



# AGENDA

## Council Meeting

4:30 PM - Thursday, March 26, 2026  
Municipal Office

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- 7.8. **Parks & Recreation Manager's Report:** Fairgrounds historical stone 94 - 95  
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[Fairgrounds historical stone monument - Pdf](#)
- 7.9. Tender Award for Arena Floor Project  
 Tender closes March 24th - report will be provided at the meeting
- 7.10. Arena Floor Project Recognition Board RFP  
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## 8. BY-LAWS

- 8.1. By-law 5 of 2026 - Chanyi Drain: Third and Final reading
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## 9. NEW BUSINESS

## 10. CLOSED SESSION

- 10.1. Personnel matter about an identifiable individual including employees
- 10.2. A proposed or pending aquisition or disposition of land by the municipality

## 11. RISE AND REPORT

## 12. BY-LAW CONFIRMING PROCEEDINGS

## 13. ADJOURNMENT



# MINUTES

## Council Meeting

4:30 PM - Thursday, March 12, 2026  
Municipal Office

The Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston was called to order on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 4:30 PM, in the Municipal Office, with the following members present:

**Council Present:** Mayor David Ferguson, Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek, Councillor Don McCabe, Councillor Jenny Redick, and Councillor Craig Sanders

**Staff Present:** Clerk Administrator Janet Denkers, Treasurer Stephen Ikert, Public Works Superintendent Jamie Butler, Parks & Recreation Manager Greg Thornicroft, Fire Chief Steve Knight, and County Planner Ezio Nadalin

**Regrets:**

### 1 CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

### 2 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Mayor requested that any pecuniary interests be declared when appropriate during the meeting.

### 3 MINUTES

a) Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2026

#### RESOLUTION-2026-080

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that the minutes of the February 26, 2026 meeting be approved as presented without error or omission. Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek seconded the motion.

**Carried**

### 4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

### 5 DELEGATIONS & TIMED EVENTS

a) Application for Rezoning - 6535 James Street, Inwood

In Attendance: Callum Wilson, Stephen Harrott

The Planner reviewed his report and addressed the concerns in Mr. Harrott's letter.

#### RESOLUTION-2026-081

Councillor Don McCabe made a motion that the Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston approve the proposed amendment to the Zoning By-law at 6535 James Street and pass the corresponding By-law as presented. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

b) Potential Sale of Alley

#### RESOLUTION-2026-082

Councillor Don McCabe made a motion that staff investigate the potential of having an easement registered on the property for access. Councillor Jenny Redick seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## 6 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Municipal Information

### **RESOLUTION-2026-083**

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that the circulated correspondence be received and filed. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- b) Municipality of St. Charles - Small Northern New Property Tax Class

### **RESOLUTION-2026-084**

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that the request from the Municipality of St. Charles be received and filed. Councillor Jenny Redick seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- c) Township of Papineau-Cameron - Enrollment Capacity of Ontario Vet. College

### **RESOLUTION-2026-085**

Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek made a motion that the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston supports the request from the Township of Papineau-Cameron to call on the Ontario Veterinary College, OMAFRA, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association to consider expanding enrollment capacity at the Ontario Veterinary College to allow more qualified applicants to pursue certification as large animal veterinarians. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- d) Township of McNab/Braeside - Ontario Heritage Organization Development

### **RESOLUTION-2026-086**

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that the Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston supports the request from the Township of McNab/Braeside to support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability. Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## 7 STAFF REPORTS

- a) **Clerk Administrator's Report:** Surplus Dwelling LaSalle Line

### **RESOLUTION-2026-087**

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that the Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston permit the applicant to live in the current home at 8323 LaSalle Line for a 12 month period beginning April 1st while a new dwelling is being constructed. Councillor Jenny Redick seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- b) **Clerk Administrator's Report:** Restricted Acts after Nomination Day - 2026

### **RESOLUTION-2026-088**

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that the Restricted Acts after

Nomination Day -2026 report be received and filed. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- c) **Clerk Administrator's Report:** Municipal Authorization - West Nile Virus Larvicide

**RESOLUTION-2026-089**

Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek made a motion that the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston supports local action by Lambton Public Health to reduce the risk of the West Nile Virus and authorizes any permit application for West Nile Virus control submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks from an appropriately licensed exterminator to apply a larvicide into catch basins or surface water located within and owned by Brooke-Alvinston and located on private land that drain into the storm drain system or waterways located in Brooke-Alvinston. Councillor Jenny Redick seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- d) **Treasurer's Report:** Council Remuneration - 2025

**RESOLUTION-2026-090**

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that Council receive and file the Statement of Council Remuneration and Expenses attached, provided as required by the Municipal Act. Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- e) **Treasurer's Report:** Accounts Payable Listing - February 2026

**RESOLUTION-2026-091**

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that Council receive and file the Accounts Payable Listing for February 2026. Councillor Jenny Redick seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- f) **Parks & Recreation Manager's Report:** Tournament Fees

**RESOLUTION-2026-092**

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that the tournament fee for any ice minor sports events be charged at the minor sports rate for any hours rented. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- g) **Clerk Administrator's Report:** Arena Floor Project Recognition Board

**RESOLUTION-2026-093**

Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek made a motion that Council receive and file the report on the Alvinston Arena Floor Recognition Board, concept design and RFP. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- h) **Parks & Recreation Manager's Report:** Lawn Mower replacement

**RESOLUTION-2026-094**

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that Council receive the report on the purchase of a lawn mower and that the quote from Podolinsky Farm Equipment be approved for purchase. Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## 8 BY-LAWS

- a) By-law 16 of 2026 -Zoning Amendment

### RESOLUTION-2026-095

Councillor Don McCabe made a motion that By-law 16 of 2026 be read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 12th day of March, 2026  
Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## 9 NEW BUSINESS

- a) Councillor Sanders - Petrolia Line

### RESOLUTION-2026-096

Councillor Craig Sanders made a motion that staff be directed to bring back a report on options to repair sections of Petrolia Line including hot patch, engineering and geotechnical studies. Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- b) Councillor Redick noted properties on Lorne Street, River Street and Elgin Street that need attention (property standards).  
c) Councillor McCabe commented on the recent changes for the SCRCA to move from 36 to 9 regions.  
d) Forcible Entry Prop Purchase

### RESOLUTION-2026-097

Councillor Don McCabe made a motion that Council approve the purchase of the forcible entry prop from a single Canadian source, H & R Machine, Welding and Fabrication at the total price of \$11,000 including HST. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

- e) The Fire Chief noted the Maple Syrup Festival planned for March 21 and 22.

## 10 CLOSED SESSION

- a) Section 239(2)(b): Personal matters about an identifiable individual including employees  
b) Section 239(2)(e): Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the Municipality or local board.

### RESOLUTION-2026-098

Councillor Jenny Redick made a motion that Council move into closed session.  
Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

## 11 RISE AND REPORT

The Clerk-Administrator provided the Rise and Report

- a) Minutes of February 5, 2026 meeting approved  
b) Senior of the Year 2026 was selected  
c) a legal matter regarding the municipality was reviewed  
d) a matter regarding a road was discussed  
e) a matter regarding a drain was discussed  
f) a matter involving another municipality was discussed

## 12 BY-LAW CONFIRMING PROCEEDINGS

- a) By-law 17 of 2026 - Confirming By-law

**RESOLUTION-2026-099**

Deputy Mayor Frank Nemcek made a motion that By-law 17 of 2026 was read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 12th day of March, 2026. Councillor Craig Sanders seconded the motion.

**Carried**

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Clerk-Administrator

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Mayor



area of settlement, details of the official plan or official plan amendment that deals with the matter is required.


If the subject land is within an area where zoning with conditions applies, an explanation of how the application conforms to the official plan policies relating to zoning with conditions is required.


If the application is to remove land from an area of employment, details of the official plan or official plan amendment that deals with the matter is required.


**ACCESS** - Access to the subject land will be by:

Provincial highway                       Municipal Road - seasonal                       County Road  
 Municipal Road - year round                       Right-of-way                       Private Road  
 Water (specify).....                       Other public road

**WATER ACCESS** - Where access to the subject land is by water only:

Docking facilities (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ Parking facilities (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
 distance from subject land..... distance from subject land .....  
 distance from nearest public road..... distance from nearest public road.....

EXISTING USES of the subject land:	LENGTH OF TIME the existing uses of the subject land have continued:
<i>CRAZ FARM</i>	

**EXISTING BUILDINGS – STRUCTURES** - Where there are any buildings or structures on the subject land, indicate for each:

--

TYPE - *SHED*  
 Height in metres: *4.5 M.*

DATE CONSTRUCTED *1990 SHED*

Dimensions: *40' x 100'* FEET  
 Floor Area: *4000 SFT*  
 Front lot line setback: *60'*  
 Rear lot line setback: *420'*  
 Side lot line setback: *30' EAST*  
 Side lot line setback: *500' WEST*

TYPE - *B2W*  
 Height in metres: *9.7 M.*

DATE CONSTRUCTED *2014 GARDEN B2W*

Dimensions: *30' x 30'* FEET  
 Floor Area: *900 SFT*  
 Front lot line setback: *250'*  
 Rear lot line setback: *1100'*  
 Side lot line setback: *15' EAST*  
 Side lot line setback: *600' WEST*

attach additional page if necessary

**PROPOSED USES of the subject land**

*GARDEN FARM*

**PROPOSED BUILDINGS – STRUCTURES** - Where any buildings or structure are proposed to be built on subject land, indicate for each:

TYPE -  
 Height in metres: .....

DATE CONSTRUCTED.....

Dimensions: .....  
 Floor Area:  
 Front lot line setback:  
 Rear lot line setback:  
 Side lot line setback: .....  
 Side lot line setback: .....

TYPE -  
 Height in metres: .....

DATE CONSTRUCTED.....

Dimensions: .....  
 Floor Area:  
 Front lot line setback:  
 Rear lot line setback:  
 Side lot line setback: .....  
 Side lot line setback: .....

attach additional page if necessary

**WATER is provided to the subject land by:**

Publicly-owned/operated piped water system       Lake or other water body

<input type="checkbox"/> Publicly-owned/operated individual well communal well	<input type="checkbox"/> Privately owned and operated communal well
<input type="checkbox"/> Private well	<input type="checkbox"/> Other means (specify).....

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL** is provided to the subject land by:

<input type="checkbox"/> Publicly owned/operated sanitary sewage system	<input type="checkbox"/> Public communal septic system
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately owned/operated individual septic system	<input type="checkbox"/> Privy
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately owned/operated communal septic system	<input type="checkbox"/> Other means (specify).....

If the application would permit development on privately owned and operated individual or communal septic systems, and more than 4500 litres of effluent would be produced per day as a result of the development being completed, the following must accompany this application:

- 1) a servicing options report; and
- 2) a hydrogeological report.

**STORM DRAINAGE** is provided to the subject land by:

<input type="checkbox"/> Sewers (specify).....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ditches	<input type="checkbox"/> Swales	<input type="checkbox"/> Other means
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**OTHER APPLICATIONS** - if known, indicate if the subject land is the subject of an application under the Planning Act for:

<input type="checkbox"/> official plan amendment Status.....	File #.....
<input type="checkbox"/> approval of a plan of subdivision (under section 51) Status.....	File #.....
<input type="checkbox"/> severance (under section 53) Status..... <i>granted</i>	File #... <i>B002/25</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> previous rezoning application (under section 34) Status.....	File #.....
<input type="checkbox"/> whether the subject land has ever been the subject of a Minister's Zoning Order	Ont. Reg. # .....

Is this application for an amendment to the Zoning By-law consistent with policy statements issued under subsection 3 (1) of the Act? YES  NO

Is the subject land within an area of land designated under any provincial plan or plans?  
YES  NO

If yes, does the application conform or does not conflict with the applicable provincial plan or plans?  
YES  NO

PAGE 4 OF 6

**AUTHORIZATION  
BY OWNER**

I, the undersigned, being the owner of the subject land, hereby authorize  
*Linda Poddolinsky*  
 to be the applicant in the submission of this application.

*[Signature]*  
 Signature of Owner

*[Signature]*  
 Signature of Owner

.....  
 Signature of Witness

.....  
 Date

**DECLARATION OF APPLICANT**

I, *Linda Poddolinsky*  
*Brad Poddolinsky* of the *Municipality* of  
 (name of applicant) (eg. city, town, Village,  
 Township)

*Brooke - Alvinston* in the County of Lambton  
 (name of local municipality)

solemnly declare that:

All the statements contained in this application and provided by me are true and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath.

DECLARED before me at the *Municipality*  
 of *Brooke - Alvinston*  
 in the *County* of *Lambton* Signature of Applicant

this ..... day of *Feb.* 20 *26*  
 Signature of Applicant

.....  
 Signature of Commissioner, etc. *Linda Poddolinsky*

PAGE 5 OF 6

**PLANS REQUIRED**  
**IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SUBMIT PRELIMINARY SITE PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AT THE TIME OF THE FILING OF THIS APPLICATION**

Minimum requirements will be a sketch showing the following

1. The boundaries and dimensions of the subject land.
2. The locations, size and type of all existing and proposed buildings and structures on the subject land, indicating the distance of the buildings or structures from the front yard lot line, rear yard lot line and the side yard lot lines.
3. The approximate location of all natural and artificial features on the subject land and on land that is adjacent to the subject land that, in the opinion of the applicant, may affect the application. Examples include buildings, railways, roads, watercourses, drainage ditches, river or stream banks, wetlands, wooded areas, wells and septic tanks.
4. The current uses on land that is adjacent to the subject land.
5. The location, width and name of any roads within or abutting the subject land, indicating whether it is an unopened road allowance, a public traveled road, a private road or a right-of-way.
6. Off-street parking, and loading (if required) and access thereto, including the dimension of the spaces and aisles.
7. The location and nature of any easement or rights of way affecting the subject land.
8. Scale of site plan (metric preferred) and north arrow.

The Planning Act contains time-lines regarding the processing of this application. These time lines are based on the date on which the **complete** application was received. A notification will be sent to the applicant when a **complete** application has been received.



**MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will hold a Public Meeting on March 26, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

**THE PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT** would amend the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Comprehensive Zoning By-law 9 of 2013 by changing the zoning on lands described as Concession 6, Lot 14, Part Lot 15, municipally known as 7579 Shiloh Line from the "Agricultural-1 (A1)" Zone to the "No Dwelling Agricultural (ND-A)" Zone.

**CONSENT APPLICATION B002/25** was submitted and subsequently approved by the Committee of Adjustment on April 22, 2025. The application for consent involved the removal of 0.8-hectare (2 acre) rural residential lot from the original 50.6-hectare (125 acre) farm. The severed property includes a single-family dwelling and a detached shed, while the retained property includes a storage shed, and three grain bins. A condition of provisional consent requires a re-zoning of the retained property.

**ANY PERSON** may attend the public meeting and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. If you wish to submit a written or make an oral presentation at the public hearing, please contact the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 20, 2026.

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS** in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment can be made to the Clerk of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston.

**IF A PERSON** or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston before the Zoning By-law Amendment is passed the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

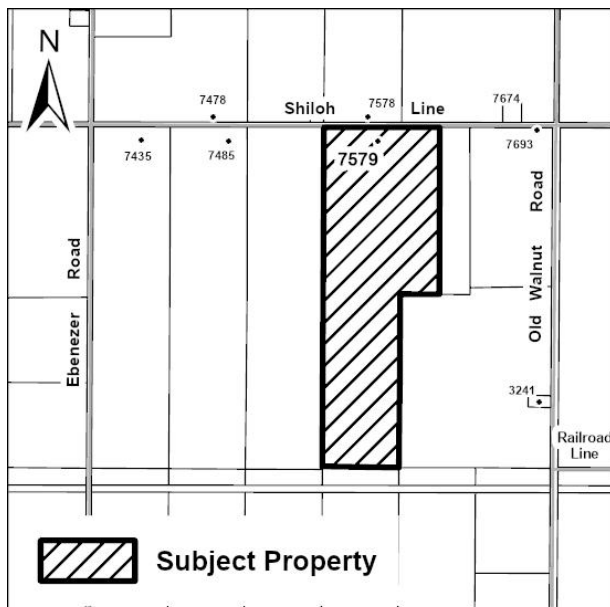
**IF A PERSON** or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston before the Zoning By-law Amendment is passed, they may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, if in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

**IF YOU WISH** to be notified of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment being passed, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston.

**THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT** will be available for public inspection during regular office hours at the Brooke-Alvinston Municipal Office, located at 3236 River Street in Alvinston and at the public meeting.

**THE KEY MAP** shows more particularly the lands affected.

**DATED** at the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2026.



Janet Denkers  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
Committee of Adjustment  
Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston  
3236 River Street, P.O. Box 28  
Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0

Email:  
[jdenkers@brookealvinston.com](mailto:jdenkers@brookealvinston.com)  
Phone: 519-898-2173  
Fax: 519-898-5653

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for circulating us. SCRCA can offer the following comment:

**ZBA – 7579 Shiloh Line – PL#2025-0026**

Portions of the subject property are regulated by the Conservation Authority under Ontario Regulation 41/24 and located within flooding and erosion hazards. It is SCRCA's understanding that the zoning by-law amendment application proposes to rezone the retained agricultural parcel to prohibit dwellings as a condition of the approved consent application (B-002/25). SCRCA has no concerns with the zoning by-law amendment application. SCRCA notes that formal comments were not provided for the consent application as we did not receive our fee prior to the Committee of Adjustment hearing.



