proposed changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) that would exclude records of the Premier, Cabinet Ministers, and their staff from public access requests;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Stone Mills has expressed concerns that the proposed amendments may reduce transparency and accountability in government;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa hereby supports Resolution No. 30-706-2026 passed by the Township of Stone Mills regarding the proposed changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA);

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Township of Stone Mills, Premier Doug Ford, the appropriate Provincial Ministers, local Members of Provincial Parliament, and Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR – MITCH HATFIELD	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
<i>Michelle Hatfield</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

**The Corporation of The
Township of Stone Mills**

4504 County Road 4, Centreville, Ontario K0K 1N0

Tel. (613) 378-2475 Fax. (613) 378-0033

Website: www.stonemills.com



May 14, 2026

Sent Via Email Only

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

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Township of Stone Mills opposition to the changes to Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of April 13, 2026, Township of Stone Mills Council passed the following motion,

Resolution 30-706-2026

Whereas the government of Ontario is proposing changes to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) that would exclude records of the premier, cabinet ministers and their staff from public access requests;

AND Whereas these changes would apply retroactively and may limit access to records related to matters of public interest;

AND Whereas the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Ontario has warned that these changes would reduce transparency and accountability, Freedom of Information laws are an essential to the public trust and democratic accountability;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Stone Mills Township oppose the proposed changes to FIPPA;

1. Call on the Province to ensure records related to government business remain accessible to the public;
2. Urge the Province to consult with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the public before proceeding;
3. Direct that this motion be circulated to the Premier Doug Ford, appropriate minister, all MPP's and Ontario municipalities.

Moved By Councillor Woodcock
Seconded By Councillor Milligan
Carried

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Brandi Teeple
Township Clerk
Township of Stone Mills
4504 County Road 4
Centreville, ON, K0K 1N0
Phone: 613 378-2475 ext. 225
Email: bteeple@stonemills.com

cc. All Ontario Municipalities
All MPP's

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 4.4.3.
Resolution Number 2026-074
Title: Correspondence - Northeastern Manitoulin & The Islands - Resolution No 75-03-2026
Date: April 15, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Laframboise
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports Resolution Number 75-03-2026 passed by Northeastern Manitoulin & The Islands regarding chip and tar surface treatment;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of Environment; our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); Ontario Good Roads Association; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



Box 608, Little Current, POP 1K0
705-368-3500

Please see below a Resolution passed by the Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands.

If your Council supports this motion please share with the appropriate Ministries and Organizations.

Thank You

Resolution No. 75-03-2026

Moved by: B. Wood

Seconded by: P. Aelick

Whereas the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands, like many municipalities, utilizes chip-and-tar surface treatment on a significant portion of its road network; and

Whereas the Town has observed a substantial decrease in the length of time these treated roads remain in acceptable condition; and

Whereas the quality and durability of the oil used in the surface treatment appears to be a contributing factor; and

Whereas the Ministry of the Environment amended its regulations several years ago, permitting only lighter-grade oils for environmental considerations; and

Whereas the reduced durability of the lighter-grade product has resulted in more frequent resurfacing cycles and has consequently led to increasing maintenance costs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands respectfully requests that the Ministry of the Environment reconsider its decision regarding the lighter grade of oil, taking into account the increased number of applications required, as well as the associated additional time, energy, and financial burden placed on municipalities or develops a better alternative oil.

And Further that this motion be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, AMO, Good Roads, FONOM, MPP Bill Rosenberg, and all other municipalities.

Carried

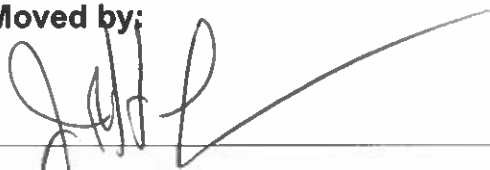
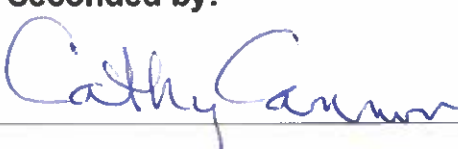


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Resolution # RC26116	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS while these changes have improved opportunities for inclusion and independence, the current system of supports is often delivered across multiple programs and providers and may not fully address the long-term need for integrated living environments that combine housing, supports, and meaningful daily participation; and

WHEREAS there is an increasing need for innovative, sustainable, and inclusive models of care that support independence, dignity, and community integration for adults with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS opportunities may exist to explore models that provide safe and supportive living environments for adults with developmental disabilities while also offering structured, voluntary, and supported participation in day-to-day activities that foster a sense of purpose, skill development, and social connection; and

WHEREAS such models, if thoughtfully designed, could complement existing care environments and contribute positively to the overall well-being of both participants and residents; and

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York is responsible for a range of human services including housing, community services, and the operation of long-term care homes, and is therefore well-positioned to explore integrated and interdisciplinary approaches to care;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports the resolution passed by the City of Richmond Hill requesting that the Regional Municipality of York consider exploring innovative models of housing and support for adults with developmental disabilities, including the potential for an "Integrated Living and Participation Model"; and



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

THAT Council supports consideration of opportunities for co-location or partnership with existing regional services, including long-term care and community housing, where appropriate; and

THAT Council supports a model that emphasizes voluntary, supported, and meaningful participation in activities that enhance quality of life, social inclusion, and community engagement, without displacing existing workforce roles; and

THAT Council supports engagement with relevant stakeholders, including developmental service organizations, families, and advocacy groups, in considering such approaches; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the City of Richmond Hill, the Regional Municipality of York, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local MPPs, and Ontario municipalities for information.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann	
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato	

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Resolution # RC26117	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cameron</i>	Seconded by: <i>[Signature]</i>

WHEREAS the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors has raised serious concerns regarding the increasing incidents of harassment, threats, intimidation, and physical interference directed toward municipal public works employees and winter maintenance operators across Ontario; and

WHEREAS municipal public works staff and contractors perform essential services that are critical to maintaining safe roads, sidewalks, bridges, and municipal infrastructure, particularly during significant weather events and emergency situations; and

WHEREAS incidents involving threats of violence, obstruction of snowplows and equipment, and dangerous confrontations with municipal workers create unacceptable risks to employee safety, public safety, and municipal service delivery; and

WHEREAS the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors has requested that the Province of Ontario strengthen legislative protections for municipal workers by amending the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, establishing enhanced public safety interference provisions, and considering safe following distance requirements for snowplows similar to Manitoba's Bill 38;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Wawa hereby supports the requests and recommendations submitted by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to the Province of Ontario regarding enhanced protections for municipal public works employees, winter maintenance operators, and contractors; and



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council calls upon the Province of Ontario to review and implement legislative and regulatory changes that improve worker safety, deter interference with municipal operations, and recognize municipal public works employees as essential service providers during significant weather events and emergencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and Ontario municipalities for information and support.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Resolution # RC26118	Meeting Order: 7
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>[Signature]</i>

WHEREAS municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the Province through statutes, regulations, codes, and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operational requirements; and

WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation; and;

WHEREAS current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably; and

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70–75% of firefighters in Ontario, protecting the majority of communities across the Province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services; and

WHEREAS other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements; and

WHEREAS the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility; and

WHEREAS reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness, and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector; and



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Wawa supports the resolution passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming calling upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite, and full-time fire departments across Ontario; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to:

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Bill Rosenberg MPP Algoma Manitoulin, The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General, The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL