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Backgrounder

Ontario Government Wraps Up a Successful Spring Sitting

June 4, 2015 6:00 P.M. | Office of the Premier

The Ontario legislature wrapped up its spring sitting today. The government made substantial progress in a number of key areas, such as making a record investment in public infrastructure, ensuring that Ontarians have a financially secure retirement and attracting more business investments that will spur innovation and create jobs.

Bills That Passed:

Bill 6 - Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015

Requires the province to table a long-term infrastructure plan covering at least 10 years and support job creation, training opportunities, economic growth, environmental protection and design excellence

Bill 31 - Transportation Statute Law Amendment Act (Making Ontario's Roads Safer), 2015

Strengthens penalties for offences such as distracted driving in order to help keep Ontario's roads among the safest in North America

Bill 40 - Agriculture Insurance Act (Amending the Crop Insurance Act, 1996), 2015

Allows more types of agricultural products to be covered by production insurance

Bill 45 - Making Healthier Choices Act, 2015

Protects youth from the dangers of tobacco and the potential harm of electronic cigarettes; it will also help families make healthier food choices by giving them caloric information when they eat out or buy take-away meals

Bill 49 - Ontario Immigration Act, 2015

Enables Ontario to maximize the economic benefits of immigration by helping the province work with the federal government, strengthening efforts to reduce fraud and increasing transparency

Bill 56 - Ontario Retirement Pension Plan Act, 2015

Lays out a framework to create a first-of-its-kind mandatory provincial pension plan that would provide a predictable stream of retirement income to eligible Ontarians

Bill 57 - Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act, 2015

Provides a framework for the establishment and administration of pooled registered pension plans (PRPPs) in Ontario -- a voluntary, low-cost, tax-assisted option to increase retirement savings, available to employees and the self-employed

Bill 72 - Supply Act, 2015

Provides the Legislature's final approval for the legal spending authority to finance the government's programs and honour its commitments for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015

Bill 80 - Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment Act, 2015

Prohibits the acquisition and breeding of orcas (killer whales) in Ontario and allows the government to set administrative standards of care for marine mammals

Bill 91 - Building Ontario Up Act (Budget Measures), 2015

Implements measures detailed in the 2015 Ontario Budget, including legislation to establish the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan Administration Corporation, and enact or amend 42 other acts

Bill 103 - Protecting the School Year Act

Protects the school year for 72,000 public secondary students in Durham, Rainbow and Peel district school boards by ending local strikes by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation

Bills Introduced:

Bill 66 - Great Lakes Protection Act, 2015

Would further strengthen protection of the Great Lakes by reducing harmful algal blooms, protecting wetlands, and monitoring and reporting on the health of the lakes

Bill 73 - Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, 2015

Would reform the Planning Act and the Development Charges Act to give residents a greater say in how their communities grow; it would also expand opportunities to fund community services such as transit and recycling

Bill 85 - Strengthening and Improving Government Act

Would strengthen and modernize a number of Ontario's laws and regulations, including the Family Law Act, the Employment Standards Act and the Highway Traffic Act

Bill 100 - Supporting Ontario's Trails Act, 2015

Would protect and improve thousands of kilometres of Ontario's urban, suburban, rural and remote land and water trails network, while encouraging its expansion

Bill 106 - Protecting Condominium Owners Act, 2015

Would increase protections for condominium owners, improve how condo corporations are run and ensure that condo boards are governed professionally

Bill 109 - Employment and Labour Statute Law Amendment Act, 2015

Would amend the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act and the Fire Prevention and Protection Act to further ensure that the rights of injured workers and firefighters are protected. Would also amend the Public Sector Labour Relations Transition Act to support harmonious labour relations for employees in the broader public sector

Bill 112 - Strengthening Consumer Protection and Electricity System Oversight Act

Would enhance the capabilities of the Ontario Energy Board in order to further protect electricity

ratepayers by boosting consumer protection, improving the ability to ensure continuity of service and enabling the government to identify priority transmission projects

Bill 113 - Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015

Would set province-wide standards for the types of police record checks available across Ontario, and by directing which information can and cannot be released to ensure public safety and protect personal privacy

Bill 115 - Electoral Boundaries Act, 2015

Would increase the number of provincial ridings in southern Ontario to 111 to align with the new federal boundaries while maintaining the 11 existing ridings in northern Ontario

**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

From: "AMCTO" <amcto@amcto.com>
Date: July-09-15 9:00 AM
To: <twpshcm@xplornet.com>
Subject: AMCTO Legislative Express for June







If this email does not display properly, please view our [online version](#).



July 9, 2015

AMCTO LEGISLATIVE EXPRESS

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Here is a summary of the most relevant developments from the month of June:

Policy Updates

Province Reviewing Municipal Legislation: The province has announced reviews of key pieces of municipal legislation, including the *Municipal Act*, the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, and the *City of Toronto Act*. AMCTO intends to prepare a submission as part of this process, and will continue to provide updates as these reviews unfold. The deadline for municipalities to submit feedback for reviews has been extended until October 31st. Find out more about these reviews [here](#).

Legislature Rises for Summer Break After Passing 11 Bills: The Ontario Legislature rose for its summer break, after passing 11 bills during its spring sitting. You can find a full list of all the new legislation passed since February [here](#).

Winter Highway Maintenance Action Plan Released: The province has released a new Action Plan for improving winter road conditions in 2015-2016. The strategy was released following a scathing [Auditor General's report](#) released earlier this year. Learn more [here](#).

New Regional Consultations on Infrastructure to Begin in July: The province is beginning a new round of

consultations on local priorities for infrastructure, beginning in July. Learn more about these consultations, including a full list of dates and locations [here](#).

FCM Releases its 2015 Election Roadmap: The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has released its 2015 roadmap for the federal election, outlining priorities for local governments across the country. Learn more [here](#).

Government Introduces New Provincial Election Reform: The Premier has announced a series of reforms to provincial elections, including proposals to increase the number of ridings in Ontario to 122, shift the election date from fall to spring and strengthen current rules on third-party advertising. Find out more [here](#).

Ontario Signs New Political Accord with First Nations: The province of Ontario and the Chiefs of Ontario, an organization representing 133 First Nations communities located within the legal boundaries of the province of Ontario, signed a new political accord in June. Find out more [here](#).

Provinces Working on Free Trade Deal: Canada's provinces and territories are currently negotiating a new Canada-wide free trade agreement, with a proposed deal to be reached by March. Current interprovincial trade barriers, in some circumstances, make it easier for some Canadian businesses to trade with the United States or European Union, than other Canadian provinces.

Seniors Community Grant Program Funding Doubles: The pool of funding for the Seniors Community Grant Program is doubling from \$1 to \$2 million for 2015. Find out more [here](#).

Ontario Youth Action Plan: The Ministry of Children and Youth Services has announced new funding of \$55 million over the next three years for an upgraded Youth Action Plan. Learn more about the plan [here](#).

Ontario Music Fund Now Permanent: The Government of Ontario has announced that the [Ontario Music Fund](#), a \$15-million-a-year program that tries to make Ontario's music industry more competitive, by providing grants to local music, will become permanent.

Cycling Infrastructure Grant Applications Now Open: The Ministry of Transportation is now rolling out two new funding programs to promote the growth of cycling in Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program and the Cycling Training Fund. Find more information [here](#).

Government Announces Two New Accessibility Initiatives: The province has unveiled two new initiatives to build on the progress of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*, including a new [accessibility action plan](#), and an [accessibility certification program](#).

