

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Essa Building Department Report, May 2024.
- p. 2 2. Notice of Adoption from the Township of Clearview dated May 31, 2024, re: New Official Plan.
- p. 4 3. Correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated June 5, 2024, re: Joint Statement on the Canada Community-Building Fund.
- p. 6 4. Media Release from the Essa Public Library dated June 7, 2024, re: Essa Public Library receives \$2,700 donation thanks to nomination from local Starbucks.
- p. 8 5. Correspondence from Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. dated June 7, 2024, re: Bill 185 Changes to the Development Charges Act (and various other Acts).
- p. 15 6. Media Release from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA), re: Province of Ontario Invests \$125,000 to Restore and Enhance Wetlands in the Nottawasaga Watershed.
- p. 17 7. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO):
 - p. 18 a) June 5, 2024 – Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund
 - b) June 12, 2024 – Policy Update – Bill 200, Agricultural Land Protection, Electricity Distribution Financing and Other Updates.
- p. 21 8. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
 - p. 27 a) June 5, 2024 – Council Meeting Highlights.
 - b) June 13, 2024 – Joint Statement – City of Barrie’s Boundary Expansion Request.

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.

May-24

Current

Permits Issued	# Permits Issued	# Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Construction Value of Permits Issued	Construction Value of Permits Issued YTD	Monthly Building Permit Fees	Building Permit Fees YTD
Residential	22	97	\$7,509,763.00	\$22,401,752.00	\$81,791.65	\$251,771.20
Commercial	1	8	\$30,000.00	\$983,360.00	\$150.00	\$9,142.00
Industrial		1		\$4,000,000.00		\$9,473.00
Institutional		3		\$688,600.00		\$2,296.50
Public Utilities		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Agricultural	1	4	\$250,000.00	\$1,694,000.00	\$2,108.80	\$6,058.80
TOTAL	24	113	\$7,789,763.00	\$ 29,767,712.00	\$84,050.45	\$ 278,741.50

Y.O.Y.	54	128	\$24,046,610.00	\$ 38,810,687.00	\$128,113.23	\$ 308,742.51	-9.72%
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NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	14	41	\$7,312,092.00	\$19,314,581.00
Mult Res Bldgs		0		\$0.00
Accessory Apt within Existing Res Bldg		0		\$0.00
TOTAL	14	41	\$7,312,092.00	\$19,314,581.00

Reviewed by CBO Pedro Granes

Y.O.Y.	18	43	\$ 5,205,480.00	\$ 15,514,617.00
	-22.22%	-4.65%	40.47%	24.49%



**Planning & Building Department**

Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0

plan@clearview.ca

www.clearview.ca

Phone: 705-428-6230

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

New Official Plan

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Clearview passed **By-law 2024-38** to adopt a new Official Plan for the Township of Clearview on the 27th day of May 2024, pursuant to Section 17(22) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended. This Notice of Adoption is issued pursuant to Section 17(23) of the Planning Act.

Prior to the adoption of the Official Plan, statutory Public Meetings were held on November 4, 2019, August 30, 2023, and January 17, 2024, and a statutory Public Open House was held on August 16, 2023, in accordance with the Planning Act.

The new Township of Official Plan is subject to approval from the County of Simcoe.

Purpose and Effect

The new Official Plan is intended to manage and direct long-term growth and development throughout the Township of Clearview. The Official Plan achieves this by providing goals, objectives and policies related to managing growth, improving transportation systems, facilitating economic development, protecting and enhancing natural heritage features and resources, and supporting and building on the strengths of the community. Further, the Official Plan contains policies that implement legislation, regulation and policies from the Provincial and County levels while reflecting the priorities of the Community.

The new Official Plan has been developed through the consideration of community and stakeholder input as well as the completion of background planning studies and reports.

Available for Review

A complete copy of the newly adopted Official Plan (By-law 2024-38) is available for inspection on the Township of Clearview [website](#) and in person at the Township Administration Centre (217 Gideon Street, Stayner).

Written and Oral Submissions

All written and oral submissions made regarding the new Official Plan have been reviewed and dually considered. Public and agency comments have need incorporated, where appropriate.

Appeal Rights & Contact Information

Under the provisions of Section 17(2) of the Planning Act, the County of Simcoe being the upper-tier municipality is the approval authority for a new lower-tier Official Plan adopted under Section 17(22) of the Planning Act. As such, the Adopted Official Plan has been forwarded to the County of Simcoe for review, as required by Section 17(31) of the Planning Act.

