



THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT
Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 4:00 pm
Township Council Chambers, 27 Barr Road S.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
- 3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - a. Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held June 17, 2026. 1-6
- 4. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS**
- 5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
 - a. Disbursements for the period ending June, 2026 7-9
- 6. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a. Roads Superintendent Verbal Report
 - b. Letter from Property Owners of Range Lights Road 10
 - c. Results of the MacLennan Hall Roofing RFP 11-12
 - d. Report from the Planning Board regarding Official Plan Open Houses 13
 - e. Fire Protection Grant 2026 - 2027 14-17
 - f. Report of the CAO/Clerk
- 7. BY-LAWS**
 - a. Appointment of an Integrity Commissioner
 - b. Appointment of a Joint Compliance Audit Committee
- 8. INFORMATION / CONSENT AGENDA**

Correspondence and Information Items a. through j.
- 9. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 10. CLOSED SESSION**



Council will move into closed session under Section 239 (2) (b) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, in order to discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board.

11. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

A By-law to confirm the direction and proceedings of this Council meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Council will adjourn to meet again for their next regular meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.



THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT
Minutes of the Council Meeting
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 4:00 pm
Township Council Chambers, 27 Barr Road S.

PRESENT: Mayor Lennox Smith
David Farrar
Darren McClelland
Jaqui Nagel

REGRETS: Councillor Ursula Abbott

STAFF: M. Pigeon, Road Superintendent (left the meeting at 4:38)
C. Trainor, Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the regular council meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Resolution No: 2026 - 98

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held April 21, 2026 with The Township of Laird, and the Regular Council meeting held May 20, 2026 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

4. DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

a. Disbursements for the month of May, 2026

Resolution No: 2026 - 99

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the disbursements for the period ending May 31, 2026 in the amount of \$201,816.99 be approved.

Carried



6. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Road Superintendent Verbal Report

M. Pigeon requested clarification on maintenance of some lesser traveled roads. Staff have confirmed that the Township does not own any portion of Range Lights Road. The resurfacing project could begin July 9 and both roads are prepped and ready. The emulsion spraying is going very well. Staff are impressed with the use of the emulsion sprayer borrowed from Johnson which uses a fraction of the material typically used, with significant time savings. There have been discussions about more sharing of equipment with both Johnson and Laird.

Resolution No: 2026 - 100

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the verbal report from the Road Superintendent be received; and

That Council approves the purchase of a 12 foot, 7 tonne trailer in the amount of \$14,119.35 after tax from North Shore Tractor; and

That the information regarding ownership of Creek Road and Range Lights Road be received.

Carried

b. MacLennan Hall Roofing Verbal Update

The Road Superintendent, Councilor McClelland and the Chief Building Official attended the scheduled site visit at the MacLennan Hall with three contractors to review the proposed roof replacement.

Resolution No: 2026 - 101

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the verbal report on the Roofing RFP and the Site Visit which took place June 15, 2026 be received.

Carried

c. NORDS Funding 2026 – 2031

Resolution No: 2026 - 102

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the report from the Treasurer regarding the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund 2026-2031 be received; and

That Council of The Township of Tarbutt supports an application for the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) Fund 2026-2031; and



That Council supports using funding allocations for years 1 and 2 to fund rehabilitation work on Town Line Road, in cooperation with The Township of Laird, pending full project approval from both Townships.
Carried

d. Roofing Permit Fees

Resolution No: 2026 – 103

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding Building Permits for Roofing be received; and

That Council approve Option c), to Increase the roofing permit fee to \$110 and retain one free tipping load; and

That this revised fee be added to the Building By-law and the Fees and Charges By-law.

Carried

e. Summer Council Meeting Schedule

Resolution No: 2026 - 104

Moved by: D. Farrar

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding a summer meeting schedule be received; and

That Council approve adopting a summer schedule with one meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, with the option to hold a special meeting if needed.

Carried

f. Report of the CAO/Clerk

Resolution No: 2026 - 105

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the Report from the Clerk dated June 17, 2026 be received; and

That the position of Custodian/Cleaner be offered to the individual who has been covering the maternity leave.

