



The Corporation of the Township of Billings
Council Meeting Agenda
March 04, 2025 07:00 PM
Kagawong Park Centre

Council

Bryan Barker, Mayor

David Hillyard, Deputy Mayor

Ian Anderson, Councillor

Vince Grogan, Councillor

Michael Hunt, Councillor

Staff

Veronique Dion, CAO/Clerk

Tiana Mills, Deputy Clerk

Todd Gordon, Municipal Project Manager

Arthur Moran, By-Law, H&S, Emerg Mgmt

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 Confirm approval of the agenda

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. Adoption of Minutes

4.1 Regular Council Minutes - February 18, 2025

4.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes - February 20, 2025

5. Delegation

6. Committee Reports and Minutes

6.1 Manitoulin DSAB 2024 Fourth Quarter Activity Report - February 20, 2025

6.2 Island Wide Waste Management Committee Minutes - February 5, 2025

7. Staff Reports

7.1 Protective Services-2025-002 Bi-Monthly Health and Safety Report

7.2 Administration-2025-004 Committee Membership

7.3 Administration-2025-005 Procedural By-Law Amendment

7.4 Treasury-2025-001(3) - 012(1) 2025 Budget

8. Correspondence Requiring Direction

9. Information

9.1 Sovereignty of Canada - Fort Frances

9.2 Blue Sky Net 2025 Northern Ontario Broadband Report

9.3 Ontario Deposit Return Program - Town of Halton Hills

9.4 Response to Tariff Threats - Support Canadian Business and Consumers - Township of Archipelago

9.5 Paid Plasma Free Zone: Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

9.6 Speeding, Distracted Driving and Impaired Driving - City of Woodstock & Zorra Township

10. By-Laws and Agreements

11. Notice of Motions

12. Closed Session

The Township of Billings Council hereby moves into a Closed Session pursuant to:
[s.239(2)(b)] Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal employees AND
[s.239(2)(d)] Labour relations or employee negotiations AND
[s.239(2)(e)] Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality AND
[s.239(2)(c)] A proposed or pending application or disposition of land by the municipality AND
FURTHER returns to open session upon completion.

- 12.1 Call to Order
- 12.2 Approval of Closed Meeting Agenda
- 12.3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
- 12.4 Approval of Minutes
 - 12.4.1 Closed Meeting Minutes
- 12.5 Staff Reports
 - 12.5.1 Confidential Report
 - 12.5.2 Confidential Report
 - 12.5.3 Confidential Report
 - 12.5.4 Confidential Report
- 12.6 Adjournment

13. Report out of Closed Session

14. Confirmatory By-Law

15. Adjournment

- 15.1 Motion to Adjourn

16. Document Accessibility

Document Accessibility

The Township of Billings is committed to providing information in the format that meets your needs. We have made every attempt to make documents for this meeting accessible but there may still be difficulty in recognizing all the information. Please contact us if you require assistance and we will make every attempt to provide this information in an alternative format.

Please note that third party documents received and found within this document will not be converted to an accessible format by the Township of Billings. However, upon request, we will attempt to obtain these documents in an appropriate accessible format from the third party. For assistance or to make a request please call (705) 282-2611 or email tmills@billingswp.c.



The Corporation of the Township of Billings

Council Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2025 07:00 PM

Kagawong Park Centre

Council

Bryan Barker, Mayor

David Hillyard, Deputy Mayor

Ian Anderson, Councillor

Vince Grogan, Councillor

Michael Hunt, Councillor

Staff

Veronique Dion, CAO/Clerk

Tiana Mills, Deputy Clerk

Todd Gordon, Municipal Project Manager

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bryan Barker to call the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 Confirm approval of the agenda

Motion Number 2025-32

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby approves the agenda as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

I, Councillor Michael Hunt declare a potential direct pecuniary interest on Agenda Item No: 001
Item Title: Land Inquiry Hunt Property for the following reason: Historic Family Property Issue.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Motion Number 2025-33

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the January 21st, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council minutes and the January 30th, 2025 Special Meeting of Council minutes be adopted as presented.

Carried

4.1 Regular Council Minutes - January 21, 2025

4.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes - January 30, 2025

5. Delegation

None.

6. Committee Reports and Minutes

Motion Number 2025-34

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby receives all items listed in section 6.

Carried

6.1 Parks, Recreation and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes - November 25, 2024

6.2 Water Systems Policy Committee Meeting Minutes - January 7, 2025

6.3 Manitoulin Centennial Manor - January 2025

7. Staff Reports

7.1 TR-2025-11 Council Remuneration 2024

Motion Number 2025-35

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Grogan

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby receives report TR-2025-11.

Carried

7.2 PW-2025-02 Park Centre Lower Washroom

Motion Number 2025-36

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hunt

THAT Council hereby receives report Public Works 2025-02 and directs staff to retire the small Park Centre lower washroom and convert it to a storage area.

Carried

7.3 PW-2025-03 Backhoe Repair

Motion Number 2025-37

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby approves Report PW-2025-03 AND approves the quote from NORS Construction Equipment to fix the Backhoe.

Carried

7.4 CAO-2025-01 Roads Speed Management Review

Motion Number 2025-38

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT The Township of Billings Council hereby receives the information provided in report CAO-2025-01 AND FURTHER THAT Council reviews the proposed changes to road management and provide comments and direction to administration to prepare final documents for review and eventual adoption and implementation.

Carried

7.5 CAO-2025-002 Water Policy Committee Resolution

Motion Number 2025-39

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Anderson

THAT The Township of Billings hereby pause interest charges on water capital billing until such time as the Water System Policy Committee has completed the review of, and, Council has adopted a policy for a Capital Funding of the Water System.

Carried

8. Correspondence Requiring Direction

8.1 Building Systems Committee Meeting - January 29, 2025

Motion Number 2025-40

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hillyard

WHEREAS the Committee were presented with the 2024 cost sharing percentages that are used for the calculations for the Cost Shared Billing;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Building Systems Committee recommends to their respective council to renew and continue with the Municipal Building Systems Joint Agreement for cost sharing and CBO sharing which is due to renew on June 2025;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council authorize the Mayors and Clerks to sign the renewal agreement.

Carried

9. Information

Motion Number 2025-41

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby receives all items listed under Section 9.

Carried

9.1 Manitoulin Phragmites 2024 Project Work

9.2 Support of Canadian and Ontario Governments' Negotiations with the United States Government on Trade Tariffs

10. By-Laws and Agreements

10.1 2025-07 Interim Tax Levy By-Law

Motion Number 2025-42

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT By-Law 2025-07 being the by-law to provide for an interim tax levy be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 18th day of February 2025.

Carried

10.2 2025-08 Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Agreement

Motion Number 2025-43

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hunt

THAT By-Law 2025-08 being the by-law to enter into an agreement for the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant program be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 18th day of February 2025.

Carried

10.3 2025-09 Amend the Official Plan

Motion Number 2025-44

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Grogan

THAT By-Law 2025-09 being the by-law to amend the Official Plan be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 18th day of February 18 2025.

Carried

11. Notice of Motions

11.1 Procedural By-Law Amendment

The following notice of motion was received by Council and will be brought back to the next Regular Council meeting:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law#2025-03 be amended by replacing the definition of Electronic Meeting to be following: "Electronic meeting" means a meeting or public hearing where all members of Council or a committee may participate electronically.

12. Closed Session

Motion Number 2025-45

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby moves into Closed Session pursuant to [s.239(2)(c)] A proposed or pending application or disposition of land by the municipality - Request for Potential Land Disposition and [s.239(2)(d)] Labour relations or employee negotiations - Compensation Review AND FURTHER returns to open session upon completion.

Carried

12.1 Call to Order

12.2 Approval of Closed Meeting Agenda

12.3 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

12.4 Approval of Minutes

12.4.1 Closed Council Meeting Minutes - November 26, 2024

12.4.2 Closed Council Meeting Minutes - December 17, 2024

12.5 Staff Reports

12.5.1 Confidential Report

12.5.2 Confidential Report

12.6 Adjournment

13. Report out of Closed Session

Mayor Barker reported that a Closed session was held to discuss a potential land acquisition as well as a compensation review.

14. Confirmatory By-Law

Motion Number 2025-51

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hunt

THAT By-Law No. 2025-10 Being the February 18, 2025 Confirmatory By-Law be read a first, second, third time and finally passed this 18th day of February 2025.

Carried

15. Adjournment

15.1 Motion to Adjourn

Motion Number 2025-52

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Grogan

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby adjourns at 9:03 p.m.

Carried

Mayor – Bryan Barker

CAO/Clerk – Veronique Dion



The Corporation of the Township of Billings

Council Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025 04:30 PM

Kagawong Park Centre

Council

Bryan Barker, Mayor

David Hillyard, Deputy Mayor

Ian Anderson, Councillor

Vince Grogan, Councillor

Michael Hunt, Councillor

Staff

Veronique Dion, CAO/Clerk

Tiana Mills, Deputy Clerk

Todd Gordon, Municipal Project Manager

Arthur Moran, By-Law, H&S, Emerg Mgmt

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bryan Barker to call the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1 Confirm approval of the agenda

Motion Number 2025-53

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Grogan

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby approves the agenda as amended to include an additional report, CAO-2025-03: Fees Review.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

4. Staff Reports

4.1 CAO-2025-03 Fees Review

Motion Number 2025-54

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT Council receive the information as provided AND FURTHER THAT Council review the Township user fees.

Carried

4.2 TR-2025-01 2025 Tax Ratio (2)

Motion Number 2025-55

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby approves Report TR-2025-01(2) AND recommends that Council adopt the Tax Ratio for the Township of Billings as follows:

Residential	1.000
Commercial	1.030
Industrial	1.040
Farm	0.250
Managed Forest	0.250

Carried

4.3 TR-2025-01.1 Revenue (2)

Motion Number 2025-56

Moved By Hillyard

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed revenue budget in principle acknowledging that once further discussion is held the Council may recommend an increase or decrease in the suggested 8% municipal tax rate increase.

Carried

4.4 TR-2025-02 Operating Budget - Building and Equipment Expense (2)

Motion Number 2025-57

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Building and Equipment expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.5 TR-2025-03 Operating Budget - Administration Expenses (2)

Motion Number 2025-58

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed administration expense is to be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.6 TR-2025-04 Operating Budget - Wages (2)

Motion Number 2025-59

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed wages and benefits be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.7 TR-2025-05 Operating Budget - Utilities (2)

Motion Number 2025-60

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Utilities expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.8 TR-2025-06 Operating Budget - Supplies and Equipment (2)

Motion Number 2025-61

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hillyard

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Supplies and Equipment expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.9 TR-2025-07 Operating Budget - Roads (2)

Motion Number 2025-62

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Roads expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.10 TR-2025-08 Operating Budget - Public Services Expenses (2)

Motion Number 2025-63

Moved By Hillyard

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Public Services expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.11 TR-2025-09 Operating Budget - Other Services (2)

Motion Number 2025-64

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Anderson

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed other expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.12 TR-2025-10 2025 Capital Budget (2)

Motion Number 2025-65

Moved By Grogan

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed capital budget be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

4.13 TR-2025-11 Operating Budget - Water

Motion Number 2025-66

Moved By Anderson

Seconded By Hunt

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed water revenue & expenses be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Carried

5. Confirmatory By-Law

Motion Number 2025-67

Moved By Hillyard

Seconded By Hunt

THAT By-Law No. 2025-11 Being the February 20, 2025 Confirmatory By-Law be read a first, second, third time and finally passed this 20th day of February 2025.

Carried

6. Adjournment

6.1 Motion to Adjourn

Motion Number 2025-68

Moved By Hunt

Seconded By Grogan

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby adjourns at 7:35 p.m.

Carried

Mayor – Bryan Barker

CAO/Clerk – Veronique Dion



2024 Fourth Quarter Activity Report February 20, 2025

The following is the most recent consolidated Quarterly Report that the DSB will be sending to member municipalities and posting on the public website. Expect Quarterly Reports in February, May, September, and November of each year.

The program statistics are provided separately and updated monthly. They are available on the website by clicking the following link: [Monthly Program Statistics](#)

CAO Overview

The DSB 2024 Fourth Quarter (Unaudited) Financial Report was presented to the Board and projects a year-end municipal **surplus of \$742,804**. Ontario Works, Children's Services, are forecasted to be on budget. Community Housing is forecasted to be under budget by \$510,159. Non-Urgent Patient Transfer Service is forecasted to be under budget by \$624. Paramedic Services is forecasted to be over budget by \$523,468. Interest revenue on non-reserve accounts is forecasted to be \$755,489 more than budgeted.

The DSB quarterly financial reports are available on the DSB website by clicking the following link: [Quarterly Financial Reports](#)

Paramedic Services

Paramedic Services Recruitment

Paramedic Services continues efforts to improve recruitment of personnel. The actions implemented in 2024 have proven to be positive in that this last quarter has allowed for the hiring of 6 new paramedics.

Staff have met with students in the local colleges to advocate for interest in a career with MSDSB. There will be an estimated 7 students enrolled for their final residency and conditional employment for Q1 2025.

Funding Opportunities

In the fall of 2024, the province of Ontario [announced](#) that they were planning to invest more than \$32 million dollars into mental health support for first responders. While this investment I obviously welcomed, there are more than 70,000 first response personnel in Ontario. Staff are preparing submissions for access to this investment and expect that the project requests will be released in early 2025.

[Correspondence](#) was received from Ontario Health on October 7, 2024 notifying the DSB of both one-time and annualized funding increases to be used for provision of the Community Paramedic program. Increases for one-time funding in the amount of \$3,719 and base funding of \$21,073 have been allocated for use during 2024-25. Staff will continue to work with Ontario Health and all other funding partners to improve program evolution.

Paramedic Services Response time Standards Planning Report

Paramedic Services staff presented the [2025 Response Time Standard \(RTS\) Plan](#) to the Board in October 2024. This plan was accepted by the Board and subsequently submitted to the Ministry of Health. Given the significant effort underway to evolve Paramedic Services in 2025, staff maintained the RTS Plan at the 2024 levels, with an option to amend the plan in-year. The RTS Plan is felt to be achievable and sound.

Contract Negotiations

Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB successfully negotiated a 4-year collective agreement with OPSEU in the fourth quarter of 2024. The contract has included significant changes to the operation of the service and will help the evolution of service delivery and scope of practice within the system. The new Collective Agreement now permits the expansion of Advanced Care Paramedics and Float positions in the DSB.

Community Paramedicine (CP)

Recruitment of a Commander of Community Paramedicine Programs was posted in the fourth quarter with an anticipated onboarding in early 2025. Staff continue to work with partner agencies to expand the program success. Work continues to introduce increased CP scope of practice.

Non-Urgent Patient Transportation Service (NUPTS)

The nonurgent patient transfer service continues to grow despite challenges with staffing. Work is being done with partners and the Ministry of Health to refocus funding models to better reflect the community needs and realities of regional health care.

Children's Services

The Manitoulin-Sudbury District has 20 licensed child care locations, including 14 center-based sites within schools, one community-based center, and five licensed home child care sites. During the fourth quarter, 552 children were enrolled in child care services, with 457 paying full fees and 95 receiving subsidies. This represents a 3% increase from the previous quarter and a 1% decrease compared to the same period last year, likely due to home child care closures and staffing challenges. Special Needs Resourcing supported an average of 56 children, from infants to school-age, during the fourth quarter, showing a 4% increase compared to the same quarter last year.

In the fourth quarter, EarlyON programs welcomed 3065 visits from parents/caregivers and children. These services are provided through various means including mobile, virtual, and outdoor programs. This represents a 33% increase from the previous quarter.

Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day

October 24th, 2024 marked the celebration of the 24th annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. This day served as an opportunity to honor and acknowledge the exceptional dedication, hard work, and commitment of those who work with young children. The theme for this year, "Worth More," underscored the profound impact these professionals have on our communities.

This day is annually proclaimed by the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), municipalities and school boards across Ontario. It is widely observed by child care centres, unions, and community allies throughout the province.

Ontario Child Care and Early Years Funding Guidelines

The [Ontario Child Care and Early Years Funding Guidelines for 2025](#) have been shared with staff, with the final release of the [Local Priorities and EarlyON Child and Family Centre Guidelines](#) in November. These updates will guide planning and service delivery.

Ontario Works

In the fourth quarter, the Ontario Works/Temporary Care Caseload average was 462. Compared to last year at this time, the caseload has increased by 0.9%.

