



# Town of Newmarket Council Information Package

## Index of Attachments

**Circulation Date:** December 7, 2018

**Note:** If a Member of Council wishes to include any of the enclosed documents on a future Council or Committee of the Whole agenda, please email Legislative Services at [clerks@newmarket.ca](mailto:clerks@newmarket.ca).

### General Correspondence Items

- 1. Resolution to Expand Mandatory Waste Diversion Programs and Increase Waste Diversion Capacity**  
York Region  
November 16, 2018
- 1. The Creation, Maintenance and General Quality of the Municipal Voters' List**  
Township of Kearney  
December 4, 2018
- 2. Ontario Drinking Water Source Protection Program**  
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority  
December 6, 2018

### Proclamation and Lighting Requests

There were no proclamation and lighting requests for this period.

November 16, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons  
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk  
Town of Newmarket  
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328  
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
NOV 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

**Re: Resolution to Expand Mandatory Waste Diversion Programs and Increase Waste Diversion Capacity**

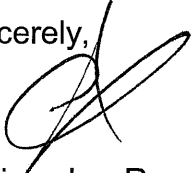
Regional Council, at its meeting held on November 15, 2018, adopted the following recommendations, as amended, in the report of the Commissioner of Environmental Services regarding "Resolution to Expand Mandatory Waste Diversion Programs and Increase Waste Diversion Capacity":

1. Council approve the resolution with respect to Ontario's need to expand mandatory waste diversion programs and increase waste diversion capacity to reduce dependence on landfill disposal, as outlined in Attachment 1.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Mayor of Ingersoll, Ontario, the local municipalities, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.
3. That Council request the province to strengthen policies and legislation to require producers to ensure the use of recyclable materials.

A copy of Council Minute No.148 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75077 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Raynor', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Christopher Raynor  
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark  
Attachments

Minute No. 148 as recorded in the Minutes of the meeting of the Council of The Regional Municipality of York held on November 15, 2018.

**148 Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Environmental Services - Resolution to Expand Mandatory Waste Diversion Programs and Increase Waste Diversion Capacity**

It was moved by Regional Councillor Ferri, seconded by Mayor Quirk that Council adopt the recommendations in the report with the following amendments as noted:

**Addition to Recommendation 2:**

The Regional Clerk also circulate the report to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

**Recommendation 3:**

That Council request the province to strengthen policies and legislation to require producers to ensure the use of recyclable materials.

Carried

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Report dated October 25, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

**1. Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

1. Council approve the resolution with respect to Ontario's need to expand mandatory waste diversion programs and increase waste diversion capacity to reduce dependence on landfill disposal, as outlined in Attachment 1.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Mayor of Ingersoll, Ontario, the local municipalities, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

## **2. Purpose**

On September 20, 2018, Council received a deputation from Ted Comiskey, Mayor of the Town of Ingersoll, Ontario, which was referred to staff for a report at a future meeting. A copy of Mayor Comiskey's proposed resolution is included as Attachment 2 for reference. This report presents a modified resolution for adoption by Council which affirms York Region's support for rigorous environmental and public consultation requirements for landfills while calling on the provincial government to reduce demand for landfill disposal through increased waste diversion efforts with additional emphasis on the non-residential sector.

## **3. Background**

### **York Region continues to demonstrate environmental leadership by achieving first place in the large urban category of the Resource Productivity Recovery Authority Datacall**

York Region remains a provincial leader in the area of waste diversion, achieving first place ranking in the large urban category of the Resource Productivity and Recover Authority Datacall in every year since 2012. Subject to final verification by Resource Productivity Recovery Authority, York Region's reported waste diversion rate for 2017 was 68 per cent of total tonnes managed. York Region further reduces its contribution to Ontario's landfills by managing as much of its non-recyclable residual waste as possible at energy-from-waste facilities, achieving an overall 2017 diversion-from-landfill rate of 93 per cent while landfilling only 25,057 tonnes of waste. With Council's leadership, York Region remains on-pace for further landfill tonnage reductions in 2018.