Carried

7. BY-LAWS

8. INFORMATION / CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Letter from OPP Detachment North Grenville, Merrickville-Wolford
Re: Traffic Calming/Speeding Mitigation Techniques



- b. Resolution from the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
Re: Ontario Most Outdated Property Reassessment in Canada
- c. Resolution from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming
Re: Sustainable Provincial Grant Funding for Ontario Fire Services
- d. Resolution from the Township of South Stormont
Re: That Provincial and Federal Governments Act to Address the Causes of Food Insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Liveable Basic Income
- e. Resolution from the Municipality of Calvin
Re: Provincial Review of CVA Based Apportionment for Shared Services
- f. Resolution from the Township of Larder Lake
Re: Support FONOM resolution to Establish a Northern Ontario Policing Grant
- g. Resolution from the Town of Halton Hills
Re: Modernizing Invasive Plant Rules to Protect Taxpayers
- h. Resolution from the Municipality of Wawa
Re: Exploring innovative models of housing and support for adults with Developmental Disabilities
- i. Resolution from Northeastern Manitoulin & The Islands
Re: Request Ontario to provide Immediate and Sustained Funding to Improve Hospital Finances and Capacity.

Resolution No: 2026 - 106

Moved by: D. McClelland Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that correspondence items a through i. on the Consent Agenda dated June 17, 2026 be received; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the Grenville 1 OPP Detachment Board requesting that the province expand its financial commitment to include all municipalities in Ontario, not just those utilizing photo radar; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus asking the Government of Ontario to commit to a clear and prompt return to the property tax reassessment cycle to correct the most outdated assessment cycle in Canada; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the resolution from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming calling upon the Province to transition from the current competitive provincial fire service grant program into a permanent, stable and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program for volunteer fire departments; and



That The Township of Tarbutt request the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income, and to include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all applicable government policies; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the resolution from the Municipality of Calvin seeking a review of policies, legislation and regulations governing the use of Current Value Assessment and weighted assessment as the basis for apportioning provincially mandated levies and shared municipal service costs with an eye toward developing fairer and more balanced apportionment models; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the FONOM resolution regarding the establishment of a Northern Ontario Policing Grant; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from Northeastern Manitoulin & The Islands requesting the Province of Ontario to provide immediate and sustained funding and annual increases of 6% per year to improve hospital finances and capacity, as per the recommendations of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Carried

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Private Road Ownership

Council discussed ownership and requests for maintenance of Creek Road and Range Lights Road. All of Range Lights Road is in private ownership.

b. Hwy. 17 Closures / Emergency Detour Route

A meeting was held locally with the MTO regarding the recent accident on Hwy 17 and the impact to municipal roads as a result of traffic being re-routed during half loads. Another meeting has been scheduled for July, where further clarification will be sought.

c. Proposed Rehabilitation of a portion of Highway 548 (Tarbutt)

The public consultation period is now open for the rehabilitation of Highway 548, southerly for 2.3 km from Hwy 17 within the Township of Tarbutt. No details of the work proposed, or a date for the work to commence was provided.

d. Appointment of an Integrity Commissioner

Following the Judicial Review of the Integrity Commissioner's decision, the Township was ordered to obtain the services of another Integrity Commissioner who is currently reviewing the complaint. At the request of Council, Tony Fleming of Cunningham Swan has agreed to be appointed as the Integrity Commissioner. An appointment by-law will be presented at the next Council meeting.



Resolution No: 2026 - 107

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that items of new business be received, including information regarding ownership of Creek Road and Range Lights Road, and also the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner.

Carried

10. CLOSED SESSION

11. CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

Resolution No: 2026 – 108

Moved by: D. McClelland

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that leave be granted to introduce By-law 2026 ²⁶ being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting held this Seventeenth day of June, 2026; and

That said by-law be given a first, and taken as read a second and third time and finally passed this Seventeenth day of June, 2026.

Carried

12. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No: 2026 – 109

Moved by: J. Nagel

Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the regular council meeting of June 17, 2026 adjourn at 5:16 pm, to meet again on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 4:00 pm, and

That the revised council meeting schedule be posted and advertised.

