

Council Agenda Item 11(b) – Consent Agenda

For the Regular Meeting of Council February 13, 2025

If you wish to separate an Item from the Consent Agenda, please contact the Municipal Clerk prior to the meeting so a resolution can be prepared for any item requiring debate.

1. Municipality of South Huron RE: Heritage Advisory Committee
2. Town of Aylmer RE: Opposition to Provincial Legislation on Cycling Lanes and Support for Municipal Authority in Transportation Planning
3. Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury RE: Ontario Deposit Return Program
4. Crime Stoppers Media Release January 14, 2025
5. Correspondence to Renfrew County from Rae Stanley Barry's Bay
6. OPP Media Release January 23, 2025 – Home Invasion in Pembroke Being Investigated (Photo Included)
7. Letter From Minister of Rural Affairs RE: Enabling Opportunity: Ontario's Rural Economic Development Strategy
8. City of Woodstock RE: Letter to Minister of Children Community and Social Services
9. Renfrew County Media Release – ROMA Attendance with Photo
10. OPP Media Release January 23, 2025, RE: Reminder to Snowmobilers – No Muffler or Exhaust Modifications Allowed
11. Ministry of Natural Resources: Decision on Discussion Paper: Regulating Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage Projects in Ontario and Proposal on Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geologic Carbon Storage Act
12. Renfrew County Public Works Policy: Community Safety Zone
13. Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards RE: Renfrew County's Road Rationalization Assessment
14. Ministry of Natural Resources Notice to Tenants Located on Crown Land
15. OPP Media Release Theft of Alcohol with Photo
16. KOV-Community Views on the Need for an Upper Ottawa Valley Climate Action Committee
17. Ministry of Natural Resources RE: Conservation Authorities
18. Memo from Province RE: Stonecliffe Waste Disposal Site with Email
19. Email from Margaret Dingman RE: Proposed Climate Action Plan
20. City of Peterborough Bill 242 Safer Communities Act 2024
21. Email and Media Release from Renfrew County Crime Stoppers

22. OPP Media Release RE: Partnering with Dominos Good Samaritan Ticket
23. Apply for the Renfrew County Community Development Fund
24. OPP Media Release RE: Ride Program
25. OPP Media Release RE: Firearms Stolen in Break and Enter
26. Renfrew County Media Release Re: Funding for Roundabout in Petawawa with Photos
27. Town of Halton Hills RE: Sovereignty of Canada



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

October 15, 2024

Via email: doug.fordco@pc.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Doug Ford

Re: Heritage Advisory Committee

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their October 7, 2024, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 355-2024
Moved By: Aaron Neeb
Seconded by: Marissa Vaughan

Whereas the South Huron Heritage Advisory Committee has presented a letter to South Huron Council outlining concerns regarding heritage preservation in South Huron; and

Whereas prior to Royal Assent of the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act provided Council of a Municipality the opportunity to give a notice of intention to designate a property within 90 days of a prescribed event; and

Whereas the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 amended Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act to provide that Council may give notice of intention to designate a property only if the property is listed in the register under subsection 27 (3), or a predecessor of that subsection, as of the date of the prescribed event; and

Whereas the Heritage Advisory Committee has noted concerns regarding this amendment limiting the authority of municipal councils to designate properties with the potential to undermine the effectiveness of heritage preservation efforts across the province; and

Whereas the Heritage Advisory Committee has provided correspondence, attached hereto, to South Huron Council in relation to the concerns requesting Council support and to communicate these concerns to the Province and forward a copy of this motion to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Councils across the province, and Provincial MPP.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Corporation for the Municipality of South Huron request the Province reconsider the amendment to Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act; and that this motion and attached correspondence be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Councils across the province and MPP Thompson

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Paul Calandra, Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org; Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Hon. Michael Ford, Michael.Ford@pc.ola.org; MPP Huron-Bruce, Hon. Lisa Thompson, Lisa.Thompson@pc.ola.org; AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, info@acwtownship.ca, Municipality of Bluewater, info@municipalityofbluewater.ca, Municipality of Central Huron, info@centralhuron.com, Town of Goderich, townhall@goderich.ca, Township of Howick, clerk@howick.ca, Municipality of Huron East, clerk@huroneast.com, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, mail@morristurnberry.ca, Township of North Huron, clamb@northhuron.ca, Municipality of North Perth, info@northperth.ca, Township of Perth South, lscott@perthsouth.ca, Township of Perth East, acarater@pertheast.ca, Municipality of West Perth, clerk@westperth.com, Town of St. Marys, clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca, City of Stratford, clerks@stratford.ca, Municipality of Brook-Alvinston, idenkers@brookealvinston.com, Township of Dawn-Euphemia, clerk@dawneuphemia.on.ca, Township of Enniskillen, dmctavish@enniskillen.ca, Municipality of Lambton Shores, clerks@lambtonshores.ca, Village of Oil Springs, clerk@oilsprings.ca, Town of Petrolia, petrolia@petrolia.ca, Town of



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

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

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

Plympton-Wyoming, ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca, Village of Point Edward, jburns@villageofpointedward.com, City of Sarnia, clerks@sarnia.ca, Township of St. Clair, webmaster@twp.stclair.on.ca, Township of Warwick, info@warwicktownship.ca, Municipality of Adelaide-Metcalf, info@adelaidemetcalf.on.ca, Municipality of Lucan-Biddulph, clerk@lucanbiddulph.on.ca, Municipality of Middlesex Centre, hutson@middlesexcentre.ca, Municipality of North Middlesex, ashleyk@northmiddlesex.on.ca, Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, abushell@southwestmiddlesex.ca, Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, bdakin@strathroy-caradoc.ca, Municipality of Thames Centre, tmichiels@thamescentre.on.ca, Village of Newbury, case@newbury.ca.

July 31, 2024

The Heritage Advisory Committee for the Municipality of South Huron wishes to thank South Huron Council for their support of resolution 128-2024 of March 18, responding to the Town of Coburg's request of February 28 for support regarding a proposed amendment to subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

In addition to the concerns South Huron council supported in resolution 128-2024, our committee would like to add that we have additional concerns about amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act implemented by Bill 23 that have direct impact on our local community and - more broadly - the Province of Ontario.

Specifically, subsection 29 (1.2) of the Heritage Act traditionally provided that if a prescribed event occurs, a notice of intention to designate a property must be given within 90 days of the prescribed event. These prescribed events include the submission of development applications under the Planning Act, for example. However, with changes from Bill 23, this subsection is re-enacted to also provide that the municipality may only give a notice of intention to designate the property within 90 days if the property was already included in the register under subsection 27 (3) as of the date of the prescribed event.

This raises significant concerns for our committee. Specifically, we are troubled by the proposed amendments that would limit the authority of municipal councils to designate properties that are not already listed on a municipal register. In South Huron, like many other municipalities around Ontario, there are countless significant structures that are not yet listed under subsection 27 (3), and these changes significantly limit efforts of council to react to proposed demolitions of significant heritage properties in our municipality after planning applications are made.

We believe that these changes have the potential to undermine the effectiveness of heritage preservation efforts in our community and across the province. By weakening the protections afforded to heritage properties and reducing the ability of municipalities to designate and safeguard significant sites, we risk irreparable loss to our built and cultural heritage.

We urge council to carefully consider the implications of the changes to the Ontario Heritage Act under Bill 23 and to advocate for amendments that strengthen rather than weaken heritage preservation efforts. Specifically, we would ask that the province re-establish the 90 day period that had previously been a part of the Ontario Heritage Act for all properties, not just those already listed in the register under subsection 27 (3).

We ask that you pass a resolution to add our specific concerns to those you have already supported, and communicate these to the Province of Ontario. We also ask that you circulate this letter and seek the support of other municipalities.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

South Huron Heritage Advisory Committee

Sample Resolution:

Whereas prior to Royal Assent of the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act provided Council of a Municipality the opportunity to give a notice of intention to designate a property within 90 days of a prescribed event; and

Whereas the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 amended Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act to provide that Council may give notice of intention to designate a property only if the property is listed in the register under subsection 27 (3), or a predecessor of that subsection, as of the date of the prescribed event;

Whereas the Heritage Advisory Committee has noted concerns regarding this amendment limiting the authority of municipal councils to designate properties with the potential to undermine the effectiveness of heritage preservation efforts across the province; and

Whereas the Heritage Advisory Committee has provided correspondence, attached hereto, to South Huron Council in relation to the concerns requesting Council support and to communicate these concerns to the Province and forward a copy of this motion to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Councils across the province, and Provincial MPP.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Corporation for the Municipality of South Huron request the Province reconsider the amendment to Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act; and that this motion and attached correspondence be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Councils across the province and MPP Thompson.



January 9, 2025

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Motion regarding Opposition to Provincial Legislation on Cycling Lanes and Support for Municipal Authority in Transportation Planning

At their Regular Meeting of Council on January 8, 2025, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced legislation requiring provincial approval for new cycling lanes;

AND WHEREAS this legislation would compel municipalities to demonstrate that proposed cycling lanes will not negatively impact vehicle traffic;

AND WHEREAS cycling infrastructure is crucial for environmental transportation, road safety, and public health, and provincial oversight in this matter represents an unwarranted intrusion into municipal authority;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Aylmer is evolving an active transportation plan to enhance walking and cycling infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has strongly criticized this proposed legislation as a "significant overreach" into municipal jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS AMO has stated that none of its 444 member municipalities were consulted or shown evidence justifying the province's proposed veto power over new bike lanes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Town of Aylmer strongly opposes the proposed provincial legislation governing bicycle lanes and affirms its support for maintaining municipal jurisdiction over cycling infrastructure decisions.

2. That the Town of Aylmer endorses the AMO's position that municipalities are better positioned than the Ministry of Transportation to make decisions about local transportation matters based on local knowledge and community input.
3. That the Town of Aylmer calls on the Government of Ontario to withdraw the proposed legislation and respect the established authority of municipalities to make informed decisions about local transportation needs, including the implementation of cycling lanes.
4. That the Town of Aylmer reaffirms its commitment to its transportation plan and the continued development of safe, environmentally friendly, efficient cycling infrastructure for the benefit of all residents.
5. That the Town Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Member of Provincial Parliament representing constituencies within the Elgin-Middlesex-London region, to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca) and all Municipalities in Ontario.
6. That the Town of Aylmer calls upon municipalities across Ontario to adopt similar resolutions in defense of local decision-making authority and sustainable, efficient and environmentally friendly transportation planning.

Thank you,

Owen Jaggard

Director of Legislative Services/Clerk | Town of Aylmer
46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7
519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446
ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria prabmeet.sarkaria@pc.ola.org
Hon. Rob Flack rob.flack@pc.ola.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
All municipalities

September 20, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin:

Ontario Deposit Return Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally address the recent discussions surrounding the Ontario Deposit Return Program, particularly regarding our community residents asking us about the recycling of nonalcoholic beverage plastics.

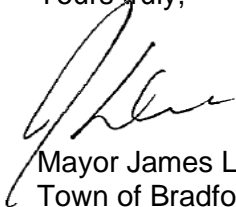
Whereas the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers, resulting in the removal of over 204,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, we recognize the potential for similar success with nonalcoholic beverages.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks highlighted in their June 2023 letter that they are considering the adoption of a deposit-and-return system for nonalcoholic beverages. This initiative presents a unique opportunity to further promote recycling, reduce litter, and encourage sustainable practices among consumers.

Therefore, I am proud to announce that our Council endorses the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers. We believe that this expansion will not only enhance environmental stewardship but also foster a culture of sustainability within our community.

We encourage all stakeholders to support this initiative and work collaboratively towards its implementation. Together, we can make a significant impact on our environment and set a positive example for future generations.

Yours truly,



Mayor James Leduc
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

CC:

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Member of Provincial Parliament for York-Simcoe
MPP Sandy Shaw, Opposition Environment, Conservation and Parks Critic
Ontario's Municipal Councils and Conservation Authorities



January is Crime Stoppers Month

14 January 2025

In January every year, Crime Stoppers programs across the country participate in National Crime Stoppers Month. The theme for 2025 is:

*“Empowering Through Education,
Preventing Through Action”*

The success of Crime Stoppers is a result of partnerships between the community, law enforcement and media. Crime Stoppers works to educate the public and create awareness on illegal activities in an effort to help promote the Canadian values of safety, empowerment and inclusion. Creating awareness and mobilizing Canadians in reporting suspicious or criminal activity anonymously requires a network of partners working together for a common end.

Crime Stoppers is a volunteer-run, non-profit charitable organization, that relies on the community to create awareness, promote the program, and support fundraising efforts. Tipsters remain completely anonymous, do not have to testify in court, and could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 if their information leads to charges being laid.

In Renfrew County, the Crime Stoppers program has helped police to lay nearly 1,300 charges, has assisted in recovering over \$750,000 worth of property and cash, and has helped remove over \$4.1 Million worth of drugs from our streets.

“Crime Doesn’t Pay...But Crime Stoppers Does”,
It’s true - and our Board has approved over \$34,000 in rewards.

**EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION.
PREVENTING THROUGH ACTION.**

SAY it HERE



How can you help?

Visit our website www.valleytips.ca to learn how to:

Make a Tip

Submit an anonymous tip about a past, present or future crime you have information about. Your tip might be the missing piece that the police need to further their investigation. And if your tip leads to charges being laid, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000!

Make a Donation

As a non-profit charitable organization, Crime Stoppers relies on the support of individual and corporate community safety partners to operate the program. Crime Stoppers does not receive regular public funding, so everything from the operating expenses to the reward fund is dependent on fundraising efforts.

Make a Commitment

Crime Stoppers is governed by a Board of Directors made up volunteers. From Board Member positions to volunteering at events, Crime Stoppers is always in search of dedicated community members to help keep the program running.

Want to know more?

If you would like more information, if your organization is hosting a community event with tabling and networking opportunities, or if you're hosting a meeting and would like to schedule a presentation from Crime Stoppers, please consider reaching out to info@valleytips.ca.

Safer communities start with you! Consider becoming a community safety partner with Renfrew County Crime Stoppers today.

**SAY IT
HERE**

Renfrew County
CRIME 
STOPPERS
www.valleytips.ca
1-800-222-TIPS

From: [Rae Stanley](#)
To: [Rachel Richer](#); [Chris Dowser](#); [Fran Kelly-Chamberlain](#); [Karen LeClerc](#); [HCM Clerk-Treasurer](#); [dbennett@hortontownship.ca](#); [dproctor@hortontownship.ca](#); [gcampbell@hortontownship.ca](#); [dhumphries@hortontownship.ca](#); [twebster@hortontownship.ca](#); [hdillabough@hortontownship.ca](#); [mayor@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorbrowne@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorsmith@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillormacmillan@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorkuehl@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorpecoskie@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorlavigne@khrtownship.ca](#); [tgorgerat@khrtownship.ca](#); [sbennett@lvtownship.ca](#); [kwatt@lvtownship.ca](#); [jgauthier@lvtownship.ca](#); [whewitt@lvtownship.ca](#); [bhugli@lvtownship.ca](#); [bking@lvtownship.ca](#); [awren@lvtownship.ca](#); [dsauriol@lvtownship.ca](#); [mayor@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.blank@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.maika@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.olsheski@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.shulist@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [cao@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [mmackenzie@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [lhoddinott@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [krosien@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [sbrum@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [rcampbell@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [lee@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [jbrose@nalgonawil.com](#); [mberndt@nalgonawil.com](#); [dbuckwald@nalgonawil.com](#); [jreiche@nalgonawil.com](#); [mrobinson@nalgonawil.com](#); [clerk@nalgonawil.com](#); [nnicholson@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [cregier@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [colmstead@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [moorem@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [mbell@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [ctabbert@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [jtrimm@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [iburton@whitewaterregion.ca](#)
Subject: Fwd: letter to editor re Renfrew "Climate Action Plan"
Date: January 18, 2025 10:56:43 PM

Dear Mayors (Reeves, Wardens) and Councillors in Renfrew County,

FYI -as a follow up to Maggie Braun of KICLEI Canada's deputation at the Renfrew County Council Meeting on Jan. 15, I am sending a letter I have submitted on the subject to local newspapers.

Thank you for your consideration and attention,

Rae Stanley

Dear Letters Editor,

I once heard someone say, “When reason is eclipsed, monsters are unleashed”. The following is a tale of an eclipse of reason with monstrous results.

Some weeks ago Renfrew County Council received recommendations for a county “Climate Action Plan”, presented by representatives from Ainsworth Consulting back in November. This plan does not target local concerns, but comes directly from the U.N. Sustainability Development Goals (articulated in the U.N. Brundtland Commission Report in 1987) which clearly states, among other things, that your land cannot be treated like an ordinary asset controlled by individuals but must come under the control of governments to fulfill their objectives.

If these recommendations are implemented as is, they would come with enormous costs both socially and economically for Renfrew County with, I submit, catastrophic results. Just to give an idea of the costs involved, Ainsworth was paid over 70,000 dollars of your taxes (even if it was grant money), just for their consultation.

The implementation of electric fleets, and other “green” infrastructure in itself, would consume local budgets.

The Ainsworth objectives come directly from the U.N. playbook for reducing CO2, which they deem a dangerous pollutant... driving “Catastrophic Climate Change”. Even by the U.N.’s own assertion, this is an eclipse of reason. In 2001 the U.N. International Panel on Climate Change wrote “The climate system is a coupled non-linear chaotic system and therefore long-

term predictions of future climate states is not possible.” That’s using their own reasoning.