Kind regards,

**Shelby Campbell**  
*Planning Technician*

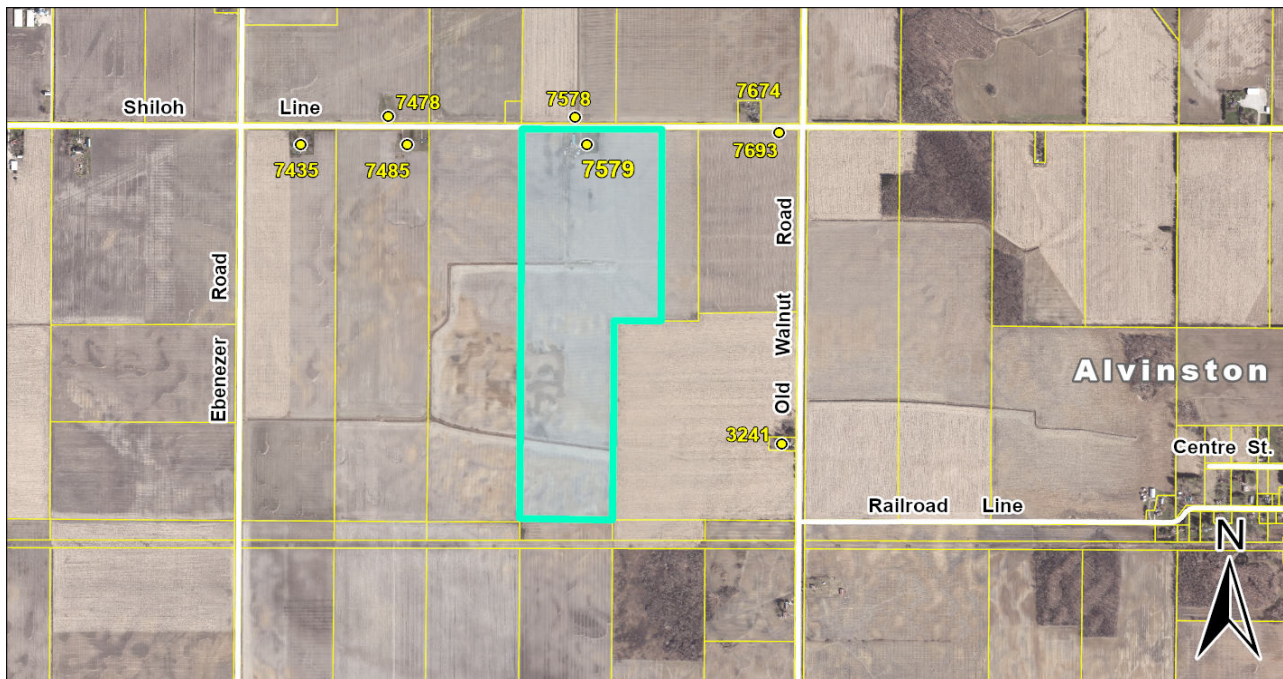
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St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
205 Mill Pond Cres., Strathroy, ON N7G 3P9  
Tel: 519-245-3710 Ext. 276  
[scampbell@scrca.on.ca](mailto:scampbell@scrca.on.ca)  
Website: [www.scrca.on.ca](http://www.scrca.on.ca)



	<p><b>PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT</b></p>	
<p><b>REPORT TO:</b></p>	<p><b>BROOKE-ALVINSTON COUNCIL</b></p>	
<p><b>PREPARED BY: (COUNTY)</b></p>	<p><b>Ezio Nadalin Planner</b></p>	
<p><b>APPROVED BY: (MUNICIPALITY)</b></p>	<p><b>Janet Denkers Clerk-Administrator</b></p>	
<p><b>REPORT DATE:</b></p>	<p><b>March 18, 2026</b></p>	
<p><b>MEETING DATE:</b></p>	<p><b>March 26, 2026</b></p>	
<p><b>IN CAMERA:</b></p>	<p><b>Open Session</b></p>	
<p><b>SUBJECT:</b></p>	<p><b>Zoning By-law Amendment Application Concession 6, Lot 14, Part Lot 15 7579 Shiloh Line Owner: 1432234 Ont. Ltd. (C/O: Linda Podolinsky)</b></p>	

**SITE PHOTO**



**BACKGROUND:**

The applicant has applied to change the zoning on lands described as Concession 6, Lot 14, Part Lot 15, in the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston and municipally known as 7579 Shiloh Line. The zoning would change from “Agriculture 1 (A1)” to “No-Dwelling Agricultural (ND-A)” which would prohibit the construction of future residential dwellings in perpetuity on the farm lot.

The Applicant obtained approval from the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Committee of Adjustment on April 22, 2025, to sever a surplus residential parcel containing an existing house from the subject property (Application B002/25). The Committee's decision included a condition that requires the applicant to obtain a rezoning for the retained farm lot to prohibit a dwelling as per the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Official Plan (OP) and the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS).

**COMMENTS:**

The property is designated "Agricultural Area" in the Municipality's Official Plan and zoned "Agricultural 1 (A1)" in the corresponding Zoning By-law.

Both the Agricultural Area policies of the Official Plan and the PPS permit the creation of a new residential lot to dispose of a dwelling made surplus through farm consolidation. However, as a condition, no new dwelling may be permitted on the remnant farm parcel. Re-zoning the retained farmland so a new dwelling cannot be located it would allow this condition to be enforced.

The recommended zone for the retained farm lot is the "No-Dwelling Agriculture (ND-A) Zone", which mimics the A1 provisions and permitted uses with the exception that no future residential dwelling is permitted in perpetuity.

The new residential lot created by the approval of Application B002/25 would remain in the "Agriculture (A1) Zone", since the requirement to prohibit a house only applies to the retained farm parcel.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

As the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), County and Municipal Official Plans and Municipal Zoning By-law this Department recommends that Council for the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston **APPROVE** the Zoning By-law Amendment as proposed.



# Brooke-Alvinston Zoning By-law Review

Project Overview and Summary of Technical Review

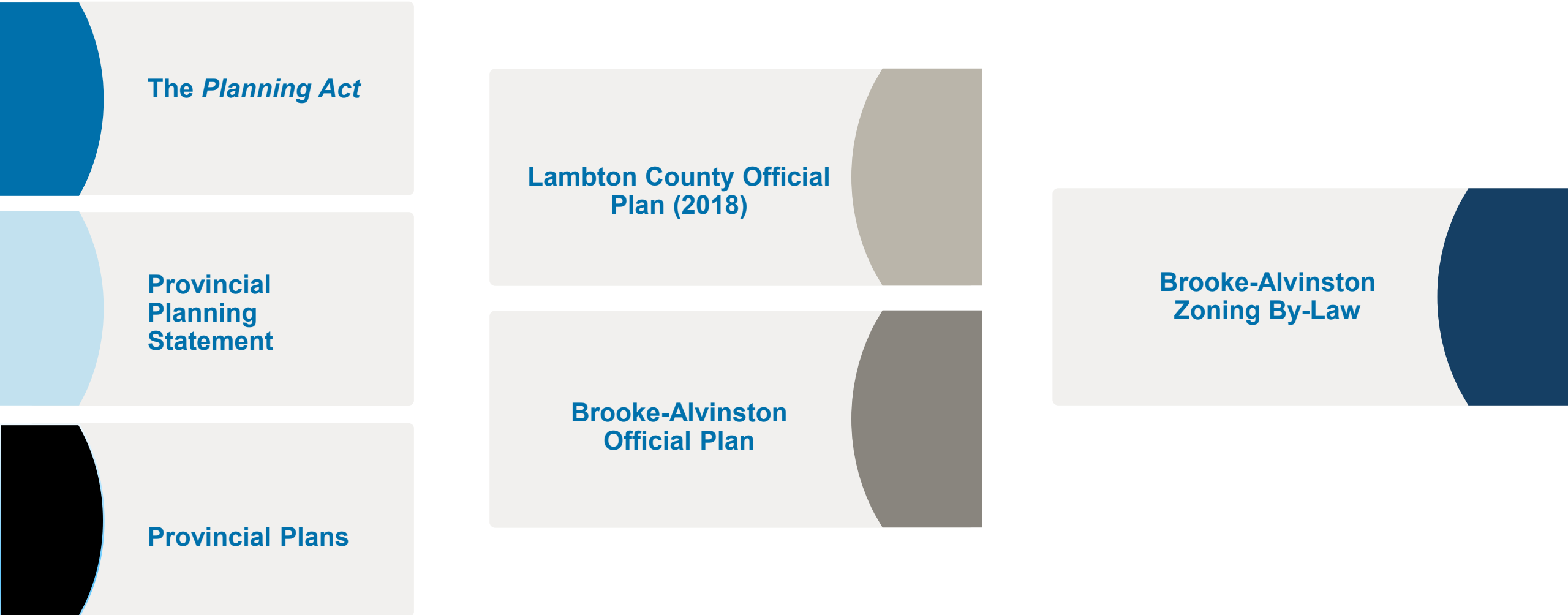
# Agenda

1. Ontario's Planning Hierarchy
2. Project Overview
3. Summary of Technical Review
4. Discussion and Next Steps



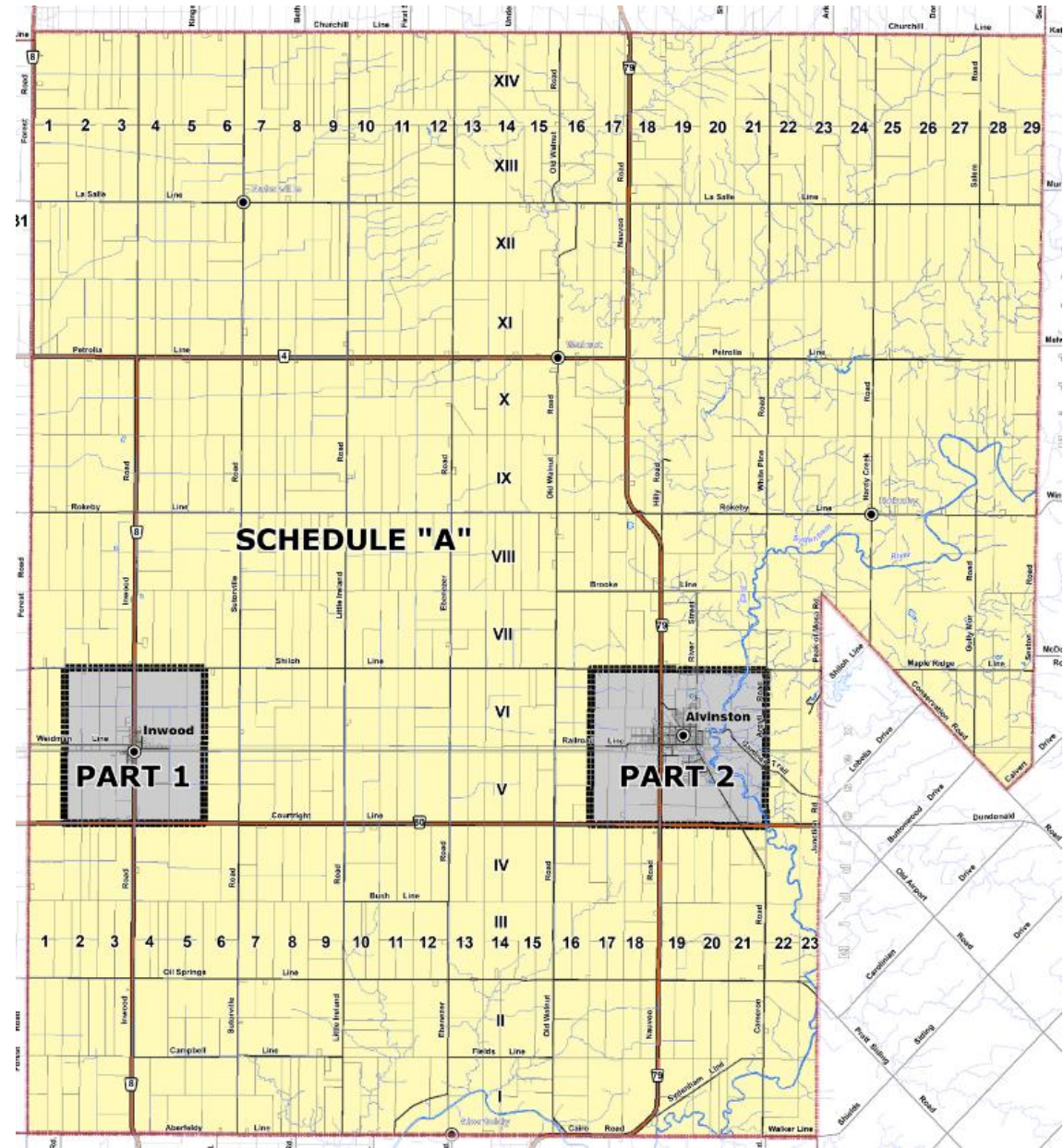
# Ontario's Planning Hierarchy

Guiding Land Use Planning in Ontario



# What is an Official Plan?

- Establishes policies for how land should and will be used to meet the needs of your community.
- Adopted by Council and approved by the County.
- Addresses planning matters such as:
  - Location of housing, businesses and industry
  - Phasing and form of development (e.g., density, infill, affordability, etc.)
  - Protection of provincial interests (e.g., wetlands, floodplains, agricultural lands, cultural heritage, etc.)



# What is a Zoning By-Law?

- Implements the policies of the Township's Official Plan.
- Protects the public interest by regulating use of land and location of buildings/structures.
- Specifies permitted uses, required setbacks, maximum size, parking and landscaping requirements, among others.
- Legally enforceable requirements for new buildings/structures or use of land (i.e., building permits will not be issued if not in compliance with ZBL).

