Dear Ministers:

Subject: Overview of Health System Transformation – A Region of Peel Perspective

I am writing to advise that Regional Council approved the following resolution at its meeting held on Thursday, April 25, 2019:

Resolution 2019-375:

Whereas the Provincial Government has made certain announcements relating to Public Health and the Paramedic Services system;

And whereas, the announcements do not contain sufficient detail to be able to provide commentary;

And whereas, the announcements have a significant impact on the delivery of public health services and Paramedic Services;

And whereas, the role of the municipalities is not clear in the announcement;

And whereas, funding has not been committed, neither quantum or source;

Therefore be it resolved, that this matter be referred to the Health Services Integration Committee to monitor the issue and determine the role of the Region throughout the roll out of the plans and work with staff to report back to Council on details of the proposal and projected impacts of change together with regular staff communication to Regional Council on emerging issues;

And further, that recommendations of the Health System Integration Committee and Regional Council be referred to the Government Relations Committee for further advocacy;

The Regional Municipality of Peel
And further, that the Chair arrange a round table meeting with the local MPP's to provide information on the current structure and funding model and the potential impacts of change to service delivery with changes to the structure and funding model. Other invitees to the round table include the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Health Services section, the Commissioner of Health Services, the CAO, the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief of Paramedic Services and Chair of Health System Integration Committee;

And further, that the Chair and Mayors work with MARCO/LUMCO and AMO to demonstrate the benefits of public health and Paramedic Services remaining fully integrated with other Region of Peel functions;

And further, that the Province be requested to engage municipalities and existing Boards of Health before proceeding with any changes to the existing structure and funding;

And further, that this resolution be provided to the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all municipalities, AMO, Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, and MARCO/LUMCO.

Yours Truly,

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer

Copied:
Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Michelle Mackenzie, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, The Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Karen Redman, Regional Chair, Waterloo Region, Chair of MARCO
Cam Guthrie, Mayor, City of Guelph, Chair of LUMCO
All Ontario Municipalities

The Regional Municipality of Peel

10 Peel Centre Dr., Suite A, Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  Tel: 905-791-7800  Web: peelregion.ca
RESOLUTION

6.1 Single-Use Plastic Straws

WHEREAS section 8(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 requires that the powers of a municipality are to be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality’s ability to respond to municipal issues; and

WHEREAS section 8(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 permits the municipality to pass by-laws under section 10 and 11 which: regulates or prohibits the matter; and to require persons to do things respecting the matter; and

WHEREAS section 10(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 permits single-tier municipalities to pass by-laws respecting the following matters: economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality, including respecting climate change; and

WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Brantford wishes to consider regulating or prohibiting the sale and distribution of single-use plastic straws in the municipality in order to reduce: (a) littering; (b) the impact on landfills; (c) the impact on sewers; and (d) the contribution to climate change;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Staff BE DIRECTED to:

1. Analyze the impacts of single-use plastic straws in the municipality; and how to reduce those impacts through the regulation and prohibition of single-use plastic straws;
2. Consult with the public and impacted industries, including but not limited to:
   i. Retail Stores;
   ii. Restaurants;
   iii. Manufacturers and Distributors, as applicable;
   iv. Chamber of Commerce;
   v. Brantford Accessibility Advisory Committee; and
   vi. Brantford Environmental Policy Advisory Committee;

3. THAT City Staff REPORT BACK to Council on the results of their analysis and consultation; along with a process, including timelines, to:
   a. In the first phase, regulate the sale and distribution of single-use plastic straws, taking into account existing inventories and the sourcing of alternate suppliers; and
   b. In the final phase, prohibit the sale and distribution of single-use plastics straws.

4. THAT a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to the MP and MPP Brantford-Brant, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and other municipalities in the Province of Ontario.
The Town of the Blue Mountains  
Thornbury, Ontario  N0H2P0

To:  Mr Reg Russwurm - Director Infrastructure & Public Works
cc:  Mayor Soever and Members of Council

From: Ilene & Robert Crossan - Drakes Path, Town of the Blue Mountains

Re: Upgrading of Services and Opening Access to Drakes Path

As an introduction, Ilene and I reside at Drakes Path and also own adjacent lot . We have been residents and owners since 1962, before the street was put in, having access through a Right of Way. When the new street was added, Ilene asked the township to name the street after Cliff Drake who was the farmer/landowner at the time.

We have been aware for some time now that the street will have full water and waste water services available in the near future. We appreciate that this is part of the overall plan for the area and will bring the service level up to accepted standards.

The concern we are now facing is the information from various sources that there is a discussion on opening the south end of Drakes Path to through traffic and vehicular access to the village core. This would have a major effect on the environment of our street and quite possibly reduce assessment values on the executive sized lots on the street.

As an alternative, we would ask that the following ideas be investigated:

1. That Wintergreen Place be extended to County Road 19 to join up with Kandahar Lane, making a through connection from Tyrolian Village to the Village Core and vica versa. On walking the area, it would seem that this extension to the intersection at CR 19 would have the usual configuration controlled by stop signs and likely eventually, traffic lights. There does not seem to be space available for roundabout treatment. This entryway into both Tyrolian and the Village Core would provide easy and quick access to both areas by fire and EMS vehicles from the stations being already in that street area and would provide quicker vehicle egress to CR 19 and points west from the Village Core parking areas.

2. If the routing outlined above has merit, it would help to maintain the value of the properties on Drakes Path. With the addition of full services to the street, the larger sized lots, and hopefully limited access to vehicle traffic, the undeveloped and/or underdeveloped lots will provide an opportunity to market the area for larger Market Valued Assessed housing.

In addition, the application of a more permanent road surface, required in the sometimes muddy shoulder seasons, would also encourage the already increasing use of the street by pedestrians and cyclists. As the street would still be a closed end street, with light vehicular traffic, further upgrading such as curbing, sidewalks, streetlights etc. would not seem necessary.

In these planning stages, we appreciate the opportunity to have input towards the final decisions for the upgrade and the future vision for our street in the surrounding community.

Yours sincerely,  Ilene Crossan  
Robert Crossan
To Whom It Concerns,

I am writing out of concern for the excessive, obnoxious, and unnecessary gunfire around our home. There are people who live here for peace and appreciation of nature, and I include my family of 5 in this category, and then it seems there are those who think that this is the place to practice the hobbies that no place else will tolerate because they figure there are fewer people in this area to bother. Just because this area is not densely populated, it does not mean that those of us who do live here should have to put up with this.

The most pressing issue in this regard is the black powder shooting. This type of gunfire is especially startling due to the erratic and unpredictable rate and frequency of shots, and the subsonic, cannon-like quality of the sound. It is disturbing and impossible to ignore, as it can not only be heard, but also felt. Even with windows closed, which I shouldn’t be forced to do in my home, the subsonic frequencies carry through walls, giving us no relief from the disturbance.

I have my concerns about the efficacy of the town in dealing with this, as I recall that the application for a zoning variance for this type of shooting competition had been denied last year, and yet it seems to be occurring in spite of this. I hope that this matter is treated with the seriousness it deserves, and that you do the utmost to enforce the by-laws that are in place to protect us from this type of disturbance.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Clayton

Gibraltar
May 2, 2019

Ian Sinclair
Ravenna, Ontario
N0H 2E0

To: The Town of the Blue Mountains
From: Ian Sinclair

Subject: Letter of Support to Michael Storey Karen Kelly Deputation

Good Day,

Gibraltar is a small community that has one of its key goals being "peace of mind."

Within this context, is harmony and a quiet environment.

The **Cowboy Mounted, Black Powder Shooting** DOES NOT FIT the profile.

Via this letter, I would like to add my name to the list that opposes this event.

Regards,

Ian Sinclair
April 25th, 2019

To: Clerk/CAO and Members of Council for the Municipalities of:
Arran-Elderslie, Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, Meaford, Grey Highlands, Owen Sound, South Bruce Peninsula, and Blue Mountains

From: Cathy Little, Chair

Re: Effects on Municipalities due to Legislative Changes and Reductions in Provincial Funding to Conservation Authorities

As local leaders and regulators, municipalities and Conservation Authorities (CAs) know that living beside a river, lake, breathtaking shoreline or escarpment is a privilege and with it comes responsibility. Flooding and erosion are costly and dangerous to the entire community, necessitating responsible development by land owners and proactive natural resources stewardship.