Just to give a taste of what the county will be facing through implementing the U.N. goals stated in Agenda 21, Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2050:

Agenda 2030 aims among other things for “Zero meat and milk consumption by 2030“, hence the cricket farms Trudeau sponsored in southern Ontario, and the targeting of cows due to “dangerous” “greenhouse (methane)gas emissions” from their belching and passing gas.

More generally the objective of these U.N. Agendas is to abolish private homes, animal farming, private vehicles, gas powered vehicles, and to control what we eat, how many trips we take....The Ainsworth project involves the collection of our data in all these areas which brings up serious privacy concerns on top of it.

Another look at an “eclipse of reason”: the goal of Agenda 2050 is to get to “Net Zero carbon emissions”. One counsellor remarked at the Ainsworth presentation, that Canada has millions of acres of trees that act as a carbon sink and that we are already below net zero. (Maggie Braun of ICLEI in her Ontario report approximates that we sink 3 times the amount of carbon that we produce in Ontario).

His reply was, “Existing natural infrastructure like forests or wetlands are not counted in emissions reductions calculations because doing so doesn’t achieve the overall goal of decarbonizing the economy. The general goal is to reduce emissions as much as possible then use carbon storage to take up any residual emissions.” Talk about, “Not seeing the forest for the trees!”

Apparently, the authority for this Climate Action Plan comes from the county’s Strategic Plan for 2023-2026. This is not binding, but simply a “plan” and municipal councils are totally free to reject the recommendations. We need to become aware of what is happening and work with our local councils, who have the power to challenge this. They need our input and support to focus on our local needs and we have not given them this support of late.

Marshall McLuhan said, “There is absolutely no inevitability as long as there is willingness to contemplate what is happening”. It’s time to wake up.

Rae Stanley Barry’s Bay



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 23, 2025

UOV OPP INVESTIGATING HOME INVASION IN PEMBROKE

Incident Believed to be Targeted, One Person Seriously Hurt

(PEMBROKE, ON) - The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating a home invasion which left one person with serious injuries.

The incident took place on January 21, 2025, at approximately 8:00 a.m. on Pembroke Street West in Pembroke. Three men broke into the home and the victim was assaulted with blunt objects. The victim was transported to a local hospital and later transferred to an Ottawa-area trauma centre with serious, non-life-threatening injuries. It is believed this was a targeted incident and there is no risk to the general public.

Police are seeking assistance from the public to help identify three persons of interest. One individual was wearing light blue pants, a plaid hooded jacket, and carrying a black and yellow tool bag. A second individual was wearing a black hoodie and a tan vest. The third person was wearing black pants, a black hoodie and carrying a black and grey Champion brand backpack. All three individuals were wearing ski masks. A photo is attached.

The investigation is continuing with the assistance of OPP's Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) and Renfrew County Crime Unit. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Upper Ottawa Valley OPP at 613-732-3332 or Pembroke/Renfrew County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or at www.valleytips.ca.

-30-

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast



Ministry of Rural Affairs

Ministère des Affaires rurales

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay, 17th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3
Tel: 647-329-1485

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 647-329-1485



January 19, 2025

Charlotte Toope
Clerk/Treasurer
United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria
clerk@headclaramaria.ca

Dear Ms. Toope:

It is my pleasure to share our government's new plan to support rural economic development, increase and nurture a rural workforce, and strengthen rural communities.

[Enabling Opportunity: Ontario's Rural Economic Development Strategy](#) is designed to help rural communities leverage new economic opportunities and prepare themselves for growth.

The Strategy focuses on three key pillars:

- **Safe and Strong Rural Communities** – Improving local economic development capacity and championing local leadership, supporting the rehabilitation of municipal and community infrastructure, optimizing rural connectivity, and supporting communities in developing plans for housing and transportation to ensure rural communities are places where people want to live, work and play.
- **Business Development and Attraction**- Supporting rural and Indigenous communities and other economic development partners in strengthening and growing rural business, encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation, attracting investment, revitalizing downtowns and diversifying regional economies.
- **Growing the Rural Workforce** – Helping grow local talent, raising awareness of job opportunities available in rural Ontario, supporting workers in obtaining the skills needed to succeed, and attracting and retaining workers so that rural communities and small towns thrive.

We brought together municipal and Indigenous leaders and rural stakeholders to provide input into the development of the new strategy. We held 13 regional roundtables to hear the thoughts, experiences, ideas, and inspiration of those living and working in rural Ontario and received many online submissions through our website.

By listening to rural residents, we created a Strategy that represents their concerns. My thanks go out to all of those who participated in the consultation process and I look forward to continuing these conversations.

.../2

Our government has a vision for thriving rural communities and believes that a strong and dynamic rural Ontario is essential for the success of the province's economy. As a proud resident of rural Ontario, I am confident in saying the future is bright for rural Ontario, especially when we work together

By working together, we can continue to build strong economies and position rural Ontario as a destination of choice for individuals, families, and businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa M. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Rural Affairs

Ministry of Rural Affairs

Ministère des Affaires rurales

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay, 17th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3
Tel: 647-329-1485

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 647-329-1485



Bonjour,

J'ai le plaisir de vous faire part du nouveau plan de notre gouvernement pour favoriser le développement économique des collectivités rurales, accroître et cultiver une main-d'œuvre en milieu rural et renforcer les collectivités rurales.

Meilleures perspectives : Stratégie ontarienne de développement économique des collectivités rurales vise à aider les collectivités rurales à tirer profit de nouvelles possibilités économiques et à se préparer à la croissance.

La stratégie est axée sur trois piliers clés :

- **Des collectivités sécuritaires et fortes** — soutenir les petites villes et les collectivités rurales en abolissant les obstacles au développement économique et en s'assurant que les régions rurales de l'Ontario ont de solides éléments fondamentaux en place pour permettre la réussite des collectivités rurales.
- **Le développement et l'attraction des entreprises** — aider les collectivités rurales et d'autres partenaires du développement économique à renforcer et à faire croître les entreprises rurales, à encourager l'entrepreneuriat et l'innovation, à attirer des investissements, à revitaliser les centres-ville et à diversifier les économies régionales.
- **La croissance de la main-d'œuvre en milieu rural** — faire croître le talent local, accroître la sensibilisation sur les possibilités d'emploi offertes dans l'Ontario rural, aider les travailleurs à obtenir les compétences nécessaires pour réussir et attirer et retenir les travailleurs afin que les collectivités rurales et les petites villes prospèrent.

Nous avons réuni des dirigeants municipaux et autochtones ainsi que des intervenants du milieu rural afin qu'ils fournissent des observations relativement à l'élaboration de la nouvelle stratégie. Nous avons tenu 13 tables rondes régionales pour écouter les réflexions, les expériences, les idées et l'inspiration des personnes qui vivent et travaillent dans les régions rurales ontariennes, en plus d'avoir reçu plusieurs commentaires en ligne par le truchement de notre site Web.

Les gouvernements précédents ont ignoré les besoins des régions rurales de l'Ontario. Leur vue à court terme a laissé ces collectivités se débrouiller seules et a entravé leur capacité de faire croître la main-d'œuvre locale, d'attirer des investissements et d'appuyer les collectivités. Notre gouvernement adopte une approche très différente. En écoutant les résidents des régions rurales, nous avons créé une stratégie qui répond à leurs préoccupations. Je tiens à remercier tous ceux et celles qui ont participé au processus consultatif et j'ai hâte de poursuivre ces conversations.

.../2

Notre gouvernement a une vision pour la prospérité des collectivités rurales et croit qu'un Ontario rural fort et dynamique est essentiel au succès de l'économie de la province. En tant que fière résidente de l'Ontario rural, je n'hésite pas à affirmer que l'avenir est prometteur pour les régions rurales de l'Ontario, en particulier lorsque nous travaillons ensemble.

En travaillant ensemble, nous pouvons continuer à bâtir de solides économies et à positionner l'Ontario rural comme une destination de choix pour les particuliers, les familles et les entreprises.

Veillez recevoir mes plus cordiales salutations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa M. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Lisa M. Thompson
La ministre des Affaires rurales,



Jerry Acchione
Mayor
City of Woodstock
500 Dundas St.
Woodstock, ON N4S 0A7
519-539-2382 x2100
mayor@cityofwoodstock.ca

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Via email premier@ontario.ca

The Honorable Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
438 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8
Via email MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Dear The Honorable Doug Ford and The Honorable Michael Parsa,

I am writing on behalf of Woodstock City Council to express the urgent and pressing need for adequate and sustainable funding for the Children's Aid Society of Oxford County and other child welfare agencies throughout Ontario. These organizations play a vital role in safeguarding and enhancing the health, well-being, and safety of our children, youth, and families and deserves appropriate support and attention from our elected officials.

Our community, like many across the province, relies on the Children's Aid Society and other child welfare agencies to not only protect children and youth from abuse or neglect, but provide critical crisis intervention, early intervention, and preventative services. Their work ensures children receive necessary care at the most crucial times, close to their own homes, allowing families to remain intact and thrive together.

The lack of access to healthcare, mental health supports, poverty reduction initiatives and affordable housing is taking a toll on families and caregivers. These systemic shortfalls propel child welfare agencies into roles they were never intended to assume, filling gaps in services to ensure the well-being of children, youth, and families.

Without sufficient financial backing, these agencies are strained to a breaking point. They operate without the ability to deny families the services they desperately need. They cannot turn clients away, manage waitlists, or declare services unavailable. Yet, even with remarkable community partnerships, these agencies lack the means to expedite or ensure access to necessary treatments for those in their care.

The repercussions of this funding deficit extends well beyond individual families, affecting the community at large. Our local Children's Aid Society is supporting an ever-increasing number of youth exhibiting complex behaviors. These challenges translate into higher intervention costs, increases costs for and pressure on police and emergency service providers.

The lack of access to critical early intervention services is correlating to a distressing rise in youth homelessness. The financial sustainability and stability of the child welfare sector can no longer be deferred

for debate. It is imperative the funding formula is updated to prioritize trauma-informed, culturally relevant and proactive care.

On behalf of Woodstock City Council, I urge the province to prioritize and support the financial needs of these vital agencies. All levels of government must work together to improve upstream intervention and support to prevent the tragic outcomes we are seeing as a result of inadequate funding.

Thank you for considering this urgent matter that affects our community and its future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry Acchione', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mayor Jerry Acchione
City of Woodstock

Cc:

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MPP - ernie.hardemanco@pc.ola.org

Safe and Well Oxford - safewelloxford@gmail.com

Children's Aid Society Oxford County - info@casoxford.on.ca

MEDIA RELATIONS

9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
(613) 735-7288
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca



**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

RELEASE DATE:

January 23, 2025

County of Renfrew officials attend 2025 ROMA conference in Toronto

Representatives from the County of Renfrew met with several Members of Provincial Parliament during the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference to discuss and advocate for issues and challenges faced by rural municipalities in Ontario.

Held in Toronto from January 19-21, the theme of this year's conference was "Rural Routes". The gathering offered several opportunities for educational programming, expert panels, keynotes, and interaction with key municipal sector suppliers, all from a rural perspective and addressing the day-to-day realities of local municipal leaders.

Aside from taking in the keynote address by political columnist Chantal Hébert, remarks from Ontario Premier Doug Ford and a number of other provincial ministers and opposition party leaders, the ROMA Conference offered municipal officials from the County of Renfrew the chance to foster partnerships and relationships across the sector, and advocate for change.

The County of Renfrew was fortunate to take part in several delegation meetings:

- Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services – Urging the government to reconsider further funding reductions to Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County.
- Ministry of Education – Requesting at least 250 additional child-care spaces in Renfrew County under the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program.
- Ministry of Infrastructure – Addressing the reductions to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and the effect on the County of Renfrew's ability to manage repairs, upgrades, new infrastructure, and ensure resident safety and local economic activity.
- Ministry of Transportation – Seeking continued support on the expansion of Highway 17 to Renfrew, a major infrastructure project aimed at improving transport, boosting regional economic development, reducing traffic congestion, and enhancing safety. The Ministry was also asked to support additional lengths of the Algonquin Trail as it extends to link with northern Ontario.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – A very timely discussion on seeking support for the County's concept for a Campus of Care (known as Generations: a transformative project to create a seniors' campus of care integrated with child-care spaces). A targeted funding program would enable the expansion of this much needed and cost-effective component of the care continuum.
- Ministry of Health – Seeking to receive a long-term commitment to base funding for the Community Paramedics in Long-Term Care Program to ensure this continued lifeline for seniors and vulnerable residents.

- Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and Ministry of Health (two separate meetings) – Discussing Mesa Program funding to support Community Paramedics and Mental Health and Addictions Counsellors to aid vulnerable populations. This model promotes effective solutions to mental health, addiction, emergency services, and housing issues by coordinating multi-sector approaches through collaboration among the County of Renfrew’s Administration, Community Services, Development and Property, and Emergency Services departments.
- Ministry of College and Universities – Discussing the need to expand the Learn and Stay grant eligibility for Primary Care and Advanced Care Paramedics to rural Eastern Ontario, as local data shows increasing demand for emergency services, risking system strain and staffing shortages. A request was made for better incentives to attract paramedics in rural areas to enhance access, improve service flow, and maintain service delivery.

"Attending the ROMA conference is crucial for Renfrew County as it provides a unique platform to directly communicate our community's needs and priorities to provincial leaders, as we reinforce the need for health and service equity," said Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon. "The opportunity to engage in delegation meetings with provincial politicians and provincial staff allows us to advocate for strategic investments and collaborative solutions that will enhance the quality of life for our residents. These interactions are vital in ensuring that our voices are heard and that we can work together to address the challenges and opportunities facing our County. We look forward to the days and weeks ahead as we seek further meetings with the ministries to expand upon our made-in-Renfrew County solutions."

County officials had the opportunity to join several other municipal delegations to show support for their requests, including a meeting with the City of Pembroke to discuss the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) Allocation provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and with the Township of Whitewater Region and the Ministry of Agri-Business to seek support for the expansion of a business in the Cobden area.

Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services and Chief of the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, presented the Mesa initiative during the Rural Responses to Mental Health and Addictions session which explored the unique considerations around mental health and addictions in rural communities, as well as featuring successful rural responses to this crisis. The packed room was extremely impressed with the approach taken by the County with many staying behind to ask additional questions.

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) is the rural voice of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). The Association is an integral part of AMO and a number of its Executive Members serve on the AMO Board of Directors. Policy, research and advocacy activities are undertaken by ROMA through AMO. ROMA represents rural communities through its policy and advocacy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Kelley	Chief Administrative Officer	613-735-7288
Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288





Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 23, 2025

UOV OPP REMIND SNOWMOBILERS - NO MUFFLER OR EXHAUST MODIFICATIONS ALLOWED

(PEMBROKE, ON) – The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding snowmobile owners that it is illegal to modify or change the exhaust on snowmobiles if the sled is being used on public trails.

The reminder comes after recent complaints of loudly modified snowmobiles on local trails disturbing area residents. Modified exhaust systems, often referred to as “cans” or “pipes”, can significantly increase the decibel level of the snowmachine. The aftermarket components do not adequately suppress or muffle exhaust noise. The resulting increase in sound resonates across open areas, such as lakes and fields, effectively disturbing the tranquility of nearby homes and neighbourhoods.

Some snowmobile owners choose to remove the stock, or Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), exhaust in favour of an aftermarket product that may claim an increase in performance. Whether the exhaust is modified for perceived performance gains or attention seeking behaviour, the aftermarket modifications are in direct conflict with a specific section of the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act (MSVA).

Modifying, altering, or changing the exhaust system on any snowmobile carries a fine of \$110 and potential removal from the trail system.

The UOV OPP and OPP's East Region Snow Vehicle, All terrain Vehicle, Vessel Enforcement/Education (SAVE) Team will conduct snow vehicle patrols throughout the season to ensure compliance with MSVA and for the safety of all.

A photo of a modified snowmobile exhaust system is attached.

-30-

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué



Ministry of Natural Resources

Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Policy Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Direction de la politique d'exploitation des
ressources et des risques naturels.
Division de l'élaboration des politiques
300, rue Water
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

November 25, 2024

Subject: *Decision on Discussion Paper: Regulating Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage Projects in Ontario, and Proposal on Enabling the Development of Commercial-Scale Geologic Carbon Storage in Ontario: The Geologic Carbon Storage Act*

Hello,

Over the past two years, the Ministry of Natural Resources has been taking a measured and phased approach to enabling and regulating geologic carbon storage in Ontario. Carbon storage is new to the province, and developing a comprehensive framework to regulate this activity would help ensure that it is done responsibly, with measures in place to safeguard people and the environment.

Geologic carbon storage (further referred to as carbon storage) involves injecting captured carbon dioxide (CO₂) into deep geological formations for permanent storage. This technology could provide industries in Ontario with a critical tool for managing their emissions and contributing to the achievement of Ontario's emissions reduction targets.

Today, we are writing to notify you that 1) a decision has been made to proceed with the development of a framework for enabling commercial-scale geologic carbon storage (Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-8767), and 2) that a new *Geologic Carbon Storage Act* is being proposed (Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-9299).

These developments represent significant steps towards Phase 3 of Ontario's [approach to enabling and regulating geologic carbon storage](#). Ontario aims to have a framework in place by summer 2025. Initially, the ministry anticipates that commercial-scale projects would be proposed in Southwestern Ontario, where the geology is expected to be the most suitable.

- 1) In the summer of this year, we shared information about the development of a legislative and regulatory framework for commercial-scale geologic carbon storage. This information included a discussion paper that provided an overview of how various components of the framework could function. Based on feedback received, a decision was made to move forward with the development of the framework.

