

**THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT
COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 21, 2025
CONSENT AGENDA**

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Central Algoma Intermediate and Secondary School
Re: Request for donation for graduating classes | 1 |
| b. Resolution and letter from the Town of Parry Sound and other municipalities
Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in Ontario | 2-6 |
| c. Correspondence from the Dr. Harold S. Trefry Memorial Centre
Re: Thank you for the donation toward program support | 7 |
| d. Resolution from the Town of Cobourg
Re: Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates | 8 |
| e. Resolution from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and the Town of Shelburne
Re: Opposition to Bill 5, reducing environmental protections, repeal of the
Endangered Species Act, and overriding municipal planning authority | 9-11 |
| f. Resolutions from the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities AGM
Re: Multiple issues affecting municipal governance | 12-19 |
| g. Resolution from the Town of Blue Mountains
Re: Supporting Ontario Made Craft Cider for local producers | 20-21 |
| h. FONOM Media Release
Re: 2025 Ontario Budget with a Tariff and Northern focus | 22-23 |

Recommendation: Be it resolved that correspondence items a. through h. on the Consent Agenda dated May 21, 2025 be received; and

That The Township of Tarbutt approve a donation to the Grade 8 and Grade 12 graduation of Central Algoma Intermediate and Secondary School of \$300; and

That the Township of Tarbutt support the resolutions from the Town of Parry Sound and several other municipalities across Ontario in opposition to the Strong Mayor Powers and the erosion of the democratic process of local government; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the Town of Cobourg requesting that the Province increase Ontario Works rates to match ODSP inflation indexing; and

That The Township of Tarbutt add its voice to the opposition against Bill 5, proposing substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and overriding local planning authority; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolutions resulting from the FONOM Annual General Meeting.

CENTRAL ALGOMA INTERMEDIATE & SECONDARY SCHOOL

32 KENSINGTON RD. DESBARATS, ON P0R 1E0
P #: 705-782-6263 F #: 705-782-4288



PRINCIPAL
Mr. J. Turco

VICE PRINCIPAL
Ms. R. Grisdale

VICE PRINCIPAL
Ms. M. Snider

Received

April 2025

APR 15 2025

Dear Friend & Supporter of CAIS/CASS,

Tarbutt Township

Graduation is always such a special time of year when all the communities that make up the Central Algoma Family come together to celebrate the achievements of our students. This year's respective ceremonies are scheduled for:

Central Algoma Intermediate School (Grade 8) Graduation – Wednesday June 25 @ 7p.m.
Central Algoma Secondary School (Grade 12) Graduation – Thursday June 26 @ 7p.m.

Our graduation exercises are held to mark a milestone in the lives of our students and to honour their excellent effort, achievement, leadership and citizenship.

A significant aspect of this ceremony is the recognition of student excellence through scholarships and awards. We believe the recognition of academic excellence encourages students to continue to strive to reach their full potential as they prepare for their post-secondary endeavours.

To acknowledge student achievement, we rely on the generous support of our communities. We are asking for your assistance to continue our tradition at graduation ensuring that student excellence is celebrated. Any donation would be greatly appreciated to help our students with their post-secondary expenses.

If you are interested in becoming or continuing as a donor, please submit your tax-deductible donation along with the enclosed information to:

Central Algoma Secondary School
32 Kensington Road
Desbarats, ON
P0R 1E0
C/O Ashley Farrell

Sincerely,

Joey Turco
Principal – CAIS/CASS

HOWLING SINCE 1972





52 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1B4
Tel: (705) 746-2101 • Fax: (705) 746-7461 • www.parrysound.ca

Office of the Mayor

April 22, 2025

Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
College Park, 17th floor,
777 Bay St.
Toronto ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Flack,

On behalf of Council of the Town of Parry Sound, please accept my congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing. It's an important Ministry and we look forward to working with you and Ministry staff.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing provided notice on April 9th that the Ministry was seeking comments regarding its intent to extend strong mayor powers to an additional 169 municipalities, including the Town of Parry Sound. The comment period was open until April 16th. These additional powers are not powers that I as Mayor believe are necessary and do not wish to exercise them. At our April 15th meeting, Council unanimously voted to reject strong mayor powers, request the province to repeal the legislation, or alternatively permit municipalities to opt out.

We were disappointed that there was no previous communication before the April 9th letter, with a comment period of only one week. Contrary to provincial claims that strong mayor powers will get homes and infrastructure built faster, reduce red tape and accelerate the delivery of key priorities, research by the Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has found no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers; and moreover the strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and senior staff, threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership. We have seen very questionable use by mayors with strong mayor powers.

