

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Correspondence from the Essa Public Library:
p. 3 a) April 2024 Report.
b) May 23, 2024 – Media Release – Smiles All Around: Tim Hortons' Smile Cookie Campaign a Success.
- p. 5 2. Nottawasaga Futures Newsletter.
- p. 14 3. Correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated May 13, 2024, re: Municipal Development and Community Benefits Charges, and Parkland Bulletin Release from the Province of Ontario, re: Municipal Development and Community Benefits Charges, and Parkland – Effective June 1, 2024
- p. 20 4. Correspondence from Prince Edward County dated May 9, 2024, re: Resolution - Help End the National Housing Affordability Crisis.
- p. 22 5. Copy of Joint Comment Submission from Simcoe Area Planners dated May 10, 2024, re: Provincial "Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Posting & Bill 185 Legislation".
- p. 25 6. Correspondence from the City of Belleville dated May 16, 2024, re: Resolution – Support of Family Doctors.
- p. 27 7. Policy Update from AMO, re: National Housing Strategy.
- p. 28 8. Release from the County of Simcoe, dated: May 8, 2024, re: County of Simcoe Launches Employment Survey Pilot Project.

B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION

None.

C – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR REVIEW AND REPORT TO COUNCIL

None.



April 2024 Report

Prepared by: Emily Nakeff

“ There's something magical about the library. It takes me back to my childhood.

- Patron comment

Membership

Angus (New)	71
Thornton (New)	3
<hr/>	
<i>Apr 2023 comparison:</i>	51
Year-to-date total	374
Total Active Cards	3,851

MATERIALS CIRCULATED

ANGUS	THORNTON
8,758	1,268
36,834 TOTAL IN 2024	

MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE

ANGUS	THORNTON
501	75
2,323 TOTAL IN 2024	

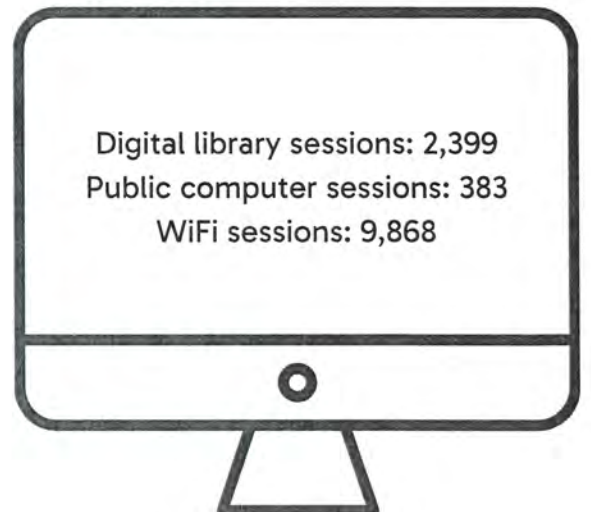
INTERLIBRARY LOANS

69	Items borrowed from other libraries
50	Items sent to other libraries



The Annual Running Clinic kicked off in April, raising \$280 for the library.

Digital library sessions: 2,399
 Public computer sessions: 383
 WiFi sessions: 9,868



KIDS

Toddler Time - AN	57
Mighty Makers - AN	59
Tinker Tuesday - AN	18
Wiggles & Giggles - AN	48
Mighty Makers - TH	9
Storytime - AN	77
Parachute Play	74
Storytime - TH	60
Let's Learn French - AN	29
Forest Walk	7
Family Movie - AN	6
Family Open Play - AN	18
Spring Fling	72
Pyjama Storytime - AN	12
Search and Find - AN	20

TEENS

Teen Social - AN	37
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ADULTS

Cercle de Conversation	30
Book Club - AN	8
Book Club - TH	7
Writers Group - AN	3
Hobby Circle - AN	17
Movie Night for Adults - AN	8
Running Clinic - AN	50

SENIORS

Seniors Social - AN	48
Seniors Social - TH	34

MEDIA

BARRIETODAY.com
 News More Obituaries Shop Flyers Classifieds Jobs Connect Events
 Obituaries In Memoriam
 HOME LOCAL NEWS
Essa Township library still one way for residents to save a buck
 'We have to remain relevant to the people who use this service. Sometimes that means you have to abandon some of the things you were doing,' says library board chair
 Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
 Apr 19, 2024 7:00 PM

This month, Essa Public Library was featured in two news articles published by BarrieToday.com. Board Chair Judith Hunter was interviewed about the recently released 2023 Annual Report. The Seed Library was also highlighted in a separate news story.

