

Ontario Making the Largest Investment in Public Libraries in a Generation

Province Boosting Access to Technology, Digital Library Resources

May 4, 2018 10:00 A.M.

Ontario is making the largest investment in public libraries in a generation, and improving access to technology, digital services and training opportunities at public libraries in towns, cities and Indigenous communities across the province.

Daiene Vernile, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, was at the Kitchener Public Library today to announce new support for Ontario's libraries through the 2018 Budget.

A new provincial Digital Public Library will be created that will make digital library services such as e-books, audiobooks, digital databases and learning resources available for free to people across Ontario, regardless of where they live. In total, 300 public libraries across the province will be supported, including those in rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

In addition the province is also boosting annual funding for libraries by \$51 million over three years, to ensure that public libraries can continue to be essential spaces for people to access cultural experiences, technology and community life. These new investments will support libraries across Ontario as they continue to respond to the needs of their residents with innovative services, no matter the size of the community.

Investing in libraries is part of the government's plan to support care, create opportunity and make life more affordable during this period of rapid economic change. The plan includes free prescription drugs for everyone under 25, and 65 or over, through the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students, a higher minimum wage and better working conditions, and free preschool child care from 2 ½ to kindergarten.

QUOTES

" Ontario's public libraries are the cornerstones of our communities and play an important role in providing access to new technology and digital services. Our government is committed to investing in people across the province, and our historic support for public libraries will enhance access to new resources and opportunities to discover all that Ontario and the world have to

offer."

- Daiene Vernile

Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

" The Federation of Ontario Public Libraries welcomes Ontario's support for public and First Nation libraries. The investment will provide sustainable, predictable funding for our trusted community institutions, empowering them with the flexibility to address immediate priorities and plan for the evolving needs of their communities."

- Stephen Abram

Executive Director, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

" Libraries are Ontario's farthest-reaching, most cost-effective resource, supporting high quality lifelong learning, fostering community economy development and reducing the impacts of poverty. Ontario's Digital Public Library will give communities across Ontario fair, equitable access to the digital resources they need to succeed."

- Shelagh Patterson

Executive Director, Ontario Libraries Association

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is investing \$28 million over three years to create a provincial Digital Public Library.
- Ontario's 2018 budget will also invest \$51 million over three years in annual increases to public library operating funding.
- The Digital Public Library will be phased in and available provincewide within three years.
- Ontario is home to 300 public libraries, including 46 First Nations libraries that serve over 99 per cent of the population.
- This funding supports [Ontario's Culture Strategy](#) and the commitment to support Ontario's public and First Nation libraries as essential spaces for people to access cultural experiences, technology and community life.

LEARN MORE

- [Find a public library in your area](#)
- [Ontario's Culture Strategy](#)

Department of Development &
Property



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-3204
FAX: 613-735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

May 8, 2018

NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITIES

RE: Notice of Adoption

County of Renfrew Official Plan Five-Year Review (Official Amendment No. 25)

I am enclosing a Notice of Adoption of Official Plan Amendment No. 25 (OPA 25), which is the five-year update to the County of Renfrew Official Plan.

The Official Plan has been forwarded to the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs for review and approval.

More information, including the updated Official Plan and a summary chart of municipal and public comments, will be available on the County of Renfrew website at www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'C. Cheesman'.

Charles Cheesman, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning Services
ccheesman@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

Enc.

Department of Development &
Property



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
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**NOTICE OF THE ADOPTION OF AN OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT
(OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 25 – FIVE YEAR REVIEW)**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew passed By-law 49-18 adopting Amendment No. 25 to the Official Plan of the County of Renfrew on the 25th day of April, 2018 in accordance with Sections 17 and 26 of the *Planning Act*.

Subject Lands

The proposed Official Plan Amendment affects all lands throughout the County (with some exceptions such as federal lands). Therefore, a key map or description of the affected lands has not been provided.

Purpose and Effect of the Amendment

The Amendment represents the five year update to the County of Renfrew Official Plan which was first approved in 2003. An Official Plan is a policy document that guides the short-term and long-term development of a community.

The Ontario *Planning Act* requires an Official Plan to be reviewed and updated at five year intervals to ensure it meets the needs of the community, has regard to provincial interests (e.g., protecting ecological systems, conservation of mineral aggregate resources, appropriate locations of growth and development), and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). The proposed updated Official Plan includes changes to the written text and map schedules.

Additional information regarding the proposed Official Plan Amendment is available for viewing at the County of Renfrew Administration Office during regular office hours. The adopted Official Plan will also be available for review on the County of Renfrew website at www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca.

ANY PERSON or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the Approval Authority if a written request to be notified of the decision is made to the Approval Authority.

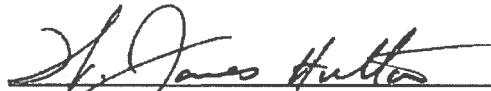
THE APPROVAL AUTHORITY, to which the Amendment will be submitted for approval, is:

Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Municipal Services Office, Eastern Region
8 Estate Lane, Rockwood House
Kingston ON K7M 9A8

Council considered all written and oral submissions received on this proposed Amendment. A chart has been prepared documenting these submissions, together with County staff responses and recommendations, and is also available on the County of Renfrew's website.

NOTE: One of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open, accessible, timely and efficient. Accordingly, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and will be disclosed/made available by the County of Renfrew to such persons as the County sees fit, including anyone requesting such information. Accordingly, in providing such information, you shall be deemed to have consented to its use and disclosure as part of the planning process.

DATED at the County of Renfrew this 3rd day of May, 2018.



W. James Hutton, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
County of Renfrew
9 International Drive
Pembroke ON K8A 6W5

Minister of
Seniors Affairs

6th Floor
400 University Avenue
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel.: (416) 314-9710
Fax: (416) 325-4787

Ministre des Affaires
des personnes âgées

6^e étage
400, avenue University
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tél.: (416) 314-9710
Télééc.: (416) 325-4787



May 2018

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to submit a nomination for the **Ontario Senior Achievement Award**.

Each year, the program recognizes extraordinary seniors who, after the age of 65, have made significant contributions to their community and/or province.

To submit a nomination for this award:

1. Visit ontario.ca/honoursandawards.
2. Select the **Community** category.
3. Click on **Ontario Senior Achievement Award**.
4. Download the PDF form by right clicking on the link and save it to your desktop.
5. Read the eligibility criteria and instructions carefully.
6. Fill out the form and submit it **no later than June 15, 2018**. Instructions for submitting your nomination package can be found on the website.

Did you know that June is Seniors' Month in Ontario? Take this opportunity to promote the Senior Achievement Awards in your community and to recognize an exceptional senior. Attached is a promotional image you can use. The program will also be promoted on my ministry's social media channels. Please like and share our content.

If you have questions about the Ontario Senior Achievement Award, please call 416-314-7526, toll free 1-877-832-8622 or TTY 416-327-2391, or email ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to consider putting forward the name of a special senior in your community.

Sincerely,

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

Dipika Damerla
Minister

**Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services**

Office of the Minister

25 Grosvenor Street
18th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tel: 416-325-0408
MCSCS.Feedback@ontario.ca

**Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire
et des Services correctionnels**

Bureau de la ministre

25, rue Grosvenor
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Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tél. : 416-325-0408
MCSCS.Feedback@ontario.ca



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May 8, 2018

As Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, it is my responsibility to ensure that the framework for the delivery of municipal fire services meets the needs and circumstances of the communities they serve across the province.

Ontario's firefighters – both career and volunteer – are among the best in the world. Our government is committed to the safety of our firefighters and of the communities they serve. An important part of my responsibilities is to work with municipalities to identify and address emerging gaps and challenges related to the delivery of fire protection services.

The ministry established the Fire Safety Technical Table (the Table) in January 2017 to provide recommendations on the enhancement of fire safety in Ontario.

The Table meets on a monthly basis and includes municipal representation (the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Town of Aurora), representatives from firefighter associations and representatives from career, composite, and volunteer fire departments.