More details on the decision, the feedback received, and the original discussion paper can be viewed in the decision notice on the Environmental Registry of Ontario: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-8767>.

- 2) Based on comments received in response to the discussion paper, as well as feedback received in previous phases of framework development, a *Geologic Carbon Storage Act* (the “Act”) is being proposed. The proposed Act would enable the regulation of research and evaluation activities, and carbon storage activities associated with the permanent storage of carbon dioxide in underground geologic formations in Ontario.

We encourage you to review, and submit feedback on, the legislative proposal on the [Environmental Registry of Ontario posting # 019-9299](#).

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Andrew Ogilvie, Manager of Resources Development Section, at 705-761-5815 or through email: Resources.Development@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch

Corporate Policies and Procedures				
DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Engineering				POLICY #: PW-24
POLICY: Community Safety Zone				
DATE CREATED: January 2025	REVIEW DATE:	REVISION DATE:	COVERAGE: County of Renfrew Roads	PAGE #: 1 of 5

POLICY STATEMENT

The County of Renfrew as a road authority, has a need to ensure that any Community Safety Zone on a County Road is consistent with the Department’s primary objective of providing and maintaining a safe road system.

Community Safety Zones (“CSZ”) are to be used on “parts of a roadway” where public safety is of special concern to a community. The CSZ warrant outlines two major components. The first component, Warrant 1, Designated Areas of Special Concern, must be satisfied before continuing onto Warrant 2. Warrant 2 considers collision and risk components. One of these components must be satisfied in order for a CSZ to be implemented. A checklist to assist in implementing CSZs is contained in Appendix I.

BACKGROUND

1. The *Municipal Act, 2001* in Section 11 permits a municipality to pass by-laws pertaining to the public assets of the Municipality for the purpose of exercising its authority under the Act, and to pass by-laws pertaining to highways.
2. Community Safety Zones were introduced on Ontario roads in the Fall of 1998. As stated in the Ontario Traffic Manual Book 5 (OTM Book 5), “The purpose of the Community Safety Zone is to inform the driver that they are entering a zone that the community has designated as an area where the safety of its children/citizens is paramount.”
3. All rules of the road remain unchanged; however, there are increases to the fines for moving violations that occur within a Community Safety Zone. As such, a by-law and the appropriate on-street signing (as listed in OTM Book 5) are required to enforce a Community Safety Zone.

WARRANTS

There is no specific warrant provided in the Ontario Traffic Manual for Community Safety Zones. The effectiveness of a CSZ depends on selective and appropriate deployment. Drivers should not encounter a Community Safety Zone in such a wide variety of applications that they lose their special designation. Rather, as cited in OTM Book 5, Community Safety Zones

Corporate Policies and Procedures				
DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Engineering				POLICY #: PW-24
POLICY: Community Safety Zone				
DATE CREATED: January 2025	REVIEW DATE:	REVISION DATE:	COVERAGE: County of Renfrew Roads	PAGE #: 2 of 5

are intended for “roadways near schools, day care centres, playgrounds, parks, hospitals, senior’s residences, and may also be used for collision prone locations within a community.”

An important aspect of the effectiveness of a Community Safety Zone is the ability for police to enforce it. As such, the input of the police is strongly recommended when assessing a section of road for a Community Safety Zone. There are no specific guidelines related to the length or area for a Community Safety Zone; however, the OTM Book 5 indicates that the entire length of a roadway is not the intended application. Rather, they should be limited to areas/segments of special concern to the community.

The designation of a Community Safety Zone requires careful consideration and therefore a “blanket” Community Safety Zone designation in all school zones is not recommended.

COUNTY OF RENFREW COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONE WARRANT CRITERIA

The County of Renfrew will employ the Community Safety Zone warrant criteria which have two separate warrants, both of which must be met in order to install a Community Safety Zone. The first component, Designated Areas of Special Consideration, recommends that Community Safety Zones only be considered for implementation in areas of special concern that are obvious to road users.

These areas include:

- Community centres;
- Elementary or secondary schools;
- High pedestrian traffic locations (defined as a location experiencing an average of 100 pedestrians per hour or more for any eight hours of the day); and
- Seniors’ centres and residences.

The second component, *Safety Performance*, consists of collision and risk components that consider the following factors:

- Posted speed;
- Daily traffic volumes;
- Number of lanes;
- Length of sidewalks;
- Pedestrian volumes; and

Corporate Policies and Procedures				
DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Engineering				POLICY #: PW-24
POLICY: Community Safety Zone				
DATE CREATED: January 2025	REVIEW DATE:	REVISION DATE:	COVERAGE: County of Renfrew Roads	PAGE #: 3 of 5

- Intersections and entrances per kilometre.

The collision warrant specifies a rate of collision threshold and the risk warrant involves analyzing the features of the road section. Before the risk warrant for a road section can be evaluated, there must be positive confirmation from the local police service from field observations that there is an unusually high violation rate at the location. The policy guides the analyst to assign a risk factor score to road sections, which will determine the potential for safety improvements.

POLICY DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy the following definitions shall apply:

“Highway” has the same meaning as provided in the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Section 1 and pertains only to those highways that fall under the control and jurisdiction of the County of Renfrew.

“Community Safety Zone (CSZ)” refers to a zone that the community has designated as an area where the safety of its children/citizens is paramount.

POLICY CONTENT/PROCEDURE

Community Safety Zones (“CSZ”) are to be used on “parts of a roadway” where public safety is of special concern to a community. The CSZ warrant outlines two major components. The first component, Warrant 1, Designated Areas of Special Concern, must be satisfied before continuing onto Warrant 2. Warrant 2 considers collision and risk components. One of these components must be satisfied in order for a CSZ to be implemented. A checklist to assist in implementing CSZs is contained in Appendix I.

WARRANT 1: DESIGNATED AREAS OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

CSZs must only be implemented at locations of special concern that are obvious to the road user. Therefore, CSZs must only be implemented at the following locations:

Corporate Policies and Procedures				
DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Engineering				POLICY #: PW-24
POLICY: Community Safety Zone				
DATE CREATED: January 2025	REVIEW DATE:	REVISION DATE:	COVERAGE: County of Renfrew Roads	PAGE #: 4 of 5

- Elementary or secondary schools
- Community centres
- High pedestrian traffic locations
- Seniors' centres and residences

A proposed CSZ must be a minimum of one kilometre in length to a maximum of 2.5 kilometres. For the purposes of this warrant, a high pedestrian location is defined as a location experiencing an average of 100 pedestrians per hour or more for any 8 hours of the day.

WARRANT 2: SAFETY PERFORMANCE

The safety performance is comprised of collision history and risk components. Either the collision history or the risk component must be satisfied for the safety warrant to be met. Roads with a posted speed greater than 60 km/h shall not be considered for a CSZ.

Collision History

A CSZ should be implemented if the collision ratio is less than 1:900 (collisions per year to AADT), averaged over 36 consecutive months.

Risk Factor

It is recognized that a significant safety concern may exist even though it is not shown in the collision record; therefore, a second warrant based on the elements of risk is available. Prior to using the risk warrant, field observations or the local police service must verify that there is an unusually high violation rate at the subject location. The minimum accepted value for the risk factor is 15 based on the scoring summarized in the risk factor table below.

Corporate Policies and Procedures

DEPARTMENT:
Public Works and Engineering

POLICY #:
PW-24

POLICY:
Community Safety Zone

DATE CREATED:
January 2025

REVIEW DATE:

REVISION DATE:

COVERAGE:
County of Renfrew
Roads

PAGE #:
5 of 5

Risk Factor

Risk Factor	High (Score 3)	Moderate (Score 2)	Low Score 1	Score
Posted speed (km/h)	40	50	60	
Average daily volume	Over 10,000	5,000 to 10,000	Under 5,000	
Number of lanes	>4	3 or 4	2	
Length of sidewalks	<25%	25 to 75%	>75%	
Truck volume	>5%	3-5%	<3%	
Pedestrians crossing in any 8 hours	>100	50 to 100	<50	
Intersection and entrances per km	>10	4 to 10	<4	

APPENDIX OR APPENDICES

Appendix I: Checklist for Recommending and Implementing Community Safety Zones

The following check list is to be used when considering implementing a CSZ on a street in conjunction with the CSZ policy document.

Location of Road in Question: _____
 Date Inquiry was received: _____
 Date Inquiry was completed: _____
 Name of Reviewer: _____

1. WARRANT 1: DESIGNATED AREAS OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION Is this

location a:

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| • School zone or in proximity to a school zone? | Yes | No |
| • Community Centre? | Yes | No |
| • High Pedestrian Traffic Location?* | Yes | No |
| • Senior's Centre or Residence? | Yes | No |

*High pedestrian traffic is defined as 100 pedestrians per hour or more for any 8 hours of the day.

If yes has been checked for any of the above options, move on to Section 2 – Safety Performance

2. WARRANT 2: SAFETY PERFORMANCE

2.1. Collision History

Warrant Criteria	Recommendation	Length of Road in Question	Meets Warrant Criteria
Posted or statutory speed?	CSZs shall not be placed on road sections with a speed limit greater than 60 km/hr.	Insert speed limit: _____/Km/hr	Yes No
What is the collision ratio?	A CSZ should be implemented if the collision ration is less than 1:900 (collisions per year to AADT) averaged over 36 months	Insert collision ratio: 1: _____	Yes No
If collision ratio does not meet warrant criteria but significant safety concerns still exist, move on to the following risk factor questions.			

Prior to using the risk warrant matrix, field observations or the local Police service must verify that there is an unusually high violation rate at the subject location.

2.2. Risk Factor

*Must have a score of 15 or higher to meet risk factor components.

Risk Factor	High (Score 3 points)	Medium (Score 2 points)	Low (Score 1 point)	Score of Road in Question	Meets Risk Factor Component
Posted Speed	40	50	60		Yes No
Average Daily Volume	Over 10,000	5,000 – 10,000	Under 5,000		
Number of Lanes	More than 4	3 or 4	2		
Length of Sidewalks	Less than 25%	25 – 75%	More than 75%		
Truck Volume	More than 5%	3 – 5%	Less than 3%		
Pedestrians Crossing in any 8 Hours	More than 100	50 – 100	Less than 50		
Intersections and Entrances per KM	More than 10	4 – 10	Less than 4		
Total Score for Road Section in Question					

Does the road section in question meet risk factor components?

Yes No

RECOMMENDATION

This road section IS / IS NOT recommended for CSZ designation.

By-law passed to designate CSZ

By-law Number _____
Date _____

Certified a true copy
Tammy Gorgeat
Tammy Gorgeat, CAO/Clerk/Treasurer
Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards



Naturally Spirited

KILLALOE HAGARTY RICHARDS

TOWNSHIP OF KILLALOE, HAGARTY AND RICHARDS

Date: January 7, 2025

Resolution No.: 02

Moved by *BAS*

Seconded by *Harold Fungis*

WHEREAS the County of Renfrew's Road Rationalization Assessment, received on November 13, 2024, proposes the transfer of Simpson Pit Road and an additional section of road from Ruby Road to Rochefort Road to the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards; and

WHEREAS Council of the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards has carefully reviewed the proposed road transfers and the potential impact on the municipality, and has identified that as a small, lower-tier municipality with limited financial resources, the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards would face significant challenges in absorbing the additional responsibility of maintaining and upgrading these roadways; and

WHEREAS the costs related to road maintenance, upgrades, winter operations, and required repairs would place a significant financial strain on the Township's resources, resulting in an unsustainable burden and potentially leading to infrastructure deterioration, safety risks, and inconsistencies in service levels and the added responsibility would require more equipment, staff, and operational adjustments, leading to increased costs for plowing, salting, sanding, and other maintenance activities, thereby resulting in a higher tax burden for Township's residents;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards direct staff to send the attached letter and formally expresses its opposition to the proposed transfers of Simpson Pit Road and the additional section of road from Ruby Road to Rochefort Road, as outlined in the County of Renfrew's proposed Road Rationalization Assessment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council for the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards respectfully requests the County of Renfrew reconsider the proposal and collaborate with affected municipalities to find alternative solutions that do not shift financial responsibility to those unable to absorb these costs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the County of Renfrew and all 17 lower-tier municipalities for consideration.

Carried: ✓

Not Carried: _____

TO TENANTS LOCATED ON CROWN LAND

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is responsible for property assessment in the Province of Ontario. MPAC does not send Assessment Notices to Crown land tenants in organized municipalities. In unorganized areas, MPAC notifies Crown land tenants of changes to their assessment via the MPAC assessment notice.

As a tenant on Crown land, your total tax payable is based on MPAC's Current Value Assessment. If you wish to review the assessed value of your tenanted site:

1. Contact MPAC directly

By mail: 1340 Pickering Parkway, Suite 101, Pickering, ON L1V 0C4

By telephone: 1-866-296-6722

By e-mail: enquiry@mpac.ca

You will be required to provide the roll number associated with your property, which can be found on your previous tax invoice. If you wish to view a profile of your property online, contact MPAC for an access key, then visit www.aboutmyproperty.ca.

If you are dissatisfied with MPAC's Current Value Assessment:

The mandatory first step is to file a Request for Reconsideration (RfR) with MPAC by **March 31, 2024**. If you are still dissatisfied with your assessment of the property after you receive the results of the RfR from MPAC, you can appeal to the Assessment Review Board (ARB), an independent tribunal of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario. The appeal deadline is 90 days after the mailing of the RfR decision.

Note that you will require authorization from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to act on its behalf should you wish to have MPAC reconsider the assessment of the property. **Therefore, by means of this letter, MNR is authorizing you, the tenant, to act as its Agent for the Request for Reconsideration process for your tenanted site.**

Yours Truly,

Lara Oosting
A/Supervisor, Land Business Unit

DESTINATAIRES : LOCATAIRES DE TERRES DE LA COURONNE

La Société d'évaluation foncière des municipalités (SÉFM) est chargée de l'évaluation foncière en Ontario. La SÉFM n'envoie pas d'avis d'évaluation aux locataires de terres de la Couronne qui se trouvent dans des municipalités. Dans les secteurs non érigés en municipalités, la SÉFM informe les locataires de terres de la Couronne des modifications apportées à leur évaluation par le biais d'un avis d'évaluation.

En tant que locataire de terres de la Couronne, la taxe totale que vous devez payer est calculée en fonction de l'évaluation à la valeur actuelle de la SÉFM. Si vous désirez faire réexaminer la valeur imposable du lieu que vous louez :

1. Communiquer directement avec la SÉFM.

Par courrier : 1340 promenade Pickering, bureau 101, Pickering ON L1V 0C4

Par téléphone : 1 866 296-6722.

Par courriel : enquiry@mpac.ca.

Vous devrez indiquer le numéro de rôle se rapportant à votre propriété qui a été fournie sur votre dernière avis d'imposition. Si vous désirez voir, en ligne, les données générales sur votre propriété, demandez à la SÉFM de vous remettre une clé d'accès, puis rendez-vous au site www.aboutmyproperty.ca.

Voici la marche à suivre si vous n'êtes pas satisfait de l'évaluation à la valeur actuelle de la SÉFM :

La première étape obligatoire consiste à déposer une demande de réexamen à la SÉFM avant le **31 Mars 2024**.

Si vous n'êtes toujours pas satisfait de votre évaluation de la propriété après avoir reçu les résultats de la RfR de la SÉFM, vous pouvez faire appel auprès de la Commission de révision de l'évaluation foncière (ARB), un tribunal indépendant du ministère du Procureur général de l'Ontario.

La date limite d'appel est de 90 jours après l'envoi de la décision RfR.

Veillez noter que si vous souhaitez que la SÉFM réexamine l'évaluation de la propriété, vous aurez besoin d'une autorisation du ministère des Richesses naturelles (MRN) pour agir en son nom. **Par conséquent, au moyen de la présente lettre, le MRN vous autorise, en tant que locataire, à agir comme son agent dans le processus de demande de réexamen du lieu que vous louez.**

Je vous prie d'agréer mes salutations distinguées.

Lara Oosting
A/Superviseur de l'Unité de la gestion opérationnelle des terres



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 22, 2025

THEFT OF ALCOHOL FROM PEMBROKE BUSINESS UNDER INVESTIGATION *Police Seek Assistance To Identify Person Of Interest*

(PEMBROKE, ON) – Members of the Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating the theft of a quantity of alcohol from a business in east end Pembroke.

The incident took place on the afternoon of January 5, 2025, after an adult female entered the store and stole bottles of alcohol.

Investigators have not yet been unable to identify the Person Of Interest (POI) in this case. Police are now seeking assistance from the public to identify the POI who is described as approximately 5'9" in height with a medium build and long dark hair. They were last seen wearing a black toque and scarf, a light green coat, light grey sweater and carrying a pink backpack, black bag and a green bag. A photo of the POI is attached.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Upper Ottawa Valley OPP at 613-732-3332 or Pembroke/Renfrew County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or at www.valleytips.ca.

- 30 -

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast



Upper Ottawa Valley Residents' Views Regarding Local Government Action & Climate Change

In honour of Earth Day, on April 24, 2024, three representatives from our **Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Climate Matters! Action Group** asked Renfrew County Council (RCC) to host the creation of a climate action committee for communities and residents in the Upper Ottawa Valley. RCC had previously contracted a consultant to work with staff collecting data towards the County's mitigation goal of achieving NetZero by 2050, so they were temporarily at capacity on the climate action file. We were told they would respond to our request before the end of the year.