Centralized Intake

The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) received 104 applications in the fourth quarter. Of the 104 applications received, 35 were auto-granted by the Intake and Benefits Administration Unit (IBAU), 26 were referred by the IBAU to the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB for processing, 14 were transfers from another Ontario Works office, 22 were for Emergency Assistance which is completed online and sent to the local office for processing, and 7 applications were processed at the local office rather than being referred to Centralized Intake as certain applications are not yet being processed by the IBAU.

The initial goal of Centralized Intake was to have 70% of applications completed by the IBAU. During the fourth quarter, 34% of applications were completed by the IBAU.

Policy Changes to Support Centralized Intake

On December 20th, the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) advised that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board had been selected, along with 9 other sites, for implementation into the expanded Centralized Intake model effective January 27th, 2025.

In these 10 areas, the ministry will be responsible for initial eligibility decisions, including authorization of initial payments, and notifying applicants. Full implementation across the province will be completed in 2025.

Employment Ontario

The Employment Services (ES), Youth Job Connect (YJC), and Youth Job Connect Summer (YJCS) programs continue to be advertised and delivered from the Chapleau office. From October to December 2024 there were 10 new intakes for Employment Services.

Quality Assurance

During the fourth quarter, the Quality Assurance Coordinator for the Child Care and Ontario Works programs supported local service provider networks, professional development initiatives, and continued active community engagement. These efforts have directly contributed to the ongoing development of the Child Care and Ontario Works programs.

The Quality Assurance Coordinator served as the primary contact for the Child Care and Early Years IT Modernization project, which began in October 2024. The project initially focused on improving the child care search and application process, with later phases addressing fee subsidies, financial management, and EarlyON services.

Continued support was provided to Pedagogical Leads, Childcare Supervisors, and Local Service Provider Networks, helping set goals and initiatives to support children, families, and educators ensuring the ongoing development and delivery of quality services.

In alignment with organizational goals, the Quality Assurance Coordinator facilitated internal professional development sessions focusing on Employment Services Transformation (EST) topics. The sessions included an overview of key concepts such as the Common Assessment, Action Plan, and a recap of EST, preparing staff for the rollout of these initiatives in 2025.

The Quality Assurance Coordinator joined the Indigenous Service Provider Network supporting the ability to meet the needs of Indigenous communities, ensuring culturally sensitive approaches and the integration of Indigenous perspectives in service provision.

In collaboration with the Integrated Human Services Manager and Administrative Assistant, the Quality Assurance Coordinator contributed to planning and executing the delivery of food hampers and holiday gifts to over 150 households on Manitoulin Island. This initiative, supported by community donations to Manitoulin Family Resources, ensured that families in the community had access to essential resources and children's gifts during the 2024 holiday season.

During this last quarter, the Quality Assurance Coordinator for housing and homelessness continued to focus on streamlining internal processes and on collaboration with Paramedic services to ensure more effective workorder processes.

In November the Quality Assurance Coordinator was a panellist at the National Addiction Awareness Conference (NAAW) hosted on Manitoulin Island to present information on the By Name List and how it correlates with addiction using local data.

The DSB continues to prioritize participation from all the communities within our catchment area to support the By Name List. As of December 31, 2024, there were a total of 28 households/32 individuals on the By Name List. Lower numbers are not an indication of a decrease of homeless individuals in our communities, rather a result of limited participation by community partners in the By Name List to identify, refer and track individuals in their communities without permanent housing.

It is important to stress as we enter the winter season that of these 32 actively homeless individuals, 3 of them identified as being unsheltered with no emergency shelter services available in our district.

Community Housing

There were 697 applications at the end of the 4th quarter. The applicant breakdown is as follows:

1 Bedroom	517	2 Bedroom	81
3 Bedroom	54	4 bedroom	45

Staff continue to identify and complete the application process with eligible applicants for the Direct Shelter Subsidy (DSS) program. All applicants receiving the benefit are deemed housed. As of the end of this quarter there were 212 active DSS recipients. At the end of Q3 of this year there were 225 recipients and at this time last year there were 203.

Per DSB Policy, every effort is being made where the waitlist allows us to mix the Community Housing Buildings with RGI, Affordable and Market Rent Tenants. As of Dec 31, 2024, we have successfully housed 28 market rent tenants and 137 affordable rent tenants. This represents 9% and 46% of our portfolio respectively and shows an increase of 1 Market rent and a decrease of 3 affordable rent from last quarter. Comparably, at this time last year, we reported 23 market rent tenants (8%) and 122 affordable (41%)

As of the end of the 4th quarter of 2024, 226/295 of the portfolio's units are designated as Smoke-free. This represents 76% of the full portfolio currently. Units are designated as turnover occurs or should the current resident choose.

Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB)

On September 26, 2024, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing provided [communication](#) confirming our allocation for the COHB program for the 2024-25 year.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB's allocation for this year is \$74,200 or approx. 18 new households. Currently approximately 55 households in the DSB area are already receiving the COHB benefit.

This year, Ontario is waiving this requirement for households that hold a Special Priority status under the Housing Services Act. This means verified Special Priority households can remain on a social housing waitlist even if they accept a COHB benefit.

This approach aligns with the intent of the Special Priority Policy, which is to help ensure that housing is not a barrier to an individual leaving a situation of abuse for trafficking.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Investment to Support Homelessness

On December 13th the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing issued a [memo](#) providing more details regarding protecting community safety and making additional investments to further support homelessness prevention and provide people living in encampments with access to alternative accommodation.

The investments included a \$5.5 million top-up to the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit to immediately free up shelter spaces for those living in encampments to move people from shelters to longer term housing. A \$20 million investment to expand shelter capacity and create additional temporary housing to provide people living in encampments with accessible alternative living options and \$50 million in last-mile funding for ready to build long term affordable housing projects across the province.

The minister stressed that the expectation is that the funding be tied to clearing out encampments. The funding is being provided to municipalities that demonstrate their commitment to and show results in winding down encampment sites.

The focus of the funding is to support the urgent expansion of shelter capacity by providing funding to support the creation of additional alternative emergency accommodation.

The last mile funding which is intended to speed up supportive housing projects that are in advanced stages of construction where additional funds would lead to faster completion. Business cases for this funding opportunity are due January 10th, 2025.

The intention of the funding is to end visible encampments, Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB staff met with the Board and shared that they are not aware of visible encampments but do recognize that there are many individuals living in precarious, unsafe and unsuitable situations.

The board directed staff to write a letter to Minister Paul Calandra expressing concern about the eligibility criteria of this funding and communicated that the funding was

targeted to large urban areas and does not consider what homelessness looks like in rural communities.

Capital Projects with Housing Services Corporation

The Chapleau landscaping project is now complete. In the spring of 2025 roof replacements will be done in Webbwood, Massey and 1 of the Marguerite Street units, the request for quotes has been released for engineers to bid. We will be completing structural upgrades to 60 Barber in the spring, engineer assessments have been completed.

The 70 Barber Street Make Up Air unit replacement project has been postponed until mid-March due to the contractor experiencing shipping delays on the unit.

The abatement testing portion of the Mindemoya window replacement project has been completed with negative results and the windows have been ordered.

Work Orders

During the fourth quarter a total of 214 Work Orders were generated: 175 for Community Housing; 5 for Administration Offices, and 34 for Paramedic Services. 128 Work Orders were closed or resolved during that time. (Work orders are closed if the work is done in-house, or when the invoice is paid from an outside source). There were also 4 work orders for unit turnovers, all for apartments.

Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI)/Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI)

Out of the 12 projects that were planned for 2023/2024 funding, all but 1 have been completed, this is due mainly to project changes and shipping timeline for parts. An extension was requested for this project as it will not be completed by the March 2025 deadline.

There are 3 projects planned for 2024/2025 funding, 1 of which is already completed.

Upgrades

All buildings have been inspected for energy efficiency by CLEAResult and have been approved for various upgrades, such as insulation, window/door caulking, and/or new fridges. The 210 Mead Blvd and 347 Second Ave administration buildings have had their rooftop units and new air conditioning units replaced. The St. Charles entrance and hallway flooring has been upgraded with new tile and carpet on both floors and the Gore Bay common room is undergoing a full upgrade with expected completion by early February.

Years of Service

The DSB would like to acknowledge the following staff persons for their years of service with the organization:

5 years of service

Case Managers: Andrea Bernier and Jenna Bourcier

Community Paramedic: Ashleigh Desormeaux

Paramedics: Travis Clelland, Devan Deschamps and James Stefanko

10 years of service

Director of Integrated Human Services: Lori Clark

Paramedics: Travis Allen-Lamothe and Scott Burns

15 years of service

Paramedics: Jeffery Hirschberger, Jarret Maltby, Shawn Marcoux, Davide Perrotta, and Gary Welch

20 years of service

Deputy Chief of Paramedic Services: Jennifer Tasse

Community Programs Supervisor: François Seguin

Community Paramedic: Sherri Chopra

Paramedics: Darren Assiniwe, Tiffany Brault, Scott Cameron, Keith Crockford, Dwayne Elliott, Jeanette Fox, Audrey Jones, Gaetan Lagrandeur, Melanie Laramee, Ron Mailloux, Todd McKenzie, Patrick McKinnon, Ray Patrie, Blair Peltier, Theresa Peltier, James Robinson, Monic Rochon-Shaw, Denis Seguin, Michael St.Amour, Rod Steele, Andre Therrien, and Aaron Wright

25 years of service

Director of Finance and Administration: Connie Morphet

Information Systems Manager: Iain Stephens

Executive Assistant: Melody Ouellette

Case Manager: Jim Putman

Employment Consultant: Tara O'Hearn

Finance Assistant: Leslie Giroux

Thank you all for your commitment to the organization!

Donna Stewart

Chief Administrative Officer

Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board

Phone: 705-222-0499

E mail: donna.stewart@msdsb.net

Website: www.msdsb.net

Island Wide Waste Resource Committee

Meeting Minutes February 5th, 2025 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting through Teams was available
Present: Vince Grogan, Colen McKeever, Mathieu Gagnon, Chris Theijsmeijer, Bill Orford, guest: Arthur Moran

1. **Call Meeting to Order** @7:10pm after connection issues were resolved.
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**
4. **Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. Minutes of December 4th 2024 meeting
Approved - 1st Bill O. 2nd Mathieu G
5. **Delgations**
 - a. None
6. **Old Business**
 - a. Update from SicSox
Vince reported that they've collected 88,000kg of textiles from Manitoulin with the majority coming from Billings. Vince was asked if there was a breakdown of amounts for each community, but he will have to ask for that information. We aren't sure if the shredder is active yet, because there is an electrical grid upgrade required to make it function.
 - b. Review CAO luncheon
Short discussion of the success of this event and how it should lead to item 7a below. Biggest challenge moving forward is budgets going up significantly due to increase costs such as the OPP costs. NEMI has finalized their 2025 budget but Billings has yet to confirm theirs.
An update on the application to NOHFC is still hopeful, with the grant being available, but to our knowledge no application has been started yet. Gore Bay and Central have voiced support for this initiative.
7. **New Business**
 - a. Followup letter to communities about funding

Vince asked for support in writing a followup letter to councils. Mathieu and Bill have offered to help proofread something and have it for the next meeting.

b. Discussion New Recycling Plans - Consumer Responsibility

The primary effect of this change is basically to compensate municipalities for their waste collection/diversion. It is dangerous if our recycling is too contaminated, or not sorted adequately, which can lead to kickback charges. The simple goal is to reduce contamination and improve separation as much as possible, likely achieved through an education campaign.

Other ideas mentioned:

- Spring 2025 do a volunteer waste audit in Billings e.g. 10 bags a few times in a chosen day. Arthur will also look for old data from the former Waste Management Committee from around 2014-2018.
- Update Bylaws relating to Waste Management
- An education campaign could also include things like promoting alternative packaging to reduce waste.

c. Plans for 2025

There was a call for ideas on what we could consider for 2025 goals

- A possible mattress recycling solution
- Continue the 'Call to Recycle' for batteries and ensure it's working well
- Investigate finding a metal recycler interested in our tin/aluminium
- Investigate glass recycling options
- Two documents to investigate for next meeting are: Waste Diversion Act of 2016 and Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement provided by Colen M.

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday March 6th at 7pm

Motion to adjourn: Mathieu G at 8:30pm



COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Protective Services

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: Protective Services-2025-002

File: Bi-Monthly Health and Safety Report

Recommendation: THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby reviews and accepts, for information, this bi-monthly report of the health and safety activities.

Background:

Information report to Council of the Health and Safety activities that have taken place during the months of January and February 2025.

Discussion:

H&S Program Performance

- a) During 2024 health and safety operational procedures were developed and implemented. The procedures introduced specific responsibilities for each of the workplace parties (management, supervisors, workers, JH&SC) so that the requirements of the operational procedures are being met. After the first two months since implementation the required reports, training, inspections and other activities are being completed or submitted.
- b) A health and safety mini survey has been distributed to all employees to solicit feedback regarding program revisions.

Training

- a) The first round of on-line health and safety training has been completed; all employees completed the Workplace Harassment course.
- b) The second course; Stress and Fatigue Awareness has been distributed

JH&SC

The JH&SC has met twice since the December 2024 JH&SC report to Council. Items of interest arising from the meetings are as follows.

- a) Review and approval of revisions made to the following H&S Operational Procedures.
 - a. Legal Requirements Procedure
 - b. Internal Audit Procedure
 - c. First aid Procedure
 - d. H&S Accountability procedure
- b) Selection of a H&S Training delivery services.
- c) Follow-up on security camera installation and set-up.
- d) Providing Monthly H&S activity calendars for departmental managers and supervisors.
- e) Establishing H&S program objectives.



WSIB

All 5 submissions have been submitted to the WSPS for the final review prior to being submitted to the WSIB validator. This is where the topical submission is fine tuned to ensure the validation process does not encounter any problems.

Overall, the cooperation and participation from all employees in regard to health and safety activities has been very positive.

Financial Impacts:

N/A

Alignment to Strategic Plan:

N/A

Alignment to the CEEP:

N/A

Respectfully Submitted By:

Arthur Moran, Protective Services Coordinator

Reviewed By:

Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk



COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Administration

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: Administration-2025-004

File: Committee Membership

Recommendation: THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby receives report Administration-2025-004 and directs staff to advertise all committee vacancies.

Background:

By-Law 2023-04 Committee Appointment By-Law identifies all committees of council and their members. Several of our committees of council have vacant seats identified and are required to be filled.

Committee Name	Current Members	Terms of Reference
Billings Museum Committee	Michael Hunt – Council Barb Edwards Deb Flaxman Dianne Fraser Diane Larocque Brad MacKay Wes Newburn Treasurer – Non-Voting Museum Curator – Non-Voting	1 member of Council 6 members of the public 1 staff + Museum Curator Mayor ex-officio
Parks, Recreation and Wellness Committee	David Hillyard – Council Shannon Smith Catherine Joyce Meg Middleton Jenna Carter Deputy Clerk – Non-Voting	1 member of Council 5 members of the public 1 staff Mayor ex-officio
Climate Action Committee	Vince Grogan – Council Paul Darlaston Chris Theijsmeijer Colen McKeever CAO/Clerk or designate – Non-Voting	1 member of Council 4 members of the public 1 staff Mayor ex-officio
Lake Kagawong Resource Committee	Vince Grogan – Council Brian Foreshew Stan Pierce Steve Webber Ian Anderson Tom Imrie CAO/Clerk or designate – Non-Voting	1 member of Council 7 members of the public 1 staff Mayor ex-officio



Discussion:

In order to meet the committee structure as identified in each committee terms of reference we are seeking to fill the following number of positions:

Committee Name	Number of Positions to Fill
Billings Museum Committee	0 – Committee is Full
Parks, Recreation and Wellness Committee	1 member of the public
Climate Action Committee	1 member of the public
Lake Kagawong Resource Committee	2 members of the public

Staff is suggesting advertising for all vacancies through the township Facebook page and website.

Financial Impacts:

N/A

Alignment to Strategic Plan:

Service Excellence: Prioritize collaboration to improve customer service and increase efficiency

Alignment to the CEEP:

N/A

Respectfully Submitted By:

Tiana Mills, Deputy Clerk

Reviewed By:

Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk



COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Administration

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: Administration-2025-004

File: Procedural By-Law Amendment

Recommendation: BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law#2025-03 be amended by replacing the definition of Electronic Meeting to be following: "Electronic meeting" means a meeting or public hearing where all members of Council or a committee may participate electronically.

Background:

In Q3 and Q4 of 2024, Council underwent training on the procedural by-law; while completing the training, items that needed updating were identified. Once the training was complete, the CAO Clerk added the proposed changes to the By-Law and presented the revised by-law for approval. The By-Law changes were adopted on January 21st, 2025. Following the adoption, a miss was identified where the new wording for electronic meeting had been updated in the final approved by-law.