I want to thank the members of the Table for their dedication and for their work with my ministry on the development of three new fire safety regulations under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA)*. The regulations relate to:

- Certification of firefighters
- Risk assessments to inform the delivery of fire protection services
- Public reporting on fire department response times

These regulations respond to a number of coroner's inquest recommendations, enhance the consistency of fire safety across the province, increase transparency and accountability, and ensure that fire protection services meet the unique needs of communities.

The regulations were posted for comment on the regulatory registry in early 2018, and a great deal of valuable commentary was received. A number of changes have been made to reflect the thoughtful feedback.

I want to thank municipalities for their participation in this process and I am pleased to provide an update on the outcome of the regulatory consultation.

Mandatory Certification

The mandatory certification of firefighters, based on internationally recognized National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, is a key step forward in building safer communities.

I want to emphasize that mandatory certification for four firefighter roles – including basic fire suppression – would only apply to new hires.

As such, the majority of existing suppression firefighters in Ontario – including those that work in volunteer departments – will not need to certify to maintain their jobs in their current positions. To progress to more senior positions in the fire service, certification would be required.

Some fire services in Ontario already train to NFPA standards – and over 80 have already begun certifying their firefighters. Province-wide certification would help ensure firefighters have a consistent level of knowledge and skill to safely provide fire protection services.

We recognize that some municipalities may require more time to comply with the mandatory certification of their firefighters. In response to feedback from the public posting of this regulation, we are delaying the in-force date for several roles to July 1st, 2019 and for others to January 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021.

For firefighters who have made best efforts to complete the certification in 24 months but were not able to do so, we are allowing an additional 12 months for completion, if the extension is approved by the Fire Marshal. This program would allow firefighters to work while completing their training and certification.

The internship program will also be expanded to include in-service fire instructors and fire inspectors for an initial 6-month internship. These participants will also benefit from a potential 6-month extension, if the extension is approved by the Fire Marshal. Firefighters who are certified and deemed-to-be certified (i.e., grandfathered) will have the ability to supervise firefighters in the internship program.

We believe the training and certification process for fire services across the province should be convenient and straightforward – particularly for small and rural municipalities who may face challenges in recruiting new volunteer firefighters.

We also recognize that firefighters will need a straightforward way to access testing services – and we will provide an online testing system that will be available free of charge. Where high-speed internet is not available, paper testing will continue to be available to fire services, also free of charge.

To ensure any challenges small or rural fire services may have adapting to the new requirements are mitigated, we will work with these municipalities to assess their current state of readiness and we will provide funding to cover all additional costs associated with this initiative.

In collaboration with our partners, MCSCS will be setting up an implementation table with a specific focus on small and rural communities to address their unique challenges throughout the implementation process.

Community Risk Assessments

Most communities undertake a risk assessment of some sort to help inform local decisions on the provision of fire protection services.

This regulation requires that all municipalities undertake a standardized risk assessment that will be used to inform the development of municipal fire protection services. A full risk assessment must be conducted every five years, with monitoring and reviewing conducted annually.

Undertaking a risk assessment will ensure that the delivery of fire protection services, including the development of public education and fire prevention programs, are based on consideration of key profiles of the community.

Public Reporting

Fire services across Ontario report their response times to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) using varying definitions. The result is inconsistent data that may be misinterpreted. There is no requirement to share this data with municipal governments or to make the information public. The public reporting regulation will create consistent reporting, and will increase transparency and accountability by providing the public with a clear understanding of what they can expect from the fire department in terms of response times.

This regulation is consistent with the Ontario Government's "open-by-default" approach to data sharing, and it is in line with the public's expectation that key information be available about their fire services.

Conclusion

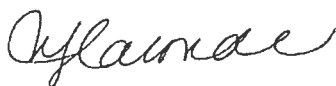
My most important priority as Minister is the safety and security of every Ontarian. That is why we are requiring firefighters to certify, fire departments to develop risk assessments, and fire department response time data to be publicly reported – it will help to improve community safety across our province.

We will work closely with communities to ensure a smooth transition to the new regulations that will begin to come into force on July 1, 2019.

I want to thank all of our partners who worked with us on these regulations, and the municipal governments who submitted comments to the public registry.

If you have further questions about next steps, please contact mcscsinput@ontario.ca.

Warm regards,



Marie-France Lalonde
Minister

Fire Protection and Prevention Act Regulations

Narrative

Ontario is committed to the safety of both firefighters, and the public. That is why it's critical that the framework for the delivery of fire services across the province meets the needs and circumstances of communities they serve.

Following recommendations from multiple coroner's inquests, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) formed a Fire Safety Technical Table (the Table) to provide recommendations on enhancing fire service delivery in Ontario. The Table includes municipal representation from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Town of Aurora, fire associations and representatives from career, composite and volunteer fire departments from both urban and rural communities.

To date, the work of the Table has been informing the development of regulations related to mandatory certification of firefighters, community risk assessments to inform the delivery of fire protection services, and public reporting of fire department response times.

In regards to mandatory certification, currently, under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, employers must provide information, instruction and supervision to a worker to protect their health or safety. Ontario voluntarily adopted National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards in 2013/14, although certification is not yet mandatory. NFPA uses codes and standards that are considered best practice, evidence based and are used throughout North America.

More than 80 fire departments (a mix of urban/rural, large/small, professional/composite and volunteer) are already voluntarily certifying to the NFPA standards and many are training to the NFPA standards, but not yet certifying.

Under the new regulation, certification for four firefighter roles – including basic fire suppression – would only apply to new hires. As such, the majority of existing suppression firefighters in Ontario will not need to certify to maintain their jobs in their current positions. Those seeking to advance to a higher rank (e.g., Fire Officer) would be required to certify.

Firefighters who need to be certified will be able to work under the supervision of another certified firefighter, via an internship program, while they complete their training. They will have up to two years (with the potential of a one-year extension, with the approval of the Fire Marshal) to complete their certification.

Firefighters not certified before being hired by a fire department would need to be enrolled in the two year internship program. Firefighters seeking to certify to NFPA 1001 Levels 1 and 2 (exterior and interior attack), would be required to train approximately 3 hours a week to achieve certification if the firefighter is enrolled in the two year internship program.

Those who have previously trained to the former Ontario standards may be eligible to have their previous knowledge or experience qualify them for alternative compliance to certification

(i.e., grandfathering). In these instances, fire chiefs would need to attest that training has been received by the firefighter and provide documentation, upon request.

The earliest that any part of the regulation comes into force is July 2019, with other parts coming in force in 2020 and 2021.

The government of Ontario will work closely with the Table and municipalities, especially those who represent small, northern and rural areas, to identify specific challenges and seek their input in developing an implementation model that would best address their needs in order to ensure successful implementation.

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Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 3:39 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Canada-Ontario Bilateral Agreement Signed for the National Housing Strategy

April 30, 2018

Canada-Ontario Bilateral Agreement Signed for the National Housing Strategy

AMO welcomes today's news that the federal and provincial governments signed a bilateral agreement to implement the National Housing Strategy in Ontario. An overarching national strategy with an Ontario agreement presents the opportunity for all orders of government to proactively work towards supporting Ontarians to meet their immediate needs and future housing hopes.

Key highlights of the agreement are:

- Over ten years, more than \$4.2 billion of investment will protect, renew, and expand social and community housing, and support Ontario's priorities related to housing repair, construction, and affordability.
- The governments of Canada and Ontario will work together on the design and implementation of a new Canada Housing Benefit in Ontario.
- Long-term and predictable funding will start April 1, 2019.

AMO will analyze the impact of this agreement once more details are known, providing members with updates. Further information and clarification is needed on the particulars and next steps, especially how municipal governments in Ontario will be engaged with the implementation.

AMO looks forward to working with both the federal and provincial governments to highlight municipal priorities to guide federal-provincial investments in Ontario. There is much at stake to ensuring the success of this vitally important initiative to facilitate housing stability and prosperity for the residents and communities in Ontario.

