

Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post

From Marty Le Gallez <mlegallez@cupw-sttp.org>

Date Tue 2025-01-21 11:11 AM

To 'mayor@khortownship.ca' <mayor@khortownship.ca>

 2 attachments (315 KB)

01-13-25_Notes on the submission for 108_PDF_E.pdf; Canada Post and the Industrial Inquiry Commission.pdf;



377, rue Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1Y3
tel./tél. 613 236 7238
fax/télé. 613 563 7861
www.cupw-sttp.org



*CUPW respectfully acknowledges this office
is located on the traditional unceded territory
of the Anishinaabeg People.*

*La STTP reconnaît, en tout respect, que son
bureau est situé sur le territoire traditionnel
et non cédé des peuples anishinaabés.*

-
-
-
-
-
BY EMAIL AND MAIL

January 16, 2025

David Mayville, Mayor
Township of Killaloe, Hagarty, & Richards
PO Box 39 1 John St
Killaloe, ON K0J 2A0

Dear David Mayville:

RE: Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post

As you may know, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, as instructed by the Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the resumption of mail service at Canada Post on December 17, 2024, under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*. What many do not know is that under Section 108, he also created an Industrial Inquiry Commission led by William Kaplan that will work with CUPW and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office with a very broad scope.

The Commission has been tasked with reviewing the obstacles to negotiated collective agreements, as well as making recommendations about the future structure of Canada Post. The Commission has until May 15, 2025, to submit its final report to the government.

While time is extremely short, the good news is that there is an opportunity for you to make a submission as part of the Commission's public review. CUPW would like to ensure that the views of municipalities are considered. Therefore, if at all possible, we would like you to provide input to the Commission.

During the last public review on the mandate of Canada Post in 2016, the active engagement of municipalities was critical in the decision to maintain door-to-door delivery and immediately stop the further rollout of community mailboxes. However, there is nothing to stop the Commission from making recommendations to bring that back or to suggest other cutbacks.

We have enclosed a sample resolution that your municipality can adopt about making a submission to the Commission, expanding services at the public post office, and the need for more robust public stakeholder consultation. We have also included a document

with some suggested themes to consider for your written submission. If you can, please let us know if you plan to participate, pass a resolution, and can send us copies of the materials you submit.

Upcoming Federal Election

We also find ourselves in a period of federal political uncertainty, with the possibility of a federal election only months away. This will raise public discussion and debates on many issues affecting the public and all municipalities.

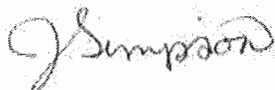
In all likelihood, it will be the next federal government that will determine what will be done with the Commission's report.

In the run-up to the federal election, we urge you to question the political parties on their intentions for Canada Post, and insist they make clear their public commitments regarding the following issues:

- Preserving our universal and public postal service;
- Maintaining the moratorium on post office closures;
- Maintaining door-to-door mail delivery; and,
- Establishing postal banking to offset the loss of financial services in many communities.

Thank you very much for considering our request. There's a lot at stake and we appreciate anything you can do to help. CUPW is confident that we can build on our past success and convince the Commission to recommend against service cuts, to maintain good jobs in our communities, expand services that generate additional revenues to keep Canada Post self-sustaining and allow us to build a universal, affordable and green public postal system for future generations.

For more information, please visit deliveringcommunitypower.ca or contact Brigitte Klassen at bklassen@cupw-sttp.org.



Sincerely,

Jan Simpson
National President

Encl.

c.c. National Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committees, Regional and National Union Representatives, CUPW Locals, Specialists

Canada Post and the Industrial Inquiry Commission

Whereas the Canada Industrial Relations Board, as instructed by the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the end to the postal strike and the resumption of mail service at Canada Post on December 17, 2024, under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*.

Whereas the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, created an *Industrial Inquiry Commission* under Section 108 of *Canada Labour Code*, led by William Kaplan, that will work with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office, including possible changes to the *Canadian Postal Service Charter*.

Whereas Canada Post is, first and foremost, a public service.

Whereas the *Commission* has been tasked with reviewing the obstacles to negotiated collective agreements between CUPW and Canada Post, the financial situation of Canada Post, Canada Post's expressed need to diversify and/or alter its delivery models in the face of current business demands, the viability of the business as it is currently configured, CUPW's negotiated commitments to job security, full-time employment, and the need to protect the health and safety of workers.

Whereas the *Commission* only has until May 15, 2025, to submit its final report to the government and make recommendations about the future structure of Canada Post.

Whereas while there is room for written input, the *Commission* process is not widely publicized, nor equivalent to a full and thorough public service review of Canada Post's mandate allowing for all stakeholder input, as has been undertaken by previous governments.

Whereas it will be crucial for the *Commission* to hear our views on key issues, including maintaining Canada Post as a public service, the importance of maintaining the moratorium on post office closures, improving the *Canadian Postal Service Charter*, home mail delivery, parcel delivery, keeping daily delivery, adding postal banking, greening Canada Post, EV charging stations, food delivery, improving delivery to rural, remote and Indigenous communities, and developing services to assist people with disabilities and help older Canadians to remain in their homes for as long as possible – and at the same time, helping to ensure Canada Post's financial self-sustainability.

Therefore, be it resolved that (name of municipality) provide input to the *Commission* in the form of a written submission.

Therefore, be it resolved that (name of municipality) will write the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, and the Federal Minister of Public Services and Procurement of Canada, Jean-Yves Duclos, who is responsible for Canada Post, to demand that no changes be made to the *Canada Post Corporation Act*, Canada Post's mandate or the *Canadian Postal Service Charter* without a full, thorough, public review of Canada Post, including public hearings, with all key stakeholders, in every region of Canada.

PLEASE SEE THE MAILING INFORMATION FOR RESOLUTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

MAILING INFORMATION

1) Please send your resolution to the Commission:

- We do not have a mailing address at this time. As we understand it, this is the email address that will collect the documents on behalf of the Commission:
edsc.cdi-iic.esdc@labour-travail.gc.ca

2) Please send your resolution to the Ministers responsible for Labour and Canada Post, and your Member of Parliament:

- Steven MacKinnon, Federal Minister of Labour, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
- Jean-Yves Duclos, Federal Minister of Public Services and Procurement of Canada, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
- Your Member of Parliament

Note: Mail may be sent postage-free to any member of Parliament. You can get your MP's name, phone number and address by going to the Parliament of Canada website at <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en>

3) Please send copies of your resolution to:

- Jan Simpson, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3
- Rebecca Bligh, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 24 Clarence St, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3



377, rue Bank Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1Y3
tel./tél. 613 236 7238
fax/télé. 613 563 7861
www.cupw-sttp.org



CUPW respectfully acknowledges this office is located on the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabeg People.

Le STTP reconnaît, en tout respect, que son bureau est situé sur le territoire traditionnel et non cédé des peuples anishinaabés.

Canada Post is Under Review through Section 108 of the *Canada Labour Code*

As you may know, the Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the resumption of mail service at Canada Post just before the holiday break, ordering CUPW members to return to work under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*. What many do not know is that under Section 108, he also created an Industrial Inquiry Commission lead by William Kaplan that will work with CUPW and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office with a very broad scope.

It will review Canada Post's financial situation, the possible diversification or alteration of delivery models, Canada Post's viability as it is currently configured, as well as bargaining issues, including full-time employment, health and safety and job security and produce a report not later than May 15, 2025. Accordingly, Kaplan's "recommendations may include amendments to the collective agreement, and any other changes to be implemented, including the structures, rights and responsibilities of the parties in the collective bargaining process."

The Commission is Seeking Input

We have an incredibly short timeline to follow. Hearings will begin January 27 with statements from both CUPW and Canada Post. The good news is that there is an opportunity for third parties to send in a written submission to the Commission as part of its public review. CUPW and Canada Post must have their bilingual submissions in to the commission by end of day Monday, January 20. We do not have a date or mechanism yet for third-party submissions, but it could be very soon. CUPW would like to ensure that the views of community groups, municipalities, allied organizations and labour are also considered. Therefore, if at all possible, we would like you to provide input to the Commission.