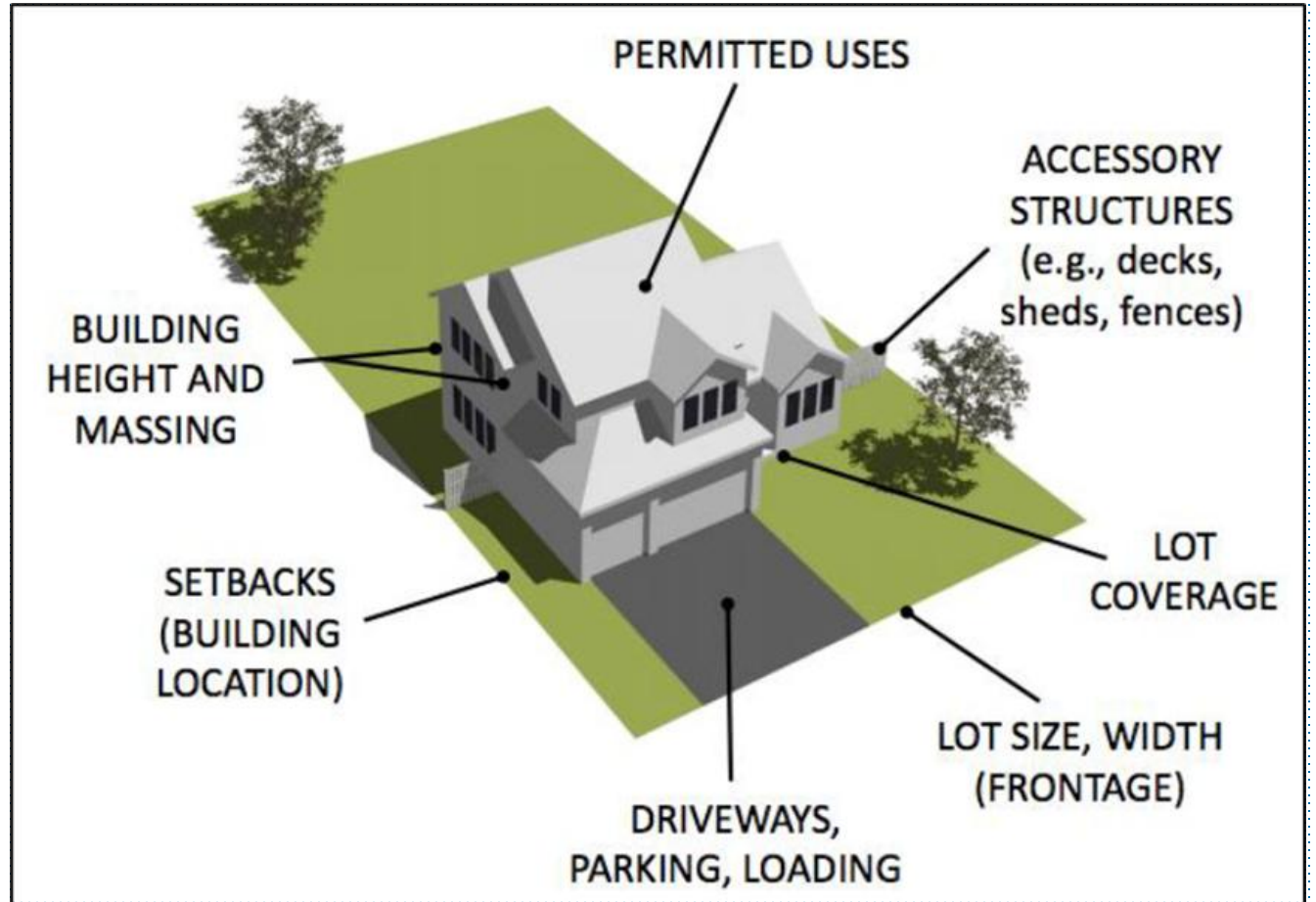
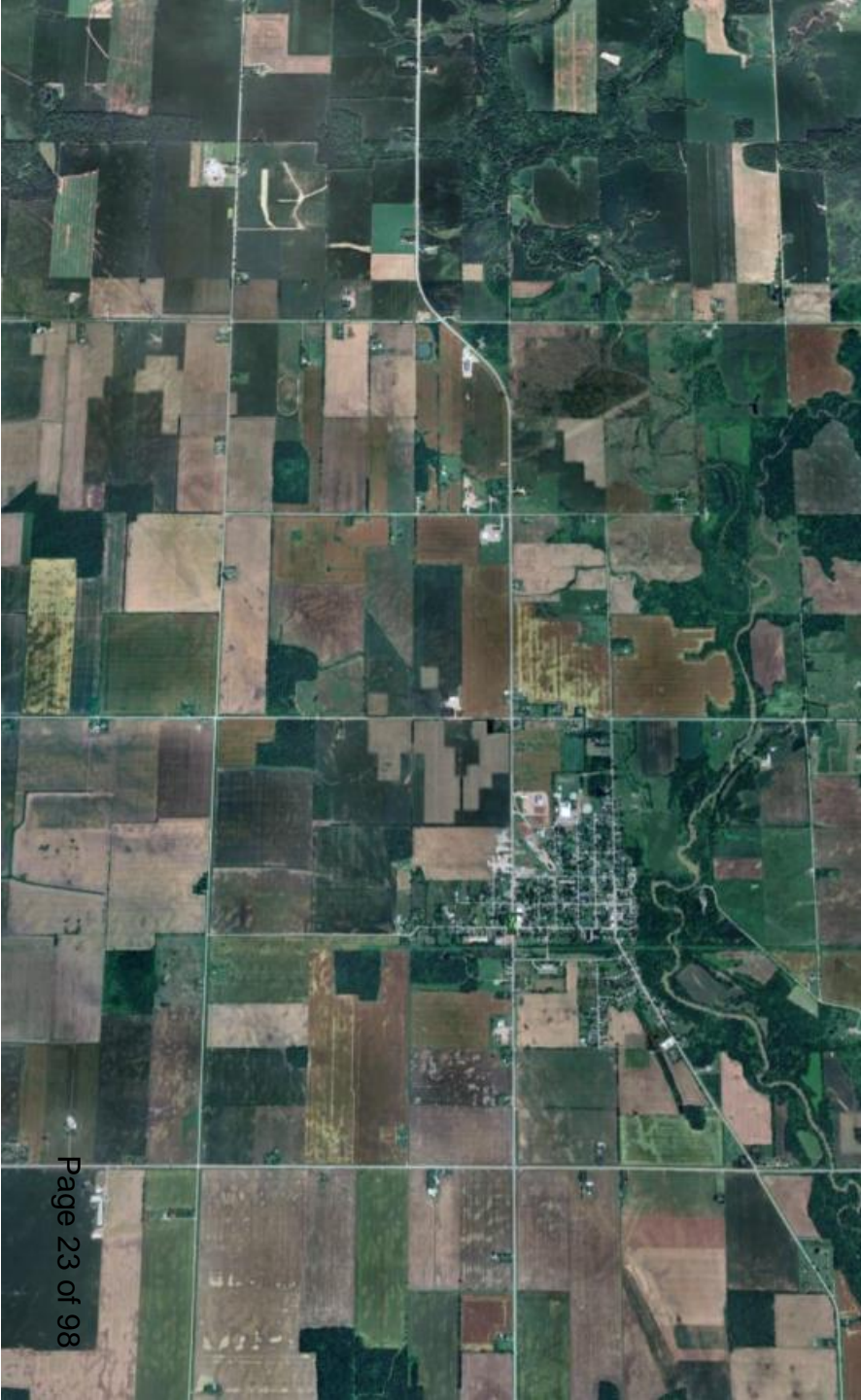


Image source: Connect Penetanguishene



# Why Update the Zoning By-law?

- Brooke-Alvinston Official Plan underwent a 5-year review in 2023 and reflects direction from the 2020 Provincial Policy Statement and 2018 Lambton County Official Plan.
- Recent legislative changes to the *Planning Act* – e.g., Bill 23, Bill 97, Bill 185 – change the way municipalities plan for future development.
- New Provincial Planning Statement 2024 and came into effect in October 2024 and contains new policies related to growth, housing and employment.
- Lambton County is undergoing an update to its Official Plan to address consistency with PPS 2024, including updated population and employment forecasts.

## Project Objectives

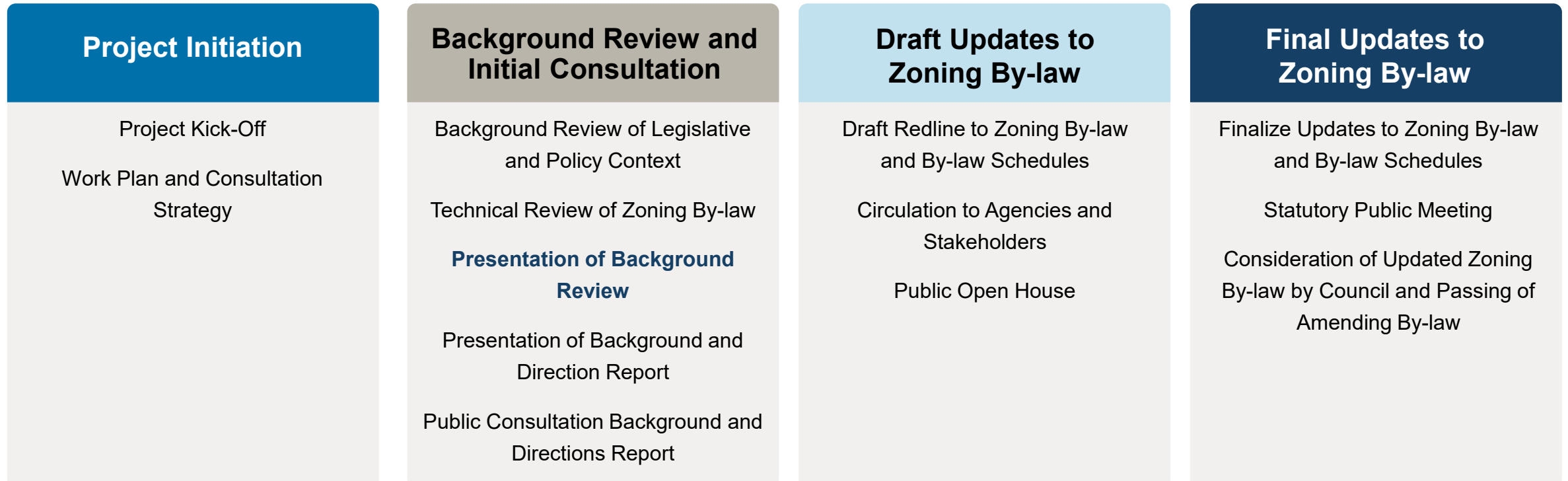
Account for new and pressing issues affecting land use and development

Ensure conformity with Lambton County Official Plan (2018) and Brooke-Alvinston Official Plan (2023)

Reflect recent legislative changes and provincial policy

Provide development standards to implement direction of the Official Plans

# Project Overview



# Key Areas of Focus

Guiding the Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

- Alignment with the updated provincial framework (PPS 2024 + *Planning Act* changes)
- Reflective of Brooke-Alvinston OPA 6 policy directions
- Modernization and plain-language communication
- Housing enablement and flexibility
- Compatibility and mitigation tools
- Zone rationalization and simplification
- Consideration for emerging land uses



Administration



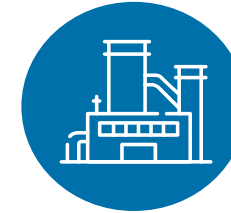
General Provisions  
& Development  
Standards



Agriculture Zones



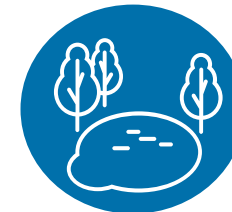
Residential Zones



Commercial &  
Industrial Zones



Institutions & Open  
Space Zones



Environmental  
Protection



Natural Hazards

# Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

## General Provisions

### Additional Residential Units

- Align with provincial direction to expand housing options/affordability through ARUs in serviced areas and prime agricultural areas.
- Incorporate new legislative constraints on what municipalities can/cannot regulate (e.g., parking limits, setbacks for detached ARUs on serviced lands, no tenant-landlord occupancy restrictions).

### On-Farm Diversified Uses

- Consolidate/standardize agricultural permission categories using PPS/OMAFRA terminology and criteria (agricultural uses vs agriculture-related vs OFDUs).
- Emphasizes compatibility with farm operations, limits on scale/area for OFDUs, and reducing redundancy/confusion in permitted use lists.

### Other General Provisions

- Modernize parking and loading requirements and standards.
- Update and add provisions for renewable energy generation and storage.
- Add a definition for cannabis production facilities, in conformity with the Official Plan.
- Add additional references for special setbacks, including Provincial D-Series Guidelines and updates to MDS.



# Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

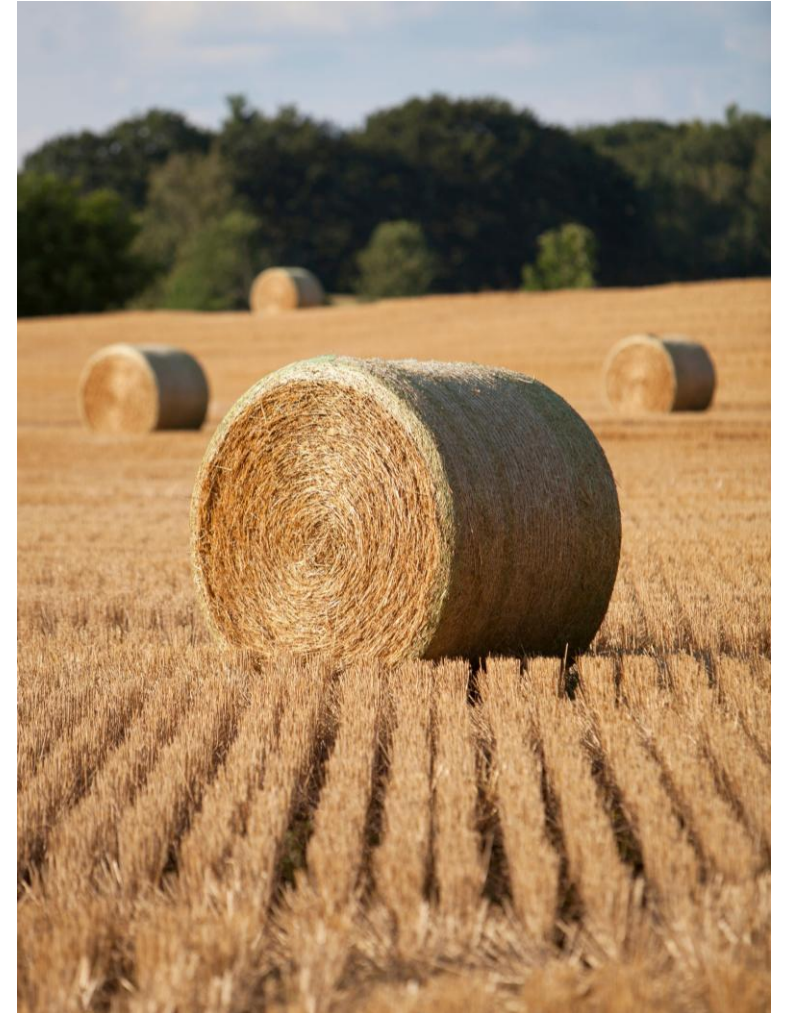
## Zone Provisions

### Agricultural Zones

- Reinforce protection of prime agricultural areas and “right to farm”.
- Update to reflect PPS 2024 permissions (including ARUs in prime agricultural areas).
- Update definitions and criteria-based general provisions for agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses.
- Consider the intent of the Agriculture 2 (A2) Zone.
- Consider the inclusion of a Surplus Farm Dwelling (SFD) Zone.

### Residential Zones

- Support a broader housing mix and modernization to meet PPS housing objectives (including intensification and adaptive reuse).
- Expand permitted housing types and non-residential use compatibility.
- Encourage flexibility in lot coverage/setbacks due to variance patterns and relief enabled through *Planning Act* subsection 34(1.4).
- Integrate other *Planning Act* changes.



# Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

## Zone Provisions

### Commercial Zones

- Align commercial zoning with PPS economic development goals while focusing non-agriculture-related growth in settlement areas.
- Consider the intent of the Rural Commercial (C3) Zone.
- Support mainstreet revitalization and compatibility tools (parking, buffering, pedestrian connectivity).

### Industrial Zones

- Refocus industrial zones (especially M1) on manufacturing and research and development, linked to manufacturing, warehousing, logistics/goods movement, and ancillary uses, consistent with *Planning Act* changes.
- Refine Mixed Commercial Industrial (CM) Zone to better reflect mixed use compatibility.
- Update industrial class terminology to match provincial D-series guidance.
- Consider specific resource/petroleum use provisions and exclusions.



# Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

## Zone Provisions

### Institutional Zone

- Update and broaden the list of permitted uses for flexibility and consistency throughout the document, including updates to the definition of “Institutional Use”.
- Review institutional uses currently permitted within other Zones.
- Consider provisions to support the conversion of former institutional uses to residential or mixed uses.



### Open Space Zones

- Update list of permitted uses for consistency throughout the document.
- Consider the intent of each Open Space 1 (OS1) Zone and Open Space 2 (OS2) Zone, as well as general provisions permitting parks and recreation facilities in all Zones.



### Environmental Protection Zones

- Align Environmental Protection Hazard (EP-H) Zone permitted uses with the Official Plan policies and regulatory requirements.
- Emphasize long-term natural heritage protection and hazard avoidance (wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, ANSIs; flood/erosion/unstable lands).
- Align mapping sources (County OP, local OP, conservation authority regulated areas) for greater consistency.

# Technical Review of the Zoning By-law

## Administration and Definitions

### Administration

- Modernize to reflect recent *Planning Act* amendments and County-wide standard practices.
- Reduce repetitive permitted-use lists.
- Update Table A development standards for ease of use.
- Clarify authority and best practices for zone boundary interpretations and adjustments.
- Update appendices/tools (e.g., MDS forms, illustrative examples of provisions).

### Definitions

- Add new PPS-aligned terms.
- Remove outdated or unclear terminology or language.
- Standardize language across the by-law.



# Discussion

## Feedback & Next Steps

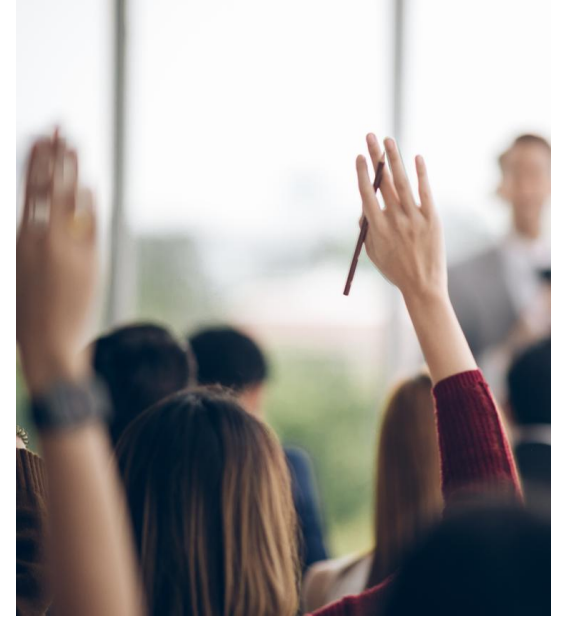
This presentation highlights key themes emerging from technical review of the Municipality's Zoning By-law.

### What's Next:

- Receive feedback from Council on the emerging themes and technical review.
- Focus further review on any particular sections of the Zoning By-law based on feedback from Council.
- Prepare recommendations and direction for updates to the Zoning By-law for review with Council prior to initiating broader public consultation.

### Upcoming Opportunities for Public Participation

- Council Presentation – Background and Directions Report
- Public Open House
- Public Meeting



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#### **Christie Kent**

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# Thank You!



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Senior Planner

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Planner

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Platinum  
member



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## MINOR VARIANCE APPLICATION

### COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

**APPLICATION NO. A-002/26**

**TAKE NOTICE** that an application has been made by LaSalle Pork Inc. (C/O: Ted & Jennifer Rops) with respect to lands described as CON 13, PT LOT 21, S ½ LOT 21 (municipally known as 8282 LaSalle Line) for a minor variance from Table "A" of the Brooke-Alvinston Zoning By-law 9 of 2013 for an addition to an existing livestock barn. The original barn location had been approved by the Committee of Adjustment (COA) in accordance with Minor Variance No. A002/19. The present proposal is located at the rear of the present facility and would have a greater separation distance.