Bills and Lawmaking

Bill 114, the *Municipal Action on Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Act*, was introduced as a private member's bill at the beginning of June and received first reading.

Regulatory Changes

Off-road Vehicles to be Allowed on Highways: The province is moving forward with new transportation regulations to allow off-road vehicles with more than one rider to travel on some highway shoulders. The new changes will come into effect on July 1, 2015.

Reminder: Energy Use Reporting Deadline: The July 1st deadline for municipalities to report their 2013 energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for designated buildings and facilities has passed. However, the Ministry of

Energy has extended the deadline to July 24th to allow organizations to file late submissions. Access the reporting portal [here](#).

Resources

New Hub for Social Policy Research: The Caledon Institute has just launched, *Canada Social Report*, a new online repository for research and reports on social policy. Find out more [here](#).

Resources for Building Strong Neighbourhoods: The Tamarack Institute has posted a set of tools and resources on policies, programs, and practices that build strong, healthy and vibrant neighbourhoods. Find out more [here](#).

2015 Municipal Water Priorities Report Released: The Canadian Water Network's Canadian Municipal Water Consortium (CMWC) has released its second annual report on the water priorities of municipalities. Read the report [here](#).

AMCTO Updates

AMCTO has released the results of its post-2014 Election Survey. Find the survey results [here](#).

Following this month's edition, AMCTO's legislative express will be on hiatus until the beginning of September, when it will return with all of the relevant news from Queen's Park over the summer.

Contact Us

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Informz for iMIS

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Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith

From: "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Date: August-25-15 4:05 PM
To: <twpshcm@xplornet.com>
Subject: AMO POLICY UPDATE - Highlights of the August 2015 Board Meeting

August 25, 2015

AMO Report to Member Municipalities Highlights of the August 2015 Board Meeting

To keep members informed, AMO provides updates on important issues considered at regular AMO Board of Directors' meetings. The Board met in Niagara Falls, Ontario prior to the 2015 Annual AMO Conference.

Highlights of the August 15, 2015 meeting include:

Municipal Legislation Review

A proposed principled approach was reviewed and discussed by the AMO Board as the foundation for AMO's initial response to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Municipal Legislation Review consultations on both the *Municipal Act* and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. It is expected that AMO's initial submission will be available in September. AMO is also working with municipal staff associations as they prepare technical advice.

Contact: Pat Vanini, Executive Director, pvanini@amo.on.ca, ext. 316.

What's Next Ontario Report to Members and Next Steps

A report of what was heard from AMO members in the first phase of the What's Next Ontario Report was provided to the AMO Board. A letter to AMO members from the AMO President was sent August 17, 2015 along with the approved summary of membership engagement and submissions. Next steps include setting up a committee of municipal and community leaders to explore potential future revenue tools immediately with the expectation that the AMO membership will be further consulted on focused options in winter 2016. The objective of the AMO Board is that by August 2016 we will arrive at a member directed and informed plan for municipal fiscal sustainability.

Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, email: mwilson@amo.on.ca, ext. 323.

MEPCO Update

The AMO Board was updated on the government's August 11, 2015 announcement on the process for verifying and exempting comparable plans from the proposed Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP). The OMERS Plan will most likely meet the exemption criteria announced which is good news for municipal employers and the operation of the OMERS Plan. MEPCO will continue to assess impacts of a phase-in for municipalities with part-time workers who are not part of OMERS and will monitor the legislative process to put the ORPP in place.

Contact: Bruce McLeod, MEPCO Coordinator, email: bmcleod@amo.on.ca, ext. 350.

Leadership "Onward" Project

The AMO Board received an update on the Leadership "Onward" Project of various municipal staff associations. With the critical need for municipal succession planning at the senior leadership staff level, the objectives of this project include the development of programs to respond to leadership gaps which include: create champions at the political level; actively promote municipal succession planning and talent development efforts and increase awareness of municipal management as a career choice. Progress updates have been presented to all the major municipal staff associations, AMO and its affiliate associations.

Contact: Jim Pine, CAO, County of Hastings and Tony Haddad, CAO, Town of Tecumseh.

The Board approved the establishment of two new AMO task forces – a Conservation Authority Review Task Force and a Long-Term Care and Age-Friendly Community Task Force. AMO Task Forces allow AMO to have local policy and program officials provide a diversity of municipal perspectives in developing recommendations to the Board of Directors as it establishes policy positions.

Contact: Monika Turner, Director of Policy, mturner@amo.on.ca, ext. 318.

PLEASE NOTE: AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator, and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

DISCLAIMER: Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

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MEMORANDUM

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TO: Renfrew County Municipal Clerks & Treasurers
FROM: Jeff Foss, Financial Services Officer
DATE: Thursday, August 27, 2015
SUBJECT: 2015 Tax Rate Summary Information

Please find enclosed the following information that was presented to Council at their August 26, 2015 session:

2015 Tax Rates Summary: Attached is a summary identifying the 2015 general use tax rates for municipalities within Renfrew County. The source of this data is the Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system.

2015 Taxable and PIL Levy by Levy Type: Attached is a report summarizing the source of the 2015 County of Renfrew levy by municipality and by assessment class. Also included is a row at the bottom of this report identifying the percentage of total taxation received from each assessment class. The source of this data is the Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system using the general tax rate for upper and lower tiers, excluding any "special area rates" (street lights, etc.).

2015 Levy Summary Report: Attached is a chart that identifies the real budget impact on ratepayers in each municipality based on the lower tier tax rates adopted by each municipal council. The Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system multiplies the adopted general tax rates by the current value assessment totals in each property class and then calculates the estimated taxation after applying the correct tax ratios and discount factors. The enclosed report uses the "net budget impact" column to sort the data from highest to lowest in terms of percentage. The negative values at the bottom of the list for Head, Clara and Maria Township and for Madawaska Valley Township indicate that they will raise less levy dollars in 2015 than they did in 2014.

2015 Tax Impact Summary Report: Attached is a chart that compares the total taxation levy raised by property class for upper tier, lower tier and education taxes in 2015 vs 2014. The Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system multiplies all adopted tax rates (general and special area) by the current value assessment totals in each property class and then calculates the estimated taxation after applying the correct tax ratios and discount factors. Also included is a row at the bottom of this report identifying the percentage of total taxation received each year for upper tier, lower tier and education purposes.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.
Thank you.