For more information, see the National Housing Strategy, *[A Place to Call Home](#)*, on the Government of Canada website and the [news release](#) by the Canada and Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC). See also the Government of Ontario's [statement](#).

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, mjacek@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 329.

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Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 5:08 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Cannabis Legalization Briefing Materials Available

May 8, 2018

Cannabis Legalization Briefing Materials Available

AMO has worked with the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Secretariat in the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) to make sure that members have an [up-to-date briefing](#) on cannabis legalization policy in Ontario.

To facilitate the best information possible, the Secretariat has developed a comprehensive briefing deck for AMO members. The brief is available on AMO's [Cannabis Legalization](#) web site tab.

The MAG briefing deck includes information on:

- Details on the \$40 million in municipal cannabis funding from Ontario's excise duty share
- Retail plans and siting in communities, including local engagement
- Road safety, policing supports and updates for public health
- Foundational details on possession, places of use for cannabis, Ontario Cannabis Act penalties, youth diversion from the justice system and others

Also available on AMO's Cannabis Legalization web site tab is a [briefing](#) delivered to the Committee of the Whole of AMO's Board of Directors at its last meeting. This COW deck lays out AMO's policy positions on legal, non-medical cannabis, actions to date as well as future advocacy and policy development directions.

Council members and municipal staff are encouraged to download and read these materials for current information on provincial and federal policy, actions to prepare for legalization and future advocacy directions for municipal governments and their communities.

AMO Contact: Craig Reid, Senior Policy Advisor, creid@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856 ext. 334.

PLEASE NOTE: AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator, and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

DISCLAIMER: Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

OPT-OUT: If you wish to opt-out of these email communications from AMO please click [here](#)

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Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: CycleONStrategy <CycleONStrategy@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 3:22 PM
To: CycleONStrategy
Subject: Province-wide cycling network final report posted
Attachments: MTO cycling network email April 25 2018.pdf

Ministry of Transportation

Transportation Policy Branch
Sustainable and Innovative Transportation
Office

777 Bay Street, 30th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J8
Email: CycleONStrategy@ontario.ca

Ministère des Transports

Direction des politiques du transport
Bureau pour la durabilité et l'innovation en
matière de transport

777, rue Bay, 30^e étage
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 2J8
Courriel : CycleONStrategy@ontario.ca



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to share that Ontario has completed its study to identify a province-wide network of cycling routes. [The final report and the network map](#) are now available on the Ministry of Transportation web site.

Next steps for the province-wide cycling network, including the development of a long-term implementation plan and support for municipalities, have been incorporated in Ontario's newly released [#CycleON Action Plan 2.0](#).

From April 12 to May 26, 2017, the province invited the public to submit comments on the draft province-wide cycling network online through the Environmental Registry. A Decision Notice summarizing all comments received and their impact on the decision will be posted within the next two weeks on the [Environmental Registry](#) (posting number 013-0190).

We sincerely thank everyone who provided comments on the draft and everyone who has provided input at various stages of the process. Partnership and collaboration will be essential to successful implementation of the network. We look forward to continuing to work with municipalities and other partners to develop the long-term network implementation plan.

If you have any questions about the network, please contact Darryl Soshycki at Darryl.Soshycki@ontario.ca or (416) 585-7270.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Krista Adams
Director (A), Transportation Policy Branch



Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: GRUETZNER Ted -STAKEREL <ted.gruetzner@opg.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:07 PM
To: hmcclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: Pickering Continued Operations-Economic Impact

Melinda Reith, CAO/Clerk
United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria
Stonecliffe, ON

April 25, 2018

Dear Melinda Reith,

Recently, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC), in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis (CANCEA), published an impact analysis on the continued operation of Pickering Nuclear Generating Station (PNGS) until 2024.

Many of you will be interested in this study given the importance of Pickering Nuclear Station to the City of Toronto's power grid. As you know, Pickering is a critical source of electricity for Toronto, particularly for the eastern part of the Greater Toronto Area – powering 1.5 millions homes each day.

At OPG, our focus is on the efficient and reliable generation and sale of electricity while operating in a safe, open and environmentally responsible manner. For OPG, that means making positive contributions to the environment, economy and communities in which we operate.

The study released last week highlights how continued operation of the Pickering Station to 2024 is expected to contribute over \$12.3 billion to Ontario's GDP and is expected to contribute on average per year:

- \$1.54 billion to Ontario's GDP
- 7,590 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in Ontario
- \$290 million in government taxation revenues (\$155 million in federal and \$135 million in provincial)

You may also be aware of other benefits of Pickering:

- Supplies 14% of the Province of Ontario's power
- Produces a medical isotope (Cobalt 60) used for the sterilization of medical equipment
- Displaces 17 million tonnes of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs)

PICKERING NUCLEAR CONTINUED OPERATIONS TO 2024

GREENHOUSE GAS-FREE BASE LOAD CAPACITY NEEDED FROM 2018-2024
NUCLEAR ENERGY PLAYS A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN ONTARIO'S CLEAN-ENERGY EQUATION

CONTINUED OPERATIONS AT THE PICKERING STATION WILL REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY AN ESTIMATED

17 MILLION TONNES

THAT'S THE EQUIVALENT OF REMOVING

3.4 MILLION CARS PER YEAR

FROM ONTARIO'S ROADS

CONTINUED OPERATIONS WILL SAVE ONTARIO ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS

\$600 MILLION

\$1.54 BILLION TO ONTARIO'S GDP PER YEAR

7,590 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT JOBS PER YEAR

\$290 MILLION IN GOVERNMENT TAXATION REVENUES

1 IN 7

HOMES AND BUSINESSES ARE POWERED BY PICKERING - WITH VIRTUALLY NO GREENHOUSE GASES

BEST PERFORMANCE YEAR IN 2016 FOR

SAFETY

AND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

14% OF ONTARIO'S POWER IS SUPPLIED BY PICKERING - ENOUGH TO SERVE A CITY OF **1.5 MILLION PEOPLE**

ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

Please find a link to the Ontario Chamber of Commerce report *Pickering Continued Operations: An Impact Analysis on Ontario's Economy* for your information:

<https://www.opg.com/generating-power/nuclear/stations/pickering-nuclear/Pages/continued-operations.aspx>

If you have any questions or comments or are interested in touring the station, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Ted Gruetzner

VP, Stakeholder Relations

Ted.gruetzner@opg.com

416-592-6806

THIS MESSAGE IS ONLY INTENDED FOR THE USE OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT(S) AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, PROPRIETARY AND/OR CONFIDENTIAL. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, dissemination, distribution, copying, conversion to hard copy or other use of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient and have received this message in error, please notify me by return e-mail and delete this message from your system. Ontario Power Generation Inc.

April 17, 2018

Ms. Melinda Reith, CAO/Clerk
Head, Clara & Maria Township
15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0



Dear Ms. Reith:

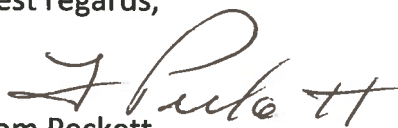
At the County of Renfrew Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee our primary purpose is to consult with and provide advice to County Council on our municipal accessibility plan for the corporation of the County of Renfrew. The committee helps to ensure that the County of Renfrew is aligned with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, and to provide support to all the County's departments with regards to removing barriers. In addition the County of Renfrew Accessibility Advisory Committee is a resource for the 17 Lower-tier Municipalities, and as such provides a consultative and supportive role when requested.

In an effort to expand upon and ensure that all municipalities that comprise the County of Renfrew have an opportunity to freely seek consultation while being able to share their ideas and successes with others the committee is seeking to expand its membership. As Chair of the County of Renfrew Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (MAAC) I wish to extend an invitation to your municipality to send a representative from either your local municipal accessibility committee, or if you don't currently have a committee please feel free to send a municipal staff representative to attend. The MAAC meets three or four times per year.