Any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the approval authority with respect to the new Official Plan, if a written request (including the person's or public body's address, fax number or email address) to be notified of the decision is made to the approval authority is made to:

County of Simcoe
Planning Department
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6

Only individuals, corporations or public bodies may appeal a decision of the County regarding the new Official Plan to the Ontario Land Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

Building & Planning Department
Clearview Administration Centre
217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L9X 1A8
Telephone: (705) 428-6230 x 238
e-mail: plan@clearview.ca
website: www.clearview.ca/opreview



Notice dated at the Township of Clearview on **May 31, 2024**.

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: Joint Statement on the Canada Community-Building Fund

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 1:02:11 PM

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

Subject: Joint Statement on the Canada Community-Building Fund



STATEMENT

Joint Statement on the Canada Community-Building Fund

June 05, 2024

[Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#)

Ottawa — Today, Sean Fraser, Canada's Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, Paul Calandra, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Olivia Chow, Mayor of Toronto, and Colin Best, President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), released a joint statement:

"The three levels of government have finalized a Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) agreement, which will ensure that critical infrastructure that supports housing continues to be built, maintained, and expanded. The renewal of this agreement means that our communities' roads, bridges, and transit systems will be positioned to accommodate growth.

Infrastructure investments support affordable and inclusive communities that Canadians live and work in. The CCBF has paved roads like Rollins Drive and Chelford Crescent in Belleville, renovated community spaces like the Bayview Hill pool in Richmond Hill, and protected public spaces like the Centeen Park seawall in Brockville. The fund provides predictable and sustainable funding for communities to make sure that municipalities can keep making the investments their communities need.

The deal announced today will see the federal government invest \$4.7 billion over the next five years.



We recognize the importance of infrastructure in increasing Canada's housing supply. By working together to strategically invest in projects aligned with regional housing goals, we will help increase the number of affordable homes in Ontario.

Through this agreement, we have aligned on three priority goals, including:

- Reporting on affordable units created to meet the needs of communities and increase capacity of the non-profit sector;
- Working across all orders of government to **leverage public lands** to meet housing needs; and
- Supporting innovation in construction techniques by committing to a provincial innovation strategy for modular and prefabricated housing, including working with the federal government to develop and adopt a design catalogue.

Through CCBF, we will work together to build healthy and vibrant neighbourhoods across the province.

We are taking a Team Canada approach to build more inclusive and connected communities, which will help support more housing by creating the public infrastructure that Ontarians need."

Media Contacts

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Office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bianca.Meta@ontario.ca

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Micaal.Ahmed@infcc.gc.ca

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[EXTERNAL]



MEDIA RELEASE

Essa Public Library receives \$2,700 donation thanks to nomination from local Starbucks

JUNE 7, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Angus, Ontario – Essa Public Library is thrilled to receive a generous donation of \$2,700 from the Starbucks Foundation Neighbourhood Grant Program.

The Neighbourhood Grant Program provides grants based on nominations from employees at Starbucks locations for local charitable community organizations, allowing those who know the community best to choose how to give back and make a difference. This year, staff at the Angus Starbucks location nominated Essa Public Library as a recipient of this annual grant.

“This donation is a gift to our community,” said Essa Public Library CEO, Laura Wark. “Our library is constantly evolving to enhance community engagement, and we really appreciate this extra support to offer meaningful experiences in our collections and in our spaces this year.”

This is the second year Essa Public Library has received a Neighbourhood Grant thanks to nomination by their local community Starbucks and Manager, Chantalle Lammers.



Photo caption: Essa Public Library staff accept a generous donation of \$2,700 from Starbucks, Angus, presented by Store Manager, Chantalle Lammers (third from right).

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About Essa Public Library

Essa Public Library's Angus and Thornton branches provide the communities we serve with a place to imagine, discover, and connect. Welcoming spaces are open to all, and a wide collection of items from board games to kitchen appliances to seeds are available to borrow with library cards, which are free for Essa Township and Base Borden residents. A full calendar of programs and events for all ages is available online at essalibrary.ca.

About Neighbourhood Grants

Neighbourhood Grants are investments that help build sustained local impact and inspire increased engagement between Starbucks and charitable organizations that serve our communities. Through this unique program, The Starbucks Foundation invites Starbucks employees to nominate a local organization in their community, empowering those who know their neighbourhood best to give back and make a difference.