Renfrew County 2015 Tax Rates Summary

15:48PM

Type	Residential		Multi-residential		Commercial			Industrial			Large Industrial		Pipelines		Farm
	Occupied	FAD Phase I	Occupied		Occupied	Excess Land	Vacant Land	FAD Phase I	Occupied	Excess Land	Vacant Land	Occupied	Excess Land	Occupied	Occup
Tax Ratios	1.000000		1.943600		1.814700				2.925358			3.849591		1.332800	
Education- New Construction															
Education	0.00195000	0.00068250	0.00195000		0.01190000	0.00833000	0.00833000	0.00068250	0.01190000	0.00773500	0.00773500	0.01190000	0.00773500		
Upper General	0.00347894	0.00121763	0.00676168		0.00631323	0.00441926	0.00441926	0.00121763	0.01008599	0.00655589	0.00994500	0.01530000	0.00994500	0.01171969	0.
Lower General	0.00571000	0.00199850	0.01109796		0.01036194	0.00725336	0.00725336	0.00199850	0.01552174	0.01008913	0.01008913	0.02083916	0.01354545	0.00761029	0.
Lower General	0.00804528	0.00281515	0.01563252		0.01459614	0.01021730	0.01021730	0.00281515	0.02352948	0.01529416	0.01529416	0.02935469	0.01908055	0.01072009	0.
Lower General	0.00668256	0.00233890	0.01298823		0.01212685	0.00848879	0.00848879	0.00233890	0.01954889	0.01270678	0.01270678	0.02438863	0.01585261	0.00890652	0.
Lower General	0.00579896	0.00202964	0.01127087		0.01052338	0.00736637	0.00736637	0.00202964	0.01629369	0.01059090	0.01059090	0.02032753	0.01321289	0.00772886	0.
Lower General	0.00934294	0.00327003	0.01815894		0.01695463	0.01186825	0.01186825	0.00327003	0.02563832	0.01666491	0.01666491	0.03198562	0.02079065	0.01245227	0.
Lower General	0.00322820	0.00112887	0.00627435		0.00585822	0.00410076	0.00410076	0.00112887	0.00944366	0.00613639	0.00613639	0.01178164	0.00765807	0.00430255	0.
Lower General	0.00249668	0.00087384	0.00485255		0.00453073	0.00317151	0.00317151	0.00087384	0.00730368	0.00474739	0.00474739	0.00911186	0.00592271	0.00332758	0.
Lower General	0.00518298	0.00181405	0.01007306		0.00940557	0.00658390	0.00658390	0.00181405	0.01430622	0.00962404	0.00962404	0.01847181	0.01200668	0.00690789	0.
Lower General	0.00643039	0.00225664	0.01248811		0.01166823	0.00816846	0.00816846	0.00225664	0.01881119	0.01222728	0.01222728	0.02346829	0.01526439	0.00857042	0.
Lower General	0.00742021	0.00259707	0.01442192		0.01348546	0.00942582	0.00942582	0.00259707	0.02170677	0.01410940	0.01410940	0.02708073	0.01760247	0.00988966	0.
Lower General	0.00339405	0.00118791	0.00659668		0.00615919	0.00431143	0.00431143	0.00118791	0.00976264	0.00634572	0.00634572	0.01217959	0.00791673	0.00452359	0.
Lower General	0.00515946	0.00180581	0.01002792		0.00936287	0.00655401	0.00655401	0.00180581	0.01509326	0.00981062	0.00981062	0.01852991	0.01223945	0.00687652	0.
Lower General	0.00459902	0.00160966	0.00893866		0.00834585	0.00584209	0.00584209	0.00160966	0.01320949	0.00858617	0.00858617	0.01647978	0.01071186	0.00612958	0.
Lower General	0.00621250	0.00217438	0.01207462		0.01127382	0.00789167	0.00789167	0.00217438	0.01817379	0.01181296	0.01181296	0.02267308	0.01473750	0.00828002	0.
Lower General	0.00311512	0.00109029	0.00605455		0.00565301	0.00395711	0.00395711	0.00109029	0.00862969	0.00560830	0.00560830	0.01076615	0.00699800	0.00415183	0.
Lower General	0.00859918	0.00300871	0.01671336		0.01560493	0.01092345	0.01092345	0.00300871	0.02472864	0.01607362	0.01607362	0.03085073	0.02006529	0.01146098	0.
Lower General	0.00553639	0.00193774	0.01078053		0.01004689	0.00703282	0.00703282	0.00193774	0.01605729	0.01043724	0.01043724	0.02003260	0.01302119	0.00737890	0.

2015 Taxable and PIL Levy from 2015 Return Roll by Levy Type

	Residential		Multi-residential		Commercial			Industrial			Large Industrial		Pipelines		Farm	
	Occupied	FAD Phase I	Occupied	FAD Phase I	Excess Land	Vacant Land	FAD Phase I	Occupied	Excess Land	Vacant Land	Occupied	Excess Land	Occupied	Excess Land	Occupied	Excess Land
4742	1,279,245	0	0	0	37,332	0	55	0	5,092	131	0	0	192,029	0	118,440	0
General	5,606,395	216	546,250	0	1,177,640	23,903	3,237	146,251	1,263	9,144	163,595	378	19,157	0	1,270	0
4738	2,596,034	0	42,450	0	179,766	1,431	0	21,276	890	0	0	0	0	0	26,287	0
wnship, 4719	1,014,709	0	7,650	0	71,946	57	0	16,368	829	0	0	0	0	0	12,084	0
General	3,233,367	0	115,007	0	1,467,950	7,871	0	19,438	1,017	0	281,951	0	11,050	0	92	0
4706	2,318,785	0	0	0	78,152	548	0	334	0	99	0	0	0	0	2,223	0
98	112,193	0	0	0	74,592	3,192	0	2,142	1,406	0	0	0	312,209	0	0	0
wnship, 4731	1,589,992	0	10,887	0	97,146	875	0	23,130	654	461	0	0	187,574	0	19,086	0
General	1,992,497	0	12,523	0	111,762	960	0	2,356	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,641	0
General	1,971,906	0	5,278	0	357,997	1,456	0	32,380	0	0	0	0	574,368	0	339	0
66	3,035,737	13	11,885	0	670,189	7,833	0	22,428	53	148	43,219	1,725	204,263	0	32,014	0
726	3,329,407	0	22,503	0	274,212	4,276	0	23,372	259	132	0	0	0	0	1,685	0
1	3,584,251	0	8,317	0	85,484	455	0	12,506	325	4,317	0	0	173,207	0	37,506	0
wnship, 4769	2,320,405	0	0	0	119,984	95	0	26,903	520	0	0	0	0	0	24,800	0
General	3,916,455	0	374,502	0	1,462,895	20,860	0	23,306	1,143	297	0	0	142,583	0	356	0
General	29,863,065	107	958,619	0	5,300,411	68,521	1,400	321,336	8,108	10,963	288,601	2,767	1,542,781	0	277,191	0
General	4,503,573	0	421,330	0	1,914,297	29,371	0	166,207	1,873	5,621	55,871	160	22,223	0	551	0
General	3,535,272	0	22,393	0	304,891	8,728	0	52,385	1,368	708	63,871	1,207	118,603	0	139,641	0
	75,783,288	336	2,559,394	0	13,786,448	176,667	4,637	917,210	19,839	31,890	897,108	6,237	3,560,047	0	700,186	0
	76.9%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	14.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%

2015 Taxable and PIL Levy from 2015 Return Roll

	2015	2014			
	Estimated	Estimated			
	Taxation	Taxation	Difference \$	Difference %	Wtd CVA Growth
					Net Budget Impact
Deep River Town, 4796	5,142,360	4,511,116	631,244	13.99%	
Petawawa Town, 4779	5,951,347	5,166,359	784,988	15.19%	13.73%
Admaston/Bromley Township, 4742	1,634,207	1,487,942	146,265	9.83%	3.00%
Brudenell Lyndoch Raglan Township, 4719	1,126,802	1,036,235	90,567	8.74%	0.56%
Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards Township, 4731	2,127,458	1,979,516	147,942	7.47%	0.21%
North Algona Wilberforce Township, 4769	2,497,392	2,328,904	168,488	7.23%	0.84%
Horton Township, 4746	1,930,710	1,799,306	131,404	7.30%	1.32%
Laurentian Hills Town, 4792	2,947,816	2,813,956	133,860	4.76%	2.30%
Arnprior Town, 4702	7,706,672	7,200,796	505,876	7.03%	0.85%
McNab/Braeside Township, 4701	3,888,193	3,707,615	180,578	4.87%	3.18%
Renfrew Town, 4748	7,143,996	6,807,044	336,952	4.95%	1.07%
Laurentian Valley Township, 4766	4,033,746	3,841,512	192,234	5.00%	1.44%
Greater Madawaska Township, 4706	2,402,974	2,323,155	79,819	3.44%	1.52%
Renfrew Co, 4700	38,697,262	37,406,833	1,290,429	3.45%	0.74%
Whitewater Region Township, 4758	4,252,626	4,101,508	151,118	3.68%	1.61%
Bonnechere Valley Township, 4738	2,873,989	2,842,833	31,156	1.10%	1.94%
Head Clara Maria Township, 4798	505,813	508,142	(2,329)	(0.5%)	0.92%
Madawaska Valley Township, 4726	3,658,014	3,703,377	(45,363)	(1.2%)	0.7%
					0.5%

Using Actual rates on June 29, 2015 1:49PM.

