



The Regional Municipality of Durham

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

June 3, 2022

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Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports

Staff Correspondence

There is no Staff Correspondence

Durham Municipalities Correspondence

1. City of Pickering – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 24, 2022, regarding Modified Vehicles in Durham Region

Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

1. **Township of Lanark Highlands** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 10, 2022, in support of the City of Waterloo’s resolution regarding Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time
2. **The District of Muskoka** – re: Correspondence to the Premier of Ontario with respect to a resolution passed at their Health & Social Services Committee meeting held on February 24, 2022, regarding Annual Emergency Exercise Exemption

Miscellaneous Correspondence

There are no Miscellaneous Correspondence

Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

1. Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) minutes – **May 19, 2022**

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-INFO-44
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Regional Review of Conservation Authority Inventories of Programs and Services, File D07-000635-22

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act) under Bill 229, the *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020* (Bill 229) require that conservation authorities (CAs) submit inventories of their programs and services to their partner municipalities on or before February 28, 2022, for review. The purpose of this report is to update Regional Council on the status of the programs and services inventories review and outline next steps.

2. Background

2.1 The CA Act was passed in 1946 in response to extensive flooding, erosion, deforestation and soil loss resulting from poor land, water and forestry management practices. The purpose of the CA Act is to provide for the organization and delivery of programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds on Ontario. The CA Act has been updated several times, most recently in 2019 and 2020.

-
- 2.2 The CA Act sets out “objects” or goals of a CA to deliver prescribed and core mandatory programs and services to ensure that CAs are in the best position possible to deliver on their mandate. These objects also provide CAs with the authority to deliver non-mandatory programs and services, either on a municipality’s behalf, or that the CA determines are advisable.
- 2.3 There are five CAs with jurisdiction within Durham:
- a. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA);
 - b. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA);
 - c. Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA);
 - d. Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA); and
 - e. Kawartha Region Conservation Authority (KRCA).

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 The following Regional staff reports related to the implications of Bill 229 on the CA Act have been provided to Council over the last two years:
- a. Report [2020-P-26](#): Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures) – Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and Planning Act.
 - b. Report [2021-INFO-1](#): Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures) – Royal Assent.
 - c. Report [2021-INFO-82](#): Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) Under the Conservation Authorities Act.
 - d. Report [2021-INFO-123](#): Phase 1 Regulations to Implement Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act, under Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020.
 - e. Report [2022-INFO-22](#): Regulatory and Policy Proposals (Phase 2) under the Conservation Authorities Act.

4. Regional Review of Conservation Authority Inventories of Programs and Services

- 4.1 All five of the Region’s partner CAs have submitted draft inventories of their programs and services for Regional review and comment. These draft inventories include:
- a. a listing of each program and service;
 - b. the average cost of each program and service; and

- c. funding mechanisms as a proportion of the total cost (e.g., municipal levy, self-generated revenue, provincial funding, etc.).
- 4.2 Regional staff have formed an Internal Working Group comprised of staff from Planning and Economic Development, the CAO's Office, Works, Finance, Health, and Legal Services to review the draft inventories.
- 4.3 The process of finalizing draft inventories is meant to be consultative. The Internal Working Group is in the midst of reviewing the draft inventories. Individual meetings with each CA have been scheduled over the summer to discuss. Comments will then be consolidated and provided to each of the CAs.
- 4.4 It is anticipated that final inventories of programs and services will be included in a report to Regional Council in early 2023.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following goals and priorities in the Region of Durham Strategic Plan:
- a. Priority 1.3 under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, protect, preserve and restore the natural environment, including greenspaces, waterways, parks, trails and farmland; and
 - b. Priority 5.1 under the goal of Service Excellence, optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Regional staff will continue to work with the five CAs to finalize the inventories of programs and services and will report to Regional Council once complete.
- 6.2 Beginning in 2023, Regional staff will coordinate with the CAs to draft agreements (Memorandums of Understanding, Service Level Agreements, etc.) for non-mandatory programs and services, which will require Regional Council approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: [#2022-INFO-45](#)
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Pollinator Seed Distribution Project, File:
A01-37

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee's (DEAC) Pollinator Seed Distribution Project that took place in Spring 2022.

2. Background

2.1 The role of DEAC is to provide advice to the Region on environmental matters. The Committee also has a role in implementing and participating in community outreach programs and stewardship that support environmental awareness and appreciation, as outlined in the 2022 DEAC Workplan.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

3.1 [2022-P-3](#) Durham Environmental Advisory Committee 2021 Annual Report and 2022 Workplan

4. Pollinator Seed Distribution Project

- 4.1 The Pollinator Seed Distribution Project is intended to raise awareness and protect pollinator health and the important role it plays in supporting ecosystems, global food production, and sustainability.
- 4.2 Pollinator seeds were distributed to residents attending the Durham Region Compost Giveaway events organized by the Regional Works Department. These events took place during April and May in seven municipalities across Durham. An eighth event planned in the Township of Uxbridge on May 28th was cancelled due to damage from the recent storm.
- 4.3 DEAC members and staff from the Planning Division distributed seed packets to residents of approximately 1,200 households who attended the following events:
- a. Town of Ajax (April 30th, 2022);
 - b. Township of Scugog (April 30th, 2022);
 - c. Township of Brock (May 7th, 2022);
 - d. City of Oshawa (May 7th, 2022);
 - e. Municipality of Clarington (May 14th, 2022);
 - f. Town of Whitby (May 14th, 2022); and
 - g. City of Pickering (May 28th, 2022).
- 4.4 The seed packets included a wildflower mix of annual and perennial native, pollen-producing plant species that are attractive to bees. Bulk seeds were obtained from a local Ontario seed supplier and assembled into individual packets by DEAC members and volunteers.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability's objective: To protect the environment for the future by demonstrating leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Pollinator Seed Distribution Project, initially included in the 2020 DEAC workplan, was postponed due to the cancellation of in-person events during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. DEAC was pleased to proceed with the project in 2022.
- 6.2 Response and feedback from residents attending each of the events was positive, with many expressing excitement in receiving seeds and learning about the importance of pollinators.
- 6.3 Residents from approximately 4,405 households in total attended the Regional Compost Day events across the Region in 2022. Given the success of this project, DEAC looks forward to having a larger supply of seeds available in future years to distribute to more residents.
- 6.4 DEAC members Jay Cuthbertson, Shlok Panchal, Derek Nguyen, Gwen Layton, Geoff Carpentier, and Keiko Lui are to be commended for the time and commitment they invested in organizing the project, assembling seed packets, and attending events to distribute seeds to residents. Former DEAC youth member, Dhruv Upadhyay, should also be recognized for initiating this project and conducting supportive research in early 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2463.



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2022-INFO-46
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Housing Services Act – Regulation Changes

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline recent changes to Ontario Regulation 367/11 to support a revised legislation framework under the Housing Services Act (HSA).

2. Background

2.1 In April 2019, the Province introduced the Community Housing Renewal Strategy to outline how it will work with service managers and other housing partners to stabilize and grow the community housing sector.

2.2 In July 2020, the HSA was amended in line with the Community Housing Renewal Strategy to:

- a. Provide a streamlined legislative framework for community housing that will incent community housing providers to stay in the housing system once they reach the end of their original operating agreements (EOA) or end of mortgages (EOM).
- b. Make it easier for service managers and housing providers to meet the housing needs of their communities, while enabling opportunities for long-term sustainability and new community housing development.

2.3 The HSA changes were broad and enabling, and largely remained unproclaimed until a supporting regulatory framework was developed.

- 2.4 In support of the development of this framework, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing established the Service Manager Advisory Reference Table (SMART) and a number of technical working groups to provide expertise and advice on approaches to:
- a. Mandatory income and asset limits for rent-geared-to-income (RGI)
 - b. Implementation of changes to modernize service level standards (SLS)
 - c. Improved access system requirements
 - d. Baseline rules for service agreements between service managers and housing providers that reach EOA/EOM.
- 2.5 Regional Housing Services staff participated at both the SMART table and technical working groups to inform the regulatory changes.
- 2.6 In March 2022, amendments to Ontario Regulation 367/11 were released to support the HSA changes that are now proclaimed to come into effect July 1, 2022 (January 1, 2023 for access system requirements as described below).

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 Report 2021-SS-3 End of Mortgage Service Manager Task Force Recommendations

4. Income and Asset Limits

- 4.1 Service managers will be required to have mandatory asset and income limits for applicants on the wait list for RGI in place no later than July 1, 2023.
- 4.2 The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) has had income and asset limits in place since 2002, and these limits are compliant with new regulations.

5. Service Level Standards

- 5.1 Currently service managers can include only RGI and portable housing benefits (PHB) selected and determined in accordance with HSA rules under legislated SLS, which is the minimum number of assisted households.
- 5.2 Effective July 1, 2022, service managers will be permitted to also include municipally-funded programs under SLS if the program provides that a household:
- a. pays no more than 30 per cent of adjusted family net income for rent, or no more than the maximum social assistance shelter amount in the case of social assistance recipients; or
 - b. receives a PHB calculated in compliance with the current HSA framework.
- 5.3 There is no requirement for municipally-funded housing benefits to follow RGI eligibility, wait list priority or selection rules. The cost to subsidize social assistance recipients receiving these benefits will be less than for RGI.