Carried

Lennox G. Smith, Mayor

Carol O. Trainor, Clerk

Payment Log
For the month of June, 2026

Cheque No.	Date	Payee	Amount
5788	06/02/2026	Bug Spray - Landfill	\$ 14.10
5789	06/02/2026	Receiver General - Employee Remittance	\$ 9,669.92
5790	06/03/2026	Fuel - Roads	\$ 200.00
5791	06/04/2026	OPP Monthly Contract	\$ 8,947.00
5792	06/04/2026	MSR Tire Ont. Ltd. - Backhoe Tire Repair	\$ 280.24
5793	06/04/2026	Terry's Welding - Welding repairs - Roads Equipment	\$ 3,825.05
5794	06/10/2026	Kent's Corner Rentals - Rototiller	\$ 113.00
5795	06/10/2026	ICONIX Waterworks - Hose Lengths - FD	\$ 357.65
5796	06/10/2026	Inverta Corp - Concrete barriers - Landfill	\$ 3,842.00
5797	06/10/2026	Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Brd. - Annual Levy + OP Costs	\$ 10,823.15
5798	06/09/2026	Fire Dept - Training Per Diem	\$ 502.08
5799	06/09/2026	Fire Dept - Training Per Diem	\$ 502.08
5800	06/09/2026	Fire Dept - Training Per Diem	\$ 470.40
5801	06/15/2026	H. Wellwood - sweeper rental	\$ 2,993.09
5802	06/15/2026	Ledger Management Services - Monthly bookkeeping	\$ 113.00
5803	06/15/2026	Staff Mileage	\$ 181.50
5804	06/15/2026	Staff Conference attendnace Per diem	\$ 1,006.20
5805	06/15/2026	Traction Heavy Duty Parts- Shop Supplies Roads	\$ 61.87
5806	06/18/2026	Northshore Tractor - Dump Trailer	\$ 14,119.35
5807	06/19/2026	Kentvale Merchants Ltd. - Chainsaw parts and maint.	\$ 300.81
5808	06/19/2026	Gilbertson Enterprises - Granular A Resurfacing materials	\$ 15,187.20
5809	06/19/2026	Heritage Home Hardware - Shop parts	\$ 13.55
5810	06/19/2026	Township of St.Joseph - 2026 CEMC + Seniors award	\$ 2,038.61
5811	06/22/2026	Ministry of Finance - Fire Dept Training	\$ 195.00
5812	06/23/2026	ICONIX Waterworks - Road signs and hardware	\$ 288.15
5813	06/30/2026	Landfill Admin expense	\$ 100.00
5814		Dated July 1, 2026	
5815	06/24/2026	Spadafora Johnson Lepore - Township Legal	\$ 1,472.49
5816	06/26/2026	AMCTO - Zone 7 - Fall Clerks Conference	\$ 375.00
5817	06/26/2026	Kentvale Merchants - Parks supplies	\$ 52.87
DD06-08	06/08/2026	Bell Canada - Fire Hall Telephone	\$ 70.77
DD06-05	06/05/2026	Algoma Power Inc. - Office/Roads/Fire	\$ 488.08
DD06-01	06/01/2026	Equitable Life Insurance - Employee Benefits	\$ 3,106.25
DD06.03	06/03/2026	Esso and Mobil Business Card - Gas and Diesel	\$ 2,190.64
DD06.05	06/05/2026	Algoma Power Inc. - MacLennan Hall	\$ 145.68
DD06.08	06/08/2026	Bell Canada - Office	\$ 160.42
DD06.18	06/18/2026	Bell Mobility - Township Cell Phones	\$ 322.05
DD06/05	06/05/2026	Algoma Power Inc. - Landfill	\$ 156.71
DD06/08	06/08/2026	Bell Canada - MacLennan Hall	\$ 76.99
EFT06.02	06/02/2026	ADSAB - Monthly Social Services	\$ 34,213.67
EFT06.05	06/05/2026	encompassIT.ca - TMM Tax Program monthly	\$ 390.30
EFT06.05	06/05/2026	OMERS - Employee Pension contributions	\$ 5,748.00
EFT06.05	06/02/2026	Township of Plummer - CBO Contract Expenses	\$ 1,293.06
EFT06.05	06/04/2026	GFL Environmental - Waste Disposal May 2026	\$ 10,258.50