Please let us know if you will be making a submission. Please contact Brigitte Klassen at bklassen@cupw-sttp.org, so we can provide you with more details on how to send it to the Commission as soon as we have more information.

As time is of the essence and to help get you started on your submission, here are some suggested themes to consider that are important supplements to CUPW's bargaining demands.

- Keep Canada Post a Public Service
- Maintain universal service at a uniform price
- Expanded services to diversify and generate new revenue streams, no service cuts
 - add financial services
 - maintain the moratorium on post office closures to enable community hubs (meeting spaces, sales of local crafts, community gardens, government services for all levels of government)
 - maintain door-to-door delivery and increase where financially viable
- Major changes to Canada Post should not be made without full public consultation conducted through a mandate review involving all stakeholders

Keep Canada Post a Public Service

The Commission will examine the financial situation at Canada Post. Currently, the Crown Corporation is required only to be self-sufficient. It is completely user-funded and does not rely on taxpayer dollars. Canada Post still tends to prioritize major, high-profit customers over the public and providing a public service. Canada Post must not lose sight of its public interest objectives.

Major changes to Canada Post and the *Canadian Postal Service Charter* should not be made without full public consultation and hearings conducted through a mandate review involving all stakeholders. There is simply not enough time to do this under the Labour Minister's *Canada Labour Code* Section 108 order.

Maintain universal service at a uniform price

There have also been calls in the media and by various think tanks to privatize or deregulate Canada Post with little regard for the impact on public service or working conditions. Though transaction mail has been in decline, there are still over 2 billion letters delivered every year to an increasing number of addresses. Canada Post has an exclusive privilege (a monopoly) to handle letters so that it is able to generate enough money to provide affordable postal service to everyone, no matter where they live, be it a large urban centre or a rural or isolated community. There is no comparison in the world of a deregulated or privatized post office that serves anything near Canada's vast size and geography.

It will become increasingly difficult for our public post office to provide universal postal service if the exclusive privilege is eroded or eliminated. The exclusive privilege funds its universality. If parts of the service are deregulated or privatized, competitors will leave it to Canada Post alone to provide increasingly expensive delivery service to rural and remote communities, while they compete in profitable urban areas.

Providing Canada Post with an exclusive privilege to handle addressed letters is a form of regulation. Reducing or eliminating this privilege is deregulation. We have this regulation for a reason.

Expanded services to diversify and generate new revenue streams, no service cuts

For years, CUPW has been advocating for new and expanded services to help diversify and create new revenue streams as a direct means to handling decline in letter volumes. Many of these services, such as postal banking, already exist in many other post offices around the world and they generate significant revenue. Around the world, more than 1.2 billion people hold postal bank accounts.

Providing new services through the existing corporate retail network ensures that good jobs remain for workers and their families in the communities in which they live.

Financial Services

Given Canada Post's vast retail network, postal banking would offer in-community service for those who are underbanked or who have had their financial institutions close and leave town. Today, there are many rural communities with post offices, but no banks or credit unions. Very few Indigenous communities are served by local bank branches. Hundreds of thousands of low-income Canadians don't have bank

accounts at all, and almost 2 million Canadians rely on predatory payday lenders for basic financial services.

Postal banking is relatively straightforward. Like commercial banks, post offices would provide everyday financial services like chequing and savings accounts, loans and insurance. Postal banking could also be used to deliver government loans, grants and subsidies to boost renewable energy projects and energy-saving retrofits.

In many countries, postal banking is also mandated to provide financial access for all citizens and to play a role in addressing social inequalities. Postal banking could provide reliable financial services that everyone needs at affordable rates.

Community Hubs and Moratorium on Post Office Closures

We have also advocated community hubs (provide government services for all levels of government, meeting space, sales of local crafts, community gardens) and EV charging stations.

One of Canada Post's demands during Negotiations was to have the *flexibility* to close more than 130 of the 493 corporate Retail Post Offices that are protected under the current CUPW-Canada Post Urban Postal Operations collective agreement. These are post offices that are run by Canada Post and are not franchises located inside another host business.

While about three-quarters of these are also covered by an additional 1994 moratorium on closures, for those that are not, they could end up being privatized or disappear altogether if we lose this contract language. Residents may then have to travel further for their postal needs. No franchise host business is going to give up retail space for community hubs, nor parking space for charging stations that generate revenue for Canada Post. Longstanding, good-paying, full-time jobs in our communities could be replaced with low-wage, part-time work.

You can find a list of the post offices under the moratorium and how they are protected here: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/examendepostescanada-canadapostreview/rapport-report/bureaux-outlets-eng.html>

Senior Check-Ins

We have proposed creating a senior check-in service as well. Senior check-ins could bring peace of mind to loved ones and relatives who don't live nearby. Japan, France and Jersey in the British Isles currently offer effective and successful senior check-in services through their national postal services. Door-to-door postal workers are already watchful for signs that something isn't quite right. They could be allotted extra time on their routes to simply check in on seniors or people with mobility issues who sign up for the service to make sure everything is okay and deliver peace of mind.

Find out more about our service expansion proposals at <https://www.deliveringcommunitypower.ca>

tgorgerat@khrtownship.ca

From: Rae Stanley <rae.e.stanley@gmail.com>
Sent: January 19, 2025 5:40 PM
To: r.richer@headclaramaria.ca; c.dowser@headclaramaria.ca; f.kelly-chamberlain@headclaramaria.ca; k.leclerc@headclaramaria.ca; clerk@headclaramaria.ca; dbennett@hortontownship.ca; dproctor@hortontownship.ca; gcampbell@hortontownship.ca; dhumphries@hortontownship.ca; twebster@hortontownship.ca; hdillabough@hortontownship.ca; mayor@khrtownship.ca; councillorbrowne@khrtownship.ca; councillorsmith@khrtownship.ca; councillormacmillan@khrtownship.ca; councillorkuehl@khrtownship.ca; councillorpecoskie@khrtownship.ca; councillorlavigne@khrtownship.ca; tgorgerat@khrtownship.ca; sbennett@lvtownship.ca; kwatt@lvtownship.ca; jgauthier@lvtownship.ca; whewitt@lvtownship.ca; bhugli@lvtownship.ca; bking@lvtownship.ca; awren@lvtownship.ca; dsauriol@lvtownship.ca; mayor@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.blank@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.maika@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.olsheski@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.shulist@madawaskavalley.ca; cao@madawaskavalley.ca; mmackenzie@mcnabbraeside.com; lhoddinott@mcnabbraeside.com; krosien@mcnabbraeside.com; sbrum@mcnabbraeside.com; rcampbell@mcnabbraeside.com; llee@mcnabbraeside.com; jbrose@nalgonawil.com; mberndt@nalgonawil.com; dbuckwald@nalgonawil.com; jreiche@nalgonawil.com; mrobinson@nalgonawil.com; clerk@nalgonawil.com; nnicholson@whitewaterregion.ca; cregier@whitewaterregion.ca; colmstead@whitewaterregion.ca; moorem@whitewaterregion.ca; mbell@whitewaterregion.ca; ctabbert@whitewaterregion.ca; jtrimm@whitewaterregion.ca; cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca; iburton@whitewaterregion.ca
Subject: Small Correction to my letter
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi again,

Sorry, in the 4th paragraph from the bottom, I said, "Maggie Braun of ICLEI" it should be **KICLEI**

Rae Stanley

Dear Mayors (Reeves, Wardens) and Councillors in Renfrew County,

FYI -as a follow up to Maggie Braun of KICLEI Canada's deputation at the Renfrew County Council Meeting on Jan. 15, I am sending a letter I have submitted on the subject to local newspapers.

Thank you for your consideration and attention,

Rae Stanley

Dear Letters Editor,

I once heard someone say, “When reason is eclipsed, monsters are unleashed”. The following is a tale of an eclipse of reason with monstrous results.