This year is a busy year for the committee as we look to update a comprehensive draft multi-year accessibility plan for approval by County Council later this year. This is a great time for your municipality to send a representative to join with County staff, local staff and community members to share ideas and work towards a barrier free Ontario.

Please respond in writing or by email to Debbie Gervais, Administrative Lead Hand, Department of Human Resources, County of Renfrew at dgervais@countyofrenfrew.on.ca.

Best regards,



Tom Peckett

Chair, County of Renfrew Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Emergency Management Community of Practice
Spring Freshet 2018 – Call #4**

April 24, 2018, 10:30am

**Introduction and Current Status – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Pembroke District: Christina Davis**

- Pembroke District Flood Status: no flood messages issued
- Neighbouring District Status:
 - North Bay: no flood messages issued
 - Bancroft: Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety issued on Friday, April 20, 2018
 - Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority: Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety issued on Thursday, April 19, 2018
 - Kemptville: no flood messages issued

**Weather Forecast and Update – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Surface Water Monitoring Centre: Lak Ramanathan**

- Temperatures are forecast to cool down to around 10°C during the day and just above zero during the night for the next 5 days
- Over the next 5 days 20-30mm of precipitation is forecast, all as rain

Dam Updates

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis
 - Balaclava Dam: no issues, no concerns
 - Lake Dore Dam: no issues, no concerns

- Ottawa River – Ottawa River Regulation Secretariat: Michael Sarich
 - The river is still very low from Mattawa to Montreal and almost at historic lows
 - Tributaries are starting to pick up in the mid to upper basin
 - There was a small increase in the south from the recent precipitation but that has been tapering off
 - It is possible that the precipitation over the next few days will fall as snow in the north
 - Expecting a slow rise and that the tributaries will pick up over the next week
 - Reservoir storage is almost at a historic minimum and there has been no significant increase out of the reservoirs
 - There is still a lot of snow left to melt
 - Waiting for the melt to start

- Madawaska River – Ontario Power Generation: Don Ferko
 - Flows are picking up
 - Continuing to fill Bark Lake
 - Starting the refill at Mountain Chute
 - Expect flows to pick up throughout the coming week

- Bonnechere River – Renfrew Power Generation Inc.: Shawn Cameron
 - There was a small reaction in Golden Lake with the recent precipitation but the rise has been slow and there are no concerns
 - Round Lake has shown no reaction yet and there has not been much of an increase in water levels
 - Lake Clear water level is below average
 - At Renfrew there has been a small increase but levels are below average
 - Expect some sort of increase over the next week but no concerns

Government Updates Affecting Renfrew County

- Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management: Philippe Geoffrion
 - No update

- Ministry of Transportation: Kevin Timmins
 - No concerns about high water and MTO roads in Renfrew County

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing: Eric Thibaudeau
 - Nothing to report, no issues

- Renfrew County District Health Unit: Courtney Trombley
 - Nothing to report, no issues

Municipal Updates

- County of Renfrew CEMC: Steve Osipenko
 - No issues, no concerns around the County

- County of Renfrew Public Works: Steve Boland/Rick Bolduc
 - No update

- City of Pembroke: Chris Mantha
 - Water levels in the Muskrat and Indian Rivers are up about 12-18" but still well below average for this time of year
 - Still no debris at the City Hall dam (there is usually some)
 - No concerns

- Pikwakanagan Reserve: Merv Sarazin
 - No update
- Lower Tier Municipalities
 - See Renfrew County and Municipality Resources Activity Spreadsheet

Questions/Information Requests

- None

Update Renfrew County Flood Status

- No plans to issue a flood message at this time
- Will continue to assess conditions

First-hand reports of changing water conditions from local agencies are greatly appreciated and benefit the overall flood program. Please also consider tweeting reports of flooding with the hashtag #ONFlood and promote the public's use of #ONFlood.

Key Information Websites:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: www.ontario.ca/flooding
- Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board: www.ottawariver.ca/ (or call the 24hr toll free number 1-800-778-1246)
- Ontario Power Generation (Madawaska River/Ottawa River): www.opg.com
- Renfrew Power Generation (Bonnechere River) water levels and freshet: www.renfrewpg.ca/water-levels-flow-history
- Emergency Management Ontario: www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html

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Emergency Management Community of Practice Spring Freshet 2018 – Call #5

May 1, 2018, 10:30am

Introduction and Current Status – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis

- Pembroke District Flood Status: no flood messages issued
- Neighbouring District Status:
 - North Bay: issued a Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety on Wednesday, April 25, 2018
 - Bancroft: issued a Flood Warning for the York River, Flood Watch for the Little Mississippi River and a Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety for the remainder of Bancroft District on Monday, April 30, 2018
 - Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority: issued a Flood Warning for the Upper Mississippi Valley watershed on Monday, April 30, 2018
 - Kemptville: no flood messages issued

Weather Forecast and Update – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: Brent Smith

- Slightly unsettled weather is expected over the next few days
- Total forecast precipitation over the next 5 days is approximately 26mm (Tuesday: trace amount, Wednesday: 10-15mm with risk of a thunderstorm, Thursday: ~2mm, Friday: 10mm, Saturday: 1-2mm)
- Temperatures are expected to stay well above zero until Saturday

Dam Updates

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis
 - Balaclava Dam and Lake Dore Dam: water levels are stabilizing, most of the ice is gone; looks like water levels have peaked for these 2 areas
- Ottawa River – Ottawa River Regulation Secretariat: Manon Lalonde
 - Spring freshet has started in earnest on the Ottawa River
 - In the north, snowpack is gradually melting and runoff is being stored in the reservoirs
 - More locally, snowmelt combined with rainfall runoff has made levels and flows go up everywhere between Deep River and Ottawa
 - Some runoff is held back behind Des Joachims dam, meaning that water levels between Mattawa and Des Joachims is also gradually increasing
 - Because levels were so low to start with, levels today between Des Joachims and Ottawa are very close to the average value for this time of the year.

- However, further increases are expected in the next few days
 - Last Sunday, the regulating committee issued a news release informing residents that a typical or normal freshet was anticipated (type of freshet that we get 2 years out of 4).
 - Weather forecast – Committee will discuss today the need to issue a second press release, as the flood risk now seems to have increased.
 - High temperatures (some models saying as high as 25°C) for the next few days will accelerate melt of remaining snowpack
 - A depression coming from the central USA will bring rain Thursday and Friday (still uncertainty in the amount that we may get).
 - We will see levels and flows continue rising this week. Things are shaping up to lead to a possible peak this weekend.
 - In the river reach between Mattawa and Ottawa, minor flooding levels could be exceeded as soon as next Thursday in three locations: Lake Coulonge, Chats Lake and Britannia/Lac Deschênes (Constance Bay)
 - PROVISIONAL – *will be re-assessed by Regulating Committee later on today*
 - At Lake Coulonge, the peak could reach levels that were observed last year during the peak of April 19, 2017.
 - At Chats Lake, the peak level is not expected to be as high as the April 19-20, 2017 peak (could be 30 cm lower)
 - At Britannia Beach, the peak level is expected to be slightly lower than levels observed on April 19-20, 2017 (possibly 15 cm lower)
- Madawaska River – Ontario Power Generation: Marc Bisson
 - Expecting snow information over the next couple of days
 - The snow station in Bancroft is showing 2" of water equivalent still on the ground in that area so there is likely still a lot of snow in the Barry's Bay area and in Algonquin Park
 - Expecting the snow melt to accelerate and combined with the forecast precipitation inflows are expected to increase
 - Bark Lake has been refilling at a rate of 20cm/day and discharge is gradually increasing
 - Anticipate the discharge to reach the threshold where some flooding will happen between Bark and Kamaniskeg Lakes
 - Have been opening the dam at Palmer Rapids and it will likely be completely open by the end of the day tomorrow
 - Barry's Bay is anticipated to be near the operating maximum by the end of the weekend or early next week, depending on amount of rainfall
 - Inflows at Mountain Chute are high and it is expected that high discharge will be maintained possibly all of next week
 - Flows are high in the lower part of the Madawaska River