YouTube - Total Subscribers	799
YouTube - Views	6283
Library Zest - Site Traffic	20
Facebook - Total Followers	1765
Instagram - Total Followers	831



'Bit of everything': Interest in seed libraries still growing

'The seed library is very popular and our community makes great use of it,' says Essa Township official; neighbouring Springwater hosting educational sessions in May

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Apr 28, 2024 2:30 PM [Read more >](#)

Sarah Corbett

Subject: Media Release: Smiles All Around, Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign a Success

From: Laura Wark <Laura@EssaLibrary.ca>

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 3:53 PM

To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>

Subject: Fw: Media Release: Smiles All Around, Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign a Success

A media release (below) to share with Council.

Thank you,
Laura

L. Wark, CEO
Essa Public Library
705-424-6531 ext. 201 | essalibrary.ca
8505 County Road 10, Unit #1 | Angus, ON
L3W 0A7

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMILES ALL AROUND: TIM HORTONS' SMILE COOKIE CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

INNISFIL, ON (May 23, 2024) The Smile Cookie campaign raised \$15,608 this year for Innisfil ideaLAB & Library & Essa Public Library. Thank you to local Tim Hortons restaurant owners and many guests who bought Smile Cookies in support of our local libraries.

Owner of the Tim Hortons, David Blackmore, located in Cookstown and Thornton along with the Seth Family, owners of the Tim Hortons located at the Tanger Outlets, supported the local communities by distributing the funds equally to both libraries.

"We are absolutely thrilled to partake in the Smile Cookie fundraising event each year. The Thornton Community benefits from upgrades to our branch to make the space a safe and inviting destination for all ages", said Laura Wark, Essa Public Library, CEO

"We would like to send a big thank you to the owners and staff of our local Tim Hortons locations, who decorated thousands of Smile Cookies, and generously promoted the Smile Cookie campaign in support of our local libraries," said CEO Erin Scuccimarri of Innisfil ideaLAB & Library.

All of the proceeds will go directly to programs, upgrades, and services at the Innisfil ideaLAB & Library and the Essa Public Library.

Smile Cookie Campaign Facts

- Canadians helped set a new record this year, raising 18.8 million dollars for local charities and groups!
- Nationally, Tim Hortons restaurant owners support over 600 local charities, hospitals and community programs through the Smile Cookie campaign.
- The first-ever Smile Cookie campaign in 1996 raised funds to support Hamilton Children's Hospital. Since then, the annual charitable campaign has raised a total of more than \$111 million for charities and organizations that are selected every year by Tim Hortons restaurant owners.

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Photo 1: Tim Hortons Store Manager Darren Boyle, CEO of Essa Public Library, Laura Wark and Holly Elliott, Coordinator of Family Engagement.

Photo 2: Tim Hortons Store Manager Darren Boyle, Library Board Vice-Chair, Rob Nicol, Library Board Chair, Anne Smith, Town Councillors and Library Board Council Representatives, Councillor Jennifer Richardson and Councillor Robert Saunders.

Contact:

Wendy Ricciardi,
 Manager, Communications & Events
 Innisfil ideaLAB & Library
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wricciardi@innisfilidealab.ca
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 Coordinator of Family Engagement
 Essa Public Library
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www.essa.library.on.ca/

[EXTERNAL]

[EXTERNAL]



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

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SAVE
the
DATE

**NOTTAWASAGA FUTURES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 28, 2024 7:00 P.M.
MUSEUM ON THE BOYNE
250 FLETCHER CRES ALLISTON L9R 1M1
THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND**



Event Photography by Jennifer Gilbert Photography

SOUTH SIMCOE CELEBRATES BUSINESS EXCELLENCE

South Simcoe businesses were honoured at the 24th Annual South Simcoe Business Excellence Awards on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Over one hundred people gathered at the beautiful Gibson Cultural Centre in Alliston for the event, hosted by the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio in partnership with Nottawasaga Futures. Representatives from the federal and provincial governments, mayors, deputy mayors, councillors and community leaders attended to show their support and recognize the tremendous accomplishments of these businesses.

Nottawasaga Futures, a community economic development agency serving the South Simcoe area, which includes the communities of Adjala-Tosorontio, Bradford West Gwillimbury (BWG), Essa, Innisfil and New Tecumseth, is pleased to extend congratulations to all the

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nominees and the following award recipients.