The Municipal Zoning By-law in this case requires a Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) of 621 metres between the barn and nearby dwellings located on all adjacent lots of record. The proposed barn does not meet the MDS 2 setbacks for four adjacent properties, with the closest dwelling located approximately 264 metres away from the proposed barn addition.

The Municipal Zoning By-law also requires an MDS road allowance setback of 60 metres whereas 51 metres is proposed. The proposed building addition would extend the existing side wall no closer to the road allowance than the present building.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Committee of Adjustment for the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston has appointed Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing into this matter.

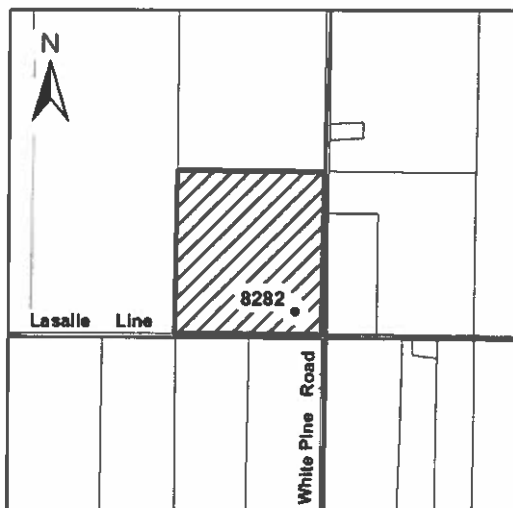
Signed, written submissions regarding the application will be accepted by the Secretary-Treasurer, at the address listed below, prior to the hearing. If you wish to submit written comments or make an oral presentation at the public hearing, please contact the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on April 2, 2026. The public hearing will be held in person at the Municipal Office, located at 3236 River Street in Alvinston, Ontario N0N 1A0.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Brooke-Alvinston Committee of Adjustment in respect of the proposed minor variances, you must make a written request to the Committee at the Municipal office address listed below.

The Province of Ontario has amended the *Planning Act* as of November 28, 2022, and now only the applicant, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and specified persons and public bodies (as defined in the *Planning Act*) are permitted to appeal minor variance decisions of the Committee of Adjustment.

If you are aware of any people interested or affected by this application who have not received a copy of this notice, it would be appreciated if you would inform them.

Additional information regarding the application will be available to the public for inspection at the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston office, 3236 River Street, P.O. Box 28, Alvinston, Ontario N0N 1A0, during general office hours (8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays).



Subject Property

Janet Denkers  
 Secretary-Treasurer,  
 Committee of Adjustment  
 Municipality of Brooke- Alvinston  
 Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0  
 3236 River Street, PO Box 28  
 Email:  
[idenkers@brookealvinston.com](mailto:idenkers@brookealvinston.com)  
 Phone: 519-898-2173  
 Fax: 519-898-5653

Dated: March 19, 2026

## Bluewater Recycling Association

### Q1 Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

Held at Bluewater Recycling MRF

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026



#### **Executive Summary**

The first quarter of 2026 has been defined by the full implementation of Ontario's producer-run Blue Box system, new investments in processing infrastructure, continuing service and procurement challenges in several communities, and growing pressure on plastics recycling markets. At the same time, the sector is seeing notable innovation in battery recovery, flexible plastics collection, and automated collection systems. For members, the quarter reinforces three priorities: operational adaptability, clear resident communication, and sustained advocacy for practical regulations that match on-the-ground realities.

#### **Operational Report**

##### **IC&I Recycling Program Transition**

Further clarification regarding Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (IC&I) recycling collection responsibilities was received on October 1, 2025. This clarification confirmed that Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) are not responsible for IC&I Blue Box collection. Beginning in 2026, PROs are no longer voluntarily provide IC&I recycling services to municipalities, and municipalities must determine how they intend to manage IC&I recycling programs moving forward.

Following receipt of this clarification, the Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA) immediately began preparations to implement separate IC&I recycling routes. Given the significant operational changes required, this was a substantial undertaking that had to be completed within a very short timeframe.

In approximately three months, BRA successfully implemented the following steps:

- Procurement of red lids to identify IC&I recycling bins
- Development of new IC&I recycling routes across our service areas
- Recruitment and training of new IC&I collection drivers
- Creation of promotional and educational materials explaining the program changes
- Deployment of staff to deliver materials and update lids on IC&I bins at commercial properties

While every effort was made to communicate these changes as effectively as possible, the compressed timeline meant that some properties may have received shorter notice than we would have preferred. We appreciate the patience and cooperation shown by businesses and municipal partners as these changes were implemented.

### **Launch of Separate IC&I Recycling Routes**

Beginning January 1, 2026, BRA officially transitioned to collecting IC&I recycling on separate routes.

This change means that recycling collection for commercial properties may now occur on a different day than their waste collection and the residential recycling collection within the community. Residential waste and recycling collection schedules remain unchanged.

All IC&I recycling bins are now serviced on a biweekly collection schedule. This decision was based on both operational efficiency and data collected through an audit of IC&I bin usage. The audit revealed that many commercial bins previously serviced on a weekly basis were often not full or were not consistently set out for collection. As a result, there was sufficient capacity within most bins to move to a biweekly service model.

Biweekly collection is also significantly more efficient from an operational perspective. Commercial routes involve longer travel distances and lower overall tonnage compared to residential routes. Adjusting the frequency allows BRA to operate the program more efficiently in terms of truck hours, fuel consumption, and material volumes delivered to the facility.



For businesses that find their current recycling capacity insufficient under the biweekly model, additional recycling bins are available and can be delivered at no additional service charge.

### **Future IC&I Program Costs**

As previously communicated, BRA has chosen to maintain IC&I recycling rates for 2026, with the only increase being the CPI adjustment. However, the reality of operating separate IC&I routes is that they are significantly more expensive than the previous integrated collection system.

Dedicated trucks must now travel longer distances while collecting smaller volumes of material, which increases the cost per tonne of collection. While BRA has absorbed these additional costs during the transition period, this approach is not financially sustainable in the long term.

By the end of this month, municipalities will receive formal correspondence outlining the projected IC&I program costs effective January 1, 2027.

Municipalities will also be asked to provide written confirmation by June 30, 2026 indicating whether they intend to continue participating in the IC&I recycling program for 2027.

Municipalities will have three primary options moving forward:

1. Continue providing IC&I recycling services without adjusting the charge to commercial properties for the cost of collection.
2. Pass through some or all of the IC&I recycling costs to the commercial properties generating the material.
3. Discontinue IC&I recycling collection entirely.

BRA's recommendation would be Option 2. It is important for municipalities to continue offering recycling services to the commercial sector. If IC&I recycling were discontinued, many businesses could choose to landfill recyclable materials, which would place additional pressure on landfill capacity and undo much of the progress that has been made through the Blue Box program over the years.

At the same time, it is not reasonable for residential taxpayers to subsidize the recycling costs generated by commercial properties. Passing through some or all of these costs ensures that recycling services remain available while maintaining fairness for residents.

## Processing Changes During the First Quarter

Significant operational changes also occurred at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) during the first quarter.

The facility now operates primarily as a transfer station for residential Blue Box materials, while continuing to process commercial recycling internally.

During January, a number of operational adjustments were implemented, including:



- A reduction of five processing staff positions
- A transition to a new operating shift of 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM
- Reconfiguration of the tipping floor into two separate chambers

The tipping floor is now divided into:

- One area for residential material, which is compacted and shipped to the designated PRO MRF for processing
- One area for commercial material, which continues to be processed on-site

Commercial material is typically processed each morning between approximately 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM, after which residential material is compacted and transferred for shipment.

I am extremely proud of how our staff have adapted to these changes. While January required some operational adjustments and minor process improvements, the team has embraced the new system and operations are now running very smoothly.

## Collection Operations

Winter conditions always present operational challenges for collection services, and this past holiday season proved particularly difficult. Several winter storms moved through the region over the Christmas and early January period, resulting in multiple road closures across our service area.

In situations where weather conditions make it unsafe to operate collection vehicles, BRA may be required to cancel or reschedule collection.

Our general service approach during severe weather is as follows:

- Weekly collection services: If collection cannot be completed safely, the service will be cancelled and resume the following week.
- Biweekly collection services: If collection cannot occur, we will make every effort to reschedule the collection either on the weekend or during the following week, as we recognize that going a full month without collection is not acceptable.

Fortunately, we appear to be moving past the worst of the winter weather and anticipate more consistent collection operations moving forward.

During January and February, we also allowed a transition period for IC&I customers adjusting to the new program. During this time, residential trucks occasionally collected IC&I bins if the property was unaware their collection day had changed or if their lid had not yet been updated.

Beginning in March 2026, residential trucks will no longer collect IC&I bins. Commercial properties must ensure their recycling bins are placed out on their designated IC&I collection day in order to receive service.

### **Fleet and Infrastructure Improvements**

BRA is currently completing an upgrade to its Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station, which is expected to be completed by June 2026.

This project includes upgrades to the facility's compressors as well as an expansion of the fueling rail, which will allow additional trucks to fuel simultaneously and reduce fueling time. These improvements are necessary as BRA continues transitioning its fleet toward cleaner fuel sources, with approximately 95% of the fleet expected to operate on CNG.

In addition, BRA has entered into an agreement to begin receiving Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) once it becomes financially feasible to do so. If carbon credit markets strengthen as anticipated, BRA hopes to begin fueling portions of the fleet with RNG in the near future.

This transition could potentially allow certain vehicles in the fleet to operate in a carbon-negative capacity, representing an important step forward in BRA's commitment to environmental sustainability.

## Administrative and Municipal Engagement

During the first quarter, BRA staff have continued to engage with municipal partners to support them in navigating the evolving regulatory landscape.

This work has included presentations to municipal councils and staff explaining the IC&I program changes, discussing future recycling program options, and exploring opportunities for organics diversion programs such as green bin collection.

These conversations are important as municipalities continue to adapt to the changing waste management environment, and BRA remains committed to working collaboratively with our partners to ensure long-term program sustainability.

## Industry Report

### 1. Ontario and Canadian Policy Landscape

Ontario's Blue Box transition is now complete. As of January 1, 2026, municipalities are no longer responsible for operating or funding the residential Blue Box program, with producers assuming full financial and operational responsibility through the producer-run framework. This marks the end of the legacy Stewardship Ontario model and solidifies a province-wide shift to extended producer responsibility.

While the policy transition is significant, the quarter also showed that implementation remains uneven. Several articles point to community-level disruption, including container changes, missed collections, and uncertainty around overflow materials. The experience in Petrolia and the Ontario regulator's intervention regarding overflow collection demonstrate that procurement outcomes and service design can create substantial public frustration if local operating conditions are not well understood in advance.



At the federal level, plastics policy also remains active. Canada's Federal Court of Appeal upheld the federal listing of plastic manufactured items as toxic under CEPA, leaving the single-use plastics framework in place. In parallel, the federal government is engaging on proposed amendments that would continue domestic prohibitions on certain single-use plastics while allowing manufacture, import, and sale for export. Together, these developments suggest the broader direction of policy remains toward tighter oversight of

problematic materials, but with some economic flexibility being considered for export markets.

## 2. Infrastructure, Technology, and System Modernization

One of the most constructive developments this quarter was the opening of two new WM material recovery facilities in Cambridge and the Greater Napanee area. These facilities reportedly provide processing capacity for roughly 30 percent of Ontario's blue box volumes and



include optical sorters, artificial intelligence, and robotics. Their opening supports the province's new unified material list and signals continued investment in modern processing capability.

Modernization is extending well beyond MRFs. Waste sector operators are continuing to automate residential collection routes, but the reporting makes clear that automation is not simply a truck purchase. Route performance depends on durable carts, proper set-out practices, compatibility between trucks and containers, and disciplined procurement planning. Municipalities and service providers that underestimate these system dependencies risk replacing one operational problem with another.

A related industry trend is the continued evolution of transfer stations and recycling facilities away from older, simpler processing approaches. Baling at transfer stations is becoming less central as more material is directed to specialized facilities with advanced sorting technology. This signals a broader industry move toward consolidation, data-driven processing, and higher-performance infrastructure.

### 3. Market Conditions and Material-Specific Trends

The quarter's most concerning market signal was the continuing deterioration of PET recycling economics in the United States. Multiple plant closures over the past year, including Evergreen facilities in Ohio and New York and other previously announced shutdowns, have reportedly removed roughly one quarter of U.S. PET recycling capacity. Articles attribute the pressure to weak demand from brand owners, cheaper virgin resin, and increasing volumes of imported recycled resin.

For Ontario and Canadian stakeholders, these developments matter even when the closures occur elsewhere. Weak end markets can undermine confidence across the recycling value chain and reinforce the importance of secure domestic demand, stable policy signals, and thoughtful material design. The reporting also suggests concern that similar market pressure could spread beyond PET to other plastic resins.

At the same time, there were more positive material-specific developments. Polypropylene cups reached a threshold allowing them to be described as widely recyclable in much of the U.S., and Vancouver expanded curbside flexible plastics collection for apartments and condos using dedicated pink carts. These examples suggest that hard-to-manage materials can move into better recovery systems when collection pathways, resident instructions, and end-market acceptance improve.

### 4. Emerging Concerns: Tires, Batteries, and Service Credibility

Ontario's tire recovery system emerged as another major concern. Reporting indicates that reduced recovery targets have allowed compliance on paper while stockpiles of used tires continue to grow in practice. Dealers, municipalities, and fleets are reportedly experiencing inadequate collection even as environmental handling fees continue to be charged. The central lesson is that regulatory targets must be calibrated to real system behaviour; if they are not, stockpiling and reputational damage can quickly follow.



Battery recovery was a more encouraging story. San Francisco launched what is described as the first fully automated public drop-off bin system in the United States for battery-embedded products. This is notable because embedded batteries remain one of the fastest-growing and most challenging waste streams due to safety risks, product

complexity, and the value of recoverable critical minerals. While the model is urban and specialized, it points toward a future in which difficult materials are managed through more convenient and purpose-built recovery systems.

Across the entire industry, one common theme stands out: credibility matters. Whether the issue is blue box overflow, tire stockpiles, or battery safety, the sector's success depends not only on policy design but on whether residents and customers experience services as reliable, understandable, and safe.

## 5. Strategic Takeaways for General Members

**Policy is no longer the only story.** The transition to EPR has moved from concept to implementation. The focus is now on service outcomes, contract performance, and resident experience. Luckily for our members service has not been an issue.

**Infrastructure investment is accelerating.** New MRF capacity and modern sorting technology are positive signs, but system benefits will only be realized if collection programs remain stable and materials arrive in a usable condition.

**Markets remain fragile.** Plastics recycling, especially PET, continues to face meaningful headwinds. Members should watch end-market developments closely and support policy tools that improve domestic demand and circularity.

**Innovation is expanding collection boundaries.** Battery recovery, flexible plastics collection, and automation planning show that the industry is continuing to evolve beyond traditional curbside models.

**Communication and advocacy still matter.** In periods of change, misinformation and public frustration can move faster than technical explanations. Strong member voices remain important in explaining the realities of collection, processing, and regulation.

## Conclusion

Overall, Q1 2026 was a quarter of transition, adjustment, and mixed signals. Ontario's producer-run Blue Box framework is now firmly in place and supported by new infrastructure, but rollout challenges show that policy change alone does not guarantee public confidence. At the same time, plastics market instability and operational concerns in tire recovery underscore the need for durable end markets and practical regulation. Encouragingly, innovation in battery recovery, flexible plastics collection, and automated operations points to a sector that is still adapting and investing. For general members, the quarter reinforces the value of staying informed, communicating clearly, and advocating for a recycling system that is both ambitious and workable.

**MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON**  
**FEBRUARY**

<b><u>PERMITS</u></b> <b><u>ISSUED</u></b>	<b><u>OWNER/CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>LOCATION</u></b>	<b><u>FEE</u></b>	<b><u>TYPE</u></b> <b><u>VALUE</u></b>
BP-26-003	Craig Sanders, owner 8988 Petrolia Line Alvinston, (eret addition to existing storage bldg.) Cont: owner, Feb 23/2026 <b>120-050-05100</b>	8988 Petrolia Line Con 11, E Pt Lot 28 EXC RP25R239, Pt 17	484.00	Agr/Add 40,000 45 m <sup>2</sup>

Lambton County



CANADA  
4-H Ontario

## Lambton County 4-H Association

2173 Mandaumin Road

Brigden, ON N0N 1B0

lambton-4h-membership@hotmail.com

519-864-4503

MAR 17 2026

March 12, 2026

Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston

PO Box 28

Alvinston, ON

N0N 1A0

**RE: Thank you for your DONATION**

The Lambton County 4-H Association would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous grant of \$250.00.

Your grant will go towards helping our members and leaders operate their clubs and programs, teach our members how to develop life and leadership skills as well as help them realize their full potential which in turn will allow them to become true leaders in our community.