Renfrew Co, 4700

2015 Tax Impact Summary

Using Actual rates on July 6, 2015 11:33AM

Class	2014 Total Year End Taxation				2015 Estimated Total Taxation (\$)				Difference Between 2014 and 2015 Taxation							
	Upper Tier	Lower Tier	Education	Total 2014	Upper Tier	Lower Tier	Education	Total 2015	Upper Tier		Lower Tier		Education		Total Change	
									\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Taxable																
Residential	28,687,692	43,767,463	16,404,873	88,860,028	29,277,152	45,933,289	16,410,346	91,620,787	569,460	2.05%	2,145,826	4.90%	5,473	0.03%	2,740,759	3.08%
Res FAD 1	105	220	60	386	107	229	60	396	2	1.44%	8	3.84%	0	-0.58%	10	2.50%
Multi-Residential	613,402	1,217,601	180,474	2,011,477	647,744	1,339,235	186,803	2,173,782	34,342	6.60%	121,634	9.99%	6,330	3.51%	162,305	8.07%
Com. Occupied	3,117,073	5,396,845	6,860,361	15,374,279	3,142,077	5,591,024	6,854,283	15,587,384	25,003	0.80%	194,179	3.60%	-6,077	-0.09%	213,105	1.30%
Com. Exc. Land	35,012	57,676	76,876	169,564	36,034	60,867	78,482	175,382	1,022	2.92%	3,191	5.53%	1,806	2.09%	5,819	3.43%
Com. Vac. Land	59,476	94,713	133,318	287,506	62,673	103,415	139,622	305,911	3,397	5.71%	8,702	9.19%	6,304	4.73%	18,403	6.40%
Com. FAD 1	1,425	3,185	815	5,424	1,400	3,237	785	5,421	-25	-1.72%	52	1.62%	-30	-3.67%	3	-0.65%
Ind. Occupied	322,819	592,308	486,038	1,401,165	318,490	598,591	480,937	1,398,019	-4,329	-1.34%	6,283	1.05%	-5,101	-1.05%	-3	-0.22%
Ind. Exc. Land	6,265	10,119	9,473	25,857	6,168	10,324	9,365	25,849	-97	-1.54%	205	2.03%	-117	-1.23%	-8	-0.03%
Ind. Vac. Land	10,074	18,196	15,234	43,503	10,147	19,016	15,392	44,554	73	0.72%	820	4.51%	158	1.04%	1,061	2.42%
Large Ind. Occ.	180,372	323,474	218,634	722,480	177,682	326,555	216,049	720,286	-2,800	-1.49%	3,081	0.95%	-2,585	-1.18%	-2,194	-0.30%
Large Ind. Exc.	2,602	3,174	3,154	8,930	2,767	3,470	3,385	9,602	166	6.37%	296	9.31%	211	5.70%	672	7.53%
Pipelines	1,547,796	1,923,754	3,899,493	7,371,043	1,542,780	1,967,446	3,889,494	7,399,719	-5,016	-0.32%	33,692	1.75%	1	0.00%	28,676	0.39%
Farm	283,071	392,847	150,436	806,355	277,191	423,296	155,372	855,859	14,120	5.37%	30,449	7.75%	4,935	3.28%	49,504	6.14%
Managed Forests	16,637	24,764	9,514	50,906	17,157	25,886	9,617	52,661	520	3.13%	1,132	4.57%	103	1.08%	1,755	3.45%
Com Total Taxable	3,212,966	5,552,419	7,071,369	15,836,775	3,242,383	5,758,543	7,073,172	16,074,098	29,397	0.91%	206,123	3.71%	1,803	0.03%	237,324	1.50%
Ind Total Taxable	522,131	947,271	732,533	2,201,935	515,254	957,956	725,099	2,198,310	-6,677	-1.32%	10,685	1.13%	-7,434	-1.01%	-3,625	-0.16%
Total Taxable	34,863,820	53,846,331	28,448,732	117,158,903	35,519,768	56,395,879	28,459,963	120,375,611	655,948	1.88%	2,549,548	4.73%	11,217	0.04%	3,216,707	2.75%
Payment in Lieu																
Residential	562,666	499,684	285,808	1,348,178	585,912	561,694	290,773	1,438,579	23,226	4.13%	62,211	12.45%	4,985	1.74%	90,401	6.71%
Res FAD 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Multi-Residential	280,223	235,789	85,389	611,401	310,875	278,365	89,654	678,894	20,652	7.12%	42,576	18.06%	4,285	4.99%	67,493	11.04%
Com. Occupied	2,170,007	2,914,796	4,496,565	9,581,367	2,158,335	3,136,610	4,395,391	9,890,335	-11,672	-0.54%	221,814	7.61%	-101,174	-2.25%	108,988	1.14%
Com. Exc. Land	206	388	273	868	203	389	265	857	-4	-1.86%	1	0.25%	-8	-2.91%	-1	-1.25%
Com. Vac. Land	5,605	6,082	12,543	24,231	5,648	6,113	12,621	24,281	42	0.76%	31	0.51%	-23	-0.18%	51	0.21%
Com. FAD 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Ind. Occupied	2,911	2,175	4,402	9,487	2,846	2,061	4,317	9,223	-65	-2.23%	-114	-5.26%	-85	-1.92%	-264	-2.78%
Ind. Exc. Land	1,819	1,434	2,902	6,254	1,941	1,406	2,945	6,292	23	1.16%	-28	-1.96%	43	1.50%	38	0.61%
Ind. Vac. Land	830	1,891	1,115	3,837	815	1,912	1,094	3,821	-15	-1.83%	21	1.12%	-21	-1.92%	-16	-0.40%
Large Ind. Occ.	111,556	266,223	135,221	513,001	110,918	281,951	134,868	527,736	-638	-0.57%	15,728	5.91%	-352	-0.26%	14,737	2.87%
Large Ind. Exc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Pipelines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Farm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Managed Forests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Com Total P.L.	2,175,818	2,921,267	4,509,381	9,606,466	2,164,185	3,143,112	4,408,176	9,715,474	-11,633	-0.53%	221,846	7.58%	-101,205	-2.24%	109,008	1.13%
Ind Total P.L.	117,216	271,723	143,639	533,579	116,520	287,330	143,224	547,074	-696	-0.59%	15,607	5.74%	-415	-0.29%	14,496	2.72%
Total P.L.	3,145,943	3,928,463	5,024,217	12,098,622	3,177,493	4,270,702	4,931,927	12,380,021	31,550	1.00%	342,239	8.71%	-92,380	-1.84%	281,999	2.33%
Com Grand Total	5,388,804	8,473,686	11,580,750	25,443,240	5,406,569	8,901,655	11,481,348	25,789,572	17,764	0.33%	427,989	5.05%	-99,402	-0.86%	346,332	1.36%
Ind Grand Total	639,347	1,218,994	878,172	2,734,513	631,775	1,245,286	968,323	2,745,384	-7,572	-1.18%	26,282	2.16%	-7,849	-0.90%	10,671	0.40%
Grand Total	38,009,763	57,714,734	33,472,959	129,257,526	38,887,261	60,666,981	33,391,790	132,755,632	687,498	1.81%	2,891,787	5.01%	-81,179	-0.24%	3,498,108	2.77%
% of Total	28.4%	44.7%	25.9%	100.0%	29.1%	45.7%	25.2%	100.0%								