Some weeks ago Renfrew County Council received recommendations for a county “Climate Action Plan”, presented by representatives from Ainsworth Consulting back in November. This plan does not target local concerns, but comes directly from the U.N. Sustainability Development Goals (articulated in the U.N. Brundtland Commission Report in 1987) which clearly states, among other things, that your land cannot be treated like an ordinary asset controlled by individuals but must come under the control of governments to fulfill their objectives.

If these recommendations are implemented as is, they would come with enormous costs both socially and economically for Renfrew County with, I submit, catastrophic results. Just to give an idea of the costs involved, Ainsworth was paid over 70,000 dollars of your taxes (even if it was grant money), just for their consultation.

The implementation of electric fleets, and other “green” infrastructure in itself, would consume local budgets.

The Ainsworth objectives come directly from the U.N. playbook for reducing CO₂, which they deem a dangerous pollutant... driving “Catastrophic Climate Change”. Even by the U.N.’s own assertion, this is an eclipse of reason. In 2001 the U.N. International Panel on Climate Change wrote “The climate system is a coupled non-linear chaotic system and therefore long-term predictions of future climate states is not possible.” That’s using their own reasoning.

Just to give a taste of what the county will be facing through implementing the U.N. goals stated in Agenda 21, Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2050:

Agenda 2030 aims among other things for “Zero meat and milk consumption by 2030“, hence the cricket farms Trudeau sponsored in southern Ontario, and the targeting of cows due to “dangerous” “greenhouse (methane)gas emissions” from their belching and passing gas.

More generally the objective of these U.N. Agendas is to abolish private homes, animal farming, private vehicles, gas powered vehicles, and to control what we eat, how many trips we take....The Ainsworth project involves the collection of our data in all these areas which brings up serious privacy concerns on top of it.

Another look at an “eclipse of reason”: the goal of Agenda 2050 is to get to “Net Zero carbon emissions”. One counsellor remarked at the Ainsworth presentation, that Canada has millions of acres of trees that act as a carbon sink and that we are already below net zero. (Maggie Braun of **KICLEI** in her Ontario report approximates that we sink 3 times the amount of carbon that we produce in Ontario).

His reply was, “Existing natural infrastructure like forests or wetlands are not counted in emissions reductions calculations because doing so doesn’t achieve the overall goal of decarbonizing the economy. The general goal is to reduce emissions as much as possible then

use carbon storage to take up any residual emissions.” Talk about, “Not seeing the forest for the trees!”

Apparently, the authority for this Climate Action Plan comes from the county’s Strategic Plan for 2023-2026. This is not binding, but simply a “plan” and municipal councils are totally free to reject the recommendations. We need to become aware of what is happening and work with our local councils, who have the power to challenge this. They need our input and support to focus on our local needs and we have not given them this support of late.

Marshall McLuhan said, “There is absolutely no inevitability as long as there is willingness to contemplate what is happening”. It’s time to wake up.

Rae Stanley Barry’s Bay

Cc: tgodden@stcharlesontario.ca; tgorgerat@khrtownship.ca; thallam@morristurnberry.ca; thornloe@outlook.com; tkretschmer@duttondunwich.on.ca; tmckenzie@lennox-addington.on.ca; tmichiels@thamescentre.on.ca; christina.conklin@uclg.on.ca; toc@colemantownship.ca; town@espanola.ca; townclerk@milton.ca; townclerk@oakville.ca; townclerk@picklelake.org; townclerk@thebluemountains.ca; townshipofgauthier@hotmail.com; townshipofmorley@gmail.com; Treasurer@Iroquoisfalls.com; twphill@parolink.net; twpoconn@tbaytel.net; twpopas@persona.ca; valeriep@haltonhills.ca; veronique.dion@townsrf.ca; vmcdonald@hanover.ca; wjaques@ezt.ca; wkabel@snnf.ca; Woolwich Mail; yaubichon@oro-medonte.ca

Subject: Woolwich Council Resolution - Election Advocacy and Preparation

Attachments: Resolution_Letter_-_Election_Advocacy_and_Preparation_-_2025_-_January.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Good afternoon,

Please review the attached correspondence relating to a resolution passed by the Council of the Township of Woolwich at their meeting on January 14, 2025.

Regards,

Tanya Bettridge

Council & Committee Support Specialist
Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich
Office: 519-669-6004
Toll Free: 1-877-969-0094
Pronouns: she/her



Woolwich.ca | [EngageWR](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

This email may contain confidential information. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender and delete the email. Please consider the environment before printing.



THE TOWNSHIP OF
WOOLWICH

BOX 158, 24 CHURCH ST. W.
ELMIRA, ONTARIO N3B 2Z6
TEL. 519-669-1647 / 1-877-969-0094
COUNCIL/CAO/CLERKS FAX 519-669-1820
PLANNING/ENGINEERING/BUILDING FAX 519-669-4669
FINANCE/RECREATION/FACILITIES FAX 519-669-9348

January 17, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

BY EMAIL

Dear Premier,

RE: Resolution Passed by Woolwich Township Council – Election Advocacy and Preparation

This letter is to inform you that the Council of the Township of Woolwich passed the following resolution at their meeting held on January 14, 2025:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report C02-2025 respecting Election 2026 Report 1 – Election Advocacy and Preparation:

- 1. Endorse the resolutions from municipalities across Ontario including that from the Township of Terrace Bay calling on the Province of Ontario to update the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before the summer of 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections; and***
- 2. Forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, our local Minister of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO).***

Township of Terrace Bay Resolution:

WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

AND WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

AND WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

AND WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for

voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

AND WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges;

AND WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape with impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis-disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendation for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Terrace Bay calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, Thunder Bay MPP's, AMO and AMCTO.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tanya Bettridge, by email at tbettridge@woolwich.ca or by phone at 519-669-6004.

Yours truly,



Jeff Smith, Municipal Clerk
Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich

Cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Minister of Education
Minister of Public Business Service Delivery
Minister of Finance
Mike Harris, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
Municipalities of Ontario

"Proudly remembering our past; Confidently embracing our future."

Cc: mavis@doriontownship.ca; gillies@gilliestownship.com; admin@gilliestownship.com; clerk@manitouwadge.ca; lindaberube@nipigon.net; twpoconn@tbaytel.net; twpoconn@tbaytel.net; cao@redrocktownship.com; deputyclerk@redrocktownship.com; billings@redrocktownship.com; cao@schreiber.ca; treasurer@schreiber.ca; cao@terracebay.ca

Subject: Letter to the Hon. Minister Paul Calandra Re: Municipal Accountability Act, 2024 - Municipal Code of Conduct

Attachments: Letter - Hon. Paul Calandra.pdf

Hon. Paul Calandra:

Please find enclosed a letter from the Mayor of the Town of Hawkesbury, following the adoption of the resolution below at the Regular meeting held on January 13, 2025, regarding the above subject.

“Moved by Julie Séguin
Seconded by Jeanne Charlebois

Be it resolved to prepare and send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to inform him that the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hawkesbury does not agree with a unanimous vote by members of Council but rather a majority vote in a situation to remove and disqualify members of council and certain local boards for a period of four years for the most serious code of conduct violations following a recommendation from the local integrity commissioner and a concurring report from the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario, and;

Be it also resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Sonia Girard

*Greffière/
Clerk*

Téléphone: 613 632-0106
600, rue Higginson, Hawkesbury, ON, K6A 1H1
Web: www.hawkesbury.ca
Courriel: sgirard@hawkesbury.ca



Ce courriel, y compris tout fichier joint, est confidentiel et est destiné seulement à la personne ou l'entité à qui il est adressé. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, s.v.p. aviser l'expéditeur et le détruire immédiatement. Veuillez noter que les opinions émises dans ce courriel sont uniquement celles de l'auteur et ne représentent pas nécessairement celles de la Corporation de la ville de Hawkesbury. Dû aux dangers associés à l'Internet, la Ville n'assume aucune responsabilité à la suite de la transmission d'un virus que pourrait contenir ce courriel.