EFT06.06	06/02/2026	Quattra SCS - Fire Alarm Monitoring & Dispatch	\$	458.95
EFT06.08	06/05/2026	encompassIT.ca - Troubleshoot Remote support	\$	75.15
EFT06.09	06/09/2026	Algoma Business Computers - Troubleshooting	\$	31.08
EFT06.15	06/15/2026	Superior Propane Inc. - Community Hall Heating	\$	821.54
EFT06.15	06/15/2026	TESTMARK Laboratories - Hall Water Testing	\$	50.85
EFT06.18	06/18/2026	Barriston Law - Legal Expenses	\$	129.26
EFT06.23	06/18/2026	Algoma Office Equipment - Monthly photocopies	\$	214.04
DD	05/01/2026	RCAP Lease - Photocopier monthly lease	\$	93.33
DD	5/5/2026	CIBC Ad-Hoc Fees for Payments made	\$	62.00
DD	5/30/2026	CIBC Admin Fee	\$	25.00
DD	5/30/2026	CIBC Monthly Fee	\$	55.00
DD	5/30/2026	Paper Statement Fee	\$	5.00
Payments to Vendors			\$	138,687.68
*EFT = Payments processed manually from the bank account				
*DD = Automatic withdrawals from the bank account				
VISA		Sootoday - Election Ad Shared with other Townships	\$	508.50
VISA		Starlink - Internet Services	\$	158.20
VISA		Adobe Subscription	\$	105.06
VISA		Zoom	\$	25.98
VISA		Canada Post - Regular Postage	\$	478.48
VISA		Holiday Inn Sudbury - Staff Training	\$	661.20
VISA		Staples - Office Supplies	\$	131.36
VISA		Amazon.ca - Generator battery	\$	45.19
VISA		TRAX - CBO Program - To be reimbursed	\$	379.68
Total Visa Charges			\$	2,493.65
Total Payroll (includes 3 pay periods)			\$	54,100.93
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR JUNE 2026			\$	195,282.26

Revenue Received June 2026

Bank Interest	Monthly Interest	\$ 1,416.48
Hall Rental Revenue	LDS Church	\$ 500.00
Building Permits	Multiple Projects	\$ 450.00
Misc. Revenue	Copies, Dog Tags, Trailer Permits etc.	\$ 60.50
Landfill Revenue	Tipping Fees	\$ 1,905.00
	Share Shed	\$ 254.00
API Microfit	Solar Revenue	\$ 1,391.32
Reimbursement for Emulsion	Multiple Municipalities	\$ 28,661.80
Reimbursement for Election Ad	Multiple Municipalities	\$ 469.32
Total		\$ 35,108.42
*Excluding Property Tax Revenue		

July 16, 2026

Ms. Carol Trainor
Deputy Treasurer
Township of Tarbutt
Via (insert email address)

The Range Lights Road summer residents have been provided with your email to Tari Carlson on July 6th, where you wrote that the Township has no record of an easement or any legal document that would allow the municipality to maintain Range Lights Road from the Highway to #253. You concluded that the entire Range Lights Road is a private road and the Township will no longer maintain any part of it. You also expressed some surprise, as you had always understood to the contrary during your prior 5 ½ years with the Township. This letter is in response, with our request you submit this to the Council for their consideration at the meeting of July 22.

We are surprised and shocked at hearing this news, as the Township has, without interruption, maintained Range Lights Road from Highway 17 to the residence #253, currently owned by Abbe Amimi, for at least 70 years, and perhaps longer. Until Mr. Amimi moved out of the home, the Township also plowed the road in the winter from the highway to #253 for the same period.

Would you please explain to us how you arrived at this decision? What records or documents were searched? Did it include going back to the time when the original owners of #253, the Johnson family, and the Angus Brown family, built their residences on the road? And if you are correct that there is no legal proof of Township ownership of the road, then could you please explain to us how the Township came to maintain the road over the past 70+ years?

The summer residents using the private road after #253 are faithful taxpayers who do not place much of a burden on the Township. We believe that, at the very least, you owe us a more detailed explanation of how this decision was arrived at and the facts upon it was based.