- May see the start of flooding this weekend or into next week south of Calabogie in low lying areas, depending on the amount of rainfall
- Bonnechere River – Renfrew Power Generation Inc.: Shawn Cameron
 - There is still capacity to take on water in Round Lake
 - Round Lake water levels are still increasing, however the rise rate has started to decline which indicates that a crest may be imminent – this could change with the forecast precipitation
 - Golden Lake went over its Bonnechere River Water Management Plan upper limit as of Saturday, April 28, 2018, however water levels are still below average
 - Rise rates in Golden Lake have started slowing down as well
 - At Renfrew the daily flows are slightly below average
 - Large lakes are still ice covered with ice pulling back from the shore
 - The amount of rain over the next 5 days could have an effect on the rise rates and water levels

Government Updates Affecting Renfrew County

- Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management: Philippe Geoffrion
 - No update
- Ministry of Transportation: Dave Johnston
 - No update
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing: Eric Thibaudeau
 - Nothing to report, no issues
- Renfrew County District Health Unit: Courtney Trombley
 - Nothing to report, no issues

Municipal Updates

- County of Renfrew CEMC: Michael Nolan/Steve Osipenko
 - No update
- County of Renfrew Public Works: Steve Boland
 - The spring is progressing normally
 - Saw a peak in the Indian River near the Alice ski hill on Friday
 - Seeing minor flooding in low-lying areas but nothing unusual

- City of Pembroke: Chris Mantha
 - No issues with the Muskrat River
 - The Indian River crested on April 27/28 and water levels have been dropping since
 - There is a small amount of debris at City Hall but not enough to cause concern
 - Overall there is no flooding and no issues

- Pikwakanagan Reserve: Merv Sarazin
 - No update

- Lower Tier Municipalities
 - See Renfrew County and Municipality Resources Activity Spreadsheet

Questions/Information Requests

- Steve Boland: Reminder to everyone to update Municipal 511 when there are road closures

Update Renfrew County Flood Status

- Will continue to reassess over the next few days once the rain starts

First-hand reports of changing water conditions from local agencies are greatly appreciated and benefit the overall flood program. Please also consider tweeting reports of flooding with the hashtag #ONFlood and promote the public's use of #ONFlood.

Key Information Websites:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: www.ontario.ca/flooding
- Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board: www.ottawariver.ca/ (or call the 24hr toll free number 1-800-778-1246)
- Ontario Power Generation (Madawaska River/Ottawa River): www.opg.com
- Renfrew Power Generation (Bonnechere River) water levels and freshet: www.renfrewpg.ca/water-levels-flow-history
- Emergency Management Ontario: www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html

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Emergency Management Community of Practice

Spring Freshet 2018 – Call #6

May 3, 2018, 10:30am

Introduction and Current Status – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Pembroke District: Christina Davis

- Pembroke District Flood Status: Flood Watch for the Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers issued on May 2, 2018
- Neighbouring District Status:
 - North Bay: issued a Flood Watch May 3, 2018
 - Bancroft: issued a Flood Warning for the York River, Flood Watch for the Little Mississippi River and a Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety for the remainder of Bancroft District on Monday, April 30, 2018
 - Mississippi Valley & Rideau Valley Conservation Authority: issued a Flood Warning on May 1st and April 30, 2018
 - Kemptville: issued a Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety for the Ottawa River on May 2, 2018

Weather Forecast and Update – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Surface Water Monitoring Centre: Brent Smith

- There is a system moving through bringing a lot of precipitation over the next 2 days
- Total precipitation of 20-25mm is expected over the next 5 days (Thursday: 1-2mm, Friday 15-20mm with an additional 5-10mm from thunderstorms, Saturday, Sunday and Monday relatively clear)
- Daytime temperatures are forecast to be 15-20°C and nighttime temperatures 2-7°C

Dam Updates

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis
 - Balaclava Dam and Lake Dore Dam: water levels are dropping; ice is off Constant Lake and breaking up on Lake Dore; normal spring operations
- Ottawa River – Ottawa River Regulation Secretariat: Manon Lalonde
 - The Committee confirmed that there is an increased flood risk for this weekend (May 5 and 6) for the river reach between Deep River and Britannia beach (Ottawa/lac Deschênes)
 - The Regulating Committee issued a second Press Release on May 1st advising the public and authorities of this increased risk (May 1st Press release: <http://www.ottawariver.ca/current-press-releases.php>)

- Temperature of last two days have been in the 20 – 25°C range in the Abitibi-Timiskaming-Renfrew area, causing accelerated melting of snow
- Keeping an eye on two different depressions from USA that will bring uncertain amount of additional rain today and tomorrow.
- We should see water climbing up to the start of flooding levels sometime today or tomorrow in three locations: Lake Coulonge, Chats Lake and Britannia/Lake Deschênes (Constance Bay), with flows and levels expected to peak this weekend (May 5 and 6)
- The forecast peak conditions are nowhere near the 2017 peak conditions (60 to 70 cm below). The Regulating Committee is not issuing the Flood Level Forecast table, but I'll provide useful information in this report.
- The 4-day forecast available on our website covers both Chats Lake and Lake Deschenes.
- OPG and the Timiskaming dam operator are working together to optimize the use of storage and shave (or attenuate) the peak as much as possible.

Regulating Committee May 5-6 Forecast Peak Levels

	Level observed at 8 :00 am on May 1st (m)	May 1st analysis		May 2 nd analysis	
		Possible increase * (cm)	Peak level possibly reaching (m)	Possible increase* (cm)	Peak level possibly reaching (m)
Lake Coulonge	106.79	100 - 110	107.89	95-105	107.84
Chats Lake	74.62	50-60	75.22	50-60	75.22
Lake Deschênes	59.24	50-60	59.84	50-60	59.84

* possible increase compared to the level observed at 8 :00 am on May 1st

- To help gauge what these forecast peaks mean, here's a comparison with peak levels reached last year for two flood peak periods: from April 19 to 22 and from May 6 to 8.
- Last year's hydrograph for Chats Lake and Lake Deschenes are included in Figures 4A and 4B of our 2017 Spring Flood document (<http://www.ottawariver.ca/latest-bulletins.php>)
- On the basis of yesterday's analysis, it is estimated that peak levels on May 5 & 6 would be lower than 2017 conditions as follows:
 - Lake Coulonge: 3 cm lower than the April 19-22 peak; 69 cm lower than the May 6-8 peak

- Chats Lake: 20 cm lower than the April 19-22 peak; 73 cm lower than the May 6-8 peak
- Lake Deschênes: 7 cm lower than the April 19-22 peak; 61 cm lower than the May 6-8 peak
- Madawaska River – Ontario Power Generation: Marc Bisson
 - No new snow information – should be available today
 - Even with the past 2 days in the 20-25°C range it is anticipated that there is still snow left in the upper end of the watershed above Bark Lake and into Algonquin Park
 - Bark Lake is continuing to fill at a rate of 20cm/day; there is 1.8m left to the normal summer levels and the rate of increase is expected to continue at about 20cm/day over the next couple of days then at about 10cm/day into next week
 - Discharge at Bark Lake will increase over the next couple of days which means that some low-lying properties may experience the start of flooding
 - Water levels in Kamaniskeg Lake at Barry's Bay have been stable the past couple of days but are now starting to rise and will continue to rise over the weekend with levels anticipated to be close to operation maximum by the end of the weekend before levels start to decrease
 - On the lower Madawaska flows are anticipated to be high between Mountain Chute and Calabogie and to stay high for most of next week – there is concern about flooding of some properties south of Calabogie
 - At Palmer Rapids discharge will gradually increase and stay high over the next 4-5 days as the water level on Kamaniskeg Lake rises
- Bonnechere River – Renfrew Power Generation Inc.: Shawn Cameron
 - Round Lake is still high but not a concern as there is room with water levels still below average and below summer levels; has not crested yet but is anticipated to soon
 - Golden Lake water level is approaching the average but there is still space; water levels are expected to rise with the forecast rain
 - There has been a sharp increase in water levels on Lake Clear but levels are at average for this year; outlet culverts are all clear
 - Flows are steady throughout the Bonnechere River system
 - No concerns at this time, still watching to see what happens with the forecast rain