Recent deep cuts to provincial natural hazards transfer payments to Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities are extremely disappointing. Conservation authorities’ flood risk reduction work protects public health and safety, working hand in hand with municipal emergency management, planning staff and others. Furthermore, Climate Change threats are only increasing year by year, and funding cuts could let down our guard right when you need it the most. Flooding threatens lives, homes and livelihoods. It costs all levels of government millions of dollars each year in emergency management costs and damages – and that’s with a long-standing flood management program that is backed by strong watershed planning and programs.

The government was very clear about its mission to reduce the deficit and create efficiencies, yet it is surprising that the Province would reduce Grey Sauble Conservation Authority’s (GSCA’s) funding abruptly by about 50% or $35,000. Since 1996, the Provincial funding has been stagnant at about $72,000 forcing GSCA to continually streamline to the point of driving flood-related activities down to about $140,000 or 4.5% of GSCA’s operating budget. If this new shortfall is downloaded to municipalities, the 2019 municipal levy change would increase from 3.97% to 6.57%.

Rural areas with smaller CAs will suffer disproportionately with these cuts. At GSCA, the Water Management Department is one person and it is not feasible to cut staff. Although GSCA owns over 10% of CA-owned forests and almost 8% of CA-owned lands, with less than 1% of provincial CA funding and population we have limited ability to generate revenues.
Other provincial supports for natural resource programs are also affected, including the elimination of the provincial 50 Million Tree planting subsidy, and funding for staff in water quality and stewardship programs.

The creation of Conservation Authorities recognized that water does not stop flowing at political boundaries. Members of the Board of Directors are appointed by all involved municipalities, and this integrated watershed management governance provides an essential multi-municipality perspective on which program investments will most benefit our watershed. Recent provincially-posted legislative changes on the Environmental Registry of Ontario propose to also limit the powers of CA boards to those programs related to Natural Hazards, Conservation-owned Lands and drinking water protection. This would mean that all other programs would need individual agreements and accounting with each municipality that participates, consuming resources that should be used for delivery, and undermining the mandate, premise and value of multi-municipality conservation authorities.

GSCA requests that Council consider these concerns, and respectfully requests that a Motion of support for the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (and any other CAs in its municipal jurisdiction) could include content such as the following:

WHEREAS Climate Change and flooding are mounting threats in Grey and Bruce Counties, and Conservation Authorities provide services including real-time flood forecasting, emergency planning support and water-related studies, and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the total provincial Section 39 Transfer Payment to all of Ontario’s conservation authorities for Flood and Erosion Control and Natural Hazard Prevention was reduced from $50-million to $7.4-million, and Grey Sauble Conservation Authority’s share of this payment has remained static at $71,779 since 1996, and

WHEREAS the recent Provincial Budget has further reduced Grey Sauble Conservation Authority’s Section 39 Transfer Payments from $71,779 to $37,055 or about 50%, and

WHEREAS this will affect emergency management supports and municipal planning, zoning and development input activities provided by Grey Sauble Conservation Authority, and

WHEREAS there is a provincial role in province-wide flood risks reduction and emergency management, and investments in prevention can potentially avoid or reduce losses to life and property and major expenditures during and after an emergency, and
WHEREAS the Ontario Government’s Proposal on the Environmental Registry of Ontario 013-5018 on Modernizing Conservation Authority (CA) Operations proposes to define a limited list of the core mandatory programs and services for CAs,

THAT this municipality recognizes the value provided by the work of the CA, and supports the current multi-municipality governance model for the selection of programs, and the current municipal levying approach that includes annual input from Municipal Councils, and

THAT this municipality recommends that the province acknowledge a strong and positive provincial role in flood risk reduction programs and reinstate funding to CAs, and

THAT Municipal Staff be directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (Proposal 013-5018) prior to the May 21st deadline, to AMO, and to Minister Bill Walker.

For more information, or to request an in-person overview for council or staff, please contact me or Sonya Skinner at 519 376 3076 or s.skinner@greysauble.on.ca.

Sincerely,

Cathy Little, Chair

cc: Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors
   Arran-Elderslie – Ryan Greig
   Chatsworth – Terry Mackey
   Georgian Bluffs – Dwight Burley and Sue Carleton
   Meaford – Harley Greenfield and Paul Vickers
   Grey Highlands – Cathy Little
   Owen Sound – Marion Koepke and Scott Greig
   South Bruce Peninsula – Paul McKenzie
   Blue Mountains – Andrea Matrosovs
   Minister Bill Walker, Local MPP

Attach.
Information Note

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES AND REDUCTION IN PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES

Issue/Question:
What are the implications for the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and our member municipalities of the recent reduction in conservation authority program funding?

Key Messages:
• What is Happening?
  o The provincial government halved the already meagre funding for warning people about flooding and protecting property from damage, while stating that it is re-focusing conservation authorities on this core mandate; ($35K)
    - Smaller CAs will suffer disproportionately with these cuts. GSCA’s department is one person and it is not feasible to cut staff.
  o The provincial 50 Million Tree planting subsidy is eliminated. This helped landowners plant trees, which store carbon, slow runoff and clean water (reduction of $75K in benefits to landowners, variable by year);
  o Provincial funding for two summer staff to assist with water quality monitoring and stewardship has been eliminated; ($11K)
  o Provincial funding which supported looking at the health of south Georgian Bay shorelines has been eliminated; ($30K per year for 2 years)
    - There is 155km of Georgian Bay and Lake Huron Shoreline in the GSCA jurisdiction, and GSCA also provides services for 355km of shorelines in North Bruce Peninsula.
  o Proposed changes will limit the ability of the municipally-appointed Board of Directors to levy member municipalities to support watershed-wide programs.
  o It is unclear if further cuts are coming.

• Why does it Matter?
  o It is surprising to cut the support for severe weather/climate change agency at the time it is most needed. The threats from Climate Change are increasing year by year, and funding cuts suggest letting down our guard right when we are potentially under attack.
  o Municipalities and the public need Conservation Authorities to be vigilantly doing the important, skilled yet often unseen work to keep you and your family safe.
- $35K of Provincial support for core flood forecasting, dam operations and natural hazard protection are being downloaded to municipalities.

- The costs of avoiding or minimizing one modest municipal and provincial emergency management operation would fund proactive flood planning and prediction for years and reduce the insurance premiums paid by homeowners.

- If funding is re-directed from other programs, education, recreational dams, stewardship, water quality testing or more could be impacted.
  - GSCA owns over 10% of CA-owned forests, almost 8% of lands, however, has limited ability to generate revenues with less than 1% of population and provincial funding.

- The quality of life that you enjoy in Ontario is at risk, including the ability of Grey Sauble Conservation Authority to advocate for balance and keep this place special for generations to come.

- Conservation Authorities provide consistent and fair input to decision-makers, supporting residential and commercial development.

- What Conservation Authorities do is unique, worthwhile, and is not done by others. Threats to the health of the watershed, forests, wetlands and shorelines under GSCA’s jurisdiction presents real and existential threats to the lives, lifestyles and livelihoods of the region’s residents. Protection and preservation of the region’s natural resources is real and consequential.

- The creation of Conservation Authorities recognized that water does not respect political boundaries. The Board of Directors members represent all involved municipalities. Removing this integrated watershed management governance will undermine the mandate, premise and value of conservation authorities.

**We Need your Support to Keep Doing this Important Work**
- Talk to or write our local MPP and/or contact the Premier
- Submit your input online to the Environmental Registry of Ontario consultations #013-5018 and #013-4992
- Communicate these challenges broadly when out in the community

**For More Information:**
Cathy Little, Chair, Board of Directors - councillorlittle@greyhighlands.ca
Sonya Skinner, CAO – 519 376 3076 or s.skinner@greysauble.on.ca

Updated: April 26, 2019
May 3, 2019

Mr. Alar Soever, Mayor, Town of the Blue Mountains
Council Members, Town of the Blue Mountains
Thornbury, ON

Mayor and Council:

Because the Town staff say it is so, doesn’t necessarily mean it is so. That is the job of the Council.