This email, including any attachment, is confidential and is intended only for the person or the entity to which it is addressed. If you have received this message by mistake, please inform the sender and delete it immediately. Please note that opinions contained in this email are solely the author's and do not necessarily represent those of the Corporation of the Town of Hawkesbury. Due to the dangers associated with the Internet, the Town is not responsible for the transmission of a virus that could be included in this email.



Do you really need to print this email? Think of the environment. / Devez-vous vraiment imprimer ce courriel? Pensons à l'environnement

E-mail

January 20th, 2025

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

SUBJECT: Municipal Accountability Act, 2024 - Municipal Code of Conduct

Hon. Paul Calandra:

Members of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hawkesbury received your correspondence at its Regular meeting held on January 13, 2025.

After discussion, we concluded that we do not agree with a unanimous vote by members of Council but rather a majority vote in a situation to remove and disqualify members of council and certain local boards for a period of four years for the most serious code of conduct violations, following a recommendation from the local integrity and a concurring report from the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario.

Sincerely,



Robert Lefebvre
Mayor

c.c. All municipalities of Ontario

January 27, 2025

From: Donna Campbell
Secretary/treasurer
Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee
1538 Queensline Rd.
R. R. # 1
Foresters Falls, Ontario
K0J 1V0

To: Clerk Treasurers of Municipalities Represented
By the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Annual Meeting of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee was held in September of 2024

Enclosed is a copy of the last financial report which was reviewed by Dr. Laurie Jeffery as well as the minutes of the last annual meeting. The constitution of this committee is also being sent so that the municipalities have it on file.

The executive of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee approved the recommendation of the following veterinarians to receive contracts for the 2023 and 2024 with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines:

Dr. Laurie Jeffery, Madawaska veterinary Clinic - 613-432-9187

Dr. Donald Clarke, Renfrew Animal Hospital - 613-432-8884

Dr. Evangaline Wiens, Renfrew Animal Hospital - 613-432-8884

The Committee is asking that we be able to hold open for one year the other contract in hope of filling it with another large animal vet.

The schedule of fees for each Municipality is as follows:

	<u>Livestock Numbers</u>	<u>Township Fees</u>
Admaston/Bromley	12,025	\$ 709.48
Laurentian Valley	5,008	\$ 295.47
Bonnechere Valley	3,818	\$ 280.00
Greater Madawaska	313	\$ 280.00

Horton	1,989	\$ 280.00
McNab/Braeside	3,333	\$ 280.00
NorthAlgona/Wilberforce	3,084	\$280.00
Laurentian Hills	48	\$280.00
Whitewater Region	15,758	\$ 929.72
Brudenell, Lyndock & Raglan	1,122	\$280.00
Addington Highlands	285	\$ 280.00
Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards	1,354	\$ 280.00
Madawaska Valley	<u>564</u>	<u>\$ 280.00</u>
Total	48,901	\$5,014.67

This letter is being submitted as your invoice to cover the amount listed above; which your municipality is asked to pay said amount for the 2025 year. It is planned by the board to review numbers of livestock in the county by municipality and make changes to the amounts each municipality pays based on their numbers for the 2026 year.

Please make the cheque payable to the **Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee** and send it to **Donna Campbell 1538 Queensline, Foresters Falls, Ontario K0J 1V0.**

If you have any questions please contact your municipal representative on the Veterinary Services Committee, Donna Campbell @613-432-5568 or David McGonegal President and Director of the Northern Producer Animal Health Network @ 613-582-7031.

Please forward the name and address of your representative to this committee to me if a new person has been appointed for 2025. Thank you!

Yours truly,

Donna Campbell
Secretary/treasurer
Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee

**RENFREW COUNTY VETERINARY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024**

President, David McGonegal called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.
Moved by Tony Fritch, 2nd by Lloyd Robinson to approve the agenda. Carried.
Moved by Connie Tabbert, 2nd by Ray Pender to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Carried.

Financial report: Donna Campbell reviewed the financial statement and answered any questions.

Moved by Janet Reiche-Schoenfeldt to accept the financial report as presented.
Carried.

Appointment of Financial Reviewer:

Dr. Laurie Jeffery volunteered to be the reviewer for another year.

President's report and NPAHN report:

I participated in the October 17/18, 2023 Annual meeting of the Northern Producers Animal Health Network - the meeting was held virtually and was conducted by the Rural Ontario Institute

I was re-elected for a second term as a director to NPAHN

Discussion took place on how to get large animal vets to northern area of the province
Mike McMorris of the Livestock Research Innovation Centre gave an excellent presentation on the Impact of Alternate Proteins on the Livestock Sector

Michelle Hunt from the rural Ontario Medical Program discussed how the program works to alleviate the current pressure on professional personnel in where and how to work

MND presented the contract usage figures for the 2022/23 which I forwarded to all vet clinics on October 18, 2023

In 2022/23 the veterinary Assistance Program provided \$709,002.96 to contract veterinarians of which \$107,419.94 was provided to vets in Renfrew County - while money dispersed was down; the money we received in Renfrew County was up due to our 4th contract which was being used by Renfrew Animal Hospital

No 2023/24 numbers are available yet

The contract fees remain the same at \$1000 each

2024/25 fees will be determined at the AGM in October

The NPAHN will be virtual again and is scheduled for the third week of October

NPAHN executive members met several times virtually to discuss ongoing issues leading up to and subsequent to the VAP review initiated by MND in February 2024. At a BFO meeting in Toronto on February 21, 2024 Minister Reckford of the Ministry of Northern Development that a review of VAP was underway.

I participated in the review on February 27 as a director of NPAHN and again on February 28 as president of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee. The discussion centered around 6 questions that was forwarded to you in advance. The meetings were only one hour long and only centered on the relativity of the program; definitely not on increasing the funding.

In February MND brought to my attention that the Cobden Animal Hospital was going to max out their contract before April 1st, 2024 and that Madawaska Veterinary Services had room in its limit - MND responded that it was not possible to take from one vet and give to another vet funding dollars to use.

In June I sent e-mail to Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Minister Flack and also to our MPP John Yakabuskie the situation that was happening here in Renfrew County concerning the contract funding for vets and how another vet could not make use of a vets contract dollars that weren't going to be maxed out.

NPAHN sent a letter to Minister Flack seeking support for a conclusion to the VAP review.

In early October there is a tentative meeting planned with Leah Schmdit of MDN for another opportunity to express the need that NPAHN feels relative to the VAP and to get an update on timeframes relative to the program.

Veterinary Assistance Program Guidelines:

A review of this program is currently underway.

Veterinary Calls Statistics

There is none available yet.

Election of Executive:

Moved by Ray Pender, 2nd by Craig McLaughlin that the position of President, Vice-president and secretary/treasurer remain the same for another year. Carried.

Appointment of Delegates to NPAHN:

Moved by Craig McLaughlin, 2nd by Janet Reiche-Schoenfeldt that the delegates remain the same as last year with the delegates being Ray Pender and Lloyd Robinson. Carried.

Appointments of Vets Under Contract:

Moved by Connie Tabbert, 2nd by Ray Pender that the vets to be covered under contract purposes with NPAHN are:

Dr. Donald Clark
Dr. Laurie Jeffery
Dr. Evangeline Wiens

Motion was Carried.

We do want to express that due to Dr. Tony Ruyter's semi-retirement that we would like the option to keep and possibly utilize our 4th contract by March 15th of 2025 if we were fortunate enough to get another large animal vet in Renfrew County.

Veterinary and Producer's Concerns:

Other New Business:

Committee membership - reviewed the constitution of the Renfrew Veterinary services Committee and the following are classed as members of the committee. A livestock representative from each of the following committees: Dairy, beef, sheep, pork, horses and goats.

Municipalities Contributions: At next year's AGM we will review the livestock numbers from the 2021 census and determine if there needs to be an adjustment made to the amount of renumeration the municipalities need to make to the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee.