...2

Our public expects a democratic process. Given the overwhelming use of executive orders by the current US President and multiple respected analysts' concerns about the US slipping into authoritarianism, our country and its democratic institutions should be safeguarding these democratic principles that provide accountability to the public and not undermining them.

We encourage the provincial government to repeal this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie McGarvey', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jamie McGarvey
Mayor, Town of Parry Sound

c.c. Premier Doug Ford
MPP Graydon Smith
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities
Members of Town of Parry Sound Council
CAO Clayton Harris
Clerk Rebecca Johnson



9.5.5

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2025 – 047

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: April 15, 2025

Councillor **G. ASHFORD**
Councillor **J. BELESKEY**
Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**
Councillor **B. KEITH**
Councillor **D. McCANN**
Councillor **C. McDONALD**
Mayor **J. McGARVEY**

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MOVED BY:



SECONDED BY:



CARRIED: ☒ DEFEATED: ☐ Postponed to: _____

Whereas the Province has announced the expansion of strong mayor powers to another 169 municipalities as of May 1, 2025 in addition to the 47 municipalities which currently have received strong mayor powers; and

Whereas the Province claims that strong mayor powers will get homes and infrastructure built faster, reduce red tape, and accelerate the delivery of key priorities; and

Whereas research from the Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has identified that: a) there is no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers; and b) strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and chief administrative officers (CAOs), threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership; and

Whereas strong mayor powers is an erosion to the democratic process of an historically non-partisan municipal governance structure;

Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby resolves to reject the strong mayor powers granted to it, and requests that the Province repeal the legislation, or offer the option to municipalities to opt out of strong mayor powers; and

That this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Rob Flack, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.


Mayor Jamie McGarvey



Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

April 14, 2025

Honourable Rob Flack
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister,

RE: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to O.Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

I am writing to express my opposition to the government's proposed expansion of Strong Mayor powers to include the Town of Saugeen Shores. As the Mayor of Saugeen Shores, I am concerned about the implications of this policy change on our local governance. Please consider this letter as the Town of Saugeen Shores submission on O.Reg. 530/22 which is available for comment until April 16th.

In my experience, the 'Council Manager' system of governance has always served our municipality well. Specifically, when it comes to advancing our shared priority of building more housing to serve our residents, Saugeen Shores Council has demonstrated flexible and determined leadership. Our Council has enabled housing by reducing red tape resulting in the construction of more than 600 multi-family residential units in the last two years alone. Given the strong and sustained commitment of our Council to these efforts, I do not see how the introduction of Strong Mayor powers will accelerate the construction of housing (or the pursuit of other priority areas) in any way. On the contrary, vesting these new powers in the Mayor threatens to disrupt long-established and effective processes, sidelining elected members of Council with effects that may be contrary to the interests of our residents.

Saugeen Shores has thrived for decades on the principle of shared leadership. We have an effective team of elected representatives working in partnership with a professional staff to achieve goals that are transparently set out in our Strategic Plan and annual Business Plans. This approach to governance is foundational to building trust between the municipality and the residents that it serves. I fear that the unilateral decision-making enabled by Strong Mayor powers would erode this trust and disrupt the collaborative environment that has long been at the heart of the democratic tradition of our Council and community.

I urge you to reconsider the expansion of Strong Mayor powers. If the government has a strong desire to advance these major changes to the governance of our municipality, I

5

T 519.832.2008
F 519.832.2140

saageenshores.ca
[@SaugeenShoresON](https://www.facebook.com/SaugeenShoresON)



request that you engage in a thorough consultation process with our Council and the residents of our community before moving forward. It is crucial that any changes to local governance structures be made in close partnership with the communities they impact.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and hope that we can work together in the interest of ensuring strong local governance in Saugeen Shores.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'L. Charbonneau', written in a cursive style.

Luke Charbonneau, Mayor
Town of Saugeen Shores

cc. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Lisa Thompson, MPP, Minister of Rural Affairs
Council, Town of Saugeen Shores
All Ontario Municipalities



DR. HAROLD S. TREFRY MEMORIAL CENTRE

A Division of The Corporation of the Township of St. Joseph
Seniors and Persons with a Disability Services



April 24, 2025

Township of Tarbutt
27 Barr Rd. South
Desbarats, ON P0R 1E0

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the Dr. Harold S. Trefry Memorial Centre and the numerous clients that live within your municipal boundaries, thank you very much for the donation of \$5000.00 towards supporting programs that service seniors and persons with a disability.