Executive Summary

Ontario has among the safest roads in North America and we at the Ministry of Transportation are committed to keeping Ontarians safe, particularly in the winter weather. Over the past four years the ministry has worked to enhance the quality of its snow clearing, adding equipment, strengthening the oversight of its independent contractors and upgrading the way truck climbing and passing lanes, and freeway ramps and shoulders are ploughed.

Following the release of an Auditor General of Ontario's Review of Winter Highway Maintenance, April 2015, the Ministry was directed by the Minister of Transportation to develop and deliver an action plan within 60 days, to respond to those recommendations. The following plan directly addresses the Auditor General's eight recommendations. The plan has two components:

1. Immediate actions that will be put in place for the 2015/16 winter season.
2. Further improvements for the delivery of winter maintenance services to be implemented in the coming years.

An internal review completed by the ministry in 2013 had identified areas where the Ministry could enhance its winter maintenance. We were pleased to note that many of the Auditor's recommended actions had also been identified and were already underway. This included the re-tendering of a maintenance contract for the Kenora area, increasing the usage of the anti-icing liquids (DLA) and adding stand-alone spreaders in both remote rural and busy urban areas. As a result, all actions in the plan for implementation in the 2015/16 winter season will be funded from within the ministry's current budget allocations.

Included in the plan are actions that:

Enhance the Information Available to Drivers:

Drivers need reliable information so that they can make their travel plans and travel safely on our roads. The 511 information website can provide useful information.

We will improve Ontario's 511 website by:

- Including the time that road conditions were observed (time stamping)
- Adding links from the website to the Road Weather Information System and COMPASS real-time camera images from across the province
- Launching a "Track My Plow" program in two contract areas, with a link from Ontario 511

We will also:

- Provide more public education about winter safe driving and winter highway maintenance, and

- Report on our performance after each winter for each of the 20 contract areas.

Improve Winter Highway Maintenance by:

- Working with our contractors to ensure they have reliable equipment and trained operators out on the highways from the time the first storm strikes until the end of winter
- Increasing the use of anti-icing liquids before winter storms, especially on the heavily travelled southern Ontario freeways
- Working with our contractors to use the right amount of salt at the right times;
- Adding more equipment in key locations, including stand-alone spreaders
- Taking steps to be more aware of changing road and weather conditions allowing contractors to respond more quickly, and
- Providing opportunities for innovation and technology.

As well, following the end of winter 2015/16, the Auditor General will be reviewing the effectiveness of these changes and providing the ministry with further observations and recommendations as necessary.

This plan is intended to improve the way winter highway maintenance is delivered and the road conditions drivers will experience in the coming winter, as well as in the future.

Vision, Mission, and Objectives

The ministry's vision is to be a world leader in moving people and goods safely, efficiently and sustainably, to support a globally competitive economy and a high quality of life.

This vision is supported through all of the ministry's divisions and branches. We have a long history of working to improve road safety through a combination of efforts including strong legislation, public education and effective highway programs including:

- recently enacting the *Making Ontario's Roads Safer Act* to make our roadways safer for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers
- establishing the highest fine range in Canada for driver's convicted of distracted driving, and
- setting the toughest penalties in Canada for street racers and drivers who put themselves and other road users at risk by driving aggressively.

It is because of this commitment to road safety that Ontario's roads ranked among the safest in North America for the past 14 years.

The ministry's key priorities related to winter highway maintenance include:

- keeping Ontario's highways as safe as possible during winter weather conditions, and
- working with contractors, the OPP and road safety groups to promote safe winter driving and deliver winter highway maintenance services.

Provincial Highways Management (PHM) Division is responsible for maintaining and repairing the King's Highways under the Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act (PTHIA), Section 33. They are the stewards of Ontario's provincial highway network, managing the engineering, construction, operations and maintenance activities performed for the network's upkeep and expansion.

The key objective of the winter maintenance program is to keep Ontario highways as safe as possible during winter weather conditions. MTO continually reviews standards, new technology, equipment and materials to optimize winter maintenance practices.

Purpose

The province, through the ministry, takes its responsibilities for winter highway maintenance very seriously.

The April 2015 Auditor General's report on winter maintenance contained eight specific recommendations on how the province could improve and enhance winter maintenance activities.

Following the release of the Auditor General's report, the Minister directed the ministry to develop an action plan within 60 days to outline how the ministry will further strengthen and improve winter maintenance and address the Auditor General's recommendations for the coming winter and in the future.

The action plan is the next step in the ministry's plan to provide Ontarians with safer winter highway conditions.

Background

The ministry has used contractors to perform winter maintenance for more than 15 years in a move designed to increase business opportunities and help strengthen the economy.

In the 1980s, about half of the winter maintenance work was performed by contractors. Beginning in 1996, the ministry began shifting all highway maintenance work, including winter maintenance, to the private sector. By July 2000, all highway maintenance work was delivered by contractors.

In 2009, the ministry began the shift to a performance-based contract model where the contractor decides how best to achieve the results the ministry requires. For example, contractors can choose to use plows and spreaders or combination units with tow-plows to achieve the contract requirements. Previously, the ministry measured the contractor's compliance with ministry-specified methods. Now the ministry monitors, oversees and verifies the results the contractors deliver.

The ministry has 20 area maintenance contracts in place to provide highway maintenance services. Five different contractors perform this work. The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway in Windsor and Highway 407 are maintained by other contractors.

Maintenance Standards

The ministry's winter highway maintenance standards and operational requirements have been developed based on extensive experience and are consistent with the best practices of highway authorities in North America. We work closely with many other road authorities across Ontario, Canada, North America and Europe to keep abreast of advances in the field of winter highway maintenance.

Plowing is required to start when about 2 cm of snow or slush begins to accumulate on the roadway. As well, spreading equipment is to be deployed within 30 minutes of the start of a winter storm. Throughout the storm, crews monitor and adjust operations as required for intensity, duration and precipitation type. Salt becomes less effective for melting ice and snow at temperatures below minus 12°C. Below minus 18°C, salt is not effective; instead sand may be used to improve friction.

A severe or long storm may delay restoring highways to the bare pavement condition, even with the best efforts of highway crews. To cover one route, one time, may take up to 10 hours on low volume highways and up to 1.6 hours on freeways.

Extreme weather may also result in the closing of highways, which is a decision made by the Ontario Provincial Police.