Investing in youth is so important and we are very fortunate to have your support.

If you would like any more information regarding our organization or the programs we run, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tami Langstaff

Lambton County 4-H Association

Secretary/Treasurer/Membership Coordinator



CANADA

**Learn To Do By Doing**

On February 26, 2026 Regional Council adopted the following motion:

**Whereas** the Province of Ontario has implemented the Blue Box Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, transferring responsibility for municipal recycling to producer responsibility organizations and their contractors, including Circular Materials Ontario;

**And Whereas** Circular Materials Ontario has engaged multiple private collection contractors to deliver recycling services to municipalities across Ontario, including those within the Regional Municipality of York;

**And Whereas** municipalities throughout Ontario are experiencing inconsistent recycling collection service levels under the new EPR model, including differences in collection frequency, missed collections, accepted materials, cart provision, contamination management, customer service response times, and contractor accountability;

**And Whereas** residents in some municipalities are receiving reduced or inferior recycling collection services compared to others, despite participating in the same provincial Blue Box program;

**And Whereas** these service level inequities have resulted in increased resident complaints, confusion, reduced participation in recycling programs, and declining public confidence in Ontario's recycling system;

**And Whereas** upper- and lower-tier municipalities, including York Region, no longer have direct operational control over Blue Box recycling collection, yet continue to experience the impacts of service disruptions and resident dissatisfaction;

**And Whereas** the intent of Extended Producer Responsibility was to improve environmental outcomes, efficiency, and accountability, not to create unequal treatment of Ontario residents based on municipal boundaries;

**And Whereas** access to reliable and effective recycling collection is an essential public service and should be fair, consistent, and equitable for all residents of Ontario, regardless of where they live;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That** the Council of The Regional Municipality of York calls upon the Province of Ontario to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario and its contractors provide fair, consistent, and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario;

**And That** the Province be requested to establish, enforce, and publicly report on consistent province-wide service standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed-collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times, and contractor performance;

**And That** the Province require Circular Materials Ontario to promptly address collection service level inequities and performance gaps between municipalities, including those impacting York Region;

**And That** this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Circular Materials Ontario and all Mayors of Ontario

Regards,

**Christopher Raynor** (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services  
Department

---

The Regional Municipality of York | 17250 Yonge Street | Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1  
O: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300 | [christopher.raynor@york.ca](mailto:christopher.raynor@york.ca) | [york.ca](http://york.ca)



**Mark Sutcliffe**  
Mayor | Maire

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**Bureau du maire  
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February 26th, 2026

The Honourable Michael Kerzner  
Solicitor General  
Ministry of the Solicitor General  
George Drew Building  
25 Grosvenor St. Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6  
[SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca](mailto:SOLGEN.Correspondence@ontario.ca)

By electronic submission

**Re: Proposed New Regulation under the Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act**

Dear Solicitor General,

Please be advised that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of February 25, 2026, considered and approved the following motion:

#### **MOTION**

Moved by / Motion de: Councillor S. Plante  
Seconded by / Appuyée par: Mayor M. Sutcliffe

**WHEREAS the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2025* (RPCISA) was brought into force on June 5, 2025; and**

**WHEREAS the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) is considering regulatory amendments to the RPCISA to prescribe special constables employed by authorized public transit agencies, including OCTranspo special constables for the purpose of the Act, thereby granting them the same enforcement powers as police officers, and is seeking public input on this proposal until March 1<sup>st</sup>; and**

**WHEREAS the City of Ottawa has invested significant resources to improve public safety in the downtown core and the ByWard Market; and**

**WHEREAS OC Transpo deploys on average approximately 4 special constables in the downtown daily, and 13 deployed across the city-wide transit network, who are already present in high-traffic transit environments, including stations, platforms, and bus stops throughout the downtown core and across the city; and**



**Mark Sutcliffe**

Mayor | Maire

**Office of the Mayor  
City of Ottawa**

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**WHEREAS public transit riders include workers, students, seniors, people with disabilities, youth, and low-income residents who rely on transit as their primary or only mode of transportation and require a safe environment at all times; and**

**WHEREAS restoring ridership is essential to the financial sustainability of Ottawa's public transit system, to achieving the City's climate and transportation goals, and to ensuring equitable access to employment, education, healthcare, and community services; and**

**WHEREAS enabling OCTranspo special constables to enforce the RPCISA would allow for timely, proportionate, and location-specific interventions focused on transit spaces, while reducing reliance on police response for matters that occur primarily within the transit system; and**

**WHEREAS any extension of authority under the RPCISA would be accompanied by appropriate training and would operate alongside existing public health, outreach, and harm reduction services, recognizing that enforcement alone does not address substance use but that clear rules and safe public spaces remain necessary;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ottawa endorse the proposed regulatory amendments under the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2025*; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor write to the Solicitor General of Ontario in support of the proposal before March 1st, 2026; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk share this motion with other Municipalities in Ontario, prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026; and,**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor write the Solicitor General of Ontario to renew or extend the funding associated with the Ontario-Ottawa agreement.**

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Mark Sutcliffe

Mayor

City of Ottawa

cc. All Ontario Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



## Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0  
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097  
[rideaulakes.ca](http://rideaulakes.ca)

March 10, 2026

Dear Senator,

Re: Rideau Lakes Concerns re Alto High Speed Rail Project (Bill C-15 Budget)

We in Rideau Lakes Township are writing this letter because of major concerns about the Alto High Speed Rail Project (HSR), as well as a request to fully evaluate our concerns of Bill C-15 in relation to Alto HSR and expropriation of land.

The Alto HSR is lacking full and meaningful consultation of critical information for the early design and development phase. We recognize that having this information is important to the engineers in determining routes that minimize disruptions to the communities, residents, businesses, farmland, waterways, environment, and ecosystems that they pass through. What we have experienced is less than adequate information upon which to base our ability to conduct impact assessments involving our rural communities, agriculture, businesses, and countless heritage buildings and monuments. Alto's recently proposed Southern Ontario route included a 10 km wide corridor, and they provided high-level maps which are not useful in determining the impacts which more detailed route maps would give us and that are vital to our informed feedback. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our more local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

HSR will divide communities. There will be a major impact on our roadways for school buses, public transportation and emergency vehicles given the many closed roadways when fences are erected along the HSR route. This will increase mortality and morbidity as it will take longer to receive timely care. Farther to travel will also increase emissions and costs for plowing and road maintenance. Without more information from Alto, this reduces our local and valuable ability to provide critical information to Alto planners and engineers.

The Southern route would traverse the UNESCO recognized Frontenac Arch Biosphere Region, the ancestral lands of the Haudenosaunee (Kanien'kehá:ka) and Anishinaabeg (Algonquin); where a land bridge of the Canadian Shield connects the Algonquin and Laurentian Highlands to the Adirondack Mountains in the USA. Many animals use this migration route in both directions every year, and unless wildlife corridors are included in the ALTO plans, this would cut off their migration.

This does not begin to speak to the negative impact on tourism which is estimated in the order of \$30 million for the UNESCO Rideau Canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

Another major concern is that the government proposes to grant Alto, as a Crown Corporation, the right to 3 methods of property expropriation! Until now the government itself held the right to a single method of property expropriation. This causes our residents varying degrees of stress ranging to mental anguish if their properties are affected and they will not get full current market value if they decided to sell. Under the new proposed legislation, they would be forced to sell to the Corporation! This is of particular concern to many potentially affected property owners who are in the business of farming and feeding our population.

Cost analysis to build the railway in the northern and southern routes has not been done. We have also been told that a route parallel to the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario is not viable. We do not have enough information to understand why this option is not viable.

Rideau Lakes Township is asking you, and your Senate colleagues, to undertake your considered review of our concerns that are being sent to you for First Reading. We hope that you will see that this portion of Bill-C15 (HSR and expropriation) is premature, given that there are many unanswered questions and important issues have not been adequately addressed in the information provided. There has been inadequate public consultation to move to the development stage of this generationally important Canadian transportation project affecting so many lives along whatever corridor may eventually be approved. Should the Senate determine that a delegation to a Senate committee be appropriate with a view to consolidating recommendations for changes that would go back to the House of Commons, we would be available to participate, of course upon invitation.

Thank you for your attention in this very important matter affecting all of us here and across Ontario! It would be very much appreciated if I could receive a response in order to brief my Council.

Yours respectfully,



Arie Hoogenboom  
 Mayor, Rideau Lakes Township  
[mayor@rideaulakes.ca](mailto:mayor@rideaulakes.ca)  
 613-323-0901

Cc: Prime Minister of Canada  
 All Members of Parliament  
 All Provincial Cabinet Ministers  
 MPP Steve Clark  
 The Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
 The Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
 All Ontario Municipalities



March 13, 2026

Hon. David Piccini  
 Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 University Ave  
 Toronto ON M7A 1T7

**Re: Request for Provincial Legislation Amendments, Health and Safety Concerns**

Dear Minister Piccini,

At its meeting of Council on March 11, 2026, the Council of the Township of Oro-Medonte received correspondence from Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) regarding the above-mentioned request for support.

The Township of Oro-Medonte fully supports AORS in their request, as our staff have, on numerous occasions, been subjected to abusive and aggressive behaviour from members of the public. We respectfully request your support in advancing measures that will strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors. With provincial partnership, municipalities can better safeguard the individuals who work tirelessly to maintain critical services and keep our communities functioning safely.

Sincerely,

Mayor Randy Greenlaw

Cc: Premier Doug Ford  
 Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario  
 Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response  
 Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Prabmeet Sakaria, Minister of Transportation  
Hon. Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure  
Doug Downey, MPP Barrie – Springwater - Oro-Medonte  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS)  
Ontario Municipalities  
Members of Oro-Medonte Council



Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini  
 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 400 University Avenue  
 Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise an urgent health and safety concern that is increasingly placing municipal workers and subcontractors at risk while they maintain the critical infrastructure our communities rely on every day.

While the Occupational Health and Safety Act establishes important protections against workplace hazards, it does not adequately address a growing and very real threat: unsafe working conditions created by interference, harassment, and dangerous actions from members of the public.

Through consultations with AORS members across the province, we are hearing consistent and deeply troubling examples of escalating behaviour directed at municipal workers - particularly winter maintenance operators. These are not isolated incidents, but a pattern that is becoming increasingly normalized during significant weather events. Examples reported to AORS include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snow plow and refusing to get off until the operator agreed to plow his road next.
- Two municipal staff members being confronted, accosted, and aggressively yelled at in public - one at a gas station and another while simply standing in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions that were not even under that municipality's jurisdiction, as well as a mailbox that had been struck.
- A voicemail left by a resident threatening to shoot a municipal plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident angry about snow at the end of their driveway jumping in front of an active plow and refusing to move. The plow was delayed for over an hour during a major snow event, placing service levels and the municipality's overall emergency response at risk. The situation was only resolved once supervisors and by-law officers arrived on scene.

These incidents represent only a small sample of what municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are experiencing across Ontario. What was once limited to disgruntled complaints has escalated into direct threats, physical interference, and dangerous confrontations that place workers, subcontractors, and the public at risk. This issue is becoming a systematic threat to municipal service delivery and is only amplified during significant weather events.

Municipal workers and their contracted partners are responsible for maintaining roads, bridges, sidewalks, and other essential services - often in extreme weather and high-risk environments. When these workers are threatened or obstructed, it becomes not only a workplace safety issue, but a broader public safety concern. In some cases, conditions have become so unsafe that

municipal staff and subcontractors have walked off job sites, jeopardizing timely service delivery during critical events.

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

- Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, when a municipality declares a Significant Weather Event, municipal winter maintenance vehicles and operators - including subcontractors working on behalf of municipalities - should be afforded enhanced protection, with interference or obstruction treated with the same severity as interference with police, fire, or paramedic services.
- Establish clear public-safety interference provisions, similar in intent to Ontario's Slow Down, Move Over legislation, that recognize the essential role of municipal roadside workers.
- Consider adopting provisions similar to Manitoba's recently passed Bill 38, an amendment to their Highway Traffic Act effective January 1, 2026, which requires motorists to maintain a minimum distance of 30 metres behind snowplows where speed limits are 80 km/h or lower, and 100 metres where speed limits exceed 80 km/h.

These changes would provide clarity, deterrence, and enforceability—sending a strong message that interference with municipal workers performing essential services will not be tolerated. Just as Ontario protects first responders from obstruction during emergencies, we must extend similar protections to the public works professionals who keep our communities safe, connected, and functioning.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns further and to collaborate on legislative solutions that better protect municipal workers and subcontractors while strengthening public safety across the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

Walid Abou-Hamde, Ontario Road Builders' Association Chief Executive Officer



Solicitor General of Ontario Michael Kerzner  
 George Drew Building, 25 Grosvenor Street  
 Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

On behalf of Ontario's municipal public works professionals, we are writing to raise serious concerns regarding the safety of municipal workers and subcontractors who are increasingly facing harassment, threats, and dangerous interference from members of the public while delivering essential municipal services - particularly during winter maintenance and emergency operations.

Across Ontario, municipal public works teams are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure that residents depend on every day, including roads, sidewalks, bridges, and drainage systems. During significant weather events, these workers are frontline responders, ensuring emergency vehicles can travel safely and that communities remain connected and accessible. However, the behaviour directed at them has escalated well beyond routine complaints and has become a direct threat to both worker safety and public safety.

Through consultations with AORS members province-wide, we continue to receive troubling reports that illustrate the seriousness of this issue. These include:

- An individual throwing a large chunk of ice at an active piece of municipal equipment while it was operating.
- A resident threatening to kill a sidewalk plow operator.
- A man climbing onto a snowplow and refusing to get off until the driver agreed to plow his road next.
- Two staff members confronted and aggressively accosted in public - one at a gas station and another while simply waiting in line for coffee - by individuals angry about road conditions and a mailbox strike that were not even related to that municipality.
- A voicemail threatening to shoot a plow driver with a shotgun the next time the street was plowed.
- A resident jumping in front of an active plow during a major snow event and refusing to move, delaying operations for over an hour and jeopardizing service levels and overall emergency response.

These examples represent only a small sample of the experiences municipal plow drivers and winter maintenance crews are facing across the province. What was once occasional frustration has escalated into intimidation, threats of violence, and direct interference with equipment and operations.

Equally concerning is that municipalities do not always receive consistent enforcement support when these incidents occur. We have heard directly from members who contacted the Ontario Provincial Police for assistance and were advised that, unless a physical assault had already taken place, the situation was "not a police matter." Waiting until a worker has been physically harmed before intervention is neither preventative nor acceptable.

This gap leaves municipalities and workers vulnerable and sends an unintended message that threatening or obstructive behaviour toward municipal staff carries little consequence. It also places supervisors and by-law officers in situations that may exceed their authority or capacity to manage safely.

We believe a proactive and coordinated response is needed. Municipal workers and their subcontractors should not have to choose between their personal safety and providing critical services during storms and emergencies.

We respectfully ask that the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police take a clear and strong stance that interference, threats, and harassment directed at municipal public works staff will not be tolerated. Specifically, we would welcome:

- Clear direction and guidance to police services, including the OPP, that threats, intimidation, and obstruction of municipal workers performing essential duties warrant timely enforcement and support.
- Recognition that interference with winter maintenance and emergency public works operations presents a broader public safety risk, not merely a municipal operational issue.
- Enhanced coordination between municipalities and local police services during significant weather events and emergency responses to ensure worker safety and continuity of service.
- Consideration of legislative or policy tools that provide stronger deterrence and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal staff and contractors.

Municipal public works professionals are essential workers. They keep roads open for ambulances, fire trucks, school buses, and the travelling public. Their safety should be treated with the same seriousness as that of other frontline responders.

AORS would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss these concerns and explore practical steps to ensure consistent enforcement support and stronger protections for municipal workers across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued leadership in public safety.

