



The Regional Municipality of Durham

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

September 29, 2017

Information Reports

- [2017-INFO-96](#) Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health – re: Durham Region Health Department’s Communication Regarding WOWBUTTER
- [2017-INFO-97](#) Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – re: Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee, 2017 Farm Tour
- [2017-INFO-98](#) Director, Emergency Management Office – re: Expansion of the Region’s telephone emergency public alerting system to the eight local Municipalities
- [2017-INFO-99](#) Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – re: Cycle Durham Update Report, Regional Cycling Communications Plan

Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports

Staff Correspondence

1. Memorandum from [R. Anderson, Regional Chair and CEO](#) – re: Certificate of Proclamation – Imagine a Day Without Water – October 12, 2017
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Durham Municipalities Correspondence

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3. [Municipality of Clarington](#) – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on September 18, 2017, regarding proposed fee increase for marriage licenses, civil marriage ceremonies, commissioning and certification fees

Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

1. [Municipality of Killarney](#) – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on September 13, 2017, regarding changes to the Ambulance Act and Fire Protection & Prevention Act

Miscellaneous Correspondence

1. [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority](#) advising Resolution #A162/17 was approved at their meeting held on September 22, 2017, regarding the Greater Golden Horseshoe Natural Heritage and Agricultural Systems
2. [Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration](#) – re: Durham Immigration Portal Rebuild

Advisory Committee Minutes

1. Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) minutes – [September 5, 2017](#)
2. Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) – [September 8, 2017](#)

Action Items from Council (For Information Only)

[Action Items](#) from Committee of the Whole and Regional Council meetings

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca by 9:00 AM on the Monday one week prior to the next regular Committee of the Whole meeting, if you wish to add an item from this CIP to the Committee of the Whole agenda.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3324.



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

To: The Committee of the Whole
From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2017-INFO-96
Date: September 29, 2017

Subject:

Durham Region Health Department's Communication Regarding WOWBUTTER

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide Council with information regarding WOWBUTTER and Durham Region Health Department's (DRHD) role in providing advice to school boards. This will support Council to make an informed decision about next steps and communications to constituents regarding school and school board policies on WOWBUTTER.

2. Background

- 2.1 WOWBUTTER is a soy based spread that is marketed as a safe, healthy and nutritious substitute for peanut butter. The product is peanut free, tree nut free, gluten free, egg free, and dairy free. It is produced in a dedicated facility that manufactures only soy products. The product has a taste, smell, and texture very similar to peanut butter, as noted through testimonials on the manufacturer's website.
- 2.2 Many questions have arisen regarding allowing WOWBUTTER in schools as a safe alternative to peanut butter.
- 2.3 The risk with WOWBUTTER and similar peanut-free spreads is that it is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish these products from real peanut butter.

- 2.4 A number of Durham Region schools have issued communications to parents requesting that WOWBUTTER and similar products not be sent to school in children's lunches and snacks.
- 2.5 A Superintendent of Education at the Durham District School Board (DDSB) has confirmed that the school board has a procedure in place to not allow WOWBUTTER in schools, which is communicated to all school administrators.
- 2.6 Statements on a number of local school websites attribute the recommendation to not allow WOWBUTTER in schools to DRHD.
- 2.7 The DRHD has not provided a statement regarding WOWBUTTER for public communications or for posting on any school or school board website.

3. School Board Policies

- 3.1 School boards and schools develop and implement a number of policies to ensure a healthy, safe, and accepting learning environment. In developing these policies, school boards and schools must ensure they comply with provincial legislation and program requirements.
- 3.2 *Sabrina's Law* came into force on January 1, 2006. It is a provincial statute that requires all school boards to have policies or procedures in place to address anaphylaxis (a severe systemic allergic reaction which can be fatal, resulting in circulatory collapse or shock, as defined in *Sabrina's Law*) in schools. School boards are required to develop strategies that reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas.
- 3.3 In order to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents, such as peanuts, a number of Ontario schools have either sent a request to parents to refrain from sending peanut butter like products or implemented a policy to prohibit WOWBUTTER or similar products in school lunches and snacks.

4. Board of Health Requirements

- 4.1 The *Ontario Public Health Standards* require that boards of health work with school boards and/or staff of elementary, secondary, and post-secondary educational settings, to influence the development and implementation of healthy policies, and the creation or enhancement of supportive environments to address a number of topics, including healthy eating. The board of health is responsible for assessing the needs of educational settings, and assisting with the development and/or review of curriculum support.
- 4.2 In order to comply with the Standards and work in partnership with school boards, the DRHD provides nutritional advice regarding healthy eating to schools and school boards as well as advice on other public health issues, such as injury prevention, to inform school and school board policy and program development.

- 4.3 DRHD works with schools directly to meet local public health needs of students. This may involve providing education, resources, and capacity building opportunities to staff and students regarding public health topics.
- 4.4 While DRHD supports policies that promote and protect the health of students, the DRHD does not develop policies on behalf of school boards. As such, DRHD does not have a position on WOWBUTTER in schools or school board policies regarding WOWBUTTER.

5. Jurisdictional Scan

- 5.1 While a number of school boards have not communicated board-wide decisions or recommendations regarding peanut butter substitutes, a number of school boards and/or schools in surrounding regions have issued policy statements on peanut butter substitutes or peanut butter like spreads.
- 5.2 The York District School Board (YDSB) has posted a statement on the school board website requesting that parents refrain from including these kinds of products in their child's lunches or snacks. The YDSB does not refer to the local public health unit in its statement. The school board's statement states:

"A substitute peanut butter product is being marketed to consumers as a safe alternative for children to bring to schools in place of peanut butter. We ask that parents refrain from including these kinds of products in your child's lunches or snacks. These products tend to look, taste, and smell very much like peanut butter. While the product is nut free, it mimics a known allergen that causes anaphylaxis in some children to the degree that it is indistinguishable from the allergen. It is a convincing substitute, opening up the possibility that it can be confused as peanut butter, or worse yet, peanut butter could be confused as this soy-based product.

The safety and well-being of our students is our first priority, which is why our schools have procedures in place to minimize risk of anaphylaxis reactions in our students. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in avoiding the use of these products to assist in our continued efforts to create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students."

- 5.3 In October 2011, the Waterloo Region District School Board issued a communication to Elementary and Secondary Administrators and provided the following language, similar to the YDSB statement, to be used in school newsletters or other correspondence:

"A new substitute peanut butter product is being marketed to consumers as a safe alternative for children to bring to schools in place of peanut butter. The Waterloo Region District School Board asks that parents refrain from including these kinds of products in your child's lunches or snacks. These products tend to look, taste, and smell very much like peanut butter. While the product is nut free, it mimics a known allergen that causes anaphylaxis in some children to the degree that it is

indistinguishable from the allergen. It is a convincing substitute, opening up the possibility that it can be confused as peanut butter, or worse yet, peanut butter could be confused as this soy-based product. The safety and health of our students is our first priority, which is why our schools have procedures in place to minimize risk of anaphylaxis reactions in our students. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in avoiding the use of these products to assist in our continued efforts to create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students.

- 5.4 The Toronto District School Board has allowed each one of its schools the flexibility to implement their own policies to ensure student safety, based on student needs.
 - 5.5 DRHD is not aware of any public health unit in Ontario that has provided a recommendation to a school board about allowing WOWBUTTER in schools.
 - 5.6 The School Health Nutrition Working Group of the Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health (OSNPPH) has no position on WOWBUTTER in schools.
- 6. Conclusion**
- 6.1 DRHD maintains that it is the responsibility of Durham Region school boards and schools to develop, implement, and communicate policies that ensure the safety of students and the school community. While DRHD can provide advice on public health issues such as healthy eating and injury prevention, it will not make policy statements on behalf of school boards or schools.
 - 6.2 The DRHD will continue provide support and advice to school boards and schools to inform policy development.
 - 6.3 The DRHD will continue to request that school boards and schools refrain from referring to the DRHD in procedures, guidelines, or policy statements.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2017-INFO-97
Date: September 26, 2017

Subject:

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee, 2017 Farm Tour, File: A01-38-02

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. On September 20, 2017, the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) hosted its 15th annual farm tour at Ajax Downs in the Town of Ajax. Approximately seventy participants representing government, public agencies, educators and media attended the event and had the opportunity to engage in dialogue with farmers and business owners. As has been the case in previous years, the annual tour highlighted the importance of Durham's diverse agricultural sector, as well as the issues and challenges facing by the industry.
2. Ajax Downs Racetrack has a long history of Quarter Horse racing in Canada. The original name, "Picov Downs," was changed in 2006 with the establishment of the new gaming facility and the construction of a full six-furlong racetrack, completed in 2009. Since its opening in 1969, Ajax Downs has hosted American Quarter Horse races. Founded by Alexander Picov, the facility was built on the family's land, northwest of Kingston Road and Alexander's Crossing. Placement between a highway and creek dictated its original shape, a straightaway with a right-handed turn.
3. The theme for this year's tour was "Off to the Races in Durham Region", which focused on the economic impact of the equestrian industry. The event began with an opportunity to take photos with horses and to tour the jockey locker room.

President of the Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario Inc., Bob Broadstock, delivered the keynote address during lunch. The presentation included information about the:

- Number of horses in the Region (20,000);
- Amount of land in horse feed production (45,000 acres);
- Spin-off economic impacts, including the purchase of machinery and building materials (e.g. tractors and fencing);
- Number of jobs and variety of farm sizes;
- Differences between Quarter Horse racing and other breeds (e.g. Thoroughbreds); and
- Importance of provincial funding to keep horse racing viable.

4. The event included three presentations highlighting the following topics:

- **Racetrack management** – Walter Lowe and Kevin Humphry from Ajax Downs spoke about the rules governing jockeys and the equipment used to maintain the track. Jockeys have strict weight limits, are administered a breathalyser before each race, use saddles as light as 8oz and travel around the world competing. Participants were able to examine different samples of race track footing and track depth measurement tools.
- **Equestrian nutrition and barn tour** - Vern Avery of Brooks Feeds in Scugog provided a presentation on the science behind horse feed. Brooks Feeds provides on-farm nutritional service including evaluations and customized feeding programs to ensure optimized nutrition. Mr. Avery spoke about how the age, stage of growth, and level of activity are key factors in determining the feed requirements of each animal. Emilio Trotta of Ajax Downs then took the group on the tour through the barns. He explained the sport is heavily monitored for equine drug testing and pointed out the federally regulated test facility on the site. He explained that the barns were built in 2011 and are often fully booked on a race day (100 stalls); and no horses live onsite (the stalls are day use only). Participants were able to view horses and meet the owners, trainers and breeders that were onsite that day.
- **The role of the farrier and veterinarian** – Farrier David Wilson and Dr. Allison Doherty provided an overview of two critical components of horse care. Mr. Wilson explained the average horse has its feet trimmed every 4-6 weeks; showed an example of a horse's foot; explained the importance of hoof angles and tendon health; and the different materials

used in shoes. Dr. Doherty talked about the most common reasons a vet is called to a farm, including: breeding; foal management and care; vaccines and parasite control; dentistry; colic treatment; and, x-rays.

