

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
CONSENT AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025**

A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION

- p. 1 1. Essa Building Department Report, May 2025.
- p. 2 2. Correspondence from the Essa Public Library, re: April 2025 report.
- p. 4 3. Correspondence from the City of Peterborough: Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025 dated May 20, 2025.
- p. 6 4. Correspondence from the Friends of the Utopia Gristmill & Park, re: Thank you letter for 2025 Community Assistance Grant Program.
- p. 7 5. Policy Update from AMO, re: Province Introduces Bill 30 Dated May 29, 2025.
- 6. Correspondence from the County of Simcoe:
 - p. 9 a) June 3, 2025 – Release – Nominate a business or individual Age Friendly Champion today.
 - p. 11 b) June 4, 2025 – Release – Chairs and Vice Chairs representing communities across Simcoe County confirmed.
 - p.13 c) June 10, 2025 – Release – County breaks ground on new affordable housing development in Barrie.
- p. 15 7. Correspondence from the Town of Caledon, re: Illegal Land Use dated June 4, 2025.
- p. 18 8. Correspondence from The Corporation of The Township of Black River – Matheson, re: Request for exemption to proposed Mandatory Firefighter certification Requirements (o. Reg. 343/22) dated June 10, 2025.

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-25

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	20	47	\$3,504,675.00	\$7,190,776.00	\$35,968.13	\$76,080.08
Commercial	1	9	\$7,593.00	\$520,946.00	\$175.00	\$2,554.50
Industrial		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Institutional		3		\$263,500.00		\$2,125.00
Public Utilities		0		\$0.00		\$0.00
Agricultural	1	4	\$200,000.00	\$1,765,000.00	\$840.00	\$8,859.31
TOTAL	22	63	\$3,712,268.00	\$ 9,740,222.00	\$36,983.13	\$ 89,618.89

Y.O.Y.	24	113	\$7,789,763.00	\$ 29,767,712.00	\$84,050.45	\$ 278,741.50	-67.85%
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NEW SFD CONSTRUCTION

Dwelling Units Created

Type	Current Month	YTD	Dwelling Const. Value	Dwelling Const. Value YTD
SFD/SEMI/ROW	4	9	\$1,276,610.00	\$3,892,209.00
Mult Res Bldgs		1		\$0.00
ARU	2	2	\$ 530,000.00	\$680,000.00
TOTAL	6	12	\$1,806,610.00	\$4,572,209.00

Y.O.Y.	14	41	\$ 7,312,092.00	\$ 19,314,581.00
	-57.14%	-70.73%	-75.29%	-76.33%

Reviewed by CBO Pedro Granes

Rachelle Brown

AI



April 2025 Report

Prepared by: Emily Nakeff



“ I love how many things you have here, like the kitchen items and the games.

You don't find stuff like this in other libraries.

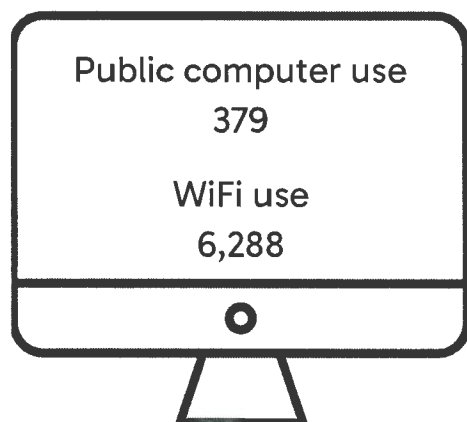
- Angus patron

A proud patron shows off his EPL card in the Tim Hortons drive-thru on Smile Cookie kick-off day.

PHYSICAL MATERIALS CIRCULATED	
ANGUS	THORNTON
7,764	1,080
38,330 TOTAL IN 2025	

DIGITAL CIRCULATION	
E-BOOKS	E-AUDIOBOOKS
696	440
4,546 TOTAL IN 2025	

MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE	
ANGUS	THORNTON
369	46
1,859 TOTAL IN 2025	