Secretary's honorarium discussion - Moved by Craig McLaughlin, 2nd by Connie Tabbert that the secretary's honorarium be raised to \$750 a year. Carried.

We may call another meeting of the Veterinary Services Committee if the VAP review comes out.

Next Annual meeting will be held on tuesday September 23, 2025

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

THOSE PRESENT FOR THIS MEETING

David McGonegal	Lloyd Robinson	Ray Pender	Connie Tabbert
Janet Reiche-Schoenfeldt	Tony Fritch	Craig McLaughlin	Dr. Donald Clark
Dr. Laurie Jeffery	Donna Campbell		

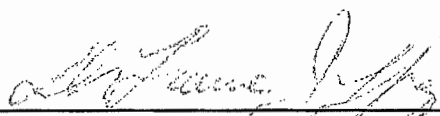
**RENFREW COUNTY VETERINARY SERVICES COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 TO AUGUST 31, 2024**

Beginning balance September 1, 2023 **\$18,765.93**

INCOME:	Brudenell/Lyndoch/Raglan	\$ 280.00	
	Laurentian Hills	\$ 280.00	
	Horton	\$ 280.00	
	Greater Madawaska	\$ 280.00	
	North Algoma/Wilberforce	\$ 280.00	
	Killaloe/Hagarty/Richards	\$ 280.00	
	McNab/Braeside	\$ 280.00	
	Admaston/Bromley	\$ 709.48	
	Madawaska Valley	\$ 280.00	
	Bonnechere Valley	\$ 280.00	
	Addington Highlands	\$ 280.00	
	Whitewater Region	\$ 929.72	
	Laurentian Valley	<u>\$ 295.47</u>	
		\$4,734.67	<u>\$ 4,734.67</u>
			\$23,500.60

EXPENSES:	Annual meeting refreshments	\$ 50.00	
	Fee to NPAHN	\$4,000.00	
	Donna's honorarium	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
		\$4,550.00	<u>\$ 4,550.00</u>

Bank balance August 31, 2023 **\$18,950.60**

Reviewed and found to be correct: 

Dated: Sept 20/24

Constitution

Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee

Purpose

The Veterinary Assistance Program administered by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, helps promote the viability of the livestock industry by supporting the provision of veterinary services to livestock producers in designated areas. It does this by using conditional grants to offset the travel, locum and continuing education costs incurred by participating Veterinary Practices. The program is delivered in collaboration with participating producer and veterinarian representatives. Stakeholder organizations include local Veterinary Services Committees, The Northern Producers Animal Health Network and the Designated Area Veterinarians Association.

Interpretation

In this program:

“Program “ means the Veterinary Assistance Program

“Committee” means the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee.

“Participating Producers” means an owner or caretaker of eligible livestock as named under the Veterinary Assistance Program who has a place of business located within the Program Area and has a client relationship with a Participating Veterinary Practice.

“Geographical Area” means the area of Renfrew County.

“Financial Contributor” means for organized municipalities, an assessment fee on a per head basis as determined by the Annual Meeting, is paid by the Municipality on behalf of the livestock owner to the Committee and for unorganized Municipalities ie. Nipissing District, livestock producers pay an annual fee of \$25.00 due April 1st of each year. These monies raised are used to operate the Committee and pay an Annual Fee per Veterinary Contract to the Northern Producer Animal Health Network.

“Veterinarian” means one who is licensed to practice in the province of Ontario and who is named by the Annual Meeting of the Committee and maintains a Veterinary Practice that:

- (a) has its Practice name registered with the College of Veterinarians of Ontario
- (b) whose Director is licensed under the Ontario Veterinarians Act
- © maintains an accredited Food-Producing Animal Mobile and
- (d) has entered into a Veterinary Services Agreement under the Program

Article 1

Name

This Committee shall be known as the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee.

Article II

Objectives

1. To Administer the Veterinarian Assistance Program as set out by the Northern Producers Animal Health Network and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.
2. To serve as the first point of contact and represent the interests of participating producers to the participating veterinary practice(s), the contributors of the Committee and the Northern Producers Animal Health Network.
3. To recommend changes of the Veterinary Assistance program to the Northern Producers Animal Health Network.

Article III

Membership

1. The contributors (Municipalities) name or elect a representative, who is a livestock owner, to act on their behalf on the "Committee.
2. The membership will include 1 representative from any livestock producer group or organization in the County with livestock covered under the Veterinary Assistance Program.
3. The contributors from all of the unorganized Municipalities elect a representative to act on their behalf on the "Committee".

Article IV

Officers

1. The following officers are elected at the Annual Meeting of the "Committee" from the named representatives:
 - Chairman
 - Vice-Chairman
2. The Secretary/Treasurer and the Financial Reviewer will be appointed at the Annual Meeting of the "Committee.
3. 2 Delegates and one alternate will be elected at the Annual Meeting to attend the Northern Producer Animal Health Network Annual Meeting.

Constitution

4. In the event of any of the offices becoming vacant, the Executive shall fill the vacancy.
5. The term of office for all officers shall be 1 year. Officers may be re-elected at the end of their term of office.
6. The following members shall form the Executive of the "Committee": Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer.

Article V

Duties of Officers

1. The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the "Committee" and shall preside at the executive and "Committee" meetings. The Chairman is an ex officio member of all committees of the "Committee".
2. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the duties of the Chairman in his/her absence.
3. The Secretary is responsible for general correspondence, for internal communication within the "Committee" and for keeping records of all minutes from meetings.
4. The Treasurer is responsible for the care and custody of the funds and other financial assets of the "Committee". At each Annual meeting, the Treasurer shall present an account of the finances of the "Committee" that has been reviewed and verified by an independent person.

Article VI

Finances

1. The financial year of the Corporation shall be from Sept. 1 to August 31.
2. The Committee shall be carried on without purpose of direct individual financial gain for its members. Any profit shall be used in promoting the objectives of the Committee.
3. The Officers shall not be personally liable for any debt, liability or obligation of the Committee when the duties of diligence, loyalty and obedience are followed. (Reference: Directors Liability: A Discussion Paper on Legal Liability, Risk Management and the role of Directors in Non-Profit Organizations.)
4. The Committee shall open and operate its finances from an account in a designated financial institution. The Treasurer and one of the Chair

Constitution

Adopted at the September 26, 2001 Annual Meeting of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee.

Revised at the September 24, 2008 Annual Meeting of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee.

Chairman Ray Pender Date Sept. 24/08



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205
haltonhills.ca

January 29, 2025

All Municipalities in Ontario
Via Email

Re: Sovereignty of Canada

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding Sovereignty of Canada.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0010.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M Lawr'.

Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0010
Title: Sovereignty of Canada
Date: January 20, 2025
Moved by: Councillor D. Keene
Seconded by: Councillor J. Brass

Item No. 12.2

WHEREAS incoming 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 residents of our community, known as Canada's Most Patriotic Town, have demonstrated passion for and loyalty to our nation by opposing past "Buy America" trade measures; by celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary by simultaneously flying over 57,000 Canadian flags and along with other activities, by annually hosting popular Canada Day festivities throughout our municipality; and

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

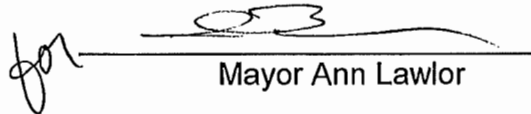
AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

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 Halton Hills 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.