- 5.4 Currently, the Region has two municipally-funded housing benefits that are not included under SLS: 35 Durham Rent Supplement units; and 35 Durham Portable Housing Benefits (Durham PHB).
- 5.5 The inclusion of additional forms of financial housing assistance – that are not tied to wait list rules and priorities – under service level standards provides an opportunity for the Region to be more responsive to local needs.

6. Access System Requirements

- 6.1 Service managers are currently required to have a wait list only for RGI, modified units, and PHBs under the HSA framework. Effective January 1, 2023, this will be expanded to include municipally-funded financial housing assistance programs.
- 6.2 Housing Services, through its Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) wait list, currently manages applications for the Durham Rent Supplement and the Durham PHB (in addition to RGI, modified units, and PHBs under the HSA framework) but this is largely done manually.
- 6.3 DASH is currently upgrading and integrating its technology to support a more integrated approach to wait list management, which will include increased capacity to manage applicants for current and future municipally-funded housing benefits.

7. Service Agreements

- 7.1 In March 2021, Regional Council endorsed the End of Mortgage Service Manager Task Force position paper, Municipal Recommendations to Continue Investing in Local Housing and Homelessness System and its recommendations and priorities (Report #2021-SS-3).
- 7.2 The position paper advocated in part for flexibility to customize agreements and funding arrangements with individual community housing providers, once their original operating agreements and mortgages end, to provide for both their sustainability and that of the larger housing system.
- 7.3 Effective July 1, 2022, service managers may enter into new service agreements under Part VII.1 of the HSA with housing providers that reach EOA/EOM, as well as new providers that are not currently operating under the HSA. These new Part VII.1 service agreements must have a term of at least 10 years and include:
 - a. a financial plan of at least 5 years that has been jointly developed by the housing provider and service manager, addressing how the provider will meet operating and capital expenditures, and setting out how non-RGI rents will be set.
 - b. targets for households receiving RGI or an alternate municipally-funded assistance, and the continuation of these benefits for current households.
 - c. funding to reduce or defray the rent for targeted households, and additional funding as agreed to between the service manager and housing provider.

- d. a dispute resolution process with respect to compliance with the agreement.
- 7.4 The framework for these Part VII.1 agreements is flexible and will enable the Region to consider local context and needs, while providing budget predictability for housing providers. Funding options under these agreements may be informed by the mortgage subsidy savings at EOM and allocated in accordance with the unique circumstances of individual providers and the needs of the larger housing portfolio.
- 7.5 The regulations also establish rules for exit agreements, where the housing provider no longer wants to partner with the service manager at EOA/EOM. Exit agreements must include a:
- a. plan for the accommodation of tenants, including continued RGI or alternate assistance (if agreed to by tenant) for RGI tenants
 - b. plan for the continued operation or redevelopment of the project, or the reinvestment of the proceeds of the sale of the project in affordable housing.

8. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 8.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 4: Social Investment – To ensure a range of programs, services and supports are available and accessible to those in need, so that no individual is left behind.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The new regulatory framework under the Housing Services Act provides an opportunity for the Region to be more responsive to local needs and to better manage the community housing portfolio in line with the strategic direction of At Home in Durham, the Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024 and the objectives of the Master Housing Strategy.
- 9.2 Staff will ensure compliance with new regulatory provisions and explore opportunities to expand the inclusion of more responsive municipally-funded housing assistance programs under service level standards.
- 9.3 Staff will continue to work with the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, other service managers (including active involvement on SMART), and sector organizations to share best practices and develop tools and templates to support the transition to new Part VII.1 service agreements.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3111



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2022-INFO-47
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Monkeypox Virus

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an overview of the current state of monkeypox in Canada, Ontario, and Durham Region.

2. Background

2.1 Monkeypox virus is an orthopox virus that causes a disease with symptoms similar to, but less severe than, smallpox. Monkeypox disease is normally found in central and western Africa. This virus was discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in monkeys.

2.2 Over the years, there have been cases of human monkeypox reported in various countries, mostly travel-related or associated with contact with infected animals.

2.3 Monkeypox can spread to humans from infected animals and from person to person by an infected individual's bodily fluids, respiratory droplets, contact with skin lesions or scabs, through shared materials (e.g., bedding or bath towels), or by mother to fetus at birth.

2.4 The typical clinical presentation of monkeypox begins with a prodromal systemic illness consisting of one or more of the following symptoms: fever, swollen lymph nodes, headache, muscle and back ache, and fatigue. Within one to three days of the prodromal illness, a rash typically starts on the face and then spreads elsewhere on the body including the mouth, tongue, hands and feet, and genitalia.

The rash can last for two to four weeks and evolves from macules to papules, vesicles, pustules, and scabs before falling off. Atypical monkeypox presentation may include painful genital or oral lesions.

3. Current Status

- 3.1 On May 21, 2022, there were 120 reported cases of monkeypox in 12 countries where monkeypox does not typically occur.
- 3.2 As of May 26, 2022, there are 26 confirmed cases of monkeypox in Canada with one of these cases residing in Ontario. As of May 30, 2022, there are currently no confirmed cases in Durham Region.
- 3.3 On May 20, 2022, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health issued an [Order](#) under section 77.6 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* requiring health care professionals to provide information about any individual who meets the case definition for monkeypox to Public Health Ontario (PHO) within one business day. PHO will notify Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) to initiate case and contact management if a local case is confirmed.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 DRHD will continue to work with the Ministry of Health, PHO, and community partners to monitor cases of monkeypox in the community and coordinate a response as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2681



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Social Services
Report: #2022-INFO-48
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement – Status Update

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the status of the Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement which provides one-time federal funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce.

2. Background

2.1 In August 2021, the governments of Canada and the Province of Ontario (Ontario) signed a new Early Childhood Workforce Funding Agreement, which provided approximately \$149.9M in one-time funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce. The key objectives of the investment were as follows:

- a. Sustain the existing workforce to ensure a more stable and high-quality early years and child care system.
- b. Enhance access to opportunities for the workforce that promote retention and recruitment, including professional development, training and qualification upgrade programs.
- c. Grow the number of qualified staff in the child care and early years workforce to increase access to licensed child care for families.
- d. Attract and support the development of an increasingly diverse workforce to more effectively reflect the children and families accessing early years and child care programs.

- 2.2 On September 28, 2021, Ontario provided further direction to Child Care Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM) and District Social Services Administrative Boards that the funding was to be used to support the following initiatives:
- a. Development of a Professional Learning Strategy that includes two (2) professional learning days for eligible staff and mentorship opportunities; and
 - b. Workforce Capacity and Innovation Fund to support innovative recruitment and retention strategies.
- 2.3 The Regional Municipality of Durham (Region), as the CMSM, submitted a high-level preliminary plan to the province to meet the requirement set out for 2022. The Region's plan included that actions to be taken with the funding would evolve as data is gathered and key stakeholder involvement occurred.
- 2.4 The Region's Workforce Funding 2022 allocation of \$4,391,715 was included in the 2022 Regional Business Plans and Budgets.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 Report 2022-F-4 The 2022 Regional Business Plans and Budgets for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management and Durham Region Transit.

4. Early Childhood Workforce Strategy

- 4.1 The Region has come together with the City of Toronto, the Region of Peel, and the Region of Halton as a Consortium to partner with the following schools to offer a fully funded compressed Early Childhood Education Program.
- a. George Brown College
 - b. Durham College
 - c. Centennial College
 - d. Mothercraft College
- 4.2 Additionally, the Consortium has also partnered with the following schools to offer a tuition grant for the 2022-2023 academic year to full-time students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program.
- a. George Brown College
 - b. Durham College
 - c. Centennial College
 - d. Mothercraft College
 - e. Humber College
 - f. Sheridan College
 - g. Seneca College

- 4.3 Durham Workforce Authority (DWA) has been contracted to develop an Early Learning and Child Care sector report that examines current workforce challenges and trends to provide strategies to address workforce shortages, policy recommendations, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion considerations. The DWA is currently hosting focus groups with licensed Early Learning and Child Care employers and educators. The report is scheduled for release in June 2022.
- 4.4 Targeted working groups were established in partnership with local Indigenous, Francophone, rural and marginalized populations. These groups will identify barriers and strategies specific to their community, examine a plan to increase awareness and accessibility to available programs, and address barriers to support a diverse workforce that is reflective of the children and families in Durham. Planning for recruitment and retention events have begun throughout the community.
- 4.5 Collaborative partnerships have been established to build awareness and understanding of the Child Development Practitioner Apprenticeship program as a pathway for qualification upgrading with Durham Employment supports, Durham College, Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development, and partnering child care organizations. Strategies include hosting community information sessions, development of promotional materials, Apprentice video testimonials, and supporting resources.
- a. CDP Apprentice testimonial video <https://youtu.be/oKEyt-EP-JU>

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 As the CMSM, the Regional Municipality of Durham is committed to ensuring a system that is responsive, affordable, accessible, and high quality for the children and families in Durham. As such, the Children's Services Division (CSD) will continue its work to produce a comprehensive Early Years and Child Care Plan that is driven by consultation and active engagement with the early years and child care community, families, and the province. CSD will continue to monitor federal and provincial developments of the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Plan and pivot planning and work strategies as needed to optimize support for the early learning and child care sector and Durham's children and families.