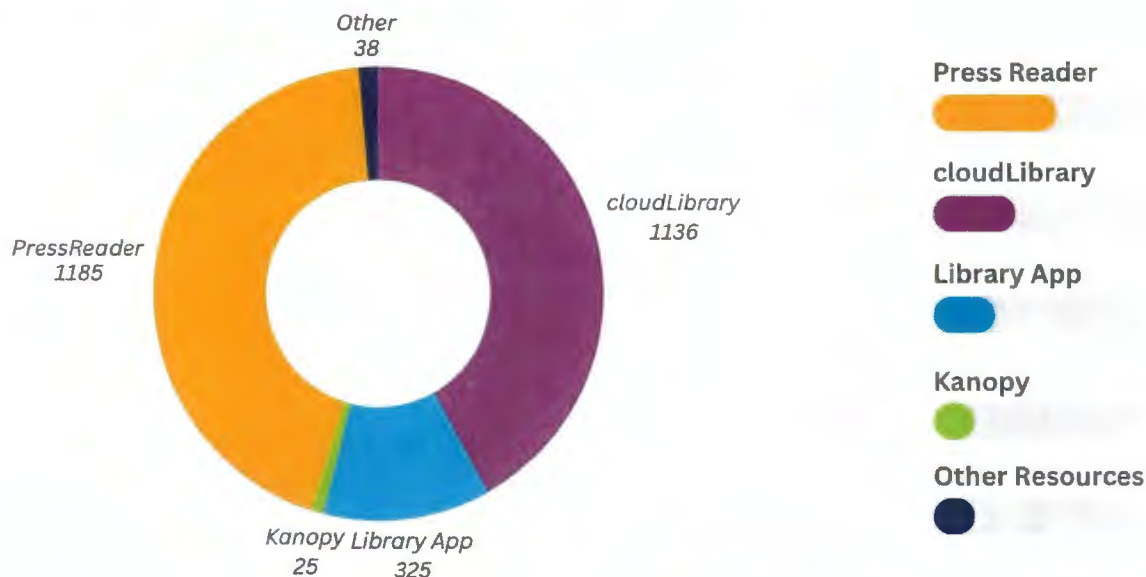


New Members

Angus	43
Thornton	7
Year-to-date total	320

A place to imagine, discover, and connect.

2,715 DIGITAL LIBRARY USES



PROGRAMS

KIDS	
Search & Find - AN	205
Search & Find - TH	25
Spring Fling - AN	50
Spanish Storytime - AN	17
Lego Club - AN	10
Tinker Tuesday - AN	59
Wiggles & Giggles - AN	130
Imagination Station - TH	41
Toddler Time - AN	83
Angus Storytime - AN	65
Monday Evening - Rainbow Storytime	23
Thornton Storytime - TH	88
Family Play Zone in Program Room - AN	43

TEEN PROGRAMS	
Teen Art Club - TH	6
Teen Anime and Manga Club - AN	5
Teen Gardening	5

ADULTS

Cercle de Conversation	21
Book Club - AN	19
Book Club - TH	8
Writers Group - AN	4
Hobby Circle - AN	9
Movie Night for Adults - AN	9

SENIORS

Seniors Social - TH	43
Paper Craft - AN	14
Chair Yoga	26
Cedar Salve - AN	12
Sketching - AN	11
Master Gardeners - AN	11
The Painted Olive - AN	15

SOCIAL MEDIA

YouTube - Total Subscribers	968
YouTube - Views	2787
Facebook - Total Followers	1875
Instagram - Total Followers	931

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Angus Food Bank | Borden Family Resource Centre | Cards with Colleen | CONTACT Community Services
 Country Crafters | Early ON | Nottawasaga Pines Secondary School | South Simcoe Arts Council
 Township of Essa



**Resolution of Council
City Council Meeting**

Title: Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025

Date: May 20, 2025

WHEREAS:

1. A municipality's parks and open spaces are critical infrastructure that support a strong community, and the public's shared and safe use of the municipality's parks and open spaces is integral to ensuring that support.
2. Ontario's municipalities are struggling to maintain their parks and open spaces for their shared and safe use by the public as a result of the increasing proliferation of encampments and illicit activities related thereto.
3. Municipalities that enforce their standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in their parks and open spaces must have regard to the availability of shelter space for those who need shelter.
4. On January 27, 2023, Justice Valente of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice rendered his judgment in *Waterloo (Regional Municipality) v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained (2023)*, [2023] O.J. No. 417 (Waterloo Decision) which declared that the municipality's by-law violated section 7 of the Charter and was therefore inoperative insofar as it applied to prevent encampment residents from erecting temporary shelters on a site when the number of homeless individuals in the region exceeded the number of accessible shelter beds.
5. The Waterloo Decision's analysis of the adequacy of shelter beds suggests an unworkable and unclear standard that goes beyond the number of shelter spaces and that includes the requirement to provide shelter spaces that must accommodate illicit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk. The result is that municipalities are impaired in their enforcement of their standards and have lost or are losing control of their parks and open spaces.
6. On December 12, 2024, the provincial government introduced Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024. Among its various initiatives, Bill 242 proposed to amend section 2 of the Trespass to Property Act by adding aggravating factors that must be considered in the court's determination of a penalty under that section. However, the key challenge was that a municipality's exercise of its rights at common law and under section 9 of the Trespass to Property Act to remove encampments from the municipality's parks and open spaces remained potentially subject to the unworkable and unclear standard for the adequacy of shelter space suggested by the Waterloo Decision.
7. On January 13, 2025, Council of the City of Peterborough resolved to request the provincial government to amend Bill 242 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
8. Bill 242 died on the order paper as a result of the recent provincial election.
9. On April 30, 2025, the provincial Government re-introduced the legislation in the form of Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025. Bill 6 is substantively the same as Bill 242.
10. In these circumstances, municipalities continue to need provincial legislation that clearly defines a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved:

1. That the provincial government be respectfully requested to amend Bill 6 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
2. That, without limitation, Bill 6 provide that a municipality will have met the standard for shelter space for the purposes of the municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces:
 - a) despite the establishment and enforcement of shelter rules including rules that prohibit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk; and
 - b) if an official designated by the municipality is satisfied that the number of available shelter spaces is at least equal to the aggregate of the number of individuals actually seeking shelter and the number of individuals against whom the municipality is planning to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to:
 - a) Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
 - b) Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
 - c) Honourable Robert Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
 - d) Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
 - e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and to
 - f) Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

The above resolution, adopted by City Council is forwarded for your information and action, as required. Thank you.

John Kennedy

John Kennedy, City Clerk



May 27, 2025

Ms. Sarah Corbett
Acting Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Corporation of the Township of Essa
5786 County Road 21
Utopia ON L0M 1T0

Dear Sarah,

Sarah, Essa Township Council + Staff!

THANK YOU re: 2025 Community Assistance Grant Program

On behalf of *Friends of the Utopia Gristmill & Park*, I would like to extend our very great appreciation to our Mayor and Council as well as staff at Essa Township for the support received for our organization's community work. These funds help greatly for our continued stewardship of the Utopia Conservation Area as well as the community activities being implemented from our base at the Utopia Community Hall.

Having completed the exterior restoration of Bell's Gristmill in 2024 was an enormous accomplishment, many years in the making. We are both proud and grateful for the ongoing support and partnership that has been developed with Essa Township to help guide this forward.

In the months and year ahead, our fundraising work continues, with the focus being now on the gristmill's interior as well as community outreach and support.

We are very proud of the work that has been done within the Utopia Conservation Area to make it accessible, nature-focused and an important landmark to the life of our community, past, present and into the future. Having been able to do this with the support of Essa Township means everything.

Thank you so much.

Your support means so much to us.

Susan Antler, Chair
C 416 670 0510
susan@utopia.ca

Thank you

Susan Antler

Friends of the Utopia Mill & Park
5901 Old Mill Road – Utopia Ontario Canada L0M 1T0

Shloka Shah

Subject:

FW: AMO Policy Update – Province Introduces Bill 30

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

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:24:34 PM

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

Subject: AMO Policy Update – Province Introduces Bill 30



Policy Update - Province Introduces Bill 30

Province Introduces Bill 30, *Working For Workers Seven Act, 2025*

Yesterday, the Ontario government tabled its seventh [Working for Workers Act](#) (Bill 30). While the stated objective of supporting workers amidst potential job losses arising from the US-Canada trade dynamic is noted, one of its proposals raises significant concerns -- exempting Skills Development Fund Capital Stream-supported capital projects from the requirements of *The Municipal Act* and *The Planning Act*.

Earlier exemptions from municipal planning approvals, such as those related to public universities and "community service facilities" like K-12 schools, hospitals, and long-term care homes are aimed to expedite planning for public entities. Bill 30, however, marks a significant shift by:

- Extending expedited planning processes and exemptions from municipal authorities to private entities without the robust accountability and regulatory frameworks that characterize broader public sector bodies, solely by virtue of their qualification to access a source of provincial funding with broad eligibility; and
- Going beyond exemptions to *The Planning Act* to include exemptions to *The Municipal Act*. These powers could allow for waivers from municipal bylaws, including those related to property tax, development charges, and other local requirements with no clear purpose or rationale.