Section 29.1 of the Procedural By-Law, has the following provision for amendments: Any provision contained in this by-law may be repealed, amended or varied and additions may be made to this by-law by a majority vote, provided that no Motion for that purpose may be considered unless notice thereof has been given at a preceding regular Council Meeting and such notice may not be waived.

Discussion:

A notice of motion was presented at the Feb. 18 Council meeting and is now the motion is being brought forward for Council the consider.

Financial Impacts:

N/A

Alignment to Strategic Plan:

N/A

Alignment to the CEEP:

N/A

Respectfully Submitted By:

Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk



SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-01 (3)

File: 2025 Township of Billings Tax Ratio

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby approves Report TR-2025-01 AND recommends that Council adopt the Tax Ratio for the Township of Billings as follows:

Residential	1.000
Commercial	1.030
Industrial	1.040
Farm	0.250
Managed Forest	0.250

Background:

Property taxation is the primary way that Municipalities raise funds to provide services. In Ontario, property taxation is regulated through the Municipal Act, 2001 and supporting regulations. Municipalities are required to levy property taxes on all real property, which includes land and improvements.

Tax Classes

Property tax classes are assigned to properties or portions of a property based on the property's use as defined in Section 3 of the Assessment Act.

Tax Ratio

Municipalities in Ontario have the authority to apply differential taxation rates to different property classes through tax class ratios. A tax ratio is the proportion by which a class or sub-class tax rate compares to the residential class tax rate, which has a base ratio of 1.0. For example, a property with a tax ratio of 2 would pay twice the municipal tax amount as a similarly valued residential property. These ratios allow different tax burdens between the different property classes. Ratios allow municipalities to manage the shifting of the property tax burden between classes. Annual tax shifts happen between classes due to different rates in property assessment values across different classes. The Township historically adopts ratios that mitigate tax shifting and keep the tax burden the same in each class.

Property Tax Calculations

There are three components used to calculate the amount of applicable property taxes

- Assessed value of property
The assessment value of a property is determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). The Township does not determine assessment values.



- **Municipal tax rate**
Is the tax rate to be levied against the taxable assessment of property expressed as a percentage to six decimal places. Tax rates are determined through calculations, which involve the budgetary tax levy requirement approved in the budget setting exercise, the total current value assessment by class, and tax policy effects.
- **Education tax rate**
The annual education tax rates for all Ontario properties are set by the province and reflect the overall provincial reassessment changes by class.

Residential property taxes are calculated using this formula:

Assessed value x municipal property tax rate = amount of municipal property tax

Assessed value x education tax rate = amount of education property tax

Municipal property tax + education property tax = total property taxes

Discussion:

The Township of Billings has maintained the same consistent tax ratios for the past several years.

Tax Class	Tax Ratio
Residential	1.000
Commercial	1.000
Industrial	1.000
Farm	0.250
Managed Forest	0.250

Staff have reviewed the tax ratios and recommend that they be adjusted to the following:

Tax Class	Tax Ratio
Residential	1.000
Commercial	1.030
Industrial	1.040
Farm	0.250
Managed Forest	0.250

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-01.1 (3)

File: 2025 Revenue

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed revenue budget in principle acknowledging that once further discussion is held the Council may recommend an increase or decrease in the suggested 6.5% municipal tax rate increase.

Discussion:

Revenue	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (Decrease)	Notes
Municipal & School Board Tax	2,503,520	2,558,642	(55,122)	2,726,040	222,520	2024 Over – Supplementals & Omits School Board Fixed Amt. Municipal increase of 6.5%
Payments in LIEU	5,993	-	5,993	5,993	-	Fixed Amt., 2024 not yet received
Federal Funding	58,249	127,560	(69,311)	5,600	(52,649)	Rec'd 100K covid, less 30K EV funding in 2024 CCBF & EV Funding is incl. in 2025 Capital Summer Student Funding
Provincial Funding	588,904	639,879	(50,975)	646,337	57,433	2024 – Under b/c of payback to OTF 115K OMPF 620,700, Seniors Grant 12,500, Library Grants OAC 10K + Library Board 3,127
Water Usage Revenue	312,783	266,803	46,340	300,587	(12,196)	2024 was over budgeted – Mun. Owned properties were picked up in calculation Increase based on 6.3% annually as recommended in AMP, Incl Bulk
Fees, Charges & Donation Revenue	227,450	168,876	58,588	289,613	62,163	2024 Under – Rink board ads were lower for 2 nd year 5K, Firehouse Subsidy 1 time funding 30K, Dockage Fees down 10K



						Kagawong Market, WSIB, Tax Certs, Cemetery, Marina, Museum & Library, Donations/Fundraising
License & Permit Revenue	45,329	47,870	(2,541)	48,579	3,250	Rental Revenue, STARS & Other
Investment Income	198,200	186,599	11,601	178,000	(20,200)	Interest earned on bank account balances lower 2024/2025
Penalties & Interest Revenue	48,200	21,154	27,046	23,350	(24,850)	Interest is lower on Taxes & Water since regular statements have been going out and payments are being received in a timely manner
Other Revenue	56,000	48,838	7,163	50,000	(6,000)	Power Generating Station, Wildland Fire Gear 9K Other Misc. Revenue
Total Revenue	4,044,629	4,056,846	(21,218)	4,274,100	229,471	

Municipal Property Tax

The budget concentrates on maintaining current service levels, asset management, finding areas for efficiencies, leveraging grant and funding opportunities while acknowledging staff capacity and resources available.

Asset Management Plan recommendations:

Municipality to increase tax revenues by 3.3% minimum each year for the next 20 years to achieve a sustainable level of funding for capital assets.

This increase proposed considers new and current project costs, general inflation, and a small number of proposed projects.

The Municipal Property Tax rate proposed is 2.5% over 2024. Please view the table below for increase per \$100,000 of property assessment value at 1%.

% Increase	Per \$100,000 Property Assessment Value	Total Revenue
1	\$3.51	22,635.50

A 6.5% increase on the tax rate would total 22.82 per \$100,000 of property assessment value.



Provincial Funding

Grant Funding Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

The OMPF is the province's main general assistance grant to municipalities. The program primarily supports northern and rural municipalities across the province. Its objectives are to:

- recognize the challenges of northern and rural municipalities, while targeting funding to those with more challenging fiscal circumstances.
- support areas with limited property assessment; and
- assist municipalities that are adjusting to year-over-year funding changes.

For 2025, the Township of Billings **OMPF funding is \$620,700** and increase of \$76,425 over 2024 of \$544,275.

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

OCIF supports local infrastructure projects by providing stable and predictable funding for communities with populations under 100,000 along with all rural and northern communities. For 2025, the Township of Billings will receive **OCIF funding in the amount of \$121,669** has decreased from 128,104 in 2024. This funding is included in Capital.

Ontario Arts Council – Library

The Ontario Arts Council (OAC) provides an operating grant for the Billings Library. For 2024 it is anticipated the library will receive a grant in the amount of **\$10,000**.

Federal Funding

HRDC Canada Summer Jobs Grant / Grants in Lieu

Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) provides wage subsidies to employers from not-for-profit organizations, the public sector, and private sector organizations with 50 or fewer full-time employees, to create quality summer work experiences for young people aged 15 to 30 years.

The Township of Billings anticipates approximately \$5,600 for student positions.

Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)former AMO Gas Tax

The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) is a permanent source of funding provided up front, twice-a-year, to provinces and territories, who in turn flow this funding to their municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities.

The Township of Billings has accumulated 197,079 in CCBF funding to use toward capital improvements to roads.

Sewer and Water

Included charges for water usage, hook-up and turn off and bulk water.

Fees, Donations, Grants

Charges include administrative fees for tax and zoning certificates, STAR, Chicken and Trailer permits, dockage fees, landfill fees, marina fuel and retail sales, dockage fees and launch revenue.

Licences & Permits

Income received related to building permit, entrance permits, rent for municipal facilities and leases.

Investment Income

Revenue generated from bank interest.

Penalties & Interest



Revenue generated from interest on water and tax arrears.

Rent & Other

Includes the revenue received from the power generating station and revenue received from museum.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-02 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Building and Equipment Expense

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Building and Equipment expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Equip. Maintenance	71,800	69,189	2,611	98,000	26,200	Increased for Landfill – See New Oper. Exp Note, Marina actuals, PW Backhoe Filter
Fuel Expense	67,750	73,584	(5,834)	75,000	7,250	Increased to reflect actual. Marina, PW, Fire
Pump Outs	1,000	10,603	(9,603)	9,500	8,500	Increased to reflect proper allocation of expense – was put to maint.
Maintenance & Repairs	89,000	61,740	27,260	75,050	(13,950)	Overestimated in 2024. Decreased to reflect reallocation of expense to pump outs & actual.
Total Building & Equipment	229,550	215,116	14,434	257,550	28,000	Overall increase

New Operating Expenses:

Equip. Maintenance: Staff would like to request that the booth at the landfill be replaced and that a sea can or operator shed be purchased for storage. The estimated cost total is 5,000.00. Public Works requires a Backhoe filter \$15,000.00.

Maintenance & Repairs: Staff requests that some upgrades be made to the Municipal office including a shelf and separate outlet for the microwave and a fan be installed in the washroom. The estimated cost is 3,500.00. The Billings Public Library requires a hot water on demand system for proper cleaning, a dehumidifier and a heat pump to have proper heating and cooling. The estimated cost is 15,000.00. Staff will seek funding opportunities for energy efficiency programs to offset the cost.

Respectfully Submitted By: Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Township of
BILLINGS

SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-03 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Administration Expense

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed administration expense is to be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Advertising	11,200	14,782	(3,582)	18,400	7,200	Over - 2023 arena boards were billed in 2024 Increased– See New Operating Exp.
Auditing & Accounting	50,000	80,108	(30,108)	60,000	10,000	Increased to reflect avg. cost – 2024 year included 2022 & 2023 work.
Bad Debt Expense	500	348	152	500	-	No change
Bank Chgs. & Interest	11,850	19,610	(7,760)	20,076	8,226	2024 underbudgeted, New Moneris Machines – Library, Museum, Marina, Office & Associated fees - Increased per actual
Tower Communications	1,368	2,229	(861)	2,527	1,159	(911 service – Fire) – Increased per actual
Election Expense	1,000	840	160	3,000	2,000	Includes Election management system, increased for additional training
Fees & Licenses	7,635	6,470	1,165	7,085	(550)	Over - Renewal for Traffic sign in 2024 Various fees for Fire Dept, Library, Marina. Decreased to reflect actual
Fire Communications – CCAC	-	467	(467)	500	500	Increased to reflect actual – was not budgeted for in 2024



Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Health & Safety	16,150	22,354	(6,204)	15,950	(200)	Underbudgeted in 2024, acc't includes Fire Hall Sign, H & S Allowance carry over Health & Wellness payouts for employees & Safety Equip. for Protection Officer, Additional Training Program – See New Operating Exp.
Insurance	67,552	83,348	(15,796)	115,914	48,362	Underbudget in 2024, added cyber security, 39% Increase – See New Operating Exp.
Legal Expense	20,000	26,040	(6,040)	30,000	10,000	Increased to reflect open claims.
Loan Interest Expense	20,163	44,619	(24,456)	147,198	127,035	Debenture – Fire Hall & Old Mill Road Bridge as per schedule – Underbudgeted 2024
Postage	5,030	5,182	(152)	7,020	1,990	Increased postage rate 0.25 and consistent arrears notices
Professional Development	27,000	19,987	7,013	41,400	14,400	Under budget 2024 – staff turnover led to lack of training 2024 Increased staff & council education & training
Property Assessment	35,790	35,790	-	36,781	991	Fixed Rate - MPAC
Subscriptions & Memberships	16,975	26,051	(9,076)	19,925	2,950	Over 2024 – TOMRMS, PSD Citywide AMP Program & GIS Increased – See New Operating Exp.
Travel	6,550	4,482	1,668	8,550	2,000	Increased to allow for more travel related to prof. dev.
Transfer to Asset Reserve/Capital	529,210	Entry to be made at Year End 2024 Audit to Expense Capital 2024	529,210	563,899	34,689	This is the operating budget surplus which is used to fund the Capital Budget.
Total Admin Expense	830,673	393,108	437,565	1,098,724	268,052	Overall increase



New Operating Expenses:

Advertising:

Marina – PORTS Cruising guide ad. 2,000.00.

Museum – Old Mill 100th anniversary special event ad. 2,000.00.

Recreation – Seasonal Banners 2,500.00, Film Maker Directory 500.00 ¼ page.

Health & Safety:

Fire – Electricity Detector (may be covered by Emergency Preparation Grant), 850.00

Public Works – Electricity Detector (may be covered by Emergency Preparation Grant), 850.00

Insurance:

Increased to reflect increase in value for buildings that were previously undervalued, new Public Works Equipment, Low Risk Event coverage – Park Centre.

Subscriptions & Memberships:

Increased to include new GIS – Mapping software 3,525.00 – Possible funding for this item.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-04 (3)

File: Operating Budget - Wages

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed wages and benefits be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Salaries & Wages	796,043	884,054	(88,010)	908,264	112,220	2024 payroll was underbudgeted and did not consider entitlement payouts & Step increases. 2.5% increase, 2025 Overtime, Vacation Payouts included, 1 Part time employee is now full time.
CPP Expense	43,330	42,840	490	50,577	7,246	Per CRA 2025 Rate
EI Expense	18,423	18,437	(15)	20,405	1,982	Per CRA 2025 Rate
OMERS Expense	24,856	31,285	(6,429)	35,933	11,077	Per OMERS 2025 Rate & 2 new employees on plan.
Employee Benefits	50,500	70,010	(19,510)	64,223	13,723	Per Manulife, 2 additional employees on plan
RRSP Expense	14,950	10,423	4,527	10,594	(4,356)	Per Canada Life
EHT expense	16,000	-	16,000	1,081	(14,919)	Total Remuneration 2024 under threshold. Remuneration 2025 expected to reach threshold.
WSIB expense	23,609	25,450	(1,799)	31,104	7,495	Per WSIB Rates 2025
Wages & Benefits	987,711	1,082,458	(94,747)	1,122,180	134,469	Overall increase



The Township of Billings run a lean staff with a full-time staff made up of CAO/Clerk, Treasurer, Public Works Superintendent, Municipal Project Manager/Deputy CAO, Deputy Clerk, Accounts Receivable/Tax/Admin. Clerk, Public Works First Operator and two Public Works Operators, By-Law Enforcement/Health & Safety/Emergency Mgmt./Landfill Coordinator, Museum Curator, Marina Manager, and summer students as required.

The budget includes provisions for a wage review. It is unknown how the review will impact the salary grid.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Township of
BILLINGS

Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-05 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Utilities

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Utilities expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Hydro	61,950	54,477	7,473	56,725	(5,225)	Fixed expense – decreased to reflect actual
Propane	10,200	12,110	(1,910)	13,450	3,250	Fixed expense – increased to reflect actual
Telephone & Internet	13,935	15,973	(2,038)	18,750	4,815	Fixed expense – increased to reflect actual
Total Utilities	86,085	82,560	3,525	88,925	2,840	Overall increase

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-06 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Supplies and Equipment

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Supplies and Equipment expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Library - Book Acquisitions	6,000	7,297	(1,297)	6,000	-	No change
Supplies	128,000	62,406	65,594	160,125	32,125	General Office Supplies and other for each dept. Increased to reflect actual. See New Operating Expenses – 51,769 is to be covered by grants. 2024 was overstated since capital expenses used to be posted to this account.
Total Supplies & Equipment	134,000	69,703	64,297	166,125	32,125	Overall increase

New Operating Expenses:

Supplies:

Fire – Ceremony Uniforms (450.00 x 3, 200.00 x 11) 3,550.00, Trauma Kit 700.00, Defib. Battery 300.00, Training manual performance books 2,500.00, Wildland Gear 8,230.45 which will be covered by a grant

Protective Services – Supplies of 31,038.59 will be covered by the Emergency Preparedness Grant which includes a generator for public works garage (see capital budget).

Public Works – New Computer 1,500.00

Landfill – Signage 1,500.00, User ID Program & Garbage ID Tags 8,500.00.

Museum – Includes Special Old Mill 100th Anniversary Celebration items such as a Time Capsule 2,500.00, History Books 5,700.00, History Day Gala 2,500.00, History Day event with special guests 2,500.00, Everard Boat artifact retrieval 2,000.00 and contingency of 1,500.00. Total to be covered by operating is 16,700.00.