6. Attachments

Attachment #1: Child Care and Early Years Workforce Announcement Letter

Respectfully submitted,

Originally signed by

Stella Danos-Papaconstantinou
Commissioner of Social Services



June 1, 2022

Supporting Early Childhood Education Students

Announcing the fully funded, compressed Early Childhood Education program, and tuition grant for the fast-track and two-year program

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Social Services
Department

Children Services
Division

605 Rossland Rd. E.
Level 1
PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
Canada

905-668-4413
1-800-387-0642
Fax:905-666-6226

durham.ca

Lisa McIntosh, RECE
Director

To our early learning and child care community:

I am pleased to announce an exciting opportunity for full-time early childhood education students in the Greater Toronto Area. The Regional Municipality of Durham has come together with The City of Toronto, The Region of Peel, and The Region of Halton as a Consortium to partner with [Durham College](#), [George Brown College](#), [Centennial College](#), and [Mothercraft College](#) to offer a fully funded compressed Early Childhood Education program. The program will run for the 2022-2023 academic year, commencing this summer. Registration is now open with limited seats available.

Additionally, the Consortium has partnered with [Durham College](#), [George Brown College](#), [Seneca College](#), [Sheridan College](#), [Humber College](#), and [Centennial College](#) to offer a tuition grant for full-time students enrolled in either the fast-track or two-year program for the 2022-2023 academic year.

These opportunities have been funded in partnership with the Region of Durham and The City of Toronto, Region of Peel, Region of Halton, Province of Ontario, and Government of Canada under the new Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement, which provides one-time federal funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce.

Program details can be accessed on the individual college sites.

Sincerely,

Originally signed by

Lisa McIntosh, RECE, M. Ed.
Director



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2022-INFO-49
Date: June 3, 2022

Subject:

Economic Update – Overheated Economy, Rising Inflation, Increased Borrowing Costs and Intensified Uncertainties

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides Regional Council with an update on the economic environment as monitored by the Finance Department, to provide periodic information reports on key economic indicators and implications for the local economy and Regional programs, which for this update includes:
- a. Significant cost risk related to material inputs, contractual and construction costs expected to impact Regional programs, services, contracts and construction projects.
 - b. An overheated economy and record low unemployment.
 - c. The highest year-over-year inflationary increase since 1991.
 - d. Two of the highest back-to-back single interest rate hikes in 22 years.
 - e. Complications from the Russia-Ukraine war, including exacerbated energy and food price increases and worsening global food insecurity.
 - f. Continuing concerns with housing affordability, availability and inequities.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 This report updates report #2022-INFO-18 “Economic Update – Economic Recovery, Inflation, Interest Rates and Geopolitical Risk.”

3. Interest Rates Rise Another Half Percentage Point

- 3.1 On June 1, 2022 the Bank of Canada raised the overnight rate another 0.5 per

cent from one per cent to 1.5 per cent, following the 0.5 per cent increase on April 13, 2022 (which was the first single 50 basis point increase in over 20 years). Given persistent and high inflation, exacerbated in economies across the globe by Russia's war in Ukraine, further interest rate increases are inevitable. There will be four more key policy interest rate announcements in 2022 and RBC Economics on May 31, 2022 (Daily Economic Update) predicted the Bank of Canada overnight rate would climb to 2.5 per cent by late 2022, noting the key longer term issue of acute labour shortages, which will be more difficult to address than the still problematic and persistent materials supply constraints.

- 3.2 The Bank of Canada inflation control strategy includes an inflation target of two per cent - the mid-point of its current one to three per cent control range. The Bank's April 2022 Monetary Policy Report noted the Bank will typically "seek to return inflation to the target over a horizon of six to eight quarters... depending on the nature and persistence of the shocks buffeting the economy."
(Monetary Policy Report – April 2022, page 1)
- 3.3 The Bank of Canada had pursued enhanced financial market stability throughout the pandemic through direct investment in Canadian financial assets, such as Government of Canada bonds. On April 13th the Bank declared, and June 1st it confirmed, it would reduce bond holdings further to decrease economic stimulus and provide another tool to combat an overheated economy. Key messages relayed by the Bank of Canada in its April Monetary Policy Report and June policy interest rate announcement included:
 - a. The labour market employment and participation rates are at or above pre-pandemic levels with record low unemployment, elevated job vacancies, labour shortages and increasing wage growth.
 - b. Economic activity should remain strong, albeit with higher interest rates moderating spending and consumer demand.
 - c. Higher consumer spending, higher exports and outputs and recoveries in business investment are still likely, based on high commodity prices, healthy foreign demand, easing of supply disruptions and high immigration.
 - d. Risk of entrenched high inflation is higher, and the Bank of Canada Governing Council believes interest rates will need to rise further.
- 3.4 The Bank's balancing act is not risk free and the goal is to calm economic activity through higher interest rates without stopping activity completely or triggering recession (i.e. a contraction in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for two consecutive quarters). A further risk is stagflation (i.e. high inflation, high unemployment and lower Gross Domestic Product (GDP)). The presence of greater uncertainties, including global impacts related to the Russia - Ukraine war, energy disruptions and related market turmoil and uncertainty will be closely monitored and could still impact future monetary policy.
- 3.5 The Bank monitors household level data for potential multiplier effects or significant inequities across household circumstances and income levels.

Remarks by Sharon Kozicki, Bank of Canada Deputy Governor at a March 25th, 2022 'Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy Conference' in San Francisco acknowledged that the implications from economic shocks (like inflation and/or interest rate hikes) can impact households very differently and household reaction to economic shifts can amplify initial shocks (multiplier effects).

- 3.6 However, the Deputy Governor noted factors at the household level deemed to provide some cushion to households absorbing higher interest rates including:
- a. Fiscal transfers from governments and lowered spending during the pandemic contributed to a buildup of average household savings, with bank deposits up an average \$12,000 per household in 2022 compared to pre-pandemic average trends.
 - b. Non-mortgage credit card balances have declined, especially for younger people and those with lower credit rating scores (i.e. scores below 700).
 - c. The number of Canadian households borrowing against their homes has declined, with many households also paying down mortgages faster.
 - d. The share of Canadians falling behind on consumer debt payments is close to a historic low, contributing to higher average credit scores.
- 3.7 The Deputy Governor noted: "Overall, despite the large and uneven shock that hit them two years ago, households across five groups, sorted by income, appear on average to be in healthier financial positions than before the pandemic ... Regardless, the pandemic and the related, lingering uncertainty, combined with the challenge of high inflation and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, are causing many people to feel anxious...While [the Bank] will watch developments ... returning inflation to the two per cent target is our primary focus and unwavering commitment. We have taken action and will continue to do so to return inflation to target, and we are prepared to act forcefully." (Kozicki, pages 7 through 11).¹

4. Consumer Debt, Wage Growth and Disposable Income

- 4.1 Despite data identifying a savings cushion to assist average households absorbing rising interest rates, over time higher inflation, interest rates and debt interest costs will have a greater impact on low income households. In an April 27, 2022 report, RBC Economics noted "...a return of the [Bank of Canada's] overnight rate to two per cent will hike average Canadian household debt payments by nearly \$2,000, or 15 per cent next year...but the debt service ratio of low income Canadians will rise ...at twice the speed of high income households...\$300 billion in pandemic savings could soften the blow, but lower income earners hold less than half the savings of higher earners..." (RBC

¹ Select excerpts from Remarks by Sharon Kozicki, Deputy Governor, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy Conference, March 25, 2022, San Francisco, California (via webcast - PDF available on Bank of Canada website).

Economics, page 1) ²

- 4.2 Based on the Statistics Canada National Balance Sheet and Financial Flow Accounts, total Canadian household credit market debt outstanding at the end of the fourth quarter of 2021 was approximately \$2.65 trillion, representing a 1.9 per cent increase over the third quarter of 2021 (\$2.60 trillion). The ratio of household credit market debt to disposable income also increased, from 180.40 per cent in the third quarter of 2021 to 186.23 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2021.
- 4.3 According to the Statistics Canada Distributions of Household Economic Accounts for income, consumption and saving (DHEA-ICS), national household disposable income declined 1.4 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of 2021 and in Ontario the decrease was marginal at 0.2 per cent. However, Statistics Canada's lowest income quintile drop in disposable income quarter-to-quarter was stark at 10.4 per cent nationally and 12.7 per cent in Ontario, compared to the highest income quintile whose disposable income fell just 2.4 per cent nationally and 0.5 per cent in Ontario. Despite the decrease noted quarter-to-quarter at the end of 2021, on a year-over-year basis, national household disposable income was still up 3.1 per cent between fourth quarter 2021 and fourth quarter 2020, while Ontario disposable income was up 5.2 per cent over the same period.