Sincerely,



Karla Musso-Garcia, CRS-I  
President, Association of Ontario Road Supervisors  
Operations Manager, Township of Oro-Medonte



Kelly Elliott  
Interim Executive Director  
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)  
Premier Doug Ford

Town of Whitby  
575 Rossland Road East,  
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8  
905.430.4300  
whitby.ca



March 13, 2026

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Re: Request for a Comprehensive Review of the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework

Please be advised that at its meeting held on March 9, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 41-26:

Whereas current provincial–municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining the Town of Whitby’s economic prosperity and the quality of life of its residents;  
Whereas nearly one third of all municipal spending in Ontario is directed toward services in areas of provincial responsibility, with expenditures outpacing provincial contributions by approximately \$4 billion annually;

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has emphasized that the ongoing requirement for municipalities to fund provincial responsibilities—such as social housing, health related capital obligations, and social services—results in at least \$1.5 billion annually in net municipal expenditures for social housing alone, a problem unique to Ontario;

Whereas municipalities are further required to contribute 10% of capital funding for new provincial hospitals, diverting local revenue away from essential municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipal revenue sources, primarily property taxes, do not grow at the same rate as the economy or inflation, yet municipalities—including the Town of Whitby—are responsible for managing major growth related infrastructure such as roads, transit, water, sewer, fire, and parks;

Whereas only 34 cents of every residential property tax dollar collected in Whitby remains with the Town, while 55 cents flows to the Region of Durham and 11 cents to school boards;

Whereas AMO has highlighted that provincial housing related revenues—including \$5.8 billion in Land Transfer Tax revenues in 2021/22, which exceeded the provincial budget plan by \$2 billion, as well as billions in HST revenue from new home construction—are not currently shared with municipalities, despite being generated by housing activity that requires significant local infrastructure investment;

Whereas AMO has stated that allocating a portion of these housing related provincial revenues to municipalities would provide a predictable, growth linked revenue stream necessary to support housing targets and the expansion of critical public infrastructure;

Whereas AMO has cautioned that proposals to reduce or limit development charges shift costs away from growth and onto existing property taxpayers, threatening the ability of municipalities to finance essential infrastructure, given that most municipal reserves are already allocated to specific projects or required for responsible asset management practices; and,

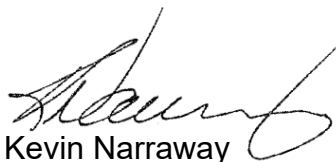
Whereas municipal staff have already identified \$2.5 million in expenditure reductions for 2026 and continue to identify efficiencies through the ongoing 2026 Core Services Review.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. The Council of the Town of Whitby once again calls upon the Province of Ontario to work collaboratively with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) to undertake a comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review to modernize and realign the provincial–municipal fiscal framework, ensuring that municipal revenues are aligned with the actual costs of today’s service delivery and growth;
2. The Town of Whitby requests that this review specifically address the \$4 billion annual gap where municipal property taxes are currently used to fund provincial responsibilities, including social housing, health, and transit, and further evaluate:
  - the \$1.5 billion annual municipal burden created by the provincial download of social housing costs;
  - the requirement for municipalities to fund 10% of provincial hospital capital projects; and,
  - the opportunity to allocate a portion of provincial Land Transfer Tax and HST revenues generated by housing activity to municipal infrastructure supporting growth.

3. The Province be urged to establish a predictable, housing linked revenue stream for municipalities that reflects the economic, social, and infrastructure demands associated with growth, including addressing the financial impacts of changes to development charges; and,
4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to:
  - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
  - The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health;
  - The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
  - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
  - The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure;
  - The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
  - Lorne Coe, MPP (Whitby);
  - The Region of Durham;
  - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
  - The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM); and,
  - All Ontario Municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905.430.4300.



Kevin Narraway  
Sr. Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk  
[clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca)  
F. Wong, Commissioner of Financial Services/Treasurer - [wongf@whitby.ca](mailto:wongf@whitby.ca)

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health -  
[Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca](mailto:Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance - [minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.fin@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing -  
[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure -  
[Minister.MOI@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.MOI@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social  
Services - [MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca](mailto:MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca)

Lorne Coe, MPP (Whitby) - [lorne.coe@pc.ola.org](mailto:lorne.coe@pc.ola.org)

Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham -  
[clerks@durham.ca](mailto:clerks@durham.ca)

Lindsay Jones, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
(AMO) - [ljones@amo.on.ca](mailto:ljones@amo.on.ca)

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – [info@fcm.ca](mailto:info@fcm.ca)

All Ontario Municipalities

March 17, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
438 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5

via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)  
[minister.edu@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.edu@ontario.ca)

**RE: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance**

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra,

At their regular scheduled meeting of March 16, 2026, Council of the Municipality of Bluewater received correspondence from Michael Bannerman, Board of Trustees Chair for the Avon Maitland District School Board regarding the potential changes to the English Public School Board Governance and passed the following resolution:

**MOVED:** Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Walden  
THAT Council of the Municipality of Bluewater supports the Avon Maitland District School Board in their request to the Government of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education, MPP Lisa Thompson all Ontario municipalities. **CARRIED.**

Sincerely,



Chandra Alexander  
Acting CAO/Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

Encl: Letter from Avon Maitland District School Board Trustee Chair

cc: Michael Bannerman, Chair, Board of Trustees  
MPP Lisa Thompson  
All Ontario Municipalities

March 2, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier's Office  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

And

The Honourable Paul Calandra  
Minister of Education, Ministry of Education  
315 Front Street West, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 0B8

Re: Request for Provincial Consultation and Transparency Regarding Potential Changes to English Public School Board Governance

Dear Premier Doug Ford and Minister Paul Calandra,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board, I am writing to respectfully request that the Government of Ontario undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process before moving forward with any changes to the governance structure of English public school boards.

Recent public statements indicating that the Ministry is considering eliminating the role of democratically elected English public school trustees have generated significant concern among school boards, families, and communities across the province. Trustees serve as an essential democratic link between local communities and the public education system. Any proposal to fundamentally alter or remove this role would represent a major shift in the governance of education in Ontario and warrants careful study, thoughtful analysis, and open dialogue.

Given the magnitude of this potential change, we respectfully ask the government to clearly demonstrate how it has arrived at its current thinking. Specifically, we request that the Ministry make public the research, evidence, data analysis, policy reviews, stakeholder input, and performance evaluations that have informed its consideration of altering or eliminating the role of elected trustees. Transparency regarding the rationale, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of this proposal is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring informed dialogue.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board believe that decisions of this significance must be supported by transparent research and meaningful engagement with stakeholders. We respectfully request that the government initiate a formal consultation process that includes school boards, parents, educators, students, First Nations representatives, and the broader public. Such a process would help ensure that any future governance model is grounded in evidence and reflects the needs and priorities of Ontario's diverse communities.

As a board serving a large and predominantly rural geographic area, we also wish to emphasize the critical importance of the democratically elected trustee role in ensuring that rural perspectives are represented in education decision-making. Trustees provide an essential local voice for communities whose priorities and challenges may differ significantly from those experienced in larger urban centres. Issues such as student transportation, long travel distances, rural school viability, access to programming, and community connectivity are often best understood by locally elected representatives who live and work in those communities. Preserving avenues for rural representation helps ensure that provincial education policies reflect the realities of students and families across all regions of Ontario.

We are also concerned that removing English public school trustees could have unintended consequences for representation and accountability within the system. In many boards, legislated First Nations representation and student trustees play an important role in ensuring diverse voices are heard in decision-making. The loss of elected trustees could impact these mechanisms that currently provide important perspectives at the governance table.

We are aware that the Waterloo District School Board has written to the Ombudsman's Office to request an investigation into the fairness, transparency, and accountability of the process used to implement changes to the school board governance model, and we are in full support of this request.

The Trustees of the Avon Maitland District School Board remain committed to working collaboratively with the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Government of Ontario to support a strong, transparent, and responsive public education system. We believe that transparency, evidence-based decision-making, and meaningful consultation will best serve students, families, and communities across the province.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in any consultation process or discussion regarding the future governance of Ontario's public education system.

Sincerely,



Michael Bannerman  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Avon Maitland District School Board

cc: AMDSB Trustees  
MPP Lisa Thompson  
MPP Matthew Rae  
Local Municipalities  
Local Media Outlets  
Ontario Public School Boards' Association and Member Boards  
AMDSB Parent Involvement Committee  
AMDSB Special Education Advisory Committee  
AMDSB Parent Councils Chairs

March 20, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Via email: [Pm@pm.gc.ca](mailto:Pm@pm.gc.ca)

The Honourable Marjorie Michel  
Minister of Health  
Via email: [Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Marjorie.michel@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Via email: [Premier@ontario.ca](mailto:Premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Sylvia Jones  
Minister of Health  
Via email: [Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca](mailto:Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca)

Dear Prime Minister Carney, Minister Michel, Premier Ford and Minister Jones:

Re: Food Insecurity Emergency Declaration

The following motion was passed by Council declaring food insecurity an emergency in our community. This declaration reflects our growing concern about the impact of food insecurity on the health and well-being of residents across Chatham-Kent.

In passing this motion, we have joined other cities in Ontario who have declared food insecurity an emergency and hope it will initiate collaborative action and policy development at the provincial and federal levels of government.

“Whereas food insecurity is defined as, the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, a marker of material deprivation (poverty), and a serious public health problem because it increases the risk of non-communicable and infectious diseases, and premature death.

Whereas chronic stressors like disability, precarious work, and acute shocks like COVID-19, illness or eviction, make it more difficult to afford life’s basic needs and live free from poverty. Whereas income-based policies are necessary to effectively reduce household food insecurity, which Chatham-Kent Public Health reports is experienced by at least 1 in 5 households in Chatham-Kent. Whereas the income provided through provincial and federal programs has not kept up with rising costs of food, housing and other basic needs.

Cont’d...

Whereas Ontario Works rates have been frozen since 2018: the maximum single person monthly benefit for basic needs is \$343 and \$390 for shelter, totalling \$733 per month.

Whereas Chatham-Kent Public Health reports a single person on Ontario Works spends ~134% of their income on food and rent. Whereas the Municipality of Chatham-Kent provides programs and services that decrease the impacts of poverty and income inequality and provides participants with a better quality of life which can positively improve health and well-being.

Whereas the number of individuals using Chatham-Kent Outreach for Hunger has increased by ~38% from 2022 to 2024, from 2781 unique individuals in 2022, to 3752 unique individuals in 2024, with a ~51% increase in families with children.

Whereas the number of households using the food assistance program within the Village Pantry has increased by ~124%, from 76 unique households in 2022, to 170 unique households in 2024.

Whereas the number of meals served to under-housed people by Reach Out Chatham-Kent has increased by ~17% from 2022 to 2024, from 43,594 meals in 2022, to 51,313 meals 2024.

Whereas Hope Haven has already had 4000 more visits in 2025 compared to 2024.

Whereas poverty costs Ontario around \$27.1 – 33 billion dollars per year: justice system \$1.1 billion; health care \$3.9 billion; lost income \$19.4 – 25 billion; lost tax revenue \$2.7 – 3 billion.

Whereas the provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy's (Building a Strong Foundation for Success: Reducing Poverty in Ontario (2020-2025)) primary measure of success is that more social assistance recipients move into employment, despite people with employment income being one of the fastest growing groups at food banks.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's mission is to lead in the development of relevant policies and to advocate for our local food system, and values that all people should have physical and economic access to healthy, culturally diverse, local food.

Whereas the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council's Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 highlights the need to advocate for government-level policies that impact food systems, and specifically, to advocate for income-based solutions to food insecurity to provide families with more agency in food choices.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council support the advocacy of the Chatham-Kent Food Policy Council by declaring food insecurity an emergency in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

Cont'd...

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government focus its upcoming 2026-2030 Poverty Reduction Strategy around reducing measures of material deprivation, such as food insecurity.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial Government immediately raise social assistance rates to meet life's basic needs.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to address the causes of food insecurity by establishing a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income for those living in poverty.

And that Mayor and Council request the Provincial and Federal Governments to increase the rates of income support programs to ensure they are adequate to address the basic needs of individuals and families.

And that Mayor and Council request that the Provincial and Federal Governments include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies. And that a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM), Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), all Ontario Municipalities, all Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament, The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, all federal party leaders, the Honourable M.P.P. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Health Sylvia Jones, and the Federal Minister of Health Marjorie Michel.”

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO  
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

C: All Members of Provincial Parliament and Parliament  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)  
Federation of Municipalities of Canada (FCM) Association of  
Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)  
Ontario Municipalities

MAR 10 2026



The Corporation of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston  
REQUEST FOR MAINTENANCE / REPAIR / IMPROVEMENT  
(Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter D.17)

I hereby give notice that the BRAITHEWAITE - GRAY Drain is out of repair and request that:

Maintenance (preservation of a drainage works) or repair (restoration of a drainage works to its original condition) be performed under the provisions of Section 74 of the Drainage Act, R.S.O 1990, Chapter D.17.

The drain be improved (modification of or an addition to a drainage works intended to increase the effectiveness of the system) under the provisions of:

\_\_\_ Section 76, (Update the Schedule of Maintenance for the Drain)

\_\_\_ Section 78, (New Engineer's Report for the Drain)

(of the Drainage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter D.17)

The following work is required:

drain plugged ?

Property Description: Lot 22 Concession 2 Roll Number \_\_\_\_\_

911 address \_\_\_\_\_

Dated at the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston this 10th day of MARCH, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name-please print

LARRY LEHRBASS  
Name-please print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Larry Lehrbass  
Sig

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone#  
Home

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Comm: \_\_\_\_\_

el.on.ca



4218 Oil Heritage Road  
 Petrolia, Ontario, N0N 1R0  
 Phone: (519) 882-0032 Fax: (519) 882-2233  
 www.dobbineng.com

The Mayor and Council  
 Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston  
 3236 River Street  
 Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0

March 19, 2026

**Re: 12th Concession Drain**

Five (5) sealed tenders for the 12th Concession Drain were received and opened on March 19, 2026 at the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Municipal Office.

Following the tender opening, the schedule of tender prices from each bid was reviewed by R. Dobbin Engineering to ensure correct unit price extensions and total tender prices. The following are the confirmed, corrected, tender prices submitted (including HST):

- Bruce Poland and Sons           \$56,292.65
- Gillier Construction           \$69,567.32
- JLH Excavating                 \$73,196.88
- McNally Excavation           \$73,789.00
- GM Construction               \$76,489.70

Based on this review, the bid from Bruce Poland and Sons in the amount of \$56,292.65 is the lowest price tendered and meets all the requirements stipulated in tender documents. The bid received is 21% lower than the engineer's estimate.

Therefore, it is our recommendation to award the Contract for the 12th Concession Drain be awarded to **Bruce Poland and Sons** in the total amount of **\$56,292.65**. We trust this meets your requirements at this time; however, should you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to call.

Regards,

David Moores, C.E.T.  
 Drainage Superintendent / Project Manager  
 R. Dobbin Engineering Inc.



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Emergency Preparedness Week - 2026  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Emergency Management  
**Staff Contact:** Janet Denkers, Clerk Administrator

### Recommendation:

**That May 3-9, 2026 be declared Emergency Preparedness Week in the Municipality.**

### Background:

Emergency Preparedness Week is a federal-provincial-territorial initiative to promote emergency preparedness across Canada. It is an opportunity to encourage Canadians to take concrete actions to be better prepared to protect themselves and their families during emergencies.

### Comments:

To promote the recent release of the Ontario Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan (PEMSAP), the province's theme for 2026 will be "**Prepared Together.**" The theme highlights how being prepared works best when we bring neighbours, community groups, municipalities and organizations together to support one another and protect Ontario.

The Municipality will include this messaging on the Bee sign and social media. We will use the material provided by the Province as best we can to promote the province's theme.

### Financial Considerations:

None associated with this report.

### ATTACHMENTS:

[MEPR Memo EP Week Theme Announcement March 2026 EN](#)

Ministry of Emergency  
Preparedness and Response

25 Morton Shulman Avenue  
Toronto ON M3M 0B1

Ministère de la Protection civile et de l'Intervention  
en cas d'urgence

25, avenue Morton Shulman  
Toronto ON M3M 0B1



**DATE:** March 09, 2026

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Community Emergency Management Coordinators and  
Ministry Emergency Management Coordinators

**FROM:** Matthew Pegg  
Deputy Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response &  
Commissioner of Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Preparedness Week 2026

---

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce Ontario's theme "**Prepared Together**" in anticipation of the national Emergency Preparedness (EP) Week, which runs from May 3 to 9, 2026. The theme highlights how being prepared works best when we bring neighbours, community groups, municipalities and organizations together to support one another and protect Ontario.

We encourage you to keep us informed about any upcoming events, exercises, training sessions or community activities. Whether you are hosting a public-facing event, coordinating with local partners or planning internal preparedness activities, our team may be able to offer support. This could include providing subject-matter expertise, facilitating connections with other emergency management partners (e.g. provincial ministries, NGOs, etc.), or providing resources like our public education materials, or public outreach staff, depending on availability. Early awareness helps us ensure the right personnel or resources are available and enables stronger coordination across all involved groups. Please feel free to reach out at any stage of your planning process.

On behalf of MEPR's leadership team, I would like to express my gratitude for your ongoing support and dedication to this important initiative. Wishing you a safe, practiced and prepared EP Week!

For more information about EP Week, please contact [pcoe@ontario.ca](mailto:pcoe@ontario.ca) or your local field officer.

Warm regards,

**Original signed**

Matthew Pegg  
Deputy Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response & Commissioner of Emergency  
Management  
Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response | Ontario Public Service



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Requests from the Brooke-Alvinston Ag Society - Pro Rodeo 2026  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Clerks  
**Staff Contact:** Janet Denkers, Clerk Administrator

### Recommendation:

**That the Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston declares the Alvinston Pro Rodeo being held June 12-14, 2026 as an event of municipal significance and acknowledges that the Brooke-Alvinston Agricultural Society will be applying for a Special Occasion Permit (SOP) for the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre Complex / Pavilion / Grounds at 3310 Walnut Street; and that**

**The Council of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston waive section 3.9 of By-law 37 of 2021 to allow noise to extend to 2 a.m. on June 12th and 13th during the 2026 Alvinston Pro Rodeo.**

**And that the Brooke-Alvinston Ag Society be allowed to use an off road vehicle on the BAICCC grounds during the Alvinston Pro Rodeo event only.**

**And that it be acknowledged the Rodeo staff and participants will be camping on the grounds to be near their livestock during the event;**

**And that food trucks and vendors be allowed to setup on the grounds for the event.**

**And that the Rodeo Committee will be responsible for returning the grounds to their original state after the event.**

### Background:

The Brooke-Alvinston Ag Society will be hosting the Pro Rodeo June 12-14, 2026 on the BAICCC grounds. A special occasion permit is required for the event. The rodeo has routinely been declared an event of municipal significance due to the nature of the event. It also fits the criteria recently adopted by Council in declaring an event to be municipally significant as it:

- a. Falls within the definition of a municipally significant event
- b. Serves the public interest by upholding the by-laws and policies of the Municipality and any other applicable legislation
- c. Will host no less than 100 members of the general public

Criteria of the Municipal Significant Event Policy to issue a Special Occasion Permit is met with the Alvinston Pro Rodeo.