Government Updates Affecting Renfrew County

- Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management: Philippe Geoffrion
 - No update
- Ministry of Transportation: Dave Johnston
 - No indication that any roads are being breached or that there is any threat of flooding to any MTO roads in Renfrew County
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing: Eric Thibaudeau
 - Nothing to report
- Renfrew County District Health Unit: Greg Kirke
 - No update

Municipal Updates

- County of Renfrew CEMC: Steve Osipenko
 - Not aware of any issues
- County of Renfrew Public Works: Steve Boland
 - No major issues
 - Are seeing some water starting to back up in the Palmer Rapids area
 - The Indian River at the Alice ski hill is down 16-18" since last weekend
- City of Pembroke: Chris Mantha
 - Nothing new to report since last meeting
- Pikwakanagan Reserve: Merv Sarazin
 - No update
- Lower Tier Municipalities
 - See Renfrew County and Municipality Resources Activity Spreadsheet

Questions/Information Requests

- None

Update Renfrew County Flood Status

- The current Flood Watch is in effect until May 10th
- Monitoring and will adjust as necessary

First-hand reports of changing water conditions from local agencies are greatly appreciated and benefit the overall flood program. Please also consider tweeting reports of flooding with the hashtag #ONFlood and promote the public's use of #ONFlood.

Key Information Websites:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: www.ontario.ca/flooding
- Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board: www.ottawariver.ca/ (or call the 24hr toll free number 1-800-778-1246)
- Ontario Power Generation (Madawaska River/Ottawa River): www.opg.com
- Renfrew Power Generation (Bonnechere River) water levels and freshet: www.renfrewpg.ca/water-levels-flow-history
- Emergency Management Ontario: www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html

Emergency Management Community of Practice Spring Freshet 2018 – Call #7

May 7, 2018, 10:30am

Introduction and Current Status – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis

- Pembroke District Flood Status: issued a Flood Warning for the Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers on Friday, May 4, 2018
- Neighbouring District Status:
 - North Bay: no flood messages issued
 - Bancroft: issued a Flood Warning for the York River, Flood Watch for the Little Mississippi and Madawaska Rivers and a Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook for the remainder of Bancroft District
 - Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority: issued a Flood Warning on May 1, 2018
 - Kemptville: issued a Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety on May 4, 2018

Weather Forecast and Update – Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: Gord Gallant

- Generally sunny, warm days are forecast for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with temperatures between 14 and 23°C during the day and between zero and 10°C at night
- On Thursday a cold front is moving through which will bring cooler, unsettled weather including approximately 5-10mm of rain and a chance of thunderstorms
- Friday through Sunday are expected to warm up with a mix of sun and cloud
- A new system appears to be coming in Sunday which could bring showers

Dam Updates

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Pembroke District: Christina Davis
 - Balaclava Dam and Lake Dore Dam: nothing new to report
 - Algonquin Park: appears as though water levels have crested; most of the snow is gone (observation, not information from snow stations); ice is still on lakes
- Ottawa River – Ottawa River Regulation Secretariat: Manon Lalonde
 - Spring runoff is considerable and is causing flows and levels to increase surely and steadily.
 - Petawawa and Coulonge rivers are near their crest and should start decreasing soon.

- In the last few days, flows from the north have been kept low through optimization of storage use at the dams and reservoirs located upstream of Renfrew County. That's why the peak conditions that we had initially forecasted for May 3 and May 4th have been delayed to this week. This optimization is also resulting in lower levels than you would see under natural conditions.
- Sunny days ahead are welcome, but we keep an eye on a depression coming on Thursday. Quantity of rainfall that could be received is still uncertain and could affect peaking conditions between Deep River and Ottawa. Levels and flows should reach their peak sometime mid-week (May 9th), and levels should stabilize and remain high for several days thereafter.
- The upper limits for the peaks that were provided when the Flood Warning was issued still stand :
 - possibly as high as 107.99 m at Lake Coulonge (18 cm higher than the April 2017 peak); and
 - possibly as high as 75.27 m at Chats Lake (15 cm lower than the April 2017 peak);
 - those levels are between 50 and 70 cm lower than the May 2017 peak.
- This morning at 8:00 am,
 - levels at Lake Coulonge were 19 cm above the start of flooding threshold, and 21 cm below the major flooding threshold,
 - at Chats Lake, levels were 31 cm above the start of flooding threshold, and 41 cm below the major flooding threshold.
- Madawaska River – Ontario Power Generation: Don Ferko
 - Flow from Bark Lake is quite high and the water level is still rising – there is still room but it is filling up
 - The level at Barry's Bay is expected to peak today or tomorrow and then should start to decline
 - Water levels are above the operating maximum at Barry's Bay and still rising slowly
 - Discharge is still quite high at Kamaniskeg Lake at Palmer Rapids – expected to peak over the next few days then start to decline
- Bonnechere River – Renfrew Power Generation Inc.: Shawn Cameron
 - Water is still flowing in at the inlet into Round Lake but has reduced slightly
 - Round Lake is still rising and is expected to breach the Licence of Occupation upper limit today
 - Rise rates have started to decrease – could see a crest by mid-week

- Golden Lake water level is still rising and won't crest until Round Lake does
- Flows remain steady at Renfrew
- No updates for Lake Clear available at this time
- Monitoring

Government Updates Affecting Renfrew County

- Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management: Philippe Geoffrion
 - No update
- Ministry of Transportation: Dave Johnston
 - No issues to report for any MTO roads in Renfrew County
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs/Ministry of Housing: Eric Thibaudeau
 - Nothing new to report
- Renfrew County District Health Unit: Greg Kirke
 - No issues to report

Municipal Updates

- County of Renfrew CEMC: Steve Osipenko
 - No concerns or complaints
- County of Renfrew Public Works: Steve Boland
 - Nothing new to report
- City of Pembroke: Linda Rook
 - No issues to report
 - The Indian River water level is dropping drastically
 - No issues with the Muskrat River
- Pikwakanagan Reserve: Merv Sarazin
 - No update
- Lower Tier Municipalities
 - See Renfrew County and Municipality Resources Activity Spreadsheet

Questions/Information Requests

- None

Update Renfrew County Flood Status

- A flood warning is still appropriate for the Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers
 - Monitoring Bonnechere River and may adjust flood status if necessary
-

First-hand reports of changing water conditions from local agencies are greatly appreciated and benefit the overall flood program. Please also consider tweeting reports of flooding with the hashtag #ONFlood and promote the public's use of #ONFlood.

Key Information Websites:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Surface Water Monitoring Centre: www.ontario.ca/flooding
- Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board: www.ottawariver.ca/ (or call the 24hr toll free number 1-800-778-1246)
- Ontario Power Generation (Madawaska River/Ottawa River): www.opg.com
- Renfrew Power Generation (Bonnechere River) water levels and freshet: www.renfrewpg.ca/water-levels-flow-history
- Emergency Management Ontario: www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html

14

Bags better than bins for recycling, study finds

HEATHER NORMAN

PUBLISHED 2 DAYS AGO UPDATED APRIL 30, 2018



Quality control staff sort mixed recyclables at a facility in north Toronto.

NICK IWANYSHYN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

For years, municipalities have been trying to find the most effective method of recycling.

According to a York University study, bag-based recycling is the most effective system to manage contamination rates and the least expensive to implement.

Municipal recycling systems are typically box or cart-based, although more and more municipalities, such as Halifax, have begun to shift to bag-based programs, which use recycling bags as their primary means of collection.