Mayor Ann Lawlor

From: Margaret Dingman <info@kiclei.ca>
Sent: January 21, 2025 12:33 PM
To: Gwen Dombroski
Cc: Peter Emon; dlynch@arnprior.ca; Keith Watt; gdoncaster@deeperiver.ca; Anne Giardini; Gary Serviss; Michael Donohue; Jennifer Murphy; Valerie Jahn; Rob Weir; Debbi Grills; David Bennett; David Mayville; Mark Willmer; Mark MacKenzie; James Brose; Neil Nicholson; Gwen Dombroski; Craig Kelley; lmcgee@arnprior.ca; dlynch@arnprior.ca; lcloutier@arnprior.ca; tburnette@arnprior.ca; ctoner@arnprior.ca; ccouper@arnprior.ca; bdenault@arnprior.ca; kzamojski@arnprior.ca; rpaquette@arnprior.ca; sdeon@deeperiver.ca; gdoncaster@deeperiver.ca; wfitton@deeperiver.ca; cgiardini@deeperiver.ca; khughes@deeperiver.ca; tmyers@deeperiver.ca; tvaughan@deeperiver.ca; jmellon@deeperiver.ca; spatterson@deeperiver.ca; Anne Giardini; ward3@laurentianhills.ca; ward1@laurentianhills.ca; ward2@laurentianhills.ca; ward4@laurentianhills.ca; cao@laurentianhills.ca; Gary Serviss; tsabourin@petawawa.ca; jcarmody@petawawa.ca; lcoutu@petawawa.ca; kdonovan@petawawa.ca; adriscoll@petawawa.ca; Murray Rutz; choward@petawawa.ca; Scott Randolph; Tom Sidney; Peter Emon; Kyle Cybulski; Andrew Dick; Jason Legris; John McDonald; Clint McWhirter; Carolyn Errett; Rob Tremblay; Michael Donohue; bhamilton@admastonbromley.com; klegris@admastonbromley.com; afield@admastonbromley.com; kgourley@admastonbromley.com; cao@admastonbromley.com; Jennifer Murphy; brentp@eganville.com; johne@eganville.com; traceys@eganville.com; mervb@eganville.com; annetteg@eganville.com; Valerie Jahn; ikauffeldt@blrtownship.ca; kquade@blrtownship.ca; wbanks@blrtownship.ca; skeller@blrtownship.ca; clerk-treasurer@blrtownship.ca; manager@blrtownship.ca; Rob Weir; tpopkie@greatermadawaska.com; jlevesque@greatermadawaska.com; rtripp@greatermadawaska.com; lthomson@greatermadawaska.com; clerk@greatermadawaska.com; cao@greatermadawaska.com; Debbi Grills; r.richer@headclaramaria.ca; c.dowser@headclaramaria.ca; f.kelly-chamberlain@headclaramaria.ca; k.leclerc@headclaramaria.ca; clerk@headclaramaria.ca; David Bennett; dproctor@hortontownship.ca; gcampbell@hortontownship.ca; dhumphries@hortontownship.ca; twebster@hortontownship.ca; hdillabough@hortontownship.ca; David Mayville; councillorbrowne@khrtownship.ca; councillorsmith@khrtownship.ca; councillormacmillan@khrtownship.ca; councillorkuehl@khrtownship.ca; councillorpecoskie@khrtownship.ca; councillorlavigne@khrtownship.ca; Tammy Gorgerat; sbennett@lvtownship.ca; Keith Watt; jgauthier@lvtownship.ca; whewitt@lvtownship.ca; bhugli@lvtownship.ca; bking@lvtownship.ca; awren@lvtownship.ca; Dean Sauriol; Mark Willmer; councillor.blank@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.maika@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.olsheski@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.shulist@madawaskavalley.ca; cao@madawaskavalley.ca; Mark MacKenzie; lhoddinott@mcnabbraeside.com; krosien@mcnabbraeside.com; sbrum@mcnabbraeside.com; rcampbell@mcnabbraeside.com; Lindsey Lee; James Brose; mberndt@nalgonawil.com; dbuckwald@nalgonawil.com; jreiche@nalgonawil.com; mrobinson@nalgonawil.com; Clerk; Neil Nicholson; cregier@whitewaterregion.ca; colmstead@whitewaterregion.ca; moorem@whitewaterregion.ca; mbell@whitewaterregion.ca; ctabbert@whitewaterregion.ca; jtrimm@whitewaterregion.ca; cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca; iburton@whitewaterregion.ca; rae.e.stanley@gmail.com
Subject: Rethinking Renfrew's Climate Action Plan: Maggie Braun Urges Local Solutions



Rethinking Renfrew's Climate Action Plan: Maggie Solutions

Gather
2030
Jan
17



On January 15, 2025, Maggie Braun, representing KICLEI Canada and over 300 residents who signed a petition Action Plan, presented concerns to the Renfrew County Council. The presentation highlighted the financial, le ICLEI's five-milestone framework.

The primary objective was to urge the Council to pause and reconsider this costly, externally driven plan and its solutions that align with Renfrew County's unique economic and environmental strengths.

Why This Matters

- **Council Responsibility:** Under Ontario law, Council Members are accountable for making decisions with consultants or external organizations.
- **Voluntary Participation:** Climate action plans are not legally required. Ontario municipalities have diverse communities.
- **High Costs:** Implementing this plan could cost between **\$13.1 million** and **\$191 million**—an unsustainable expense.
- **Local Alternatives:** Renfrew County's forests and farmland naturally absorb more carbon than the plan. **agriculture** and **conservation projects** would be more effective and affordable.

Notable Attendance and Community Support

It was notable that **MP Cheryl Gallant** was in attendance—a Member of Parliament who did not support the P importance of this discussion for Renfrew County and across the nation. The council chambers were filled with recommendations presented. This strong community turnout reflected the growing concern about the impact finances and local autonomy.

Council Takes Action

Following the presentation, Renfrew County Council requested a **localized report**, engaging staff and GIS department's actual emissions and carbon sequestration. This is a significant step toward developing solutions that is an example of how local advocates can assist councils in navigating the next steps forward.