The cumulative impact of what is now the proposed ability of four separate Ministers to override municipal land use planning and other authorities also raises significant concern by increasing the likelihood of unintended consequences and diffuse accountability. Currently before the legislature are proposals to provide powers to:

- The Minister of Infrastructure to use Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs) to override *The Planning Act* as part of Bill 17;
- The Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade to create Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to override *The Planning Act* and *The Municipal Act* as part of Bill 5; and
- The Minister of Labour, Immigration, Skills and Training to override *The Planning Act* and *The Municipal Act* for those in receipt of capital funding from the Skills Development Fund under Bill 30.

AMO continues to support the need for bold and innovative action to respond to unprecedented economic challenges. However, the threat of tariffs cannot be used to justify any and all proposals to override provincial and municipal laws. AMO will continue to analyze the proposal and seek opportunities to provide commentary to the legislature.

An online version of this Policy Update is available on the [AMO Website](#).

*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]



Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nominate a Business or Individual Age-Friendly Champion Today

Midhurst/June 3, 2025 – As we kick off Seniors Month, the County of Simcoe is proud to announce that nominations are now open for the Age-Friendly Business and Age-Friendly Individual Recognition and Achievement Awards, celebrating those who help create welcoming and accessible communities for older adults.

Nominations are open until August 31, 2025, and winners will be honoured at a special ceremony in the fall.

Age-friendly Business Recognition Awards

Recognizes local businesses and organizations that have taken steps to improve services for older adults. By completing a [Self-Assessment Checklist](#), businesses can evaluate their age-friendliness and access County resources to enhance their services.

Award-winning businesses will receive:

- Mention in a County press release, social media announcements, and website feature
- A certificate and window decal
- A complimentary digital marketing package valued at over \$350 (conditions apply)

Customers and clients can also get involved by completing the [Customer Nomination Checklist](#) to highlight businesses that make Simcoe County a better place for older adults.

Complete a nomination form today and join the movement toward a more age-friendly Simcoe County.

Age-Friendly Individual Recognition and Achievement Awards

This award honours exceptional individuals of all ages who have demonstrated leadership, kindness, and a commitment to supporting older adults.

Categories include:

- **Individual Champion:** Advocates for older adults, enriching their lives through leadership and dedication.
- **Older Adult Champion:** Recognizes older adults (60+) for their selfless service and commitment to volunteerism.
- **Youth Champion:** *New this year*, celebrates young individuals who have made a meaningful impact on older adults through service and education.

Join us in recognizing community heroes who are shaping a more inclusive and age-friendly Simcoe County.

Quotes

"Our Age-Friendly Recognition Awards showcase the incredible efforts of businesses and individuals who are helping to make Simcoe County a more inclusive and welcoming place for older adults. Their commitment to improving accessibility and services reflects the very values our region is striving for."

- County of Simcoe Warden Basil Clarke

"Creating an age-friendly community is about fostering respect, inclusion, and support for older adults. Whether it's a business improving services or an individual making a meaningful impact, these awards celebrate the champions of positive change. We encourage everyone to nominate those who are creating a brighter future for our communities – *Jane Sinclair, General Manger, Health and Emergency Services, Simcoe County*

About the Simcoe County Age-Friendly Community Program

The Age-Friendly Community Program was established in 2016 to increase awareness of the County's aging population and help businesses and organizations evaluate their environment and service delivery. The County continues to provide resources and assessment tools to help organizations implement age-friendly goals and strategies and adapt to our aging population. For more information on our Age-Friendly Community program and the Business Guide and Recognition Awards, visit www.simcoe.ca/agefriendly, email agefriendly@simcoe.ca or call 705-726-9300 ext. 3127.

About County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen 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.

- 30 -

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simcoe.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chairs and Vice Chairs representing communities across Simcoe County confirmed

Midhurst/June 4, 2025 – Leadership of Committees and Boards representing County Council has been officially confirmed including representatives from across Simcoe County. These positions will be held until the next Municipal Election in fall 2026.

County Council has created several committees and boards that include both Council members and some community members who are able to bring varied perspectives and expertise. Committees and boards play an important role in Council's decisions by carefully reviewing proposed policies, research, and making recommendations to Committee of the Whole.

Of note, the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Board Chair and Vice-Chair positions were confirmed, helping lead an important strategic investment and growth strategy to support our area economy.