Recreation – Includes seniors grant supplies 12,500 (1st installment) for program we do not know at this time what portions will be supplies/wages. We will receive more funding in 2026.

New Cabana for the Market is 5,500.00. PW does not have enough resources/time to build 2.

Parks, Rec. & Wellness Committee budget has included for 3,000.00 of Outdoor Rink supplies. Wheelchair accessibility mat for beach 3,500.00, signage to state no water testing 600.00.

Total to be covered by operating is 12,600.00.

Total Amount of New Operating Expenses to be covered by the Operating Budget is 46,300.00.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-07 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Roads

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Roads expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Roads - Hard Top (Cold Patch)	201,000	44,323	156,677	50,000	(151,000)	Decreased to reflect Hard surfacing put to capital budget
Roads - Loose Top	80,000	8,120	71,880	50,000	(30,000)	Decreased
Roads - Road Side	-	305	(305)	15,000	15,000	Increased for roadside tree brushing
Roads - Winter Control	45,000	23,790	21,210	45,000	-	No change
Roads - Street Lights	3,000	1,309	1,691	3,000	-	No change
Total Roads	329,000	77,848	251,152	163,000	(166,000)	Overall decrease

Surface Treatment for 2025

Location	Single or Double	Length km	Width m	Gravel m3	Binder kg/l
Sextant Point Drive	Single	0.3	5.5	18.54	2,557.5
Jacksonville Rd	Single	1.0	6	67.4	9,300
Maple Point Rd. S.	Single	1.2	6	80.9	11,160
Labar Rd.	Single	1.1	6.5	80.4	11,082
Hideaway Rd.	Double	0.6	5.5	371.1	5,280
Hideaway Rd.	Single	0.6	5.5	37.1	5,115
Lilly Rd.	Single	0.5	5.5	30.9	4,262

Total Capital Road Cost 155,000



Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Director of Finance



SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-08 (3)

File: Operating Budget – Public Services Expense

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed Public Services expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Ambulance	253,822	253,822	-	270,029	16,207	Fixed Amount
Contribution Expense	15,000	18,275	(3,275)	22,045	7,045	Over Budget in 2024 due to Phys. Recruitment due to Gore Bay from Prior Year. Increased - see New Oper. Exp. Notes
DSSAB Childcare	22,602	22,602	-	22,828	226	Fixed Amount
DSSAB Ontario Works	31,935	31,935	-	29,584	(2,351)	Fixed Amount
DSSAB Social Housing	84,963	84,963	-	96,030	11,067	Fixed Amount
Home for Aged	42,609	41,789	820	44,739	2,130	Fixed Amount
Information Centre	-	-	-	4,998	4,998	Tourist Info. Centre share – Not yet billed for 2024 (2,499 per year)
Levy School Boards - EP	300,000	310,217	(10,217)	325,727	25,727	Fixed Amount – Under budgeted 2024
Levy Schools Boards - FP	3,500	1,644	1,856	1,727	(1,773)	Fixed Amount – Over budgeted 2024
Levy Planning Board	20,000	18,829	1,171	19,771	(229)	Fixed Amount
Policing	208,100	223,975	(15,875)	214,308	6,208	Fixed Amount
Sudbury Dist. Health Unit	34,358	34,358	0	36,436	2,078	Fixed Amount
Total Public Services	1,016,889	1,042,409	(25,520)	1,088,222	71,333	Overall increase



Public Services reflect the services that are covered by others for the Township of Billings, including Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board that include childcare, Ontario works and housing. Home for the aged is the Townships contribution to the Manor. Local Planning Board expense is for the Townships contribution to the Manitoulin Planning Board. The Ontario Provincial Police provide policing services, and the Sudbury District Health Board provide health services. All agencies are required to submit budgets to their boards prior to forwarding on the expenses to the municipalities.

New Operating Expenses:

Contribution Expenses - includes North Shore Search & Rescue 2,000.00, Police Board 2,000.00, Gore Bay Airport 5,000.00, MHC 2,000.00, Legion 395.00, MADD 200.00, Heart & Stroke 50.00, Manitoulin Family Resources 500.00, Manitoulin Streams 3,500.00, Manitoulin Student Aid Bursary of 400.00, Gore Bay Fish & Game 1,000.00 and NEW is the Gore Bay Arena from 2,500.00 up to 5,000.00.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-09 (03)

File: Operating Budget – Other Services

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed other expense be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Contracts	342,172	413,156	(70,984)	287,123	(55,048)	2024 Overage - 5K increase bldg. Insp., Employing Hiring Co. 20K, Strat. Plan 34K, 2,500 Haz. Waste 2023 Billed late, Additional Pinchin Exp. – Increased for projected actual & Reduced GFL exp. For 2025 7K Pinchin
Pound	250	225	25	250	0	No Change
Regulation Compliance	12,000	1,812	10,188	2,000	(10,000)	Reduced to actual
Project Expenses	88,300	0	88,300	0	0	These expenses now relate to Capital – no longer use this account.
Total Other Services	442,722	415,193	27,528	289,373	(153,348)	Overall decrease

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-10 (03)

File: Capital Budget

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed capital budget be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Capital Asset Budget 2025

Capital Funding Sources	Amount	Comments/Detail
EV Charging Station	22,500	75% covered by grant
Community Emergency Preparedness Grant	18,500	PW Generator
CCBF (AMO Gas Tax)	197,079	Engineering for Lakeshore 42,079 Road & Hard Surfacing 5km 155,000
OCIF - Capital Funding	121,669	Engineering for Mud Creek Road
Water Reserve	100,600	Water Infrastructure (new equip. per OCWA)
Deferred Revenue	160,500	Accessibility Grant 100,000, EV 7,500, Cedar Maze 10,000, Park Centre Flooring 43,000
Budgeted Surplus	563,899	12,000 Mariner's Park Engineering, 6K Bridge Guardrail, PC Parking Lot 30K, Accessibility Grant Additional funds added from current earnings 20K, Landfill Closure Costs 73,500 - Remaining funds of 326,598 to be put toward road reserves
Total Funding Sources	1,184,747	

Capital Expenditures	Amount	Comments/Detail
Buildings	211,500	EV 30K, PC Flooring 43K, PW Generator 18,500, Accessibility - Old Mill Bldg., 120K
Water Infrastructure	100,600	Water Treatment Plant 100,600
Roads & Bridges	288,079	Engineering for Lakeshore & Mud Creek 97,079, Hard Surfacing 155,000, Bridge Guardrail 6,000, PC Parking Lot 30,000
Recreation - Cedar Maze	10,000	Cedar Maze or Splash Pad
Recreation - Museum	12,000	Engineering - Mariner's Park



Road Reserve	489,068	Reserve for Lakeshore & Mud Creed Road (future work)
Landfill Reserve	73,500	Post Closure Costs - Allocated annually to Landfill Reserve
Total Expenses	1,184,747	

Total Capital Budget **1,184,747**

Short/Long Term Capital Projects

Vehicles	Recreation	Roads & Bridges	Buildings
- Grader (PW)	- Church Bathroom	- Mud Creek Road	- Flooring (Library)
- Backhoe (PW)	- Modular Toilets (beach)	- Lakeshore Road	
- Tanker Truck (Fire)	- Pave Park Centre Parking Lot		
	- Dredging (small craft basin)		
	- Boat Launch (Lake Kagawong)		
	- Aus. Hunt Marina		

Misc.

- Rescue Ram (Fire)
- Server (office)

Landfill – Post closure costs – 73,500 Annually or 882,000 at 2037

Asset Management Plan recommendations:

Municipality to commit approximately \$345,000 towards capital projects per year from sustainable revenue sources.

Respectfully Submitted By: Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



Special Council Report

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-11 (2)

File: Operating Budget - Water

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed water revenue & expenses be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Discussion:

Revenue/Expense	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Budget Under (Over)	Budget 2025	Budget Increase (decrease)	Notes
Water Usage Revenue	303,583	258,698	44,885	290,587	(12,996)	Budget 2024 was over estimated – Included all municipal properties. Added levy municipal properties 2025 (91 main, Fire Hall, PW Garage, Office, PC) \$7,278
Water Hookup/Shut off/on Revenue	200	400	(200)	0	(200)	Amount is too unpredictable to budget for
Water Misc. & Bulk Water Revenue	9,000	7,345	1,655	10,000	1,000	Increased per new bulk water system fees estimate.
Bank Interest Revenue	16,200	22,055	(5,855)	20,000	3,800	
Total Revenue	328,983	288,498	40,485	320,587	(8,396)	
Insurance	1,700	9,043	(7,343)	0	(1,700)	Water Insurance is covered by OCWA
Contract Expense	126,816	136,795	(9,979)	126,816	0	OCWA contract – extra work in 2024
Supplies Expense	0	135	(135)	150	150	Increased to cover supplies
Hydro Expense	32,000	34,096	32,000	(2,096)	0	Hydro 2024 included a 2023 expense, no change 2025
Propane Expense	450	63	387	450	0	Propane expense – no change
Telephone & Internet	1,350	1,254	96	1,350	0	Telephone expense – no change
Water Expense	-	-	-	7,278	7,278	Municipal properties water expense
Total Expense	162,316	181,386	15,026	133,948	5,728	



Net Income (Loss)	166,667	107,112	25,459	186,639	(2,668)	Overall decrease
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Asset Management Plan recommendations:

Municipality to increase water rate revenues by 6.3% minimum, annually for the next 20 years to achieve a sustainable level of funding for the water network.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



SPECIAL COUNCIL REPORT

Department: Treasury

Date: March 4, 2025

Report Number: TR-2025-02 (3)

File: Operating & Capital Budget – New Expense Items Summary

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Billings Council hereby recommends the proposed New Items Expense Summary be brought forward to the 2025 Township of Billings budget.

Building & Equipment:

Equip. Maintenance: Staff would like to request that the booth at the landfill be replaced and that a sea can or operator shed be purchased for storage. The estimated cost total is 5,000.00. Public Works requires a Backhoe filter \$15,000.00.

Maintenance & Repairs: Staff requests that some upgrades be made to the Municipal office including a shelf and separate outlet for the microwave and a fan be installed in the washroom. The estimated cost is 3,500.00. The Billings Public Library requires a hot water on demand system for proper cleaning, a dehumidifier and a heat pump to have proper heating and cooling. The estimated cost is 15,000.00. Staff will seek funding opportunities for energy efficiency programs to offset the cost.

Administration Expense:

Advertising:

Marina – PORTS Cruising guide ad. 2,000.00.

Museum – Old Mill 100th anniversary special event ad. 2,000.00.

Recreation – Seasonal Banners 2,500.00, Film Maker Directory 500.00 ¼ page.

Health & Safety:

Fire – Electricity Detector (may be covered by Emergency Preparation Grant), 850.00

Public Works - – Electricity Detector (may be covered by Emergency Preparation Grant), 850.00

Insurance:

Increased (39%) to reflect increase in value for buildings that were previously undervalued, new Public Works Equipment, Low Risk Event coverage – Park Centre.

Subscriptions & Memberships:

Increased to include new GIS – Mapping software 3,525.00 – Possible funding for this item.

Supplies & Equipment:

Supplies:

Fire – Ceremony Uniforms (450.00 x 3 & 200.00 x 11) 3,550.00, Trauma Kit 700.00, Defib. Battery 300.00, Training manual performance books 2,500.00, Wildland Gear 8,230.45 which will be covered by a grant



Protective Services – Supplies of 31,038.59 will be covered by the Emergency Preparedness Grant which includes a generator for public works garage (see capital budget).

Public Works – New Computer 1,500.00

Landfill – Signage 1,500.00, User ID Program & Garbage ID Tags 8,500.00.

Museum – Includes Special Old Mill 100th Anniversary Celebration items such as a Time Capsule 2,500.00, History Books 5,700.00, History Day Gala 2,500.00, History Day event with special guests 2,500.00, Everard Boat artifact retrieval 2,000.00 and contingency of 1,500.00. Total to be covered by operating is 16,700.00.

Recreation – Includes seniors grant supplies 12,500 (1st installment) for program we do not know at this time what portions will be supplies/wages. We will receive more funding in 2026.

New Cabana for the Market is 5,500.00. PW does not have enough resources/time to build 2.

Parks, Rec. & Wellness Committee budget has included for 3,000.00 of Outdoor Rink supplies. Wheelchair accessibility mat for beach 3,500.00, signage to state no water testing 600.00.

Total to be covered by operating is 12,600.00.

Total Amount of New Operating Expenses to be covered by the Operating Budget is 46,300.00.

2025 New Capital Projects

Museum - Mariner's Park	12,000	Seek Funding from Experience Ontario Grant - Municipality will pay Engineering 12,000
PW Generator	18,500	Community Emergency Preparedness Grant
Lakeshore & Mud Creek Road Engineering	97,079	Engineering Lakeshore/Mud Creek
Mud Creek & Lakeshore Road Work Reserve	162,470	Lakeshore Road Work
Hard Surfacing	155,000	5 KM
Water Treatment Plant (new equip.)	100,600	Per OCWA
Landfill Post Closure Cost	73,500	Per AMP
OMR Bridge Guardrail	6,000	Per quote
Park Centre Parking Lot	30,000	Hard Surfacing
Accessibility Projects	<u>20,000</u>	Additional costs above 100K Grant
	<u>675,149</u>	



Respectfully Submitted By:

Harmony Hancock, Treasurer



FORTFRANCES

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

Monday, February 10, 2025

Oral Motion

“THAT Council supports the Town of Halton Hills Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding the Sovereignty of Canada.”

Moved by Wendy Brunetta, Seconded by Steven Maki, Motion Carried by Council.

WHEREAS President Trump has suggested that with the use of “economic force” such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions, and by more than a century and a half of multicultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect, and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Fort Frances categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Ford and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.



BLUE SKY NET

ONTARIO • CANADA

BLUE SKY ECONOMIC GROWTH CORPORATION



CONNECTEDNORTH.CA

NORTHERN ONTARIO BROADBAND REPORT

2025

NORTHERN ONTARIO BROADBAND REPORT HIGHLIGHT

Prepared By:
Blue Sky Net

The 2025 Northern Ontario Broadband Report is the third annual report that highlights the status of broadband availability and projects in Northern Ontario.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Connectivity is crucial to Northern Ontario. Whether it's a student using the internet to complete an assignment, moving goods across our vast part of the province, competing in the digital world, providing health care, or navigating the often-complicated world of government. Broadband access is critical to achieving positive outcomes.

Broadband is part of cultivating a strong and diverse economy. More Broadband deployment enables us to grow Northern Ontario, to the Northwest, to the Northeast, the Far North and to Central Northern Ontario. Access to the world through internet connectivity enables us to grow Northern Ontario as a magnet for jobs and prepares our workforce. It delivers greater educational opportunities, empowers farming, agriculture, tourism and mining. It provides higher paying jobs and encourages entrepreneurship in our First Nation and Municipal communities.

We must continue to encourage grant funding that allows for the expansion of Broadband in areas where less population does not provide the business case for Internet Service Providers to go it alone without financial assistance for capital expenditures.

Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation will ensure that we continue to help ISPs, municipalities and First Nations so that the North can compete for federal and provincial funds. We will work with stakeholders to gain access to funds, and we will be there from the first word of an application to the first switch that turns it all on.

We will continue to support technology adoption so that businesses have every opportunity to use connectivity to their advantage. We will work to provide tools that help move them forward in this very competitive world.

Let's continue to work together and bring the North "up to speed", improve our quality of place and create effective solutions for Broadband networks that serve all the North.

Respectfully,

Susan Church



Susan Church

Executive Director
Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation



ABOUT

BLUE SKY NET & CONNECTEDNORTH.CA


BLUE SKY NET

The Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation (Blue Sky Net) is a FedNor-funded not-for-profit organization with a mandate to support economic development and innovation through the promotion of technology adoption.




Contact

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 info@bluesky.net.ca

 [@BlueSkyNetNorth](https://www.facebook.com/BlueSkyNetNorth)

 [@BlueskyNetNorth.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/BlueskyNetNorth)

 [Blue Sky Economic Growth Corporation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/blue-sky-economic-growth-corporation)

CONNECTEDNORTH.CA

Connectednorth.ca is a Blue Sky Net project that provides information resources and GIS mapping of broadband for all of Ontario with a focus on Northern Ontario.



CONNECTEDNORTH.CA

Contact

 www.connectednorth.ca

 connectednorth@bluesky.net.ca

Blue Sky Net appreciates the support from the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario.