Details of the Action Plan

The Auditor General's report contained eight specific recommendations. For each recommendation, the action plan outlines the areas the ministry reviewed and the resulting actions, both this coming winter and in the future. Each of the ministry's actions is designed to keep Ontario's highways as safe as possible during the winter, improve the experience for drivers, and ensure contractors meet our maintenance standards.

Recommendation 1: "Having sufficient winter equipment in good working order"

Key areas of review:

- Availability of trained operators
- Route calculations and resulting numbers of equipment
- Equipment reliability
- Adjusting equipment to meet local needs
- Contractors' performance last winter

Actions already taken:

- Worked with contractors to add 105 pieces of equipment to clear passing and truck climbing lanes and freeway ramps and shoulders faster, and
- Developed an enhanced process for calculating routes and equipment levels for the new Kenora area contract.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Through discussions with all contractors, address any equipment or operator issues from last winter. The ministry will continue to hold the contractors accountable for meeting contract requirements, including equipment deployment. If required, MTO will negotiate any key equipment changes, including standalone spreaders.
- For winter 2015/16 only, offer contractors the opportunity to earn a winter readiness and performance incentive to enhance safety. Before the start of winter, all contractors will now be required to submit verification that their equipment is ready and provide a roster of dedicated operators. Through the entire winter, the ministry will assess the performance of each piece of equipment and its drivers.

In the future the ministry will:

- Work with our contractors to enhance the visibility of snowplows, improving safety for operators and the travelling public
- Establish a ministry/industry joint working group, to attract, train and retain winter equipment operators and incorporate findings into future contracts

- Review and update standards and best practices for determining routes and equipment levels
- Complete a review of the recent Kenora area contract and incorporate findings in future contracts
- Establish a joint ministry/industry equipment reliability working group and incorporate their findings into future contracts
- Review and update winter highway classes, including a review of those of other jurisdictions, and
- Strengthen internal processes to make more timely increases to service levels if needed.

Recommendation 2: “Encourage proactive use of winter materials”

Key areas of review:

- Appropriate use of road salt
- Winter material risk-sharing provisions and winter severity
- Increased use of anti-icing liquids (DLA)
- Opportunities for pre-treated and pre-wet salt
- Contractors’ performance last winter

Actions already taken:

- Re-established risk-sharing thresholds for salt and sand for current contracts, and
- Set thresholds and expected material quantities to be used including DLA for the recent Kenora area contract.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Change how thresholds for salt and sand are set, sharing costs with contractors for more severe winters
- Include education on all winter materials, including DLA, pre-treated and pre-wet salt, in patroller training for contractors’ staff
- Work with contractors on facility improvements, such as new storage tanks and sheds, at our maintenance yards
- Increase DLA usage, especially on southern Ontario freeways, by sharing costs with contractors, and
- Through discussions with contractors, address any concerns with material usage last winter.

In the future the ministry will:

- Review other material risk-sharing models for future contracts, and
- For future contracts, specify the expected quantities of salt, sand and DLA to be used each year and have contractors confirm these quantities are included in their bids.

Recommendation 3: “Awareness and Accurate Reporting of Road and Weather Conditions”

Key areas of review:

- Road Patrolling
- Technology
- Contractors’ performance last winter

Actions already taken:

- Worked with contractors to deliver patroller training for staff before last winter
- Added 20 new ministry oversight staff, to increase in-storm monitoring, and
- Included prescriptive road patrolling requirements in the recent Kenora area contract.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Through discussions with contractors, address any contract specific patrolling gaps
- Work with contractors to add dash cams in patrol vehicles
- Expand the pilot project using tablets to automate road condition reporting;
- Deliver additional, expanded patroller training to contractors’ staff
- Install four new Road Weather Information Stations (RWIS)
- Add 16 cameras to existing RWIS stations. 144 stations will have cameras
- Install more than 30 stand-alone roadside cameras at strategic locations
- Install a pilot weather warning system on Highway 401 in Northumberland County, and
- Exchange RWIS data with municipalities and Environment Canada.

In the future the ministry will:

- Consider models that include MTO patrolling and directing operations for future contracts
- Review the effectiveness of the pilot weather warning system for potential applications in other areas
- Review the results of tablet road reporting pilot and consider full implementation, and
- Complete the provincial RWIS network, to a total of about 155 stations.

Recommendation 4: “Improved reliability of Ontario 511 website”

Key areas of review:

- Timeliness and accuracy of information for travellers
- Technology
- Standardize public feedback process

Actions already taken:

- Completed review of existing Ontario 511 site relative to other jurisdictions.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Deliver patroller training, stressing the importance of reporting changing road and weather conditions
- Time-stamp road condition information with “condition observed at”
- Add link to both Road Weather Information System and COMPASS cameras, allowing the public to view “real time” road conditions on the website
- A “Track My Plow” program planned for the Owen Sound and Simcoe County areas with a link from the Ontario 511 website
- Expand the pilot project using tablets to automate road condition reporting
- Increase publicity on the availability of the toll free 1-844-507-1427 number, and the winterhighways@ontario.ca and routesdhiver@ontario.ca email addresses, the @Ontario511 Twitter feed, and
- Better monitoring of winter highway maintenance trends and issues to identify and take corrective action as needed.

In the future the ministry will:

- Launch a new Ontario 511 website for winter 2017/18 with the ability to support new technology and applications, and
- Add more roadside camera images and investigate crowd sourcing of road condition information.

Recommendation 5: “Best-Value Procurement of Maintenance Contracts”

Key areas of review:

- Recent Kenora area contract – based on procurement process used for the ministry’s design-build construction projects
- Opportunity for lessons learned and input from industry stakeholders.

Actions already taken:

- Used best value procurement process for the new Kenora area contract instead of lowest bid.

In the future the ministry will:

- Complete a review of the Kenora area contract procurement process and discuss findings with industry stakeholders, and
- Organize a town hall meeting with all past/potential maintenance contractors to discuss future contract models, including procurement.

Recommendation 6: “Oversight of contractor performance”

Key area of review:

- Improved and more consistent oversight.

Actions already taken:

- Before winter 2014/15, added 20 ministry oversight staff (one per contract area) and delivered new training, and
- Made other ministry organizational changes, including adding five Regional Maintenance Engineers and a Maintenance Director.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Review and update oversight process with the assistance of independent expert, and
- Deliver training on the updated process to ministry staff.

In the future the ministry will:

- Create a centralized web-based database by winter 2016/17 to track the outcome of all oversight audits.

Recommendation 7: “Accurate and meaningful reporting of bare pavement performance standard”

Key areas of review:

- How to make bare pavement reporting more meaningful to the public
- How to ensure the bare pavement standard is appropriate
- Accuracy of the data
- Add a website link to a winter severity index.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Include bare pavement reporting in patroller training for both contractors and MTO staff
- Deliver bare pavement administration training to MTO staff, and
- Complete a review of the work of other jurisdictions on bare pavement performance measures and compare to Ontario’s standards.

In the future the ministry will:

- Work with the University of Waterloo to develop and calibrate a winter severity index for each contract area, allowing for a comparison to the bare pavement results, and
- Display bare pavement results and a winter severity index for each contract area following winter 2015/16.

Recommendation 8: Monitor and assess remedial measures

Key areas of review:

- How to further enhance winter maintenance
- Contractors’ performance last winter
- Contractors’ performance during winter 2015/16

Actions already taken:

- Made improvements in many areas of winter highway maintenance based on recommendations of the internal review completed in 2013, and
- Tendered enhanced contract for the Kenora area.