Media Contact:

Emily Nakeff
Coordinator of Public Engagement
Essa Public Library
705-424-6531 ext 210
emily@essalibrary.ca

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: Bill 185 Changes to the Development Charges Act (and various other Acts)
Attachments: Assessment of Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024.pdf
Importance: High

From: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. <info@watsonecon.ca>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 3:20 PM
Subject: Bill 185 Changes to the Development Charges Act (and various other Acts)
Importance: High

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

To our Municipal Clients,

In our continued efforts to keep you informed of the ongoing legislative changes regarding Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act (2024)*, we are writing to inform you that **the Bill has now received Royal Assent**.

The changes to the the *Development Charges Act (D.C.A.)* and to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the D.C.A. include:

- The inclusion of studies within the eligible capital costs;
- The removal of the mandatory phase-in of charges;
- The process for minor amendments to development charge (D.C.) by-laws;
- A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications; and
- Modernizing public notice requirements.

Additionally, please note that the Affordable Residential Unit exemptions are now in effect as of June 1, 2024 as per section 4.1 of the D.C.A, which also apply to community benefits charges and parkland dedication by-laws. Please note that exemptions for Attainable Units included within section 4.1 of the D.C.A. are not in effect until prescribed.

We have re-attached our earlier correspondence on Bill 185. There has only been one change to the initial Bill with respect to a special rule that was added for the City of Ottawa related to the freeze in D.C.s at planning application submission.

Please note the following immediate impacts of these changes:

1. The inclusion of studies within the eligible capital costs

With the re-introduction of studies as an eligible cost and the streamlined process for D.C. amendments, municipalities that passed a new D.C. by-law between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 are allowed to amend their D.C. by-law to include eligible study costs without preparing a D.C. background study or undertaking the statutory public process. Municipalities have six months from the date of Royal Assent (i.e., until December 6, 2024) to make an amendment under this streamlined process.

Furthermore, the amendment would not be subject to Ontario Land Tribunal appeal. For by-laws passed after June 6, 2024, if studies have not been included in the background study and by-law, the streamlined process for D.C. amendments does not apply.

2. The removal of the mandatory phase-in

The mandatory phase-in that applied to all by-laws passed after January 1, 2022 has been removed. This will generally apply to municipalities as follows:

- For by-laws passed between January 1, 2022 and November 27, 2022, the phase-in of the charges can be removed with immediate effect.
- For by-laws passed between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 that did not specifically reference the mandatory phase-in within the by-law, the phase-in of the charges can be removed with immediate effect.
- For by-laws passed between November 28, 2022 and June 6, 2024 that did include provisions for the mandatory phase-in of the charge, this policy can be removed through the streamlined amendment process within six months of Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent (i.e., by December 6, 2024).

3. A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications

The period of time for which a charge is frozen at the rate calculated when the planning application is made has been reduced from two years between application approval and building permit issuance to 18 months. Bill 185 does not include provisions for addressing this change through the streamlined amendment process. As such, to enact this change in a municipal D.C. by-law, an amendment would be required, including the preparation of a background study and following the statutory public process.

There were additional changes made to Bill 185 at the Standing Committee with regard to the *Planning Act*. Further correspondence on these changes will follow.

If you have any questions regarding the implications of these changes for your municipality and next steps that may be required, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Andrew Grunda, MBA, CPA, CMA, Principal
 Jamie Cook, MCIP, RPP, PLE, Managing Partner
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April 11, 2024

To Our Municipal Clients:

Re: Assessment of Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*

On behalf of our many municipal clients, we are writing to inform you of the Ontario Legislature's proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act* (D.C.A.) under Bill 185 (*Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act*) and to Ontario Regulation 82/98 under the D.C.A. These proposed changes are with respect to:

- The definition of eligible capital costs (to include certain studies);
- The removal of the mandatory phase-in of charges;
- The process for minor amendments to development charge (D.C.) by-laws;
- A reduction of time for the D.C. rate freeze related to site plan and zoning by-law amendment planning applications;
- Modernizing public notice requirements; and
- Implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemptions.

Further details with respect to these proposed changes are provided below.

With respect to changes to the *Planning Act* arising from Bill 185, Watson will be preparing a subsequent letter summarizing the changes.

1. Revised Definition of Capital Costs

On November 28, 2022, the Province enacted Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act*, which included a number of discounts, exemptions, and reductions to D.C.s. As part of this legislation, the definition of capital costs (subsection 5 (3) of the D.C.A.) was amended to remove studies, including D.C. background studies.