Your contribution and commitment to promote these essential programs for seniors and persons with a disability assists in making a significant difference in our capacity to enhance the overall well-being of the residents across the East Algoma Region and is the reason that so many of them remain in their own homes, and in their communities.

We value the partnership we have with The Township of Tarbutt and are very grateful for the action your community has taken to ensure the success of the community support programs offered to seniors and those who wish to remain at home.

Marcy Clark
Manager



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

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

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca

Delivered via email

Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

May 5, 2025

RE: Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on April 30, 2025, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council requests the Provincial Government to urgently:

- Increase Ontario Works rates to match the ODSP rate increases that have already been made and be indexed to inflation;
- Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Enclosure.

cc. Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health;
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association; and
All Ontario Municipalities

May 13, 2025

To all Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

Re: Bill 5 - Risks to your communities and support requested

As Mayor of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, I am sharing this motion to bring to your attention the potential risks to your communities and ask for your support to oppose this approach. The following motion was approved yesterday, May 12, 2025:

"Whereas 29831 Irish School Road in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is a property approximately 800 metres from the Town of Dresden;

And Whereas the property contain small fill areas used for historic local landfill purposes, and the property has never been properly studied or zoned for any significant landfilling use;

And Whereas the current property owners are attempting to create a new recycling and landfill facility for millions of tonnes of waste, which would result in hundreds of trucks travelling through towns and communities in the area;

And Whereas this approach has been strongly opposed by Council, the Community, neighbouring Indigenous Nations and many other voices, due to impacts to the environment, our homes, the safety of our families and children, and the fabric of our communities;

And Whereas the Provincial government has proposed Bill 5, which includes a section removing the obligation for a full Environmental Assessment for this new landfill and recycling facility;

And Whereas if this limited, historic local landfill use on the edge of Dresden can be expanded into a massive landfill and recycling facility, then this can happen anywhere;

And Whereas there are likely hundreds of properties across the Province that may have had limited, historic waste uses, which could also face this threat;

And Whereas Bill 197 established a veto for Municipalities within 3.5 kms of a new landfill, which reflected the need for local government and community approval of landfill sites;

And Whereas the approach being taken for this property disregards the importance of our rural communities, and local voices, in determining appropriate landfill sites within their communities:

Cont'd...

Now Therefore to ensure that other Municipal Councils and communities know about what is happening in Dresden, and the potential risk to their community if this approach is taken by the Province, Council requests that the Mayor's Office write a letter to all other Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

1. Advising them of this issue and the risks to their community if a similar approach is taken for other historic landfill properties; the possibility of the Ontario government setting a precedence and
2. Requesting their support in opposing this approach and ensuring that full Environmental Assessments are required for all landfills and that municipalities have a strong voice in determining appropriate locations for landfills in their communities."

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Carol Trainor

From: Jennifer E. Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 9:50 AM
To: rob.flack@pc.ola.org; sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org; premier@ontario.ca; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
Cc: policy@amo.on.ca; Minister (MMAH); romachair@roma.on.ca; Alice Byl
Subject: Town of Shelburne - Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

Good Morning

At the May 12, 2025, meeting of Shelburne Town Council, the following resolution was passed unanimously

Moved By: Councillor Len Guchardi
Seconded By: Councillor Lindsay Wegener

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced **Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025**, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the **Endangered Species Act** and the creation of "Special Economic Zones" that may override local planning authority;

And Whereas the Town of Shelburne supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes;

And Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario's natural heritage and **reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth** in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That Council for the Town of Shelburne:

- Opposes the provisions in **Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority**;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Urges the Province to support municipalities through ensuring responsible growth through infrastructure projects designed to ensure protection of sensitive wildlife and natural resources;

And Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario,
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks,

MOVED BY: Terry Kelly

SECONDED BY: Dan O'Mara

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01

Increase in Provincial share for **Mandated** Public Health Programs

WHEREAS, the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health are undertaking a review of the funding approach for local public health agencies; and

WHEREAS, many northern Medical Officers of Health and Health Units have supported resolutions asking to be included or consulted during the review; and

WHEREAS, seven of the Northern Medical Officers of Health signed a letter to Minister Sylvia Jones, titled **Perspectives from Northern Ontario for the Public Health Funding Review**, which shared some perspectives unique to the North regarding the current Public Health Funding review; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities have been long-standing financial partners in public health; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities ask the Minister of Health that FONOM have an equal role in discussions concerning the funding review of the Public Health Mandated Programs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, the membership of FONOM, AMO, and the seven Northern Medical Officers of Health that signed the letter, **Perspectives from Northern Ontario for the Public Health Funding Review**