- Agricultural Excellence Award: Lost Meadows Apiaries & Meadery, Essa
- Business Excellence Award: Taqueria El Norte, New Tecumseth sponsored by Adams-Hamilton
- Community Excellence Award: Alliston & District Humane Society, Adjala-Tosorontio
- Customer Service Excellence Award: 1-9 employees Pet Grocer, New Tecumseth
- Customer Service Excellence Award 10 + employees Lemar's Pizza, BWG
- Entrepreneur of The Year Nana Boateng Alliston Flooring, New Tecumseth sponsored by Scotiabank
- New Business Award Magical Events, Bradford West Gwillimbury
- Technology Innovation Award Kumi Canada Corporation in BWG
- Youth Entrepreneur Award Rafid Yousif Gradiance Barbershop, BWG sponsored by NT Temps

South Simcoe is extremely fortunate to be represented by such a wealth of talented business owners and successful business enterprises. Congratulations to everyone who put their name forward for consideration, and to all those who received awards, in what was a very competitive field of applicants. You are a credit to our communities!



In April Nottawasaga Futures welcomed Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Minister Filomena Tassi, and Minister François-Philippe Champagne.

The event, held at Alliston Flooring, featured a roundtable with ten local business owners discussing their challenges and the current economic climate. Business owners highlighted their daily operational issues and the need for more tailored governmental support. The discussions covered beneficial aids and areas needing improvement, emphasizing ongoing cooperation between the government and local businesses to boost South Simcoe's economic growth.

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We thank Prime Minister Trudeau and the ministers for engaging with our community and addressing the unique challenges we face.

Have your say. Join the conversation.



PLANNING TOMORROW TOGETHER

Official Plan Review and Growth Management Study



newtecumseth.ca



What will New Tecumseth look like in 2051?

The Town is growing, but where will everyone live? What kind of housing will people want to live in? What modes of transportation will

people use to get necessities? How will agricultural lands and natural heritage features be protected long-term?

Building on the Municipal Comprehensive Review led by Simcoe County, the Town is projected to grow from its current population of 43,948 people to 80,590 people by 2051. Employment is also expected to increase to 31,620 jobs over the same time period. This means approximately 448 hectares of land is needed for residential and community development and 72 hectares of land is needed for employment lands.

Please see the draft growth scenarios on the Town's webpage [here](#):

Have your say and take the **Official Plan Review & Growth Management Study Survey**

The survey is open until May 31st, 2024.

Please **subscribe** to the Town of New Tecumseth Planning "What's Happening" eBlast to keep informed about the project and other engagement opportunities. Information will also be posted on this project webpage: <https://www.newtecumseth.ca/en/town-hall/official-plan-review.aspx>

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Attention entrepreneurs & business owners! Are you interested in learning more about AI?

Join the free AI for Entrepreneurs Bootcamp to learn how to use AI tools to optimize your business operations and drive growth. The bootcamp will feature 3 sessions, providing an overview of AI, leading tools and practical examples of implementing them into your business.

<https://www.innisfil.ca/AIbootcamp>

Session 1 – Intro to AI for Business

Session 2 – AI for Marketing: Mastering the Art of AI Tools

Session 3 - Implementing AI in Business Operations & Beyond

The sessions will be hosted online on Thursday, May 30, June 6 and

June 13 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Don't miss out! Secure your free ticket at

<https://www.innisfil.ca/AIbootcamp> today.

The registration deadline is May 28, 2024.

The AI for Entrepreneurs Bootcamp is brought to you by the Town of Innisfil and Nottawasaga Futures with support from the County of Simcoe Entrepreneurship Innovation Fund.

Financial Support and Resources

- [Nottawasaga Futures Community Investment Fund](#)
- [Steps to Consider Before Starting a Business](#)
- [Canada - Ontario Job Grant](#)
- [Ontario Business Registry](#)
- [Business Benefits Finder](#)
- [Canada Business App](#)
- [Delia: Funding for Women-owned Enterprises](#)
- [Ontario Automotive Modernization Program](#)
- [Southwestern Ontario Development Fund](#)
- [Business advisory services for small & medium-sized businesses](#)
- [Business Continuity Plan](#)
- [Youth Small Business Program](#)
- [Marketing Ideas to Grow Your Business](#)
- [Starting a Business in Canada](#)

Sarah Corbett

To: Michael Mikael; Lisa Lehr
Subject: RE: Affordable Housing Bulletin

From: Naphew, Basirat (MMAH) <Basirat.Naphew@ontario.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 1:16 PM
To: Naphew, Basirat (MMAH) <Basirat.Naphew@ontario.ca>
Subject: Affordable Housing Bulletin

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

Good afternoon,

I would like to share an update related to municipal development-related charge (MDRC) exemptions and discounts for affordable residential units.