In relation to the Short-Term Accommodation (STA) Staff report, the Town staff say it is too late to go back to what the by law says in relation to the sleeping rules. Sleeping areas are bedrooms and one other area, like a family room with a “pull out” couch that constituted the +2 model as approved as part of the OMB ruling. The illegally “adopted” +4 model that the staff agreed to privately with the Short-Term license holders without public consultation and without permission by Council, does not mean it has to stay that way. Who on staff oversaw this process which clearly violated the by-law? What was their consequences for this violation? The excuse that the Town would be sued is a problem that the Staff have created for the Council, not the Residents. The by-law clearly stated the +2 model, and as the Staff have clearly ignored the law and allowed the +4 model to happen, it doesn't mean that the Council cannot say that at the time of the next license renewals of those illegally approved STA’s, their licenses will go back to reflect the number of bedrooms and the +2 model. Additionally, the excuse that, should those STA’s with the illegal +4 model not have a clear record, they would be put back to the +2 model is not punishment as should they have a bad record they should not be licensed at all.

In relation to the Responsible Person (RP), we think it is absolutely wrong that should a resident be in the position that they feel the best way to solve an issue at a STA rental, no matter the time, but especially in the night hours, is to call the OPP, then it is up to the OPP to prove to By Law that they did the right thing before demerit points can be issued is a ridiculous burden to place on our OPP. If the OPP writes a ticket for an STA renter, there should be demerit points, no matter whether the RP was called or not. Leaving it up to the “hired” staff of the STA license holder means that a good number of infractions will possibly be buried and, therefore, receive no demerit points. It could also mean that a complaint recorded week after week by a Resident to the OPP would never be recorded against the license. It also means that if a complaint is recorded against the same STA week after week and the RP handles the complaint week after week, where does the Resident get a solution... the OPP would be the solution. The Resident, it seems, is to be considered the bad person in the scenario with the RP and the By-law call in system. It should be up to the Resident who to call...i.e. late night noise/partying—OPP can be called; garbage, parking, etc. then the RP or By-law can be called. It should not be up to the STA owners to regulate how the calls should be made by the Residents.

At one Town Council Meeting, a member of the STA community lashed out at the Residents asking why they are so focused on the licensed STA’s and not the illegal ones. The Residents have been fighting illegal STA’s for years...hence the STA bylaw. However, new illegal STA’s which the legal STA’s are aware of, should be stopped and either banned from running as an STA for a set period of time or, in the alternative, never be licensed. The current STA owners cannot blame the Residents for not reporting illegal STA’s...they too have to step up and fight for legal STA’s...and for their businesses.
One last observation is that we believe the Town should be overseeing their STA’s and the infractions/complaints filed, not the Courts of Ontario, which will prove to be costly and create extended time constraints before anything is ruled upon, allowing the STA to continue to operate.

We have been engaged with the STA issue for more than ten years, and it seems that there is a bias towards satisfying the STA owners at the expense of the rights of the Residents of the Town of the Blue Mountains. The ruling by the OMB clearly reinforced the right of the Town to restrict the operations of these entities, yet during the implementation of the licensing regime, “errors” seem to be made in licensing, for example:

- +2 model became +4
- Inadequate parking
- Zoning violations
- Proximity to other STA violations
- Licensing STA’s when clearly stated not to be licensed
- Inadequate screening of applications containing suspect affidavits or only containing affidavits.

These constant errors and the favoritism shown to the STA owners erodes the Residents confidence in the ability of the Town staff and By-law to actually enforce the Short-Term Accommodation By-Law effectively and fairly.

We respectfully ask the Council to not agree to the Staff Report because it may be sued by the operators due to the Staff’s failure to follow the law. We respectfully ask the Council to consider a more favourable use of the RP vs. the OPP and the issuing of demerit points. We respectfully ask Council to go after illegal STA’s, charge them and close them down, whether it be for a fixed period like five years or for good. We respectfully request Council to reconsider the use of the Ontario Courts for processing of charges, and therefore demerit points on a STA. Lastly, we respectfully ask Council to have the STA by-law enforced the way that it was agreed to and passed into law after the OMB hearing.

Thank you for your time.

Regards

Robin & Bill Pittaway
T of BM, ON
Hello Aaron and Ryan,

The Friday afternoon user group would like the opportunity to have the 3pm time slot returned as we have had for 14+ years.

The subsidized trial period to the BMCC that was offered without due diligence by the previous council is over. The BMCC user group should not be able to dictate their needs to council whenever it suits them. They have manipulated this council to amend the contract to extend payment terms and reduce hours with less than a month remaining in the season. These decisions to grant the BMCC user group all day ice times should not be their decision. It results in removing all future and prior user groups for a very limited number of actual participants. If there is not any time slots available I am certain our neighbouring community of Meaford would welcome new members into their established Curling Club and facility.

The seemingly entitled BMCC will continue to request from council all their wants as the door has been opened to do so. This door needs to be closed. The youth groups that they are so proudly speaking about are self serving to the BMCC for cash flow. All of the BVCS groups participated in free skating in the past. There is nothing new other than parents being charged for curling. Any idea why a 45% subsidized user group was allowed to charge our youth for school day programming?

Moving forward I would recommend that this council remove its’ responsibility to any user groups requests that may effect others. The council is unaware of the system that is and has been in place for many years that has proven reliable and effective. There are municipal employees in place that are quite capable. They have a greater understanding of this community and its history within this facility.

It is evident that our Mayor with his political ally are involved with this Club and he must remove himself entirely from the conversation. Too date he has not.

Optics are everything.

Regards,

Bill Dennis
April 8, 2019

Dear Mr. McMullen & Town of Blue Mountains Council

We would first like to start by thanking you, your staff and the town, for yet another successful season. We greatly appreciate your continued support and tremendous facility season after season. We look forward to furthering our relationship with both the Thornbury and Meaford communities so that we can continue to offer minor hockey to our youth for the years to come.

We continue to grow as an association, and as the OMHA implements changes, it requires many hands working together so that we can offer a successful program. This past season, it was mandated that Tyke hockey become a half-ice game. Next season, the Novice age group will play half ice until January and then transition to the full ice game. These new programming rules and regulations brought about some challenges, but with your assistance, the players had a great season. Thank you for making the space to store our new smaller nets.

The 2018/19 season also brought a growth in our membership. For the last two seasons, we have been able to offer Preschool & Initiation hockey at no cost. We believe that this has helped families introduce the sport to their children with more ease. We also had a community member come forward and offer to coach a Midget team, and so we had increased enrollment as a result of that kind individual. The growth in our community, as seen at the local community school, can only mean that our membership is bound to grow.

The generous subsidy provided by the town is much appreciated, and plays a large part in our affordable registration rates. Thank you for your commitment to our youth. Every year, we are faced with increased insurance rates, timekeeper rates, and referee and mileage rates. The 2020/21 season will be the year where gate fees are no more. This alone could bring a potential registration increase of $150.00 per player. The success of our home tournaments have helped Georgian Shores to remain in a positive financial situation without
putting the stress onto our members. We look forward to hosting our home tournaments again during the 2019/20 season with your assistance.

We are forecasting that the 2019/20 season will potentially have 10 teams. We have also passed a motion to introduce Rep Fees, which will provide an extra hour of ice to each of our rep teams. In total, we feel that our association will require about 30 hours of ice each week. We will continue to share our ice usage between the two communities, in fairness to our membership. That being said, we will require about 15 hours/week in Thornbury alone. To create ease with referees, we would like to book blocks of ice in 2-3 hour blocks if possible. Our ideal situation would be the following:

Tuesday evening 6:00-10:00pm  
Wednesday evening 7:00 - 9:00pm  
Thursday evening 6:00 - 9:00pm  
Friday evening 7:00-9:00pm  
Sunday 2:00 - 5:30pm

We would like to book the following tournament dates:

November 8-10, 2019 Fall Classic  
February 22, 2020 Michael Cramp Memorial  
March 6-8, 2020 Mike Hammond Memorial

The introduction of curling this past season, brought changes for everyone in the community. We would like to pass along some comments and questions from our members, if we may. There were many upset members when they discovered that curling was given a 45% subsidy from the town. We quickly informed our members that Georgian Shores is also privileged to the subsidy. However, they continued to question the fact that minor hockey is for the youth in the community, and they did not feel that many youth trialed nor participated in any of the curling events here. As you may be aware, years ago, there was Beaver Valley Hockey and Meaford Hockey, they then amalgamated to form Georgian Shores Minor Hockey. The Blue Mountains Soccer Club also services both the Meaford and Thornbury communities, and is run from Tomahawk each season. Meaford has a great curling club in their town, and their youth programs are fantastic. Is there any reason as to why the curling cannot all run from one location like these other programs in our communities? It is sad to see as local residents, and taxpayers, that our arena parking lot sat empty most weekends this past season due to curling ice. Had more ice been available, we would have utilized it.