The request also notes the request for members of the Rodeo to camp on the BAICCC grounds in order to oversee their operations and livestock.

In previous years, food trucks have been allowed and are almost expected at public events such as fall fairs and community celebrations which last an average of 3 days. The food truck compliments the Municipal Alcohol Policy in allowing food products to be sold on site while alcohol is served. The food trucks have never been issues of concern and must provide the event organizers proper insurance and food inspection reports. They are furthermore, temporarily located on the grounds.

**Comments:**

Should Council approve the requests, notification of the SOP and the waiver of section 3.9 of By-law 37 of 2021 should be forwarded to: Brooke Fire Rescue, Lambton EMS and Lambton OPP. The Ag Society should notify residents in the area as a courtesy.

**Financial Considerations:**

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Rodeo permission council 2026](#)

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston  
3236 River Street  
Alvinston, ON  
N0N 1A0

Attention: Janet Denkers

The Brooke & Alvinston Agricultural Society would request the possibility of the Municipal Council to declare the Alvinston Pro Rodeo a **Public Event**. This declaration is for the purpose of obtaining a Special Occasion Permit under the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario. The Pro Rodeo will be running for three days and will be operating an outdoor refreshment area on June 12, 13, & 14, 2026 at the Brooke Alvinston Inwood Community Centre grounds. A Public Event covers an **event of municipal significance and is designated by municipal council as an event of municipal significance** which runs for more than one day. It is for this reason that we ask this request.

We also request, the extension of the Municipal Noise By-law on Friday June 12, 2026 until 2am and Saturday June 13, 2026 until 2am. This will accommodate the refreshment area and concerts taking place on these days.

We also request permission for the use of ATVs and golf carts on the Brooke Alvinston Inwood Community Centre grounds during the Rodeo weekend, to be used for the transportation of physically challenged individuals to have access to the event and for maintenance of the grounds.

We also request permission to allow camping on the Brooke Alvinston Inwood Community Centre grounds from Wednesday June 10 until Monday June 15, 2026 to allow Rodeo staff and participants to have accommodations for the event.

We also request permission for food trucks and vendors to be allowed to setup on the Brooke Alvinston Inwood Community Centre grounds for the Pro Rodeo event.

Thank you,

**Mark McLean**

Mark McLean  
Brooke & Alvinston Ag. Soc  
Alvinston Pro Rodeo



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Canada Day 2026  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Clerks  
**Staff Contact:** Janet Denkers, Clerk Administrator

### Recommendation:

**That the Canada Day 2026 report be received and filed.**

### Background:

The Canada Day Committee met to discuss plans for a 2026 Canada Day Celebration.

### Comments:

With the arena floor being unavailable and the Legion at its new location, plans have changed but the event is still planned to be significant.

- 1) Ecumenical Service on June 28 at the pavilion with lunch to follow; Senior of the Year presentation at this time in addition the new Junior of the Year Award presented by the Alvinston Optimist Club.
- 2) Canada Day Celebration all day July 1 at the BAICCC with meal
  - ball hockey may be on the tennis courts pending completion or start of tennis court resurfacing (Optimist project)
- 3) Fireworks at dusk-July 1
- 4) 2 Pitch Ball Tournament June 28, June 30 & July 1 (with beer tent and bands-Optimist run)

More particulars on the celebration will be broadcasted as the Committee works together to make another successful Canada Day in the Community.

### Financial Considerations:

The Committee has applied for funding through the federal government. An announcement has not been made to date if the Municipality was successful in funding.



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Multi Year Accessibility Plan  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Clerks  
**Staff Contact:** Janet Denkers, Clerk Administrator

### Recommendation:

**That Council adopt the 2026 - 2030 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan**

### Background:

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) requires municipalities to prepare and maintain a multi year accessibility plan that outlines strategies to identify, remove and prevent barriers for persons with disabilities. The plan must be review and updated at least once every five years.

Staff have developed the attached plan for Council review. This plan also builds upon the accomplishments of previous plans and aligns with the five AODA standards: Customer Service, Information and Communications, Employment, Transportation and Design of Public Spaces.

### Comments:

The 2026-2030 plan reflects the Municipality's commitment to creating an inclusive and accessible community. Key components include:

- Statement of Commitment: Ensuring dignity, independence and equal access for all residents
- Goals and Actions: Focused on improving accessibility in municipal services, facilities, employment practices and public spaces
- Consultation: Developed with input from the community
- Compliance: Supports legislative requirements under the AODA, Ontario Human Rights Code and the Ontario Building Code

### Financial Considerations:

Future requests may come to Council for suggested projects that are not included in the yearly budget. Grant opportunities will continue to be pursued to offset costs.

### ATTACHMENTS:

[Accessibility 2026](#)

# MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON

2026-2030 accessibility plan

## Abstract

By embedding accessibility into municipal planning, operations, and culture, this plan supports a more inclusive future—one in which accessibility is not an add-on but a fundamental principle guiding how the municipality designs, delivers, and evaluates its services

Janet Denkers  
Clerk Administrator

## Accessibility Law In Ontario

Three pieces of complementary legislation have a major impact on accessibility in Ontario: Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, Ontario's Human Rights Code and Ontario's Building Code.

### Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act provides a road map for an accessible Ontario with mandatory and enforceable compliance standards in five key areas:

- Customer Service
- Information and Communications
- Employment
- Transportation
- Public Spaces

Ontario is the first province and one of the first jurisdictions in the world to enact specific legislation establishing a goal and time frame for accessibility. Ontario is also the first jurisdiction to make accessibility reporting mandatory with established standards so people living with disabilities can enjoy increased participation in their communities.

### Ontario Human Rights Code (HRC)

The HRC sets out the legal duty to accommodate people with disabilities. The Code has legal primacy over all other laws including the AODA. This is important because it shows society recognizes "what should be":

- persons with disabilities are inherently entitled to and should enjoy equal rights without discrimination;
- and that we all have legal obligations to ensure it happens.

The AODA and other disability related legislation provide a means for getting us there.

### Ontario's Building Code (OBC)

The OBC set the minimum accessibility standards for the construction of all new buildings that undergo significant renovation.

### Purpose of the Plan

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) aims to improve access and opportunities for people with disabilities and enable their involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers.

The plan outlines goals, strategies and actions that the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take to identify, remove and prevent barriers for persons with disabilities. The plan also serves as an update and status report on the targets set in previous plans.

We recognize that persons with disabilities represent a significant and growing part of Brooke-Alvinston's population. Enhancing the ability of people with disabilities to live independently and contribute to the community will have positive effects on prosperity, inclusivity and accessibility in the workplace.

### Statement of Commitment

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to improving accessibility in all municipal programs and services to service our community better. Our goal is to provide goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We strive to provide an inclusive environment where all residents can access and benefit from our facilities, goods, services, employment, information and transportation.

### Vision for an Accessible Brooke-Alvinston

All people in Brooke-Alvinston, regardless of age and ability, have barrier free access to full and equal participation in the community.

### What are Barriers?

People with disabilities are confronted with barriers in many of the day to day activities that most people take for granted. A barrier is defined as anything that prevents a person with a disability for fully participating in all aspects of society. The traditional definition of a barrier has been expanded to include obstacles beyond physical boundaries. There are several other types of barriers to consider, such as:

- Environmental barriers are features, buildings or spaces that restrict or impede physical access. For example, a doorway that is too narrow to accommodate entry by a persons in a motorized scooter
- Communication barriers are obstacles to processing, transmitting or interpreting information. Eg print in newsletters
- Attitudinal barriers are behaviours, perceptions and assumptions that directly or indirectly discriminate

- Technological barriers occur when technology does not support various assistive devices eg. a website that does not support screen reading software
- Systematic Barriers are barriers within an organization's policies, practices and procedures. Eg. listing a driver's licence as an employment qualification for an office position may prohibit persons with visual impairments from applying.

#### Goals for an Accessible Brooke-Alvinston

The following goals were developed by municipal staff with suggestions from the general public as received.

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Standard: The Customer Service Standard mandates that service providers must find ways to break down barriers that prevent customers with disabilities from accessing the services they need:

#### Goals:

Provision of accessible customer service that responds to the diverse needs of the Municipality's residents and visitors supported through:

- Continued development and improvement of municipal forms, applications and permits to eliminate barriers for persons with disabilities
- Customer Service training through 4S Health & Safety Training that support barrier free interactions with municipal customers
- Municipal leadership to individuals, organizations and businesses regarding barrier free access to goods, services and facilities

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS**

Standard: The information and communications standards lists rules for organization to create, provide and receive information and communications that people with disabilities can access. The standard gives all people an equal chance to learn and be active in their communities

#### Goals:

Provision of Municipal Information and communication in accessible and alternative formats supported through:

- Accessible internet, website and social media content, signage and application forms
- Compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0
- Preparation and implementation of accommodation processes for municipal elections

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Standard: The Employment Standard requires employers to make their workplace practices accessible to potential or current workers with disabilities.

### Goals:

Full participation of persons with disabilities in Brooke-Alvinston employment supported through:

- Provision of individual employee accommodation plans
- Support for employees with disabilities in emergency situations

Transportation – N/A

## **DESIGN OF PUBLIC SPACES**

Standard: The design of public spaces standard outlines the need for newly constructed or redeveloped public spaces to be accessible for people with disabilities.

Multi year accessibility plans must include procedures for preventative and emergency maintenance of accessibility elements in public spaces and procedures for dealing with temporary disruptions when accessible elements required are not in working order.

During preventative or emergency maintenance or if there are temporary disruptions to an accessible element all avenues will be investigated to provide an alternate element until the original or a new element can not be achieved, prior to work commencing the affected area will be posted onsite if possible and on the municipal website notifying of the scheduled work with anticipated timelines.

Goals: Greater accessibility into, within, out of and around municipal facilities, trails and public spaces.

Accessibility Standards that are all integrated into all public spaces, facilities, parks, trails and sidewalks

### Notable Accomplishments

- Continue to train all staff on Accessible customer service and delivery -100% compliance
- Accessibility accommodations for all job postings and throughout the recruitment process
- Conduct all site approvals with accessibility in mind
- Conduct health & safety inspections with health & safety in mind
- Complete sidewalk improvements to enhance mobility and safety
- Installed accessible door lever handles in the washrooms at the Alvinston Library
- Provide accessible portable washrooms for community events (Christmas parade and car show)
- Ensure the municipal election is barrier free
- Encourage scent free environment
- Changed flag poles out to be more safely accessed for employees
- Added rubber matting at the arena and municipal office entrances
- Auto light switches at the firehall
- High contrast stop signs
- Ensuring municipal facilities, publications, websites, meetings and services are accessible to people with disabilities
- Having an official plan that promotes a barrier free municipality
- Ensuring barrier free designs are incorporated into new construction projects and redevelopments in outdoor spaces.
- Grant submissions under the Enabling Accessibility Fund – small project component for future improvements of municipally owned property
- Review of municipal by-laws, policies, programs, practices and services to ensure accessibility is maintained

### New Proposals

- Improve the library flooring at the Alvinston Library
- Ongoing grinding of sidewalks to limit tripping hazards
- Improve the parking lot at the arena (full pavement & line painting)
- Improve the gazebo in the Alvinston Community Park for better accessibility
- Review of the municipal zoning by-law

Appendix A  
2020-2021 Brooke Alvinston  
Accessibility Plan-Customer Service Policy

**Accessible Standards for Customer Service**

Purpose

To ensure all Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston programs and services are accessible to everyone in the community in accordance with Ontario Regulation 429/07 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service.

Policy Overview

These policies and procedures apply to all goods and services that are delivered by the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston, by any means including in person, by telephone, electronically, by mail, visually, orally or by written means.

This policy applies to all Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston staff, volunteers, elected officials and third parties who deal with the public, on behalf of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston.

Policy

The Municipality shall meet its duties and responsibilities under Ontario Regulation 429/07 by adhering to the following principles and practices:

1. Training

Training is required for those staff, elected officials, volunteers or third parties that interact with the public on behalf of the Municipality, or who are involved in developing policies, practices and procedures. The required training must include information on how to communicate and interact with people with disabilities, how to interact with people who have an assistive device, service animal or support person, how to utilize assisted devices that are available on Municipal premises, and what to do if a person has difficulty accessing Brooke-Alvinston services.

The training will include the core principles of customer service as set out by the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston which include: dignity, equity, inclusion, independence, integration, sensitivity and equality.

A training program of varying modules will be implemented which will ensure compliance and meet the needs of various departments and employee groups. Records are to be kept indicating the dated and training provided, and the number of individuals to whom it was provided.

Third party organizations providing goods and services on behalf of the Municipality shall provide relevant training, learning opportunities or direction to employees and volunteers regarding their roles and responsibilities under the AODA.

## 2. Service Animals and Support Persons

A person with a disability accompanied by a service animal is permitted to enter the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston premises with the animal unless the animal is otherwise excluded by law. Should a service animal be excluded from the premises then the Municipality shall ensure that other measures are available to enable the person with the disability to obtain, use or benefit from the good and/or services.

Section 4(9) of the Accessibility Standards on Customer Service indicates that an animal is a service animal if (1) it is readily apparent that the animal is being used for reasons related to a person's disability; or (2) if the person provides a letter from a doctor or nurse confirming that the animal is required for reasons relating to the disability.

Staff will be properly trained to identify support persons who may be a paid professional, volunteer, family member or friend that may accompany a customer in order to help with communication, mobility, personal care or medical needs or with access to goods and services.

A disabled person's support person is to be permitted access to Municipal facilities at no charge when there is a regular fee to access the facility.

## 3. Notice of Temporary Disruptions

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will give notice of temporary disruptions to service or facilities used by persons with disabilities including the reason(s) for the disruption. The notice shall be posted appropriately at the facility and on the Municipal website when appropriate. When the disruption is planned, advanced notice will be provided.

#### 4. Feedback

Notices in customer service areas will notify customers that their feedback is welcomed and valued for the continual improvement of services so as to avoid inadvertently excluding people with disabilities from activities or services.

An accessible simple to use system of providing feedback and complaints will be made available through a range of service channels.

Staff will make note of feedback given in person, verbally or in writing, online, by telephone or any other means. A simple to use, accessible process for customers to provide feedback or complaints will be in place.

#### 5. Emergency Situations

Staff will be familiar with emergency procedures and how to assist customers or staff who may require help during an emergency.

Appendix B  
2026-2030 Brooke Alvinston  
Accessibility Plan-Accessibility Standard for Employment

Accessibility Standard for Employment - Providing emergency response information for employees with disabilities

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to employee safety. Under Ontario's Accessibility Standard for Employment, employers with employees with disabilities must provide individualized emergency information to them. Brooke-Alvinston administration has not been advised of any of its employees having a disability. If an employee identifies their disability, appropriate accommodations will be made by administration to give them the help they need in the event of an emergency. Upon the hiring of a new employee, the attached memo will be provided to the employee.

---

Employee Memo:

At the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston, we take employee safety seriously.

If you have a disability, whether permanent or temporary, and may need help during an emergency, please let me know. We will ask you to complete a self-assessment form, then will work with you to develop individualized emergency response information that will meet your needs in an emergency situation.

Please note that we do not need to know the details of your medical condition or disability, only the kind of help you may need. The information you provide will be kept confidential and only shared with your consent.

If you have questions or you already have emergency response information and need to adjust it, please let me know.

Thank-you

Janet Denkers  
Clerk-Administrator

Appendix C  
2026-2030 Brooke Alvinston  
About Disabilities

There is not universally accepted meaning for the word “disability”. Most definitions however can be placed on a continuum. At one end of the spectrum, disability is explained in terms of medical conditions. At the opposite end, disability is explained in terms of the social and physical contexts in which it occurs.

The World Health Organization’s definition for disability is “any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being. Medical model definitions promote the idea that a disability is a deviation from the norm

All barriers are human made. If design problems cause barriers, then disabilities can be eliminated or minimized by modifying how we live, the tools we use and our intuitions about the proper way to do things. If systemic barriers cause disabilities, the disabilities can be eliminated by modifications to policies, plans and processes. If attitudes cause barriers, then disability awareness, respect and an understanding of positive interaction with people with disabilities will remove barriers.

Specialized medical knowledge may be needed to treat diseases and symptoms, but do not address barriers. Barriers, not medical conditions prevent people with disabilities from participating fully in life.