Federal Economic Development
Agency for Northern Ontario

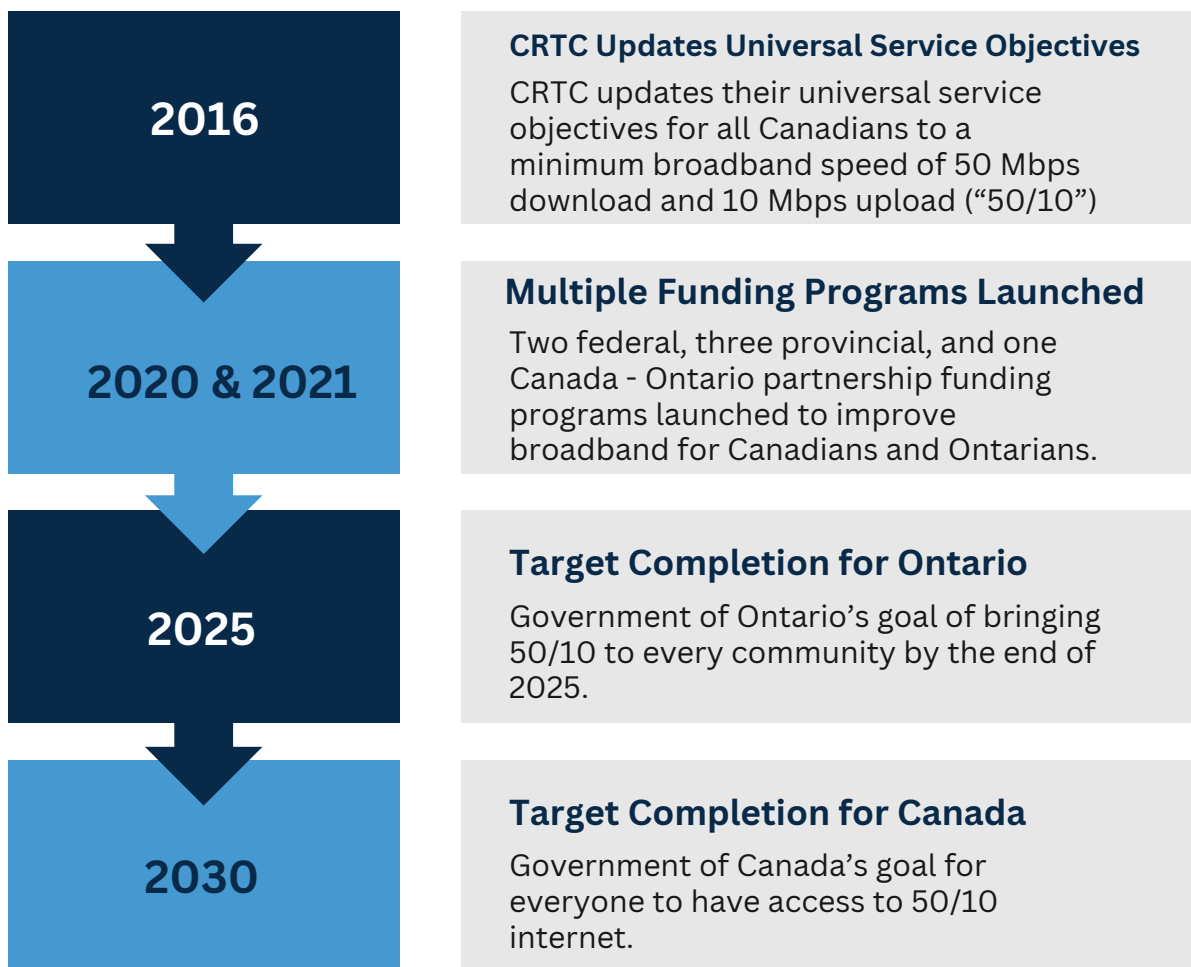
Agence fédérale de développement
économique pour le Nord de l'Ontario



BACKGROUND

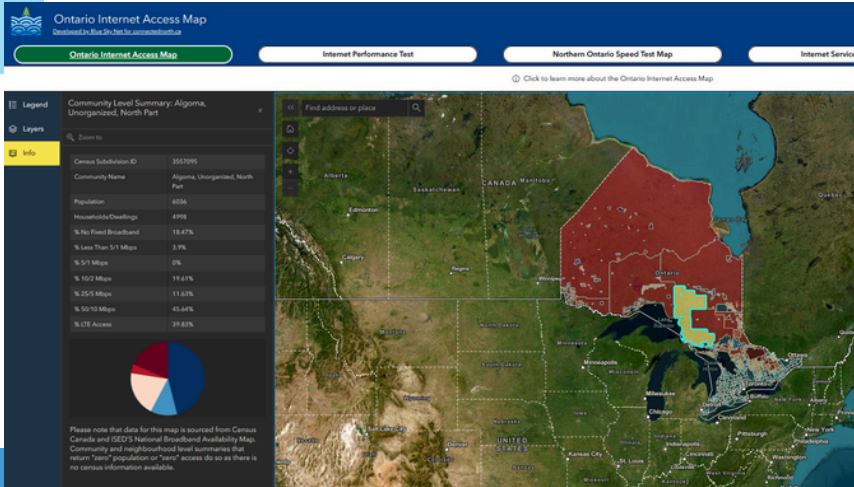
In 2016, the CRTC updated its universal service objectives and mandated that the minimum broadband access for Canadian homes and businesses as 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload (which will be represented as “50/10” within this document). According to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), as of November 2024 95.9% of Ontario households have 50/10 available (up 3% from September 2023). However, if Northern Ontario is isolated from these statistics, 75% of Northern Ontario households have 50/10 availability as of October 2024 and that number is even smaller when you isolate the five largest communities.

Governments on both the Federal and Provincial levels have been investing in broadband projects. They have both identified the economic and social importance of access to high-speed internet and, as well, understand the cost-linked barriers associated with developing networks for Internet Service Providers in rural and remote regions. Over \$1.1 billion has been approved by Federal and Ontario governments for broadband projects in Northern Ontario.



METHODOLOGY

BLUE SKY NET GIS ANALYSIS

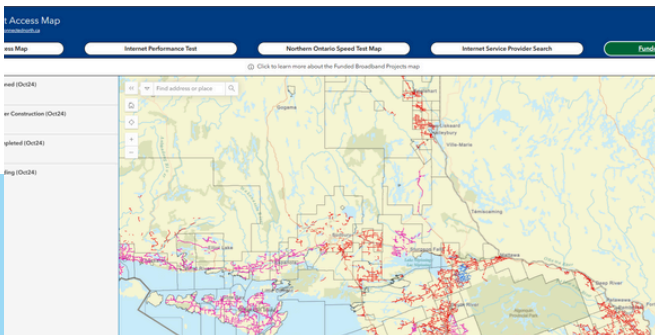


Blue Sky Net has developed public-facing mapping tools on the **Ontario Internet Access Map** on connectednorth.ca where users can see the level of broadband available in their area, search for internet service providers, view speed test data, submit their own speed tests, search for internet providers and see the status of funded broadband projects in Ontario.

BROADBAND ACCESS INFORMATION

Blue Sky Net has consolidated publicly available information from both ISED's National Broadband data portal and Census Canada community data to perform an analysis of broadband availability throughout all of Ontario. This analysis utilizes pseudo-households and broadband road-segment data to provide a look at district, community and neighbourhood-level broadband access availability.

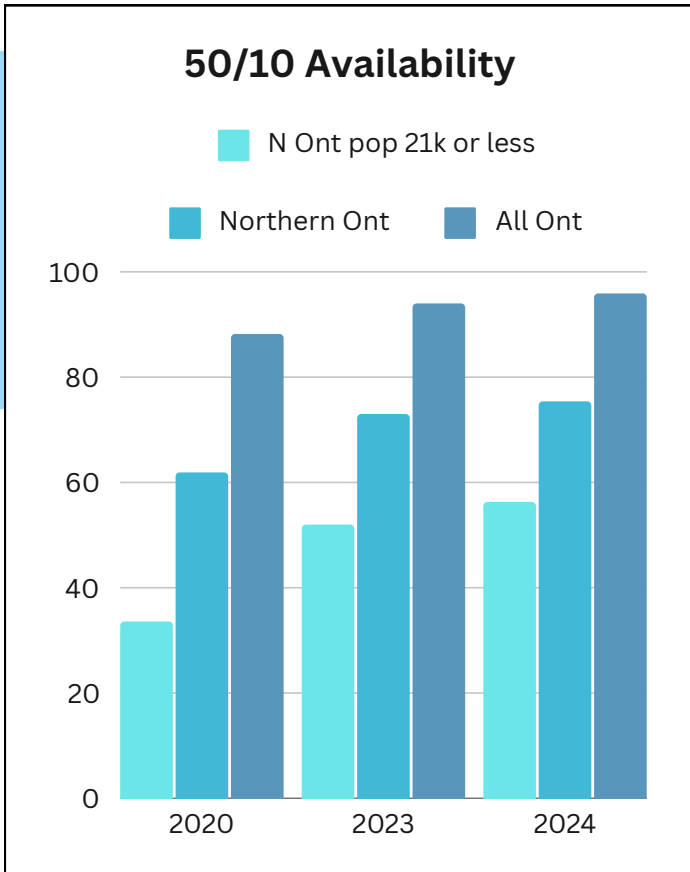
The Pseudo-Household Demographic Distribution is a geospatial representative distribution of demographic data (population and households) derived from the Canadian Census from Statistics Canada. Demography is distributed within Dissemination Blocks along roadways, providing a more accurate geospatial distribution while still aligning with published Census geographies. Pseudo-household demographics are currently used to calculate broadband Internet service availability, but are equally applicable to other disciplines requiring a spatial distribution of households or population.



ANNOUNCED AND IN-PROGRESS BROADBAND PROJECTS

Data is taken from the Ontario Connects website and open data files. Project information within this report was last updated on Ontario Connects in October 2024.

KEY FINDINGS



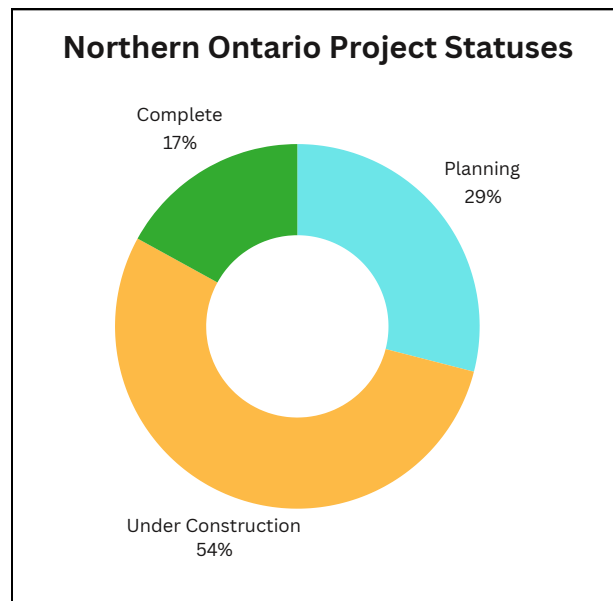
Progress is happening, but there's still a long way to go

From the end of 2020 to 2024, the most significant improvements were seen in **Northern Ontario communities with population of 21k or less** (this would include all communities aside from the 5 largest communities in Northern Ontario) with a 23% increase in availability. However, even with the 23% increase, **the 50/10 availability for these communities is still at only 56.6% covered.**

The percentage of households in Ontario covered with 50/10 Mbps is at 96%, Northern Ontario statistics are still lagging behind.

- 75% of Northern Ontario households have access to 50/10, up 2% from 2023.
- 56% of Northern Ontario communities with 21k or less population have access to 50/10. Up 5% from 2023.

Broadband projects that are due to be completed by the end of 2025 are only 17% completed as of October 2024 - a 7% increase in completion rate from 2023, but still far behind the progress of projects in the rest of Ontario with a completion rate of 48%.



NORTHERN ONTARIO SUMMARY



What is defined as Northern Ontario

The geographic boundary of Northern Ontario as defined by the federal government includes 12 districts and within those 12 districts there are 286 communities.



Large Landmass to Population Ratio

Northern Ontario covers 89% of the land mass of Ontario, but also has only 6% of the population of Ontario.

Outside of Northern Ontario, population density is **~132 people per square kilometer**. In **Northern Ontario** the population density is **1 person per square kilometer**. Even within the 5 largest cities in Northern Ontario, the average population density is still only ~63 people per square kilometer. This presents a challenge that is amplified in Northern Ontario for Internet Service Providers seeking to expand their networks as population density is lower than larger urban centers elsewhere in the country and the business case is diminished.

5 Largest Communities

Northern Ontario's 5 largest communities are:

1. Greater Sudbury (*Greater Sudbury District*)
2. Thunder Bay (*Thunder Bay District*)
3. Sault Ste. Marie (*Algoma District*)
4. North Bay (*Nipissing District*)
5. Timmins (*Cochrane District*)

These 5 communities account for 46% of the dwellings and 52% of the population of Northern Ontario.



NORTHERN ONTARIO BROADBAND

The following sections will provide snapshots into the state of broadband and broadband projects in Northern Ontario for 2024. Categories of maximum availability are categorized by 50/10 Mbps (or more), 25/5 Mbps, 10/2 Mbps and 5 Mbps or lower (this includes no service).

56%

of Northern Ontario outside the 5 largest cities have access to 50/10

Progress is Being Made

50/10 Mbps availability outside of the 5 largest cities increased by 4.6% from 2023 to 2024.

Since 2020, availability in Northern Ontario outside the 5 largest cities has increased by 23%.

75% OF NORTHERN ONTARIO HAS 50/10 MBPS AVAILABILITY

Availability of 50/10 Mbps in Northern Ontario has increased by 2.4% over 2023.