Respectfully,

The Summer Residents of Range Lights Road
The Palmer Family
The King Family
The VanHouten Family
The Bell Family
Carlson/Pyle/Hoyt Family
Sally Schendel
The Cook Family
Iannelli Family



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The Township of Tarbutt
27 Barr Road South
Desbarats, Ontario P0R 1E0
Ph: 705-782-6776 Fax: 705-782-4274

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: July 22, 2026
From: Carol Trainor, CAO/Clerk
Re: MacLennan Hall Roof Replacement

BACKGROUND / OVERVIEW

With the submission of the grant application for NOHFC funds to update and revitalize the MacLennan Hall, the first priority project was the replacement of the roof. In addition to replacing the roof, the dislocation and storage of the roof top solar panels was included in the work. An RFP was prepared and circulated through the SSM Construction Association, with a mandatory site visit held on June 15, and a deadline of June 29.

Two bids were received; one from a solar contractor and the other from a mechanical contractor. While the total cost varied significantly between the two, the proposal submitted by the contractor was very thorough, detailing their related experience, step by step methodology, proposed materials to be used, and that they would sub the solar work out to the solar contractor. Storage trailers would be brought on site to store the solar panels while the roof work is being done. The timeline proposed is from July 20 to August 31, although bidders were asked to minimize the disruption to the weekly renters.

The proposal from the solar company was incomplete and did not include any details of methodology, labour, panel storage, materials, or other details. They did not provide any company history of their experience and qualifications, although the mechanical contractor did provide a background of the solar firm's work history and experience of 27 years.

In both cases, the work would be completed well in advance of the municipal election.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff have applied for an NOHFC grant in the amount of \$200,000 to cover a number of upgrades and projects at the hall. The Township will be required to cover 10% of the project cost, with the remainder coming from the NOHFC grant, leaving just over \$110,000 for remaining hall projects.

The RFP stated consistently that the lowest bid would not necessarily be accepted. Proposals were evaluated based on experience and qualifications, project methodology, pricing, schedule and references.



SUMMARY

The Building Committee has carefully reviewed each of the proposals submitted, and agreed that Stobie Mechanical and Welding provided a proposal which met all requirements.

The project will be awarded pending confirmation that the grant has been approved.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding the results of the Request for Proposal for the MacLennan Hall Roof Replacement be received; and

That Council approve the recommendation of the Building Committee to award the project to Stobie Mechanical and Welding at a total cost of \$99,369.26, utilizing AES Solar for the solar portion panels; and

That the work commence once confirmation of the NOHFC Grant is received.

REPORT TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES

Date: July 22nd, 2026

From: Jared Brice, Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board Secretary-Treasurer

Re: Open House(s) for Joint Official Plan and Next Steps

OVERVIEW

On July 7th, 2026, the Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board hosted two public open houses for the public to engage in regarding the proposed Joint Official Plan. The Open Houses occurred at Echo Bay Hall from 4 to 6 pm and The Township of Johnson Council Chambers from 7 pm to 9 pm.

A total of 17 people attended the Open Houses of which were mostly Councillors, Township Staff, and Planning Board members. Four members of the public at large were present at the Open House at the Johnson Council Chambers.

The Open House(s) provided information on what an Official Plan is, how it affects planning matters, why it's being prepared, and provided avenues for feedback from members of the Public. The informal nature of open houses created a setting that promoted discussion and questions relating to the Joint Official Plan. The Planner, David Welwood of J.L. Richards and Associates (JLR) was able and available to answer questions and provide context and professional high-level feedback regarding the Joint Official Plan.

NEXT STEPS:

After feedback at the Open Houses, amendments are being made to the mapping schedules in preparation for approval at the Planning Boards next scheduled meeting on July 28th, 2026. The intent is for the Planning Board to approve the Official Plan as amended at its next Planning Board meeting. After Planning Board approval, the onus is on each member municipality to host their own Statutory Public Meeting for the Official Plan for public consultation and adoption.

JLR is preparing the notice of four (4) Statutory Public Meetings (one for each member municipality). JLR recommends utilizing the local advertising used by the Planning Board to notify the public about the meeting, in addition to posting information on the Planning Board's and the member municipality's websites. The statutory notice period for an Official Plan is 20 days. The Statutory Public Meetings will be held near the end of the work program to present the Draft Official Plan for the member municipalities consideration and for Council's to formally receive written or oral submissions from the public. Based upon the input at the statutory meetings, the Councils may choose to formally adopt the Official Plan or may choose to defer adoption to a subsequent meeting based upon a request for additional information. Failure for every member municipality to adopt the Official Plan at their Statutory Public Meeting(s) may result in delays in the adoption of the Joint Official Plan. The Secretary-Treasurer will be available to attend each member municipality's statutory public meeting and expects the Statutory Public Meetings to be held in or around September 2026.