5. Each year, participants are requested to complete a survey that is used by DAAC to evaluate the success of the tour, and help plan for subsequent events. Based on the responses, most participants agreed the tour met or exceeded their expectations. Some general comments were:
 - Very interesting and informative, thank you for the education;
 - Great opportunity to learn about a business/industry which is somewhat unknown;
 - Increased awareness and appreciation of the horse industry and its impact on the Region's economy; and
 - A better understanding of the scale of the industry in Durham.
6. Participants were asked what the "Take Home" message was for them. Responses included:
 - This industry is important for many reasons including tourism and economic development;
 - The equestrian industry is huge in Durham Region and a very important part of the economy;
 - There are a lot of horses in the Region and their owners spend a lot of money here; and
 - It's a much larger industry, with many secondary businesses, than expected.
7. DAAC is to be commended for its continued efforts in advancing the knowledge of the agricultural industry in Durham. The annual farm tour continues to be a valuable element of the Council approved work plan for the DAAC.
8. A copy of this report will be forwarded to the Area Municipalities, the Durham Federation of Agriculture, the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, and DAAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

B.E. Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Director, Emergency Management Office
Report: #2017-INFO-98
Date: September 29, 2017

Subject:

Expansion of the Region's telephone emergency public alerting system to eight local municipalities.

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information on the expansion of the Region's mass notification telephone emergency alert system to the eight local municipalities.

2. Background

2.1 The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) legislates municipal emergency management program requirements related to planning, training and public education. Additional responsibilities are assigned to designated municipalities for nuclear emergency planning. As such, the Provincial Nuclear Emergency Response Plan (PNERP) currently specifies Regional requirements for nuclear public alerting in the 10 km zones around the Pickering and Darlington Nuclear Generating Stations.

2.2 The Region has entered into a funding Memorandum of Understanding with Ontario Power Generation (#2014-A-39) for nuclear emergency planning, including 100% of the costs associated with nuclear public alerting, per Provincial mandate. The agreement was revised and renewed for January 1, 2017, including costs for the expansion project noted in this report.

2.3 Rapid Notify has been under contract with the Region for over 20 years as a provider of emergency telephone notification services within the 10 km zones around both nuclear plants.

- 2.4 The existing Rapid Notify system has been adopted by other Regional departments, whereby Health and Social Services manage their own sub-accounts on the primary DEMO account for their own internal staff notification purposes. Works is currently examining Rapid Notify for their use.

3. Discussion

- 3.1 As a result of interest expressed by Durham local municipal Community Emergency Management Coordinators, DEMO has undertaken a project to expand telephone emergency alert notification to include the eight local municipalities, thereby providing alerting capabilities throughout the Region
- 3.2 The expansion will provide each local municipality their own sub-account to manage, with the provision of telephone data being coordinated and provided centrally through the Region. The arrangement will allow each local municipality to activate telephone emergency alert notifications to their own residents for a local emergency in geographic areas defined by postal code, as well as activate telephone emergency alert notifications to their own staff.
- 3.3 This service will be funded 100% by OPG. OPG is in agreement with the project and has agreed to fund the revised costs of \$98,981 (US \$75,000) annually to account for the increased data and system capacity. 2017-COW-122.
- 3.4 DEMO is actively working with the eight local municipal Fire Chiefs and it is expected that the system will be rolled out and functionally operational in late 2017. A coordinated public communications plan has been created and will be implemented through Corporate Communications and their eight local municipal communications partners.
- 3.5 In 2016, DEMO coordinated Regional participation in a pilot project testing of new 'cell broadcast' technology which, when implemented, will provide a more advanced and effective public alerting notification mechanism than currently exists today. However, it is expected that this technology will take several years to bring to market and make operational following the April 2017 federal CRTC regulatory approval, including manufacturing changes and public rollout of the technology on new cell phone devices. The target date range for the new technology is 2019/2020.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Region receive this report for information.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Warren Leonard. M.Sc., CEM
Director, Emergency Management

Recommended for Presentation to
Committee

Original signed by

G.H. Cubitt, MSW
Chief Administrative Officer



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2017-INFO-99
Date: September 27, 2017

Subject:

Cycle Durham Update Report, Regional Cycling Communications Plan, File: D21-32

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Council on the key accomplishments of the Cycle Durham pilot program, from 2015 to present.

2. Background

2.1 The 2012 Regional Cycling Plan included a provision to develop a cycling communications strategy that outlines education, promotion, outreach, and enforcement methods to ensure a well informed and safe cycling community.

2.2 To address this direction, a consultant (Kennedy Jones & Sweeney Inc.) was engaged in October 2013 to prepare a Regional Cycling Communications Plan. The project included the development of an operating model for the delivery of cycling information to the community.

2.3 The consultant recommended that the Region's Cycling Communications Plan focus on the following elements:

- a. The application of the 5 E's (i.e. education, enforcement, engineering, environment, and evaluation); and

b. The incorporation of the health benefits of cycling.

2.4 The Cycling Communications Plan was presented to Regional Council in June 2014 and was further reviewed with area municipal staff. The revised plan was approved by Regional Council in December 2014 for a three year pilot period ending in December 2017.

3. 2015-2017 Progress and Activities

3.1 Annual progress and workplan reports were provided to Committee and Council demonstrating the pilot program's success and future action items (2016-P-26 and 2017-INFO-52).

3.2 During the three-year implementation period between 2015 and 2017, the Region engaged in various events, activities, and programming to encourage cycling and promote cycling safety in Durham, including:

- Developing a campaign identity (Cycle Durham);
- Ongoing cyclist and driver awareness campaigns using various mediums such as radio ads, mobile bus ad campaigns, and social media;
- Developing communications materials to encourage cycling safety and safe road sharing, including: a website, print media, and video productions;
- Participating in local community events;
- Region-wide cycling network mapping;
- Engaging students through Bike Month and other programs to further Active School Travel;
- Hosting cycling safety and skill building workshops; and
- Celebrating cycling in Durham through a Lake to Lake ride.

4. Future Directions

4.1 Metrolinx is currently undertaking an update to its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). The recently released draft 2041 RTP identifies the following priority actions that indicate a need for ongoing public cycling communications:

- 3.6 – Eliminate transportation fatalities and serious injuries as part of a regional “Vision Zero” program via safe cycling education;
- 3.7 – Make Transportation Demand Management (TDM) a priority, especially when considering first mile and last mile connections to transit;

and

- 4.9 – Work with ministries, school boards, municipalities, service providers, NGOs and other stakeholders to establish school travel programs for Kindergarten to Grade 12 to encourage the development of future generations of pedestrians and cyclists.

4.2 Furthermore, the following sections of the Draft 2017 Durham Transportation Master Plan that was presented to Regional Council in June 2017, identified key actions that require ongoing implementation of the Regional Cycling Communications Plan:

- 5.4.13 – Cycle Durham: continue to provide and publish cycling materials, including a Region-wide cycling map;
- 7.4.3 – Region-wide information and promotion – promote multi-modal and active transportation messaging through various communications tools;
- 7.4.4 – Neighbourhood outreach – promote sustainable travel choices through individualized marketing campaigns; and
- 7.4.5 – School travel planning – work collaboratively with the Region’s Health Department, area municipalities, and other stakeholders to support active school travel programming in the Region.

4.3 In order to continue the momentum and to further the mandates of Metrolinx’s 2041 RTP for the GTHA, the Draft Durham Transportation Master Plan, and the Durham Regional Cycling Plan, the key proposed highlights for the immediate future and 2018 include:

- A study to identify key goals and future communications opportunities in the Region;
- Furthering work to integrate cycling related messaging across all Regional departments, area municipalities, and other stakeholders in the Region;
- Ongoing cyclist and driver awareness campaigns;
- Furthering work on the region-wide cycling network mapping exercise to create a comprehensive map that is updated on an annual basis;
- Ongoing participation in local community events;
- Working with area municipalities and stakeholders to encourage Active School Travel; and
- Working towards obtaining a Bicycle Friendly Community designation by

way of encouraging and supporting area municipalities to obtain the designation.

- 4.4 It is appropriate that the Cycle Durham program be maintained in the coming years. Staff will continue to provide ongoing progress reports and workplans pertaining to Cycle Durham.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The Regional Cycling Communications Plan through its Cycle Durham brand will continue to provide for a well-informed and safe cycling community in Durham that is inclusive of all road users, including: cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. The integration of messaging regarding cycling across all Regional Departments, area municipalities, and other cycling interest in Durham is integral to the success of the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

B.E. Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development



**The Regional
Municipality
of Durham**

Office of the Regional Chair

605 ROSSLAND ROAD EAST
PO BOX 623
WHITBY, ON L1N 6A3
CANADA

905-668-7711
1-800-372-1102
Fax: 905-668-1567
roger.anderson@durham.ca

www.durham.ca

Roger M. Anderson
Regional Chair and CEO

October 1, 2017

Works Department
The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario
L1N 6A3

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Regional Council, I am very pleased to present the enclosed certificate proclaiming October 12th, 2017, as "Imagine a Day Without Water" in Durham Region.

Kindest personal regards,

Original signed by:

Roger Anderson
Regional Chair & CEO

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact
1-800-372-1102, ext. 2009.



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM

Certificate of Proclamation

Presented to

**Works Department
The Regional Municipality of Durham**

On behalf of the Council of
The Regional Municipality of Durham
it is my pleasure to proclaim
October 12th, 2017, as

Imagine a Day Without Water

in Durham Region

Original signed by:
Roger Anderson
Regional Chair & CEO





**The Regional
Municipality
of Durham**

Office of the Regional Chair

605 ROSSLAND ROAD EAST
PO BOX 623
WHITBY, ON L1N 6A3
CANADA

905-668-7711
1-800-372-1102
Fax: 905-668-1567
roger.anderson@durham.ca

www.durham.ca

Roger M. Anderson
Regional Chair and CEO

October 1, 2017

Works Department
The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario
L1N 6A3

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Regional Council, I am very pleased to present the enclosed certificate proclaiming October 16th – 22nd, 2017, as “Waste Reduction Week” in Durham Region.

Kindest personal regards,

Original signed by:

Roger Anderson
Regional Chair & CEO

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact
1-800-372-1102, ext. 2009.