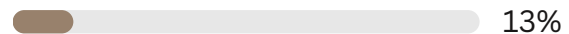
5/1 Mbps or Less/No Service



10/2 Mbps



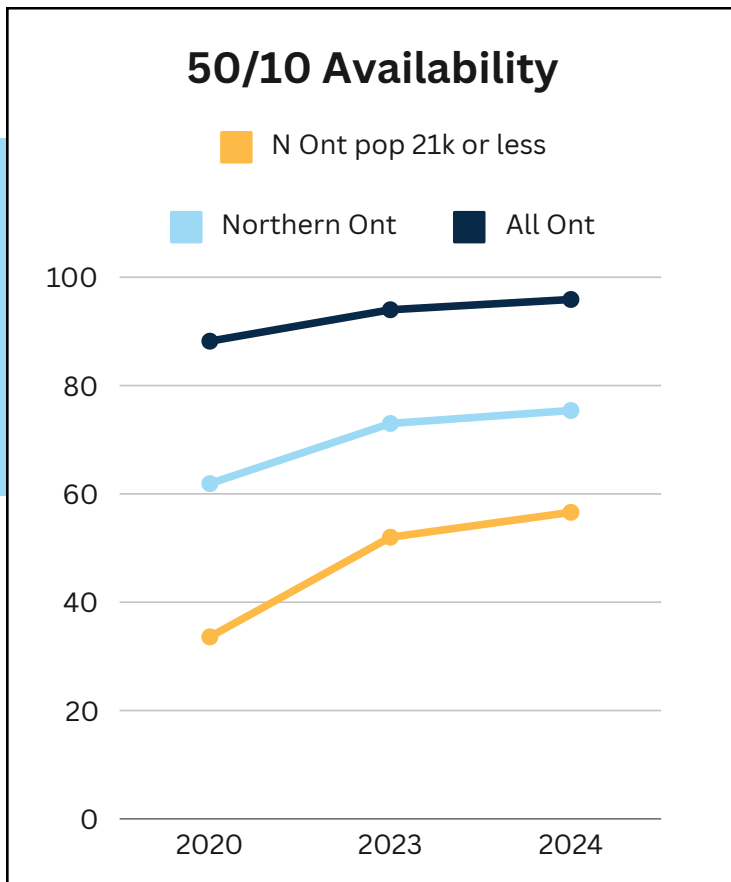
25/5 Mbps



50/10 Mbps

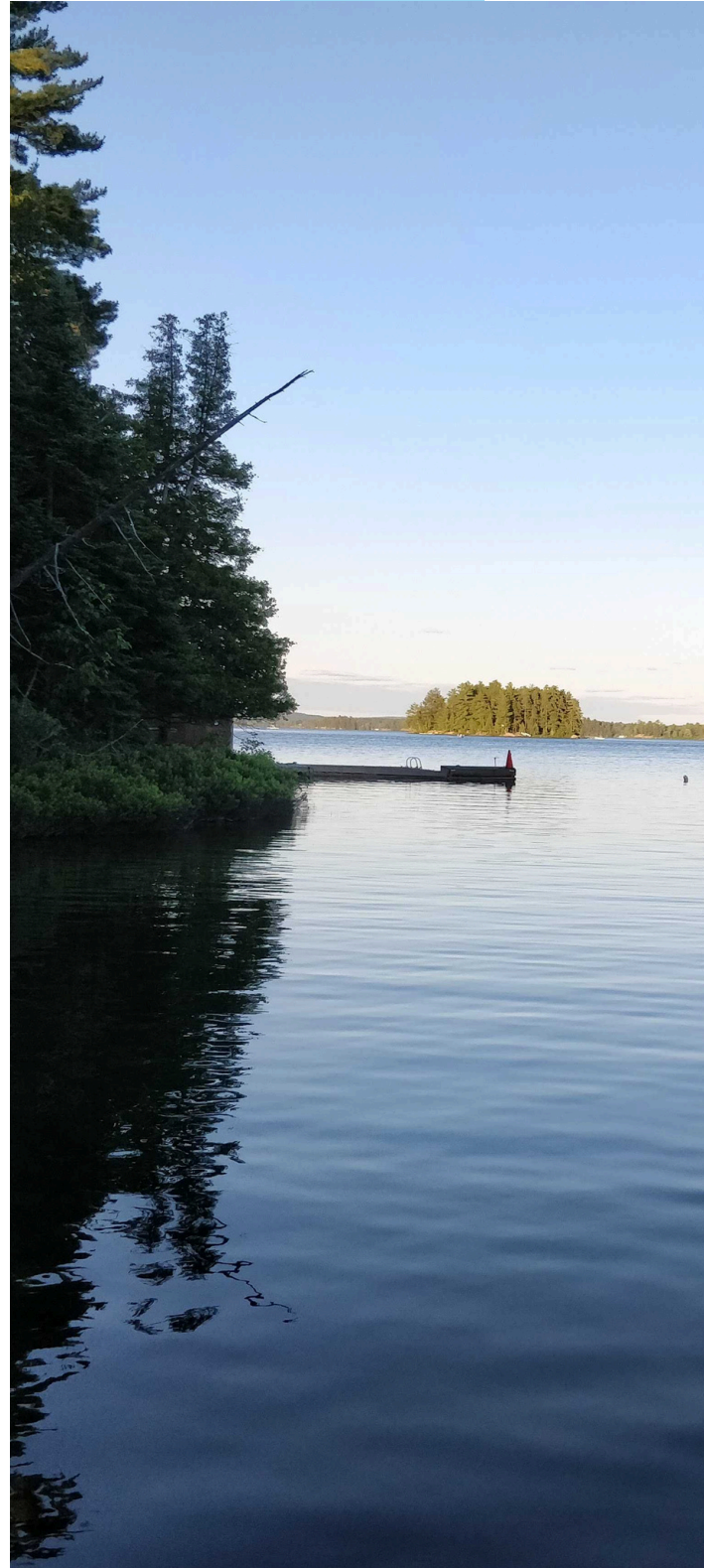


NORTHERN ONTARIO BROADBAND



Progress: 2020 to 2024

- 50/10 Mbps **availability in Ontario has increased by 7.7%** from 88.2% availability in 2020 to 95.9% availability in 2024.
- 50/10 Mbps **availability in Northern Ontario has increased by 13.5%** from 61.9% availability in 2020 to 75.4% in 2024.
- 50/10 Mbps **availability in Northern Ontario communities with 21k population or less (5 largest cities removed) has increased by 23%** from 33.6% availability in 2020 to 56.6% availability in 2024.



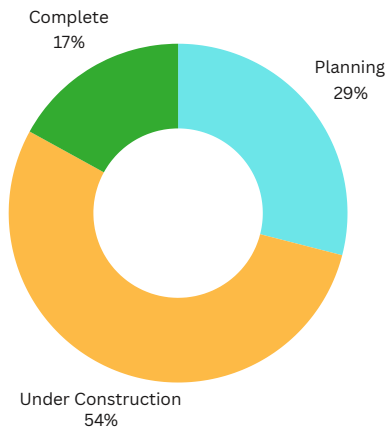
NORTHERN ONTARIO APPROVED PROJECTS

Both the Canadian Federal Government and the Ontario Provincial Government have committed to ensuring every household in Ontario has access to 50/10Mbps fixed broadband infrastructure. The Federal Government has set the date of 2030 for all of Canada and the Ontario Provincial Government has committed to every Ontario household by 2025 with all funded projects completed by the end of 2025.

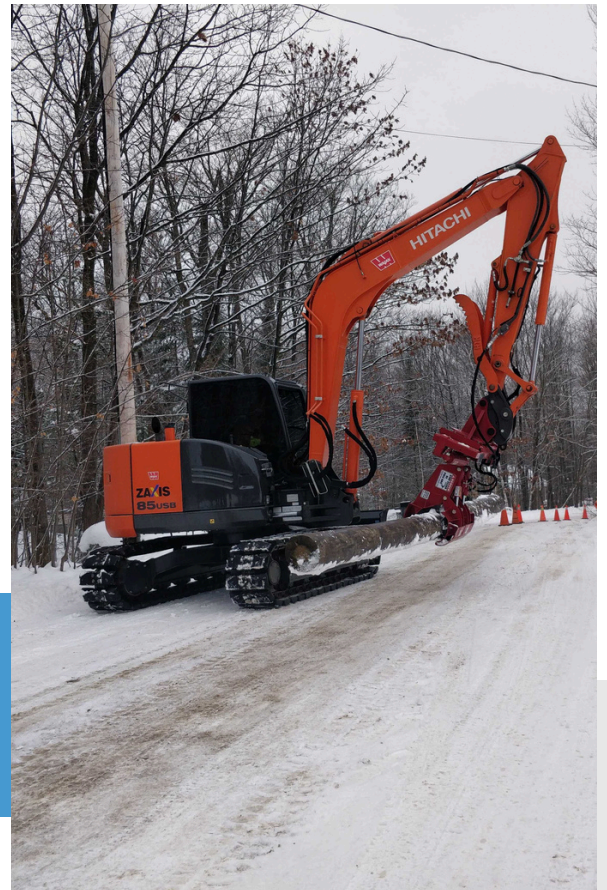
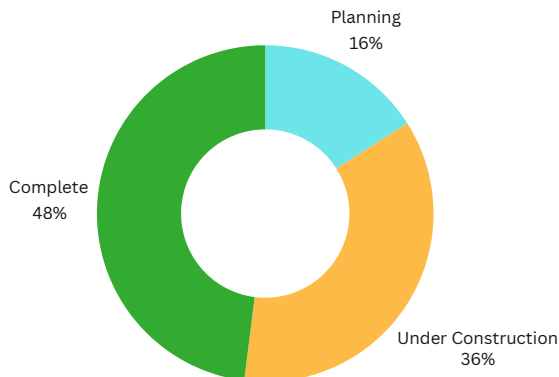
To reach these connectivity targets, the Federal and Provincial governments have announced financial contributions of over \$3.2 billion for Ontario broadband projects, \$1.1 billion of the Ontario broadband funding has been allocated to Northern Ontario. The Ontario government has committed to over \$4 billion in funding for Ontario broadband projects.

Projects are tracked and reported in three stages: Planning, Under Construction, and Complete. Completed project progress has increased by 11% from 2023 to 2024 in Northern Ontario and has increased by 6% in the areas outside Northern Ontario.

Northern Ontario Project Statuses



Statuses of Projects Outside Northern Ontario



DISTRICT OVERVIEW

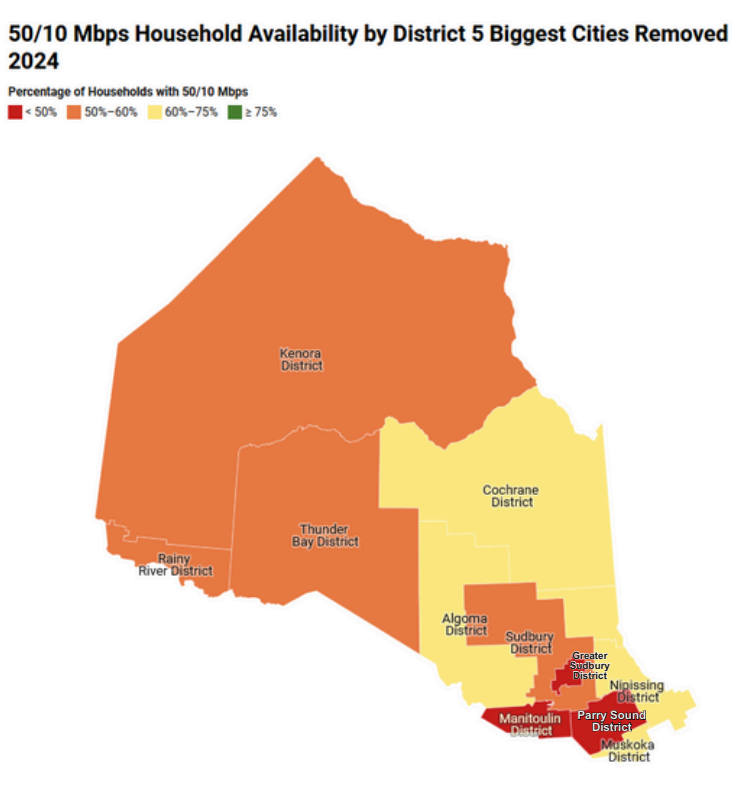
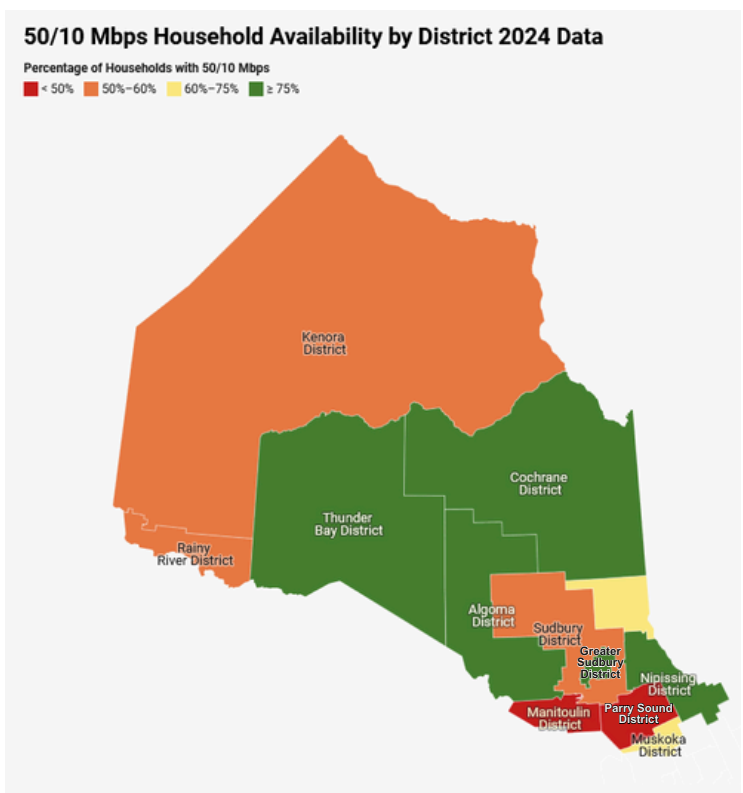
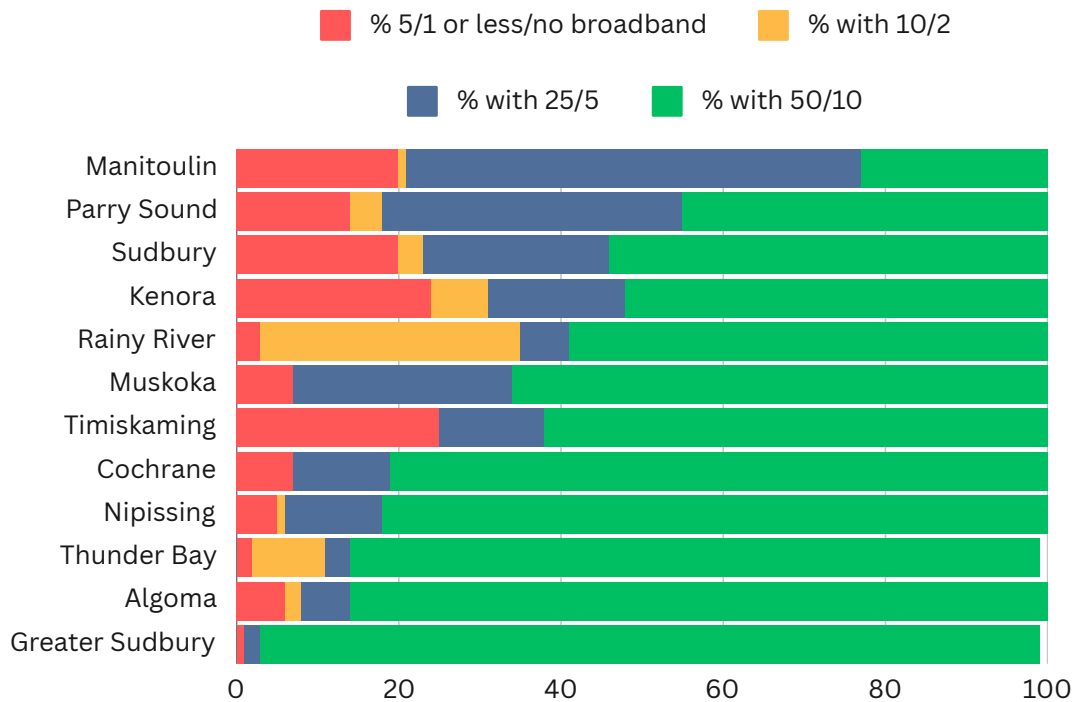
64 out of the 286 communities in Northern Ontario have at least 75% of dwellings covered with 50/10 Mbps availability.

This number has increased from 55 communities in 2023.

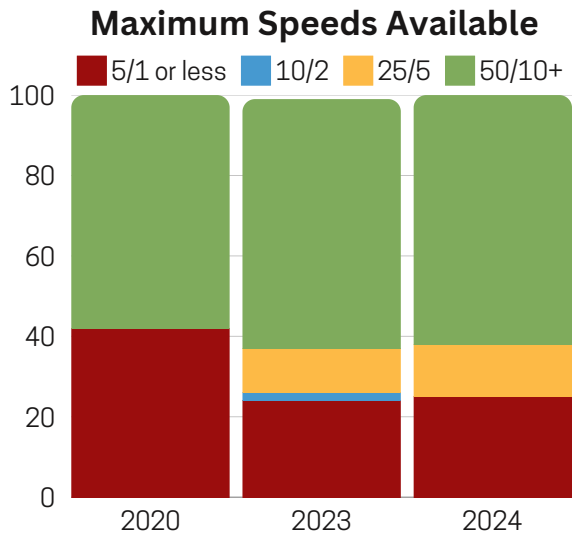
*Communities where data is not available include those not reported in census data, such as some First Nations communities.