Once adopted, the Joint Official Plan will be submitted to MMAH for approval. JLR will assist in preparing the Record to be forwarded to MMAH. The Planning Act provides the approval authority with a 6-month timeline for approvals; however, MMAH indicates that this timeline may be reduced if the early consultation approach is followed. JLR will prepare a consolidated version of the approved Official Plan, including any modifications from MMAH, once the Minister's Decision on the Official Plan is issued.


Jared Brice

Secretary-Treasurer Desbarats to Echo Bay Planning Board



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The Township of Tarbutt
27 Barr Road South
Desbarats, Ontario P0R 1E0
Ph: 705-782-6776 Fax: 705-782-4274

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: July 22, 2026
From: Carol Trainor, CAO/Clerk
Re: Fire Protection Grant 2026-27

BACKGROUND / OVERVIEW

As in the past two years, the Minister of the Solicitor General and the Office of the Fire Marshall have announced funding for established fire departments for roughly \$16,000 each to target cancer prevention, minor infrastructure modernization and lithium-ion incident response initiatives.

The Township of Tarbutt has been successful in the last two rounds of funding by seeking to purchase bunker gear that is safe, certified, and fits individual firefighters. Ill fitting gear does not protect individuals from exposure to harmful, cancerous chemicals encountered with fire fighting. Bunker gear needs to be cleaned by a special process to remove the chemicals and cancer causing residue left on materials, called extraction.

The closest location for certified extraction of bunker gear is North Bay, which requires all suits to be packaged up and shipped to North Bay at great expense, leaving the fire fighters and department short of equipment for up to several weeks. If a washer extractor were located close by it could be used by multiple departments at a much reduced cost.

Staff request that the application for 2026-27 be used for the purchase of an extractor, which will eliminate the need to have the equipment shipped away, saving those costs as well as ensuring that gear can be cleaned quickly and returned to active use in short time. This gear is required to be cleaned regularly under Fire Protection and Prevention standards, and the companies that clean them also ensure they are fit for duty.

Applicants must develop proposals with supporting information to demonstrate need, return on investment, and the benefit to public safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed purchase of a washer-extractor represents an investment in firefighter health and safety while maximizing the value of provincial grant funding. There may be an opportunity to prepare a joint application with a neighbouring fire department although further discussions need to occur among the Chiefs, or to offer this service to other area departments for a small fee.



The estimated cost of a 40 to 50 lb extractor would be between \$10,000 - \$15,000 to purchase outright, plus shipping and installation costs. Staff must determine the best location for this unit, with possible electrical and plumbing connections; otherwise it may be installed in place of an existing washroom.

SUMMARY

The intent of this grant is to support cancer prevention in fire fighters, along other purposes, and the purchase of an extractor would save the township time and expense, and reduce the risk associated with having bunker gear shipped away, leaving members without their basic necessary equipment.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be it resolved that the report from the CAO/Clerk regarding Phase III of the Fire Protection Grant be received; and

That Council support the Application to the 2026-27 Fire Protection Grant for the purchase of a PPE Washer/Extractor with further details regarding installation and ancillary costs to be provided before the application is submitted.



COMMUNIQUÉ

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL
BUREAU DU COMMISSAIRE DES INCENDIES

July 14, 2026

No. 2026-03

Fire Protection Grant 2026-27 - Call for Applications

Ontario's Solicitor General, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, has opened applications for the third round of the province's Fire Protection Grant.

Beginning July 16, 2026, applications for the 2026-27 Fire Protection Grant will be accepted through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system. Applications will be accepted until 5:00PM on September 1, 2026. Please access the TPON link above to review the Fire Protection Grant application (a fillable PDF) and an information package which provides important details about this year's grant process.

As announced in the government's 2024 Budget, the initial \$30M grant was to be administered over three years, with \$10M being allocated each year. In Year 2, total funding was increased to \$20M. As part of the 2026 Budget, the government has committed an additional \$10M to support the Fire Protection Grant, bringing the total funding envelope for the 2026/27 fiscal year to \$20M.