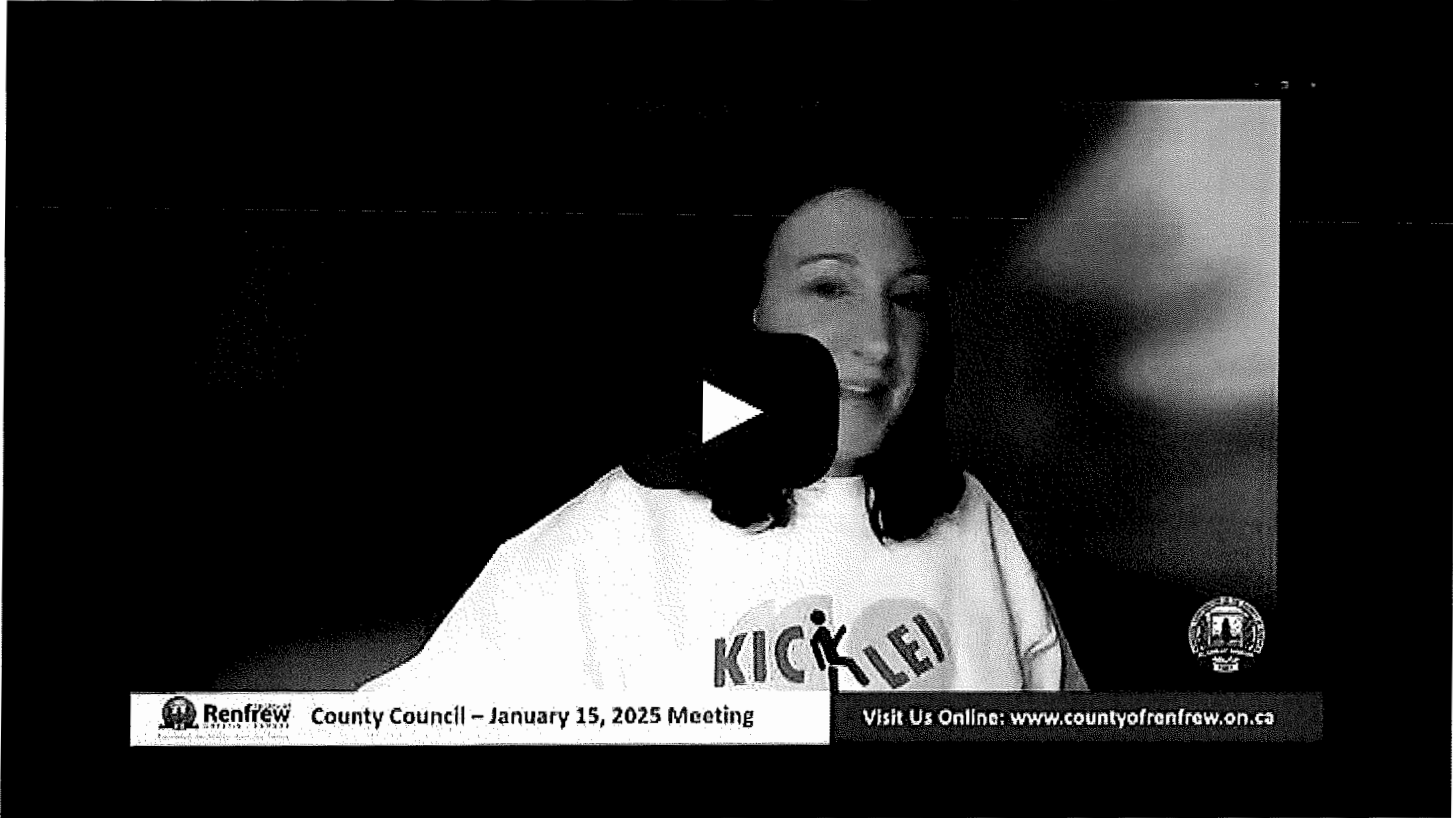
Let's Focus on Local Needs

Redirecting funds from costly climate programs to pressing local issues will better serve residents:

- **Housing**
- **Energy Security**
- **Economic Development**
- **Public Safety**
- **Government Accountability**

Watch the Full Presentation

 Watch the full presentation and learn more about why Renfrew County should prioritize local solutions



For more information, visit KICLEI.ca.

Maggie Braun
Founder, KICLEI Canada
info@kiclei.ca

- Like
- Comment
- Restack

© 2025 Gather 2030
PO Box 40022, Peterborough RPO, Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 8R8

[Unsubscribe](#)

Get the app

Start writing

From: Margaret Dingman <info@kiclei.ca>
Sent: January 21, 2025 1:59 PM
To: Peter Emon; dlynch@arnprior.ca; Keith Watt; gdoncaster@deeperiver.ca; Anne Giardini; Gary Serviss; Michael Donohue; Jennifer Murphy; Valerie Jahn; Rob Weir; Debbi Grills; David Bennett; David Mayville; Mark Willmer; Mark MacKenzie; James Brose; Neil Nicholson; Gwen Dombroski; Craig Kelley; lmcgee@arnprior.ca; dlynch@arnprior.ca; lcloutier@arnprior.ca; tburnette@arnprior.ca; ctoner@arnprior.ca; ccouper@arnprior.ca; bdenault@arnprior.ca; kzamojski@arnprior.ca; rpaquette@arnprior.ca; sdeon@deeperiver.ca; gdoncaster@deeperiver.ca; wfitton@deeperiver.ca; cgiardini@deeperiver.ca; khughes@deeperiver.ca; tmyers@deeperiver.ca; tvaughan@deeperiver.ca; jmellon@deeperiver.ca; spatterson@deeperiver.ca; Anne Giardini; ward3@laurentianhills.ca; ward1@laurentianhills.ca; ward2@laurentianhills.ca; ward4@laurentianhills.ca; cao@laurentianhills.ca; Gary Serviss; tsabourin@petawawa.ca; jcarmody@petawawa.ca; lcoutu@petawawa.ca; kdonovan@petawawa.ca; adriscoll@petawawa.ca; Murray Rutz; choward@petawawa.ca; Scott Randolph; Tom Sidney; Peter Emon; Kyle Cybulski; Andrew Dick; Jason Legris; John McDonald; Clint McWhirter;Carolynn Errett; Rob Tremblay; Michael Donohue; bhamilton@admastonbromley.com; klegris@admastonbromley.com; afield@admastonbromley.com; kgourley@admastonbromley.com; cao@admastonbromley.com; Jennifer Murphy; brentp@eganville.com; johne@eganville.com; traceys@eganville.com; mervb@eganville.com; annetteg@eganville.com; Valerie Jahn; ikauffeldt@blrtownship.ca; kquade@blrtownship.ca; wbanks@blrtownship.ca; skeller@blrtownship.ca; clerk-treasurer@blrtownship.ca; manager@blrtownship.ca; Rob Weir; tpopkie@greatermadawaska.com; jlevesque@greatermadawaska.com; rtripp@greatermadawaska.com; lthomson@greatermadawaska.com; clerk@greatermadawaska.com; cao@greatermadawaska.com; Debbi Grills; r.richer@headclaramaria.ca; c.dowser@headclaramaria.ca; f.kelly-chamberlain@headclaramaria.ca; k.leclerc@headclaramaria.ca; clerk@headclaramaria.ca; David Bennett; dproctor@hortontownship.ca; gcampbell@hortontownship.ca; dhumphries@hortontownship.ca; twebster@hortontownship.ca; hdillabough@hortontownship.ca; David Mayville; councillorbrowne@khrtownship.ca; councillorsmith@khrtownship.ca; councillormacmillan@khrtownship.ca; councillorkuehl@khrtownship.ca; councillorpecoskie@khrtownship.ca; councillorlavigne@khrtownship.ca; Tammy Gorgerat; sbennett@lvtownship.ca; Keith Watt; jgauthier@lvtownship.ca; whewitt@lvtownship.ca; bhugli@lvtownship.ca; bking@lvtownship.ca; awren@lvtownship.ca; Dean Sauriol; Mark Willmer; councillor.blank@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.maika@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.olsheski@madawaskavalley.ca; councillor.shulist@madawaskavalley.ca; cao@madawaskavalley.ca; Mark MacKenzie; lhoddinott@mcnabbraeside.com; krosien@mcnabbraeside.com; sbrum@mcnabbraeside.com; rcampbell@mcnabbraeside.com; Lindsey Lee; James Brose; mberndt@nalgonawil.com; dbuckwald@nalgonawil.com; jreiche@nalgonawil.com; mrobinson@nalgonawil.com; Clerk; Neil Nicholson; cregier@whitewaterregion.ca; colmstead@whitewaterregion.ca; moorem@whitewaterregion.ca; mbell@whitewaterregion.ca; ctabbert@whitewaterregion.ca; jtrimm@whitewaterregion.ca; cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca; iburton@whitewaterregion.ca
Subject: Subject: Response to Questions on Renfrew County Climate Action Plan – Ensuring Transparency and Local Priorities

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Rob Weir and Members of Renfrew County Councils,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the concerns raised about the proposed Climate Action Plan. I appreciate the opportunity to provide further clarification and insights to ensure a well-informed and transparent discussion.

To provide context, I have included the original inquiry below for reference, followed by my detailed responses to the questions raised. These responses aim to shed light on key aspects of the Climate Action Plan, its alignment with global frameworks, data collection concerns, financial implications, and the importance of prioritizing local needs.

Original Inquiry:

"Thank you for sharing your thoughts and raising concerns regarding the Renfrew County Climate Action Plan and its potential implications. I appreciate your detailed letter and would like to better understand certain points you mentioned to ensure a thorough discussion of the matter.

Could you please provide clarification on the following?

1. U.N. Sustainability Goals Integration

- You noted that the Climate Action Plan aligns with U.N. agendas such as Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2050. Could you elaborate on which specific aspects of the plan directly reflect these global goals?

2. Data Collection Concerns

- Could you provide more details on what kind of data would be collected under the proposed plan and how this may impact privacy?

3. Economic and Social Costs

- You highlighted potential "enormous costs" and "catastrophic results." Could you specify the areas where these costs are expected to arise and provide examples of their social impacts?

4. Local Needs and Alternatives

- You mentioned the importance of focusing on local needs. Are there specific local priorities or alternative proposals you believe would better serve Renfrew County?

5. Consultation Fee and Scope

- You referenced the \$70,000 consultation fee. Do you have more details on what specific services or recommendations were provided by Ainsworth Consulting for this fee?"