Prior and subsequent to our April appearance at RCC, our research volunteer, Liz Deakin, sent RCC staff considerable information about climate action resources and funding. We also previously submitted to RCC two short documents prepared by Ann Pohl and Liz Deakin that summarize relevant research studies about rural municipal climate planning issues and considerations. One is specific to Ontario; the other is about Canada in general. Since all of this material is already on file with the County it is not part of this document. As we have previously mentioned, if any assistance with seeking out relevant research, funding opportunities, or climate action resources is required, our volunteers are willing to help!

Between May and November 2024, as we awaited a response from RCC to our request for a Valley-wide climate action committee, we assembled three separate pieces of social action research. **We promised participants in each strand of our research – a survey (Part 1); postcard messages (Part 2), and a community forum (Part 3) – that we would forward their contributions to local level governments in the Valley.**

A consolidation of all this research follows on pages 3 to 22. It contains what grassroots people in the Upper Valley told us to tell you. Overlapping trends and priorities emerge from all three social research sources:

- Urgency for immediate, useful action so the future doesn't look so grim, especially for youth today and for all future generations.
- Protection of the life systems on our planet, specifically here in the Valley, is crucial including protecting sensitive environmental areas and endangered species, preserving green spaces, maintaining healthy ecosystems, protecting wetlands, keeping water sources sustainable, and other nature-based resiliency solutions.
- Collaboration between residents, municipalities, and different levels of government – with an emphasis on the need for collaborative leadership and government accountability. These characteristics will foster a culture of shared learning and action.
- Local food security is a special concern requiring sustainable farming practices and more meaningful support for producers especially small scale and “backyard” growers, as well as pollinator conservation measures.

- Impact of climate chaos on our local economy is already evident: our ecotourism and hospitality sectors, all levels of the timber industry, and local agriculture need help to build more resilient local supply systems and promote self-sufficiency.
- Education helping people understand climate issues and potential solutions is essential for building community resilience. This requires initiatives to provide accessible, valid information, especially with young people. ¹
- Improve emergency preparedness at the county and municipal levels: proactive planning can lessen crisis situations from wildfires and extreme weather such as flooding, droughts, etc. Flood mapping and better water management will reduce looming crises. Public education for wildfire prevention and the establishment of emergency shelters are also priorities.
- Land use planning policies must be reviewed with a climate-wise lens. Proactively, this is essential to prevent resource misallocation, and to promote much more economical asset management over the near future.
- Community members also voiced concerns about many other matters, including: aligning recycling contracts to increase ‘waste’ recovery and promote composting; involving young people in direct and meaningful climate action¹; and enabling the move from single-owner fossil fuel vehicles to public transit.

Clearly, the 347 individuals who took part in our three different projects are deeply worried about the impacts of climate change. They hope for an ‘umbrella’ action-oriented committee that engages diverse perspectives and local knowledge, while many are eager to be engaged in effective and sustainable climate change adaptation and resiliency-building measures. The above short summary list does not have the ‘punch’ that is ‘packed’ by the actual comments and quotes that follow in this document. **Please continue reading to ‘hear’ the voices of community members.**

There is a brief statement of our ongoing commitment to support this work on page 22 (Part 4). Appendices begin on page 23. Please note, if you are reading a print copy of this document, Appendix D contains online addresses for all of the website hotlinks in this digital version.

It is our understanding that Renfrew County Council will discuss the ad hoc climate committee proposal as soon as its meeting of January 29, 2025. We hope our material is useful to Renfrew County staff and politicians as you move ahead with this project.

¹ **NOTE:** By early February 2025, we will submit to RCC a detailed and concise brief solely about youth concerns and the need to engage them in action. It will have some proposals. These matters are not addressed in this report.

Part 1: Survey at Pembroke Community Expo

On May 11, 2024, the Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Chapter (KOV) had a booth at the Pembroke Community Expo for three hours. It was Mother’s Day weekend. We were not certain we had volunteers to staff this until the day before. When a couple of members stepped up, we quickly produced a multiple choice survey based on issues of concern to our group. The survey included an open space for more comments. As we conducted the survey, thanks to some of the “write-in” comments, we quickly realized we had neglected to include some major issues. Although this survey was not done scientifically, we feel the results bear consideration because people entrusted us to share this information with local politicians. We now do so.

On May 11th, roughly 120 people passed by our table. Each was asked if they were concerned about climate change. If they paused for more conversation, they were asked to spend a few minutes completing a multiple choice survey that would help us share their opinions about urgent climate issues with local leaders. More people said they were concerned than filled out the survey, some promising to return to do so. In the end, 44 people completed the survey. Some checked one box; some all of the boxes; some selected a few. Here are the results:

Key issues of concern	Respondents	Percentage
Protective policies for sensitive environmental areas and endangered species.	34	77
Align recycling contracts to increase allowed items. and promote composting.	33	75
Energetically support local food production and farmers.	33	75
Address causes of wildfires to reduce the local threat.	28	64
Involve young people in a Climate & Environmental Action Youth Corps.	27	61
Encourage genuinely "green" businesses to set up in the County.	25	57
Make buildings and infrastructure more climate resilient with updated construction standards.	23	52
Restrict development on 100-year floodplains.	21	48
Creatively support livelihoods economically hard-hit by loss of snow/ice, temperature “whiplash,” fire bans, extreme storms, insurance costs, etc.	21	48

The following concerns were mentioned in the open area for comments:

- Public Transit
- Promote biking, extra lanes, etc.
- Develop green industries and jobs
- Must stop burning fossil fuels
- Walking paths
- Introduce Water Awareness
- Install cameras for early detection of wildfire / smoke

- Public bins for recycling to decrease plastic on street and in nature
- Plant trees on city streets
- Losing species and control of planet
- Big polluters need to be more responsible for getting their waste in order
- Truth !

Here are three additional comments/observations from this survey:

1. Regarding “involving young people,” a self-identified local high school teacher put two asterisks next to that and wrote in a comment saying “this is very important.”
2. One person who selectively chose 3 items said, “My priorities. Doesn’t mean I don’t care about the others.”
3. The details suggested for “Introduce Water Awareness” included: “Usage. Need. Lawn watering. Shorter showers. Teach entire community and educate young people on importance of water conservation.”

Please see [Appendix A](#) to view the survey form we used.

Part 2: Pop-Up Climate Action Postcards to Community Leaders

Methodology

In early July 2024, we were moderately confident Renfrew County Council was feeling positive about our request for a Valley-wide, inclusive climate action committee, but County staff and politicians were engrossed in climate mitigation analysis work. In other words, we had to wait our turn to bring climate adaptation and resiliency strategies to the forefront. Keeping our growing community support engaged in ongoing, continuing advocacy was a priority for us. We also felt that knowing more about how the grassroots feels about climate action priorities would be useful for the County in the next phase of their work.

In August, we initiated a **Postcard Messages Climate Action** campaign. This consisted of “pop-up” events at farmers’ markets, in front of a supportive store, at a community fair, at tables in three county libraries, through distribution of blank cards at local community groups, and other venues. There is a printed message on the back, where the signatory also indicates their community. The front side, in 7 of the 9 designs, features some of the art donated to our group by local youth since 2022. On the next page, you can see images of completed postcards in all nine designs.

263 postcards were collected between August 10th and early November 2024, Distribution was entirely random at public spaces. A minority of signed postcards (c. 20%) were collected via the snowball method, within community circles, by our volunteers. Because of the randomness of our data collection approach, results are not evenly distributed by geography. 184 postcard authors (79%) live in 9 communities in the County. Here is the breakdown:

- The Town of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke postcards total 80.
- We received between 10 and 21 postcards from Arnprior, Bonnechere Valley, Deep River, Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, Madawaska Valley, Petawawa, and Whitewater.
- Community members from Admaston/Bromley, McNab/Braeside, Brudenell, Lyndon and Raglan, Greater Madawaska, Horton, Laurentian Hills, Laurentian Valley, and North Algona Wilberforce all contributed postcards as well.
- We have no postcards from two jurisdictions in the Upper Ottawa Valley: Head, Clara and Maria township, and Pikwakanagan. Given the demographics of Head, Clara and Maria, and our random approach to data gathering, this was an unfortunate reality. We regret not having had an opportunity for a “pop-up” event at Pikwakanagan First Nation. We note that several postcard authors call for integrating “Indigenous knowledges” into climate action plans, and ask County community leaders to “meaningfully work with Indigenous leaders to ensure equitable access to employment, resources, housing, and cultural practices” to facilitate collaboration on many mutual concerns.
- 11 postcard authors did not specify where they live, but anecdotally we understand they live in the County.

- We ended up with 25 cards from people who do not live in the County but wished to participate. These were tourists or vacationing residents present at our “pop-up” table in public locations.
- All 263 postcards were signed by the person submitting them to us: a full expression of support for our text. The comments that you will read below (to page 12), come from many of the 207 postcards that have a personal message. 56 (21%) of the signed postcards contained no additional message other than the person’s location, signature, and date of signing. Here is an image of our printed text.

Back of All Postcards

This “All Hands on Deck” **Call To Action** is for community members, staff, and political leaders in Renfrew County Council municipalities as well as the City of Pembroke and the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. **We all need to work together.**

I, the undersigned, live or own property in the _____ community in the Ottawa (Kichi Sibi) Valley. **I am concerned about recent alarming changes in our environment and weather**, and how this both affects our children and their futures and impacts our livelihoods, families, communities, finances, and natural habitats. As we face the challenging decades ahead, I want to see all local Councils collaborate with community organizations and local businesses to protect our watersheds, forests, wetlands, local food production and supply, wildlife, families, and neighbours.

I allow the Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Chapter of Council of Canadians’ **Climate Matters! Action Group** to use my comments and/or artwork to promote creating an Ottawa Valley Climate Action Committee, at their October 1st Forum and anywhere else it might help.

--- Print Name --- Signature --- Date ---

NOTE: all original art work from Valley youth (consent granted). If you wish to stay in touch with the Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Chapter of the Council of Canadians, email kovclimatematters@gmail.com or phone 613-757-3738 to leave a message.

We relied on [NotebookLM](#) , an Artificial Intelligence (AI) assistant program, to pick out the major themes identified by postcard authors, but we relied much more heavily on the actual cards for grouping and content of quotes.

Topics Addressed by Postcard Authors

The clear message resonating from these postcards is a demand for immediate and concrete action on climate change. "IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING NOW, THERE IS NO FUTURE," says one postcard author. Community leaders are urged to recognize the urgency of the situation, and work collaboratively to develop and implement impactful solutions. “I stand with you in bringing initiatives forward and I hope that these initiatives don't come too late.” Yet another community-based author states, “The future is up to us to preserve and protect!” One comprehensive comment is:

- “To make an impact on the problem, the public needs to lead by examples of reducing greenhouse gasses. Federal, provincial and local governments all need to play a part. In addition, we need to read and re-write financial instruments by promoting financial institutions and organizations who are creating solutions to climate change. Tell world leaders to implement public initiatives to mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the world.”

Two other authors contribute overarching points:

- "Please make decisions and support development that are sustainable for our municipality, province, or country."
- "Please take this matter seriously -- for the sake of our health, our security, and ... our pocket books!"

Caring about Our Planet

Many messages underscore how much many of us care for all life on our planet. One author comments, "I believe the planet is very important and needs to be looked after. Our community needs a program that emphasizes helping climate change. I believe our community would be very excited about a climate action group." Others echo this:

- "Save Our Planet! Today is the time"
- "Care for Earth, who gives us everything we need!"
- "Fall in love with the earth. It is never too late to try again."
- "Love and Respect Our Planet"
- "Make sure the earth is healthy or we will all die."
- "Looking to keep the planet in good shape for the next generation!"
- "We must all think of how to use as little as possible, reduce, reuse, recycle and please put trash in its place, Long Live Mother Earth."
- Recognizing that water is the source of all life, "Let us help keep our water sustainable for our future."
- "Love and respect our planet. She's crying. Let's make her happy again."
- We must, "Preserve our green spaces and reduce harmful emissions to keep our communities in the Ottawa Valley beautiful and healthy."

Personal Impacts

There are dozens of quotes about how climate matters affect our local population.

- "I'm worried for my granddaughter!"
- "I want my grandchildren + 7 generations hence to have clean water and air and a natural environment to enjoy."
- "Stop the rising temperatures that are causing such havoc worldwide. Our descendants deserve it."
- "I'm tired of being flooded out."
- "Climate change is affecting our enjoyment and life in the Ottawa Valley."
- "Please ensure our children and their future children have a healthy, safe and strong planet to learn, grow, cultivate and thrive in. It is their fundamental right and privilege. Please think selflessly."

A young person, identifying as born and raised in Renfrew County, comments: "Myself and many young people who have to live in this world that is being destroyed by climate change urge you to try and pay more attention to the world you are setting us up to live in. You not taking action on the things that are happening now, will affect me, my children, and my children's children. PLEASE SAVE OUR EARTH!"

A 4th-year nursing student at Algonquin College comments, "I am really concerned about the recent environmental change that will pose serious health risk for the future."

Climate anxiety and fear are echoed in many other comments:

- "The unpredictability of the weather is an anxiety causing worry."
- "I am very worried that we have severely degraded the planet in our own time. I want to take responsibility for that and come together with others who are also concerned and begin exploring another way for the climate."
- "I'm 14 and I want a future :)"
- Inaction on climate change is "threatening the community and environment and world that my kids need to grow up in."
- "If we can't breathe, we can't live. That is unsustainable. Protect our air by protecting our forests from rising temperatures and storms that cause wildfires."
- "Without a healthy planet and environment, we have nothing."
- "For total health of our residents, a band-aid cannot heal the damage that climate change has inflicted."
- "Please act now to save our environment, it is urgent."

Collaborative Leadership vs. Resistance to Climate Action

One postcard author sends a message directly to all elected politicians, "You are affecting the future. With every plan, every policy you make. Please, please, please make the plans responsibly... We have to work to guarantee a future for our planet for ourselves." Dozens of messages highlight the need for local political leadership, e.g., "Local governments have shown they, united, have great influence in Canada. Please act now to save our environment, it is urgent." An empathetic author comments, "It takes courage to lead... You will face opposition to doing the 'right thing'. Build relationships and lead the way!"

A lower-tier municipal councillor wrote, "As a community leader, I'm hopeful we can do more to help our planet on a local level. I love this community we live, work and play in. I hope we can work together to preserve it for a long time." An other author expands on this theme. "Climate action relevant and relatable to our community is essential." Another says, "I believe our community deserves the attention it needs, the importance of it being properly looked over. We need a program to help with climate change."

Postcard authors have little respect for politicians who resist engagement on climate issues and action. From the dozens of comments on this topic, here are just a few:

- Climate change is real! Let's take action!!"
- "Now is the best and only time to make drastic changes to our way of life."
- Climate change is the most pressing issue of our time and we are not doing enough to change how we live to address this issue."
- "Make the world and climate better, if only for yourself!"
- "It comes down to not burning fossil fuels, better public transportation, more affordable electric cars, easily accessible walking trails."

- “Focus on the solutions!!!”
- “We have to work to guarantee a future for our planet for ourselves.”
- “The environment is not infinite. We need to care for our planet today.”
- “Clean air, water and a healthy climate are basic human rights, it is our moral obligation to make sure the earth is clean for our future generations.”
- “Build a team to address the issues and bring about solutions.”
- “County, state, corporations, governments of all size & policies. Each individual can make change, and as an aggregate, make significant contributions. We are all in this together. Local government needs to lead.”
- “I want the 1% to be held more accountable... They need to step up. We need to secure our children's future. Before we don't even have one. Do better!”
- “We need to stop putting up road blocks to environmental sustainability and take real, measurable actions to fight climate change.”

On the other hand, many messages highlight the importance of collaboration between many partners, working together, to create necessary change. One author sums up our group’s hopes: “Climate action can be grass-roots as well as elected officials and organizations!” Another adds, “We need to come together to ensure we leave a healthier planet for the next generations than the one we inherited. Please, let's prioritize taking action against climate now.” Another comments, “Together we can do so much.”

Food Security

Links between climate change and “food scarcity” are a common theme among the authors. Because of supply chain issues and extreme weather it is important that our region “support local agriculture” producers and encourage us all “to be self-sufficient” to the maximum extent possible. Here are two more perspectives on this topic:

- “The future of local food production is in jeopardy because of extreme weather. Workers cannot be productive in 30+ conditions. If you think the cost of food is high now, look out!”
- “So many invasive species from Asia and other hot climates are thriving in our new climates. Our plants were destroyed. So much waste is found even in our little town, it greatly upsets me to see all the hurt to the world.”

Protecting ecosystems is important for food production: “we need forests and grasslands to save our water and waterways.” The need to “save the bees (and all native pollinators)” is mentioned, as is the need to “protect our land from harmful chemicals that are toxic to our wildlife, our waterways and our soil. The use of chemicals is affecting the climate and we need to regulate the use of them.” There are calls for County practices and policies that promote “thoughtful development” because “pollinating insects... affect food production.” One author simply comments, “Don't cut the 'F' Trees Please.”

Education

An author notes that community members need to learn and communicate about climate change “in understandable and realistic ways.” Another says, “We need a climate action

committee in our county” to “provide balanced and well thought out information to media to help people understand why climate action is critical.”

Working together to “raise consciousness about the climate concerns in the Ottawa Valley” will “self-educate participants through sharing experience and knowledge.” More support is needed for the integration of “climate science and Indigenous knowledge.” (NOTE: we offer [Two-Eyed Seeing](#) as a very valuable reference about this ‘integration’.) Several comments highlight that “creating climate change initiatives is an important part of educating people to ensure a better world for our children.” In other words, “Growing people to grow home gardens”... will “educate young gardeners as well.” We must “show our children that we are committed to climate improvement.” One author hopes, “my children & grandchildren can grow up the same way I did. I would like to see more awareness & conservation happening.”