By Winter 2015/16 the ministry will:

- Complete contractor discussions to address any outstanding concerns from the previous winter, and
- Work with the OPP, the Ontario Road Builders Association (ORBA) and road safety groups to deliver an expanded public winter maintenance and safe driving campaign.

In the future the ministry will:

- Update the ministry's quality standards and best practices, including highway classes, by winter 2016/17
- Develop additional winter highway maintenance performance measures by winter 2016/17, and
- Begin development of other highway maintenance contract models, including a ministry-directed contract model, in consultation with ORBA.

Acceptance & Sign-Off

Recommended By:	Kevin Bentley <i>Director, Maintenance</i> <i>Provincial Highways Management Division</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Recommended By:	Gerry Chaput <i>Assistant Deputy Minister</i> <i>Provincial Highways Management Division</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

Improving Winter Highway Maintenance

June 26, 2015 12:15 P.M.

Ontario roads consistently rank among the safest in North America. The province is committed to road safety and ensuring appropriate winter highway maintenance standards are met.

In April 2015, the ministry issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new Kenora area highway maintenance contract. Issuing a RFP provided an opportunity to make some enhancements to the maintenance contract, including clarifying performance requirements and being more prescriptive about winter equipment levels, winter materials and winter road patrolling.

Some key changes to the new Kenora-area highway maintenance contract include:

- An enhanced process for determining the length of each plow's route and the equipment levels needed to maintain all the highways
- Identifying expected annual quantities of salt and sand to be used to maintain the highways and requiring a reimbursement to the ministry if salt/sand used is less than 80 per cent of the historic average
- Specifying an annual quantity for anti-icing liquid and the application requirements
- A requirement for minimum road patrolling frequencies consistent with the ministry's best practices. The contractor is also required to increase frequency as necessary, including when road and weather conditions worsen
- A revised requirement for more winter equipment availability during the fall and spring transition periods outside of the winter season.

The contract was awarded based on both the proposal's score and price.

Emcon Services Inc.

Emcon Services Inc. has been selected as the new service provider for the Kenora area and will begin operations on Sept. 1, 2015.

Emcon Services is a company that specializes in highway maintenance, paving, bridge construction, and equipment hauling throughout Western Canada. The company currently provides maintenance services for five of 28 contract areas in British Columbia and has been operating for the past 27 years.

In addition to improvements in the new contract, the company will use new and innovative equipment including equipping some patroller trucks with anti-icing liquid tanks and some new

underbody plows that can better remove compacted snow and ice, restoring bare pavement faster.

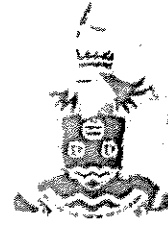
The new maintenance contract covers summer and winter maintenance services, and minor repair work for 1,624 kilometres of highways in the Kenora area. The contract also includes the maintenance of 950 kilometres of roads in unincorporated areas for Local Road Boards.

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The Corporation of the Township of Hamilton

REPORT TO: Members of Council
REPORT No: CAO 2015-03
SUBMITTED BY: Arthur Anderson, CAO
DATE: July 23, 2015



Subject: Bill 100 - officially titled the "Supporting Ontario Trails Act".

RECOMMENDATION: Requires Action ☒ For Information Only ☐ In Camera Only

It is recommended that Council:

1. Receive the report on Bill 100 – officially titled the "Supporting Ontario Trails Act."
2. Pass a resolution in overall support of the Bill and recommending concerns of stakeholders, such as ROMA and OFA with respect to liability and trespassing, be incorporated into the Bill.

ORIGIN/BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Council will recall receiving information on Bill 100 is officially titled the "Supporting Ontario Trails Act".

Staff have reviewed the proposed legislation and have the following highlights to report.

- Discussion on legislation has been undertaken for some years. Various stakeholder / groups who have been seeking legislation include private landowners, agriculture, trails groups, various levels of government, and others.
- Issues raised by stakeholders have included:
 - liability concerns
 - Trespass
 - Protection of property
 - Securing land for trails
 - Financial concerns (taxation, non-profit status)
 - Training
 - Policy development
 - User conflicts
- A copy of the OFA and ROMA submission on the Bill has been attached to this report for reference.
- Bill 100 is the culmination of input from stakeholder groups and the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy which began in 2005.
- Changes to the regulations appear to improve the ability of trails operators to more independently maintain trails while retaining the requirement that trails maintenance work is done in a manner that protects the environment.

- Changes to various regulations, changes to definitions, improved ability to enforce Regulations, and increased fines strengthen the ability of trails operators to manage their trails.
- Changes under the Act (and related legislation) offer improved ability to develop agreements with private landowners for the establishment of trails under easements.
- Duty of care appears to be relieved to varying degrees for non-profits.

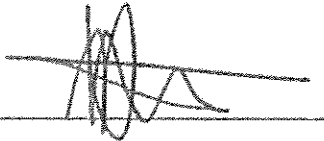
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No specific financial issues are identified for the Township, although fencing, liability and signage issues may need to be addressed in the future, as more trails are developed and used in the community.

CONCLUSIONS:

It is recommended that Council acknowledges receipt of CAO Report 2015-03 regarding Bill 100 - officially titled the "Supporting Ontario Trails Act".

That Council Pass a resolution in overall support of the Bill and recommending concerns of stakeholders, such as ROMA and OFA with respect to liability and trespassing, be incorporated into the Bill.



Prepared by: Arthur Anderson

Attachments

Resolution Re: Bill 100 Supporting the Ontario Trails Act

WHEREAS Bill 100, Supporting the Ontario Trails Act has the following purposes:

1. To increase awareness about and encourage the use of trails.
2. To enhance trails and the trail experience.
3. To protect trails for today's generation and future generations.
4. To recognize the contribution that trails make to quality of life in Ontario.

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario has had input into this Bill looking out for municipal interests

AND WHEREAS the Bill includes stronger penalties for property damage and trespassing to discourage such actions

AND WHEREAS the Bill will be asking for best practices to be created and will have participation in these practices be voluntary THEREFORE not creating undue hardship on the municipality

AND WHEREAS this is complementary to the Hamilton Township Strategic Plan Health/Recreation/Lifestyle Goal: "To promote healthy lifestyles and to meet the broad range of community needs."

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Hamilton supports the overall direction Bill 100 Supporting the Ontario Trails Act

AND FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Hamilton encourages the government to continue to work with stakeholder such as ROMA and OFA to enhance the liability and trespass provisions of the Bill

AND FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Hamilton forward this resolution for consideration by all other municipalities in the Province of Ontario.

Department of Development &
Property



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-3204
FAX: 613-735-2492
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

June 18, 2015

RECEIVED
JUN 23 2015

8

Melinda Reith, CAO/Clerk
Township of Head, Clara & Maria
15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe ON K0J 2K0

Dear Melinda:

Re: Species At Risk and Planning

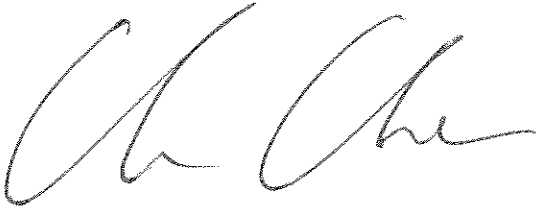
The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) requires that decisions on *Planning Act* applications protect species at risk (SAR) regulated habitat or habitat as approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). In December of 2014 the Pembroke District of MNRF advised the County that the SAR flagging tool, which we had been using to trigger circulation/communication with the MNRF, will no longer be supported by the Ministry. The County was directed to the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC), a Provincial database, as the source of information available to assist in planning decisions regarding SAR.