Bill 185 proposes to reverse the capital cost amendments of the *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23) by reinstating studies as an eligible capital cost. The following paragraphs are proposed to be added to subsection 5 (3) of the D.C.A.:

5. *Costs to undertake studies in connection with any of the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4.*
6. *Costs of the development charge background study required under section 10.*



The proposed amendment will allow municipalities to fund studies, consistent with by-laws passed prior to the *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23). This will allow for the funding of master plans, D.C. background studies, and similar studies that inform the capital costs of the D.C. background study.

2. Removal of the Mandatory Phase-in

The *More Homes Built Faster Act* (Bill 23) required the phase-in of charges imposed in a D.C. by-law over a five-year term. D.C. by-laws passed after January 1, 2022, were required to phase-in the calculated charges as follows:

- Year 1 of the by-law – 80% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 2 of the by-law – 85% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 3 of the by-law – 90% of the charges could be imposed;
- Year 4 of the by-law – 95% of the charges could be imposed; and
- Years 5 to 10 of the by-law – 100% of the charges could be imposed.

Bill 185 proposes to remove the mandatory phase-in of the charges. It is proposed that this change would be effective for D.C. by-laws passed after Bill 185 comes into effect.

For site plan and zoning by-law amendment applications that were made prior to Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent, the charges payable will be the charges that were in place on the day the planning application was made (i.e., including the applicable mandatory phase-in).

Note, the Bill also proposes to allow minor amendments to D.C. by-laws that include these phase-in provisions. As provided in further detail below, these amendments would not require the preparation of a D.C. background study or undertake the statutory public process, and the amendments would not be subject to Ontario Land Tribunal appeal. This provision will only be available for a period of six months after Bill 185 takes effect.

3. Process for Minor Amendments to D.C. By-laws

Section 19 of the D.C.A. requires that a municipality must follow sections 10 through 18 of the D.C.A. (with necessary modifications) when amending D.C. by-laws. Sections 10 through 18 of the D.C.A. generally require the following:

- Completion of a D.C. background study, including the requirement to post the background study 60 days prior to passage of the D.C. by-law;
- Passage of a D.C. by-law within one year of the completion of the D.C. background study;
- A public meeting, including notice requirements; and
- The ability to appeal the by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

Bill 185 proposes to allow municipalities to undertake minor amendments to D.C. by-laws for the following purposes without adherence to the requirements noted above (with the exception of the notice requirements):

1. To repeal a provision of the D.C. by-law specifying the date the by-law expires or to amend the provision to extend the expiry date (subject to the 10-year limitations provided in the D.C.A.);
2. To impose D.C.s for studies, including the D.C. background study; and
3. To remove the provisions related to the mandatory phase-in of D.C.s as discussed in section 2 of this letter.

Minor amendments related to items 2 and 3 noted above may be undertaken only if the D.C. by-law being amended was passed after November 28, 2022, and before Bill 185 takes effect. Moreover, the amending by-law must be passed within six months of Bill 185 taking effect.

Notice requirements for these minor amending by-laws are similar to the typical notice requirements, with the exception of the requirement to identify the last day for appealing the by-law (as these provisions do not apply).

4. Reduction of D.C. Rate Freeze Timeframe

Bill 108, *More Homes, More Choices Act, 2019*, which received Royal Assent on June 6, 2019, provided several changes to the D.C.A. including the requirement to freeze the D.C.s imposed on certain developments. This applied to developments that were subject to a site plan and/or a zoning by-law amendment application. The D.C. rate for these developments is “frozen” at the rates that were in effect at the time the site plan and/or a zoning by-law amendment application was submitted (subject to applicable interest). Once the application is approved by the municipality, if the date the D.C. is payable^[1] is more than two years from the approval date, the D.C. rate freeze would no longer apply.

Bill 185 proposes to reduce the two-year timeframe to 18 months and move this timeframe from being identified in O. Reg. 82/98 to being identified in the D.C.A. Transition provisions are included that require the two-year D.C. “freeze” for site plan and zoning by-law amendment applications that were approved prior to Bill 185 receiving Royal Assent to remain in effect.

^[1] In the case of Rental Housing and Institutional development, once the application is approved by the municipality, if the date the first building permit is issued is more than two years after the date of approval, the D.C. rate freeze would no longer apply.