Where to look for barriers to people with disabilities:

## **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Exterior to a building, workstations, interior of a building, washrooms, parking areas, lunchrooms, hallways, floors, carpets, lobbies. Closets, reception areas, storage areas, offices, lighting

### **PHYSICAL**

Furniture, windows, workstations, planters, chairs, bathroom hardware, doors, locks, doorknobs, security systems

### **INFORMATION**

Books, forms, printed information, manuals, web-based resources, fax transmissions, signage, bulletin boards, computer screens

### **POLICIES & PRACTICES**

Procurement & purchasing, promotion, job postings, by-laws, hiring, regulations, interviewing, rules, testing, protocols, meetings, safety and evacuation

### **TECHNOLOGICAL**

Computers, operating systems, fax machines, telephones, websites, photocopiers, keyboards, appliances, printers, switches

### **RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Playgrounds, picnic areas, arenas

### **COMMUNICATION**

Training, public announcements, receptionists

### **TOOLS**

Hand tools, (manual / electrical), machinery

### **SERVICE DELIVERY**

In person, email, telephone, mail

Appendix E  
2026-2030 Brooke Alvinston  
Types of Disabilities & functional limitations

A person's disability may make it physically or cognitively hard to perform everyday tasks such as operating a keyboard, reading a sign, differentiating colours, distinguishing sounds, climbing stairs, grasping small items, remembering words or doing arithmetic

**1) PHYSICAL**

Physical disabilities include minor difficulties moving or coordinating a part of the body, muscle weakness, tremors and in extreme cases, paralysis in one or more parts of the body. Physical disabilities can be congenital or acquired

**2) HEARING**

Hearing loss includes problems distinguishing certain frequencies, sounds or words, ringing in the ears and total deafness

**3) SPEECH**

People with a speech disability may use manual or electronic communication devices

**4) VISION**

Vision disabilities range from slightly reduced visual acuity to total blindness

**5) DEAF-BLIND**

Deaf-blindness is a combination of hearing and vision loss. It results in significant difficulties accessing information and performing activities of daily living. Deaf-blind disabilities interfere with communication, learning, orientation and mobility

**6) SMELL**

A person with a smelling disability may have allergies to certain odours, scents or chemicals or may be unable to identify dangerous gases, smoke, fumes and spoiled food

**7) TOUCH**

Touch disability alters the ability to sense surfaces and their textures or quality, including temperature, vibration and pressure. A person with a touch disability may be unable to detect or be sensitive to heat, cold or changing temperatures

**8) INTELLECTUAL**

An intellectual disability results in some type of limitation to the individual's intellectual or cognitive abilities. The disability may be caused by genetic factors, exposure to environmental toxins, brain trauma and psychiatric conditions

**9) MENTAL HEALTH**

Mental health and mental illness exist along a continuum and when one's personal balance is disturbed either repeatedly or for long periods, that person may find themselves moving closer along the continuum towards mental illness. A mental illness occurs when symptoms cause interference with daily activities and the degree of impairment may vary from mild to severe. Common workplace accommodations for people with a mental illness include flexible scheduling, changes in supervision, changes in training, modification of job duties and workplaces

**10) LEARNING**

Learning disabilities are disorders that affect verbal and non verbal information: acquisition, retention, understanding, processing, organization and use

**11) OTHER**

Disabilities may result from other conditions, accident, illnesses and diseases including asthma, diabetes, cancer, joint replacement etc.

## **Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston Statement on Accessibility**

### **Accessibility Policies and Multi-Year Accessibility Plan**

This accessibility plan outlines the policies and actions that will be put in place to improve opportunities for people with disabilities. This policy will be updated at least once every five years.

### **Statement of Commitment**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to treating all people in a way that allows them to maintain their dignity and independence. We believe in integration and equal opportunity. We are committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in a timely manner and will do so by preventing and removing barriers to accessibility and meeting accessibility requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

We are committed to including people with disabilities in the development of our accessibility plan and will make a status report publicly available each year to highlight our accessibility achievements.

### **Accessible Emergency Information**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to providing people with disabilities with publicly available emergency information in an accessible way upon request. We will also provide employees with disabilities with individualized emergency response information when necessary.

### **Training**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will provide training to employees, volunteers and other staff members on Ontario's accessibility laws and on the Human Rights Code as it relates to people with disabilities. Training will be provided in a way that best suits the duties of employees, volunteers and other staff members. Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will ensure employees are provided with the training needed to meet Ontario's accessible laws.

Training will include:

- An overview of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the requirements of the customer service standard
- Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston's plan related to the customer service standard.
- How to interact and communicate with people with various types of disabilities
- How to interact with people with disabilities who use an assistive device or require the assistance of a service animal or a support person
- How to use the devices or equipment available on-site or otherwise that may help with providing goods or services to people with disabilities
- What to do if a person with a disability is having difficulty in accessing

- Staff will also be trained and /or notified when changes are made to the accessible customer service plan.

### **Procurement**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take steps to incorporate accessibility criteria and features when procuring or acquiring goods, services or facilities. If it is not possible and practical to do so, we will provide an explanation on request.

### **Information and communications**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to meeting the communication needs of people with disabilities. We will consult with people with disabilities to determine their information and communication needs.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take steps to ensure existing feedback processes are accessible to people with disabilities upon request.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take steps to ensure the website and content conform with WCAG 2.0, Level AA.

### **Employment**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is committed to fair and accessible employment practices. We will take steps to notify the public and staff that, when requested, will accommodate people with disabilities during the recruitment and assessment processes and when people are hired.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take steps to develop and put in place a process for developing individual accommodation plans and return-to-work policies for employees that have been absent due to a disability.

We will ensure the accessibility needs of employees with disabilities are taken into account if using performance management, career development and redeployment processes.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston shall provide individualized workplace emergency response information to employees who have a disability, if the disability is such that the individualized information is necessary and The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is aware of the need for accommodation due to the employee's disability.

If an employee who receives individualized workplace emergency response information requires assistance and with the employee's consent,

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston shall provide the workplace emergency response information to the person designated by the Municipality to provide assistance to the employee.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston shall provide the information required under this section as soon as practicable after the employer becomes aware of the need for accommodation due to the employee's disability.

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston shall review the individualized workplace emergency response information:

- (a) when the employee moves to a different location in the organization;
- (b) when the employee's overall accommodations needs or plans are reviewed; and
- (c) when The Municipality reviews its general emergency response policies.

### **Design of Public Spaces**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will meet the Accessibility Standards for the Design of Public Spaces when building or making major modifications to public spaces.

Public spaces include:

- Recreational trails.
- Outdoor public eating areas like picnic areas.
- Outdoor play spaces, like playgrounds.
- Outdoor paths of travel, like sidewalks, stairs, curb ramps, rest areas.
- Accessible on and off street parking.
- Service-related elements like service counters, and waiting areas

Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will put procedures in place to prevent service disruptions to its accessible parts of its public spaces. In the event of a service disruption, we will notify the public of the service disruption and alternatives available.

### **Other Barriers**

The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston will take steps to prevent and remove other accessibility barriers identified.

For more information on this accessibility plan, please contact Janet Denkers at: Phone: 519-898-2173 Email: [jdenkers@brookealvinston.com](mailto:jdenkers@brookealvinston.com)

Accessible formats of this document are available free upon request:

To view the actual document, please drop by the Municipal Office any weekday between 8:30am and 4:30pm.



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Inwood Ball Park Dugout Upgrades  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Parks and Recreation  
**Staff Contact:** Greg Thornicroft, Parks & Recreation Manager

### Recommendation:

**That Council approve the project and cost sharing of this project between Alvinston Minor Ball, the Alvinston District Optimist Club, and the Municipality**

### Background:

In the fall of 2025, the Municipality was approached by minor ball to do some upgrades to the dugouts at the Inwood ball park. The plan is to:

- remove the old concrete and benches,
- repour the concrete and
- install new benches, and add a roof covering to each of the dugouts.

Options for roofing are either roof steel, or have custom made tarps. Roof steel will last for many years to come and won't have to be removed for the winter. Tarps will have to be installed and removed each year.

### Comments:

The Municipality will act as the General Contractor on the project. We are currently exploring if engineering is required for this project.

### Financial Considerations:

Minor ball has committed up to \$5000 in funds towards the project. The Alvinston Optimist Club has budgeted \$5000 for the project. It is estimated that \$5,000 will need to be contracted by the Municipality.

In doing the project in stages and acting as the Contractor, we are able to keep within our procurement by-law.

Funds to be used from either what is left from parks & recreation 2026 budget or from reserves



## Council Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Ferguson and Members of Council  
**Subject:** Fairgrounds historical stone monument  
**Meeting:** Council - 26 Mar 2026  
**Department:** Parks and Recreation  
**Staff Contact:** Greg Thornicroft, Parks & Recreation Manager

### Recommendation:

**That Council approve the monument to be installed at the BAICCC grounds and directs staff to work with user groups on the appropriate placement of the historical monument on the BAICCC grounds.**

### Background:

The Municipality was approached to erect a monument of historical significance representing the history of the Ag Society's donation of land to the Municipality.



When standing, in a timber structure, it will be approximately 9.5 feet tall and 5 feet wide.

**Comments:**

There are various locations at the BAICCC grounds where it could be mounted. Staff would like to discuss with service groups the appropriate placement so as to not interfere with other activities on the grounds.

**Financial Considerations:**

Staff are not aware of any costs associated to the Municipality.



**CORPORATION OF THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON**

**ZONING BY-LAW NUMBER 18 OF 2026**

**(Being a By-law to amend By-law 9 of 2013)**

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston passed a comprehensive Zoning By-law 9 of 2013 on the 28th day of February 2013; and

**WHEREAS** the Council deems it desirable to make certain amendments to its comprehensive Zoning By-law.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston enacts as follows:

1. Schedule "A", attached, is hereby declared to form part of this By-law.
2. Schedule "A" to By-law 9 of 2013 is hereby amended by changing the zone symbol that applies to those lands indicated on Schedule "A" to this By-law from the "Agricultural (A1) Zone" to the "No-Dwelling Agricultural (ND-A) Zone".
3. This By-law shall come into force and effect pursuant to Sections 34 (21) or Section 34 (30) of the Planning R.S.O. 1990.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 26th day of March 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Ferguson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Denkers, Clerk Administrator

**CORPORATION OF THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE-ALVINSTON**

**ZONING BY-LAW NO. [REDACTED] OF 2026**

**Explanatory Note**

The purpose of this By-law is to rezone a portion of lands described as Concession 6, Lot 14, Part Lot 15 in the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston and municipally known as 7579 Shiloh Line from the "Agriculture 1 (A1) Zone" to the "No-Dwelling Agricultural (ND-A) Zone".

The ND-A Zone prohibits the erection of a dwelling and would apply to the retained farmland as a result of the approval of Application B002/25 by the Brooke-Alvinston Committee of Adjustment. The severed residential lot will remain in the "Agriculture (A1) Zone" which allows single detached dwellings.

This Zoning By-law amendment is required as a condition of the Committee's approval of the severance.

The Key Map and Schedule "A" show more particularly the lands affected.

# Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston

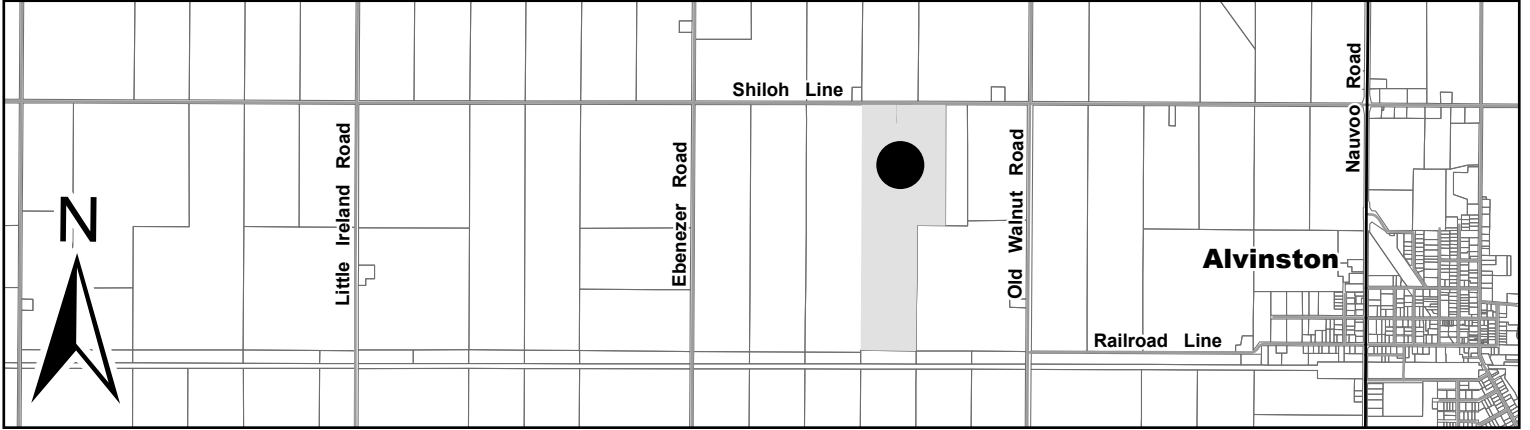
## SCHEDULE "A"

to By-law No. \_\_\_\_\_

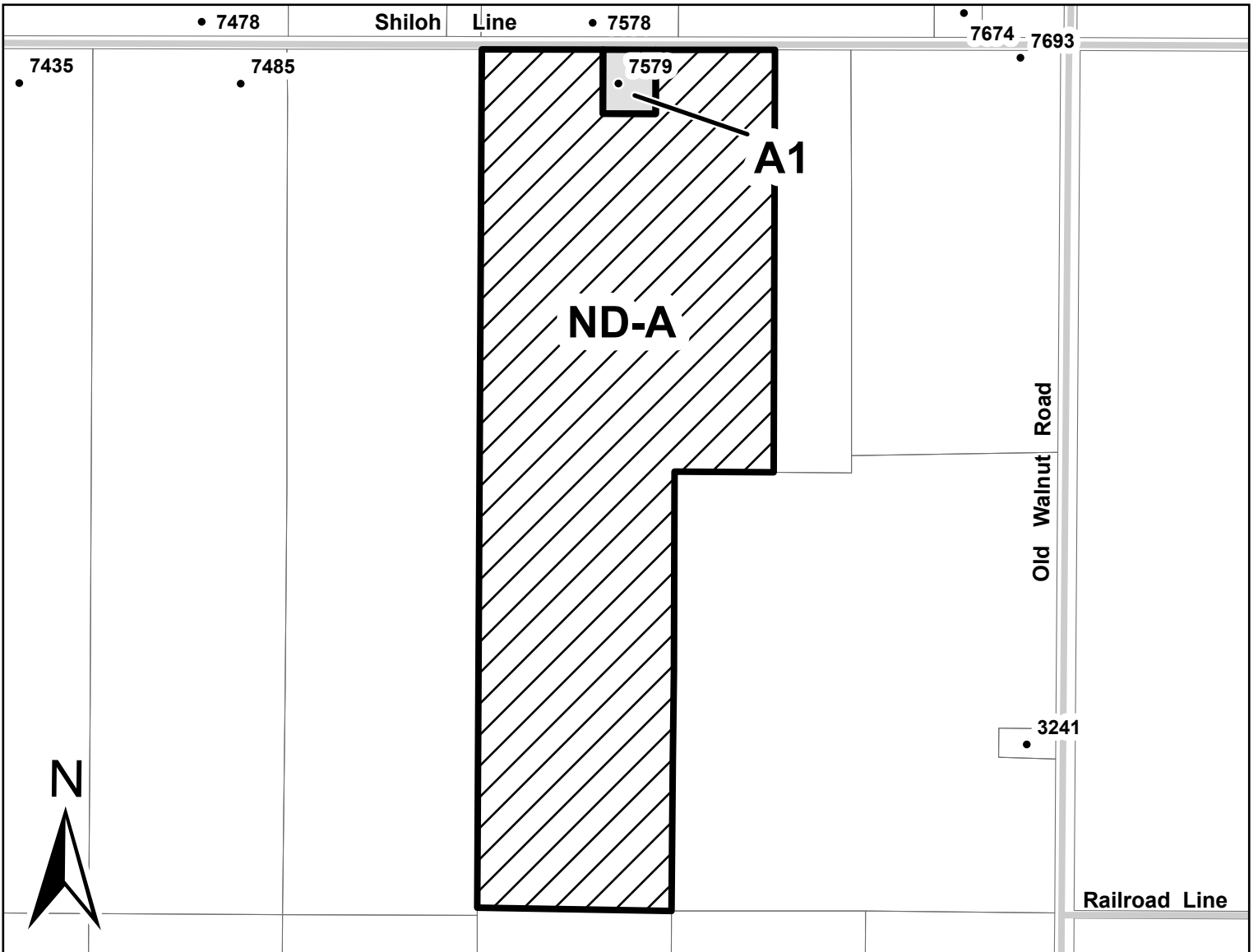
Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
David Ferguson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Denkers, Clerk-Administrator



● Subject Property



APPLICANT: 1432234 Ontario Ltd. (c/o Linda Podolinsky)

LOCATION: Brooke CON 6, Lot 14, Part Lot 15  
7579 Shiloh Line, Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston

File: Z002-2026