On April 10, 2024, the government introduced Ontario's Spring 2024 Red Tape Reduction Package, including the proposed Bill 185, the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*, as part of the province's ongoing commitment to build at least 1.5 million homes by 2031. As part of this package, the province announced it will bring into force on **June 1, 2024**, through a proclamation, the relevant provisions from the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* to provide exemptions and discounts from MDRCs for affordable residential units. This will incentivize builders to create housing at a lower cost across the province.

To support implementation, a Minister's bulletin entitled, "Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin" has been posted on the following webpage (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/municipal-development-and-community-benefits-charges-and-parklands#section-4>), ahead of the June 1, 2024 effective date. This bulletin sets out the market-based and income-based thresholds for affordable ownership and rental residential units by local municipality.

If you have technical questions, please feel free to contact the Municipal Finance Policy Branch at MFPB@ontario.ca.

Basirat Naphew

Municipal Advisor | Local Government and Housing | Municipal Services Office Central
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing | Ontario Public Service
647-624-8831 | basirat.naphew@ontario.ca



Taking pride in strengthening Ontario, its places and its people

Municipal development and community benefits charges, and parklands

Information on how municipalities can predict and recover costs of development and help increase housing supply in Ontario.

Overview

Municipalities can help pay for the important local infrastructure, services, and parkland that growing communities need through municipal development-related charges (MRDCs), which include:

1. development charges
2. community benefits charges
3. parkland dedication

Development charges

Municipalities can apply development charges on a new development to help pay for the capital costs of infrastructure to support new growth.

Development charges are discretionary fees. This means that municipalities can choose whether to use development charges and, if they are used, which services or infrastructure they want to include from the list of eligible services in the *Development Charges Act, 1997* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97d27#BK4>). These services are:

- water supply services, including distribution and treatment services
- wastewater services, including sewers and treatment services
- storm water drainage and control services
- services related to a highway as defined in subsection 1 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/01m25#BK1>) or subsection 3 (1) of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/06c11#BK4>), as the case may be
- electrical power services
- Toronto-York subway extension, as defined in subsection 5.1 (1) in O. Reg 192/07 Toronto-York subway extension (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/070192#s5s1>)
- transit services other than the Toronto-York subway extension
- waste diversion services
- policing services
- fire protection services
- ambulance services
- services provided by a board under the *Public Libraries Act* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p44>)
- services related to long-term care
- parks and recreation services, but not the acquisition of land for parks
- services related to public health

- child care and early years programs and services under part VI of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14c11>) and any related services
- services related to proceedings under the *Provincial Offences Act* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p33>), including by-law enforcement services and municipally administered court services
- services related to emergency preparedness
- services related to airports, but only in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo

How municipalities can implement a development charge

Municipalities must pass a by-law to set development charges for different types of development. Before passing a development charge by-law, a municipality must prepare a development charge background study as set out in legislation (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/97d27#BK16>).

Municipalities must calculate development charges separately for each eligible service, or class of services, detailed in their development charge by-law.

To give more predictability and certainty about development charges:

- rates are frozen either at the time of site plan or zoning application and will remain frozen for a period of two years after the relevant application is approved.
- multi-year deferrals of payments apply for certain types of development, such as:
 - rental housing
 - institutional developments such as long-term care

To encourage the supply of affordable and rental housing:

- non-profit housing developments are exempt from development charges, community benefits charges and parkland dedication
- affordable and select attainable residential units are exempt from development charges, and developments that include this type of housing are subject to reduced community benefits charges and parkland dedication (effective June 1, 2024)
- purpose-built rental units receive discounts on development charges of up to 25% for family-friendly units

Development charge by-laws may be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/citizens-guide-land-use-planning/ontario-land-tribunal>). The application of development charge by-laws to specific sites may also be appealed to the Tribunal following a complaint to municipal council.