Enclosed is a letter from MNRF dated May 22, 2015 confirming that occurrence records contained in the NHIC database are "not the delineation of SAR habitat and do not require Renfrew County to consult with Pembroke District". The information in the NHIC data is neither regulated habitat nor habitat approved by the Province and therefore does not constitute protected habitat under the PPS.

The Province has recommended in previous correspondence that, to ensure decision makers have sufficient information, *Planning Act* applications be supported by an appropriate level of ecological site assessment to determine the potential for significant SAR habitat. The County will generally not be recommending or requiring targeted ecological site evaluations for SAR. The County may request ecological site assessments in consultation with the local municipality on larger development projects such as plans of subdivision or commercial/recreational projects.

Effective Friday, June 19, 2015 the flagging tool will be removed from the County of Renfrew GIS website. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Cheesman', written in a cursive style.

Charles Cheesman, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning Services
ccheesman@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

Attach.

MAY 27 2015

Ministry of
Natural Resources and Forestry
31 Riverside Drive
Pembroke, ON
K8A 8R6

Ministère des
Richesses naturelles et des Forêts
Telephone: (613) 732-3661
Facsimile: (613) 732-2972



May 22, 2015

Mr. Charles Cheesman
Manager of Planning Services
County of Renfrew
9 International Drive
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Dear Mr. Cheesman:

Re: Species At Risk and Planning

Thank you for your letter of April 21, 2015 regarding species at risk information and planning. I am pleased to provide the following.

The Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry maintains the Province's central repository for Species At Risk (SAR) data, and this includes but is not limited to, records contributed by local District offices. Pembroke District SAR records have been transferred to the NHIC and made available through data sharing agreements.

Occurrence records are not the delineation of SAR habitat and do not require Renfrew County to consult with Pembroke District. It is one source of information available to assist local planning decisions.

In regard to the use of this information to inform *Planning Act* decisions, please refer to correspondence sent to Paul Moreau, Director of Development & Property dated March 20, 2014 (attached hereto). The letter outlines the roles and responsibilities of the County and Province under the Municipal Plan Review (MPR) framework.

Further to the above, I've had recent conversations with my Manager counterpart (Mike Elms) at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing – Kingston. MAH has offered to provide an information/training session to County and lower-tier planning staff outlining the roles, responsibilities, and differences between the One-Window and Municipal Plan Review (MPR) process. MAH is prepared to come to Pembroke to deliver the session. To make arrangements, please contact Damien Schaefer, Planner-MAH, at 613-545-2121; or Mike Elms, Manager of Planning-MAH, at 613-545-2132.

Sincerely,

G. Bruce Mighton
A/District Manager

Municipal Services Office	Bureau des services aux municipalités
Eastern Region	Région de l'Est
8 Estate Lane	8 Estate Lane
Rockwood House	Maison Rockwood
Kingston ON K7M 9A8	Kingston ON K7M 9A8
Phone: 613 545-2100	Téléphone : 613 545-2100
Fax: 613 548-6822	Télécopieur : 613 548-6822
Toll Free: 1 800 267-9438	Sans frais : 1 800-267-9438

March 20, 2014

Mr. Paul Moreau
Director of Development & Property
County of Renfrew
9 International Dr.
Pembroke ON K8A 6W5

Dear Mr. Moreau: *Paul*

RE: Efforts to address endangered and threatened species in municipal planning

Following your meeting in December with staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), and further to the meeting with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing (MMAH) in January regarding the draft official plan, I have been working closely with my MNR colleagues to respond to those items raised in your correspondence (enclosed) regarding the involvement of MNR-Pembroke District in specific *Planning Act* applications. I hope that this letter assists in clarifying some general roles and responsibilities related to the provincial land use planning system.

Municipal Plan Review (MPR) is the framework that the Province uses to describe situations where municipalities like the County of Renfrew have been delegated/assigned the provincial approval authority for local planning applications (e.g. severances). With approval authority, the County is responsible for ensuring its decisions on planning applications reflect local planning instruments, and are consistent with policies contained in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). To assist in meeting its responsibilities, the County needs to ensure sufficient information is obtained to be able to make an informed planning decision. For instance, where mapping or a description of significant habitat of endangered and threatened species is not available, the Province recommends that an official plan contain policies requiring an appropriate level of ecological site assessment. Where an official plan is silent, the province still recommends that the County require site assessment to ensure sufficient information is obtained in advance of making local planning decisions.

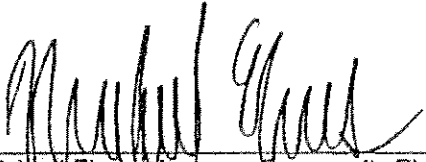
The province's role under MPR is to support the delegated/assigned approval authority/the County when it requests technical advice. The approval authority can also seek provincial comment on specific applications including the acceptability of ecological site assessments or other background studies (e.g. environmental impact studies). Requests for provincial comments and or position, similar to what the County is seeking in item #3 of your correspondence (Dec 10, 2013), should be directed to MMAH to determine if provincial involvement is appropriate and if so, which of the Ministries will be asked by MMAH to be involved.

Regarding technical advice under MPR, the County can request the following from MNR: interpretation of endangered and threatened (E/T) species occurrence details, information on habitat regulations, recommended methodology for assessment of habitat and advice on potential options to avoid impacts to habitat and E/T. To assist in gaining this information, it is recommended that requests for technical advice from MNR include specific questions rather than a general inquiry about E/T concerns.

Please note that while the proponent is responsible for delineating *significant habitat* of endangered and threatened species at a site-specific level, MNR continues to be responsible for the approval of the extent of significant habitat. As such, it is requested that the actual delineation of significant habitat be provided directly to MNR for its approval. This approval will only speak to whether the habitat has been appropriately delineated and not to the acceptability of the planning application.

I hope this letter helps to clarify roles and responsibilities of the Province and the County within the context of Municipal Plan Review (MPR). If you wish to discuss this further, please let me know and we can make arrangements to set up a meeting or teleconference amongst staff to continue communication and mutual support in this regard.

Thank you,



Michael Elms, Manager, Community Planning & Development
Municipal Services Office - Eastern



Rick Watchorn, District Manager
Ministry of Natural Resource – Pembroke District

encl

c. Kathy Woeller, Land Use Planning Supervisor, MNR – Southern Region



105 Elgin St. West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8

tel 613 623 4231
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arnprior@arnprior.ca
www.arnprior.ca

9

Memo

To: Municipal Town Clerk

From: Town of Arnprior

Date: July 13, 2015

**Subject: Certified Resolution – Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association –
Communication Matters**

Please find attached a copy of the resolution number 200-15 passed by Town of Arnprior Council at their July 13, 2015 Council Meeting.

Please circulate this to your members of Council, CAO, and Fire Chief.

Thank you for your assistance,

Kaila Zamojski

Secretariat Services Coordinator

Town of Arnprior

105 Elgin Street W.

Arnprior ON K7S 0A8

(613)623-4231 ext. 1818

kzamojski@arnprior.ca

www.arnprior.ca

[@arnprior](#)

Note: This resolution has been circulated by email.