We look forward to working together for the 2019/20 season. We invite you and any other town employees to attend our AGM on Thursday May 2nd, 7:00pm, at the Meaford Community Centre.
Sincerely,

[Blank]

President
Georgian Shores Minor Hockey Association
Dear Head of Council:

Ontario’s Government for the People is committed to building more housing and bringing down costs for the people of Ontario. To help fulfill this commitment, we have developed a broad-based action plan to address the barriers getting in the way of new ownership and rental housing.

More Homes, More Choice (the action plan) outlines our government’s plan to tackle Ontario’s housing crisis, while encouraging our partners to do their part. We are taking steps to make it faster and easier for municipalities, non-profits and private firms to build the right types of housing in the right places, to meet the needs of people in every part of Ontario.

As part of the action plan, we are proposing changes that would streamline the complex development approvals process to remove unnecessary duplication and barriers, while making costs and timelines more predictable. We are also proposing changes that would make it easier
to build certain types of priority housing such as second units.

On May 2, 2019, the government introduced Bill 108 (the bill), the proposed More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, in the Ontario Legislature. While the bill contains initiatives from various ministries, I would like to share some details regarding initiatives led by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

**Planning Act**

Schedule 12 of the bill proposes changes to the Planning Act that would help make the planning system more efficient and effective, increase housing supply in Ontario, and streamline planning approvals.

If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Streamline development approvals processes and facilitate faster decisions,
- Increase the certainty and predictability of the planning system,
- Support a range and mix of housing options, and boost housing supply,
- Make charges for community benefits more predictable, and
- Make other complementary amendments to implement the proposed reforms, including how the proposed changes would affect planning matters that are in-process.

Amendments to the Planning Act are also proposed to address concerns about the land use planning appeal system. Proposed changes would broaden the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal’s jurisdiction over major land use planning matters (e.g., official plan amendments and zoning by-law amendments) and give the Tribunal the authority to make a final determination on appeals of these matters. The Ministry of the Attorney General is also proposing changes to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017 to complement these changes (see Schedule 9 of the bill).

**Development Charges Act**

Schedule 3 of the bill proposes changes to the Development Charges Act that would make housing more attainable by reducing costs to build certain types of housing and would increase the certainty of costs to improve the likelihood of developers proceeding with cost sensitive projects, such as rental housing.

If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Make it easier for municipalities to recover costs for waste diversion,
- Increase the certainty of development costs in specific circumstances and for certain types of developments,
- Make housing more attainable by reducing costs to build certain types of homes, and
- Make other complementary amendments to implement the proposed reforms.

**Further consultation on the Planning Act and Development Charges Act**

We are interested in receiving any comments you may have on the proposed changes to the Planning Act and the Development Charges Act. Comments on these proposed measures can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario as follows:

- Planning Act: posting number 019-0016
Development Charges Act: posting number 019-0017

The Environmental Registry postings provide additional details regarding the proposed changes.

**A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**

*A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* is an important part of the action plan that addresses the needs of the growing population, the diversity of the region and its people, and the local priorities. With *A Place to Grow*, we will make it faster and easier to build housing so that the growing number of people who live and work in the Greater Golden Horseshoe can find a home.

We recognize that different parts of Ontario need different solutions, including Northern and rural Ontario. While the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario continues to guide long-term economic growth in the North, our government is taking steps right now to support this growth by reducing red tape and burdens in Ontario’s Northern and rural communities with **More Homes, More Choice**.

Taken together, the actions outlined in **More Homes, More Choice** - including the proposed changes detailed above - will make it easier to build the right types of housing in the right places, make housing more affordable and help taxpayers keep more of their hard-earned dollars. Building more housing will make the province more attractive for employers and investors, proving that Ontario is truly Open for Business.

This action plan is complemented by our recently announced **Community Housing Renewal Strategy**, which will help sustain, repair and grow our community housing system. Together these two plans will ensure that all Ontarians can find a home that meets their needs.

At the same time, **More Homes, More Choice** underscores our commitment to maintain Ontario’s vibrant agricultural sector and employment lands, protect sensitive areas like the Greenbelt, and preserve cultural heritage. Our plan will ensure that every community can build in response to local interests and demand while accommodating diverse needs.

Our government recognizes the key role that municipalities will play in implementing the action plan, and we know that you share our desire to bring more housing to the people of Ontario. I look forward to working with you as we implement **More Homes, More Choice**.

**Sincerely,**

Steve Clark
Minister

c:
Chief Administrative Officer
Clerk
Bonjour Président/e du conseil:

Le gouvernement pour la population de l’Ontario s’est engagé à bâtir plus de logements et à en réduire les coûts pour les Ontariennes et les Ontariens. Afin de pouvoir tenir cet engagement, nous avons mis au point un vaste plan d’action visant à éliminer les obstacles à la construction de logements pour propriétaires-occupants et pour locataires.

**Plus d’habitations, plus de choix** (« le plan d’action ») explique la manière dont notre gouvernement compte s’attaquer à la crise du logement en Ontario, tout en encourageant ses partenaires à en faire autant. Nous prenons des mesures afin de permettre aux municipalités, aux organismes sans but lucratif et aux entreprises privées de construire plus rapidement et plus facilement les bons types de logements, aux bons endroits, pour répondre aux besoins de la population de l’Ontario partout dans la province.

Dans le cadre de ce plan d’action, nous proposons de simplifier de différentes manières l’actuelle complexité des approbations requises avant tout aménagement, d’une part, en supprimant les redondances et autres obstacles inutiles et, d’autre part, en rendant les coûts et les délais plus prévisibles. Nous proposons aussi des changements qui faciliteraient la construction de certains types d’habitations prioritaires, tels que les unités secondaires.

Le 2 mai 2019, le gouvernement a déposé à l’Assemblée législative de l’Ontario sa proposition de Loi de 2019, le projet de loi 108 (« le projet de loi »). Ce projet de loi reflète des initiatives relevant de plusieurs ministères, mais j’aimerais vous faire part de certains aspects d’initiatives que mènera le ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement.

**Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire**

L’annexe 12 du projet de loi propose des modifications à la Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire qui aideraient à rendre le système d’aménagement plus efficace et efficace, simplifier les approbations que ce système prévoit et augmenter l’offre de logements en Ontario.

Si elles sont adoptées, ces modifications auront les effets suivants :

- Simplification du système d’approbations en matière d’aménagement et facilitation de la prise de décisions plus rapides
- Accroissement du degré de certitude et de prévisibilité du système d’aménagement
- Appui d’un éventail comme d’une diversité d’options de logements et stimulation de l’offre de logements
- Prévisibilité accrue des redevances aux fins des avantages pour la collectivité
- Modifications complémentaires liées à la mise en œuvre des réformes proposées, notamment en ce qui concerne l’incidence de ces réformes sur les aménagements en cours.

D’autres modifications à la **Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire** sont également proposées pour
faire face à des préoccupations soulevées au sujet des processus d’appel du système d’aménagement du territoire. Ces modifications élargiraient le champ de compétence du Tribunal d’appel de l’aménagement local concernant les questions majeures touchant l’aménagement du territoire (p. ex., les modifications de plans officiels et de règlements de zonage) et lui confèreraient le pouvoir de trancher de manière définitive les appels relatifs à ces questions. Le ministère du Procureur général propose en parallèle de modifier la Loi de 2017 sur le Tribunal d’appel de l’aménagement local pour tenir compte de ces autres modifications (voir l’annexe 9 du projet de loi).

**Loi de 1997 sur les redevances d’aménagement**

L’annexe 3 du projet de loi propose des modifications à la Loi de 1997 sur les redevances d’aménagement qui faciliteraient l’accès au logement en réduisant et en rendant plus prévisibles les coûts de construction de certains types d’habitations, afin de favoriser la réalisation par les promoteurs de projets sensibles à l’évolution des coûts, tels que ceux visant la construction de logements locatifs.