Note that the streamlined process for minor amending by-laws does not appear to include the ability to amend D.C. by-laws to meet this legislative change.

5. Other Proposed Changes

Along with the proposed legislative changes outlined in Bill 185, the Province has identified related proposed regulatory changes regarding modernization of the public notice requirements. In addition, the Province has noted that implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemption will occur on June 1, 2024.

5.1 Modernizing Public Notice Requirements

The D.C.A. sets out the requirements for municipalities to give notice of public meetings and of by-law passage. These requirements are prescribed in sections 9 and 10 of O. Reg. 82/98 and include giving notice in a newspaper of sufficiently general circulation in the area to which the by-law would apply. The proposed regulatory changes would modernize public notice requirements by allowing municipalities to provide notice on a municipal website if a local newspaper is not available.

5.2 Implementing the Affordable Residential Unit Exemption

The More Homes Built Faster Act (Bill 23) identified an exemption for Affordable Residential Units. This exemption was subsequently revised through Bill 134, *Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, 2023*, which received Royal Assent on December 4, 2023. The exemption is summarized as follows:

- Affordable Rental: Where the rent is no greater than the lesser of the income based affordable rent^[1] set out in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin and the average market rent identified in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin.
- Affordable Owned Unit: Where the price of the residential unit is no greater than the lesser of the income-based affordable purchase price^[2] set out in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin and 90% of the average purchase price identified in the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin.

^[1] Based on the 60th percentile of gross annual incomes for renter households in the applicable local municipality and where the rent is equal to 30% of the income of the household.

^[2] Based on the 60th percentile of gross annual incomes for households in the applicable local municipality and where the purchase price would result in annual accommodation costs equal to 30 per cent of the income of the household.



The Provincial Backgrounder has indicated that this exemption will come into force on June 1, 2024, and that the Affordable Residential Units Bulletin will be posted on Ontario.ca.

Note, no commentary has been provided on the Attainable Unit exemption at this time.

6. Summary Comments on the Proposed Amendments

Many of these changes to the D.C.A. appear positive for municipalities by assisting in ensuring that growth pays for growth to the extent possible. This is achieved by allowing for the inclusion of growth-related studies that will allow municipalities to appropriately plan for additional development. Furthermore, the removal of the mandatory phase-in provisions ensures discounts to D.C.s are not provided to development and redevelopment that municipalities do not aim to incentivize. The reduction in the D.C. rate freeze timeline helps to ensure development that is not proceeding quickly does not receive D.C. discounts. Additionally, the ability to make minor amendments to D.C. by-laws to align with the legislative changes without onerous administrative requirements will assist municipalities in aligning policies with the amended legislation quickly. Modernizing the public notice requirements further assists municipalities in areas where there is no local newspaper.

With respect to the implementation of the Affordable Residential Unit exemption on June 1, 2024, as stated in previous correspondence, while it is an admirable goal to create additional affordable housing units, further D.C., community benefits charge, and parkland exemptions will continue to provide further financial burdens on municipalities to fund these exemptions.

Watson will be providing a submission through the Environmental Registry of Ontario on these legislative changes. Watson will also be seeking an opportunity to speak as a delegation to the Standing Committee, if possible, to provide our comments on behalf of our municipal clients. We will continue to monitor the progress of Bill 185 through the legislature and will continue to keep our clients informed of any changes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Daryl Abbs, MBE, PLE, Managing Partner
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Sean-Michael Stephen, MBA, Managing Partner
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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Province of Ontario invests \$125,000 to restore and enhance wetlands in the Nottawasaga Watershed

UTOPIA, Ontario (June 10, 2024) – At a media event today, the Government of Ontario announced that the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) is receiving \$125,000 to restore and enhance eight wetlands in the Nottawasaga Watershed through the Wetlands Conservation Partner Program.

Similar to the rest of Southern Ontario, approximately 70 per cent of wetlands have been lost in the Nottawasaga Watershed. Dubbed 'Return of the Wetlands', this project will restore and enhance 2.55 hectares of wetland habitat, providing linkages between larger existing wetland blocks, and controlling invasive species that threaten shoreline wetland ecosystems.

"For decades, NVCA has worked to restore rivers and wetlands in the Nottawasaga Watershed," said Fred Dobbs, Manager of Stewardship Services at NVCA. "Thanks to this grant from the province, we are able to work with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, South Simcoe Streams Network, local environmental associations, rural landowners and corporate partners. Wetland restoration projects help improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and flood resiliency across the watershed."