Community benefits charges

This is a flexible tool under the *Planning Act* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p13>) that helps municipalities tackle the costs of higher density in communities with new developments. This tool replaced the former section 37 height and density bonusing in the *Act*, subject to transition rules.

Municipalities can use community benefits charges to fund the capital costs of any public service associated with new growth, including parkland, if those costs are not already recovered from development charges and parkland provisions.

How municipalities can implement a community benefits charge

To set a community benefits charge, municipalities must:

- develop a community benefits charge strategy
- pass a by-law

Requirements for a community benefits charge strategy are included in regulation (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200509>).

Community benefits charges on a development cannot exceed 4% of the value of the land. Single-tier and lower-tier municipalities (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/list-ontario-municipalities#section-1>) can levy these charges for developments with 10 or more residential units and

five or more storeys.

Community benefits charge by-laws may be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/citizens-guide-land-use-planning/ontario-land-tribunal>). Disputes about whether a charge exceeds the maximum allowable amount can be resolved through the land value appraisal process set out in legislation.

Parkland dedication

The *Planning Act* (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p13>) lets municipalities fund the growth-related costs of land for parks and other recreational purposes.

This ensures that residents in growing communities will continue to have access to parks and greenspace.

How municipalities can implement parkland provisions

Municipalities can get land for parks using the basic parkland dedication provisions (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p13#BK66>) (up to 2% of the land proposed for development or redevelopment or the cash equivalent for commercial or industrial development or 5% for any other type of development or redevelopment).

In certain circumstances municipalities can also use the alternative rates (up to 1 hectare of parkland for every 600 dwelling units or if cash-in-lieu, a ratio of 1 hectare of parkland for every 1,000 dwelling units).

For sites that are five hectares or less, the maximum alternative parkland dedication requirement is capped at 10% of the site.

For sites greater than five hectares, the maximum alternative parkland dedication requirement is capped at 15% of the site.

Parkland by-laws that use alternative rates may be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (<https://www.ontario.ca/document/citizens-guide-land-use-planning/ontario-land-tribunal>).

Parkland by-laws that only use basic parkland rates cannot be appealed.

When a parkland requirement is imposed as a condition of approval of a plan of subdivision or consent, it may be appealed like any other condition.

When municipalities require cash-in-lieu, the value of land may also be appealed to the Tribunal.

Exemptions and discounts from municipal development-related charges

Through the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, we introduced exemptions and discounts from municipal development-related charges (MDRCs) for affordable residential units. These exemptions and discounts come into effect on June 1, 2024.

Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the *Development Charges Act, 1997* Bulletin

This bulletin is effective June 1, 2024, and applies until replaced by a new bulletin (anticipated June 1, 2025).

This bulletin sets out the market-based (that is, average purchase prices and market rents) and income-based thresholds that are to be used to determine the eligibility of a residential unit for an exemption from development charges and exclusions from the maximum community benefits charge and parkland dedication requirements.

Applicable units must be subject to agreements that provide for them to remain affordable residential units for 25 years. Units must also be sold or rented on an arm's length basis.

For ownership housing, a unit would be considered affordable when the purchase price is at or below the lesser of:

- Income-based purchase price: A purchase price that would result in annual accommodation costs equal to 30% of a household's gross annual income for a household at the 60th percentile of the income distribution for all households in the local municipality; and

- Market-based purchase price: 90% of the average purchase price of a unit of the same unit type in the local municipality.

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For rental housing, a unit would be considered affordable when the rent is at or below the lesser of:

- Income-based rent: Rent that is equal to 30% of gross annual household income for a household at the 60th percentile of the income distribution for renter households in the local municipality; and
- Market-based rent: Average market rent of a unit of the same unit type in the local municipality.

In cases of disagreement, a person (or person's agent) required to pay a development charge may complain to the council of the municipality imposing the development charge that there was an error in the application of the development charge by-law.

