



Council Highlights

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February 28, 2024

Key highlights:

Regional Council began with a moment of reflection for former Pickering Regional Councillor Peter Rodrigues, who passed away on February 22. Regional Council recognized Pink Shirt Day, which is a worldwide call to action to stand up against bullying by encouraging ideas of diversity, inclusion and acceptance. Council appointed Pickering Councillor David Pickles to the 2024 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Board of Governors.

A Durham Region Transit fare increase was approved by Regional Council via report [2024-DRT-03](#). It will be implemented on July 1, 2024.

Council approved report [2024-MOH-1](#) advocating for ongoing provincial funding to expand the Region's Primary Care Outreach Program to help meet the growing needs of residents experiencing homelessness and needing urgent health care, mental health and addictions support.

Council approved [2024-EDT-5](#) to distribute the Durham Region 2023 Ontario Parasport Games Legacy Fund of \$145,579 as follows: \$112,000 to the Durham Community Foundation "Durham Region Adaptive Sport & Recreation Legacy Fund"; \$30,000 to an adaptive sport festival; and \$3,579 to a sustainability-focused community tree and shrub planting initiative in the Town of Ajax.

Council put forth a motion to request the permanent removal of tolls on the provincially owned portion of Highway 407, between Brock Road (Durham Regional Road 1) in Pickering and Highway 35/115. A second motion requested that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners who have contracted with a constructor for a project, as a result of the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision regarding the City of Greater Sudbury.

A recording of the February 28 Regional Council meeting will be available on [durham.ca](#) and on the Region's [YouTube page](#).

The next regularly scheduled Regional Council Meeting is March 27, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Please note, this is not an official record of Regional Council.

Visit [durham.ca](#) for the official minutes.