Money Matters

“I urge municipalities to join this effort to access funding and create a plan for our own towns.” says an author. Another comments, “Money should not drive all government activities.” Says another, “We need to choose our poison. Economics vs climate change.” Yet another comments, that climate change is already “hurting our pocketbooks.”

Public money (from taxpayers) has “to go to help in the fight of climate change.” Another author comments: “We cannot keep relying on private citizens to take action for climate change – this is a government responsibility.” Another states, “government needs to step up to the plate” to “address this issue.” Another asks to be “more informed regarding the use of the carbon tax in improving the environment.”

One author wrote, “I urge municipalities to join this effort to access funding and create a plan for our own towns.” Local governments “regionally and municipally” must organize “to pressure the federal government on these important issues” for the financial resources for local climate action. “Incentivize the right choices, make it easy, ensure that policies support sustainable growth!” and “Please organize to pressure the federal government on these important issues.”

Climate-Wise Energy

Numerous authors called for for “sustainable markets for wood”, and financial incentives or subsidies to “mitigate climate change” that will make “green technologies” like “electric cars and geothermal heat pumps more affordable,” as well as “investments in public transit”.

In data analysis for policy consideration, a lack of response can be significant. 15% (N=40) of the postcards were authored by people living in the 3 municipalities surrounding the Chalk River campus (Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Petawawa). Only two postcard authors (less than 1% of all postcards collected in this campaign (N=263)) advocate for additional nuclear energy generation as a climate solution. Here is the more specific of those two comments: “Nuclear power is a safe, reliable form of electricity. We need to challenge the myths and change the narrative!” Please see the note about this matter at the end of this report, in Appendix B.

Urban/Rural Planning, Land Use, and "Smart Growth"

Postcard authors advocate for land use policies that prioritize environmental and habitat protection. One asks for making “decisions and supporting developments that are sustainable for our municipality, province, or country.” Another calls for “best forestry management and agriculture practices.”

There is concern that “wetlands are being soil-filled for building around lakeshore” as these areas are crucial for flood management and wildlife habitat. “Conservation-based” policies will “protect our beautiful county.” Postcard authors advocate “encouraging planting wildflowers on property especially in damp areas” and discourage “cutting down of trees” unless/until specifically proven to be needed at that time. These measures are to keep our communities “healthy.”

Specific to forestry, an author comments, “Please continue to find ways to promote and support sustainable development including sustainable forestry. Find ways to help existing infrastructure that process our forestry products. We want sustainable and fair markets for wood. This will help to continue the use of renewable resources such as wood.”

Numerous authors comment on the need to “offer public transit to reduce the need for cars, trucks, and SUVs on the road!” Another relevant comment speaks to the need to “incorporate technological advances for infrastructure development.” Two authors speak of needing “more efficient waste management systems” to address “pollution immediately.” One specifically says they are upset to “have to throw kitchen compost material into plastic bags which then become landfill garbage.”

Emergency Preparedness

“Weather affects everything we do.” One author commented, “We all need to be proactive now to facilitate change!” Other authors recognize that “rising temperatures” and “increasing disastrous weather events” – e.g., “forest fires and floods” and “wild, altered rainfall” are “a big problem.” There are several mentions that “communities in Renfrew County have faced forest fires and multiple 100 year floods in the past few years.” An author comments, “wildfires are a big danger to the town we live in... there are many different fires.” The effects of climate change are “already being felt” and lead to “injuries, displacement and mental health challenges.” The “scientific consensus is that urgent action is needed.” One message warns, “Tackle it now before it's too late.”

“As individuals and communities, we need to collaborate” and “work together regionally and municipally on solutions to mitigate the effects of climate change.” Another author made a very practical suggestion, “Please support financially more community-based climate initiatives such as the M.A.P.s (floodplain mapping) in Ottawa.”

Part 3: October 1st Forum on Climate Action

On October 1, 2024, our group held a *Forum on Climate Action* at the Eganville Legion. October 1st is National Seniors Day, and our Forum was just one of more than 75 events across Canada organized on that date by [Seniors For Climate](#). More about this event can be found on our website at [this link](#). To find this content, scroll down past our report on the November 27, 2024 meeting of RCC to see media coverage, photos, etc.

Organization of Forum

The event was co-chaired by Dr. Kathryn Lindsay of the Bonnechere River Watershed Project (also on the Board of the Ottawa River Institute) and Lois Thomson, editor of the *Madawaska Highlander* (also a elected municipal councillor in the Ottawa Valley though not involved with this project in that capacity).

Altogether 49 people registered for the day's program and 44 joined us. Using our networks, groups and individuals known to be interested in local environmental and climate action were invited to our morning of presentations and an afternoon of networking and discussions. These participants offered their time and views as individuals. Many are affiliated with naturalist organizations, residents and community groups, watershed protectors, agricultural associations, local media and cultural organizations, seniors clubs, health and emergency services, etc. We are pleased that staff from three jurisdictions were in attendance: Town of Renfrew, Renfrew County, and Pikwakanagan. A small group of unexpected activists opposed to climate action plans learned of and attended our Forum: for more on this, see [Appendix C](#).

The morning presentations were from our group's volunteers, and covered material we have previously presented to County staff and politicians. Some content from these morning presentations is woven into the following text when relevant.

The bulk of the following material in this section is a consolidation of the Forum's afternoon discussion groups. These were led in an ad hoc manner by concerned community participants. The groups were organised by topics determined by the forum participants during the morning session. The headings of the following sections pertain to topics discussed in these small groups. Handwritten notes from volunteers in each group were collected and summarised into common themes using [NotebookLM](#), an AI assistant.

Below, we also discuss the challenges identified by Forum participants, many of whom have considerable experience with community and environmental groups in the Upper Ottawa Valley. Tackling challenges by proactive design is crucial for meaningful progress.

Learnings From The Forum

NOTE: The order of following subsections loosely corresponds to consolidations produced by NotebookLM. We found that this AI program is good at condensing information and detecting volume, but could not adequately sort the raw data of participants' notes for overall

importance. Hence, the following topics are not ranked in priority. They are apples and oranges: their importance depends on the specific context and goals.

Taking Responsibility and Being Accountable

In one Forum note-sheet a participant lamented, "Nobody owns up to the problem of climate change." Clearly that is not true: Renfrew County is doing so, as have some lower-tier municipalities and community-based organizations, and many community members. However, until recently this has *seemed* to be true. The need for public awareness, education, and conversation about ***Climate Matters!*** is why our group initiated this work in December 2022. (Our extensive efforts were mentioned in the morning presentations.) Many Forum participants are still frustrated by the slowness of action. Forum participants identified:

- Taking responsibility and being accountable for the consequences of our actions clarifies our choices and promotes proactive planning, which increases the pace of change.
- Shared responsibility, inclusive participation, and effective planning is the foundation for a Valley-wide climate action committee. Without this, it will be much harder to achieve the resource sharing, skill development, collaboration, and cultural change that will produce significant benefits for addressing climate change.

Understanding Resistance to Meeting Climate Action Challenges

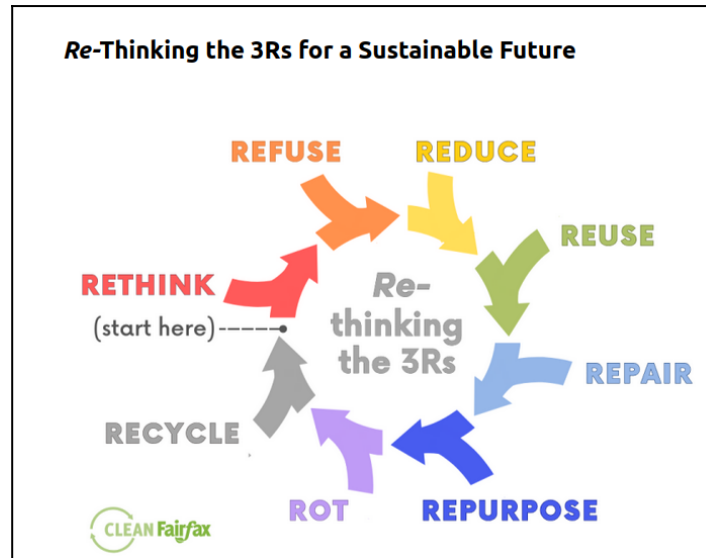
In the Forum's morning presentations, we shared the work of Dr. Robert Gifford (UVIC) on the [Dragons of Inaction](#). Some of those "Dragons" say that climate action is unnecessary because serious impacts are far in the future, nature is resilient, etc. Other "Dragons of Inaction" say they would be embarrassed to be seen as an "activist", they don't have information they trust as valid, its industry's job to solve the problems, they don't want to change their lifestyle to live more sustainably. Other ways of thinking that lead to inaction are discussed in Gifford's work, detailed in the link above.

In 9 discussion groups, Forum participants discussed the challenge of reversing local resistance to addressing climate change.² A recurring priority is to build local awareness about the shift in cultural values, towards sustainability, essential for long-term climate action. For many generations, North American social expectations have been based on our economic model of perpetual growth and investor dividends, etc., which prioritized accumulation of goods and profit over the health of the environment that sustains all life on our planet. The finite resources on our planet require us to think now of "needs not wants."

One example of a climate-wise cultural shift is to emphasize "reduce" and "reuse" in the 3Rs: buy less, repair what we have, etc. "Waste is a huge problem." Systems of recycling are not adequate for environmental health: this is one area where Valley-wide collaboration could reap various benefits. The practices of "planned obsolescence" and the "production of low-quality goods, which require frequent replacement", reinforce unsustainable behavior. The

² There was a 10th group, initiated by three anti-climate plan activists who attended without prior invitation. The Forum was a public event and they were not turned away, and were not prevented from expressing their views. For more about this, see Appendix C, on page 23.

“right-to-repair movement” deserves community leader support. Below is a graphic (from Fairfax, Virginia) portraying the waste policy we and other Forum participants advocate.



Even though most Canadians make wildly unsustainable use of our host environment, too few of us “are ready to change behaviours such as dependence on fossil fuels, overconsumption of goods, and extraordinary use of energy and natural resources.” Still, Forum participants acknowledged some people feel they cannot adopt sustainable alternatives – they are “tied to deep reliance on fossil fuels and profit motivations in their work and daily lives.”

At a municipal or regional level, accepting new strategies for mitigation, conservation, and sustainability initiatives makes room for climate-wise land use planning. Here is the starting place according to Forum participants:

- “The most important thing you can do about climate is talk about it,” says climate scientist [Dr. Katharine Hayhoe](#). Hayhoe has been our group’s mentor for two years now, and her work was part of the Forum’s morning presentations.
- The spread of misinformation discourages motivation for climate-wise action and behavioural change. It also lowers awareness about the consequences of unsustainable behaviour and decisions.
- A lack of awareness about the consequences of unsustainable actions reduces motivation for change. Powerful political, industry, and business leaders, often through paid lobbyists and consultants, make promises of growth and money while remaining silent about the impact of this over-indulgence on the health of the planet. Neglecting to raise their voices to champion environmental and community health makes implementation of climate-wise policies and practices very difficult.
- A crucial role for the Valley-wide committee is making valid climate information widely available, ongoing, up-to-date, and relevant. Opening up minds for understanding the issues requires that information-sharing be geared to specific audiences. This can be

facilitated in partnership with local environmentally-minded volunteers, as well as information and education institutions and agencies.

- We previously presented to the County the research on Canadian youth (16-25) [“climate emotions” published by Lakehead University education professors](#) Galway and Field. These scholars report that youth have difficulty finding valid climate science information. Further, most feel adult society in general, and specifically the the education system, is not willing to discuss climate facts and concerns with them. Working with school boards and youth groups to “talk about it” is a mental health need that public health can be asked to support, and we discuss this in a forthcoming report.

Forum Discussion on Building Community Resiliency

The AI analysis of our Forum recorders’ notes identified these six categories of suggestions from participants re: building support for climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives:

1. Collaboration and Engagement
2. Education
3. Local Food & Economy Resilience
4. Emergency Preparedness
5. Proactive Planning & Smart Growth Principles
6. Money Matters

1. Collaboration and Engagement

The primary motivation for climate action is it will increase personal and community well-being over the coming decades as impacts of our disturbed climate affect an increasing spread of our lives. Engaging diverse perspectives and local knowledge is the way to create effective strategies for climate resilience. It is vital for developing effective and contextually relevant climate action plans. This means working closely with residents, municipalities, and different levels of government, as well as students and staff from County school boards.

Fostering “collaboration” – i.e., mutually engaging community and political leaders – is the best way to ensure action happens within the essential short-term. Many individuals and municipalities, and some agencies and businesses, have little experience with seeing collaboration as a true building block for solving problems. Several conditions are required to motivate collaborative engagement. Initially, there must be low-stake opportunities to converse and experiment. Capable mentors and positive leadership must be on-hand to build mutual understanding of the likely advantages.

When people come together and work collaboratively a sense of belonging is built, which:

- fosters the creation of a culture of shared learning and action;
- provides opportunities for education on climate impacts and possible local solutions;

- begins the work of shifting attitudes away from overconsumption, dependence on fossil fuels, and poor product quality – replacing this with a forward-thinking mindset, that encourages climate-wise practices and protection of the natural world.

Incentivizing people to come together is key. Activities that people enjoy will encourage them to join others, despite the effort, around tackling the causes and impacts of climate change. We know this is difficult for many reasons, including that so many people prefer not to think about climate and associated environmental and social issues. Dr. Gifford’s research on the *Dragons of Inaction* helps us understand why **72 per cent of Canadians** say they are “worried” (45%) or “very worried” (27%) about climate change, yet most do nothing.

Examine the word ***fundamental*** for ideas! Social and/or nature activities are recommended by ***mental*** health professionals and researchers for reducing the feelings of isolation or hopelessness that are usually spoken about as climate anxiety, grief, loss, despair, etc. In fact, some doctors have begun writing prescriptions to spend time in nature for their afflicted patients: see [this link](#) and [this one](#).

In the Lakehead University research, we heard the cry from youth about their *climate emotions*. At our Forum (and in the postcard messages, discussed previously), we heard participant adults express despair about the general public’s lack of access to trustworthy and scientifically valid information. Climate-wise collaboration can be nurtured within the County through securing funds to support lower-tier municipal community services and grassroots organizations to provide education, training, and skill development workshops, etc.

Another way of understanding “collaboration” is to see that its logical outcome is ***shared responsibility*** – for one another, our families, community, and environment. In a circle, shared responsibility generates successful community collaboration.

2. Education

Education strengthens community resilience because it helps us understand issues and the solutions that are most useful. As mentioned, people need trustworthy, valid science knowledge shared in an accessible way. It is especially important to bring valid information to youth in schools (as discussed above), but climate education must not happen only in schools. It is also important to tailor information efforts so that relevant information is being shared to relevant places.

Public education about practical climate solutions can change behaviours and attitudes. For example, community-based education focussed on building knowledge and capacity of local community members will help address several climate change issues, including:

- emergency preparedness (see more about this below) can reduce impacts of extreme weather and the threat of wildfires;
- waste management initiatives that promote the 8R’s from ‘rethink’ to ‘recycle’ as shown in the illustration from Fairfax inserted here on page 15; this could include community programs that make fix-it skills accessible to local residents.

The County is urged to collaborate with Renfrew County District Health Unit (RCDHU), both school boards, and existing community organizations on climate-wise education. Of course, the Algonquins of Pikwakanagn First Nation should be consulted to see if they wish to engage; if capacity to do so is a restraint, then collaborative funding efforts should be made.

Public health has great capacity at community education. Despite some provincial mandates encouraging aspects of climate action, it appears RCDHU is not yet fully engaged in climate matters. On the other hand, volunteers in local watershed, naturalist, and environmental groups can contribute to the effort of motivating change. School board “environment networks,” retired teachers, and youth group leaders can also help. Funding and/or other resources are needed to facilitate this. Funding applications require special skills and personnel time and some funding for this is often available.

3. Local Food and Economy Resilience

There is significant *anecdotal evidence* that our local economy has recently been hard-hit by climate change. Participants spoke of droughts, fire bans, wildfire smoke, extreme and unpredictable storms, cottage insurance challenges, and lack of snow/ice in winter. These have affected our tourism and hospitality sector, and the sector’s spin-offs for local retail. Our woodlots and forest stands have also been affected by climate change weather and other factors such as previously uncommon diseases and invasive pests (e.g. Beech Bark Disease, Emerald Ash Borer, etc.). There is some research to support these local observations, but new knowledge always starts with what people observe.

Relying on Maslow’s [Heirarchy of Needs](#), many of the most essential requirements for dignity and comfort in human life are threatened by escalating climate change impacts. These include homelessness, employment, water protection, and food security, all of which were mentioned at our October 1st Forum. Participants discussed local food production, access, and distribution in two sessions, and expressed:

- Food security is a central concern, with challenges such as soil erosion, carbon off-gassing, and food waste needing to be addressed.
- Global economic fragility and extreme weather will cause increasing local disruptions over the coming challenging decades as both undermine the “supply chain” for goods and our local standard of living.
- Resilience is strengthened by ensuring local supply systems are robust and responsive and less dependent on large, distant, and unsustainable structures.
- Policies and programs that support greater local food security include improving retail regulations to ease local farm red-tape, supporting local producers by buying from them, simplifying rules for farmers’ markets, and promoting organic farming and regenerative soil practices.
- Community gardens, systems for trading local produce, and education about improving food preservation techniques are also important.