Si elles sont adoptées, ces modifications auront les effets suivants :

- Facilitation du recouvrement par les municipalités des coûts liés au réacheminement des déchets
- Accroissement du degré de certitude des coûts d’aménagement dans certaines circonstances et pour certains types d’aménagements
- Appui de l’accès au logement par la réduction des coûts de construction de certains types d’habitations
- Exécution d’autres modifications complémentaires liées à la mise en œuvre des réformes proposées

**Autres consultations relatives à la Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire et à la Loi de 1997 sur les redevances d’aménagement**

Nous sommes intéressés à recevoir toute observation que vous pourriez avoir au sujet des modifications que nous proposons d’apporter à la Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire comme à la Loi de 1997 sur les redevances d’aménagement. Vous pouvez nous transmettre ces observations par l’intermédiaire des affichages suivants sur le Registre environnemental de l’Ontario :

- Loi sur l’aménagement du territoire, numéro 019-0016
- Loi de 1997 sur les redevances d’aménagement, numéro 019-0017

Les affichages sur le Registre environnemental fournissent des détails additionnels concernant les modifications proposées.

**En plein essor : Plan de croissance pour la région élargie du Golden Horseshoe**

En plein essor : Plan de croissance de la région élargie du Golden Horseshoe est une composante importante de notre plan d’action relatif aux besoins de la population en pleine expansion, à la diversité de la région et de ses résidents, de même qu’aux priorités locales. Grâce au plan En plein essor, nous allons rendre la construction résidentielle plus rapide et plus facile, afin que le nombre croissant de personnes qui vivent et qui travaillent dans la région élargie du Golden Horseshoe puissent y trouver un logement.
Nous sommes conscients que différentes parties de la province, y compris le Nord et l’Ontario rural, appellent des solutions différentes. Le Plan de croissance du Nord de l’Ontario continuera d’orienter la croissance économique à long terme dans le Nord de la province, mais notre gouvernement est en train d’agir, par l’entremise de Plus d’habitations, plus de choix, pour favoriser cette croissance dans les collectivités du Nord et des régions rurales en réduisant la paperasserie et les autres fardeaux qui l’entraînent.

Ensemble, les mesures énoncées dans Plus d’habitations, plus de choix – y compris les modifications proposées décrites plus haut – faciliteront la construction des bons types de logements, aux bons endroits, rendront le logement plus abordable et aideront les contribuables à conserver une plus grande part de leurs dollars âprement gagnés. La relance de la construction résidentielle rendra la province plus attrayante pour les employeurs et les investisseurs, confirmant ainsi que l’Ontario est réellement ouvert aux affaires.

En complément de ce plan d’action, nous avons récemment annoncé notre Stratégie de renouvellement du secteur du logement communautaire, laquelle aidera à préserver, remettre en état et multiplier ces types de logements en Ontario. La mise en œuvre conjuguée du plan et de la stratégie garantira à l’ensemble des Ontariennes et des Ontariens de pouvoir trouver un logement répondant à leurs besoins.

Parallèlement, Plus d’habitations, plus de choix confirme notre engagement à maintenir le florissant secteur agricole comme les terres servant à des fins d’emploi de la province, à protéger les zones sensibles telles que la ceinture de verdure, de même qu’à préserver notre patrimoine culturel. Notre plan fera en sorte de permettre à chaque collectivité de bâtir en fonction de la demande et des intérêts locaux, tout en répondant à une variété de besoins.

Notre gouvernement a conscience du rôle clé que joueront les municipalités dans la mise en œuvre du plan d’action et nous savons que vous partagez notre désir d’offrir plus de logements à la population de l’Ontario. J’ai bien hâte de collaborer avec vous à cette mise en œuvre de Plus d’habitations, plus de choix.

Cordialement,

Le ministre,

Steve Clark

c.c. :
Directeur/rice général/e de la Ville
Greffier/ière Municipal/e
More Homes, More Choice: Ontario’s Housing Supply Action Plan

May 2019
Minister’s Message

Every town, city and community in Ontario is unique. But no matter where you go, one thing is the same – people are looking for housing that meets their needs and their budget.

Young families are searching for their first home, close to schools, where they can build a life and raise children. Seniors are thinking about downsizing and want homes that meet their needs as they age, staying in neighbourhoods they love. College and university students need a place to live close to school while they study. So many people want to live where they can commute to their jobs easily, and get home to family and friends faster, so that they can enjoy their down-time.

Everyone is looking for something different, and each person has a budget. The cost of buying a home is becoming out of reach for many and affordable rentals are too hard to find. Plus, the cost of housing is hurting Ontario’s economy, making it harder to attract investment and create jobs.

Ontario needs more housing, and we need it now. It’s time for our government to take action.

We must build smart and we must be flexible. Housing must be built in the right places, so we can maintain Ontario’s vibrant agricultural sector and employment lands, protect sensitive areas like the Greenbelt and preserve cultural heritage. Every community should build in response to local interests and demand, building a mix of housing to accommodate diverse needs.

Government cannot address the housing crisis on its own. We can make it easier for municipalities, non-profits and private firms to build housing. We can help to boost supply and give people more choice.

**More Homes, More Choice** outlines our government’s plan to tackle Ontario’s housing crisis and encourages our partners to do their part by starting now, to build more housing that meets the needs of people in every part of Ontario.
Home prices and rents in many large and mid-sized cities, have risen faster than incomes.

- 83% of buyers can’t afford average resale home
- Resale home prices up 8-9%\(^2\)
- Rental prices up 10-15%\(^3\)
- 56% of renters can’t afford average 2-bedroom apartment
- While incomes are only up 2% per year\(^4\)
- Less than 2% of rentals are vacant\(^5\)

Ontario’s Housing Crisis

- Less than 7% of new housing built in the past 20 years was intended for rentals
- It takes 2+ years for site plan approvals for new buildings and major renovations
- 10 years to build apartments in the GTA

Lengthy approvals and high costs have slowed down the building of new housing and rentals.

Ontario’s Housing Crisis

This infographic details the realities of Ontario’s housing crisis. But how did we get here? To start, building housing takes too long and costs too much. There is red tape, unexpected changes and government fees that add years of paperwork and can also contribute tens of thousands of dollars to the cost of an average home. These layers of regulation and “not-in-my-backyard” attitudes make it hard to build different kinds of homes – the townhomes, mid-rises and family-sized apartments that the people need. Meanwhile, rents skyrocket because it is difficult and costly to build new rentals and to be a landlord.

The Province doesn’t build housing, but we can cut red tape to create conditions that make it easier to build housing and introduce policies that encourage densification. We can also make the most of infrastructure investments and encourage more density around major transit stations. We can do all these things while maintaining important protections for existing residents of stable communities, a vibrant agricultural sector, employment lands, the Greenbelt, our cultural heritage and the environment.

Our plan will:

- Cut red tape to make it easier to build the right types of housing in the right places.
- Make housing more affordable.
- Help taxpayers keep more of their hard-earned dollars.
When individuals find a home, they are healthier and more productive. This benefits not only the individual, but also the province, as each person has the opportunity to contribute to our economy.

More housing that meets people’s needs and budgets boosts Ontario’s economy by helping us keep jobs and support job creation. Businesses – from manufacturers to high tech firms – need employees, and those employees need affordable places to live. By making housing more affordable, businesses large and small will invest in Ontario again.

More Homes, More Choice is about unlocking the development of all kinds of housing. From ownership to rental housing, whether built by private developers or non-profits, our action plan will help give people more choice and help bring costs down.

This plan is complemented by our Community Housing Renewal Strategy, which helps people with low and moderate incomes who can’t afford today’s high rents to find affordable housing. It will transform a fragmented and inefficient system into one that is more streamlined, sustainable and ready to help people who need it most. It also includes early steps to improve community housing across the province:

- Helping tenants become economically self-sufficient;
- Making it easier to predict and calculate rent;
- Shortening waiting lists;
- Helping people in greatest need; and
- Making community housing safer.

We will work with municipalities and non-profits to sustain, repair and grow our community housing system.

Together, these plans respond to the diverse housing needs of all Ontarians.

Housing innovation isn’t just about new designs and materials, it’s about creative partnerships too. By working together, non-profits, co-ops and the private sector can help solve Ontario’s housing crisis.
What We Heard

We asked the people of Ontario to share their ideas on how to build more housing and make housing more affordable. We received more than 2,000 submissions.

Over 85 per cent of the submissions came from the public and more than half said affordability was their top criteria when looking for a home, followed by having transit, schools and services nearby.