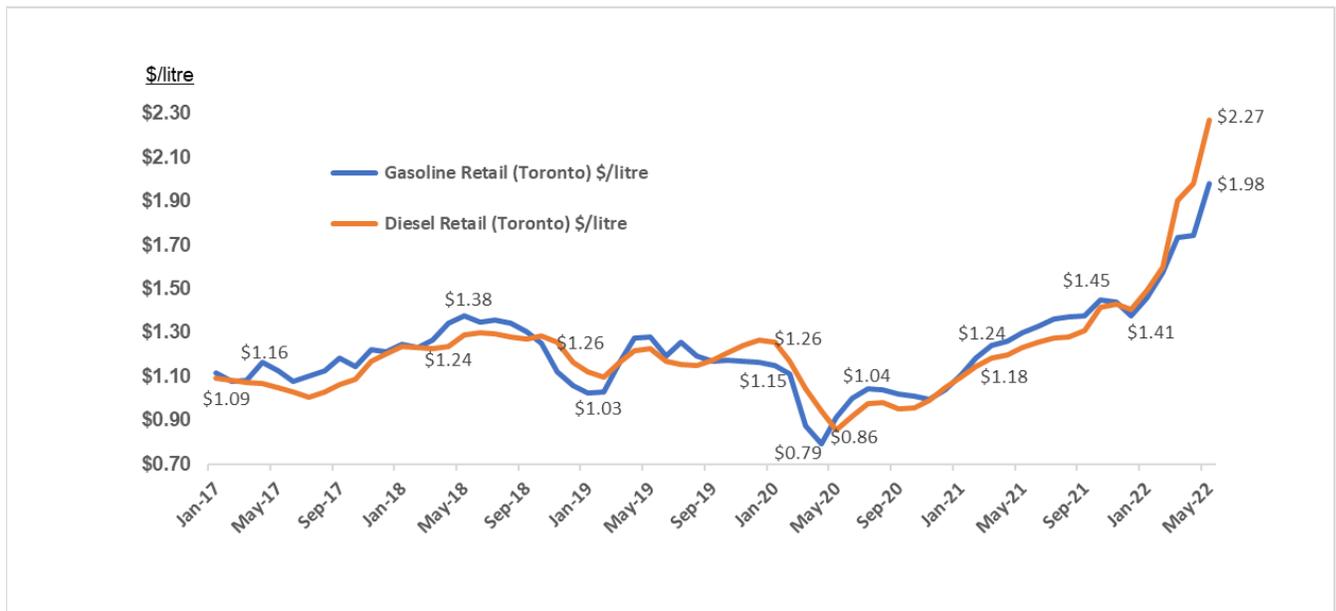
5. Highest CPI Increase Since 1991

- 5.1 The Statistics Canada Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a benchmark price indicator. Following a 6.7 per cent year-over-year CPI increase in Canada from March 2021 to March 2021, the year-over-year CPI for April 2022 increased an even higher 6.8 per cent compared to April 2021, the largest increase since the General Services Tax (GST) was introduced in 1991.
- 5.2 The Bank of Canada noted that on average (rather than monthly year-over-year), it expects inflation to settle below six per cent through to June 2022, with a steady decline thereafter to approximately 2.5 per cent by the second half of 2023 and to two per cent by 2024, based on energy price decreases, alleviation of global supply chains and a rebalancing of consumer demand to the economy's productive capacity (supply). Major components of CPI increased nationally and provincially from April 2021 to April 2022, with the largest increases as follows:
- Gasoline increased 36.3 per cent nationally and 38.0 per cent in Ontario;
 - Energy, which includes electricity, natural gas etc. increased 26.4 per cent nationally and 26.7 per cent provincially;
 - Transportation increased 11.2 per cent nationally and 10.8 per cent provincially;
 - Food prices increased 8.8 per cent nationally with an 9.2 per cent gain provincially; and,

² RBC Economics: Proofpoint, "Low Income Canadians to Feel Sharpest Sting from Inflation, Rate hikes," April 27, 2022.

- Shelter costs increased 7.4 per cent nationally and 7.6 per cent provincially.
- 5.3 According to Statistics Canada, high food prices in April reflected Russia's invasion of Ukraine (both major wheat exporters), poor weather in key crop regions and higher priced farming production inputs e.g. fertilizer and fuel.
- 5.4 Gasoline prices, a volatile and key inflation driver, are based on the world price of crude oil and to a lesser degree refinery, distribution and retail costs, profits and taxation. Significant increases result from the Russia-Ukraine war and far-reaching sanctions imposed on Russia, the world's second largest oil producer. The price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) increased from \$66.85 U.S. per barrel on May 27, 2021 to \$115.07 US per barrel on May 27, 2022, an increase of 72.1 per cent.
- 5.5 Escalating fuel prices directly impact Regional costs. Gasoline is utilized by specialized transit, paramedic and police fleets, as well as a portion of the Region's Works' depots. Diesel is currently the primary fuel for transit, Works' depots and is a stationary fuel utilized at Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant. Natural gas is the primary fuel for Regional space and water heating and is used for waste and wastewater processing. The following figures demonstrate price impacts for fuels utilized by the Region, including diesel, gasoline and natural gas.

**Figure 1: Price Escalation of Diesel and Gasoline
(Toronto Benchmark \$/litre)**



Source: Natural Resources Canada

- 5.6 According to Natural Resources Canada, the Toronto benchmark average monthly retail price of gasoline increased 116.6 per cent since May of 2020, to \$1.98 per liter for May 2022. Toronto diesel prices increased even more, from \$0.86 to \$2.27 per litre over the same two-year period (an increase of 165.1 per cent). Figure 2 below demonstrates, based on historical data compiled by Sproule Holdings Limited, that natural gas prices increased 159.3 per cent since April 2021 to 0.29 cents per cubic meter for April 2022 (natural gas supply costs only - excludes pipeline transportation tolls and other distribution charges).

**Figure 2: Natural Gas Price Escalation
(Union Dawn Ontario Price Canadian \$/cubic meter)**



Source: Sproule Holdings Limited

6. Food Insecurity: Supply Chain Disruptions and Higher Food Prices

- 6.1 The Russia-Ukraine war significantly impacts global food production and transportation and caused a jump in wheat price futures (near a 14-year high) as well as supply shortages for fertilizer, sunflower oils and wheat. Russia and Ukraine, like Canada, are significant wheat exporters and the war has led to a wide range of affected food supplies where wheat is a staple ingredient (e.g. cereal based products, pasta, beer and distillery products etc.). Food prices are also vulnerable to supply chain issues, including those caused by climate and/or weather-related impacts or poor growing conditions in key supply markets.
- 6.2 The local agricultural sector and vulnerable food-insecure populations could be

affected by rising food prices and supply shortages. Regional programs with food services budgets e.g. long-term care home and child-care programs, may also experience impacts beyond 2022 budget expectations. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) released a report on the “World Food Situation” on April 8, 2022, highlighting an all-time high in their FAO monthly Food Index, since first tracked in 1990, with the UN Index up 12.6 per cent March 2022 over February 2022 and sitting at 159.3 compared to an average index of 95.1 in 2019. FAO notes global impacts to an already precarious world food security crisis, highlighting: “The expected loss of exports from the Black Sea region exacerbated the already tight global availability of wheat...[with] crop conditions in the United States ... also adding support, world wheat prices rose sharply in March, soaring by 19.7 percent...” (FAO, page 1) ³ While Canada, as a major agricultural supplier, may not suffer as deeply as developing countries or major net food importers, the UN noted global supply chain disruptions could have long-term consequences, especially for small producers.

6.3 Housing: Affordability, Rising Prices and Interest Rates

- 6.4 On April 12, 2022, Statistics Canada released 2020 data from the new and expanding ‘Canadian Housing Statistics Program,’ a data collection and integration collaboration of several Canadian federal and provincial agencies. While the report notes the overall impacts on affordability and pricing have yet to be fully assessed, the data generated to-date points to potential residential housing inequalities. Select data for Ontario includes:
- a. Multiple-property owners represent 16 per cent of the total number of owners but possess 31 per cent of residential properties.
 - b. Businesses, government, and other entities comprised 1.6 per cent of owners but owned 7.6 per cent of residential properties (most held by corporations).
 - c. Single-property owners held approximately 60 per cent of property stock and the top 10 per cent of wealthiest owners accounted for approximately 25 per cent of housing value.
 - d. The top 10 per cent of individual owners ranked by the value of their real estate holdings, owned almost 30 per cent of the sum of all residential property values, while the bottom 50 per cent of individual owners owned only 24 per cent of the sum of all residential property values.
- 6.5 Statistics Canada noted that previous research had identified that most multiple-property owners own two properties and usually single-detached houses in proximity to their principal residence. In addition to demonstrating that wealthy Ontarians hold a disproportionate share of housing wealth, data may also demonstrate the increased pressure on first-time homebuyers due to the housing ‘investment factor’ that increases buyer demand and competition for properties.
- 6.6 According to the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB), the average

³ United Nations, Food and Agriculture Organization, “World Food Situation,” April 8, 2022.

selling price of a home in Durham Region fell 6.4 per cent to \$1,075,332 in April 2022 after reaching \$1,148,685 in March 2022. Durham Region's April 2020 to April 2022 two-year increase in the average selling price was 75.5 per cent, with average prices up 19.8 per cent in the year since April 2021.