4. Emergency Preparedness

Improving county-level and lower-tier municipal emergency preparedness is essential. This step involves creating and implementing plans collaboratively, offering accessible workshops, providing public education, and sharing resources. Plans should be electronic and available on websites. They should also be shared in local community newspapers/newsletters, and with community organizations such as seniors, parent, community service, and other groups.

It is important to learn from other disasters and follow up to see what is working and what is not. Engaging in proactive planning to prevent crises is necessary even if it requires effort and investment. Assemble and rely on data to enable proactive plans that identify issues before they become crises. Among the most urgent needs is improved proactive coordination for:

- water management in extreme weather events
- flood mapping (which was also mentioned by a postcard author);
- management of shoreland and water contaminant management;
- measures to prevent issues such as wildfire susceptibility;
- heating and cooling emergency shelters and services are needed to address human impacts of extreme weather;
- urban and riparian tree planting for cooling, anti-erosion, and wildlife habitat benefits.

The points above are just a few examples emphasizing the need for more robust collaborative emergency preparedness plans, to protect the communities and environment in our region. We have emergency management services in the Upper Ottawa Valley but it is not clear how much they are mandated to work collaboratively with the public, *or* with partners beyond close neighbour municipalities. We can do this! We know how to nurture diverse collaboration to address emergency needs: the *MESA* warming shelter, *The Grind* in Pembroke, and the new *Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team* approach are three great examples.

5. Proactive Planning & Smart Growth Principles

Planning, as used here, has two meanings: a proactive, preventative, collaboratively built planning process that forms climate-wise policies and programs based on social and science data; and, the urban/rural land use planning done by staff and approved by local governments to guide development and conservation, as per provincial mandates. There is need for both to address climate change issues in present time and over the coming decades.

In regards to the more general activity of making plans, Forum participants reckoned it is very important to avoid “flying blind.” Forum participants urged the County to take a proactive approach, which will prevent resources from being misallocated, thereby resulting in less impactful outcomes. Those pitfalls can be avoided by the built-in meaningful “consultation” that comes through diverse collaboration from the get-go, as we have stressed above. Local people bring their local knowledges, wisdoms, and experiences to this collaboration and are often the best experts on what will work, and what won’t, in their areas.

Existing land use policy documents must be scoured and revised to be more climate-wise. Our policies must be concerned with protecting natural areas and drinking water, as well as features such as wetlands and vernal water bodies that provide some protection from flooding. For another example, although there are provincial policies that require municipalities to provide for *future* gravel pits through conversion of agricultural, forested, recreational, and other lands, pits are not environmentally friendly. Several other climate-wise land use matters were mentioned in Forum discussions:

- Following “[Smart Growth](#)” principles: see this [Lions Bay BC link](#) for a sturdy example of application of these principles. Although Lions Bay has more dire climate challenges already, it also has a higher standard of living than is common in our Valley. Overall, then, it is a village reasonably comparable to many Upper Ottawa Valley lower-tier municipalities. This Lions Bay link emphasizes that effective asset management is essential. It is worth reading their material for more details about asset management as Valley communities move forward with climate plans and action.
- Policies that promote mixed-use areas and create ‘walkable communities’ were among “Smart Growth” ideas emphasized by Forum participants. Participants urged local leaders to proactively plan for climate-wise, sustainable lifestyles and less dependence on single-rider fossil fuel transportation, by developing better collective transportation options and trails. The incentive is that these reduce personal transportation costs.

6. Money Matters

Collaboration will naturally mean increased resource sharing. That will reduce costs for the separate partners on climate action initiatives such as community support facilities for heat events and power outages, and other emergency preparedness programs. Effective sharing of costs across boundaries leads to more effective public money management. It:

- makes more possible with less;
- is popular with voters who know that tax money from any government is their money;
- creates a win-win scenario for local communities and their elected leaders.

We are all familiar with the saying, “a stitch in time saves nine,” and the same logic applies to climate action. The [Insurance Board of Canada](#) has made public warnings about the cost of climate change for several years. As we write this, we see how much concern there is in the property insurance industry about the current California and last year’s Jasper wildfires.

The cost of climate change will increase dramatically over the next few decades. Seeking funds collectively for emergency preparedness enhances the likelihood of being able to secure resources from higher levels of government, foundations, and other donors. This financial input is crucial for ***proactively*** implementing climate action plans. Offering financial rewards, such as even minor tax relief, can motivate new personal behaviours for emergency preparedness and adopting sustainable practices. Financial penalties can spur compliance, but this is always controversial and, if used at all, should be a true last resort.

Part 4: Summary Statement of Ongoing Interest

At the end of the Forum, at least two dozen Forum participants (by show of hands) expressed an interest in being involved with the County's committee. On their behalf, we offer to inform all our contacts about any notices you publish seeking further public input and/or statements of interest and experience for your ad hoc *Upper Ottawa Valley Climate Action Committee*.

We hope you have found this recap of our three social research projects between May and November 2024 helpful, motivational, and inspiring – that was our intent!

As explained above, we undertook these three projects after we filed our petition asking the County to host the establishment of this climate action committee. They occurred in the interim period before your contracted climate consultant (Ainsworth) included our proposal to establish this committee in his report to you.

Altogether, we reckon we have heard about climate issues from more than 700 Upper Ottawa Valley residents since December 2022. This includes the petition signers, attendees at our Climate Cafés, the postcard writers, the Forum participants, and many others. Everyone said more or less the same things that you have read in this report.

Please be assured that we stand by the side of RCC in moving ahead with this work on behalf of all who have supported our efforts in the past 2 years. We remain committed to this work, for current and future generations.

As we have said several times, we will help however we can.

APPENDIX A: Pembroke Community EXPO Survey

What DO YOU THINK should be done to address increasing local problems from climate change?

On April 24 2024, our group asked Renfrew County Council to set up a **Climate Action Committee**. We suggest this committee include membership from all municipalities in Renfrew County. This would include the City of Pembroke, which already has a committee working on climate issues and supports this Valley-wide committee idea. We also hope the committee will include youth, as well as relevant resident and business representation.

Congrats to the County for already working on phasing out fossil fuels by 2050! ...**However, we all have to live with the ongoing effects of climate change! That means there's much to do** in building resiliency by adapting old ways to new conditions. From this list below, check the items that best fit your priorities. You can add more at the end.

- Protective policies for sensitive environmental areas and endangered species.
- Address causes of wildfires to reduce the local threat.
- Make buildings and infrastructure more climate resilient with updated construction standards.
- Restrict development on 100-year floodplains.
- Involve young people in a Climate & Environmental Action Youth Corps.
- Encourage genuinely "green" businesses to set up in the County.
- Align recycling contracts to increase allowed items and promote composting.
- Stop further expansion of "natural" gas (97% methane!) supply lines.
- Creatively support livelihoods economically hard-hit by loss of snow/ice, temperature "whiplash," fire bans, extreme storms, insurance costs, etc.
- Energetically support local food production and farmers.
- OTHER:

kovclimatematters@gmail.com Kitchissippi-Ottawa Valley Chapter of the Council of Canadians

APPENDIX B: Concerning Nuclear Power as a Climate Change Mitigator

In all our community discussions and presentations, the number of positive comments about new nuclear power generation surprised us because many County residents benefit from direct employment in, and economic spinoffs from, the nuclear industry.

We bring attention to this data because we have fully considered peer-reviewed economic and scientific analysis on alternative energies. [EnRoads](#) is a climate solutions online simulator developed at MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) with other partners. One of our members took the *EnRoads Ambassador* training and in December 2022, we went hands-on with the simulator. In addition to much else, we learned that “new” nuclear generation will not be effective for reducing global warming because of the urgent situation. Other sources we reviewed show that, if it does go ahead, nuclear energy will cost much more than other systems of power generation. Additional research points out that the industry’s deep carbon footprint both upstream and downstream (e.g., facility construction, transportation, waste management, heat release, etc.) means nuclear power generation is not a friend of climate protection.

For the record, we do not oppose keeping stable existing reactor facilities going as long as possible; we simply insist on resolving the issues mentioned above, and having proven methods for addressing reactor waste, before any more new development. As unpopular as this view may make us in some eyes, throughout our two years of ***Climate Matters!*** efforts, we have not seen substantial grassroots support for new development of nuclear power generation. Among the 263 respondents to our postcard campaign (and the more than 40 participants at the Forum, and 44 respondents to our May 2024 survey) only two people said nuclear power is a favoured player in greenhouse gas mitigation. This evidence leads us to conclude that grassroots people in our county understand that NEW nuclear energy development projects will not address the climate crisis.

APPENDIX C: “Anthropogenic Activity”: Anti-Climate Views at our Forum and in the County

Three vocal Forum attendees, not previously known to us, challenged the scientific understanding regarding the primary cause of escalating climate chaos. To sum up the main points from their discussion group about “Anthropogenic Activity”, they believe weather modification, wireless technology (e.g., radio and wifi), research and development of geoengineering, and nuclear testing are the key anthropogenic factors for recent climate change. To put these individuals into context, at a meeting on November 20, 2024, in Rankin, we learned that they are strong supporters of a group called [Kiclei](#), based in Peterborough. *Kiclei* is closely affiliated with [Clintel.org](#) in opposing sustainability goals and climate action plans. *Kiclei* views natural fluctuations in weather and climate as major causes for our changing climate. They say the increased CO² in our stratosphere is beneficial for plants, and thus for agriculture. They are not concerned about greenhouse gas impacts and oppose [Sustainable Development](#) and [NetZero](#) goals. This [Kiclei media release addresses](#) the November 29, 2024, meeting of Renfrew County Council.

APPENDIX D: Citations Hotlinked in the Text:

- 72% of Canadians worried about climate change: <https://reclimate.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-public-opinion-summary.pdf>
- Clintel.org: <https://clintel.org/world-climate-declaration/>
- Dr. Gifford’s “Dragons of Inaction”: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/858612207>
- Dr. Katharine Hayhoe: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UH_-K9oejxw
- EnRoads: <https://www.climateinteractive.org/en-roads/>
- Insurance Board of Canada: <https://www.ibc.ca/news-insights/news/summer-2024-shatters-records-for-severe-weather-damage-over-7-billion-in-insured-losses-from-floods-fires-and-hailstorms>
- Kiclei: <https://www.kiclei.ca/>
- Kiclei media release (Nov 28/24): <https://kiclei.substack.com/p/renfrew-county-council-meeting-sparks>
- KOV Website’s Climate Action page: <https://kovcouncil.wordpress.com/act-now-on-climate-emergency/>
- Lakehead University Professors’ study on youth climate emotions: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/lakeheaduniversity-climatechange-anxiety-youth-1.6769928>
- Lions Bay, B.C., Smart Growth Plan: https://www.lionsbay.ca/sites/2/files/docs/meeting/other/smart_growth_principles_of_development.pdf
- Maslow’s Heirarchy of Needs: <https://www.simplypsychology.org/maslow.html>
- 1) Nature “prescription” for climate anxiety: <https://www.outdoorplaycanada.ca/2024/12/27/physicians-across-the-provinces-can-now-prescribe-a-national-park-pass/>
- 2) Also nature “prescription” for climate anxiety: <https://globalnews.ca/news/10927699/halton-healthcare-prescriptions-for-nature/>
- NetZero by 2050 (Canada): <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-plan/net-zero-emissions-2050.html>
- NotebookLM: <https://www.testingcatalog.com/new-notebooklm-feature-helps-users-consolidate-notes-into-sources/>
- Seniors For Climate: <https://seniorsforclimate.org/>
- Smart Growth: <https://environmentaldefence.ca/what-is-smart-growth/>
- Sustainable Development Goals: <https://www.un.org/en/exhibits/page/sdgs-17-goals-transform-world>
- Two-Eyed Seeing: <http://www.integrativescience.ca/Principles/TwoEyedSeeing/>

From: [ca.office \(MNR\)](#)
To: [ca.office \(MNR\)](#)
Subject: Update: Proposed regulation regarding Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act
Date: January 17, 2025 1:44:45 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

* This email is being sent on behalf of Jennifer Keyes, Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch *

Good afternoon:

I am writing to you today to notify you of a new regulation prescribing the circumstances under which the Minister of Natural Resources ("Minister") may make permitting decisions in the place of a conservation authority or review a conservation authority's permitting decision.

New provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act* came into effect on April 1, 2024, that included powers for the Minister to 1) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and to take over the permitting process in the place of a conservation authority ("Minister's permit"), and 2) review a conservation authority permit decision at the request of the applicant ("Minister's review"). It is important to note that when making a permitting decision using one of these tools, the Minister is required to satisfy the same legislative criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities.

The new regulation sets out the circumstances under which the Minister may use these powers as circumstances where the proposed development activity or other activity, in the opinion of the Minister, pertains to or supports a matter of provincial interest described in the regulation. Additionally, it includes a transparent process for individuals or businesses to request the use of these powers and sets out the information that must be submitted as part of such a request. This regulation came into effect on January 1, 2025.

A Decision Notice is available at the Environmental Registry of Ontario, posting [#019-8320](#) and supporting information describing the process for requesting the use of these powers is available [online](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Ministry of Natural Resources at ca.office@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources



Taking pride in strengthening Ontario, its places and its people

Please Note: As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.

From: [Ponalo, Thandeka \(MECP\)](#)
To: [HCM Clerk-Treasurer](#)
Cc: [Stephanie Reeder](#)
Subject: TS SW Memo - Stonecliffe WDS
Date: January 21, 2025 10:49:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[TS SW Memo - Stonecliffe WDS 2021 & 2022 BMR.pdf](#)

Good morning,

The surface water unit of the Ministry's Technical Support Section has completed the review of the "2021/2022 Biennial Report, Stonecliffe Waste Disposal Site" dated May 18, 2023, and prepared by Cambium Inc. Please refer to the attached memo dated January 20, 2025.

The memo indicates that Cambium has recommended that VOCs be removed from the groundwater analytical suite. From a surface water perspective, the reviewer has no objections to this request. The groundwater reviewer will provide their input under separate cover.

The memo also indicates that although Cambium suggests that the leachate seep is an area of groundwater upwelling (rather than breakout), the seep should still be repaired if possible as it is a conduit of leachate-impacted groundwater. If repair is not possible or the seep reemerges, the seep should be sampled as volume permits.

The 2021/2022 Biennial Report has also been submitted to the groundwater unit of the Technical Support Section for review. When the review is completed, comments will be provided.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Thandeka Ponalo

Environmental Compliance Officer | Badge #1943 | Ottawa District Office | Eastern Region

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks | Government of Ontario

(613) 858-0695 | thandeka.ponalo@ontario.ca

2430 Don Reid Drive, Unit 103

Ottawa ON K1H 1E1



We want to hear from you. How was my service? You can provide feedback at 1-888-745-8888 or www.ontario.ca/inspectionfeedback. Nous attendons vos commentaires. Qu'avez-vous pensé de mon service? Vous pouvez nous faire part de vos commentaires au 1-888-745-8888 ou à www.ontario.ca/retroactioninspection.

Are reporting a spill? Please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Spills Action Centre at (416)325-3000 or 1(800) 268-6060.

Are you reporting a pollution incident or environmental concern? Please use the ministry's [online pollution reporting tool](#) or for more urgent matters contact the Pollution Hotline at 1(866) 663-8477.

**Ministry of the
Environment,
Conservation and Parks**
Eastern Region
1259 Gardiners Road, Unit 3
Kingston ON K7P 3J6
Phone: 613.549.4000
or 1.800.267.0974

**Ministère de l'Environnement,
de la Protection de la nature
et des Parcs**
Région de l'Est
1259, rue Gardiners, unité 3
Kingston (Ontario) K7P 3J6
Tél: 613 549-4000
ou 1 800 267-0974



MEMORANDUM

January 20, 2025

TO: Thandeka Ponalo
Senior Environmental Officer
Ottawa District Office
Eastern Region

FROM: Sarah Baxter
Surface Water Specialist
Technical Support Section
Eastern Region

RE: Stonecliffe Waste Disposal Site
2021/2022 Biennial Monitoring Report
United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria; County of Renfrew
Environmental Compliance Approval #A412405
ECHO #1-950468470

I reviewed the “2021/2022 Biennial Report, Stonecliffe Waste Disposal Site” dated May 18, 2023 and prepared by Cambium Inc. The following comments, relative to surface water impact concerns, are provided for your consideration.

Background

The Stonecliffe Waste Disposal Site (WDS) is a natural attenuation landfill and materials transfer station that is owned and operated by the United Townships of Head, Clara, and Maria. The site is regulated by Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) #A412405, which was most recently amended in 2018. The fill area is 0.9 hectares on a 2.43 hectare site.

The landfill is approved to receive domestic, solid non-hazardous waste and construction and demolition (C&D) waste. The site also collects blue box materials, brush, tires, scrap metal, white goods, and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) for transfer offsite.

According to an October 2022 topographical survey, the WDS has approximately 16 years of site life remaining.

The biennial monitoring report (BMR) indicates that the Township is still in the process of purchasing the leased Crown Lands from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and obtaining groundwater rights within the contaminant attenuation zone (CAZ).

Site Description

The Stonecliffe WDS is located on Lots 20-22, Concession 11, Geographic Township of Head, in the United Townships of Head, Clara, and Maria. The site is located approximately 6 kilometers southeast of the community of Stonecliffe and is accessed

via the south side of Kenny Road (civic address 62). The site is bound by forest and a hydro corridor to the south and west, Kenny Road to the north, and forest and Plantation Way to the east.