Carried

MOVED BY: Lynn Watson

SECONDED BY: Sally Hagman

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02

Policing costs for all communities

WHEREAS, Northern Ontario municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets, including roads, bridges, water/ wastewater and municipally owned buildings, including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets

WHEREAS, Northern Ontario municipalities' operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources

WHEREAS, Northern Ontario municipalities are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone

WHEREAS, in 2015, the provincial government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract O.P.P. (5.1) locations

WHEREAS, the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million

WHEREAS, before a one-time Provincial support transfer, Municipalities across Northern Ontario in 2024 received notices from the OPP with an average annual increase of 17.8%, representing 7.7% of the municipal tax levy

WHEREAS the estimated annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for Municipalities in the Northeast is \$43 million

WHEREAS, the police levy in 2025 to the four large cities in Northeastern Ontario is \$174 million after grants

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities calls on the Ontario Government to commit to phasing in a \$100 million Policing Grant over the next three years for the 157 northern communities. After the third year, the fund will increase by the minimum of the annual Consumer Price. Each community should receive a base amount of \$60,000, with the remaining funds allocated based on population. (Note: If the sum of the base amount and the population-based allocation exceeds the amounts received in 2024 notifications from the OPP, plus the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI), the funding for that community will be capped to avoid surplus situations.)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Membership of FONOM and NOMA and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Carried

Examples on the next page

Below is an example of the impact the funding would have on three of the 157 communities in Northern Ontario. The base year uses the 2025 OPP Billing Invoice or approved Budget. I estimated the CPI to be 3% in years two and three, compounded annually. The Cap amount in the example is a raw estimate, as many of those that did not respond to my OPP survey were smaller communities.

Year one - \$34 million

$$157 * \$60,000 = \$9,420,000$$

$$\$34,000,000 - \$9,420,000 = \$24,580,000$$

$$\$24,580,000 / 900,000 \text{ people} = \$27.31 \text{ per person}$$

Community of 1513 (cap \$284,949.50)

$$\$60,000 + (1513 * \$27.31) = \$101,320.03$$

Community of 8,057 people (cap \$2,561,265.98)

$$\$60,000 + (8,057 * \$27.31) = \$280,036.67$$

Community of 41,145 people (cap \$21,027,721.92)

$$\$60,000 + (41,145 * \$27.31) = \$1,183,669.95$$

Year two – \$67 Million

$$157 * \$60,000 = \$9,420,000$$

$$\$67,000,000 - \$9,420,000 + \$2,000,000 \text{ (estimated cap surplus)} = \$59,580,000 +$$

$$\$59,580,000 / 900,000 \text{ people} = \$66.20 \text{ per person}$$

Community of 1513 (cap \$293,497.98)

$$\$60,000 + (1513 * \$66.20) = \$160,160.60$$

Community of 8,057 people (cap \$2,638,103.95)

$$\$60,000 + (8,057 * \$66.20) = \$593,373.40$$

Community of 41,145 people (cap \$21,658,553.57)

$$\$60,000 + (41,145 * \$66.20) = \$2,783,799$$

Year three – \$100 Million

$$157 * \$60,000 = \$9,420,000$$

$$\$100,000,000 - \$9,420,000 + \$3,000,000 \text{ (estimated cap surplus)} = \$93,580,000$$

$$\$93,580,000 / 900,000 \text{ people} = \$103.97 \text{ per person}$$

Community of 1513 (cap \$302,302.91)

$$\$60,000 + (1513 * \$103.97) = \$217,306.61$$

Community of 8,057 people (cap \$2,717,247.06)

$$\$60,000 + (8,057 * \$103.97) = \$897,686.29$$

Community of 41,145 people (cap \$22,308,310.17)

$$\$60,000 + (41,145 * \$103.97) = \$4,337,845.65$$

MOVED BY: Sandra Hollingsworth

SECONDED BY: Al MacNevin

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-03

Provincial/Municipal Fiscal Review

WHEREAS, current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life

WHEREAS, nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises

WHEREAS, inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities requests the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be sent to Premier Ford, the Honourable Rob Flack, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Minister of Finance, the membership of FONOM, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried.