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM

Certificate of Proclamation

Presented to

Works Department
The Regional Municipality of Durham

On behalf of the Council of
The Regional Municipality of Durham
it is my pleasure to proclaim the week of
October 16th to 22nd, 2017, as

Waste Reduction Week

in Durham Region

Original signed by:
Roger Anderson
Regional Chair & CEO



Clarington

September 19, 2017

Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Regional Municipality of Durham
Via Email: clerks@durham.ca

Dear Mr. Walton:

Re: Rapid Response Vehicle Request

File Number: PS.04.01.GE

Please be advised that, at the September 18, 2017 Council meeting, the following Resolution #GG-391-17 was approved:

Whereas the Region of Durham will soon be considering its 2018 Budget and medical calls continue to increase as the population of the Municipality of Clarington grows;

Now therefore the Municipality of Clarington requests, for consideration, that the Region of Durham Health Department include into its 2018 Budget submission a Rapid Response Vehicle that would be dedicated to the Municipality of Clarington.

Yours truly,



June Gallagher, B.A.
Deputy Clerk

JG/lp

- c. Durham Region Health Department
G. Weir, Director of Emergency and Fire Services

SEP 20 '17 PM 4:12

Clarington

September 19, 2017

Glen R. Murray, MPP
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change
Via Email: gmurray.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

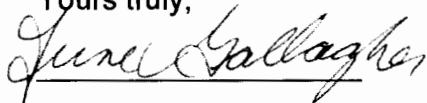
Dear Mr. Murray:

Re: Sylvia Jones, MPP, Deputy Leader of the PC Caucus – Private Members Bill 141 to Require the Ministry of Environment to Report Instances of Sewage Bypasses
File Number: EM.04.01.GE

At a meeting held on September 18, 2017, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington approved the following Resolution #GG-378-17:

That the Communication Item 9.4 from Sylvia Jones, MPP, Deputy Leader of the PC Caucus – Private Members Bill 141, to Require the Ministry of Environment to Report Instances of Sewage Bypasses, be endorsed by the Municipality of Clarington.

Yours truly,



June Gallagher, B.A.
Deputy Clerk

JG/lp

c. Sylvia Jones, MPP, Deputy Leader of the PC Caucus
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON

40 TEMPERANCE STREET, BOWMANVILLE, ONTARIO L1C 3A6 905-623-3379 www.clarington.net

Clarington

September 20, 2017

To: All Durham Area Clerks

Re: Proposed Fee Increase

File Number: PS.04.01.GE

Please be advised that, at the September 18, 2017 Council meeting, the following Resolution #GG-389-17 was approved:

That Report CLD-017-17 be received; and

That the draft By-law, amending Schedule "D" of By-law 2010-142, to change the Clerk's Department fees charged for marriage licenses, civil marriage ceremonies, commissioning and certification fees effective January 1, 2018, attached to Report CLD-017-17 as Attachment 2, be approved.

Accordingly, please find attached a copy of By-law 2017-073.

Yours truly,

June Gallagher, B.A.
Deputy Clerk

JG/lp

- c. Durham Region Health Department
- A. Greentree, Municipal Clerk
- N. Taylor, Director of Finance/Treasurer

C.S. - LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Original To: CIP
Copy To:
C.C. S.C.C. File
Take Appr. Action

By-law 2010-142

Schedule "D"

Municipal Clerk's Department

Service	Price
Certification of Documents	\$25.00 for up to three documents + applicable taxes, \$5.00 + applicable taxes for each additional document
Snow Removal By-law	\$15.00 + applicable taxes
Live Birth Registration	\$25.00
Live Birth Confirmation	\$25.00
Burial Permit	\$25.00
Civil Marriage Ceremony	\$275 + applicable taxes
Marriage Licenses	\$135
Cost to file Appeal Property Standards Order	\$88.50 + applicable taxes (\$44.25 (+ HST) to be refunded to Appellant following appearance before Appeal Committee. Failure to appear for the Appeal will result in forfeiture of entire fee amount.)

**The Corporation of the Municipality of Clarington
By-law 2017-073**

Being a by-law to require payment of fees, to amend By-law 2012-090,
and amend "Schedule D" of the Fee By-law 2010-142

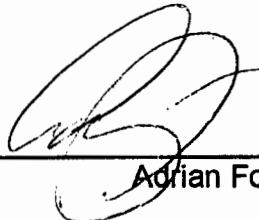
Whereas, at its meeting held on September 18, 2017, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington adopted the recommendations contained in Report CLD-017-17 to change the marriage ceremony fee, marriage license fee, commissioning fee, and add a fee for civil marriage ceremony witnesses;

Now therefore the Council of the Municipality of Clarington enacts as follows:


1. That By-law 2012-090 be amended to correct the error of referencing the incorrect by-law by deleting any reference to By-law 96-32 and replacing it with By-law 2012-142;
2. That the Municipal Clerk's Department fees be amended by deleting Schedule D of By-law 2010-142 and replacing it with the attached Schedule D, identified as Attachment A to By-law 2017-073; and
3. That the fee for the service of Commissioner of Affidavits, in the General fees Section, Schedule "F", be amended by increasing the fee from "\$20.00" to "\$25.00".

This By-law shall come into force and take effect on January 1, 2018.

Passed in Open Council this 18th day of September, 2017.



Adrian Foster, Mayor



C. Anne Greentree, Municipal Clerk



Municipality of Killarney

September 19, 2017

Main Office:

32 Commissioner Street
Killarney, Ontario
P0M 2A0

Tel: 705-287-2424

Fax: 705-287-2660

E-mail:

inquiries@municipalityofkillarney.ca

Public Works Department:

1096 Hwy 637
Killarney, Ontario
P0M 2A0

Tel: 705-287-1040

Fax: 705-287-1141

website:

www.municipalityofkillarney.ca

Association of Ontario Municipalities

Ms. Lynn Dollin

200 University Ave., Suite 801

Toronto, ON M5H 3C6

Dear Ms. Dollin:

Attached hereto is Resolution No. 17-362 that was passed at the Regular Meeting of Council held September 13, 2017 as well as an article from CBC News.

The Municipality of Killarney share the same concerns as AMO regarding proposed changes to the Ambulance Act and Fire Protection & Prevention Act which are to be tabled at Queen's Park this fall.

We look forward to working with you to protect municipal interests.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

THE MUNICIPALITY OF KILLARNEY

Candy K. Beauvais

Clerk-Treasurer

Cc: FONOM

ROMA

OSUM

DSSAB

SDHU

All Ontario Municipalities

Local MPP's



*The Corporation of the Municipality of Killarney
32 Commissioner Street
Killarney, Ontario
P0M 2A0*

MOVED BY: Michael Reider

SECONDED BY: Jim Rook

RESOLUTION NO. 17-362

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Killarney advise the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) that we share their concerns regarding the proposed changes to the Ambulance Act and the Fire Protection and Prevention Act which are set to be tabled at Queen's Park in the fall;

FURTHER the Province is seeking two municipalities to participate in pilot projects funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The Municipality of Killarney appeals to AMO to request that the Province include rural northern municipalities as participants in the pilot projects;

FURTHER the proposed changes may result in the Province saving and municipalities experience additional downloading for some of the costs associated with modifications to the acts;

THEREFORE the Council for the Municipality of Killarney hereby requests that AMO keep all municipalities informed of this matter so that all stakeholders have input into these proposed changes which may result in additional costs to our municipalities (such as increased training, legal liability etc.);

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to AMO, FONOM, ROMA, OSUM, DSSAB, SDHU, all Ontario Municipalities and to our local MPP's.

CARRIED

I, Candy K. Beauvais, Clerk Treasurer of the Municipality of Killarney do certify the foregoing to be a true copy of Resolution #17-362 passed in a Regular Council Meeting of The Corporation of the Municipality of Killarney on the 13th day of September, 2017.


Candy K. Beauvais
Clerk Treasurer

Ontario communities sound alarm over proposed changes to Ambulance Act

By Kimberley Molina, [CBC News](#) Posted: Aug 22, 2017 8:11 AM ET Last Updated: Aug 22, 2017 8:11 AM ET

A group representing Ontario communities is sounding the alarm over proposed changes to two provincial acts which would affect how some patients are treated and transported during medical calls.

The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) is concerned about changes to the *Ambulance Act* and the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, which are set to be tabled at Queen's Park in the fall.

One change aims to reduce unnecessary emergency room visits by having paramedics take patients with minor injuries to family doctors and community clinics. The law currently requires patients to be taken to hospital only.

Another change could see firefighters with paramedic training be able to respond to minor injury calls, provide medical care on fire trucks, and provide symptom relief in some higher-priority calls.

Pilot projects set to begin next spring

The province is looking for two municipalities to participate in pilot projects funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, which are expected to begin in March 2018.

At least one Ottawa city councillor doesn't want the city to take part.

"Ottawa is not the right community to try this in.... I haven't seen any evidence that it leads us in a direction that we want to go," said Coun. Mark Taylor, who is also chair of AMO's health task force.

'We also live in a world where provincial arbitrators have a nasty habit of picking up things in one municipality and dropping them down in another.' - *Coun. Mark Taylor, chair of AMO's health task force*

He's concerned Ottawa could be forced to subscribe to the new model, along with other communities, after the pilot projects are completed.

"We also live in a world where provincial arbitrators have a nasty habit of picking up things in one municipality and dropping them down in another," he said.

The president of AMO said she wants to ensure that doesn't happen.

"They keep telling us that it's voluntary, it's voluntary.... So, our demand of them is if this is to truly be voluntary, that we would require that interest arbitrators be prohibited, in law, from replicating it to unwilling participants," said Lynn Dollin.

Ministry to look at possible scenarios this fall

Legislation is expected to be tabled at Queen's Park this fall to change the two acts, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will consider what kind of calls would be appropriate for transporting patients to family doctors and clinics instead of emergency rooms.

"[The] ministry plans to undertake an operational risk assessment in the fall of potential scenarios, based on feedback from stakeholders to date and experiences of models currently used in other jurisdictions," press secretary Laura Gallant wrote in a statement to CBC News.

Some of those scenarios could include mental health calls, which are on the rise.

A hospital emergency room is not necessarily the best place for those patients, Taylor said.

Province could save, municipalities spend

There is a question of who ends up footing the bill for some costs. While the province may save some money from fewer emergency room visits, **other costs could be off-loaded onto municipalities.**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care projects the cost of ambulance systems will increase by \$300 million to \$1.9 billion over five years, between 2015 and 2020.

Land ambulance costs are shared 50-50 with the province, but municipalities cover 100 per cent of the cost of firefighting, Dollin said.

Potential costs could include increased training for paramedics and firefighters to increased legal liability, she said. If patients are dropped off at a hospital, the hospital — and ultimately the province — are liable, but if the person is taken to another facility instead, a city could bear the brunt of that liability.

'If it's going to cost municipalities more money for us to follow the new regulations, then that should be covered 100 per cent by the province.' - Lynn Dollin, president of AMO

There are other ways the province could save money, according to AMO, including better call triaging and changing regulations around non-urgent patient transfers.

These types of transfers are especially problematic in northern Ontario, where ambulances are **taken out of service to transfer non-urgent patients from one area to another,** Dollin said. In southern Ontario, the province often contracts companies to move those patients.