As well as the online consultation, we held dozens of meetings with stakeholders from across the province and hosted a forum with more than 200 experts to discuss innovation.

While we heard loud and clear that finding a home is important, Ontarians said that we must protect our environmentally sensitive areas, including the Greenbelt, cultural heritage assets and key employment and agricultural lands.

We heard that the government should focus development in areas with existing services, transit and infrastructure.

We heard that housing rules need to be easier to understand, for example when homeowners want to build and rent out a basement apartment. As we act to help build more rentals, we heard that protecting tenants from unlawful evictions and making sure buildings are well maintained were top priorities.

More Homes, More Choice proposes a range of solutions – early steps and longer-term approaches – to address Ontario’s housing crisis. There is no quick fix for such a complex and wide-ranging issue as housing and our plan lays the foundation for the future.

Housing Supply: Ontario’s Five-Point Plan

1. **Speed**: Red tape and paperwork can add years to a construction project. We will maintain Ontario’s strong environmental protections, while making the development approvals process faster.

2. **Cost**: Layers of permits, government approvals and charges by municipalities add to the cost of building new homes. We will make costs more predictable, to encourage developers to build more housing.

3. **Mix**: We’ll make it easier to build different types of housing – from detached houses and townhomes to mid-rise rental apartments, second units and family-sized condos. We need a variety.

4. **Rent**: There are more people looking for homes than there are places to rent. We will protect tenants and make it easier to build rental housing.

5. **Innovation**: This means everything from new housing designs and materials to creative approaches to home-ownership and more. We’ll encourage more innovation and creativity in Ontario’s housing sector and make sure government isn’t standing in the way.
What We Have Already Done

We inherited Ontario’s housing crisis, and we are taking action to fix it.

**Skilled Workforce To Build Ontario’s Homes**

For the people of Ontario, we need to build more housing and build it faster, which means home builders need construction tradespeople, including carpenters, plumbers and electricians. Our plan to build a skilled workforce, including reforming apprenticeships and supporting the skilled trades, will help more people learn these critical skills and get these great jobs.

**Land To Build Ontario’s Homes**

We will sell the hundreds of unused properties across the province that the government owns, and wastes millions of taxpayer dollars every year to maintain, to build more homes, long-term care facilities and affordable housing.

**More Choice For Renters**

Rent control made finding a rental unit harder for renters and discouraged landlords and developers from creating more apartments. We’ve exempted new rental units from rent control to encourage new rental construction so that there can be more choice for tenants. An increase in supply should help bring rents down.

**Cost-effective Building**

Wood is a renewable resource as well as an innovative, cost-effective and modern building material that supports 150,000 jobs in Ontario’s forestry sector. In our Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan we committed to increase the use of timber in the home building industry, and this includes training architects, engineers and skilled trades to work with wood and encouraging mass timber demonstration projects.

In the last six months we’ve freed up land to build new housing in communities across Ontario – from London to Quinte to Hornepayne.

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1 In fall 2018, the government introduced the Making Ontario Open for Business Act, 2018, which reduced journeyperson-to-apprenticeship ratios where they apply, placed a moratorium on trade classifications and reclassifications, and enabled the winddown of the Ontario College of Trades. The government’s vision for a modernized, client-focused apprenticeship and skilled trades system will be implemented through the following initiatives:

- Establishing a new governance framework through proposed new legislation to replace the Ontario College of Trades and Apprenticeship Act, 2009;
- Encouraging employer participation in the apprenticeship system through a new financial incentive program to support employers to come together and train apprentices;
- Modernizing service delivery in apprenticeship by developing a new client-facing digital system, including a one-window digital portal for apprentices; and
- Promoting apprenticeship and the skilled trades as a pathway choice for all students from kindergarten to Grade 12.

2019 Ontario Budget: Reforming Apprenticeships and Supporting the Skilled Trades. [http://budget.ontario.ca/2019/chapter-1d.html#s-10](http://budget.ontario.ca/2019/chapter-1d.html#s-10)
Investing In Infrastructure
Our action plan to boost the supply of housing means Ontario will need more infrastructure, in good repair. Our ten-year, $30 billion cost-shared federal, provincial and municipal infrastructure program will help ensure Ontario has the roads and bridges, transit, green infrastructure, and community, culture and recreation facilities needed.

Improving Transportation Networks
The Province has also invested in transit across the province – including improved service for transit users and commuters as well as the reveal of our government’s transit vision. We’re also making it easier to transform commuter parking lots at transit stations into places with homes and businesses. We have already revealed plans for transit-oriented development at Mimico and Woodbine, and this is just the start.

Greater Golden Horseshoe
The Greater Golden Horseshoe is the economic engine of our province, generating more than 25 per cent of Canada’s Gross Domestic Product. Right now, approximately 9.2 million people, or 25 per cent of Canada’s population, live in this area and that number keeps growing – fast.

To make sure that our policies put people first, we are updating A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. It is the product of a broad consultation where we heard from more than 1,100 people and received more than 650 submissions. We heard the government should facilitate the building of affordable housing options near transit to prevent sprawl and protect agricultural lands. The plan will help manage growth so communities in the region develop in ways that expand economic opportunity, while maintaining protections for our environmentally sensitive areas, including the Greenbelt, cultural heritage assets, and key employment and agricultural lands.

We need to build more housing that people can afford so people have places to live near stable, reliable employment. That’s why we’re creating provincially significant employment zones to make sure that businesses – from manufacturers and industrial parks to high-tech offices – have room to grow.

By 2041, the Greater Golden Horseshoe is expected to house 13.5 million people.
It can take years of paperwork before a shovel ever breaks ground on a new housing project. Some government policies and processes are duplicated and can create delays for no reason, which drives up costs for home buyers. That’s why we’re reviewing every step of the development process and every policy, regulation and piece of legislation to eliminate unnecessary steps, duplication and barriers. We are cutting red tape and as we do, we are holding firm to our commitment to ensure the health and safety of Ontarians, and protect the environment, agricultural lands and our rich natural heritage.

Across Ontario, there are empty-nesters who want to downsize, but they can’t find or afford the home they need near family and friends. If they could, it might free up a larger home for a young couple looking for a house with more space for their growing family, close to a park and a great school. Instead, everyone feels stuck.

What We Are Doing

- Bring housing to market faster by speeding up local planning decisions and making the appeals process more efficient;  
- Make it easier for homeowners to create residential units above garages, in basements and in laneways;  
- Help build housing, including affordable housing, near transit;  
- Help municipalities implement community planning permit systems (e.g. in major transit station areas and provincially significant employment zones), which will streamline planning approvals to 45 days;  
- Help build housing, including affordable housing, near transit;  
- Help municipalities implement community planning permit systems (e.g. in major transit station areas and provincially significant employment zones), which will streamline planning approvals to 45 days.

**Making It Easier To Build New Housing**

Land use planning helps municipalities manage land and resources and guides decisions about where to build homes and factories, where to put parks and schools, and where roads, sewers and other essential services are needed. We’re proposing changes to the Planning Act to:

- Bring housing to market faster by speeding up local planning decisions and making the appeals process more efficient;  
- Make it easier for homeowners to create residential units above garages, in basements and in laneways;  
- Help build housing, including affordable housing, near transit;  
- Help municipalities implement community planning permit systems (e.g. in major transit station areas and provincially significant employment zones), which will streamline planning approvals to 45 days.

*The proposed planning decision timelines are 120 days for official plans, 90 days for zoning by-laws and 120 days for plans of subdivision. The Local Planning Appeal Tribunal’s authority is also proposed to be broadened to allow the tribunal to make decisions based on the best planning outcome for appeals of major planning matters. This Planning Act change would be supported by changes that are being proposed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.*

*Changes are proposed that would authorize additional residential units for detached, semi-detached and row houses in both the primary dwelling and ancillary building or structure.*

*Changes are proposed that would focus the use of inclusionary zoning to areas that are generally high-growth and are near higher order transit. This includes protected major transit station areas and areas where a community planning permit system has been required by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.*

*Changes are proposed that would enable the Minister to require the use of the community planning permit system in specified areas, such as major transit station areas and provincially significant employment zones, and remove appeals associated with its implementing planning documents.*

**We are making it easier and faster to build more housing near transit.**

For example, areas around bus and light rail stations could see **2,100 to 5,500 new homes.**
• Simplify how funds are collected for community benefits such as parks and daycares;\(^6\)
• Make upfront development costs easier to predict;\(^7\) and
• Give communities and developers more certainty on what they can build, and where they can build it.\(^8\)

Conflicts can arise during the process of land use planning. The Local Planning Appeal Tribunal hears these disputes, but there is a backlog of Ontario Municipal Board legacy cases – approximately 100,000 units are tied up in Toronto alone. There are also too many complex processes standing in the way of creating new housing. We’re proposing changes to:
• Hire more adjudicators to help address the backlog of legacy cases by investing $1.4 million in 2019-20;
• Ensure the tribunal has the powers and resources needed to make more timely decisions;
• Allow the tribunal to make the best planning decisions in the place of Council;\(^9\) and
• Charge different fees and move towards a cost recovery model, while allowing community groups and residents to maintain affordable access to the appeals process.