Data last updated: April 5, 2024

Displaying 1 results for "Essa Tp"

Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin

Municipality	Affordable purchase price of a detached house	Affordable purchase price of a semi-detached	Affordable purchase price of a row/townhome	Affordable purchase price of a condominium apartment	Affordable monthly rent of a bachelor unit	Affordable monthly rent of a 1-bedroom unit	Affordable monthly rent of a 2-bedroom unit	Affordable monthly rent of a 3+ bedroom unit
Essa Tp	\$441,900	\$441,900	\$441,900	\$441,900	\$1,020	\$1,284	\$1,485	\$1,709

May 9, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of May 7, 2024 the following resolution regarding seeking support for the Province and Federal Government to work together to help end the national housing affordability crisis.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-224
DATE: **May 7, 2024**
MOVED BY: **Councillor Branderhorst**
SECONDED BY: **Councillor Roberts**

WHEREAS there is an unprecedented national housing affordability crisis and substantial investments in new affordable social housing are required to address the overwhelming need;

WHEREAS substantial investments in revitalizing existing affordable social housing are required to maintain existing housing stock so as not to make the national housing affordability crisis worse;

WHEREAS social support expansions are required to prevent families choosing between housing and other basic necessities of life;

WHEREAS the national housing affordability crisis is most acute in Ontario, and unlike most Provinces and Territories in Canada, 47 Service Managers and District Social Service Administration Boards (SM/DSSAB) are responsible for delivering social supports, including housing affordability supports in this Province;

WHEREAS many of these 47 SM/DSSABs in Ontario are larger than many provinces and territories in other provinces in the country, but lack the revenue, policy tools and powers of the Provincial and Federal governments to end the housing affordability crisis on their own;

WHEREAS on March 25, 2024 our local SM/DSSAB (Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services) was notified by the Province that the Federal Government would be cutting \$355 million in funding intended to support affordable social housing across the province, due to a disagreement about how community housing units are counted as part of the National Housing Strategy Action Plan;

WHEREAS any reductions in funding from the Federal and Provincial governments risks the termination of critically needed housing and social supports for some of the most vulnerable across Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward requests that the funding dispute between the Federal and Provincial governments be resolved to limit mounting harms to some of Ontario's most vulnerable people;

THAT the Federal and Provincial governments to continue to fund SMs/DSSABs in an amount equivalent to the monies under the CMHC-Ontario Bilateral agreement in the National Housing Strategy until a new funding agreement can be reached;

THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward advocate to the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a trilateral table including the SMs/DSSABs, to negotiate the final 3 year tranche of funding under the National Housing Strategy;

THAT Council direct the Mayor to write to the Provincial and Federal Ministers of Housing urgently requesting confirmation that financial support will continue for vulnerable households across Ontario currently in receipt of the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit prior to May 31, 2024; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Branderhorst, and Marcia Wallace, CAO

May 10, 2024

Via Email Only

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 17th Floor, 777 Bay Street
 Toronto, ON
 M7A 2J3
PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca
MFPB@ontario.ca

**RE: Joint Comment Submission – Simcoe Area Planners
 Provincial Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Posting & Bill 185 Legislation
 ERO Posting Number 019-8462 - 2024 Proposed Provincial Planning Statement
 ERO Posting Numbers 019-8369, 019-8370, 019-8371**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) consultation on the above noted legislative proposals to assist with increasing the supply of housing in Ontario through the Cutting Red Tape to Build New Homes Act 2024.

The County of Simcoe professional planning staff have collaborated with lower-tier and single-tier municipal planning staff to consider common themes of interest related to the above noted ERO Posting. As professionals tasked with managing unprecedented growth in a region that is also blessed with a vast array of natural and cultural heritage, the undersigned planning leaders from the Simcoe Area municipalities remain committed to working with the province to implement a planning system that both builds more homes and creates complete communities. We offer the following to the Province as a collective submission from municipal planning professionals with the intent of improving a complex system which is in need of thoughtful and effective renewal. The following professional opinions do not reflect the municipal comments that may be submitted separately by each municipality.

Common Key Themes of Interest:

1. Removal of Mandatory Pre-Consultation
2. "Use it or Lose it" Provisions
3. Settlement Area Boundary Expansions (and Permitted Appeals)
4. Employment (and Definition of Employment Area)
5. Housing

We offer the following comments regarding the above common key themes of interest for your consideration:

1. Removal of Mandatory Pre-Consultation:

We are supportive of the proposed removal of the fee refunds previously brought in through Bill 109 since there is no indication as to how that has assisted in the goal of achieving more housing. The permission to implement a mandatory pre-consultation by-law has been in the Planning Act since 2006. It is a long-established practice which municipalities across Ontario have instituted. Through the recent Bill 109 implementation, some municipalities have established enhanced pre-consultation processes which have been extremely valuable to provide greater clarity and certainty to the

development industry, resulting in better quality applications and faster timelines. The practice of pre-consultation provides clear direction to potential applicants, serving as a venue to proactively outline key information and application requirements at the outset of a project, thereby helping the review process run more efficiently and expeditiously. As a best practice, some of our municipalities have also developed study terms of references to support greater submission efficiencies by providing clear expectations regarding study and report content. While we trust many of our development stakeholders will continue to see the value of pre-consultation to inform their applications, we are concerned that the proposed removal of this mandatory requirement will likely result in the submission of applications with insufficient information to make timely decisions. This will lead to further delays to development approvals and potentially more refusals of applications.