- 6.7 Table 2 compares the average selling prices of homes across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Durham Region still maintains a level of relative affordability, with the greatest pricing advantage over York and Halton. After both regions surpassed an average selling price of \$1.5 million in March 2022, they settled in April 2022 at a lower average selling price of approximately \$1.4 million.

Table 2: Average Selling Price of Home in the GTA

	Price			Affordability	
	Apr-20	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr 21	Apr-22
Durham	\$612,563	\$ 897,741	\$1,075,332	-	-
York	\$968,499	\$1,283,286	\$1,426,650	42.9%	32.7%
Peel	\$802,155	\$1,035,341	\$1,242,343	15.3%	15.5%
Halton	\$870,966	\$1,208,601	\$1,383,948	34.6%	28.7%
Toronto	\$888,424	\$1,088,021	\$1,243,070	21.2%	15.6%

Source: Toronto Regional Real Estate Board, Monthly Market Watch, April 2022

- 6.8 The Statistics Canada New Housing Price Index tracks price levels for new homes (including house and land). The price level of new homes in the Oshawa CMA rose 7.3 per cent from April 2021 to April 2022, slightly below the national (9.4 per cent) and provincial (8.0 per cent) increases.
- 6.9 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC's) housing market outlook for 2022 to 2024 anticipates the national housing market in 2022 to "... remain elevated compared to long run averages but to decline from their respective 2021 peaks. Over the 2023 to 2024 period, these downward trends will continue, reflecting the cooling impact of higher mortgage rates and lower housing affordability on housing demand. This will lead to housing sales and price growth more in line with historical averages by late 2023 or early 2024." Ontario is anticipated to have the largest gains in 2022 due to greater supply constraints but by the end of 2024 CMHC predicts Ontario price growth to slow significantly.
- 6.10 Durham housing starts for 2021 were 5,325, representing a 26.5 per cent increase over 2020 (4,211 housing starts). The strongest home construction activity was observed in the Oshawa CMA, with 3,863 housing starts, and represented 72.6 percent of all new home construction in Durham Region in 2021. CMHC projects Oshawa CMA housing starts to fall to between 3,100 and 3,700 for 2022.

7. Higher Costs and Continued Cost Escalation Risk

- 7.1 Inflationary pressures (wages, goods and services), labour and supply shortages and higher debt service costs are anticipated to impact Regional programs, services, contracts, and construction projects. The rising cost of energy (see Section 5) and raw material inputs (following) and persistent supply chain issues continue to present challenges. Materials shortages can result in schedule delays and unanticipated costs. Contracted service pricing will also reflect current economic pressures being addressed by the Region's contractors and their sub-contractors. While contractual impacts may be delayed until contract renewals, impacts could be most significant for new contracts or contract renewals between 2022 and 2024.
- 7.2 Compared to municipal peers, the Region has a relative advantage due to its long-standing Triple A credit rating, which reduces borrowing costs compared to lesser-rated peers. The Region also prepares for the inevitability of cyclical economic downturns and uncertainty using long-term financial strategies, sustainability/contingency planning and by ensuring the fiscal strength and flexibility to manage go-forward risks to the greatest extent possible. Despite proactive planning and mitigation measures, potential delays and higher costs represent a continuing go-forward risk to operations and capital budgets. The war in Ukraine adds another dimension of uncertainty. Staff will continue to monitor and assess implications, as well as potential cost/risk mitigation and alternative financing strategies.
- 7.3 The Statistics Canada Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) measures price changes for products manufactured in Canada and reflects 22 industrial product price categories. Table 3 demonstrates significant increases in industrial product pricing in manufacturing, industrial processes and construction with some relief for April in lumber pricing. Year-over-year price increases noted below from April 2021 to April 2022 range from -4.5 per cent for lumber to 27.8 per cent for fabricated metal products and construction materials. It should be noted that industrial product prices not only affect Regional material processing and construction costs but can also impact revenues. For example, the Region can attain higher recovered ferrous and non-ferrous sales revenues for recycled metals, which although not on par with new product sales, does ebb and flow with market price benchmarks and in the current environment offsets greater solid waste management Blue Box program and Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) operational costs.

Table 3: Statistics Canada Industrial Product Price Index Price Level by Product Category (April 2022)

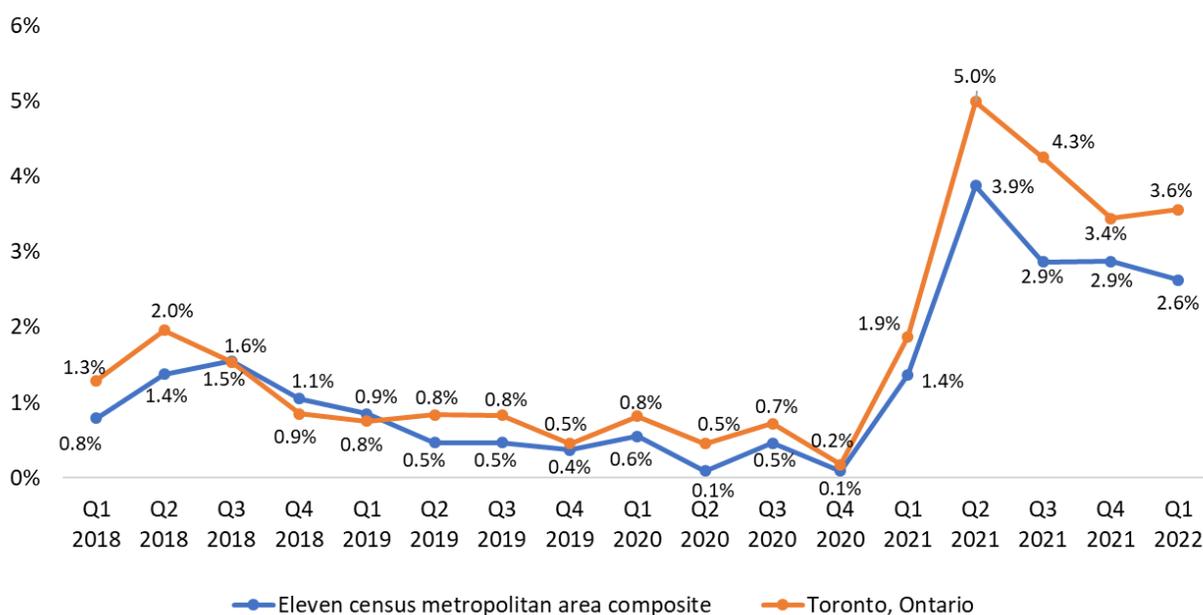
Product Category	IPPI Price Level		
	Apr-21	Apr-22	% Annual Change
Primary ferrous metal products	126.5	151.1	19.4%
Primary non-ferrous metal products	128.0	160.5	25.4%
Lumber and other wood products	195.9	187.0	-4.5%
Fabricated metal products and construction materials	111.8	142.9	27.8%
Machinery and Equipment	102.1	108.6	6.4%
Chemicals and chemical products	111.7	133.0	19.1%
Packaging materials and containers	109.4	124.1	13.4%
Total Industrial Product Price Index	111.5	129.8	16.4%

* January 2020 = 100

Data Source: Statistics Canada

7.4 Figure 4 shows the Statistics Canada Non-residential Building Construction Price Index and the significant construction cost increases for the non-residential sector since 2020. The composite index includes Toronto as well as 10 other large CMAs across Canada. In the first quarter 2022 the composite index grew 2.6 per cent compared to the fourth quarter of 2021. The Toronto non-residential construction building cost index increased 3.6 per cent over the same period.

Figure 4: Statistics Canada, Non-residential Building Construction Price Index (Quarterly Increases 2017 to 2022)