2025-2026 Committee and Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs:

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHA)

confirmed June 3, 2025

- Chair: Councillor Keith Bell (Deputy Mayor, Ramara)
- Vice-Chair: Councillor Stephanie MacLellan (Deputy Mayor, New Tecumseth)

Lake Simcoe Regional Airport (LSRA)

confirmed May 23, 2025

- Chair: Councillor Richard Norcross (Mayor, New Tecumseth)
- Vice-Chair: Councillor Lynn Dollin (Mayor, Innisfil)

Grant Program Task Force

confirmed March 18, 2025

- Chair: Councillor Michael Smith (Deputy Mayor, Essa)
- Vice-Chair: Councillor David Evans (Mayor, Tiny)

Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

confirmed January 21, 2025

- Chair: Member Doug Mein
- Vice-Chair: Member Lisa Cohen

Economic Development Sub-Committee (EDS)

confirmed January 14, 2025

- Chair: Councillor Kenneth Fowler (Deputy Mayor, Innisfil)
- Vice-Chair: Councillor Yvonne Hamlin (Mayor, Collingwood)

Simcoe County Housing Corporation (SCHC) Board

confirmed November 2024

- Chair: Councillor Doug Measures (Mayor, Clearview)
- Vice-Chair: Councillor Brian Smith (Mayor, Wasaga Beach)

The following committees will elect their respective Chairs and Vice-Chairs at their next meeting: Agricultural Liaison Committee, Bursary Committee, and Planning Advisory Committee.

A list of all current Council members, including roles on boards and committees, can be found [here](#). Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair positions for committees and boards typically occur at the first meeting at the start of a new term of Council and at the first meeting in the third year of the term.

Council and Committee meetings will be live streamed to the County of Simcoe's [YouTube channel](#). Questions about the live stream or meetings should be directed to clerks@simcoe.ca.

About the County of Simcoe

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen 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.

- 30 -

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUILDING UP

County breaks ground on new affordable housing development in Barrie

Includes 220 new affordable housing rentals and commercial space for health and community services agencies

Midhurst/June 10, 2025 – Earlier today, the County of Simcoe broke ground on what will be its biggest build to date, with 220 affordable housing rentals and commercial space for health and community services agencies.

“Today marks the start of a brighter future for Simcoe County,” said Warden Basil Clarke, County of Simcoe. “While many right now may see a construction site, I see hope and optimism for families to create opportunities. Where we are standing today will become a place where kids will laugh as they play on the playground, and maybe even make a new friend. It is where dreams will be dreamt, and people will be able to get a fresh start on life. And that is why we are building up our largest development to date on this spot. Because we know it matters to our children, grandchildren, and future generations.”

“These buildings will provide a roof over the heads of families that need it most and give these young people that incredible opportunity that I was provided growing up in government housing here in Barrie,” added Mayor Alex Nuttall, City of Barrie. “Thank you to the County of Simcoe from the bottom of our hearts for their care and support for those who need it most.”

Well-designed housing provides safety, health and affordability. It further represents an investment in our community and sense of place. Affordable housing created through this development will increase the opportunity for low-to-moderate income households, as well as some specific vulnerable individuals, to access housing with dignity.

The multi-use development will include 220 mixed affordable residential rental units for families and seniors. The mixed-income rental development will provide a range of affordable units, balancing a range of incomes and housing to create a secure, high-quality, well-maintained living environment. Residential space will include a mix of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom suites. Units follow a universal design to age-in-place, ensuring this will be a comfortable place to call home for people of all ages.

Residential space

This proposed development will include two apartment towers (9 and 11 storey buildings) as well as a linked parking structure. It will maximize the proposed affordability mix of 80% affordable units and 20% market units comprised of studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom suites.

Community Services space

Dedicated office space for County services, including Community Support & Wellbeing, Early Learning & Child Care System Management, Housing & Homelessness Services, Community Housing, and provincial services will be located on upper floors above the adjacent parking structure.

Commercial space

The ground floor will include commercial space for health and community services agencies, such as education, social enterprises, and licensed childcare as well as other services to address a wide range of age-appropriate programming.

The first phase of this build will focus on the parking structure and community services space. It is expected to be complete in 2026, with the residential and commercial portion of the development following during the second phase. The second phase of the project is expected to be completed in 2027, with tenants moving in shortly after completion.