MOVED BY: Maggie Horsfield

SECONDED BY: Lynda Carleton

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-04

Expand Extended Producer Responsibility to the ICI Sector

WHEREAS under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box, producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only

WHEREAS producers are not responsible for collecting products and packaging sold to the industrial, commercial, and institutional sectors, which include the provincial government and our member municipalities

WHEREAS the products and packaging mentioned in the previous paragraph either end up in landfills or are recycled by the industrial, commercial, and institutional sectors, often at a cost

WHEREAS the landfill capacity in Ontario is nearing a critical point, and the process to site or create a landfill is both lengthy and costly

WHEREAS under the current Extended Producer Responsibility Regulation, a can of soda consumed at home and placed in the Blue Box is considered an "eligible" source, meaning producers are responsible for its recycling. However, if the same soda can is consumed by the same individual at Queen's Park, it is deemed "ineligible." In this case, the government is responsible for managing the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, as well as covering all associated costs

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources, including Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) properties

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Todd J. McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the membership of FONOM and AMO.

Carried.

MOVED BY: Margaret Young

SECONDED BY: Marc Dupuis

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-05

An addition to the Ministry of Transportation

WHEREAS the topography and climate of Ontario, North and West of the Canadian Shield, is uniquely different from that of the balance of the Province

WHEREAS due to that topography, it is more costly to construct or maintain 100 km of Highway in Northern Ontario than the balance of the Province

WHEREAS the highway network in Northern Ontario is vital to connecting our citizens to health care, employment, groceries, and recreation

WHEREAS Highway 11, Highway 17, and Highway 69 are our 400 systems, and the municipal share of Connecting Link has become prohibitive for all communities

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has made and continues to make a significant investment in the Ontario Northland and bring back the Northlander

WHEREAS every senior politician in Ontario and the balance of Canada noted the Raw Earth Elements deposits in the Ring of Fire. FONOM wants to note that the transportation of the Raw Earth Elements will travel through Northern Ontario

WHEREAS the Nuclear Waste Management Organization has selected the community of Ignace for the location of Canada's deep geological repository for spent nuclear fuel. Therefore, the fuel will be transported through Northern Ontario.

WHEREAS on November 10, 2022, the Province announced, 'Ontario Moving Ahead with First-Ever 2+1 Highway in North America'; on July 14, 2023, the Ministry of Transportation announced, 'Ontario Starting Work on 2+1 Highway', and during the recent campaign, Premier Ford announced his government would 'extend the 2+1 highway another 220 kilometres from Temiskaming Shores to Cochrane'

WHEREAS of May 2025, the Minister has not announced a start date for construction of the initial 2+1 Highway



WHEREAS the annual Ontario Road Safety Annual Report Selected Statistics does not provide a breakdown by region

WHEREAS the 2023 Ontario Road Safety Annual Report Selected Statistics reported that there were 1,504 large truck accidents in Ontario with 107 fatalities

WHEREAS large truck accidents occur daily in Northern Ontario, often resulting in death

WHEREAS accidents in Northern Ontario are the cause of many lengthy closures or detours using municipal infrastructure not designed for highway traffic

WHEREAS many FONOM members have commented that there is a lack of response to their concerns or inquiries from the Ministry and/or regional staff, which is concerning to the Board

THEREFORE IT WAS RESOLVED that the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities should ask the Premier to either appoint a Deputy Minister of Transportation for Northern Ontario or create an Associate Minister responsible for Northern Ontario Transportation. FONOM believes Northern Ontario will be the economic engine that drives Ontario and Canada for the next 100 years and that the Province needs a dedicated team focused on improving today's network while planning for and acting on future requirements

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED this resolution be sent to Premier Ford, the Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, the Membership of FONOM, NOMA, ROMA, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Carried.

Carol Trainor

From: Carrie Fairley <cfairley@thebluemountains.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2025 2:47 PM
To: premier@ontario.ca; peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org; Jones, Trevor; Saunderson, Brian; Vickers, Paul; Grey County; nina.tangri@pc.ola.org
Cc: Town Clerk; Council; SMT
Subject: Advocating for a Reduced Provincial Tax Rate on Ontario-Made Craft Cider

Good afternoon,

This email is being sent to the attention of Premier Doug Ford, Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Honourable Trevor Jones, MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers, MPP Nina Tangri, Grey County and to all municipalities in Ontario, with a request to support the following Resolution that was passed by Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains at the May 14, 2025, Special Meeting of Council:

