

Council Highlights

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September 24, 2025

Key highlights:

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

Regional Chair, John Henry, recognized Elaine Gardner, Case Coordinator – Settlement Team, Income, Employment and Homelessness Supports Division, who was awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

A video was played featuring Durham Region's Wastewater Professionals Team, the Sludgehammers, who were declared provincial champions for the fourth straight year at the 2025 Operations Challenge at the Water Environment Association of Ontario conference.

Council received multiple presentations. Janet Nolan, Supervisor - Service Durham, shared the expansion of the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program to public front counter staff at Regional locations. Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development and Tourism, and Maylene Broderick, Manager, Business Development & Investment, reported on outcomes from Hannover Messe 2025—including over 90 stakeholder meetings, 10,000 website visits, and 1,300 new connections for Invest Durham.

Regional Council approved Durham Region's 2025-2030 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy—the first comprehensive plan aimed at advancing equity in Regional workplaces and within local communities. See report [2025-A-7](#) for details.

Council approved the declaration of lands as surplus to The Regional Municipality of Durham in the City of Oshawa, including closure of a portion of Harmony Road ([2025-W-26](#)) and in the Township of Uxbridge ([2025-W-27](#)).

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

Visit durham.ca for the official minutes.

Council endorsed the Elect Respect Campaign pledge, and called on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the Elect Respect Campaign and sign the online pledge at ElectRespect.ca.

Council also approved free Durham Region Transit fares for Canadian Armed Forces members—including active-duty personnel, reservists and veterans—during Veterans' Week annually (November 5 to 11). See report [2025-DRT-14](#) for details.

A recording of the September 24 Regional Council meeting will be available on durham.ca and on the Region's [YouTube page](#). The next regularly scheduled Regional Council Meeting is October 29, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

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Visit durham.ca for the official minutes.**