District	# of Communities	# of communities with less than 50% of households with 50/10 available	# of communities with 50-74% of households with 50/10 available	# of communities with 75%+ of households with 50/10 available	# of communities data not available*
Algoma	33	13	5	12	3
Cochrane	23	11	1	9	2
Greater Sudbury	2	1	0	1	0
Kenora	57	43	2	8	4
Manitoulin	17	15	0	2	0
Muskoka	8	3	1	3	1
Nipissing	13	8	2	3	0
Parry Sound	31	21	4	5	1
Rainy River	25	17	1	5	2
Sudbury	17	8	6	2	1
Temiskaming	26	21	1	4	0
Thunder Bay	34	22	0	10	2
TOTALS	286	183	23	64	16

DISTRICT OVERVIEW

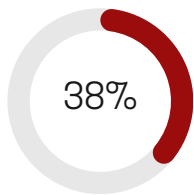


DISTRICT SNAPSHOT TIMISKAMING



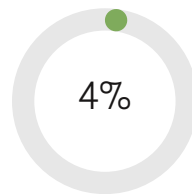
District Profile

of Communities: 26
 Population: 31,424
 # of Dwellings: 16,290
 Area (km²): 13,247.40



Dwellings with less than 50/10

38% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



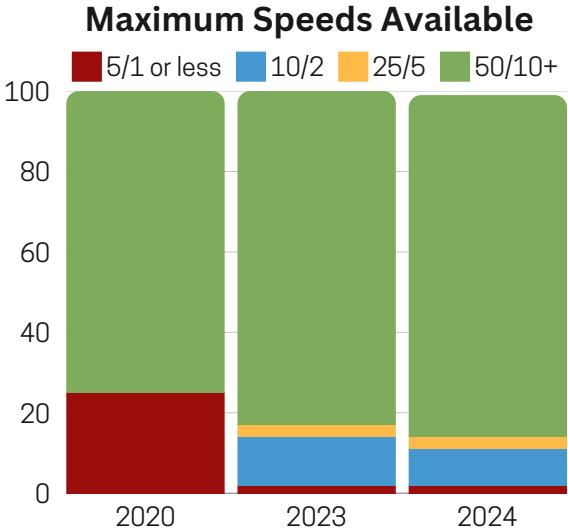
4 Year Change

There's been a 4% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



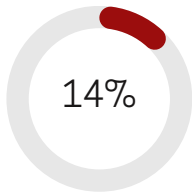
Cobalt, ON
 Chandel Gambles, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT THUNDER BAY

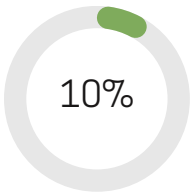


District Profile

of Communities: 34
 Population: 152,885
 # of Dwellings: 74,175
 Area (km²): 103,706

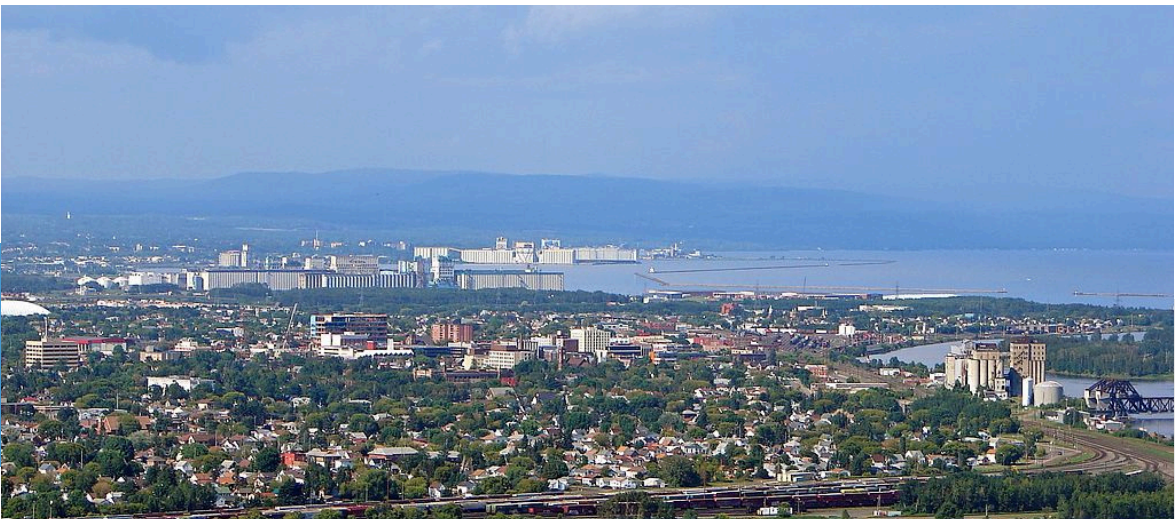


Dwellings with less than 50/10
 14% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



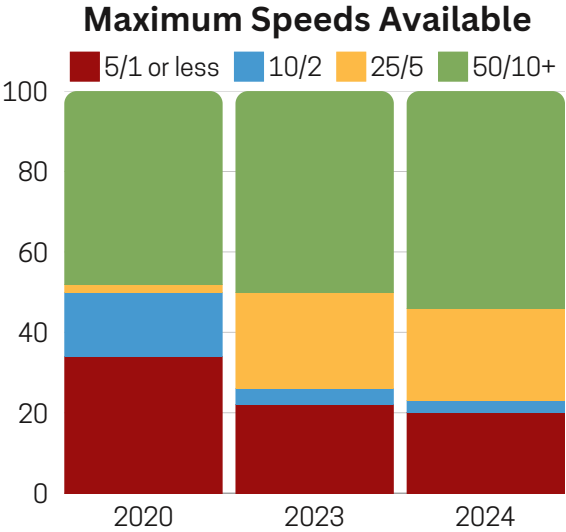
4 Year Change
 There's been a 10% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.

*If the city of Thunder Bay is removed from statistics, 50% of the remainder of the district is still without access to 50/10.



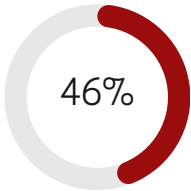
Thunder Bay, ON
 P199, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT SUDBURY

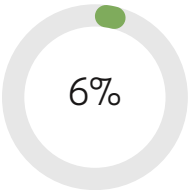


District Profile

- # of Communities: 17
- Population: 22,368
- # of Dwellings: 13,414
- Area (km²): 38,505



Dwellings with less than 50/10
46% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



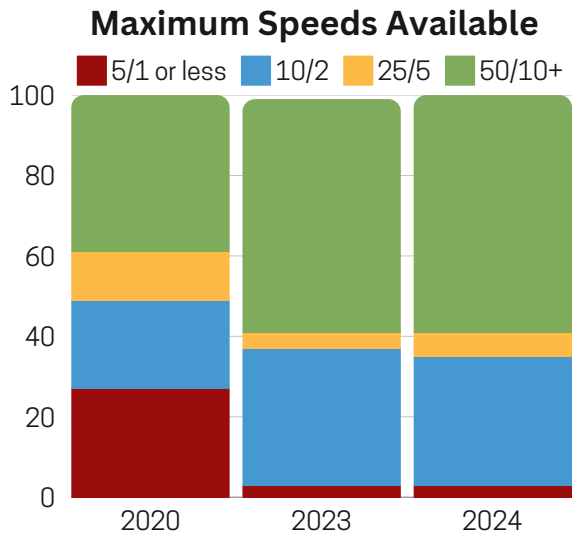
4 Year Change
There's been a 6% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



Killarney, ON
[Logan Stitt, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons](#)

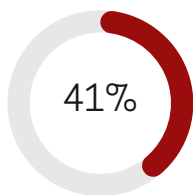
DISTRICT SNAPSHOT

RAINY RIVER



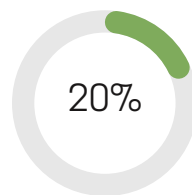
District Profile

of Communities: 25
 Population: 19,437
 # of Dwellings: 10,679
 Area (km²): 15,400



Dwellings with less than 50/10

41% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



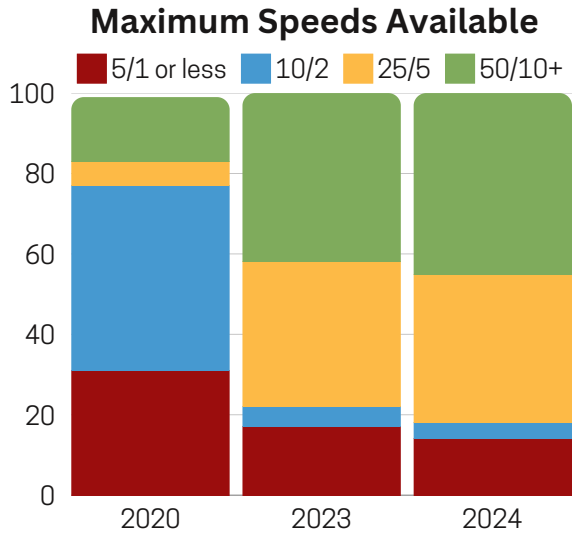
4 Year Change

There's been a 20% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



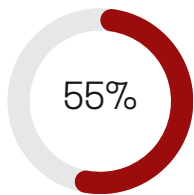
Rainy River, ON
 P199, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT PARRY SOUND



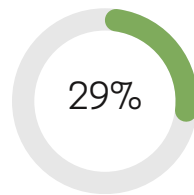
District Profile

of Communities: 31
 Population: 46,909
 # of Dwellings: 35,640
 Area (km²): 9,113



Dwellings with less than 50/10

55% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



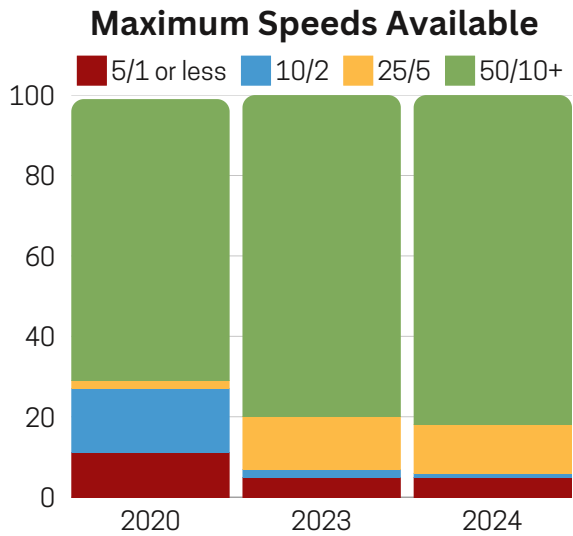
4 Year Change

There's been a 29% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



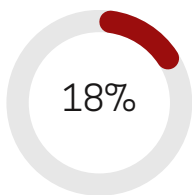
Parry Sound, ON
 Divya Thakur, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT NIPISSING



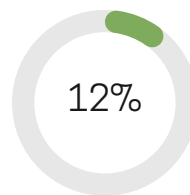
District Profile

of Communities: 13
 Population: 84,716
 # of Dwellings: 41,974
 Area (km²): 16,986



Dwellings with less than 50/10

18% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



4 Year Change

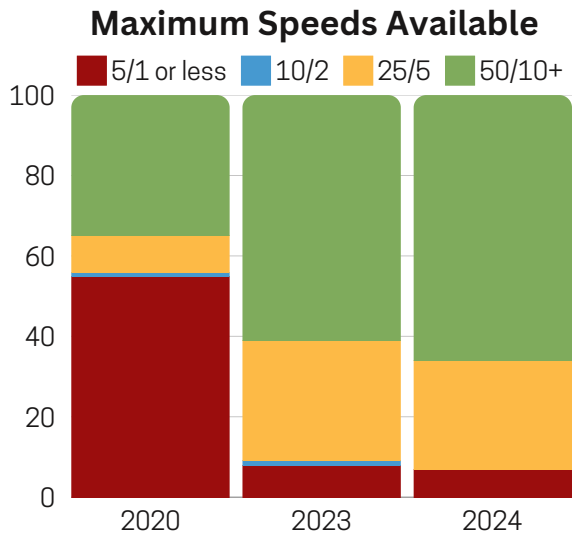
There's been a 12% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.

*If the city of North Bay is removed from statistics, 43% of the remainder of the district is still without access to 50/10.



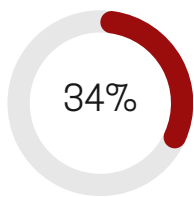
North Bay, ON

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT MUSKOKA



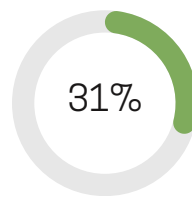
District Profile

of Communities: 8
 Population: 66,674
 # of Dwellings: 47,560
 Area (km²): 3,839



Dwellings with less than 50/10

34% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



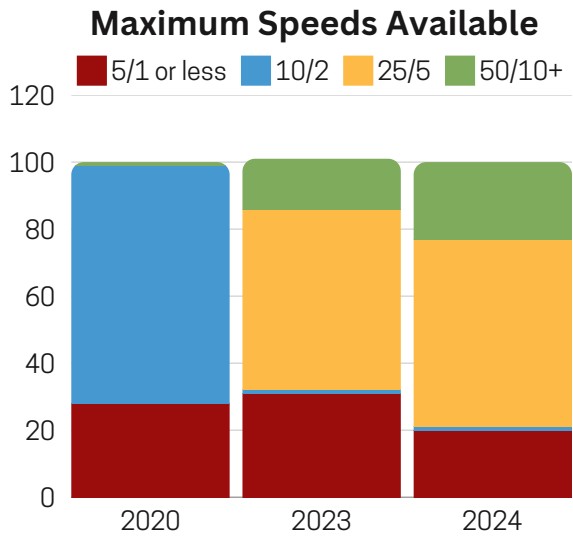
4 Year Change

There's been a 31% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



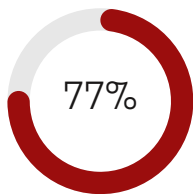
Gravenhurst, ON
[Whpg, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons](#)

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT MANITOULIN



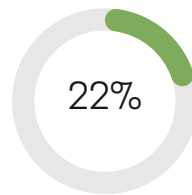
District Profile

of Communities: 17
 Population: 13,935
 # of Dwellings: 9,302
 Area (km²): 3,073



Dwellings with less than 50/10

77% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



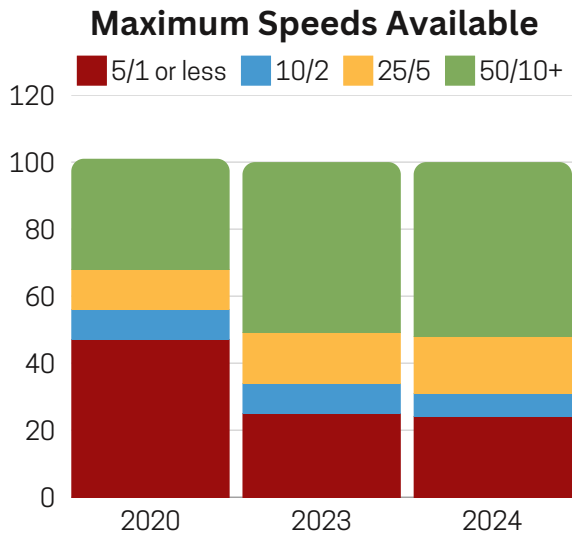
4 Year Change

There's been a 22% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



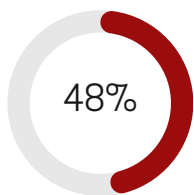
Manitoulin Island, ON
 Xander Ashburn, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT KENORA



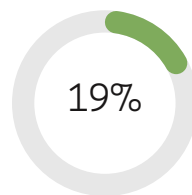
District Profile

of Communities: 57
 Population: 66,000
 # of Dwellings: 32,914
 Area (km²): 395,432



Dwellings with less than 50/10

44% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



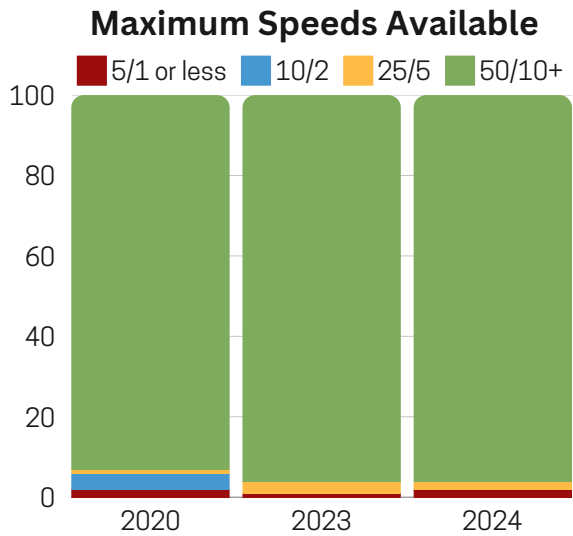
4 Year Change

There's been a 19% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



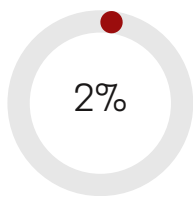
Kenora, ON
 P199, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT GREATER SUDBURY



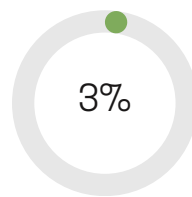
District Profile

of Communities: 2
 Population: 166,128
 # of Dwellings: 76,036
 Area (km²): 3,196



Dwellings with less than 50/10

2% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



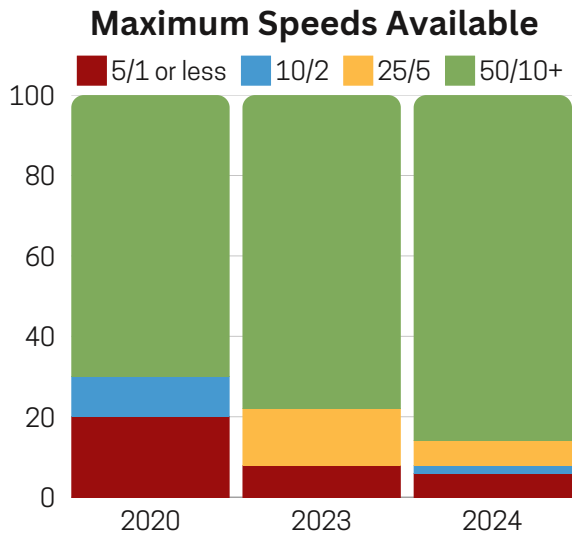
4 Year Change

There's been a 3% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.