More than 300 volunteers will be actively engaged as part of this initiative, through the planting of 5,000 native trees, shrubs and wetland plants and the removal of invasive Phragmites (common reed).

"It's great to see conservation leaders working together to help enhance and restore wetlands, preventing flooding and improving water quality," said Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. "Our government is proud to work with partners like the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority who are engaging with hundreds of volunteers to plant thousands of new native trees and remove invasive species to protect wetland ecosystems and support a healthy and prosperous Ontario."

In 2020, Ontario introduced the [Wetlands Conservation Partner Program](#). Over the past five years, the program has invested \$31 million in funding to restore and enhance [wetlands](#) across the province.

Ab

At the media event, NVCA's Watershed Science team also demonstrated how water samples are collected from rivers and streams for the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network. This program was established by the province in 1964 and is celebrating its 60th anniversary on June 10, 2024.

The data collected from this monitoring network and other NVCA monitoring initiatives allows staff to develop a better understanding of the condition health of the watershed. The information also helps identify priority restoration sites and provides information on impacts and changes after restoration and enhancement projects are complete.

Wetlands provide many benefits such as reducing the risk of flooding and drought, improving water quality and providing recreation opportunities and important fish and wildlife habitats. In addition, wetlands create resiliency against the impacts of climate change and stormwater.

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About NVCA: The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

Media contact: Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator 705-424-1479 ext.254,
mleung@nvca.on.ca

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A7a

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 2:57:52 PM

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

Subject: Renewal of the Canada Community-Building Fund



Today, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), along with Canada, Ontario, and the City of Toronto, [announced](#) agreement on a 10-year renewal of the [Canada Community-Building Fund \(CCBF\)](#)

Through the negotiations AMO worked to ensure that the renewed agreement builds on the success of the Fund in providing predictable funding - without the need for application - to be invested in priority infrastructure projects within 18 eligible categories. The Fund will remain largely the same, flowing crucial infrastructure dollars to municipal governments, and supporting the growth and vitality of communities across Ontario. Within the next 10 days, AMO will send out the Municipal Funding Agreements.

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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[EXTERNAL]

Sarah Corbett

Subject: FW: AMO Policy Update - Bill 200, Agricultural Land Protection, Electricity Distribution Financing, and Other Updates

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 12:20 PM

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

Subject: AMO Policy Update - Bill 200, Agricultural Land Protection, Electricity Distribution Financing, and Other Updates

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AMO Policy Update - Bill 200, Agricultural Land Protection, Electricity Distribution Financing, and Other Updates

Bill 200, *Homeowner Protection Act* – Changes to Heritage Designation Deadlines

Last week, [Bill 200, the *Homeowner Protection Act*](#) received Royal Assent, extending the deadline to designate properties listed on municipal heritage registers to January 1, 2027. These changes respond to [concerns](#) that the original 2025 deadline did not provide enough time for municipalities to review the listed properties, leading to increased reactionary designations and appeals to the Ontario Land Tribunal. The bill also clarifies changes that properties removed from registers are ineligible for heritage designations for five years, bans registration of Notices of Security Interest for consumer goods on the Land Registry, and establishes a 10-day cooling off period for new homebuyers.

Provincial Guidance on Agricultural Land Protection related to Energy Projects

Last week, the Minister of Energy and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs [issued a letter](#) providing direction to the Independent Electricity System

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Operator (IESO) to include agricultural land protections in future energy procurements. This direction comes following [AMO's recent advocacy](#) to the province and IESO seeking stronger guidance on energy project siting and agricultural protection.

Ontario Energy Board (OEB) – Electricity Distribution Financing

AMO [submitted comments](#) to the OEB to inform [their work](#) exploring funding options for growth-related electricity distribution infrastructure. This directly impacts how much new developments cost and local energy rates. This is also one of many important conversations about how we pay for growth. It's estimated that local distribution companies (LDCs) need to spend as much as \$120 billion by 2050 to expand the grid – more than double the rate of current infrastructure investment. As majority LDC owners, municipalities have a vested interest in ensuring LDCs can afford these upgrades.