Eligibility for the 2026-27 Fire Protection Grant remains consistent with previous years, with funding available to municipalities that have established a fire department under section 2(2)(b) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 (FPPA).

This year's grant will continue to target cancer prevention, minor infrastructure modernization and lithium-ion incident response initiatives, such as:

- **Cancer Prevention:**
 - Equipment and Supplies
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Minor Infrastructure
- **Minor Infrastructure Modernization:**
 - Enhanced broadband and internet connectivity
- **Lithium-Ion Incident Response:**
 - Equipment and Supplies

The grant will be allocated proportionate to the number of active fire stations in a municipality. Allocations will be based on the projects being undertaken at the local level, ensuring a fair, transparent, and consistent disbursement of funds. Municipalities can expect to receive approximately \$16,000 per active fire station, with final allocations dependent on the total number of approved applications.

To be consistent with other grants offered through the Ministry of the Solicitor General, applicants are required to develop proposals with supporting information to demonstrate need, return on investment, and benefit to public safety.

I am confident that the Fire Protection Grant will continue to assist departments in addressing critical needs regarding cancer prevention, minor infrastructure and lithium-ion incident response at the local level and I look forward to the positive impact it will have on your front-line members.

If you require any assistance or have general questions about the grant application, please contact your local Fire Protection Adviser.

**THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT
COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 22, 2026
CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Resolution from Clearview Township 1-2
Re: Public Sector Salary Disclosure Inflation Adjustments
- b. Resolution from the District of Parry Sound 3
Re: Prioritize the development of new and upgraded highway rest stops and traveler infrastructure along Highways 11 and 17 across Northern Ontario
- c. Letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association 4-5
Re: Doubling the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)
- d. Resolution from the Town of Whitby 6-7
Re: Request the Government of Ontario to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) to ensure greater respect for local planning decisions; to amend legislation to provide greater respect for municipal decisions which align with provincial planning frameworks; to improve the transparency and accountability of the OLT by requiring clear and detailed reasons when municipal decisions are overturned; and to implement measures to compensate municipalities for the financial burden of defending planning decisions before the OLT.
- e. Press Release from FONOM 8-9
Re: Northern Shield Energy Corridor is an opportunity for Northern Ontario
- f. Letter from Dr. Jennifer Loo, Chief Medical Officer of Health, APH 10
Re: Thanking the Township for participation and donation toward Planet Youth
- g. Letter from Ironside Consulting Services Inc. 11
Re: Report of the Integrity Commissioner, January 1 to July 8, 2026
- h. Letter from the Town of Bruce Mines to Premier Doug Ford 12-13
Re: Physician Shortage and the Practice Ready Ontario Program
- i. Letter from the Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth 14-15
Re: Working together to create resilience and long term prosperity
- j. Resolution from the Municipality of Trent Lakes 16
Re: Provincial Action on the Accuracy of the Municipal Voters' List

Recommendation: Be it resolved that correspondence items a through j on the Consent Agenda dated July 22, 2026 be received; and
That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from Clearview Township seeking an adjustment of Public Salary Disclosure in keeping with the inflation rate; and

That The Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the District of Parry Sound urging the Governments of Ontario and Canada to prioritize the development of new and upgraded highway rest stops and traveler infrastructure across Northern Ontario; and

That the Township of Tarbutt support the letter from the Municipal Finance Officers' Association urging the Province of Ontario to preserve service levels and permanent double OCIF funding to \$400 million per year to especially help small and rural municipalities preserve their economic foundation; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the resolution from the Town of Whitby requesting the Government of Ontario to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) to ensure greater respect for local planning decisions which align with provincial planning frameworks; to improve the transparency and accountability of the OLT by requiring clear and detailed reasons when municipal decisions are overturned; and to implement measures to compensate municipalities for the financial burden of defending planning decisions before the OLT; and

That The Township of Tarbutt support the letter from The Town of Bruce Mines regarding the physician shortage in Northern Ontario, and the Practice Ready Ontario (PRO) Program which places an unsustainable burden on small communities left to fill gaps left by the provincial health care system; and

That the Township of Tarbutt supports the resolution from the Municipality of Trent Lakes and the County of Peterborough urging the Province of Ontario to immediately encourage Elections Ontario to prioritize the review of data of Ontario property owners to ensure voter lists are as accurate as possible prior to August 14, 2026.