"It's AMO's position that fixing those two things, the benefits would far outweigh those that could be brought about by fire-medics," she said.

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CBC  Radio-Canada

September 26, 2017

Sent via email

SEE DISTRIBUTION LIST

At Authority Meeting #7/17, of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), held on September 22, 2017, Resolution #A162/17 in regard to the Greater Golden Horseshoe Natural Heritage and Agricultural Systems was approved as follows:

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff has reviewed the Province of Ontario's proposed criteria, methods and mapping for the regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and draft mapping of and implementation procedures for the Agricultural System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and Greenbelt Plan areas;

AND WHEREAS TRCA staff has drafted two letters detailing TRCA's comments on the two proposed systems, to be finalized and submitted by the Environmental Bill of Rights of Ontario (EBR) deadline of October 4, 2017 (Attachments 1 and 2);

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the staff report on TRCA's draft comments to the Province for a Regional Natural Heritage System (EBR # 013-1014) by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and on the draft Agricultural System mapping and implementation procedures (EBR # 013-0968) by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs be endorsed;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA's municipal partners, Conservation Ontario and neighbouring conservation authorities be so advised.

Enclosed for your information and any action deemed necessary is the report as approved by the Authority. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact David Burnett at 416-661-6600 extension 5361, dburnett@trca.on.ca.

Sincerely



Kathy Stranks
Senior Manager, Corporate Secretariat
CEO's Office

cc. David Burnett, Senior Manager, Provincial and Regional Policy, TRCA
Frances Woo, Assistant Planner, Planning and Policy, TRCA
Jeff Thompson, Planner II, Planning and Development, TRCA

/Encl.

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RES.#A162/17 -

GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE NATURAL HERITAGE AND AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

Responses to EBR Postings: 013-1014 and 013-0968. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's draft response to the Province of Ontario as it relates to the proposed criteria, methods and mapping for a Regional Natural Heritage System and the draft Agricultural System mapping and implementation procedures.

Moved by: Colleen Jordan
Seconded by: Jack Ballinger

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff has reviewed the Province of Ontario's proposed criteria, methods and mapping for the regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and draft mapping of and implementation procedures for the Agricultural System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and Greenbelt Plan areas;

AND WHEREAS TRCA staff has drafted two letters detailing TRCA's comments on the two proposed systems, to be finalized and submitted by the Environmental Bill of Rights of Ontario (EBR) deadline of October 4, 2017 (Attachments 1 and 2);

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the staff report on TRCA's draft comments to the Province for a Regional Natural Heritage System (EBR # 013-1014) by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and on the draft Agricultural System mapping and implementation procedures (EBR # 013-0968) by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs be endorsed;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA's municipal partners, Conservation Ontario and neighbouring conservation authorities be so advised.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The Province recently completed the coordinated review of the four provincial land use plans for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) and, in doing so, released revised versions of the [Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(Growth Plan\)](#), [Greenbelt Plan](#), [Niagara Escarpment Plan](#) and [Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan](#), which are in effect as of July 1, 2017. TRCA staff provided a summary and initial staff observations of the four updated provincial plans released by the Province on May 18, 2017, as approved by Resolution #A124/17 at Authority Meeting #5/17 held on June 23, 2017.

Building upon recommendations put forward by an advisory panel for the coordinated review led by David Crombie, the Province proclaimed, through the release of the amended plans, that they would lead the development and mapping of both an Agricultural System and a Natural Heritage System (NHS) across the GGH by the summer of 2017. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) was identified as the lead to draft criteria and methods and develop mapping for the NHS for the GGH beyond the Greenbelt Area. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) was tasked with working with municipalities and stakeholders to develop and map an Agricultural System to protect Ontario's supply of farmland and support its agri-food sector.

On July 6, 2017, OMAFRA and MNRF simultaneously posted the proposed Agricultural System ([EBR# 013-0968](#)) and the proposed criteria, methods and mapping for the NHS ([EBR# 013-1014](#)) for public comment on the Environmental Registry. In addition to the Province's request for comments, Conservation Ontario (CO) has requested TRCA's comments (September 15, 2017) in advance of the Province's comment submission deadline of October 4, 2017. As many of the objectives of the Agricultural and Natural Heritage Systems are co-dependent, this staff report will summarize and provide key recommendations on both EBR postings concurrently.

Natural Heritage System

NHSs are described as being made up of natural heritage features and areas (core areas) linked by natural corridors (linkages) to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, and viable populations of indigenous species and ecosystems. Mapping the environmental landscapes that make up the NHS is of particular importance for areas of the GGH such as TRCA's jurisdiction that have high fragmentation and habitat loss.

Through the EBR posting, the MNRF released and requested public consultation on a [Summary of Criteria and Methods](#) and proposed map (Fig. 3 of the Summary Report), as well as an [online map viewer](#), of the proposed NHS for the Growth Plan for the GGH. As indicated in the Summary Report, a more comprehensive "Technical Report" with a detailed description of methods and data sources is available on request from MNRF. TRCA staff contacted MNRF and received this document on July 12, 2017 and immediately circulated it for review and comment.

The proposed NHS was developed based on guiding principles and criteria regarding the composition and size of core areas and linkages. The total area of the proposed NHS is approximately 1.18 million ha, or 45% of the Growth Plan area (excluding settlement areas). It does not extend into settlement areas or the Greenbelt, which make up a significant portion of TRCA's jurisdiction. Within TRCA's jurisdiction, the Growth Plan NHS has been proposed in a number of small areas between the Greenbelt and the urban (settlement) area. The majority of these areas abut the existing Greenbelt NHS, while some adjoin official plan settlement designations. Most of these additions appear to have been included as part of the final review and refinement process after core areas and linkages had been identified.

Agricultural System

The provincial land use plans define the Agricultural System as a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components:

1. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, and rural lands that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; and
2. An agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.

Through the EBR posting, OMAFRA released the following three products that support the implementation of the Agricultural System policies in the updated provincial plans:

1. [Draft Implementation Procedures for the Agricultural System](#) that will guide municipalities and others on how to implement Agricultural System policies in their communities;

2. A web-based [Draft Agricultural System Portal](#) containing extensive mapping of the agricultural land base and agri-food network components, which can be used to identify existing agri-food assets and clusters for economic development purposes. The maps will also inform Agricultural Impact Assessments (i.e. assessment of potential adverse impacts from non-agricultural uses to the Agricultural System and how impacts can be avoided); and
3. [Draft Agricultural Land Base Map](#), which includes the Greenbelt Plan's two specialty crop areas, existing municipally designated prime agricultural areas, additional prime agricultural areas identified using the Land Evaluation and Area Review, and "candidate areas" that municipalities have the flexibility of designating as primary agricultural areas or rural lands. The agricultural land base mapping may be refined by municipalities in accordance with the Agricultural System Implementation Procedures.

Draft TRCA Comments and Key Recommendations

Natural Heritage System

Below is a summary listing from Attachment 1 of TRCA's recommendations for MNRF's consideration on the proposed regional NHS.

TRCA recommends that:

- The regional NHS for the GGH integrate municipal and conservation authority NHS data to avoid the perception of the regional NHS as a higher "tier", provincial-level NHS, undermining the value of existing local NHSs;
- Additional context be added to the introductory sections of the technical report and summary document, including the goals and objectives of the NHS; recognition of the role of local NHSs given their importance for highly urbanized jurisdictions like TRCA; clarification on how the proposed NHS relates to other provincial NHS development initiatives; recognition of the importance of ecosystem restoration and green infrastructure in achieving the objectives of the NHS; and recognition of the impacts of climate change and their relation to the NHS;
- The development of the NHS be informed by a set of ecological guiding principles alongside the proposed process-based principles;
- Three of the proposed guiding principles be edited to better acknowledge local NHS mapping and variations in landscape context across the region;
- MNRF re-evaluate the size criteria for core areas and linkages so that they are more appropriate to the species, scale and landscape context of each area to which they are applied;
- All valley and stream corridors (not just "major" ones) be included in the NHS;
- MNRF provide clear guidance for municipal refinement of the NHS;
- NHS and agricultural land base mapping be published together on the same viewer;
- The Province develop, in consultation with municipalities and conservation authorities, a restoration and enhancement strategy to help achieve the objectives of the NHS.

Agricultural System

Below is a summary listing from Attachment 2 of TRCA's recommendations for OMAFRA's consideration on the draft Agricultural System.

TRCA recommends that:

- The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve not be included in the Prime Agricultural Area;

- Urban agriculture components be included in the agri-food network and added to Agricultural System portal;
- OMAFRA ensure that Agricultural System portal contains updated and practical information for a broad range of users, including urban agriculture;
- The regional Natural Heritage System for the GGH be included in the Agricultural System portal.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

TRCA staff is reviewing the proposed mapping as part of existing budgets. No additional funding is required for this review.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- Incorporate feedback from the Authority meeting on September 22, 2017 into the submission to the EBR by the deadline of October 4, 2017;
- Continue to attend provincial training sessions on the proposed mapping and associated technical reports and guidance materials;
- Continue to work with TRCA's municipal partners, Conservation Ontario and the Province in understanding the implications of the proposed mapping, associated policies as they pertain to the operation of TRCA programs and delivery of services;
- Coordinate internal consultations with senior management, planning and technical staff to assess the implications of the proposed mapping and associated policies (ongoing).

Report prepared by: Frances Woo, extension 5364

Emails: frances.woo@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: David Burnett, extension 5361

Emails: dburnett@trca.on.ca

Date: September 22, 2017

Attachments: 2

October 4, 2017

By email

Ala Boyd
Manager – Natural Heritage Section
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Policy Division
Natural Resources Conservation Policy Branch
300 Water Street
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8M5

Re: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority comments in response to the criteria, methods, and mapping of the proposed regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe ([EBR # 013-1014](#)).

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the criteria, methods, and mapping of the proposed regional Natural Heritage System (NHS) for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH).

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is a local watershed management agency with a variety of responsibilities related to natural heritage protection, management and restoration. TRCA protects and manages approximately 18,000 hectares of conservation land and assists its 18 member municipalities in fulfilling their responsibilities associated with natural heritage, water resources and natural hazard management under the *Planning Act* and *Environmental Assessment Act* processes. TRCA has an interest in the development of the regional NHS primarily given our roles as a service provider to municipalities supporting their implementation of provincial policy, as a resource management agency and regulator in accordance with the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and as a major landowner in the Greater Toronto Area.

In 2015 and 2016, TRCA provided comments and recommendations to the Province as part of the Coordinated Review of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Growth Plan), Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and Niagara Escarpment Plan. We are pleased that many of our comments are reflected in the updated plans and recognize the importance of establishing the regional NHS in a timely manner to facilitate the implementation of the new Growth Plan policies.