AMO's Advocacy in response to Auditor General's Report on Aggregate Management

Last year, the Ontario Auditor General [issued a report](#) on a value-for-money audit of Ontario's Management of Aggregate Resources. AMO has [sent a letter](#) to the Ministry of Natural Resources calling on the province to implement the Auditor General's recommendations particularly as they relate to addressing gaps in the aggregate management framework including:

- An inadequate number of inspectors conducting infrequent and incomplete inspections
- Aggregate extraction fees that are inadequate to fund the aggregate management program and royalty payments to municipalities
- Cumulative impacts of multiple aggregate operations in small areas leading to increased environmental risks to source water, natural habitats, and agricultural land

AMO's Submission to OMAFRA Rural Economic Development Strategy Consultation

AMO [submitted comments to the Ministry of Rural Affairs](#) to support their [rural economic development strategy consultation](#). AMO's submission advocated for increased provincial support for:

- Effective coordination of local and provincial economic development funding, increased funding and a commitment to a [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#)
- Workforce development initiatives to connect students and workers with the right skills for in-demand jobs with attraction and retention supports

- Building complete communities that are resilient and attractive to workers and business including supports for affordable housing, infrastructure, health services, transportation, broadband and energy

Private Members' Bill: Bill 207, *Municipal Accountability and Integrity Act*

Since 2021, AMO has called on the provincial government to pass legislation that enables municipalities to enforce the ethical behaviour of elected officials.

AMO engaged in extensive consultations with municipalities and worked in partnership with ministry officials to develop a list of strong recommendations to respond to this important municipal concern, including:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime that could be adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner

We look forward to hearing more about how the government intends to respond to the sector's ongoing request for government legislation at the upcoming AMO conference in August.

Government Passes Bill 185, *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*

Bill 185 received Royal Assent on June 6, bringing into force two key Bill 23 development charge reversals and *Planning Act* amendments.

Provincial Cabinet Shuffle

On June 6, the province announced its latest Cabinet shuffle. New Ministers were announced for Tourism, Culture, and Gaming; Sport; Farming, Agriculture, and Agribusiness; Long-Term Care; Energy and Electrification; Education; and more. Several ministry names were changed and new Associate Minister positions created. All recent changes are on an [Ontario Newsroom article](#).

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Sarah Corbett

From: Lisa Lehr
Sent: June 5, 2024 7:19 PM
To: Sarah Corbett
Subject: Fwd: County Council Highlights - Meeting Held May 28, 2024

Consent please

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From: County Of Simcoe Communications <Communications@simcoe.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 1:08:18 PM
To: Lisa Lehr <llehr@essatownship.on.ca>
Subject: County Council Highlights - Meeting Held May 28, 2024



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting on May 28, 2024** and the **Committee of the Whole Meeting on May 14, 2024**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the [County's YouTube channel](#).

- Service Simcoe

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Simcoe Village Campus Project Update

The following provides an update on the Simcoe County Village Campus Project being built in Beeton.

Construction is making good progress on-site and there are no changes to the construction schedule as previously reported. Occupancy of the Simcoe Manor, Village Centre and Supportive/Affordable Housing buildings is still on pace for October, 2026 with occupancy of the Life Lease/Market Rental building, Co-Housing, Garden and Town Homes following in 2027.