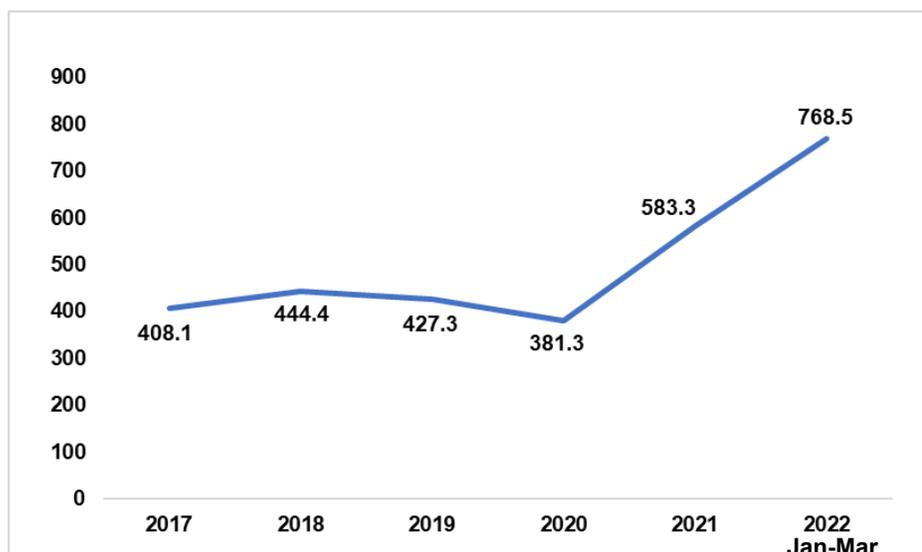


Data Source: Statistics Canada

8. Economic Growth: Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

- 8.1 On May 31, 2022, Statistics Canada released March data on gross domestic product (GDP) by industry. GDP measures the total dollar value of goods and services produced with GDP growth a key measure of overall economic growth. Nominal GDP estimates the value of production in current dollars (including inflation), while real GDP excludes inflation, providing values in constant dollar terms (Statistics Canada real GDP is presented in 2012 dollars).
- 8.2 For March 2022, Canadian real GDP increased 0.7 per cent and using advanced information, Statistics Canada anticipates another 0.2 per cent increase in real GDP for April 2022. The total increase for the first quarter 2022 was 0.8 per cent, the third consecutive quarterly gain. GDP growth in March was primarily in the arts, entertainment and recreation and accommodation and food services industries, while negative growth was recorded in seven industry sectors, including utilities, wholesale and retail trade.
- 8.3 On a year-over-year basis, real GDP for March 2022 was up 3.5 per cent across all Canadian industries, with goods-producing sectors up 2.6 per cent and service-producing industries up 3.8 per cent.
- 8.4 The Bank of Canada predicted continued strong production and growth in Canadian exports as well, given international demand and price pressure and the Bank's monthly Commodity Price Index consisting of pricing data for 26 commodities produced in Canada and sold in global markets, has escalated significantly. The average price level for first quarter 2022, is currently 31.8 per cent higher than the 2021 annual average. Major components of the index include energy (e.g. natural gas, oil), forestry products (e.g. pulp, lumber), metals and minerals (e.g. aluminum, copper) as well as fisheries and agricultural products.

Figure 5: Annual Average of the Monthly Commodity Index

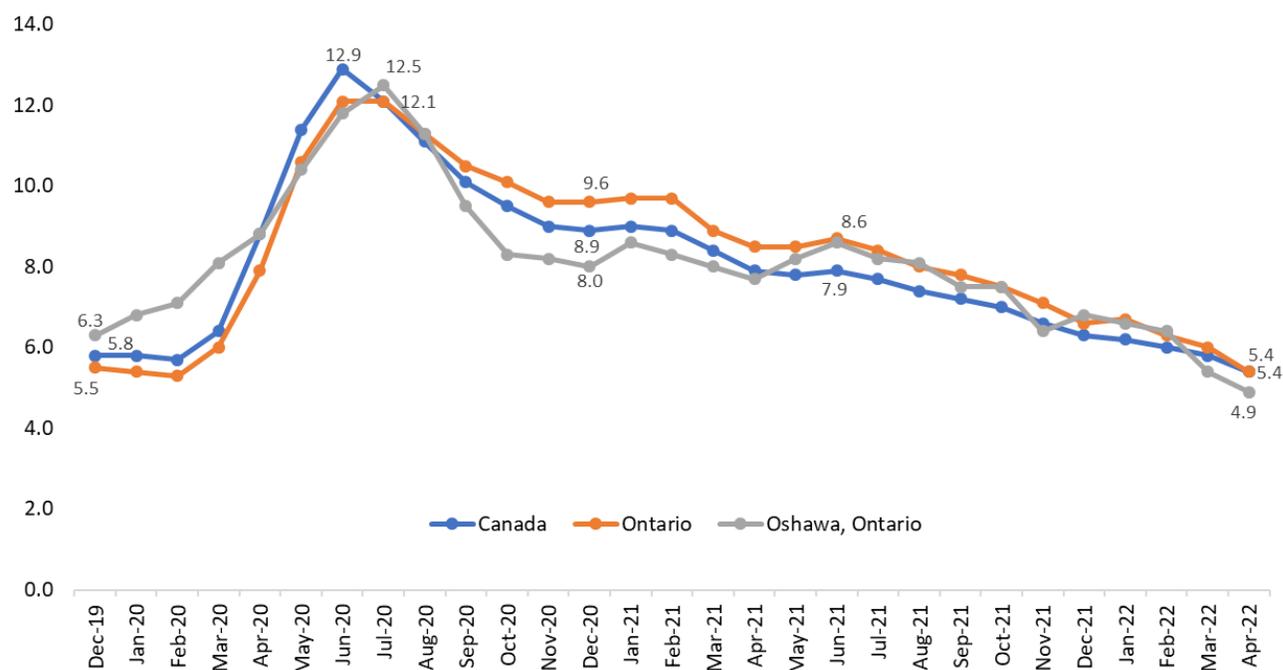


Data Source: Bank of Canada Statistics

9. Labour Market Trends

- 9.1 On May 6, 2022, Statistics Canada released its Labour Force Survey monthly update for April 2022, which reported little employment change since 93,000 full-time positions were added across Canada in March in both the goods-producing and services-producing sectors. The national unemployment rate sits at 5.2 per cent, the lowest recorded since 1976. Employment increases occurred in professional, scientific and technical services and public administration (also a leader in the March report) while declines were experienced in both construction and retail trade.
- 9.2 Figure 6 below compares unemployment rates based on a three-month moving average (on a seasonally adjusted basis) for each of the local Oshawa CMA, Ontario and Canada since December 2019. The figure shows the unemployment peak due to Covid-19 as well as the return to full employment, with Oshawa CMA in April 2022 recorded at an unemployment rate of just 4.9 per cent, considerably below the provincial and federal 5.4 per cent unemployment rates.

Figure 6: National, Provincial and Local Unemployment Rates (Three-month moving average)



Source: Statistics Canada

- 9.3 Statistics Canada's April Survey noted the average hourly wage rate for individual workers, including all occupations and full and part-time employees, increased by 3.3 per cent nationally and by 2.3 per cent in Ontario from April 2021 to April

2022. The highest Ontario wage increases were in processing, manufacturing and utilities (17.2 per cent – rising from an average wage of \$18.54 per hour to \$21.72 per hour). Wages fell in several occupational categories, most significantly for technical occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport (-11.8 per cent – decreasing from an average \$29.29 per hour to \$25.83 per hour).

10. Business and Household Surveys

- 10.1 Despite increasing employment and higher economic growth, concerns about inflation and higher borrowing costs are weighing heavily on households and businesses. The MNP Consumer Debt Index is conducted quarterly by Ipsos Global Market Research on behalf of MNP LTD., a Canadian professional accounting firm and licensed insolvency trustee, reported April 18, 2022 that their index hit a record low with over 50 per cent of respondents noting effects from rising interest rates and 60 per cent worried about an ability to make future debt payments. The Bank of Canada first quarter 2022 Business Outlook Survey also highlighted business concerns with increased cost pressures and strong consumer demand while they are still dealing with labour and supply chain challenges and capacity constraints. Businesses anticipate higher labour costs and input and output pricing, but the report notes that firms expect sales to moderate as interest rates rise and supply issues subside, and businesses still anticipate increased hiring and investments.

11. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 11.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Economic Prosperity: To build a strong and resilient economy that maximizes opportunities for business and employment growth, innovation and partnership.

12. Conclusions

- 12.1 Near term concerns continue to include demand – supply imbalances, global supply disruptions and labour and materials shortages which impede growth and increase inflation. The Russian-Ukraine war heightens risk and is already significantly affecting the energy and food sectors. Regional programs, services, contracts and construction projects will not escape these impacts and cost escalation risks, although they are anticipated to subside and return to historical trends by 2024. CMHC expects a return to historic inflationary levels for housing over the same period.
- 12.2 Several indicators have seen significant changes over the first quarter of 2022 including: the lowest national unemployment rate since 1976; the highest monthly gain in GDP growth since March 2021; the highest inflationary increase since the 1990s; and the highest single interest rate hike in 22 years. This will be more challenging for lower income households. The Finance Department will continue

to monitor the economic environment and key indicators and report on implications as required.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer

Sent by Email

May 27, 2022

Minister of Transportation
minister.mto@ontario.ca

Subject: Re: Modified Vehicles in Durham Region
Corr. 22-22
File: A-1400-001-22

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 01, 2022 10:38 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a meeting held on May 24, 2022 and adopted the following resolution:

1. That Corr. 22-22, from Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham, dated April 27, 2022, regarding Modified Vehicles in Durham Region, be received and endorsed; and,
2. That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation, All Durham MPP's, the Durham Regional Police Service, the Ontario Provincial Police, and the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change.