The landfill is situated in a remote portion of the Central Ottawa-Dumoine tertiary watershed. There are no surface water features on the subject site. However, a small leachate seep does exist on the eastern side of the mound. Cambium suggests this is an area of groundwater upwelling (i.e. upward vertical gradient), rather than an outbreak of leachate. The closest natural surface water feature is Conway Creek, which is located 550 metres to the southeast.

According to Cambium, the overburden is composed of fine sand and silt underlain by silty sand till. Overburden depth varies between 14 and 18 meters below ground surface (mbgs). The bedrock is Precambrian, specifically Gneiss and Breccia. Interpreted groundwater flow is towards the east and possibly the southeast, towards Conway Creek.

The BMR characterizes the landfill leachate as having elevated alkalinity, boron, chloride, conductivity, iron, manganese, potassium, sodium, strontium, sulphate, and total dissolved solids (TDS). According to monitoring well BH2-2 (overburden background) and the leachate seep, the leachate may also be characterized as having elevated calcium, chemical oxygen demand (COD), copper, magnesium, nitrate, phenols, and total Kjeldahl nitrogen.

Surface Water Monitoring Program

There is no surface water monitoring program at the Stonecliffe WDS, as the nearest surface water feature (i.e. Conway Creek) is over 550 meters downgradient. Cambium does sample the leachate seep when sufficient volume is available, but the seep has not been sampled since 2018.

Results

There is no surface water monitoring program at the Stonecliffe WDS, but potential impacts to surface water can be inferred using groundwater monitoring well data. Overburden monitoring well BH1-2 is farthest from the mound and closest to Conway Creek, although it is still 400 meters upgradient of the surface water feature.

At BH1-2, concentrations of most leachate indicator parameters (LIPs) are elevated above background concentrations. However, the elevations are minor in nature and concentrations are still within the range characteristic of natural surface waters. Surface water impacts to Conway Creek are not anticipated as the leachate-impacted groundwater still has to travel a significant distance beyond BH1-2 and additional attenuation would further reduce LIP concentrations.

Changes to the Monitoring Program

Cambium has requested that volatile organic compound (VOC) analysis be removed from the monitoring program. VOCs are analyzed at groundwater monitoring wells BH2-1, BH2-2, BH4-1 and BH4-2 only. Cambium indicates that VOCs have not been detected at any of the wells since 2009.

Conclusions and Recommendations

1. The Stonecliffe WDS is a natural attenuation landfill that is owned and operated by the United Townships of Head, Clara, and Maria. The site is situated on leased Crown Land, however the Township is in the process of purchasing the land and groundwater rights. The WDS has approximately 16 years of site life remaining.
2. Downgradient groundwater quality data suggests that leachate impacts to Conway Creek are unlikely.
3. Cambium has recommended that VOCs be removed from the groundwater analytical suite. From a surface water perspective, I have no objections to this request. The groundwater reviewer will provide their input under separate cover.
4. Although Cambium suggests that the leachate seep is an area of groundwater upwelling (rather than breakout), the seep should still be repaired if possible as it is a conduit of leachate-impacted groundwater. If repair is not possible or the seep reemerges, the seep should be sampled as volume permits.

If you have any questions regarding the above comments, I would be pleased to discuss them with you.



Sarah Baxter, B.Sc.H.

ec: V. Castro
O. Mohammed
C. Klein

From: [Margaret Dingman](#)
To: [Peter Emon](#); [dlynch@arnprior.ca](#); [Keith Watt](#); [gdoncaster@deepriver.ca](#); [Anne Giardini](#); [Gary Serviss](#); [Michael Donohue](#); [Jennifer Murphy](#); [Valerie Jahn](#); [Rob Weir](#); [Debbi Grills](#); [David Bennett](#); [David Mayville](#); [Mark Willmer](#); [Mark MacKenzie](#); [James Brose](#); [Neil Nicholson](#); [Gwen Dombroski](#); [Craig Kelley](#); [lmcgee@arnprior.ca](#); [dlynch@arnprior.ca](#); [lcloutier@arnprior.ca](#); [tburnette@arnprior.ca](#); [ctoner@arnprior.ca](#); [ccouper@arnprior.ca](#); [bdenault@arnprior.ca](#); [kzamojski@arnprior.ca](#); [rpaquette@arnprior.ca](#); [sdeon@deepriver.ca](#); [gdoncaster@deepriver.ca](#); [wfitton@deepriver.ca](#); [cgiardini@deepriver.ca](#); [khughes@deepriver.ca](#); [tmyers@deepriver.ca](#); [tvaughan@deepriver.ca](#); [jmellon@deepriver.ca](#); [spatterson@deepriver.ca](#); [Anne Giardini](#); [ward3@laurentianhills.ca](#); [ward1@laurentianhills.ca](#); [ward2@laurentianhills.ca](#); [ward4@laurentianhills.ca](#); [cao@laurentianhills.ca](#); [Gary Serviss](#); [tsabourin@petawawa.ca](#); [jcarmody@petawawa.ca](#); [lcoutu@petawawa.ca](#); [kdonovan@petawawa.ca](#); [adriscoll@petawawa.ca](#); [Murray Rutz](#); [choward@petawawa.ca](#); [Scott Randolph](#); [Tom Sidney](#); [Peter Emon](#); [Kyle Cybulski](#); [Andrew Dick](#); [Jason Legris](#); [John McDonald](#); [Clint McWhirter](#); [Carolynn Errett](#); [Rob Tremblay](#); [Michael Donohue](#); [bhamilton@admastonbromley.com](#); [klegris@admastonbromley.com](#); [afield@admastonbromley.com](#); [kgourley@admastonbromley.com](#); [cao@admastonbromley.com](#); [Jennifer Murphy](#); [brentp@eganville.com](#); [johne@eganville.com](#); [traceys@eganville.com](#); [mervb@eganville.com](#); [annetteg@eganville.com](#); [Valerie Jahn](#); [ikauffeldt@blrtownship.ca](#); [kquade@blrtownship.ca](#); [wbanks@blrtownship.ca](#); [skeller@blrtownship.ca](#); [clerk-treasurer@blrtownship.ca](#); [manager@blrtownship.ca](#); [Rob Weir](#); [tpopkie@greatermadawaska.com](#); [jlevesque@greatermadawaska.com](#); [rtripp@greatermadawaska.com](#); [lthomson@greatermadawaska.com](#); [clerk@greatermadawaska.com](#); [cao@greatermadawaska.com](#); [Debbi Grills](#); [Rachel Richer](#); [Chris Dowser](#); [Fran Kelly-Chamberlain](#); [Karen LeClerc](#); [HCM Clerk-Treasurer](#); [David Bennett](#); [dproctor@hortontownship.ca](#); [gcampbell@hortontownship.ca](#); [dhumphries@hortontownship.ca](#); [twebster@hortontownship.ca](#); [hdillabough@hortontownship.ca](#); [David Mayville](#); [councillorbrowne@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorsmith@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillormacmillan@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorkuehl@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorpecoskie@khrtownship.ca](#); [councillorlavigne@khrtownship.ca](#); [Tammy Gogerat](#); [sbennett@lvtownship.ca](#); [Keith Watt](#); [jgauthier@lvtownship.ca](#); [whewitt@lvtownship.ca](#); [bhugli@lvtownship.ca](#); [bking@lvtownship.ca](#); [awren@lvtownship.ca](#); [Dean Sauriol](#); [Mark Willmer](#); [councillor.blank@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.maika@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.olsheski@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [councillor.shulist@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [cao@madawaskavalley.ca](#); [Mark MacKenzie](#); [lhoddinott@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [krosien@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [sbrum@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [rcampbell@mcnabbraeside.com](#); [Lindsey Lee](#); [James Brose](#); [mberndt@nalgonawil.com](#); [dbuckwald@nalgonawil.com](#); [jreiche@nalgonawil.com](#); [mrobinson@nalgonawil.com](#); [Clerk](#); [Neil Nicholson](#); [cregier@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [colmstead@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [moorem@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [mbell@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [ctabbert@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [jtrimm@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca](#); [iburton@whitewaterregion.ca](#)
Subject: Subject: Response to Questions on Renfrew County Climate Action Plan – Ensuring Transparency and Local Priorities
Date: January 21, 2025 1:59:01 PM

Dear Mayor Rob Weir and Members of Renfrew County Councils,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the concerns raised about the proposed Climate Action Plan. I appreciate the opportunity to provide further clarification and insights to ensure a well-informed and transparent discussion.

To provide context, I have included the original inquiry below for reference, followed by my detailed responses to the questions raised. These responses aim to shed light on key aspects of the Climate Action Plan, its alignment with global frameworks, data collection concerns, financial implications, and the importance of prioritizing local needs.

Original Inquiry:

"Thank you for sharing your thoughts and raising concerns regarding the Renfrew County Climate Action Plan and its potential implications. I appreciate your detailed letter and would like to better understand certain points you mentioned to ensure a thorough discussion of the matter.

Could you please provide clarification on the following?

1. U.N. Sustainability Goals Integration

- You noted that the Climate Action Plan aligns with U.N. agendas such as Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2050. Could you elaborate on which specific aspects of the plan directly reflect these global goals?

2. Data Collection Concerns

- Could you provide more details on what kind of data would be collected under the proposed plan and how this may impact privacy?

3. Economic and Social Costs

- You highlighted potential “enormous costs” and “catastrophic results.” Could you specify the areas where these costs are expected to arise and provide examples of their social impacts?

4. Local Needs and Alternatives

- You mentioned the importance of focusing on local needs. Are there specific local priorities or alternative proposals you believe would better serve Renfrew County?

5. Consultation Fee and Scope

- You referenced the \$70,000 consultation fee. Do you have more details on what specific services or recommendations were provided by Ainsworth Consulting for this fee?"

Rob Weir
Mayor- Township of Greater Madawaska
19 Parnell Street
Calabogie, Ont.
K0J 1H0
613-433-1313

Responses to Your Questions:

Dear Mayor Rob Weir,

Thank you for your thoughtful engagement with the concerns raised regarding Renfrew County's Climate Action Plan. I appreciate the opportunity to provide further clarification on the points you raised to ensure a productive and well-informed discussion.

1. U.N. Sustainability Goals Integration

Climate Action Plans originate from a **five-milestone framework** that includes:

1. Conducting a baseline emissions inventory.
2. Setting emissions reduction targets.
3. Developing an action plan.
4. Adopting and implementing the plan.
5. Monitoring progress.

This framework was established by **ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability)** and the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)** through the **Partners for Climate Protection (PCP)** program in 1994.

ICLEI itself was founded by the **United Nations** in 1990, and the **FCM played a key role in drafting Agenda 21**, which was signed in 1992. Following this, in 1994, the FCM sent a document titled the "[Municipal Primer on UNCED](#)" to its member municipalities, providing a 40-page blueprint on how to implement **Agenda 21** through Canadian municipalities by promoting sustainable development through local strategic action.

While the term "**sustainable development**" may bring various ideas to mind, it is important to examine its original meaning in relation to land use as articulated in the **Brundtland Commission Report** and the **United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat I)**, held in Vancouver from May 31 – June 11, 1976. The conference's **Agenda Item 10** set forth the UN's official policy on land use, emphasizing centralized planning and land control as key elements in achieving sustainable development goals. The Preamble says:

“Land...cannot be treated as an ordinary asset, controlled by individuals and subject to the pressures and inefficiencies of the market. **Private land ownership** is also a principal instrument of accumulation and concentration of wealth and therefore contributes to social injustice; if unchecked, it **may become a major obstacle in the planning and implementation of**

development schemes. The provision of decent dwellings and healthy conditions for the people can only be achieved if land is used in the interests of society as a whole. Public control of land use is therefore indispensable....”

This historical connection underscores how Climate Action Plans are directly linked to global agendas such as **Agenda 2030** and **Agenda 2050**, which seek to align local policies with broader global climate and development objectives.

Despite the voluntary nature of these programs, their adoption at the municipal level integrates local governments into long-term commitments and compliance frameworks that may not fully align with local priorities or financial realities.

For further context on municipal responsibilities within Canada's constitutional framework, I recommend reviewing ["Understanding Municipal Responsibilities in Canada: A Guide to Local Governance and Jurisdiction,"](#) This guide outlines the constitutional scope of municipal authority and priorities which fall under municipal jurisdiction.

2. Data Collection Concerns

The Climate Action Plan requires extensive data collection at both the corporate (municipal operations) and community levels. These data collection requirements, outlined in the PCP [Milestone One Protocol Handbook](#), are repeated **annually or biannually** under Milestone Five and include:

Corporate Data Collection Requirements:

- Tracking **energy consumption** from all sources, including non-CO₂-emitting sources.
- Recording **electricity usage** for all municipal lighting annually.
- Monitoring energy consumption for **water and wastewater facilities**.
- Reporting fuel sources and emissions from all **municipal buildings and facilities**.
- Conducting **waste audits** to categorize and measure all waste materials, from food waste to electronics.
- Calculating the **methane potential** of landfill waste and assessing decay rates annually.
- Collecting data on fuel usage for all **municipal fleet vehicles**, including public transit and staff commuting patterns.

Community-Wide Data Collection Requirements:

- Emissions from residential, commercial, and industrial buildings, including **fuel and electricity consumption**.
- Fuel sales data and kilometers traveled by all vehicle types, public transit, and private transportation within the county.
- Monitoring emissions from **industrial processes and wastewater treatment**.
- Detailed solid waste data, including livestock counts and methane potential.

These requirements represent a **significant administrative burden** and raise serious **ethical and privacy concerns**, such as:

- **Infringement on privacy:** Residents and businesses may not be aware that their energy and waste habits are being tracked, leading to potential distrust in local government.
- **Data security risks:** Sensitive information is often managed by third-party organizations such as ICLEI, raising concerns about data breaches and potential misuse.
- **Profit-driven motives:** Data collected is often used to market "green energy" products, benefiting corporate interests rather than prioritizing genuine environmental stewardship.

This level of surveillance and data harvesting could be seen as disproportionate for a rural community like Renfrew County, where local environmental initiatives can be achieved without such invasive measures.

3. Economic and Social Costs

The projected financial implications of the Climate Action Plan are estimated to fall between and in some cases well above **\$13.1 million to \$191 million**, with major costs arising from:

- **Municipal Fleet Upgrades:** Transitioning vehicles to electric options and developing supporting infrastructure such as EV charging stations.
- **Building Retrofitting:** Upgrading public facilities to meet stringent emissions targets.
- **Infrastructure Investments:** Implementing smart city technology, active transportation networks, and waste management upgrades.
- **Administrative and Reporting Costs:** Compliance with ongoing data monitoring and reporting requirements for decades to come.

Social impacts include:

- **Increased tax burdens:** Higher operational costs may result in property tax increases and service cutbacks.
- **Business and agricultural challenges:** Additional compliance measures may impose financial and operational burdens on small businesses and farms.
- **Housing market implications:** Urban densification strategies could limit rural growth opportunities and change local property values. The recommendation to adopt additional green building standards adds 'green tape' to the construction industry, driving up prices on new buildings.

These financial commitments and regulatory constraints could divert attention and resources from more pressing local priorities that fall within the municipal mandate.

4. Local Needs and Alternatives

Renfrew County has the opportunity to focus on **cost-effective, community-driven solutions** that address both environmental concerns and economic realities. Some key alternatives include:

- **Regenerative Agriculture:** Expanding soil carbon content naturally through improved farming practices, which could effectively offset emissions without costly technological interventions.
- **Forestry Conservation Programs:** Enhancing efforts to protect and manage Renfrew County's extensive forests, which already act as powerful carbon sinks, which place Ontario as a significant carbon sink.
- **Energy Security Initiatives:** Investing in localized, affordable energy solutions tailored to rural needs, including support for **natural gas expansion** and maintaining the use of **gas-powered vehicles** for private use.
- **Housing and Infrastructure:** Redirecting funds to address the urgent demand for affordable housing and essential community services with a focus on **rural expansion** rather than centralized population growth. Moving away from the **sustainable development model** that prioritizes urban densification will allow for growth in rural and small-town communities, better reflecting the needs and desires of Renfrew County residents.

These initiatives prioritize the well-being of residents while promoting environmental responsibility without the financial strain associated with net-zero frameworks.

For further context on municipal responsibilities within Canada's constitutional framework, I recommend reviewing "[Municipal Priorities First: Why Climate Action Plans Should Not Compromise Essential Services or Increase Property Taxes.](#)" This article emphasizes the importance of staying within legally established mandates, not

diverting funds and administration from core municipal responsibilities to top-down global targets and development schemes.

5. Consultation Fee and Scope

The **\$70,000 consultation fee** paid to Ainsworth Consulting covered the initial phases of the Climate Action Plan, which included:

- **Baseline Emissions Inventory:** A general assessment of emissions, which often relies on national averages rather than locally verified data.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Development of materials and events to introduce the plan to the public.
- **Target Setting:** Establishing preliminary goals in alignment with ICLEI's global framework.

However, concerns remain regarding the lack of a **detailed cost-benefit analysis** and the potential for additional hidden expenses that municipalities often encounter in later stages of plan implementation. Greater transparency is essential to evaluate the true value of these consulting services and their long-term impact on the county's financial health.

Once again, I appreciate your time and commitment to ensuring that decisions made for Renfrew County align with the community's best interests. I look forward to continued dialogue and collaboration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Maggie Braun

Founder, KICLEI Canada

info@kiclei.ca

www.kiclei.ca

(250) 463-4066



January 21, 2025

Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Subject: Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on January 13, 2025, is forwarded for your consideration.