As more housing is built, we want to create strong, healthy communities. That means balancing environmental, economic and social factors, protecting health and safety, and managing resources wisely. We’re considering changes to the Provincial Policy Statement to:
• Encourage the development of more and different types of housing;
• Reduce barriers and costs for developers and provide greater predictability;
• Update planning and development policies to reflect Ontario’s changing needs; and
• Recognize local decision-making in support of new housing and economic development.

\(^{6}\) A new authority is proposed to be created under the Planning Act that would allow municipalities to charge for community benefits, like libraries and daycare facilities.

\(^{7}\) The proposed new community benefits authority would make upfront development costs more predictable by replacing the existing density bonusing provisions in the Planning Act, development charges for discounted services (i.e., soft services), and in some cases, parkland dedication.

\(^{8}\) In addition to the proposed changes to help municipalities implement the community planning permit system and focus the use of inclusionary zoning, changes are also being proposed that would limit third party appeals of plans of subdivision and approval authority non-decisions on official plans and official plan amendments. Third party appeals are generally appeals made by someone other than the person who made the application or the municipality.

\(^{9}\) Through proposed changes to the Planning Act and the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal would be able to make decisions based on the best planning outcome by giving the tribunal the authority to make a final determination on appeals of major land use planning matters and removing existing restrictions on a party’s ability to introduce evidence and call and examine witnesses at hearings.
Development charges help pay for infrastructure such as roads, transit, water/sewers and fire and police facilities. We believe that growth must pay for growth and it’s important that municipalities have the resources to support complete communities. Municipalities collect development charges following processes set out in the Development Charges Act. We’re proposing changes to:

• Reduce the costs to build priority housing types, like second units; ¹⁰
• Fully cover municipalities’ waste diversion costs; ¹¹ and
• Make the costs of development clear from the outset. This will protect new home buyers, as development charges are often passed directly on to the consumer. ¹²

Ontario’s Building Code sets standards for safe, healthy and accessible buildings. We’re proposing to:

• Remove the requirement that all new homes include the infrastructure for an electric vehicle charging station – whether the purchaser owns an electric vehicle or not – reducing unnecessary costs; and
• Harmonize our Code with National Codes to open new markets for manufacturers and bring building costs down.

When a board has more students than it has school space to accommodate them, it can levy education development charges on new development. These fees are used to acquire sites to help accommodate children from new developments, so they can learn close to home. After consulting with stakeholders, we’re proposing changes to the Education Development Charge framework to:

• Allow only modest increases in education development charges to help make housing more affordable; and
• Allow for innovative and lower-cost alternatives to site acquisition.

Exempting secondary suites in new homes from development charges may make the homes more affordable and create more rental housing.

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¹⁰ Under the proposed amendments, subsection 2(3.1) of the Development Charges Act would provide that the creation of one second dwelling unit in prescribed classes of new residential buildings (and ancillary structures) would be exempt from development charges. The classes of residential buildings would be prescribed in regulation.

¹¹ Currently capital costs for waste diversion must be reduced by 10 per cent when determining development charges. Under the proposed amendments, paragraph 10 of subsection 2(4) of the Development Charges Act would provide for no percentage reduction in costs for waste diversion services, as defined in the legislation.

¹² Today, development charge rates are generally determined at the point that the first building permit is issued. To increase certainty of development charge costs, the proposed new section 26.2 of the Development Charges Act would provide for development charge rates to be frozen at an earlier point in time (i.e. if/when an application is made for the later of site plan or zoning approvals) and would continue to be paid at the usual time (generally building permit issuance).
We all want Ontario’s workplaces to be safe and healthy, including construction companies. We’re proposing changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to:

- Reduce employers’ training costs and unnecessary paperwork; and
- Make it easier to certify employer Joint Health and Safety Committee representatives.

Reducing Workplace Safety and Insurance Board premiums for construction company employees who don’t work in the field will help reduce construction costs – especially for smaller firms.

A non-profit housing project in Hamilton requested a minor change and waited almost two years for approvals. In that time, construction and material costs increased by 20-25%.

Our plan would help reduce official plan approvals timelines by three months, subdivision plans by two months, and zoning by-law changes by two months to cut red tape and help build housing faster.

What if we re-think what we already have? Can we convert old, vacant buildings into new, modern homes? We need to add different types of housing to existing neighbourhoods, while protecting their character.

Ontario’s natural and historic resources are protected in legislation – in some cases, different and overlapping laws, enforced by multiple agencies. We will maintain important protections, while reducing duplication and making it easier for people to understand what the law means.

Ontario values and protects its heritage properties while working with property owners and communities to manage change and compatible development. We’re proposing changes to the Ontario Heritage Act to:

- Maintain local control over heritage conservation decisions, while providing clear direction and timelines for local decision-makers, heritage professionals and development proponents about protecting heritage properties; and
- Create a consistent appeals process.

13 Creating new mandatory standards for designation by-laws and establishing new time limits to confirm a complete application for alteration and demolition, and for designation decisions. This will help ensure that timelines are not extended inappropriately to hinder development.

14 Ensuring municipal decisions on designation and alterations to heritage properties can be appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, whose decisions are binding. The body that currently reviews those appeals is the Conservation Review Board, whose recommendations are non-binding.
Before they start a project, the province, municipalities, private firms and public bodies must consider the effects on the environment. These complex, administrative steps can slow down projects – like transit, flood protection or roads – that affect housing development, even if they pose little risk to the environment. We will streamline processes and identify efficiencies while protecting the environment and human health. We’re proposing changes to the Environmental Assessment Act, the Environmental Protection Act and regulations to:

- Address duplication and streamline processes for projects that pose little risk to the environment;
- Provide clarity to proponents from the outset by better recognizing other planning processes;
- Reduce the amount of soil sent to landfill from construction sites, by making it easier and safer to reuse soil and penalizing those who illegally dump excess soil;
- Clarify the rules and remove unnecessary barriers to building on vacant land, to put prime land back to good use while protecting the environment and human health; and
- Improve service standards to reduce delays.

Conservation authorities protect people, property and natural resources from the threats and impacts of extreme weather and flooding. We’re proposing changes to the Conservation Authorities Act to:

- Clearly define conservation authorities’ core programs and services, such as flood protection, and only require municipalities to pay for these services, not frivolous additional expenses;
- Give municipalities more say over non-core programs and services and how municipalities pay for them;
- Streamline and standardize conservation authorities’ role in municipal planning to reduce overlap, making approvals faster and less expensive; and
- Improve governance and accountability.

We can improve the effectiveness of our environmental protections and ensure a balanced approach between a healthy environment and a healthy economy. Under the guiding principles of clear rules paired with strong enforcement, streamlining and eliminating duplication and making transparency a priority, we’re proposing changes to the Endangered Species Act to:

- Make it easier to harmonize the Endangered Species Act with other equivalent legislation;
- Establish Canada’s first Species at Risk Conservation Trust so project proponents can support strategic, coordinated and large scale actions instead of completing piecemeal requirements for permits, agreements and regulatory exemptions;
- Offer more certainty by improving processes;
- Provide clarity on how protected species are identified and transparent rules on how to protect habitat; and
- Support a modern ecosystem-wide approach to species protection, one that balances competing interests, that is effective and efficient.

To bolster our commitment to make Ontario open for business, open for jobs, our government will consult on the provincial natural heritage system policies to improve current access to mineral aggregate resources strictly within the Growth Plan area. Our goal is to foster an environment for growth while maintaining our commitment to conservation by cutting red tape and reducing regulations that currently stand in the way.
What We’re Doing for Renters

In today’s market, finding an affordable rental apartment can feel like winning the lottery. People are renting longer and more people are looking for a place to rent, but new construction has focused on condominiums rather than rental apartments.