A copy of the original correspondence is attached for your reference.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Enclosure

Copy: Member of Provincial Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge
Member of Provincial Parliament, Ajax
Member of Provincial Parliament, Whitby

Member of Provincial Parliament, Oshawa
Member of Provincial Parliament, Durham
Member of Provincial Parliament, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Durham Regional Police Service
Ontario Provincial Police
Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, The Regional
Municipality of Durham

Chief Administrative Officer



April 27, 2022

S. Cassel, City Clerk
City of Pickering
One The Esplanade
Pickering ON L1V 6K7

Dear Ms. Cassel:

RE: Modified Vehicles in Durham Region - Our File: C11

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on April 27, 2022, adopted the following resolution of the Works Committee:

“A) WHEREAS Regional and Area Municipal Councils are receiving an increasing number of community complaints and negative feedback regarding increased noise due to modified vehicles in the Region;

AND WHEREAS the Durham Regional Police Service have laid over 300 tickets for vehicles making unnecessary noise and over 500 tickets for vehicles with prohibited mufflers or mufflers making excessive noise in the Region over the last two years under the *Highway Traffic Act (HTA)*;

AND WHEREAS on October 28, 2019, the Province of Ontario introduced *Bill 132, Better for People, Smarter for Business Act, 2019*, which creates a new section 75.1 in the HTA that makes it an offence to tamper with motor vehicles by (a) removing, bypassing, defeating or rendering inoperative all or part of a motor vehicle's emission control system or (b) modifying a motor or motor vehicle in any way that results in increased emissions from the level to which it was originally designed or certified by the manufacturer of the motor or motor vehicle, as well as prohibit the sale of tampering devices;

AND WHEREAS section 75.1 of the HTA will help reduce noise from vehicles by reducing modifications to emission systems that can lead to unnecessary noise and prohibit the sale of tampering devices to emission systems in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS although *Bill 132* received Royal Assent on December 10, 2019, the Lieutenant Governor has not yet proclaimed section 75.1 of the *HTA* and therefore is currently not in force;

The Regional
Municipality
of Durham

Corporate Services
Department
Legislative Services

605 Rossland Rd. E.
Level 1
PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
Canada

905-668-7711
1-800-372-1102
Fax: 905-668-9963

durham.ca

Don Beaton, BCom, M.P.A.
Commissioner of Corporate
Services

AND WHEREAS Regional Council want all legislative options available to assist the Durham Regional Police Service and Local Area Municipalities to enforce the HTA and reduce unnecessary noise from Regional and local roads;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT Regional Council requests that the Province of Ontario proclaim section 75.1 of the *Highway Traffic Act (Better for People, Smarter for Business Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 14, Sched. 16, s. 11)* immediately;
2. That Regional Council request that funding for approved decibel monitoring devices and supporting legislation be provided by the Province, outfitting police services in Ontario with the necessary tools for enhanced enforcement;
3. That Regional Council request that updates be provided by the Province as to the timing of when section 75.1 of the *Highway Traffic Act* will be proclaimed and what steps the Province will take to limit the import and sale of modified exhaust systems in Ontario;
4. That a copy of this motion be sent to The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation; all Durham Region Members of Provincial Parliament; Durham Regional Police Service; the Ontario Provincial Police; and, the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee; and
5. That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Durham Local Area Municipalities for endorsement.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras
Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

AH/np

c: J. Demanuele, Acting Commissioner of Works



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	May 30, 2022 10:26 am
Original To:	CIP
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Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

May 24, 2022

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

ATTENTION: Honorable Minister Steve Clark

Dear Minister Clark:

RE: Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held May 10th, 2022:

Moved by Councillor Jeannie Kelso

Seconded by Reeve Peter McLaren

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands support the City of Waterloo's resolution re: Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time;

AND THAT, this resolution be provided to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and to all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël

Amanda Noël,
Clerk

Encl.

c. c. All Ontario Municipalities

March 23, 2022

Hon. Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 17th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

RE: Resolution from the City of Waterloo passed March 21st, 2022 re: Ontario Must Build it Right the First Time

Dear Minister Clark,

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Waterloo at its Council meeting held on Monday, March 21st, 2022 resolved as follows:

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets of 30% by 2030, and emissions from buildings represented 22% of the province's 2017 emissions,

WHEREAS all Waterloo Region municipalities, including the City of Waterloo, adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets of 80% below 2012 levels by 2050 and endorsed in principle a 50% reduction by 2030 interim target that requires the support of bold and immediate provincial and federal actions,

WHEREAS greenhouse gas emissions from buildings represent 45% of all emissions in Waterloo Region, and an important strategy in the TransformWR community climate action strategy, adopted by all Councils in Waterloo Region, targets new buildings to be net-zero carbon or able to transition to net-zero carbon using region-wide building standards and building capacity and expertise of building operators, property managers, and in the design and construction sector,

WHEREAS the City of Waterloo recently adopted a net-zero carbon policy for new local government buildings and endorsed a corporate greenhouse gas and energy roadmap to achieve a 50% emissions reduction by 2030 for existing local government buildings and net-zero emissions by 2050 (provided the provincial electricity grid is also net-zero emissions),

WHEREAS the draft National Model Building Code proposes energy performance tiers for new buildings and a pathway to requiring net zero ready construction in new buildings, allowing the building industry, skilled trades, and suppliers to adapt on a predictable and reasonable timeline while encouraging innovation;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is consulting on changes for the next edition of the Ontario Building Code (ERO #: 019-4974) that generally aligns with the draft National Model Building Code except it does not propose adopting energy performance tiers, it does not propose timelines for increasing minimum energy performance standards step-by-step to the highest energy performance tier, and, according to Efficiency Canada and The Atmospheric Fund, it proposes adopting minimum energy performance standards that do not materially improve on the requirements in the current Ontario Building code;

WHEREAS buildings with better energy performance provide owners and occupants with lower energy bills, improved building comfort, and resilience from power disruptions that are expected to be more common in a changing climate, tackling both inequality and energy poverty;

WHEREAS municipalities are already leading the way in adopting or developing energy performance tiers as part of Green Development Standards, including Toronto and Whitby with adopted standards and Ottawa, Pickering, and others with standards in development;

WHEREAS the City of Waterloo is finalizing Green Development Standards for its west side employment lands and actively pursuing Green Development Standards in partnership with the Region of Waterloo, the Cities of Kitchener and Cambridge, and all local electricity and gas utilities through WR Community Energy;

WHEREAS while expensive retrofits of the current building stock to achieve future net zero requirements could be aligned with end-of-life replacement cycles to be more cost-efficient, new buildings that are not constructed to be net zero ready will require substantial retrofits before end-of-life replacement cycles at significantly more cost, making it more cost-efficient to build it right the first time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to include energy performance tiers and timelines for increasing minimum energy performance standards step-by-step to the highest energy performance tier in the next edition of the Ontario Building Code, consistent with the intent of the draft National Model Building Code and the necessity of bold and immediate provincial action on climate change;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to adopt a more ambitious energy performance tier of the draft National Model Building Code as the minimum requirement for the next edition of the Ontario Building Code than those currently proposed;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario provide authority to municipalities to adopt a specific higher energy performance tier than the Ontario Building Code, which would provide more consistency for developers and homebuilders than the emerging patchwork of municipal Green Development Standards;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to facilitate capacity, education and training in the implementation of the National Model Building Code for municipal planning and building inspection staff, developers, and homebuilders to help build capacity; and

THAT this resolution be provided to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to area MPPs, and to all Ontario Municipalities.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Julie Scott
City Clerk, City of Waterloo

CC (by email):

Catherine Fife, M.P.P (Waterloo)
Laura Mae Lindo, M.P.P (Kitchener Centre)
Belinda C. Karahalios, M.P.P (Cambridge)
Amy Fee, M.P.P (Kitchener-South Hespeler)
Mike Harris, M.P.P (Kitchener-Conestoga)



Office of the District Chair

SENT VIA EMAIL (premier@ontario.ca)

June 1, 2022

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

	Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division
Date & Time Received:	June 01, 2022 1:22 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Dear Premier Ford,

RE: Annual Emergency Exercise Exemption

On behalf of The District Municipality of Muskoka, I am writing to express key concerns regarding the requirement for Ontario municipalities to conduct an annual practice exercise for a simulated emergency incident as prescribed by Regulation 380/04. The simulations aim to validate response plans and procedures, train staff and identify areas of improvement to ensure emergency response is delivered at optimal levels. Exemptions are not currently permitted under this legislation. While the District of Muskoka acknowledges and supports the need for emergency exercises, Muskoka District Council strongly encourages the amendment of Regulation 380/04 to permit exemptions for municipalities who have responded to an actual emergency during the respective calendar year. A copy of the District's Health Services Committee resolution, as adopted by Muskoka District Council, is attached as Appendix I.

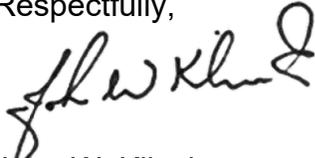
In 2021, The District's Emergency Control Group (ECG) convened twenty-four (24) times amounting to approximately 435 hours spent on emergency related activities. One of these incidents involved a watermain break in the Town of Bracebridge. Murray Advisory Services performed a critical analysis of the event and confirmed that the goals of an emergency exercise were achieved. The firm's final report included twelve (12) recommendations that helped improve the outcomes of a second water disruption event in the Town of Gravenhurst a few weeks later.

Despite the volume of actual emergencies managed by the ECG, the District of Muskoka must still conduct an annual exercise to remain compliant with the Regulation. This is not an efficient use of municipal resources and does not serve as a useful training mechanism for staff who have been over-extended by the emergency situations they have managed over the past year.