Part of this stems from the need to reduce contamination after China, the world's biggest consumer of recycled materials, introduced strict recycling regulations earlier this year. China will no longer accept contaminated materials – for example, an unwashed plastic container with food residue or a newspaper splashed with coffee – that exceed more than 0.5 per cent of the total recyclables.

For context, the rate of contaminated recyclables in the City of Toronto, like many large cities, hovers at around 25 per cent of all recycled materials.

The York study found that contamination rates are approximately 8 per cent lower in bag, or a combination of bag and box-based, systems – compared to cart or box-based systems.

“Bags significantly reduce contamination in the recycling stream. ... There are very few opportunities for illegal dumping,” said Calvin Lakhan, the lead researcher on the study. Illegal dumping happens when someone throws garbage, or something else that doesn't belong, in with their recycling.

Mr. Lakhan also said the use of bags can allow for unlimited capacity for recycling, so that a family won't run out of space like they might with other types of systems. And, he said, it's much cheaper to implement.

The study was sponsored by Clorox Company, a manufacturer of a wide array of consumer products, but left researchers with “complete discretion and latitude” as to how it was conducted.

In Ontario, “the conversation around recycling has historically revolved around carts and boxes,” said Mr. Lakhan, as opposed to considering bags as a viable option. It is important that this changes, he said, especially in light of the new regulations in China.

Mr. Lakhan said that because bag-based systems are more likely to reduce contamination, the “revenue received from that material goes up.”

However, bag-based recycling programs come with their own set of challenges for municipalities.

Quinte Waste Solutions, which provides recycling to nine Ontario municipalities, including Belleville, Quinte West and Tyendinaga Township, says on its website that “boxes are better than bags.”

Rachel Revoy, a communications co-ordinator with Quinte Waste Solutions, said this applies to the company’s specific recycling program, rather than to all recycling programs. “We have someone whose job it is to rip open every single bag. We don’t have the machinery of a big knife to cut open all the bags and to send it down the conveyor belt.”

She added that “because people are using boxes, they’re a little bit more conscious of what is going into those blue boxes and the driver at the curb can see what’s going in there and monitor it.”

Machines called bag breakers are needed to prevent the thin plastic of recycling bags from “gunking up the system,” Mr. Lakhan said . Bag breakers require a one-time fee but will save municipalities money in the long run, he said.

In British Columbia, the use of bag breakers has not been successful. Recycle BC, which manages more than 98 per cent of recycling in the province, uses a bag and box-based system – but it is different from what the York study suggests.

Instead of utilizing one-use plastic bags, the multistream recycling system in B.C. uses a reusable plastic bag to recycle paper and cardboard products.

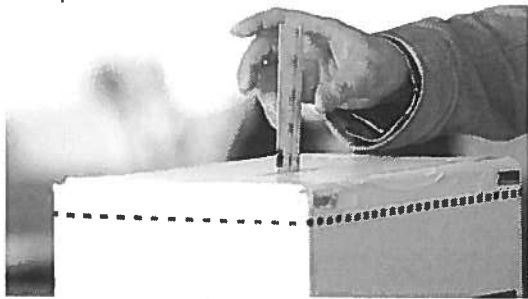
Allen Langdon, the managing director of Recycle BC, says that the regions that still use one-use blue recycling bags will phase them out by July 1, 2020. He said that blue bags are not recyclable and typically require a worker to manually open them, which can make for dangerous work.

Mr. Langdon said Recycle BC hasn’t found a bag breaker that has worked successfully in its processing facilities. “There just didn’t seem to be a way to efficiently use a bag breaker to break [blue bags.] And that’s why most everyone in B.C. right now is manually breaking them.”

Nearly 40% of municipal politicians in Manitoba ran uncontested in 2014

Low pay, negative perceptions, toxic environment partly to blame, say officials and experts

Jacques Marcoux · CBC News · Posted: May 01, 2018 7:11 AM CT | Last Updated: May 1



Some voters in Manitoba won't have a chance to cast a ballot in the upcoming municipal elections as all of their candidates have been acclaimed. (Chris Young/Canadian Press)

With the official launch of the campaign period for heads of council province-wide this week, municipalities are on the lookout for interested candidates to ensure competitive races in the upcoming fall elections. But if recent history repeats itself, some upcoming races may not be so competitive.

In 2014, nearly 40 per cent of all elected municipal politicians in Manitoba ran uncontested, according to a CBC News analysis.

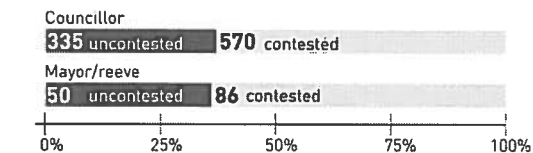
The southern Manitoba town of St-Pierre-Jolys is one community where the competition hasn't been all that competitive in recent years. Its residents haven't had a civic election since 2006, and over the past decade, two consecutive councils have been entirely formed by candidates who ran unopposed.

While the situation in St-Pierre-Jolys may seem surprising, the town is actually in good company.

CBC News analyzed the 2014 civic election results of Manitoba's 137 municipalities and found that 37 per cent of all members of council — including mayors and Reeves — were elected by default due to a lack of opponents.

Uncontested municipal election victories

Manitoba 2014 civic elections



news

Source: Association of Manitoba Municipalities, Manitoba Votes

Currently, over 42 per cent of all municipal governments in the province have a council that is more than half acclaimed. Fourteen municipalities are like St-Pierre-Jolys where all their local politicians were acclaimed.

Municipalities whose entire council ran unopposed in 2014:

- Altona (6 acclamations).
- Arborg (5 acclamations).
- Carman (7 acclamations).
- Elton (7 acclamations).
- Gillam (5 acclamations).
- Grand Rapids (5 acclamations).
- Killarney-Turtle Mountain (7 acclamations)
- Town of Lac du Bonnet (5 acclamations)
- Melita (5 acclamations)
- Rhineland (16 acclamations)
- St-Pierre-Jolys (5 acclamations)
- Ste. Rose (5 acclamations)
- Virden (7 acclamations)

Toxic workplace environment

Some local politicians are increasingly shining a light on behaviour they say discourages well-meaning residents from running for office or deters existing politicians from seeking a second term.

"I got involved in local politics to help the community, to see if I could make a difference," says West St. Paul Coun. Cheryl Christian. "I was interested and attended meetings for three years and wanted to jump in to see if I could help."



Cheryl Christian says councillors from across the province have reached to her about stories of harassment and bullying within their municipality. (CBC)

The first term councillor, who took a break from completing her PhD at the University of Manitoba to run in 2014, says that with little media scrutiny in smaller communities, and chamber policies in some regions that prohibit the recording of council meetings, the atmosphere can quickly degenerate into a toxic environment.

"It's absolutely part of the problem. We need to ensure that there's a safe working environment and it's hard to attract and retain people in these positions if we can't ensure their safety," she said.

"The bullying, it's a continuum. It ranges from being excluded from meetings and not receiving information to physical sexual harassment ... people that have had photos taken of them in their house and mailed to them, the harassment that we've heard about is horrific," said Christian.

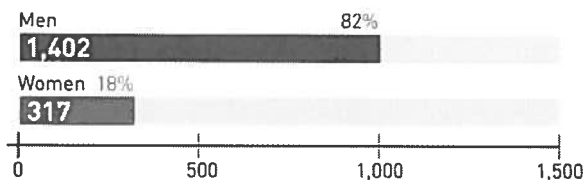
Bullying and harassment

In 2017, the mayor of the municipality of Ritchot, Jackie Hunt, abruptly resigned along with two other councillors in protest over allegations that other councillors were name-calling and exhibiting belligerent behaviour.

The CBC analysis also found that women were far less likely to run in local elections, representing just 18 per cent of candidates.

Number of candidates by gender

Manitoba 2014 civic elections



Christian says the harassment is not just affecting women. Many men who were previously silent about the dysfunction are now speaking publicly about the issue, she said.