WHEREAS the Town of The Blue Mountains boasts a robust agricultural sector and a thriving agritourism industry, with numerous local cideries contributing significantly to the local economy, employment, and tourism;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's craft cider industry is experiencing substantial growth, with over 60 craft cideries across the province, many of which are situated in rural communities and utilize 100% Ontario-grown apples and are 100% made in Ontario, thereby supporting local agriculture and local economies;

AND WHEREAS under the current provincial tax structure, cider is officially classified and taxed at the same rate as imported wine which results in higher markups and taxes compared to craft beer, despite cider's comparable production processes and market positioning;

AND WHEREAS this tax disparity places Ontario's craft cider producers at a competitive disadvantage compared to craft brewers, despite the fact that Ontario cider utilizes 100% Ontario-grown apples and is 100% made in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Craft Cider Association (OCCA) has been actively advocating for a tax structure that levels the playing field between craft cider and craft beer, recognizing the potential for job creation, economic growth, and the promotion of local agriculture;

AND WHEREAS the Town acknowledges and appreciates the Province's investment in marketing and promotional support for the craft cider industry, but maintains that long-term sustainability and competitiveness for Ontario cider producers requires an adjustment to the underlying tax framework;

AND WHEREAS this motion is meant to support, not oppose, initiatives for fair taxation of the Ontario Craft Cider industry the Province of Ontario may be considering.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains:

1. Supports the efforts of the Ontario Craft Cider Association in advocating for a fair and equitable tax structure for Ontario-made craft cider.
2. Urges the Province of Ontario to review and amend the current tax regulations to align the tax rate of craft cider with that of craft beer, thereby fostering a more balanced and supportive environment for local cider producers.

3. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's recent investment in marketing initiatives for the cider sector, while calling for complementary reform of the tax and markup structure that continues to disadvantage cider producers relative to other craft alcohol categories;
4. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, MPP Brian Saunderson, MPP Paul Vickers and MPP Nina Tangri and the County of Grey requesting their consideration and support.
5. Directs the Mayor to forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, encourages other municipalities with vested interests in agriculture and agri-tourism to adopt similar resolutions, amplifying the collective voice advocating for the prosperity of Ontario's craft cider industry.

Warm regards,



Carrie Fairley

Acting Deputy Clerk

Secretary-Treasurer to Committee of Adjustment

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May 15, 2025

MEDIA RELEASE

FONOM Applauds “Tariff and Northern” Focus of 2025 Ontario Budget

Temiskaming Shores, ON – The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is encouraged by the Province's 2025 Budget, tabled today by Ontario's Minister of Finance, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy. FONOM believes this year's Budget reflects a "Tariff and Northern" approach, offering a strong foundation for future growth and investment in Ontario's North.

FONOM is particularly pleased to see an increase in the funding envelope for the Connecting Link Program and the creation of a new special fund to support major infrastructure projects along connecting links of regional and national significance. Additionally, introducing a dedicated Pothole Fund for smaller northern and rural communities is a welcome and practical investment in road safety and reliability.

The Province's recommitment to completing the twinning of Highway 69, with ongoing land acquisitions, is another critical step in improving Northern transportation. While no construction dates were announced for the long-anticipated 2+1 highway initiative, first proposed in November 2022, FONOM is encouraged that the Province no longer refers to the need for a pilot project, suggesting progress in implementation.

Further positive developments in the Budget include funding for GO Transit refurbishments that will directly benefit Thunder Bay and the Nipissing District, and targeted financial support for Northern Colleges in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. FONOM also welcomes the Province's continued investment in skilled trades, particularly supporting the Mining, Forestry, and Industrial sectors vital to the northern economy.

Notably, expanding the Provincial definition of "Northern Ontario" to include the District of Muskoka marks a significant shift. FONOM welcomes this change and looks forward to working collaboratively with Muskoka on shared priorities that benefit the broader northern region. The continued growth of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) is another

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positive signal of the government's commitment to long-term regional development.

"Today's Budget sends the right signals to communities across the North," said FONOM President Danny Whalen, "we're seeing tangible investments in infrastructure, transportation, education, and economic development. While there's still work to be done—particularly on the 2+1 highway—this Budget makes us optimistic."

FONOM looks forward to continued collaboration with the Province as these commitments are implemented.

FONOM is an association of some 110 districts/municipalities/cities/towns in Northeastern Ontario mandated to work for the betterment of municipal government in Northern Ontario and strive for improved legislation respecting local government in the North. It is a membership-based association that draws its members from northeastern Ontario and is governed by an 11-member board.



President Danny Whalen

705-622-2479