TRCA has reviewed both the summary document and technical report and refer to both in the comments below. The document being referred to in each instance will be specified. Note that these comments should be read in conjunction with TRCA's comments on the draft Agricultural System ([EBR # 013-0968](#)).

General Comments

Overall, TRCA supports the intent of identifying a regional NHS and appreciates that MNR has clearly outlined the principles, criteria, and methods used to develop the proposed regional NHS for the GGH. The decision to use a transparent, repeatable methodology to identify and create core areas and linkages and to fill in gaps and holes is important. We also appreciate the

decision to accept NHS information from municipalities and conservation authorities (CAs) as part of this consultation and anticipate that the Province will use it to refine the proposed NHS.

It is helpful to be able to concurrently review and comment on the draft Natural Heritage System and Agricultural System in recognition of the overlap between the two systems. It appears that MNRF and OMAFRA have taken different approaches, with the former relying predominantly on provincial data and allowing for municipal refinements only for precision, and the latter drawing from existing OP mapping and providing greater flexibility for municipalities to refine the draft agricultural land base. TRCA would like to see the NHS approach more closely resemble the Agricultural System approach in its use of local official plan (OP) mapping and engagement with municipalities and CAs in the determination of the final NHS.

Policy 4.2.1 in the Growth Plan states that, “Municipalities, partnering with conservation authorities as appropriate, will ensure that watershed planning is undertaken to support a comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to the protection, enhancement, or restoration of the quality and quantity of water within a watershed.” In large part, water quality and quantity and overall watershed health depend on a protected, robust NHS. A healthy NHS can filter stormwater and slow flood waters, curb erosion and absorb carbon, as well as provide buffered and connected habitats. The impacts of growth, intensification and the compounding effects of climate change are in many ways more acutely experienced in downstream settlement areas, making a protected NHS even more critical.

TRCA is concerned about the implications of a regional-scale NHS, subject to Growth Plan policies, that excludes areas that are currently part of local NHSs. This is of particular concern given that, according to the revised Growth Plan, existing NHSs identified in OPs will no longer be protected in accordance with the relevant OP once the regional NHS has been issued (4.2.2.4), even though a municipality “may continue to protect any other natural heritage system or identify new systems in a manner that is consistent with the PPS” (4.2.2.6b). This appears to create two “tiers” of NHSs, in which parts of the local NHS (where the regional NHS does not overlap) risk being devalued in municipal development decisions or at the Ontario Municipal Board. Even if municipalities have the opportunity, as per Growth Plan policy 4.2.2.5, to “refine provincial mapping with greater precision” through a municipal comprehensive review, this two-tier system will exist until municipalities’ OPs are updated and approved (2022 or even beyond).

Furthermore, without provincial guidelines on the types and extent of “refinements” that municipalities will be able to make, it is unclear whether the municipal refinement process will be sufficient to resolve these disparities. While we appreciate that the proposed NHS is intended to operate at the regional scale, the implications of inclusion versus exclusion are substantial and can create challenges for planning authorities and supporting agencies like CAs going forward. This has significant ecological implications considering that the success of the regional-scale NHS is contingent on local-scale municipal NHSs.

Using the recently published digital NHS map, TRCA has been able to identify the areas within our jurisdiction that have been proposed for inclusion in the GGH NHS. Many of these appear to be refinements to the Greenbelt NHS within the whitebelt. Within this area, the proposed additions exclude parts of the NHS identified through TRCA’s Terrestrial Natural Heritage System Strategy, which many of our partner municipalities use to delineate and periodically refine the NHS in their OPs. CAs and municipalities should be consulted on these site-specific areas in order to more accurately capture and map the natural features present. For example, the portion of the proposed regional NHS located southwest of Elgin Mills Road and the 9th line in Markham does not extend to cover the wetland to the north.

Responses to Consultation Questions

1. Generally, do you agree with the principles? Are there other key principles?

The principles are helpful in guiding the technical process for developing the NHS. However, they lack the direction required to ensure the development of the NHS is based on sound ecological principles. The document and process would benefit from having a set of ecological guiding principles in addition to the more process-based ones so that they are embedded in the mapping process and can facilitate the evaluation of NHS outcomes in the future. If ecological principles are established, the NHS development methodology should be reviewed and/or revised to ensure it conforms with these principles. Please see for reference the attached Principles for Terrestrial Natural Heritage Conservation and Restoration developed by the South-Central Ontario Conservation Authorities Natural Heritage Discussion Group in 2002, which relate to scale, amount and distribution of cover, size, shape, matrix, connectivity, and diversity/quality. For example, if distribution is a key principle, core areas smaller than 100ha would be needed in order to capture more areas with high fragmentation and low cover in the NHS so that services are more equitably distributed across the region.

Edits are proposed to the following guiding principles on p. 4 of the summary document in order to better account for existing local NHS mapping and regional variations in landscape context:

- **Scale of the regional system – focus on identifying larger core areas and broader linkages within a regional landscape context:** Consider rewording to “Larger core areas and broader linkages are preserved in a regional natural heritage system, but the scale and context of the landscape is to be considered when identifying core area and linkage size criteria.” While large habitat patches are generally better for biodiversity conservation, the minimum size varies depending on the landscape context, NHS objectives and even species requirements. By keeping this guiding principle broad it allows the NHS development process to identify appropriate size – for example, 500ha or 100ha or more if needed.
- **Connection of the NHS to existing regional mapping in adjacent areas is to be made as much as reasonably possible (i.e., connect to other natural heritage systems in adjacent planning areas):** Consider rewording to “Connection of the NHS mapping to existing regional and local jurisdictions’ NHS mapping in adjacent areas is to be made as much as reasonably possible (i.e., connect to other natural heritage systems in adjacent planning areas)”. Giving regard for and linking the proposed NHS maps to the existing NHS from other jurisdictions (municipal and CAs included) is important for all of the NHS to be functional across the broader landscape.
- **The criteria and methods are to have potential for application in another similar geographical (i.e., could potentially be applied to other areas of southern Ontario):** Consider rewording to “The framework, criteria, and methods are to have potential for application in another similar geographical scale and context as well as allow for adaptation if in a different geographical scale and context”. This will allow for the areas where the criteria thresholds are not acceptable to use what is most appropriate in their context without weakening the objectives and outcomes of the NHS.

2. Do you agree with the criteria for the composition and size of core areas and linkages?

TRCA supports the application of smaller minimum core area sizes to reflect different fragmentation and natural cover conditions in different parts of the GGH. It is important to apply finer thresholds for areas with low natural cover, as smaller natural features would otherwise be

excluded from the NHS. TRCA, which works within a highly urbanized area, is acutely aware of the need to account for regional variability in NHS planning and to recognize the importance of such systems in more developed contexts.

We are concerned that the alternative 100ha minimum may not be sufficient to address the already low levels of natural cover within certain areas in the GGH outside of settlement areas and the Greenbelt (e.g. in the whitebelt). While it is a good start, this threshold does a disservice to watersheds dominated by still smaller – but important – existing natural areas by excluding them from provincial-level protections. For example, a recent University of Waterloo study¹ highlighted the disproportionately large role that smaller wetlands play in landscape nutrient processing and the need to value and protect these smaller features. In addition, there are biodiversity groups that benefit from smaller habitat areas, as illustrated on pages 9 and 14 of the technical report, that have been excluded through application of the proposed criteria. While the technical report states that “The objectives of the regional Natural Heritage System are not tailored to a particular species or species group, but are intended more generally to maintain and restore biodiversity and ecological functions over the long term”, by aiming only for larger areas the needs of biodiversity groups with smaller patch areas – often local species in and around settlement areas that are of local conservation concern – could be undermined, especially in areas where they may be the dominant groups. As with core area size, linkage sizes also need to vary depending on the species, scale and context of the study area.

TRCA recommends that the Province re-evaluate size criteria for core areas and linkages, based on a finer analysis of the region and data provided by CAs and municipalities, which more fully reflect the context of the area to which the criteria are applied. Core area and linkage thresholds should be determined according to the needs of the majority of species, scale, and landscape context of the targeted region at a finer scale.

With regard to the composition of core areas and linkages, while valleylands of major stream systems were included in the proposed NHS, TRCA would like to see all valley and stream corridors included in the NHS. Valley and stream corridors, which support the interactions between terrestrial and aquatic systems, form the “backbone” of the NHS of a watershed, and within TRCA’s jurisdiction are considered both core areas and linkages. Local NHSs are critical to the health of watersheds, which in turn is key to the health of the regional NHS.

3. Do you agree that there should be consideration of smaller core areas to acknowledge highly fragmented areas with limited natural cover?

Yes – see response to Question 2.

4. Do you agree with the automated approach to consistently apply the criteria across the landscape?

We understand the approach described in the technical report to be a consistent, repeatable approach but not necessarily an automated one, as it employs a number of manual steps and expert judgment. We think this is appropriate. The consistent application of criteria is supported, as long as the criteria are context- and scale-specific given the wide variability in the amount and distribution of natural cover across the GGH as well as the needs of the inhabiting species.

¹ Cheng, F. Y., and N. B. Basu (2017), Biogeochemical hotspots: Role of small water bodies in landscape nutrient processing, *Water Resour. Res.*, 53, 5038–5056, doi:10.1002/2016WR020102.

5. Do you have other suggestions for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to consider?

Provide Additional Context

Both the technical report and summary document would benefit from additional context and content for the development of the regional NHS and its associated policies as it relates to local NHSs. To this end, the Introduction, Purpose or Scope section(s) of the documents could include:

- A clearly stated goal and objectives for the regional NHS, including what it contains and how it is designed. This could be drawn from the definition of NHS in the Growth Plan. Objectives could include, but are not limited to, the enhancement of ecosystem services, biodiversity protection and recovery, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Recognition of the local NHS identification and protection that municipalities and CAs have been undertaking since the early 2000s and continue to do. The regional NHS may not identify all natural features or potential restoration areas important at the local scale, but the overall long term functionality of the regional NHS and equitable distribution of ecosystem functions and services are dependent on the identification and protection of local NHSs. The impacts of urbanization and the compounding effects of climate change are in many ways more acutely experienced in urban settlement areas, making a protected NHS that much more important in these areas.
- Recognition that, although the GGH NHS does not extend into settlement areas, the identification and protection of natural features in settlement areas is still important.
- Clarification on how the proposed NHS relates to other provincial NHS development initiatives such as Marxan, which was developed over a number of years and has been used (and funded) by a number of municipalities within the GGH.
- Recognition that ecosystem restoration, and identification of areas for restoration, is an important part of the regional NHS and that municipalities and CAs are to identify restoration opportunities.
- Recognition of green infrastructure's concurrent role in achieving some of the same objectives as the regional NHS, including supporting ecosystem functions. This would complement the references to green infrastructure in the updated Growth Plan.
- Recognition of current and future impacts of climate change and the relationship between the NHS, ecosystem services, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and community resilience needs.
- Key ecological guiding principles for the development of the NHS (see response to Question 1 above).