Dave Kreklewich, the mayor of Oakland-Wawanesa, says keeping the peace on council can be a challenge. In 2016, two administrators within the municipality launched a civil suit against the town alleging harassment and bullying from a councillor.

Kreklewich says given that many smaller municipalities have a remuneration of about \$10,000 a year to handle sometimes difficult situations, clearly people aren't entering politics for the money.

"It probably works out to less than \$10 an hour," he says.

Politics held in lower esteem

A political scientist with the University of Winnipeg says these numbers don't surprise him.

"Our attitudes toward politics and politicians have gotten worse over time and as a result, the willingness of people to actually step up and run for election has actually declined," said U of W assistant professor Aaron Moore.

While the participation rates aren't at odds with other jurisdictions across the country, he says it's an important issue to track for the health of local democracies.

"In part when you have a contest you have an onus on people to actually state what their policy positions are," he said.

"You get more information about what these people are actually standing for, whereas if you only have one person running they have no obligation to inform you about anything."

A similar analysis by CBC News in Quebec found that in 2013, over 50 per cent of the province's municipal politicians ran unopposed.

The Manitoba government department of Indigenous and Municipal Relations states that beyond establishing the framework for election rules and eligibility, it does not have to play a role in increasing participation. The department did note, however, that 2014 results were actually an improvement over 2010, when nearly 50 per cent of local politicians were acclaimed.

Proactively seeking candidates

The chief administrative officer for St-Pierre-Jolys says they are hopeful they will have elections this upcoming October.

"This time around we're going to be a little more aggressive about it," says CAO Janine Wiebe. "We would like to put some door hangers on doors, just reminding people if they have interest to call the office, to come into the office, we'll give them a tour of the office, invite them to council chambers."



The town of St-Pierre-Jolys has not had an election since 2006. (CBC News)
But Moore says studies have shown that in small communities the lack of candidates doesn't always equate to complacency.

"People are going to know who their candidates are and as a result if the public is generally happy with the individuals that are running, then we aren't going to get other candidates running against them," he says.

He says that when elections are held in small communities, they often also achieve higher-than-average participation rates. In 2014, Winnipeg had a turnout of just over 50 per cent, while turnout in West St. Paul, Churchill and Powerview-Pine Falls were all above 60 per cent.

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities declined to comment for this story.

The next civic elections will be held on Oct. 24, 2018.

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Pay-as-you-throw fees and 4 more ways to reduce waste

'It shouldn't be free to pollute': Charge for packaging, study suggests



Emily Chung · CBC News · Posted: Apr 30, 2018 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: April 30



A worker carries a black garbage bag past a huge pile of blue bin trash at a Toronto transfer station. Right now, factors like the availability of cheap, disposable items, low dumping fees, and high repair costs tend to encourage waste. (David Donnelly/CBC)

[1046 comments](#)

[Reduce, Reuse and Rethink](#) is a CBC News series about recycling. We're exploring why our communities are at a turning point and exploring ways to recycle better. You can be part of the conversation by joining [our Facebook group](#).

There are lots of ways to motivate everyone — including people who don't care about the environment — to reduce their waste, says a new report from the Smart Prosperity Institute, an environmental-economic think-tank based at the University of Ottawa.

Those methods are mostly a matter of targeting people's wallets and making polluters pay more, according the policy brief [released last week](#).

"It shouldn't be free to pollute," says Katherine Monahan, senior research associate at the institute and lead author of the report.



'It shouldn't be free to pollute,' says Katherine Monahan, senior research associate at the Smart Prosperity Institute and lead author of the report. (Smart Prosperity Institute)

She says factors like the availability of cheap, disposable items, low dumping fees and high repair costs tend to encourage waste.

Economists like Monahan expect that pricing adjusted to reflect environmental costs would discourage waste and drive businesses to produce more durable, sustainable alternatives.

That's been done in other parts of the world and sometimes at a local level in Canada, but the strategy is "under-utilized" across the country, the report says.

"We want to make sure that people don't throw up their hands and say, 'We can't tell people not to consume so much, not to throw away so much,'" Monahan said.

"There are things we can do at a practical level to help change that behaviour."

Here are five:

1. Tax breaks for repairs

Sweden cut taxes on repairs for small items such as bicycles, clothes and shoes from 25 per cent to 12 per cent in 2017. It also offers income tax credits on the labour costs of repairs to appliances such as fridges, ovens and washing machines.



Heavy garbage lines a street in Cape Breton, N.S. Sweden offers tax credits for the labour costs of repairing appliances in an effort to reduce waste. (Wendy Martin/CBC)

2. More deposit return programs

Programs that collect a deposit when consumers buy something and refund it when they return the item for reuse or recycling should be extended to items like batteries and e-waste, the report recommends.

It says they've been very effective for bottles and containers, generating an average 80 per cent return rate across the country.

That's the return rate for alcohol bottles in Ontario, which require a deposit — but the recycling rate for non-alcohol aluminum cans and PET bottles in multiresidential buildings in the province is just half that.

"There really is that incentive to return items for a small cash reward," Monahan said, "whereas recycling is up to the goodness of your heart."

The non-profit group Environmental Defence has been lobbying for deposits on non-alcohol plastic bottles.



In Ontario 80 per cent of alcohol bottles are returned for a refund. The non-profit group Environmental Defence has been lobbying for deposits on non-alcohol plastic bottles. (CBC)

3. Pay-as-you-throw fees

Most Canadian municipalities charge residents a flat fee for garbage disposal, regardless of how much waste they produce.

"Residents who recycle and prevent waste actually subsidize their neighbours' wastefulness," the report notes.



Most Canadian municipalities charge residents a flat fee for garbage disposal, regardless of how much waste they produce. The report says that means people who produce less waste subsidize their more wasteful neighbours. (Lynne Robson/CBC)

Charges per bag or a bag limit per household can reduce waste by encouraging behaviour like recycling and buying more durable items.

That seems to have worked in Stratford, Ont., where residents produced 35 per cent less garbage and recycled 62 per cent more once they were charged \$1.75 per bag of garbage.

Of course, such policies can also cause an increase in littering, illegal dumping and recycling contamination, so Monahan says they need to be combined with stricter enforcement of recycling and dumping regulations.

4. Charges for single-use items and packaging

Montreal has banned single-use plastic bags, Victoria's ban comes into effect July 1, and other places across Canada are thinking about bans or levies on plastic bags.

Monahan prefers extra fees or levies over bans because they give consumers more choice and can be increased or decreased as needed. But both are effective, she says. In the U.K., a charge on single-use plastic bags equivalent to nine cents reduced use by 60 to 80 per cent.

She suggests extending such charges to items like disposable plastic cups and takeout containers.



A patron holds an iced beverage at a Starbucks coffee store in Pasadena, Calif. The report suggests putting a small levy on single-use items like disposable cups, similar to ones charged on plastic bags in many places.(Mario Anzuoni/Reuters)

While some restaurants voluntarily offer discounts for people who bring their own mug, Monahan thinks a more explicit charge is better. She adds that it should be imposed by federal and provincial governments to make such measures more widespread and create a level playing field for businesses.

5. Consumer incentives in industry programs

Many unusual or hazardous types of waste like tires, mobile devices and pesticide containers are handled by industry-run "stewardship" or "extended producer responsibility" recycling programs funded by fees added to the price of an item.



A collection box for used clothes stands in an H&M store. The retailer offers coupons for people who recycle their used clothing there. (Arnd Wiegmann/Reuters)

The report recommends altering the fees to provide an incentive for consumers to return items for recycling, such as returning part of the fee when the item is turned in.

It suggests recycling programs run by clothing retailer H&M, electronics retailers Best Buy and Apple and cosmetics retailer Lush are doing things right and boosting the popularity of their programs by offering coupons and discounts to customers who bring in products for recycling.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Emily Chung covers science and technology for CBC News. She has previously worked as a digital journalist for CBC Ottawa and as an occasional producer at CBC's Quirks & Quarks. She has a Ph.D. in chemistry.