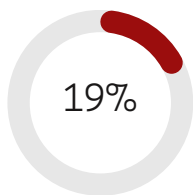
Sudbury, ON
 Andre Carrotflower, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT COCHRANE



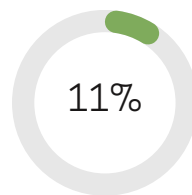
District Profile

of Communities: 23
 Population: 77,963
 # of Dwellings: 37,667
 Area (km²): 139,784



Dwellings with less than 50/10

19% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



4 Year Change

There's been a 11% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.

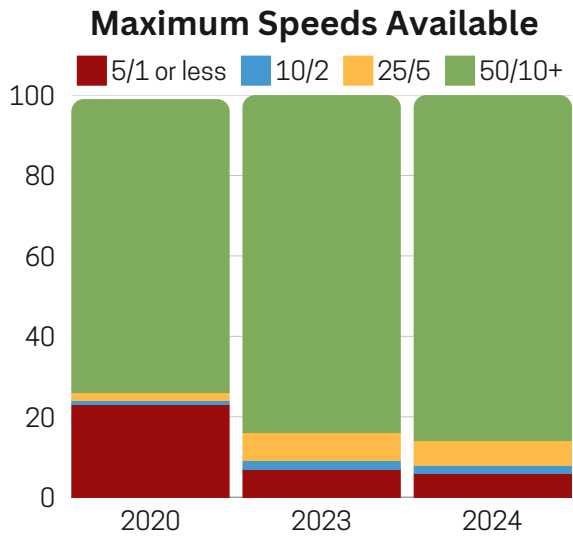
*If the city of Timmins is removed from statistics, 34% of the remainder of the district is still without access to 50/10.



Cochrane, ON
 P199, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT

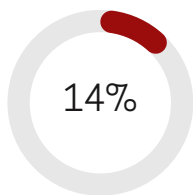
ALGOMA



District Profile

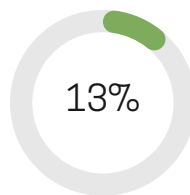
of Communities: 33
 Population: 113,777
 # of Dwellings: 59,854
 Area (km²): 48,281

*If the city of Thunder Bay is removed from statistics, 50% of the remainder of the district is still without access to 50/10



Dwellings with less than 50/10

14% of dwellings are still without access to 50/10.



4 Year Change

There's been a 13% increase in 50/10 availability from 2020-2024.

*If the city of Sault Ste. Marie is removed from statistics, 60% of the remainder of the district is still without access to 50/10.



Wawa, ON
 Kevstan, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

CLOSING REMARKS

As we conclude this 2025 Northern Ontario Broadband Report, it's clear that significant progress has been made in expanding broadband access across the region. However, challenges remain in bridging the digital divide between urban centers and rural communities.

Looking Ahead: The path to universal broadband access in Northern Ontario remains challenging due to its vast geography and low population density. However, continued investment and focused efforts from both federal and provincial governments, along with private sector partnerships, are essential to meeting connectivity goals.

As we approach the Ontario government's 2025 target for universal 50/10 Mbps access, it's crucial to maintain momentum and address the unique obstacles faced by remote and underserved communities. The economic and social benefits of improved connectivity cannot be overstated, as they are fundamental to the region's future growth and prosperity.

Blue Sky Net remains committed to tracking progress, providing valuable insights, and supporting initiatives that bring high-speed internet to all Northern Ontario residents. Together, we can work towards a more connected and digitally empowered Northern Ontario.

REFERENCES

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). (2024). Broadband Fund closing the Digital Divide in Canada. CRTC. <https://crtc.gc.ca/eng/internet/internet.htm>

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada High-Speed Internet Access Dashboard. <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/sts-sst/hsiad-tbihs/high-speed-internet-canada/en/universal-access/broadband-dashboard.html>

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada National Broadband Data (Nov 2024) <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/00a331db-121b-445d-b119-35dbbe3eedd9>

Government of Ontario, Ontario High-Speed Internet Projects & Availability (Oct 2024) <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-connects-making-high-speed-internet-accessible-in-every-community>

Statistics Canada, Census Profiles (2021) <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

February 20, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Re: Ontario Deposit Return Program

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, February 10, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0025 regarding Support for the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding Ontario Deposit Return Program.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0025.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

- cc. Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP Wellington – Halton Hills
Leaders of the Opposition Parties
All Municipalities in Ontario



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS

THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0025

Title: Ontario Deposit Return Program

Date: February 10, 2025

Moved by: Councillor C. Somerville

Seconded by: Councillor J. Fogal

Item No. 12.1

WHEREAS the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers;

AND WHEREAS ON September 20, 2024 the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury issued a letter endorsing the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills has always shown a leadership role in environmental matters including, passing in 2005, asking the province to create a deposit and return system for wine and liquor bottles;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Town of Halton Hills hereby supports the letter dated September 20, 2024, by the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); MPP Ted Arnott; Leaders of the Opposition Parties; and all Ontario Municipalities.

Mayor Ann Lawlor

September 20, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin:

Ontario Deposit Return Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally address the recent discussions surrounding the Ontario Deposit Return Program, particularly regarding our community residents asking us about the recycling of nonalcoholic beverage plastics.

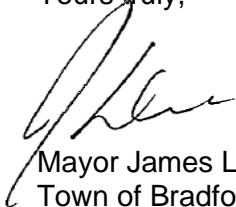
Whereas the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers, resulting in the removal of over 204,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, we recognize the potential for similar success with nonalcoholic beverages.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks highlighted in their June 2023 letter that they are considering the adoption of a deposit-and-return system for nonalcoholic beverages. This initiative presents a unique opportunity to further promote recycling, reduce litter, and encourage sustainable practices among consumers.

Therefore, I am proud to announce that our Council endorses the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers. We believe that this expansion will not only enhance environmental stewardship but also foster a culture of sustainability within our community.

We encourage all stakeholders to support this initiative and work collaboratively towards its implementation. Together, we can make a significant impact on our environment and set a positive example for future generations.

Yours truly,



Mayor James Leduc
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

CC:

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Member of Provincial Parliament for York-Simcoe
MPP Sandy Shaw, Opposition Environment, Conservation and Parks Critic
Ontario's Municipal Councils and Conservation Authorities



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 16.5.
Resolution Number 25-029
Title: Response to Tariff Threats - Support Canadian Business and Consumers
Date: Friday, February 21, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Manners
Seconded by: Councillor Barton

WHEREAS the Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago (The Archipelago) is a Canadian government entity; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago is committed to fiscal responsibility and prudent management of financial and organizational resources, information databases, and the protection of taxpayer information; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago developed 'guiding principles' for its broadband connectivity project that included 'Canadian solutions first, North American second' in the acquisition of technology and services; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago's projected capital program for 2025 is \$1.5 million; and

WHEREAS all Canadian municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs; and

WHEREAS United States President, Donald Trump, issued executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada effective March 12, 2025; and

WHEREAS predatory tariffs by the US government affect all our residents, businesses, and institutions within The Archipelago, the Province of Ontario, and Canada; and

WHEREAS federal, provincial, and municipal leaders are encouraging Canadians to 'buy Canadian'; and

WHEREAS The Archipelago supports Team Canada efforts to stop US tariffs on Canadian goods and services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Archipelago adopts the following actions:

1. That staff ensure that all municipal data resides within Canada for security and sovereignty interests; and
2. That The Archipelago supports the federal and provincial call to action “Canadian business first” policy in its procurement of capital and infrastructure programs; and
3. That The Archipelago promotes the policy of “Buy Canadian” to encourage the purchase of Canadian goods and services and to support local business in The Archipelago and Parry Sound District; and
4. That all travel to the US for municipal advocacy requires the adoption of a formal position on US tariffs by The Archipelago; and
5. That Staff prepare a Council tariff position and policy for Council approval.
6. That The Archipelago participate in the Parry Sound Chamber of Commerce survey of businesses on the impact of tariffs and support, where possible, actions that follow.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, MP Scott Aitchison – Parry Sound Muskoka, MPP Graydon Smith – Parry Sound Muskoka, Mayors of Parry Sound District Municipalities, Chief Adam Pawis - Shawanaga First Nation, Chief Warren Tabobondung - Wasauksing First Nation, Chief M. Wayne McQuabbie - Henvey Inlet First Nation, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all Ontario municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and community associations in The Archipelago.

Carried



**TOWNSHIP OF
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN**

42 Burnt Bridge Road, PO Box 40
Palmer Rapids, Ontario K0J 2E0
TEL: (613) 758-2061 · FAX: (613) 758-2235

February 5, 2025

The Honourable Sylvia Jones,
Minister of Health
5th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

RE: Paid-Plasma-Free Zone

Dear Hon. Sylvia Jones,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on February 5th, 2025, Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan passed the following resolution, supporting the resolution from the City of Toronto.

Resolution No: 2025-02-05-08
Moved by: Councillor Quade
Seconded by: Councillor Banks

"Be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan support the City of Toronto's resolution Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone.

And further that this resolution be forwarded to Canadian Blood Services, Minister of Health, MPP John Yakabuski, and all Municipalities in Ontario."

Carried.

Sincerely,

Tammy Thompson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przewdziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2880
e-mail:
Sylvia.Przewdziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca**In reply please quote:**
Ref.: 24-MM23.1

(Sent by Email)

December 20, 2024

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:**Subject: Member Motion Item 23.1**
Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise,
seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo (Ward All)

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted [Item MM23.1](#) and in doing so, has forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and requested that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Yours sincerely,

Niko Markakis, for

for City Clerk

S. Przewdziecki/mp

Attachment**Sent to: All Ontario Municipalities**
Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Blood Services
Chief Executive Officer, Grifols Canadac. **City Manager**

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 23

MM23.1	ACTION	Adopted		Ward: All
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Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

City Council Decision

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted the following:

1. City Council express its opposition to the operation of private for-profit blood collection companies in the City.
2. City Council forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and request that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Summary

In the City of Toronto, we uphold the principle of voluntary blood and plasma donation, acknowledging its vital importance as a public good. Our commitment derives from the lessons of Canada's tainted blood crisis, which tragically claimed approximately 8,000 lives. The subsequent Royal Krever Commission urged a fully voluntary, non-payment oriented blood and plasma donation system.

Within our Ontario healthcare system, we perceive blood donations as a priceless public resource, underscoring the need to safeguard the integrity of the public, voluntary donor system.

The Voluntary Blood Donations Act of Ontario strengthens this stance, legislating against the payment of donors and prohibiting donors from receiving financial compensation for their blood or plasma.

Canada Blood Services plans to open five paid plasma clinics, including one in Toronto, by 2025. This issue needs immediate attention and action. The public health community has raised concerns about Grifols Pharmaceuticals' plans to open a Toronto clinic. It's vital we protect vulnerable residents from exploitation by for-profit plasma collection companies offering cash for blood-plasma, a predatory practice.

In bringing this motion forward, we strive to reinforce the principles of voluntary, non-remunerated blood and plasma donation, protecting both the integrity of Canada's public blood system and the dignity of blood donors.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.1

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-249600.pdf>

Attachment 1 - Resolution to Declare the City of Hamilton a "No Paid Plasma Zone"

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-250144.pdf>



Office of the City Clerk
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N4S 0A7
Telephone 519-539-1291

February 25, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Via email: premier@ontario.ca

At the regular meeting of Woodstock City Council held on February 20, 2025, the following resolution was passed:

“Whereas speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving are among the leading causes of driving related collisions, injuries, and fatalities in Ontario; and,

Whereas municipalities are called upon to modify driver behaviour through expensive infrastructure and even more expensive policing; and,

Whereas infrastructure and policing are inherently limited in their effectiveness at reducing speed and distracted driving, and entirely ineffective at reducing impaired driving;

Therefore be it resolved that the City of Woodstock calls on the Provincial and Federal governments to do everything in their power to limit speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving, and thereby reduce collisions, injuries, and fatalities in our communities; and,

That the City of Woodstock specifically requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead, which will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and,

That City of Woodstock Staff work with Oxford County and all Oxford municipalities on the feasibility of implementing a long term Vision Zero Policy and the Good Roads Rural Road Safety strategy across all of Oxford; and,

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Premier, Ontario Minister of Transportation, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Ontario Minister of Rural Affairs, Ontario Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Ontario Minister of Health; and,

FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all Oxford police services boards, Safe

and Well Oxford, Good Roads, and all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.”

Yours Truly,

Jeff Bunn
Manager, Legislative Services/ Deputy City Clerk
City of Woodstock

Cc.

The Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation - prabmeet.sarkaria@pc.ola.org

The Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure - kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org

The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Agriculture - minister.omafra@ontario.ca

Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response - trevor.jones3@ontario.ca

The Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health - sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Woodstock Police Services - nnovacich@woodstockpolice.ca

Police Services Board - oapsb@oapsb.ca;

Safe and Well Oxford – safewelloxford@gmail.com

Good Roads - info@goodroads.ca

Association of Municipalities Ontario - amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) - roma@roma.on.ca

And all municipalities in Ontario



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA

163 Brock Street, PO Box 189 Thamesford, ON, N0M 2M0
Ph. 519-485-2490 • 1-888-699-3868 • Fax 519-485-2520

Item 14(a)

Date: February 19, 2025

29-02-2025

Moved by Katie Grigg

Seconded by *Crystal Fede*

WHEREAS speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving are among the leading causes of driving related collisions, injuries, and fatalities in Ontario; and,

WHEREAS municipalities are called upon to modify driver behaviour through expensive infrastructure and even more expensive policing; and,

WHEREAS infrastructure and policing are inherently limited in their effectiveness at reducing speed and distracted driving, and entirely ineffective at reducing impaired driving;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Zorra Township calls on the Provincial and Federal governments to do everything in their power to limit speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving, and thereby reduce collisions, injuries, and fatalities in our communities;

THAT the Township of Zorra specifically requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead, which will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

AND THAT Zorra Township Staff work with Oxford County and all Oxford municipalities on the feasibility of implementing a long term Vision Zero Policy and the Good Roads Rural Road Safety strategy across all of Oxford; and,

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Premier, Ontario Minister of Transportation, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Ontario Minister of Rural Affairs, Ontario Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Ontario Minister of Health, and Good Roads; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all Oxford police services boards, Safe and Well Oxford, Good Roads, and all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support.

Carried Defeated Recorded Vote Deferred

Recorded Vote:

	Yea	Nay
Mayor Ryan		
Councillor Stewart		
Councillor Grigg		
Councillor Mitchell		
Councillor Finch		



Mayor



BY-LAW NO 2025-12

BEING A BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGS

WHEREAS the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c 25, Section 5(1), as amended, provides that the powers of a municipal corporation are to be exercised by its Council;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c 25, Section 5(3), as amended, provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity rights, powers and privileges under Section 9; shall be exercised by By-Law;

AND WHEREAS The Council for The Corporation of the Township of Billings deems it expedient that the proceedings of meetings of the Council be confirmed and adopted by By-Law;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Billings enacts as follows:

1. THAT the actions of the Council of The Corporation of The Township of Billings at its Council Meeting held on March 4, 2025 in respect to each report, motion, resolution, or other actions recorded and taken by Council at its meetings, except where the prior approval of the Ontario Lands Tribunal is required is hereby adopted, ratified, and confirmed as if all such proceedings were expressly embodied in this By-Law.
2. THAT the Mayor and CAO/Clerk, or such other official as deem appropriate are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action, of Council of the Township of Billings referred to in the proceeding section.
3. THAT the Mayor and CAO/Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents necessary on behalf of the Council and to affix the corporate seal of The Corporation of The Township of Billings to all such documents.
4. THIS By-Law shall come into full force and effect upon final passage.
5. THIS By-Law may be cited as the "March 4, 2025 Confirmatory By-Law"

READ a FIRST and SECOND TIME this 4th day of March, 2025

READ a THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of March, 2025

Bryan Barker, Mayor

Véronique Dion, CAO/Clerk