

# Council Highlights

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**June 25, 2025**

## **Key highlights:**

Regional Council began with a reading of the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement and the playing of the Canadian National Anthem.

Barb Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services, shared a short video that captured memorable moments from Durham Region's Commitment to Excel Award ceremony. The award recognizes employees' outstanding contributions to the organization while supporting a positive environment.

Alana Banton, Manager of Housing Programs at the Region provided a presentation to Council on Rent Supplement and Portable Housing Benefit Program.

Regional Council approved a Community-Based Hate Reporting Program to permit community members to report community-based hate crimes, supporting local police efforts in identifying areas and issues of concern. See report [2025-A-4](#) for details.

Council approved the expansion of a pilot program in the Town of Ajax and Township of Scugog for cart-based collection of garbage. See report [2025-WR-4](#) for details.

Council also approved the 2026 Regional Property Tax Business Plans and Budget Guideline which recommends the Region not exceed an increase of 6.44 per cent (3 per cent for the Durham Regional Police Service Board and 3.44 per cent for Regional Programs and Services). The overall property tax impact to a homeowner is approximately \$19 per month or 3.5 per cent on the Regional portion of the tax bill for 2026. See report [2025-COW-28](#) for more details.

A recording of the June 25 Regional Council meeting will be available on [durham.ca](http://durham.ca) and on the Region's [YouTube page](#). The next regularly scheduled Regional Council Meeting is September 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

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

**Visit [durham.ca](http://durham.ca) for the official minutes.**