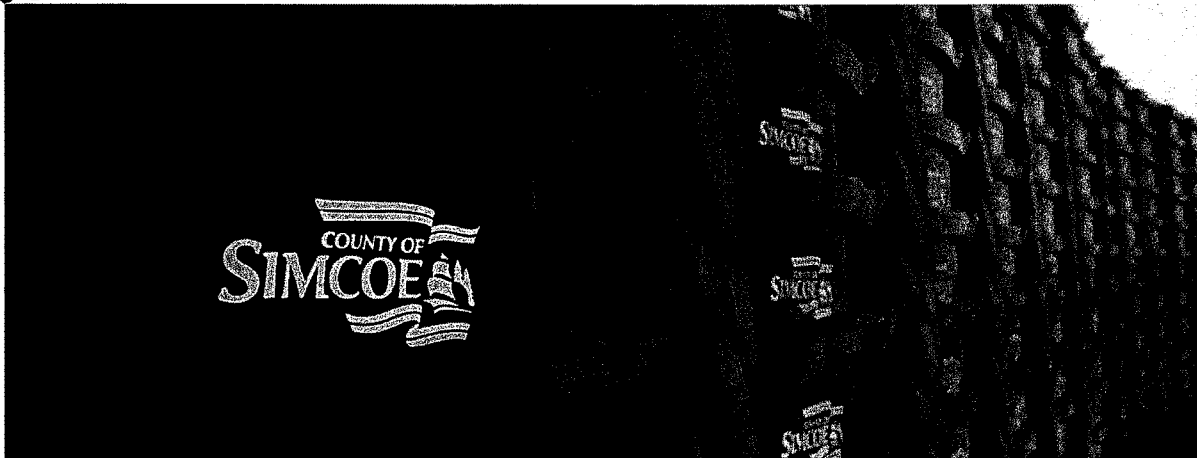


No changes to Special Collections

The County of Simcoe has a comprehensive special collections schedule throughout the year, collecting leaf and yard waste from residents as well as Christmas trees during the winter. The Solid Waste Management department brought forward four different options of service to Council with the current contract set to expire in 2026.

County Council approved staying status quo and continuing current level of service. As it stands, the County offers bi-weekly collection of Christmas trees for four weeks starting the first full week of January. The County offers bi-weekly leaf and yard waste collection three times throughout the year; eight weeks in Spring, four weeks in Summer, and 10 weeks in Fall.

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Organics capture program defeated

An item was recently brought forward regarding a program to increase organics capture throughout the County of Simcoe. After being recommended at the Committee of the Whole on May 14, it was defeated at Council on May 28.

Although the motion was defeated, Council determined that there are other ways that should be explored to support residents with their waste disposal habits at this time, including investing in further education and awareness about proper waste diversion. This program will not move forward as presented in the staff report, but Council requested that staff continue to look for opportunities and options to continue to improve organics capture.

The Warden's statement on the matter can be viewed [here](#).



County celebrates Paramedic Services Week, AccessAbility Week

The County celebrated National Paramedic Services Week from May 19 to 25. This year's theme, "Help Us Help You", shined a light on paramedics' tireless efforts assisting and supporting those in need, often in challenging and high-pressure situations.

Events such as the Paramedic For A Day Swearing-In Ceremony and the grand opening of a new paramedic station in Bradford West Gwillimbury were some of the many highlights of the week.

Additionally, the County of Simcoe recognized National AccessAbility Awareness Week that began on May 26 and ran until June 1. National AccessAbility Awareness Week celebrates Canadians with disabilities, raises awareness for the critical need of accessibility and inclusion in our workplaces and communities, and recognizes the work continually being done to remove barriers wherever possible.

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Throughout the week, the County highlighted a number of its own initiatives such as its recent approval of a multi-year accessibility plan for 2024-2028, and initiatives being performed by others such as the Easter Seals' Red Shirt Day.



Tourism Simcoe County gears up for busy summer months

Tourism Simcoe County has turned its attention to its busy summer months, gearing up for another great season across the region. In anticipation, they've produced a captivating video that showcases everything the County has to offer, which is being promoted inside and outside our borders.

The video can be viewed [here](#).



Joint Statement

County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO
1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6
simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Statement by Mayor Nuttall, Mayor Greenlaw, Mayor Coughlin & County Warden Clarke on Discussions Regarding the City of Barrie's Boundary Expansion Request

Midhurst/June 13, 2024 – Today, the City of Barrie, the Township of Oro-Medonte, the Township of Springwater, and the County of Simcoe released the following statement:

The City of Barrie, the Township of Oro-Medonte, the Township of Springwater, and the County of Simcoe are engaged in facilitated discussions, with the intent of developing mutually acceptable approaches to enable growth in the broader region. The parties intend to fulfill local objectives by implementing provincial priorities, such as the creation of housing and employment in the vicinity of Barrie/Springwater and Barrie/Oro-Medonte.

In response to the City of Barrie's requested boundary expansion, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing assigned the Deputy Provincial Land and Development Facilitator.

Each municipality enters these discussions with a mandate to represent and protect the interests of their residents and stakeholders. However, our shared overall goal is to achieve outcomes that promote regional prosperity. All avenues will be considered to ensure that any agreement is equitable, balanced, and reflective of the diverse needs across our municipalities. A needs assessment will be undertaken as a foundation to these discussions.

While the facilitation sessions are confidential, providing regular updates to keep our respective communities informed will be paramount. Any potential resolutions that may result from the facilitation process will be considered in an open, transparent forum.

More details will be shared as they become available. The City of Barrie, the Township of Oro-Medonte, the Township of Springwater, and the County of Simcoe remain committed to finding solutions that strengthen our respective communities and improve the lives of those we serve.

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