2. Use it or Lose it:

It is encouraging that the Province is giving municipalities the tools they need to ensure infrastructure and resources are directed to the projects that are prepared to move forward by offering this mandatory lapsing of Site Plan Approval where a development has not proceeded within 3 years. We encourage the Province to continue moving ahead with its efforts to enable municipalities to implement zoning with conditions.

3. Settlement Area Boundary Expansions (and Permitted Appeals):

As part of the long-term planning process for accommodating population and employment growth, numerous municipalities across Simcoe County are required to go through the extensive planning process of expanding a settlement area boundary. This process is an extensive technical review considering many factors such as avoidance of significant natural heritage features and areas, avoidance of prime agricultural land where possible, and ensuring the expansion lands can be adequately serviced with municipal sewer and water in a cost effective and efficient manner. Allowing appeals in this highly technical process will protract the process of approving a settlement area boundary expansion. Municipalities cannot afford the expense and time of defending our very technically based decisions on settlement area boundary expansions.

The no appeals on settlement area boundary expansions have been in effect in the Province of Ontario since 2006. This is a long-standing Planning Act provision which has worked effectively to allow growing municipalities across the Province to ensure the settlement boundary expansion process is based on good land use planning and sound technical evaluation. It also provides the opportunity to tie infrastructure with these boundaries.

4. Employment (and Definition of Employment Area):

The definition of Employment Area refers to “clusters”, (excluding stand-alone offices) and does not address large, single users, like warehouses, distribution centres and single user assembly operations. There are 444 municipalities across Ontario and most of those municipalities are small and medium sized towns and cities. This is the case for the municipalities across Simcoe County. Offices form an important part of our employment fabric. In Canada’s knowledge-based economy, we require as much support as possible to allow stand-alone offices to locate within employment areas. This is a very important policy directive that should be supported by the Province. Please consider the unintended consequences of excluding stand-alone offices from being able to locate within employment areas and how this proposed exclusionary policy may harm the ability for small towns and cities across Ontario to facilitate new employment growth in our communities which is vital to their survival.

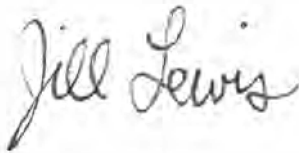
On the other hand, there should be similar protections for warehousing uses that are being pushed to convert to other uses.

5. Housing:

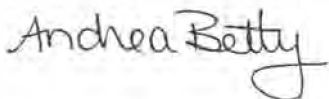
We applaud the Province's willingness to be bold in adapting the land use planning system to help with housing affordability. As professionals, we remain willing and hopeful that the Province will continue efforts to ensure the emphasis on housing does not eclipse other key elements of community building. Elements such as creating complete, sustainable, climate change resilient communities, and preservation of the natural environment and agricultural/rural land base will ensure that we build more homes in communities Ontarians will enjoy living and working in.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into these ERO Postings prior to proclamation. We trust these comments are helpful.

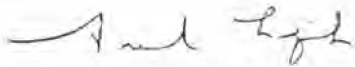
Sincerely,



Jill Lewis, MCIP RPP
Senior Planner
City of Orillia



Andrea Betty, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning & Community Development
Town of Penetanguishene



Andria Leigh, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning & Growth
Town of Innisfil



Andrea Woodrow, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning & Development
Township of Severn




Jennifer Best, MCIP RPP
Director, Planning & Building
Town of New Tecumseth



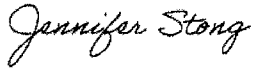
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General Manager of
Development Services and Engineering
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Maryann Hunt, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning & Development
Township of Tiny



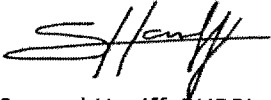
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May 16, 2024

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Dear Minister Smith and Minister Bresee:

**RE: City of Belleville Healthcare Resolution in Support of Family
Doctors
New Business
10. Belleville City Council Meeting, May 13, 2024**

This is to advise you that at the Council Meeting of May 13, 2024, the following resolution was approved.

“WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario is responsible for providing quality health care to all residents of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS, Family medicine is the backbone of the healthcare system and providing timely access to a primary health care provider for everyone in the Province is essential and should be the Provincial Government’s highest priority;

AND WHEREAS, the shortage of family physicians across the province has reached a crisis point where millions of Ontario residents do not have a family doctor and hospitals, emergency rooms and clinics are overloaded by the health care needs of Ontario residents;

AND WHEREAS, studies have shown that without access to a primary care provider, patients end up with poorer health outcomes and it costs the health care system more;

AND WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario could address this issue quickly and efficiently by increasing wages paid to family physicians and lessening the administrative burden all family doctors face with managing practices;

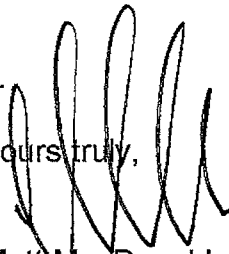
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Province of Ontario take immediate action to ensure family physicians are properly compensated with immediate fee increases and that the administrative burden now being experienced by family doctors be reduced so they have more time to see their patients;

AND FURTHER THAT, the City Clerk forward Council's resolutions resulting from Council's approval of these recommendations to premier Doug Ford, Health Minister Sylvia Jones, MPP Todd Smith, MPP Ric Bresee, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT Council request a direct response from the MPPs within 30 days."

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,


Matt MacDonald
Director of Corporate Services/City Clerk

MMacD/nh
Pc: Premier Doug Ford
Health Minister Sylvia Jones
AMO
Municipal Clerks of Ontario



AMO
Policy



AMO Policy Update - National Housing Strategy

This morning, Ministers Fraser and Calandra announced that National Housing Strategy funding will continue to flow to Ontario as [per the original agreement](#), ensuring that municipal and DSSAB investments in community housing are able to proceed as planned.

While AMO welcomes this news, recent events have highlighted the critical importance of collaborative relationships between federal, provincial and municipal governments to make progress on housing for low-income families and individuals. AMO continues to call for stronger relationships between all three orders of government to fundamentally re-think the way that community housing is funded in Ontario.

“AMO commends the federal and provincial governments for finding a way forward on National Housing Strategy implementation. The uncertainty that recent events generated for low income individuals and families, as well as municipalities making long-term investments, is destabilizing for those with limited options. There is still much to be done to get deeply affordable housing on track in Ontario that requires partnership across all three orders of government.”

-- Colin Best, AMO President, Halton Regional Councilor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County of Simcoe launches Employment Survey Pilot Project

Midhurst/May 27, 2024 – The County of Simcoe has officially launched a two-year pilot project to conduct an Employment Survey after it was endorsed by County Council earlier this month. The Employment Survey will gather information and capture data regarding the number of businesses and jobs within the County of Simcoe.

The data collected will help the County of Simcoe and local municipalities gain a better understanding of employment areas, establish a baseline of existing businesses, identify employment trends, and acquire a deeper knowledge of the local economy.

Further, the results of the Employment Survey will offer valuable insights that can significantly improve local municipalities' decision-making abilities related to future employment planning, influencing growth strategies and infrastructure investments. The findings will not only shape immediate decisions but will also lay the groundwork for sustainable economic growth and development initiatives that will benefit our local communities for years to come.

"Our economy and communities have been experiencing significant growth in recent years, and the information gathered from this Employment Survey will be vital as we chart our course for the future," said Warden Basil Clarke. "We encourage businesses to actively engage with us and take this survey, so that they can lend their insights and perspectives. This collaboration is essential to ensuring that together, we continue building up a prosperous future across Simcoe County."

Data collected will be strictly confidential; only local municipalities and the County of Simcoe will have access to it, while aggregated data and analysis will be posted to Simcoe.ca for the general public to view.

Starting in May 2024, County staff will begin visiting businesses across the region to seek participation in the survey. Businesses that operate within the County of Simcoe are also encouraged to send an e-mail to employsimcoe@simcoe.ca to receive a unique survey link for their workplace.

Businesses that fill out the survey will be automatically entered into a draw to win one of three 'Made in Simcoe County' gift baskets from Farm to Door that will contain various items from local producers across Simcoe County.

For full details on the survey please visit www.simcoe.ca/employmentsurvey.

The County of Simcoe is composed of 16 member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

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