The Solicitor General granted a one-time exemption to municipalities in 2020 recognizing that municipalities were actively engaged in and managing various COVID-19 related initiatives. If pandemic management warrants an exemption to the annual simulation, surely there must be grounds to grant an exemption for the management of other emergency situations.

On behalf of Muskoka District Council, your consideration of this matter is appreciated.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Klinck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "K".

John W. Klinck
District Chair

THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY OF MUSKOKA

Cc: Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General
Norm Miller, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
All Municipalities in Ontario

Appendix I

R10/2022-HS

The District Municipality of Muskoka

Health Services Committee
February 24, 2022

Moved By: J. Klinck

Seconded By: R. Nishikawa

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 380/04: Standards under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act sets the municipal standards for emergency management programs in Ontario and requires municipalities to conduct an annual exercise with their Emergency Control Group in order to evaluate the municipality's emergency response plan and procedures, O. Reg. 380/04, s. 12 (6);

AND WHEREAS Emergency Management Ontario previously granted municipalities exemption for the annual exercise requirement when the municipality experienced an actual emergency with documented proof of the municipality actively engaging their emergency management procedures and plan in response to the emergency;

AND WHEREAS on August 5, 2021 the Chief, Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) issued a memo to Community Emergency Management Coordinators stating that effective immediately, the Chief, EMO would no longer be issuing exemptions to the O. Reg. 380/04 requirement to conduct an annual exercise;

AND WHEREAS municipalities experience significant costs and burden to staff resources when faced with the response to an actual emergency and activation of their Emergency Control Group and/or Emergency Operations Centre;

AND WHEREAS a municipality's response to an actual emergency is more effective than an exercise in evaluating its emergency response plan and procedures as mandated by O. Reg. 380/04;

Appendix I

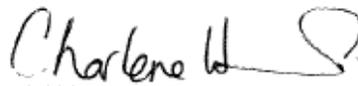
The District Municipality of Muskoka

AND WHEREAS planning, conducting and evaluating an emergency exercise requires significant time and effort for the Community Emergency Management Coordinator and Municipal Emergency Control Group that is duplicated when the municipality experiences a real emergency;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Muskoka District Council hereby **requests** the Province of Ontario to amend Ontario Regulation 380/04 under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to provide an exemption to the annual exercise requirement for municipalities that have activated their Emergency Control Group and/or Emergency Response Plan in response to an actual emergency that year in recognition of the significant resources used to respond to the emergency and the effectiveness of such response in evaluating the municipality's emergency response plan and procedures;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution **be forwarded** to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General; and all other municipalities of Ontario.

Carried ✓
Defeated


Deputy 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 ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 19, 2022

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, May 19, 2022 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:08 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: A. Abu-Rayash, Member at Large
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, First Vice-Chair
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa, Second Vice-Chair
K. Lui, Member at Large
K. Murray, Member at Large
D. Nguyen, Youth Member
S. Panchal, Youth Member
A. Panday, Post-Secondary Member
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
O. Chaudhry, Pickering
S. Clearwater, Whitby
R. Dickinson, Brock
B. Shipp, Member at Large
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by A. Panday, Seconded by D. Stathopoulos,
That the agenda for the May 19, 2022 DEAC meeting, as presented, be approved.

CARRIED

In the absence of the Committee Chair, J Cuthbertson, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

J. Cuthbertson made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 7. H) Independent Electricity System Operator – Taking Steps to Acquire and Enable Resources to Meet Ontario’s Growing Electricity Needs. He indicated that he works in the electrical sector.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by K. Lui,
That the minutes of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Items for Discussion

A) Introduction of new At-Large Member

A. Luqman introduced Azzam Abu-Rayash and advised that he is a resident of Oshawa and brings extensive knowledge and education experience in the energy sustainability field. A. Abu-Rayash introduced himself to the committee.

B) 2022 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Conservation Award

The 2022 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Conservation Award web page and Nomination Form were provided as links.

A. Luqman advised that the nomination for the Conservation Award can go to anyone who’s done work for the Lake Simcoe Watershed and advised that there are 5 different categories.

Moved by K. Lui, Seconded by G. Layton,
That staff look into the nomination criteria for the 2022 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Conservation Award and if qualified, that Geoff Carpentier be nominated for a 2022 Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Conservation Award.

CARRIED

K. Lui volunteered to assist with the nomination form.

C) Spring Pollinator Seed Distribution Project Update

The Standard Newspaper article entitled, “Compost Give-Away Bolstered by Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Pollinator Project” was provided as a link.

A. Luqman advised that the Project has been a success and that DEAC members have already attended 6 out of the 8 events for the month of May. She advised that J. Cuthbertson and S. Panday, together with their families, volunteered to assist with the seed packets which were distributed at the events.

A. Luqman also advised that K. Lui and G. Carpentier attended the Scugog event; A. Luqman attended the Clarington, Ajax and Brock events; G. Layton attended the Oshawa event; S. Panchal attended the Whitby event; and D. Nguyen attended the Ajax event. She thanked everyone and advised that she will be attending the Pickering event on May 28th and G. Layton will be attending the Uxbridge event on the same day.

6. Items for Input

A) Whitby Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review – Phase 2 Consultation

The Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review web page, Strategic Direction and Issue Identification Reports and Survey were provided as links. A. Luqman advised that the Whitby Comprehensive Zoning By-law is in its second phase and comments are due by May 26th.

7. For Information

A) 2011-P-11 Envision Durham – Growth Management Study Land Need Assessment – Staff Recommendation on Land Need Scenarios

A copy of Report #2022-P-11 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Envision Durham – Growth Management Study Land Need Assessment – Staff Recommendation on Land Need Scenarios was provided as a link.

J. Cuthbertson stated that he would be interested in seeing the carbon impact of the different Land Need Scenarios. A. Luqman advised that the Planning and Economic Development Committee, at its May 3rd meeting, endorsed a hybrid Scenario “2A”, proposed by the BILD (Building Industry and Land Development Association); and that the recommendation will be going forth to Council on May 25th. A. Luqman advised that a recording of the discussion that took place at the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting is available to view on the Region’s website.

B) Region of Durham launches the Durham Greener Homes Program

A copy of the News Release entitled “Region of Durham launches the Durham Greener Homes Program” was provided as a link.

J. Cuthbertson extended his congratulations to Durham Region staff for their outstanding work on the Durham Greener Homes Program.

C) 2022-INFO-38: Approval of the Lakeshore East GO Extension to Bowmanville

A copy of Information Report #2022-INFO-38 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Approval of the Lakeshore East GO Extension to Bowmanville was provided as a link.

- D) ERO 019-4801 Decision summary on regulatory changes for the beneficial reuse of excess soil at pits and quarries in Ontario

A copy of the Environmental Registry of Ontario Notice #019-4801 regarding Proposed regulatory changes for the beneficial reuse of excess soil at pits and quarries in Ontario was provided as a link.

- E) 2021 Annual Report on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario

A copy of the article entitled “2021 Annual Report from the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO)” was provided as a link.

- F) ERO 019-4280 Decision Summary on Amendments to Endangered Species Act related to the Species at Risk in Ontario List

A copy of the Environmental Registry of Ontario Notice #019-4280 regarding Amendments to Ontario Regulation 242/08 (General Regulation – Endangered Species Act, 2007) relating to upcoming changes to the Species at Risk in Ontario List was provided as a link.

- G) ERO 019-5391 Proposed Amendment to Environmental Compliance Approval for Industrial Sewage Works Serving the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station

A copy of the Environmental Registry of Ontario Notice #019-5391 regarding Proposed Amendment to Environmental Compliance Approval for Industrial Sewage Works Serving the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station was provided as a link.

- H) Independent Electricity System Operator – Taking Steps to Acquire and Enable Resources to Meet Ontario’s Growing Electricity Needs

The Discussion Session with regards to Independent Electricity System Operator – Taking Steps to Acquire and Enable Resources to Meet Ontario’s Growing Electricity Needs was provided as a link.

- I) 2022-COW-10: Advisory Committee Recruitment and Selection Policy

A copy of Report #2022-COW-10 of the Commissioner of Corporate Services regarding Advisory Committee Recruitment and Selection Policy was provided as a link.

- J) 2022-WR-3: Proposed Pilot of Mandatory Clear Garbage Bag use in the Municipality of Clarington

A copy of Report #2022-WR-3 of the Acting Commissioner of Works regarding Proposed Pilot of Mandatory Clear Garbage Bag Use in the Municipality of Clarington was provided as a link.

K) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee – Minutes of April 12th Meeting

A copy of the minutes from the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting on April 12, 2022 was provided as a link.

Moved by A. Panday, Seconded by G. Layton,
That Information Items 7. A) to K) inclusive, be received for information.
CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) A. Panday – Resignation as Student Member

A. Panday advised that he has finished his University studies and his official graduation ceremony will be held on June 22nd. He advised that after June 22nd he will no longer qualify to be the post secondary member and that he has inquired about being a member at large during the next term.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2022 starting at 7:00 PM.

10. Adjournment

Moved by K. Murray, Seconded by D. Stathopolous,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM

Respectfully submitted,

J. Cuthbertson, Vice-Chair
Durham Environmental Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council