Rob Weir
Mayor- Township of Greater Madawaska
19 Parnell Street
Calabogie, Ont.
K0J 1H0
613-433-1313

Responses to Your Questions:

Dear Mayor Rob Weir,

Thank you for your thoughtful engagement with the concerns raised regarding Renfrew County's Climate Action Plan. I appreciate the opportunity to provide further clarification on the points you raised to ensure a productive and well-informed discussion.

1. U.N. Sustainability Goals Integration

Climate Action Plans originate from a **five-milestone framework** that includes:

1. Conducting a baseline emissions inventory.
2. Setting emissions reduction targets.
3. Developing an action plan.
4. Adopting and implementing the plan.
5. Monitoring progress.

This framework was established by **ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability)** and the **Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)** through the **Partners for Climate Protection (PCP)** program in 1994.

ICLEI itself was founded by the **United Nations** in 1990, and the **FCM played a key role in drafting Agenda 21**, which was signed in 1992. Following this, in 1994, the FCM sent a document titled the "**Municipal Primer on UNCED**" to its member municipalities, providing a 40-page blueprint on how to implement **Agenda 21** through Canadian municipalities by promoting sustainable development through local strategic action.

While the term "**sustainable development**" may bring various ideas to mind, it is important to examine its original meaning in relation to land use as articulated in the **Brundtland Commission Report** and the **United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat I)**, held in Vancouver from May 31 – June 11, 1976. The conference's **Agenda Item 10** set forth the UN's official policy on land use, emphasizing

centralized planning and land control as key elements in achieving sustainable development goals. The Preamble says:

“Land...cannot be treated as an ordinary asset, controlled by individuals and subject to the pressures and inefficiencies of the market. **Private land ownership** is also a principal instrument of accumulation and concentration of wealth and therefore contributes to social injustice; if unchecked, it **may become a major obstacle in the planning and implementation of development schemes**. The provision of decent dwellings and healthy conditions for the people can only be achieved if land is used in the interests of society as a whole. Public control of land use is therefore indispensable....”

This historical connection underscores how Climate Action Plans are directly linked to global agendas such as **Agenda 2030** and **Agenda 2050**, which seek to align local policies with broader global climate and development objectives.

Despite the voluntary nature of these programs, their adoption at the municipal level integrates local governments into long-term commitments and compliance frameworks that may not fully align with local priorities or financial realities.

For further context on municipal responsibilities within Canada's constitutional framework, I recommend reviewing "[Understanding Municipal Responsibilities in Canada: A Guide to Local Governance and Jurisdiction](#)," This guide outlines the constitutional scope of municipal authority and priorities which fall under municipal jurisdiction.

2. Data Collection Concerns

The Climate Action Plan requires extensive data collection at both the corporate (municipal operations) and community levels. These data collection requirements, outlined in the PCP **Milestone One Protocol Handbook**, are repeated **annually or biannually** under Milestone Five and include:

Corporate Data Collection Requirements:

- Tracking **energy consumption** from all sources, including non-CO₂-emitting sources.
- Recording **electricity usage** for all municipal lighting annually.
- Monitoring energy consumption for **water and wastewater facilities**.
- Reporting fuel sources and emissions from all **municipal buildings and facilities**.
- Conducting **waste audits** to categorize and measure all waste materials, from food waste to electronics.
- Calculating the **methane potential** of landfill waste and assessing decay rates annually.
- Collecting data on fuel usage for all **municipal fleet vehicles**, including public transit and staff commuting patterns.

Community-Wide Data Collection Requirements:

- Emissions from residential, commercial, and industrial buildings, including **fuel and electricity consumption**.

- Fuel sales data and kilometers traveled by all vehicle types, public transit, and private transportation within the county.
- Monitoring emissions from **industrial processes and wastewater treatment**.
- Detailed solid waste data, including livestock counts and methane potential.

These requirements represent a **significant administrative burden** and raise serious **ethical and privacy concerns**, such as:

- **Infringement on privacy:** Residents and businesses may not be aware that their energy and waste habits are being tracked, leading to potential distrust in local government.
- **Data security risks:** Sensitive information is often managed by third-party organizations such as ICLEI, raising concerns about data breaches and potential misuse.
- **Profit-driven motives:** Data collected is often used to market "green energy" products, benefiting corporate interests rather than prioritizing genuine environmental stewardship.

This level of surveillance and data harvesting could be seen as disproportionate for a rural community like Renfrew County, where local environmental initiatives can be achieved without such invasive measures.

3. Economic and Social Costs

The projected financial implications of the Climate Action Plan are estimated to fall between and in some cases well above **\$13.1 million to \$191 million**, with major costs arising from:

- **Municipal Fleet Upgrades:** Transitioning vehicles to electric options and developing supporting infrastructure such as EV charging stations.
- **Building Retrofitting:** Upgrading public facilities to meet stringent emissions targets.
- **Infrastructure Investments:** Implementing smart city technology, active transportation networks, and waste management upgrades.
- **Administrative and Reporting Costs:** Compliance with ongoing data monitoring and reporting requirements for decades to come.

Social impacts include:

- **Increased tax burdens:** Higher operational costs may result in property tax increases and service cutbacks.
- **Business and agricultural challenges:** Additional compliance measures may impose financial and operational burdens on small businesses and farms.
- **Housing market implications:** Urban densification strategies could limit rural growth opportunities and change local property values. The recommendation to adopt additional green building standards adds "green tape" to the construction industry, driving up prices on new buildings.

These financial commitments and regulatory constraints could divert attention and resources from more pressing local priorities that fall within the municipal mandate.

4. Local Needs and Alternatives

Renfrew County has the opportunity to focus on **cost-effective, community-driven solutions** that address both environmental concerns and economic realities. Some key alternatives include:

- **Regenerative Agriculture:** Expanding soil carbon content naturally through improved farming practices, which could effectively offset emissions without costly technological interventions.
- **Forestry Conservation Programs:** Enhancing efforts to protect and manage Renfrew County's extensive forests, which already act as powerful carbon sinks, which place Ontario as a significant carbon sink.
- **Energy Security Initiatives:** Investing in localized, affordable energy solutions tailored to rural needs, including support for **natural gas expansion** and maintaining the use of **gas-powered vehicles** for private use.
- **Housing and Infrastructure:** Redirecting funds to address the urgent demand for affordable housing and essential community services with a focus on **rural expansion** rather than centralized population growth. Moving away from the **sustainable development model** that prioritizes urban densification will allow for growth in rural and small-town communities, better reflecting the needs and desires of Renfrew County residents.

These initiatives prioritize the well-being of residents while promoting environmental responsibility without the financial strain associated with net-zero frameworks.

For further context on municipal responsibilities within Canada's constitutional framework, I recommend reviewing "**Municipal Priorities First: Why Climate Action Plans Should Not Compromise Essential Services or Increase Property Taxes.**" This article emphasizes the importance of staying within legally established mandates, not diverting funds and administration from core municipal responsibilities to top-down global targets and development schemes.

5. Consultation Fee and Scope

The **\$70,000 consultation fee** paid to Ainsworth Consulting covered the initial phases of the Climate Action Plan, which included:

- **Baseline Emissions Inventory:** A general assessment of emissions, which often relies on national averages rather than locally verified data.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Development of materials and events to introduce the plan to the public.
- **Target Setting:** Establishing preliminary goals in alignment with ICLEI's global framework.

However, concerns remain regarding the lack of a **detailed cost-benefit analysis** and the potential for additional hidden expenses that municipalities often encounter in later stages of plan implementation. Greater transparency is essential to evaluate the true value of these consulting services and their long-term impact on the county's financial health.

Once again, I appreciate your time and commitment to ensuring that decisions made for Renfrew County align with the community's best interests. I look forward to continued dialogue and collaboration on this important matter.

Sincerely,
Maggie Braun
Founder, KICLEI Canada
 info@kiclei.ca
 www.kiclei.ca

(250) 463-4066