Account for local NHSs

As stated above, TRCA would like to see local (municipal and CA) NHSs be better acknowledged in the development of the GGH NHS. Substantial public resources have been expended to develop and defend these local NHSs. TRCA has learned that the Province is accepting mapping data for consideration for inclusion in the regional NHS, and is pleased to include our GIS data with this submission for your consideration. Incorporating municipal and watershed NHSs would mitigate the “two-tier” problem mentioned earlier and be more consistent with the process OMAFRA has used to map the agricultural land base of the GGH Agricultural System, which relied heavily on existing designations in approved OPs. We would encourage the Province to consider the information and data provided by all CAs.

Provide guidance for municipal refinement and implementation

Provincial guidance and oversight are needed for municipal refinement and consistent

incorporation of the regional NHS into OPs. This would address Recommendation 43 in the Advisory Panel Report for the Coordinated Review, which calls for the provision of guidelines on mapping NHSs and connections between regional- and local-scale systems. Any criteria for municipal refinement should be made publicly available. MNRF may wish to consider establishing a process for municipal conformity/refinement for the NHS similar to that of OMAFRA's for the Agricultural System.

Publish NHS and agricultural land base mapping together

Table 8 in the technical report states that 28% of prime agricultural areas in the GGH have been captured within the proposed NHS. This suggests significant potential for competing uses but also for determining areas for restoration. However, as the mapping for these two systems has been provided on different map viewers, it is currently impossible to systematically identify the areas of overlap and plan for agricultural and ecological functions in these areas. Once the maps for the NHS and agricultural land base are established following this consultation, the Province should not only provide public access to associated GIS data, but make these mapping layers available to view on the same online portal so that municipalities, planning authorities, and landowners are better able to plan within these areas.

Develop a restoration and enhancement strategy

The establishment of the regional NHS requires an accompanying enhancement strategy to both restore NHS areas to natural cover and expand the overall size of the NHS in the long term. In the technical report, public lands and linkages are identified as areas for restoration, but a more comprehensive strategy is needed that includes the opportunity to identify both areas for restoration and the local jurisdictions that should focus on restoration. The Natural Heritage Reference Manual could be updated to better reflect these needs and provide guidance on how NHSs should be developed to account for restoration. An NHS enhancement strategy would help achieve Recommendation 44 in the Advisory Panel Report for the Coordinated Review.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide comments on this important initiative. Should you have any questions, require clarification, or would like to meet to discuss any of the comments, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Woodland, OALA, FCSLA, MCIP, RPP
Senior Director, Planning, Greenspace and Communications
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Enclosure

**BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR
TERRESTRIAL NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION**

**SOUTH-CENTRAL ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES
NATURAL HERITAGE DISCUSSION GROUP
November 2002**

With so many organizations and governments of all levels defining and evaluating natural heritage systems using a diversity of approaches there is a real need to identify basic principles related to conservation biology and landscape ecology that are common to all programs to act as a basis for comparison and to demonstrate compatibility. The following is an attempt to describe these principles under basic issue-related categories. The first two are strategic considerations, while the others are more specific to system design and habitat patch qualities. These are not necessarily presented in order of importance, rather it should be recognized that there is some overlap between principles, and the interrelation between them is important. Following each principle is an explanation of why it is relevant.

1. Approach

A comprehensive approach to natural heritage addresses ecosystem form and function based on a landscape perspective. There is a difference between maintaining the health of a defined terrestrial natural heritage system occupying a portion of the landscape, and maintaining the health of the landscape itself. If terrestrial natural heritage conservation is to be integrated with aquatic ecosystems and geophysical elements such as hydrology and soils, then the condition of the entire landscape, including human land use, must be considered. Land-water interactions are especially important in the protection of headwaters.

Ecological and evolutionary processes function at a landscape scale and therefore must be addressed within a landscape context. Ecosystems are not limited by the boundaries of individual habitat patches; they interact with each other and the surrounding landscape. The movements of wildlife such as migratory birds elevate this function to a global scale. There is a danger in assessing patches only at the site scale, which can lead to cumulative loss. A systems approach must be used in determining their relative importance within a landscape and the interrelationship of all the principles in this document need to be considered. Furthermore, natural disturbance patterns such as erosion or fire are necessary for the continuance of some ecosystem types.

Because ecological systems and processes are so complex and damage cannot always be repaired, the Precautionary Principle should apply when defining, managing, and defending the natural heritage system. Demographic trends and their potential impacts should be considered in the design of the system, and adaptive management should be applied to ensure long-term ecological health. Actions that have the potential to negatively impact the natural heritage system should be avoided unless it can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that there will be no serious ecological harm. Protection of existing features and expansion of the natural heritage system are generally better than mitigative action.

2. Scale

A natural heritage system that is defined and evaluated at a small local scale should be compatible with a system defined at the larger regional or provincial scale. To the greatest degree possible it should also be compatible with neighbouring natural heritage systems across local jurisdictional borders. Consideration of temporal scale is also important. For example, although some decisions may be made based on short-term targets, these may be increments towards a larger vision that can only be fulfilled over the longer term. We should also recognize the evolving nature of ecosystems, and make provision for the continuation of successional processes.

3. Cover/Distribution

More natural cover is better. The more natural cover on the landscape, the greater the ecological health. Natural cover improves soils, retains and filters water, improves air quality and regulates climate. It also promotes biodiversity by allowing for greater representation of genes, community types and species, as well as natural disturbance cycles. Even distribution of this natural cover ensures that these functions occur across the landscape.

4. Size

In general, large habitat patches are better for biodiversity conservation. This is because they provide more resources to support more species and more individuals of those species, promoting population viability and internalizing connectivity and the values which corridors are designed to provide. They also support more vegetation community types and more age classes of vegetation. They provide a better buffer against negative external impacts, and greater opportunities for natural disturbance cycles to occur. In short, size is perhaps the most important patch measure and overriding principle because the larger the size, the less important the other landscape issues become (i.e. a single patch covering the entire landscape would make consideration of distribution, shape, connectivity, and surrounding land use irrelevant).

Another issue is minimum size of a patch to be considered for evaluation, for part of a defined natural heritage system, or to be considered functionally significant. Decisions about minimum size are often based on the habitat type in question, and the total cover and distribution of natural habitat within the study area.

5. Shape

For forest habitat in a fragmented landscape compact patch shapes are generally better than convoluted shapes. This is particularly the case in uplands as opposed to riparian habitats that may naturally be thin and convoluted. Many forest species of concern - in particular birds - are known as "forest interior" species because they require the dark, cool habitat that can only be found in deep forest. Forest interior is also considered to be that area of the patch that is beyond most negative edge effects, that is from negative external influences. According to literature, these edge effects penetrate at least 100 metres into a forest, and up to over 400 metres. Typically, forest interior is mapped as the area that is more than 100 metres from the edge. Interior is a function of both size and shape of the patch. The shape with the least

amount of edge is a perfect circle. Long, slender, convoluted or perforated patches have the highest amount of edge. Shape of patches may become less important with increasing size.

There may be value in defining interior, or "core" area for non-forest habitats, or combinations of habitats, although the literature to support this seems to be limited, with the exception of defining core areas in large reserves that are off limits to human use.

6. Matrix

Size and shape many determine the degree to which a patch is exposed to negative external influences, but what ultimately affects the quality of the habitat is the specific types of influences resulting from the character of the surrounding landscape, known as the matrix. Human land uses such as agriculture and urbanization have different degrees of impact, while other nearby habitat patches may have a positive effect by providing additional resources for species that can move between the patches and by providing support services such as pollination.

7. Connectivity

Landscape connectivity refers to the functional relationship among habitat patches based on their spatial proximity and the movement responses of organisms. Plants need adjacent habitats to support pollination and seed dispersal. Animals must move or disperse to find suitable resources and to mate. Small populations that have become isolated in a fragmented landscape are at risk of extinction due to resource depletion or inbreeding and the associated loss of genetic vigour. Two main types of connectivity have been defined: structural connectivity refers to the physical adjacency of habitat patches, and functional connectivity refers to the ability of species to traverse the landscape between the patches. Theoretically functional connectivity must be defined differently for each species because each has a different movement capacity. However, structural connectivity, whatever its form, will not meet the needs of all species. Provision of wildlife corridors, although popular, is only one way in which connectivity can be provided. These issues illustrate the difficulty in finding one measure that suits all circumstances. Based on potential positive or negative impacts of linkages, to connect or not to connect is an important consideration.

9. Diversity/Quality

Native species and vegetation communities should be a focus of conservation and restoration efforts. Species evolve together over time to create ecosystems. Non-native, or exotic species are those that have been introduced deliberately or accidentally from distant areas. Although the impacts of some species may be relatively benign, those that become invasive can have catastrophic impacts. It is therefore appropriate to focus conservation on native species and ecosystems, and this may in fact involve the control of exotic species or to maintain the conditions that favour native species.

The quality or condition of natural areas is also important. For example, areas that are close to pristine are likely to be more valuable than areas that are heavily degraded. Special features such as excellent representation of biodiversity, rare species or community types, old growth, etc. are also important considerations.

October 4, 2017

By email

Helma Gerts
Policy Advisor
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Policy Division
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch
1 Stone Road West, Floor 2
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2

Re: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority comments in response to the Release of draft Agricultural System mapping and Implementation Procedures ([EBR # 013-0968](#)).

Dear Ms. Gerts:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Agricultural System mapping and implementation procedures for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH).

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) protects and manages approximately 18,000 hectares of conservation land and assists its 18 member municipalities in fulfilling their responsibilities associated with natural heritage, water resources and natural hazard management under the *Planning Act* and *Environmental Assessment Act* processes. TRCA has an interest in the development of the GGH Agricultural System primarily given its roles as a service provider to municipalities supporting their implementation of provincial policy, as a resource management agency and regulator in accordance with the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and as a major landowner in the Greater Toronto Area. TRCA leases some of its land to farmers and manages approximately 400 hectares in its agricultural land inventory. TRCA's Sustainable Near-Urban Agriculture Policy (2008) permits and encourages agricultural uses on TRCA owned and managed lands, where appropriate, as a component of sustainable communities. The Policy recognizes that agricultural land is a vital resource that must be conserved and that progressive environmental stewardship in the agricultural sector and the production of local food for the Toronto region are requirements for TRCA and its partners to collectively realize The Living City vision.

In 2015 and 2016, TRCA provided comments and recommendations to the Province as part of the Coordinated Review of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and Niagara Escarpment Plan. We are pleased that many of our comments are reflected in the updated plans and recognize the importance of establishing the GGH Agricultural System in a timely manner to facilitate the implementation of the new policies.

Based on our review of the draft Implementation Procedures, Agricultural Land Base map, and Agricultural System portal released for consultation, TRCA would like to provide the following comments. Note that these comments should be read in conjunction with TRCA's comments on the proposed regional Natural Heritage System ([EBR # 013-1014](#)).