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- 30 -

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Annette Groves
Mayor

Her Worship, Mayor Annette Groves
Office of the Mayor
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford,
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

Illegal land use, including unauthorized development, unapproved land alterations, and other non-compliant activities, poses significant threats to the Town's agricultural viability, water quality, and ecosystem health, in addition to decreasing adjacent land values and undermining public trust in land-use governance enforcement.

There have been approximately 1,300 properties investigated in Caledon for illegal land use since 2015, with the majority of instances being for the operation of illegal transportation depots.

Illegal transportation depots and parking lots undermine the success of Caledon's largest industry and employment sector. The prevalence of illegal transportation depots and parking lots, and their disregard for architectural and landscape standards, reduce the appeal for investment in prestige employment lands.

Penalties prescribed by the Planning Act are insufficient to deter violations, as they do not adequately reflect the economic gains derived from illegal land use activities and even maximum fines are difficult to obtain. The existing provisions in the Municipal Act specifically disallow municipalities from licensing transportation depots and truck parking.

In June 2023, the Town of Caledon wrote to your office requesting increased authority for municipalities to manage illegal land use including the ability to physically bar entry to properties and increase maximum penalty amounts for individuals and corporations. The Town has also made similar requests to the Honourable Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones, the Ministry of the

Attorney General, the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

At the June 3, 2025 General Committee Meeting, Council expressed support for a motion to strengthen municipal authority to effectively manage illegal land use by:

1. Amending the Planning Act to allow for a municipality to:

- a. require a person to pay an administrative penalty if the municipality is satisfied that the person has contravened section 41, section 46, subsection 49 (4) or section 52 or who contravenes a by-law passed under section 34 or 38 or an order made under section 47; whereas municipalities cannot currently administer administrative penalty systems under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act and Building Code Act,
- b. issue orders to discontinue a contravening activity or perform work to correct a contravention under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act, whereas the Act does not currently allow it.
- c. enable a matter or thing to be done at a person's expense in default of it being done in accordance with an order made under a by-law passed under section 34 of the Act; further, that the costs of such action taken by a municipality may be recovered by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes, whereas municipalities cannot currently perform remedial work under the Act, unlike the Municipal Act,
- d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it,
- e. increase the maximum penalty amounts to \$50,000 for an individual and \$100,000 for a corporation on a first conviction and \$25,000 for each day the contravention continues after a conviction for an individual and \$50,000 for a corporation, additionally, amending the Act to allow municipalities to establish minimum fines under Zoning and Site Plan Control by-laws and continuing offence penalties on a first conviction.

2. Amending the Municipal Act to allow for a municipality to:

- a. provide a system of licenses under a business licensing by-law for the local parking and storage operations of transportation businesses, including transportation depots and parking lots, whereas municipalities cannot currently regulate the minimum standards appropriate for the community through Ontario Regulation 583/06 (Licensing Powers),
- b. close a business operating without a license or engaged in egregious illegal land uses that significantly harm nearby residents, the environment, and public safety; whereas municipalities cannot currently close or prevent illegal land use or operations from continuing,
- c. physically bar entry to properties where illegal land uses that have significant detrimental impacts on adjacent residential properties, the environment or create unsafe situations,

d. register charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions and court imposed fines in the proper land registry office, so any person acquiring any interest in the land subsequent to the registration of the order is deemed to have been served with the same order; whereas the Act does not currently allow it

A copy of the notice of motion has been enclosed for your reference. For more information regarding this matter, please contact my Chief of Staff, Catherine Monast, directly by email at catherine.monast@caledon.ca or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4539. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mayor Annette Groves

Town of Caledon

The Honourable Ruby Sahota, Minister of Democratic Institutions and MP for Brampton North-Caledon, ruby.sahota@parl.gc.ca

Kyle Seeback, MP for Dufferin—Caledon, Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Transport and Internal Trade
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,
sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation minister.mto@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, doug.downey@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario, amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association, roma@roma.on.ca

City of Toronto, clerk@toronto.ca

York Region, regional.clerk@york.ca

City of Vaughan, clerks@vaughan.ca

Town of Richmond Hill, clerks@richmondhill.ca

Town of Markham, customerservice@markham.ca

Town of Aurora, info@aurora.ca

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, clerks@townofws.ca

King Township, clerks@king.ca

Town of Newmarket, clerks@newmarket.ca

Township of East Gwillimbury, clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca

Town of Georgina, info@georgina.ca

Region of Durham, clerks@durham.ca

Town of Ajax, clerks@ajax.ca

Township of Brock, Clerks@brock.ca



CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BLACK RIVER – MATHESON

367 FOURTH AVE, P.O. BOX 601, MATHESON, ON P0K 1N0
TELEPHONE (705) 273-2313 EMAIL : brm@twpbrm.ca WEBSITE: www.twpbrm.ca

Jon Pegg
Fire Marshal of Ontario
Office of the Fire Marshal
25 Morton Shulman Avenue
Toronto, ON M3M 0B1

June 10, 2025

Via Email: Jon.Pegg@ontario.ca

Dear Fire Marshal Pegg:

Subject: Request for Exemption to Proposed Mandatory Firefighter Certification Requirements (O. Reg. 343/22)

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson, I am writing to express our concerns regarding the mandatory firefighter certification requirements under Ontario Regulation 343/22.

At its meeting held on June 10th, Council passed the attached resolution formally opposing the implementation of these requirements. While we recognize and support the importance of firefighter training and safety, the regulation as it stands does not adequately reflect the operational realities of small, rural, and northern municipalities.

Communities such as ours rely heavily on volunteer and composite fire departments that already face critical challenges in recruitment, training accessibility, and financial capacity.

Specifically, we are burdened by:

- Geographic barriers and long travel distances to accredited training centres,
- Inconsistent access to instructors and scheduling options,
- Limited budgets and competing capital demands,
- Difficulty in retaining and replacing volunteers due to increased regulatory pressures.

Without additional support, flexibility, or exemption mechanisms, the implementation of O. Reg. 343/22 will severely compromise our ability to provide consistent, timely, and effective fire protection to our residents.

Accordingly, the Council of the Township of Black River-Matheson respectfully requests that the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Ministry of the Solicitor General:

1. Defer full implementation of the certification regulation for rural and northern municipalities,
2. Provide exemptions or alternative compliance pathways tailored to the needs and limitations of small, remote fire services,
3. Increase funding and training supports for municipalities outside major urban centres.

We believe that a one-size-fits-all regulatory model will disproportionately and unfairly affect communities like ours. A more flexible, consultative approach is urgently needed. Thank you for your consideration of this request. We would welcome further discussion and are open to participating in any future consultations or working groups aimed at resolving these challenges collaboratively.

Sincerely,

Dave Dymont, Mayor

/hjl

On behalf of the Council of Black River-Matheson

Encl.: Resolution No.2025-214 – Council Opposition to O. Reg. 343/22

CC:

The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General – michael.kerzner@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario – premier@ontario.ca

John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming—Cochrane – jvanthof-co@ndp.on.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – amo@amo.on.ca

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) – admin@fonom.org

All Ontario Municipalities



Corporation of the Township of Black River - Matheson
 367 Fourth Avenue
 P.O. Box 601
 Matheson, Ontario
 P0K 1N0

**ITEM # 2025-10.b)
 RESOLUTION**

DATE: June 10, 2025

2025-214

Moved by Councillor Steve Campsall
 Seconded by Councillor Alain Bouchard

WHEREAS the Ontario government has enacted O. Reg. 343/22, establishing mandatory certification requirements for firefighters under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997;

AND WHEREAS Council for the Township of Black River-Matheson acknowledges the importance of standardized firefighter training and safety;

AND WHEREAS these mandatory certification requirements pose significant challenges for small, rural, and northern municipalities due to limited financial and training resources, geographic barriers, and reliance on volunteer fire departments;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of these requirements without additional flexibility or support may negatively impact the Township's ability to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and provide adequate fire protection to its residents;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Black River-Matheson formally opposes the mandatory firefighter certification requirements as currently outlined in O. Reg. 343/22;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Premier of Ontario, MPP John Vanthof, the Fire Marshal, AMO, FONOM, and all Ontario municipalities

☒ CARRIED ☐ DEFEATED

CHAIR SIGNATURE

☐ Original ☐ Amendment ☐ Refer ☐ Defer ☐ Reconsider ☐ Withdrawn

Recorded Vote-TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERK ONLY

	YEAS	NAYS
Mayor Dave Dymant		
Councillor Allen		
Councillor Charbonneau		
Councillor Campsall		

20

A8

Councillor McCutcheon		
Councillor Gadoury		
Councillor Bouchard		

Hongji Lei

Hong Ji Lei
Town Manager/Clerk