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 Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introduced Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024. Among its various initiatives, Bill 242 proposes 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 is 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 remains potentially subject to the unworkable and unclear standard for the adequacy of shelter space suggested by the Waterloo Decision.
7. In these circumstances, municipalities 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 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.
2. That, without limitation, Bill 242 provides 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 Paul Calandra, 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.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
City Clerk

cc:
City of Peterborough Council
City of Peterborough Staff

From: Bennett@valleytips.ca
Subject: Support Renfrew County Crime Stoppers
Date: January 21, 2025 9:30:56 PM
Attachments: [Crime Stoppers Media Release 14Jan2025.pdf](#)

Hello,

My name is Bennett Blackwell, I am the President and Chair of Renfrew County Crime Stoppers. As 2025 is upon us, I am looking to connect and invite discussion on how Crime Stoppers can work with your organization to improve safety and well-being in our communities.

We are reaching out to all municipalities within Renfrew County to request support. We are hopeful that municipalities and/or their respective Police Services Boards would consider making a financial donation of \$1,000 (or any other comfortable amount) to Renfrew County Crime Stoppers to help us strengthen the program.

The Crime Stoppers program provides a platform for the public to submit a tip if they have information about a crime. The crime information gets forwarded to the police, but the Tipster remains anonymous and does not have to appear in court. If the information leads to charges being laid, the Tipster could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000. At over 7,500 square kilometres, the Renfrew County Crime Stoppers program covers one of the largest regions in the province, and we need your help to keep our communities safe.

As a non-profit charitable organization, Crime Stoppers relies on partnerships to promote and operate the program. Crime Stoppers is volunteer-run and does not receive regular government funding, so the program cannot work without awareness, commitment from community members, and funds to cover expenses and pay rewards.

Donations not only help fund the rewards we pay out to Tipsters, but also to procure signage and marketing materials, pay for our call centre and online tip platform, and allow us to generate more awareness, more tips and help the police solve more crimes.

If a donation is not possible, we would still look forward to discussing other ways our organizations can work together. From signage and advertising to presentations for Council and community groups, we would be grateful for any opportunity to promote the program.

You can help us keep our communities safe. Please consider becoming a community safety partner with Renfrew County Crime Stoppers. Thank you for your time and consideration. Feel free to share this message within your organization as necessary, and I look forward further connecting.

Sincerely,
Bennett

--

Bennett Blackwell
President

Renfrew County Crime Stoppers
bennett@valleytips.ca
www.valleytips.ca



January is Crime Stoppers Month

14 January 2025

In January every year, Crime Stoppers programs across the country participate in National Crime Stoppers Month. The theme for 2025 is:

*“Empowering Through Education,
Preventing Through Action”*

**EMPOWERING THROUGH EDUCATION.
PREVENTING THROUGH ACTION.**

SAY *it* HERE



The success of Crime Stoppers is a result of partnerships between the community, law enforcement and media. Crime Stoppers works to educate the public and create awareness on illegal activities in an effort to help promote the Canadian values of safety, empowerment and inclusion. Creating awareness and mobilizing Canadians in reporting suspicious or criminal activity anonymously requires a network of partners working together for a common end.

Crime Stoppers is a volunteer-run, non-profit charitable organization, that relies on the community to create awareness, promote the program, and support fundraising efforts. Tipsters remain completely anonymous, do not have to testify in court, and could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 if their information leads to charges being laid.

In Renfrew County, the Crime Stoppers program has helped police to lay nearly 1,300 charges, has assisted in recovering over \$750,000 worth of property and cash, and has helped remove over \$4.1 Million worth of drugs from our streets.

“Crime Doesn’t Pay...But Crime Stoppers Does”,
It’s true - and our Board has approved over \$34,000 in rewards.

How can you help?

Visit our website www.valleytips.ca to learn how to:

Make a Tip

Submit an anonymous tip about a past, present or future crime you have information about. Your tip might be the missing piece that the police need to further their investigation. And if your tip leads to charges being laid, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000!

Make a Donation

As a non-profit charitable organization, Crime Stoppers relies on the support of individual and corporate community safety partners to operate the program. Crime Stoppers does not receive regular public funding, so everything from the operating expenses to the reward fund is dependent on fundraising efforts.

Make a Commitment

Crime Stoppers is governed by a Board of Directors made up volunteers. From Board Member positions to volunteering at events, Crime Stoppers is always in search of dedicated community members to help keep the program running.

Want to know more?

If you would like more information, if your organization is hosting a community event with tabling and networking opportunities, or if you're hosting a meeting and would like to schedule a presentation from Crime Stoppers, please consider reaching out to info@valleytips.ca.

Safer communities start with you! Consider becoming a community safety partner with Renfrew County Crime Stoppers today.

**SAY IT
HERE**

Renfrew County
CRIME 
STOPPERS
www.valleytips.ca
1-800-222-TIPS



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 27, 2025

UOV OPP PARTNER WITH DOMINOS PIZZA TO HAND OUT “GOOD SAMARITAN” TICKETS

(PEMBROKE, ON) - The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has partnered with Dominos Pizza to handout “Good Samaritan” tickets in the community.

UOV OPP officers will be on the lookout and if they catch a youth showcasing positive behavior in their community, they may receive a thank you in the form of a Good Samaritan ticket. The ticket is redeemable for a free small one topping pizza from Dominos Pizza locations in Pembroke, Petawawa, Renfrew and Arnprior.

A youth may receive a Good Samaritan ticket from an officer for a number of positive behaviours: helping others in need, being leaders, following safety rules, doing a good deed and/or participating in community activities. Officers may also use the Good Samaritan tickets as an ‘icebreaker’ to interact with youth.

“In addition to recognizing good behaviour by youth, Good Samaritan ticketing offers opportunities for our officers to interact with youth with a less authoritative approach. These interactions can serve to build positive relationships with the youth in the communities we serve,” said OPP Inspector Steph Neufeld, UOV OPP Detachment Commander.

One of UOV OPP’s newest members Cadet Rebeka Neron displays a Good Samaritan ticket in the attached photo.

-30-

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast



GADET

The Good SAMARITAN TICKET

Well Done!
You've been caught red handed by an outstanding member of your community.

Bring this coupon into your local Domino's and receive a FREE Small 1-Topping pizza.



Community Futures Development Corporation

Renfrew County

Dear Municipal Partner,

On behalf of the Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation (RCCFDC), I'm writing to share an exciting funding opportunity that could help bring your community's economic development ideas to life. Our **Renfrew County Community Development Fund** is now accepting applications, and we'd love to see how your municipality might benefit from this program.

This fund provides non-repayable grants of up to \$5,000, matching up to 50% of your eligible project costs. We designed this program to support meaningful initiatives that strengthen our local economy and create lasting positive change in our communities.

What makes this funding special is its focus on real community impact. We're looking for projects that:

- Address key economic development priorities that matter to your residents
- Create tangible benefits for your local business community
- Make a measurable difference you can see and share
- Bring together community partners for stronger economic development
- Build your municipality's capacity to drive economic growth

We know from experience that the best projects often start with a conversation. That's why we strongly encourage you to reach out to our office before completing an application. We'd be happy to discuss your ideas and help you shape them into a strong proposal.

Ready to take the next step? You'll find both the Program Guidelines and Application Form attached to this email. Here's how to proceed:

- Start by reviewing the [Program Guidelines](#)
- Complete the [Application Form](#)
- When you're ready, send your completed application to info@rccfdc.org



Community Futures Development Corporation

Renfrew County

Remember, this opportunity remains open until all funding is allocated, so we encourage you to act soon if you have a project in mind. Our team is here to support you throughout the process and help you develop an application that aligns with both your community's needs and our program objectives. We look forward to learning about your ideas for strengthening our local economy.

Best regards,

Cyndy Phillips
Executive Director
Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation

For more information: Email: michele.gagnon@rccfdc.org



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 28, 2025

RIDE PROGRAM LEADS TO DRIVER BEING CHARGED

(PEMBROKE, ON) – A Pembroke resident is facing a driver's licence suspension along with charges under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) and Cannabis Control Act (CCA) after a traffic stop in the City of Pembroke.

In the early morning hours of January 26, 2025, police stopped a vehicle after it appeared to avoid a RIDE program checkpoint in the City of Pembroke. As part of the investigation a Roadside Screening Device was utilized, and the driver registered in the warning range. Police also seized a quantity of cannabis during the traffic stop.

As a result of this incident the 29-year-old driver from Pembroke was issued a 7-day drivers licence suspension. They were also charged under the HTA and CCA with the following offences:

- Fail to notify change of address
- Drive vehicle with cannabis readily available
- Drive vehicle with cannabis in open original packaging

The Upper Ottawa Valley OPP is committed to making our roadways safe and RIDE programs will continue throughout the year at any time of the day or night.

- 30 -

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast



Ontario Provincial Police
Police provinciale de l'Ontario

News Release/ Communiqué

FROM: Upper Ottawa Valley OPP

DATE: January 28, 2024

FIREARMS STOLEN IN BREAK AND ENTER

(BRUDENELL, LYNDOKH AND RAGLAN TWP, ON) – The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is currently investigating after three firearms were stolen during a break and enter to a hunt camp on Wingle Road in Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan Township.

The break, enter and theft took place between January 24 and 26, 2025. The suspect(s) gained entry to the premises and stole an Antonio Zoli brand shotgun along with two .22 calibre rifles. An assortment of fishing and hunting gear was also taken.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Upper Ottawa Valley OPP at 613-757-2600 or Pembroke/Renfrew County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or at www.valleytips.ca.

- 30 -

www.opp.ca
X: @OPP_ER
Instagram: @opp_east
Facebook: OPPEast

MEDIA RELATIONS

9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
(613) 735-7288
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca



**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

RELEASE DATE:

January 28, 2025

County of Renfrew announces funding for roundabout at Doran Road in Petawawa

Petawawa, Ontario – The County of Renfrew is pleased to announce \$2.8 million in funding support for a significant infrastructure improvement at the intersection of County Road 26 (Doran Road) and County Road 51 (Petawawa Boulevard) in the Town of Petawawa. This project will see the construction of a roundabout designed to enhance traffic flow, improve safety, and support the growing needs of the community.

The funding, made possible through the collaboration of municipal and provincial partners, represents a key investment in the County's commitment to infrastructure modernization and public safety. The total estimated project cost is \$5.5 million, with contributions from the County of Renfrew and the Province of Ontario's Housing-Enabling Core Servicing (HECS) stream of the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP).

"I am pleased to see the County of Renfrew, specifically the Town of Petawawa, will benefit from this provincial grant. Ensuring ongoing development, especially relating to improving road safety and use will have a positive impact for the Town and its residents," said Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, who make the off.

The Doran Road and Petawawa Boulevard intersection has long been identified as a high-traffic area, particularly during peak commuting hours. With traffic volumes increasing due to population growth and the area's economic expansion, the roundabout will provide a safer and more efficient solution to manage vehicle flow, reduce congestion, and decrease the likelihood of collisions.

"This investment reflects the County of Renfrew's ongoing commitment to building safer and more accessible roadways for residents and visitors alike," said Peter Emon, Warden of the County of Renfrew. "The Doran Road roundabout will not only address current traffic challenges but also accommodate future growth in the region."

Petawawa Mayor Gary Serviss emphasized the critical role the roundabout will play in supporting local development.

“This project will directly support the expansion of more than 1,400 homes in our community and significantly improve traffic flow on and off Garrison Petawawa,” said Mayor Serviss. “We are excited to see this investment come to fruition, as it will greatly benefit our residents and enhance access to key areas within the town.”

In addition to improving traffic flow, roundabouts offer several benefits, including reduced fuel consumption and emissions as vehicles spend less time idling. The project aligns with the County’s strategic goals to support sustainable development and promote economic growth.

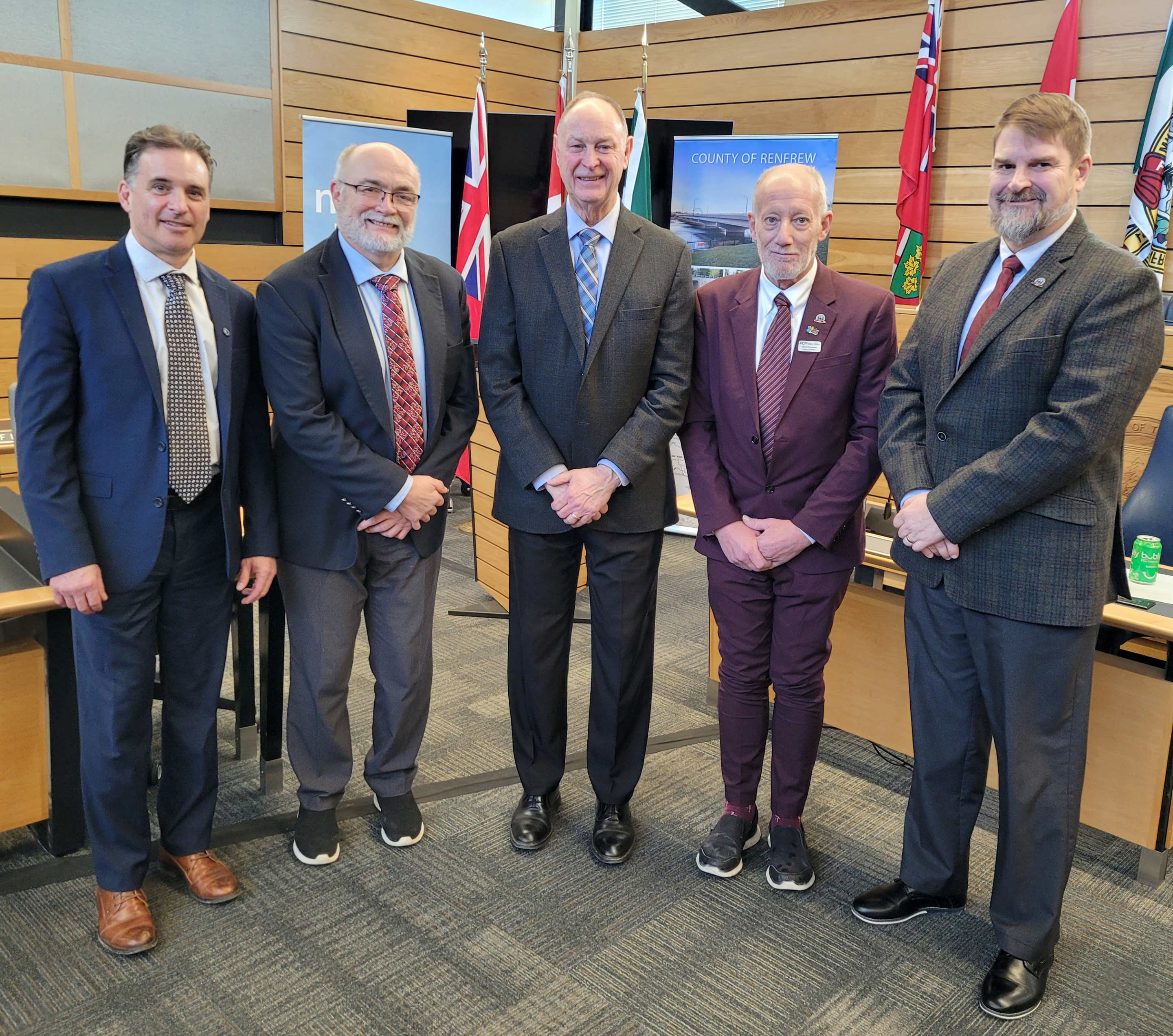
“Investing in infrastructure like this ensures that our roadways can support the economic vibrancy of the region while reducing our environmental impact,” said Councillor Glenn Doncaster, Chair of the County of Renfrew’s Operations Committee. “The roundabout at Doran Road is a smart solution for a growing community.”

The design phase for the project has already been completed but will be refined further. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2026 and will take approximately two years to complete, with some minor works to be completed in 2025. Efforts will be made to minimize disruptions to traffic during the construction period, and residents will be kept informed through regular updates from the County of Renfrew. This is the first phase of several planned improvements along Petawawa Boulevard, as further funding opportunities are sought.

The County of Renfrew acknowledges the support and collaboration of its partners, including the Town of Petawawa, the Province of Ontario, and local stakeholders, whose contributions have made this project possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Kelley	Chief Administrative Officer	613-735-7288
Tina Peplinskie	Media Relations Coordinator	613-735-7288



mesa

[mey-suh]

A collaborative approach
to compassionate care



COUNTY OF RENFREW





TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205
haltonhills.ca

January 29, 2025

All Municipalities in Ontario
Via Email

Re: Sovereignty of Canada

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding Sovereignty of Canada.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0010.

Respectfully,

Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0010

Title: Sovereignty of Canada

Date: January 20, 2025

Moved by: Councillor D. Keene

Seconded by: Councillor J. Brass

Item No. 12.2

WHEREAS incoming President Trump has suggested that with the use of “economic force” such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS residents of our community, known as Canada’s Most Patriotic Town, have demonstrated passion for and loyalty to our nation by opposing past "Buy America" trade measures; by celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary by simultaneously flying over 57,000 Canadian flags and along with other activities, by annually hosting popular Canada Day festivities throughout our municipality; and

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867; and

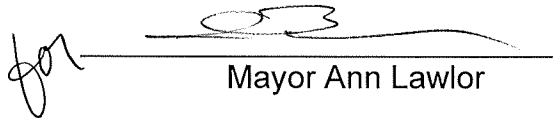
AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Ford and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.


Mayor Ann Lawlor