Remove the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve from Prime Agricultural Area

The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve in Richmond Hill has been included as a prime agricultural area in the draft agricultural land base. Restoration has been completed for a number of years now on the former agricultural lands owned by the Province and the majority of this area is no longer suited for agriculture. This restoration, including tree and shrub planting as well as wetland creation, has been successful due to the quality of the soils. The opportunity for agriculture now exists

only on a small portion of the lands. The remainder of the lands has significant natural and cultural heritage value and provides nature-based recreation and outdoor education opportunities. Furthermore, they are part of the Greenbelt Natural Heritage System and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan Natural Core and Linkage areas, and are not designated as agriculture in either the Richmond Hill or York Region official plan. TRCA supports York Region's recommendation that this area should not be included in the prime agricultural area in the agricultural land base.

Integrate urban agriculture components into the agri-food network

It is important for the Agricultural System to recognize the role of urban agriculture in helping achieve many economic, social, and environmental objectives. Even though the agricultural land base does not extend into urban areas, urban agriculture features are an important part of, and should be included in, the agri-food network. Specifically, urban lands where agricultural activity is occurring (e.g. open space and parks used for community gardens) or that have been made available for agriculture to occur should be mapped in the Agricultural System portal and recognized in the Implementation Procedures. Mapping these urban agricultural opportunities would facilitate planning for urban agricultural activities and demonstrate their functional and economic connections with the broader regional Agricultural System. It could also help broaden the uses of the portal, for example to provide opportunities for potential new farmers without rural connections or farming backgrounds to engage in farming within or near cities.

Ensure information on the Agricultural System portal is updated and practical

The Agricultural System portal is a useful tool for informing agricultural impact assessments and economic development and land use planning. It can also enhance agricultural viability by providing pertinent information for farmers. To that end, OMAFRA could consider including additional information on some agri-food network components that would be helpful to potential users. For example, information regarding the size of processing facilities would enable smaller-scale farmers to easily identify facilities they can use. In addition, clarification on how and when updates to the mapping layers in the portal will be made – for example, to reflect crop layers that may change yearly – would be helpful.

Include the regional Natural Heritage System in the Agricultural System portal

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's technical report for the development of the regional Natural Heritage System (NHS) for the GGH indicates that the proposed NHS falls on 28% of the region's prime agricultural areas. However, as the mapping for these two systems has been provided on different map viewers, it is currently impossible to systematically identify these areas and plan for agricultural and ecological functions in these areas. Once the maps for the NHS and agricultural land base are established following this consultation, the Province should not only provide public access to associated GIS data, but make these mapping layers available to view on the same online portal so that municipalities, planning authorities, and landowners are better able to plan within these areas.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide comments on this important initiative. Should you have any questions, require clarification, or would like to meet to discuss any of the comments, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Woodland, OALA, FCSLA, MCIP, RPP
Senior Director, Planning, Greenspace and Communications
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

**Ministry of Citizenship
and Immigration**

Minister

6th Floor, 400 University Avenue
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel.: 416 325-6200
Fax: 416 325-6195

**Ministère des Affaires civiques
et de l'Immigration**

Ministre

400, avenue University, 6^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tél. : 416 325-6200
Télééc. : 416 325-6195

COPY TO: H. DROUIN
J. CHAPPEL



Ontario

AUG 15 2017

Mr. Roger Anderson
Regional Chair and CEO
Regional Municipality of Durham
P.O. Box 623
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario
L1N 6A3

**REGION OF DURHAM
RECEIVED**

AUG 23 2017

**OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL CHAIR & CEO**

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Re: Durham Immigration Portal Rebuild 2017-05-1-579465787

I am pleased to inform you that the proposal submitted to the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration's (MCI) *2017 Call for Proposals (CFP) Municipal Immigration Program* has been approved for funding. As you know, the CFP was a competitive process and your proposal was evaluated and selected based on its merits.

I am delighted to confirm the award of funding for up to **\$50,000** over two fiscal years to the Regional Municipality of Durham's *Immigration Portal Rebuild* project under the Ministry's Municipal Immigration Information Online Fund.

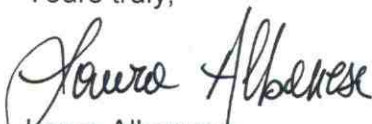
As outlined in the CFP Application Guide, the Regional Municipality of Durham will be required to enter into a legally-binding agreement with the Ministry on the terms and conditions of this grant. In addition, any announcements with the media regarding this funding must require our approval.

A program area staff person from the Information, Research and Evaluation Unit will follow up regarding the completion of a funding agreement. Funding for this grant will be disbursed according to the payment schedule and any conditions and reporting requirements included in the funding agreement.

Our government is committed to supporting newcomers who are seeking opportunities to succeed. I look forward to a continued partnership with the Regional Municipality of Durham as we work together to build a successful future for newcomers and for Ontario.

Best wishes for success.

Yours truly,


Laura Albanese
Minister

Copy to CIP

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 5, 2017

A regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 6, 2017 in Boardroom 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:31 PM

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
F. Puterbough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair, attended the meeting at 7:45 PM
I. Bacon, Member at Large
D. Bath, Member at Large
E. Bowman, Clarington
J. Henderson, Oshawa
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
G. O'Connor, Regional Councillor, attended the meeting at 7:33 PM
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
B. Smith, Uxbridge
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax

Absent: H. Schillings, Whitby
K. Kennedy, Member at Large

Staff

Present: K. Allore, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
N. Rutherford, Manager, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Department of Planning and Economic Development
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by K. Kemp, Seconded by B. Smith,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on June 6, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Presentation

A) Peter Doris, Environmental Specialist, OMAFRA re: Minimum Distance Separation Formulae Update 2017

P. Doris, Environmental Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), provided a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Background on Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) Review and Overview of MDS Document”. The new MDS Document came into effect on March 1, 2017, and replaces all former versions of the MDS Formulae and guidelines.

P. Doris stated that MDS is a land use planning tool developed by OMAFRA to calculate setback distances between livestock operations and other surrounding land uses aiming to minimize nuisance odour complaints and potential land use conflicts.

P. Doris stated that MDS I determines separation distances between proposed new developments and existing livestock facilities and anaerobic digesters. He advised that MDS I applies to official plan amendments, zoning by-law amendments, lot creation applications and building permit applications. He stated that MDS II determines minimum setback distances between proposed new or altered livestock facilities and anaerobic digesters, and existing or approved development, lot lines and road allowances. He also advised of the online tool and factors used to calculate MDS, the purpose of MDS, and the 4 categories of key changes.

P. Doris provided an overview of the following guidelines and changes to the MDS Document:

- Guideline #1 – Referencing MDS in Municipal Planning Documents
- Guideline #2 – For what, and when, is an MDS Setback required
- Guideline #3 – For what, and when, is an MDS setback NOT Required
- Guideline #9 – Lot Creation for Surplus Dwelling Severances
- Guideline #26 – Factor B – Nutrient Units Factor
- Guideline #35 – MDS Setbacks for Agriculture-Related Uses and On-Farm Diversified Uses
- Guideline #36 – Non-Application of MDS within Settlement Areas
- Guideline #43 – Reducing MDS Setbacks

P. Doris responded to questions of the Committee.

4. Discussion Items

A) Region of Durham Tree By-Law, Five Year Review

Correspondence dated August 28, 2017 from D. Pagratis, Project Planner, with attached By-law #31-2012, Regional Tree By-law Information Pamphlet, Good Forestry Practices Permit Application, and Clear Cutting Permit Application, was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda.

K. Allore stated that the Region of Durham Planning and Economic Development Department is initiating a five year review of the Regional Tree By-law. She requested that committee members provide her with individual comments by September 25th which will be presented for discussion at the October 3rd meeting.

B) Joint Workshop with DEAC Update

Z. Cohoon advised that the subcommittees will be meeting on September 14th to discuss details regarding the target audience and topics for the Joint Workshop.

C) 2017 DAAC Farm Tour Update

It was stated that almost 70 guests have confirmed their attendance and members were asked to continue to encourage people to attend. It was also stated that volunteers are needed to direct the guests and to assist with the setup of tables and chairs.

D) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

N. Rutherford, Manager, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, provided the following update:

- The fall Durham Region Farmers Market is scheduled for October 5, 2017 at regional headquarters from 9 AM to 1:30 PM. This year the farmers market will be held in conjunction with the regional staff barbeque to encourage attendance.
- Durham Agriculture and Rural Affairs recently launched a Twitter account and would like to increase the number of followers and make the account more interactive.
- Committee Members were encouraged to advise if they are not receiving the Agriculture and Rural Affairs e-newsletter.
- Staff is putting together a leadership team to launch a local BR&E project. It was stated that it is important that DAAC is represented with regards to bringing awareness of local foods.

- The Durham Farm Connections High School Program will be held on September 28, 2017 at the Brooklin High School.
- Celebrate Durham will be held on October 26, 2017 at the Scugog Arena.
- The Townships of Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog will be hosting their annual council tour with a focus on agriculture.
- Toronto Global is the new name for the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance. They will be conducting their next board meeting in Durham Region on September 12, 2017 and it was suggested that there be good representation from the DAAC committee.
- A local newspaper would like to do an article regarding food and beverage processing and/or production in Durham Region. Committee members were asked to provide ideas or comments for the article.

5. Information Items

A) Commissioner's Report: Durham Region's Response to the Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System and Agricultural System

A copy of Commissioner's Report #2017-COW-201 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development was provided by email on September 1, 2017.

B) Commissioner's Report 2017-INFO-79: Bill 139

Report #2017-INFO-79 of the Commissioners of Planning and Economic Development and Finance regarding Bill 139, Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017, was provided as Attachment #3 to the Agenda.

C) Commissioner's Report 2017-INFO-71: 2016 Census of Agriculture

Report #2017-INFO-71 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding 2016 Census of Agriculture was provided as Attachment #4 to the Agenda

6. Other Business

A) Future Meeting Presentations

K. Allore advised that Marilyn Pearce is scheduled to present at the November meeting. She also advised that she received a request from DAAC members to investigate having a presentation with regards to federal tax changes and the impacts on farm businesses. Z. Cohoon committed to contacting his local accountant to speak to the group.

B) Durham Transportation Master Plan

D. Risebrough advised that the draft Durham Transportation Master Plan is available on the Region's website for review.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 starting at 7:30 PM in Boardroom 1-B, Level 1, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

8. Adjournment

Moved by E. Bowman, Seconded by B. Winter,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

September 8, 2017

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, September 8, 2017 in Boardroom LL-C, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1PM.