Many of the changes in More Homes, More Choice will make it easier to build rental housing. For example, right now, home builders pay development charges up-front. A developer who builds a house and/or condominium builders can offset these development charges by preselling units. A developer who builds a rental unit can’t. By postponing development charges until the buildings are rented, developers will be encouraged to start building rental housing again.

More Homes, More Choice will also work to cut red tape around development approvals so new homes will be available to rent sooner.

We’re encouraging small landlords to create new rental units too, by making it easier to build second suites (like basement apartments) and helping them navigate the complicated building code approvals process. We are also expanding development charge exemptions to include second units in new homes.

As more rental units are built, tenants will have more choices and rents will decrease.

Creating more rental units is an essential part of our action plan. But once they have a place to live, renters shouldn’t have to worry about being treated unfairly or being unlawfully evicted. Ontario has strong protections for renters and we will do more to help tenants and landlords know their rights and how to resolve disputes.

Making it easier for landlords to navigate the complex building code approvals process will help create more rental housing. In Ontario, roughly **30,000 to 35,000** new homes are built each year, and many of them could include secondary suites, like basement apartments.
Helping renters and landlords resolve disputes is the role of the Landlord and Tenant Board, but a shortage of adjudicators has created delays – average wait times are more than two months! The government is working with Tribunals Ontario on addressing shortages of adjudicators at the Landlord and Tenant Board. There have been a number of recent appointments and recruitment is underway to fill other adjudicator vacancies.

Our government is also providing more than one billion dollars in 2019-20 to help sustain, repair and grow community housing and help end homelessness. Hundreds of organizations across Ontario have long-standing agreements to provide community housing to Ontario’s most vulnerable, and as many of these agreements approach their end, our government’s Community Housing Renewal Strategy will help them become more sustainable.

What are the rules for creating a basement apartment or converting another space in the house to rent it out? We will give homeowners a user-friendly checklist to help them build legal second units.
While we’ve started comprehensive legislative changes, there is more work to do to make it easier to build homes across the province.

Different parts of Ontario need different solutions. In the North, construction is more expensive and the season is short, but the planning approvals process doesn’t take that into account. Some municipalities – especially in Northern and rural Ontario – have faced excessive red tape and administrative burdens that make no sense in the local context or market. That needs to change.

Whether you’re building a few homes a year, or hundreds of homes every month, large parts of the planning process are the same. To remove red tape and make sure the approval process fits the project, we are working with municipalities and developers to understand what works, and what doesn’t. These specific changes save local communities time and money.

We also need more data about Ontario’s housing system so everyone can understand what is working and what isn’t. We’ll work with our municipal and federal partners to gather the information needed to drive informed decisions and make a difference for the people.

Employers need housing solutions too. Particularly seasonal industries like tourism and agriculture, or in rural areas where housing is in short supply. Companies struggle to fill these jobs because employees have no place to live. We’ll work with municipalities and businesses to find housing solutions that help communities across Ontario attract investment and good jobs.

To solve new problems, you need new ideas. By working together, the private, public and non-profit sectors can achieve far more than they can on their own.

The City of Ottawa is encouraging tiny houses – small units that have environmental and economic benefit. We are working with municipalities and creating DIY guides for consumers, to encourage innovative ideas like Ottawa’s tiny houses.

Innovative designs, construction techniques and materials can bring costs down and give consumers more choices, including making homes more accessible as we age and for people with disabilities. Our upcoming Forest Sector Strategy will help Ontario’s forest industry innovate and build homes with advanced technologies, such as engineered wood products and prefabrication – housing that is manufactured off-site, in sections that can simply be shipped and assembled.

As we age, our circumstances change. We’re independent, but don’t necessarily want to live alone. We need to unlock the equity we’ve built up in our homes and we’re looking for modern, accessible options.
Fresh approaches to housing and home-ownership also give people more choices – like a "life lease" that allows a senior to age in place, without having to own their home. Or if seniors who want to co-own a house instead of living alone or moving into a retirement home. We’re developing guides to make it easier for people who want to live differently.

By clarifying rules and helping people understand how to take advantage of creative solutions, we will make it easier to innovate. We will continue to review our legislation and regulations to make sure they spur – not restrict – flexibility, creativity and new solutions.

Consumer Protection

Buying a home is the biggest investment most people make and the lack of housing supply has made the dream of home ownership out of reach for many Ontarians.

We’re looking at all stages of the new home building and buying process, to protect consumers:

• **Before they buy a home**: making it easier for new home buyers to check out a developer’s track record in the Ontario Builder Directory

• **During construction**: adding more proactive, risk-based inspections by Tarion during construction to make sure homes are built properly

• **After they move in**: when new home buyers have problems, creating an easy-to-use process to help them resolve disputes quickly and fairly

We’re transforming the broken Tarion Warranty Corporation – which protects new home buyers against shoddy construction and delays – so home builders aren’t regulating themselves. We’re strengthening protections for new home buyers and helping people who have bought condominiums, only to have the project cancelled.
We inherited a confusing and broken housing development system that’s impossible for people and home builders to navigate and this has led to a housing shortage and skyrocketing housing prices and rents.

The people of Ontario deserve better.

We cannot fix the housing shortage on our own, but we can cut red tape to make it easier to build new housing for people to rent or own. We will give the people of Ontario more choice and make housing more affordable.

More Homes, More Choice outlines how we will cut red tape and reduce regulation, so it is easier to build homes – including different types of homes – so that the people of Ontario can find something that suits their needs. Our plan will spur innovation while protecting tenants, health and safety, our cultural heritage and the environment. This plan encourages developers, municipalities and communities to work together to ensure the hard-working people of Ontario will have homes that meet their needs and their budgets.

Conclusion

We believe people right across Ontario and in every stage of life should be able to find a home that meets their needs and their budget.
Mayor/Reeve and Clerk/CAO/Treasurer,

First, I would like to congratulate all recently elected officials and wish you great success in your new roles.

2018 has been a year of substantial accomplishments such as the transitioning of another two municipalities to the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), multiple contract renewals, and countless presentations to municipal councils throughout the province. OPP Municipal Policing Bureau staff will strive to make great progress to continue to build municipal relationships through excellent communication, contract and financial management.

As some of you may know, the government appointed Commissioner Thomas Carrique as the 15th OPP Commissioner to lead the police service in its 110 year history. Following the announcement of his appointment, Commissioner Carrique stated he is extremely grateful for and deeply honoured by the confidence placed in him by the provincial government and the Ministry of the Solicitor General to serve alongside the dedicated and professional members of the OPP, in a leadership role. We are all looking forward to strengthen our relationship with the municipalities the OPP polices under Commissioner Carrique’s leadership.

The Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019, received Royal Assent on March 26, 2019. Other than Special Investigation Unit modernization section, all other sections have not yet been proclaimed into force. This act creates the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA), which will come into force on a date that has not yet been determined by government. Relevant regulations to the CSPA are currently being written. This will eventually lead to the legislation coming into force. When this new legislation comes into force, the current Police Services Act, 1990, (PSA) will be repealed. Until then, the PSA remains in force. We will keep you informed on this progression.

Recently, you or staff members of your municipality have been contacted by our members to build awareness of the resources available to you, such as our webpage www.opp.ca/billingmodel materials, and offer to answer any of the questions you may have on the billing model and present to your municipalities, if necessary. Thank you for your feedback.

In an effort to bring our communication to the next level, our bureau announced the implementation of the ePost mailing system. Your municipality will be sent instructions to set-up up to three ePost user accounts (Mayor/ Reeve, CAO/Clerk, PSB Chair (if applicable)) to allow for more efficient and innovative distribution of the annual billing statements and other correspondence. The ePost system is run by Canada Post and is official and legal mail. This system has been operated by Canada Post for 19 years, and has
been adopted throughout the country by numerous municipalities and various pension and pay organizations. The intention is to provide timely and reliable information to our hundreds of municipalities and avoid the unreliable nature of the current mailing system.

I would like to welcome your views or any comments you may have to enhance our communication and invite you to ask questions of myself or any member of the OPP Municipal Policing Bureau through email at OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca or by phone at (705) 329-6200.

Sincerely

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