Present: R. Gauder, Citizen Member, Chair
Councillor Ashe, Finance & Administration Committee
Councillor Ballinger, Works Committee
G.H. Cubitt, Chief Administrative Officer
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member
Councillor Gleed, Health and Social Services Committee
T. Hall, Citizen Member
D. Hoornweg, Citizen Member
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member
H. Manns, Citizen Member
B. Neil, Citizen Member
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair, attended the meeting at 1:06 PM
Z. Vonkalckreuth, Citizen Member

Absent: Councillor Mitchell, Planning & Economic Development Committee
R. Plaza, Citizen Member
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member
J. Solly, Citizen Member
Regional Chair Anderson

Staff

Present: B. Kelly, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
A. Gibson, Director of Corporate Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Office of the CAO
M. Januszkiewicz, Director, Waste Management, Works Department
C. Rochon, Program Coordinator, Climate Change, Office of the CAO
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

1. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Gleed, Seconded by B. Neil,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on
Climate Change meeting held on May 12, 2017, be adopted.

CARRIED

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

R. Gauder introduced Celina Desbiens and Zowie Vonkalckreuth as newly appointed Citizen Members to the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change. Ruben Plaza was also appointed as a Citizen Member however he was unable to attend the meeting.

3. **GHG Emissions Inventory for 2015**

A) Terry Green, President and Chair of Durham Sustain Ability

T. Green, President and Chair of Durham Sustain Ability, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to Durham Region Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory 2015 Update. A copy of the presentation was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting.

Highlights of his presentation included:

- Introduction
 - Scope
 - Methodology
- Summary of Inventory Trends
 - Total GHG Emissions and Energy Consumption
 - Per Capita Energy Use by Sector
 - GHG Emissions Trends with 2015 and 2020 Targets
- Inventory Trends by Sector
 - Residential GHG Emissions Trend
 - Transportation GHG Emissions Trend
 - IC&I GHG Emissions Trend
 - Waste GHG Emissions Trend
- Summary
- Comparison of 2015 Inventories
- Supplemental Emissions
- Next Steps

Key points of his presentation included:

- In 2015, Durham's GHG emissions declined by 39% from the 2007 baseline while the energy consumption decreased by 21%;
- The difference between the GHG emissions and energy use is mostly attributable to provincial coal phase-out along with the impact of reduced waste emissions;

- The reduced energy use is attributable to the decline in Durham's industrial activity and energy efficiency improvements partially offset by population growth; and
- The decline in GHG emissions exceeds the 2015 target of a 5% reduction from 2007 and will likely exceed the 2020 target of a 20% reduction.

T. Green responded to questions of the Committee.

4. Proposal for Carbon-Neutral UOIT

A) Zowie Vonkalckreuth and Celina Desbiens, UOIT

Z. Vonkalckreuth and C. Desbiens, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to a Carbon Neutral Project for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. A copy of the presentation was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting.

Highlights of their presentation included:

- Carbon Neutral Project
 - About UOIT and Carbon Neutrality
 - Ridesharing Goals
 - BlancRide
 - UberPool
 - UOIT SmartCommute Survey
 - Potential in Ontario
 - Proposed Project Participants
 - Partnerships
 - Benefits
 - Next Steps
- Greater Golden Horseshoe
 - Rapid Transit System
 - Sustainability Assessment of Toronto
 - Density and Transportation
 - Greater Golden Horseshoe Transportation System
 - Study Areas
 - Greater Golden Horseshoe Proposed Transportation System
 - Proposed Solution
 - Areas of Highest Benefit
 - Overall Benefits
 - Next Steps

Z. Vonkalckreuth and C. Desbiens stated that UOIT has the potential to be Ontario's first carbon neutral campus and an effective ridesharing program could offset the university's emissions. They stated that the goals of the program include: student participation 5 days per month; staff participation 7 days per month; and an emission offset of 1,762 tCO₂ per year. They advised that participants of the proposed project would be 50% UOIT students and staff, 26% OPG Darlington commuters, and 25% additional commuters. They also stated that ridership will have a possibility of reaching 20,000 in the first year.

Discussion ensued with regards to current methods of transportation used by students and staff; the service level of buses and the demands of student needs; and current partnerships with Metrolinx and SmartCommute. It was requested that staff review and provide further recommendations at the next meeting with regards to the project.

5. Climate Change, Blue Box Transition and Waste Management

A) M. Januszkiewicz, Director of Waste Management, Region of Durham

M. Januszkiewicz provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding Climate Change, Blue Box Transition and Waste Management, a copy of which was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Provincial Initiatives on Climate Change
- Waste-Free Ontario Act
- Climate Change Benefits of Blue Box Transition
- Climate Change Mitigation and Low Carbon Economy Act
- Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act
- What is Durham Doing?
- Waste Disposal
- Diversion from Landfills
- Organics Management
- Impact of Transportation
- Conclusion

M. Januszkiewicz stated that the provincial government has recognized the importance of addressing climate change in Ontario with the Waste-Free Ontario Act and the Climate Change Mitigation and Low Carbon Economy Act. She stated that waste disposal is a key part in lowering greenhouse gas emissions and advised that Durham's Waste Management Division is working to modify the following practices to adapt to climate change: waste disposal; organic and recyclables materials management; and transportation.

M. Januszkiewicz responded to questions of the Committee.

6. Other Business

A) Climate Change Adaptation Plan - Additional Key Sectors

B. Kelly stated that there were certain key sectors that were not included in initial phase of the Durham Climate Change Adaptation Plan. He advised that there is now a Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) regional collaborative initiative underway to capture some of those sectors. He stated that initiatives were started in May 2017 to contact the sectors and progress is being made.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, October 13, 2017 starting at 1:00 PM in Room LL-C, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Ballinger, Seconded by G.H. Cubitt,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM.

R. Gauder, Chair, Durham Region
Roundtable on Climate Change

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk

Action Items Committee of the Whole and Regional Council

Meeting Date	Request	Assigned Department(s)	Anticipated Response Date
September 7, 2016 Committee of the Whole	Staff was requested to provide information on the possibility of an educational campaign designed to encourage people to sign up for subsidized housing at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. (Region of Durham's Program Delivery and Fiscal Plan for the 2016 Social Infrastructure Fund Program) (2016-COW-19)	Social Services / Economic Development	October 5, 2016
September 7, 2016 Committee of the Whole	Section 7 of Attachment #1 to Report #2016-COW-31, Draft Procedural By-law, as it relates to Appointment of Committees was referred back to staff to review the appointment process.	Legislative Services	First Quarter 2017
October 5, 2016 Committee of the Whole	That Correspondence (CC 65) from the Municipality of Clarington regarding the Durham York Energy Centre Stack Test Results be referred to staff for a report to Committee of the Whole	Works	
December 7, 2016 Committee of the Whole	Staff advised that an update on a policy regarding Public Art would be available by the Spring 2017.	Works	Spring 2017
January 11, 2017 Committee of the Whole	Inquiry regarding when the road rationalization plan would be considered by Council. Staff advised a report would be brought forward in June.	Works	June 2017

Meeting Date	Request	Assigned Department(s)	Anticipated Response Date
January 18, 2017 Council	In light of the proposed campaign self-contribution limits under Bill 68 and the recent ban on corporate donations which will require candidates for the elected position of Durham Regional Chair to raise the majority of their campaign funds from individual donors, staff be directed to prepare a report examining the potential costs and benefits of a contribution rebate program for the Region of Durham.	Legislative Services	Fall 2017
March 1, 2017 Committee of the Whole	Staff was directed to invite the staff of Durham Region and Covanta to present on the Durham York Energy Facility at a future meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Clarington.	Works	
March 1, 2017 Committee of the Whole	Staff was requested to advise Council on the number of Access Pass riders that use Specialized transit services.	Finance/DRT	March 8, 2017
March 1, 2017 Committee of the Whole	A request for a report/policy regarding sharing documents with Council members.	Corporate Services - Administration	Prior to July 2017

Meeting Date	Request	Assigned Department(s)	Anticipated Response Date
<p>May 3, 2017 Committee of the Whole</p>	<p>Discussion ensued with respect to whether data is collected on how many beds are created through this funding; and, if staff could conduct an analysis of the Denise House funding allocation to determine whether an increase is warranted. H. Drouin advised staff would investigate this and bring forward this information in a future report.</p>	<p>Social Services</p>	
<p>May 3, 2017 Committee of the Whole</p>	<p>Discussion ensued with respect to whether staff track the job loss vacancies in Durham Region, in particular the retail market. K. Weiss advised that staff will follow-up with the local area municipalities and will report back on this matter.</p>	<p>Economic Development & Tourism</p>	
<p>June 14, 2017 Council</p>	<p>That staff be authorized to distribute the Draft Transportation Master Plan to the area municipalities and other stakeholders for their review and comment and report back to Regional staff by the end of September 2017.</p>	<p>Works</p>	
<p>June 14, 2017 Council</p>	<p>That the concerns raised from the John Howard Society of Durham Region be referred to Social Services staff to provide assistance or advice to the John Howard Society and that a report be brought back to Council in September, 2017.</p>	<p>Social Services</p>	<p>September 2017</p>
<p>September 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole</p>	<p>Staff was asked to provide Council the schedule for the upcoming consultations meetings with the local business community and stakeholder regarding the Vacant Unit Rebate and Vacant/Excess Land Property Tax Policy</p>	<p>Finance</p>	

Meeting Date	Request	Assigned Department(s)	Anticipated Response Date
September 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole	Staff was asked to prepare a report providing a comparison of Regional staffing levels over the last 5 years with respect to staffing levels required to meet Regional growth. R.J. Clapp advised staff will bring back a report to be considered at the next Committee of the Whole meeting with the budget guidelines.	Corporate Services – Administration/ Finance	October 4, 2017
September 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole *Also see January 18, 2017*	Councillor Parish referenced a motion made at the January 8, 2017 Regional Council meeting regarding a Contribution Rebate Program as detailed below: “In light of the proposed campaign self-contribution limits under Bill 68 and the recent ban on corporate donations which will require candidates for the elected position of Durham Regional Chair to raise the majority of their campaign funds from individual donors, staff be directed to prepare a report examining the potential costs and benefits of a contribution rebate program for the Region of Durham.” D. Beaton advised that staff would bring a report back at the November Committee of the Whole meeting.	Legislative Services	November 1, 2017
September 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole	The following motion was moved by Councillor Parish and Councillor Collier: That the delegation of Greg Milosh regarding cost payment for unused sick days be referred to staff for a report to be brought back to Committee of the Whole by December 31, 2017.	Finance	By Dec 31/17

Meeting Date	Request	Assigned Department(s)	Anticipated Response Date
<p>September 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole</p>	<p>The following motion was moved by Councillor O'Connor and Councillor Ryan: That the Commissioner of Finance review the reporting requirements for over-expenditures that will utilize the contingency provisions of a project and report back on potential modifications to the October Committee of the Whole.</p>	<p>Finance</p>	<p>October 4, 2017</p>