In February 2018 the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority released final, verified waste diversion rates for the 2016 reporting year. Results for the top ten municipalities are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**2016 Overall Top 10 Resource Productivity and Recovery**  
**Authority Residential Waste Diversion Rates**

Municipality	Reported Population	Waste Generated (Tonnes)	Waste Diverted (Tonnes)	Waste Diversion Rate
York Region	1,186,907	374,718	246,297	65.7%
Simcoe County	305,516	146,503	88,911	60.7%
Dufferin County	61,735	19,946	11,994	60.1%
City of Kingston	123,798	42,007	25,245	60.1%
City of Guelph	131,000	55,423	32,537	58.7%
City of Orillia	30,837	10,917	6,274	57.5%
Halton Region	548,470	205,736	116,532	56.6%
North Frontenac Township	1,842	2,758	1,549	56.1%
Niagara Region	447,888	191,341	106,652	55.7%
Durham Region	663,460	250,159	138,594	55.4%

#### **4. Analysis and Implications**

##### **Low diversion in the non-residential sector is attributable primarily to the absence of mandatory diversion programs**

Ontario's previous waste diversion framework, as embodied in the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* and related legislation, established mandatory diversion programs which vary by sector. Within this framework, different diversion program requirements apply to large and small municipalities, and to various non-residential waste sources within the industrial, commercial, and institutional sector.

Based on the most recent data set available from Statistics Canada, Ontario achieved an overall diversion rate of approximately 26 per cent in 2016, as summarized in Table 2.

**Table 2**  
**Summary of 2016 Ontario Waste Diversion and Disposal by Sector<sup>1</sup>**

Sector	Diversion Tonnes	Disposal Tonnes	Total Tonnes	Sector Contribution to Overall Tonnes Managed	Diversion Percentage
Residential	2,135,660	3,703,850	5,839,510	46%	37%
Non-Residential	1,174,051	5,771,622	6,945,673	54%	17%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>3,309,711</b>	<b>9,475,472</b>	<b>12,785,183</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26%</b>

1. Statistics Canada Table 38-10-0033-01 Materials diverted, by source, and Table 38-10-0032-01 Disposal of waste, by source.

While some municipalities like York Region have achieved residential diversion rates of 60 per cent and higher, waste diversion is much lower in the non-residential sector, which accounts for approximately 54 per cent of the total waste generated in Ontario. This non-residential industrial, commercial, and institutional sector achieves a collective diversion rate of only 17 per cent. Low diversion in the non-residential sector is attributable primarily to the absence of mandatory diversion programs for many businesses and the lack of well-defined diversion targets for businesses that are covered by existing legislation.

**Ontario Waste Management Association estimates that continued landfilling at current rates could exhaust Ontario’s existing capacity in 11 to 17 years**

Ontario currently has limited landfill capacity, and much of the capacity that exists is subject to permit limits on the geographical service area and categories of non-hazardous waste that can be received. The newest large scale commercial landfill sites to be approved in Ontario with province-wide service areas are the Twin Creeks Landfill in Watford and the Walker South Landfill in Niagara Falls, which both commenced operation in 2009. York Region currently sends approximately 20,000 tonnes per year to the Walker South Landfill site through a contract which expires in June 2025. York Region also maintains a contingency contract for the Twin Creeks Landfill, which can be used as an alternate when the Walker South site is unavailable.

In its *State of Waste in Ontario: Landfill Report* dated February 24, 2016, the Ontario Waste Management Association estimates that continued landfilling at current rates could exhaust Ontario’s existing capacity in 11 to 17 years.

**New and expanding landfill sites and energy-from-waste facilities can require in excess of 10 years for approval, design, and construction**

Ontario's urgent need for new waste disposal capacity is compounded by the long time period required to complete approvals, design, and construction of new or expanding landfill sites or energy-from-waste facilities. For example, the Environmental Assessment for Walker Environmental's proposed Southwestern Landfill site in the Township of Zorra, near Ingersoll, began in early 2012, and achieved approval of the Terms of Reference in March 2016. The technical studies and public consultation activities specified in the Terms of Reference are currently in progress, and are expected to be submitted for approval by the MECP in late 2019. If approved, it is anticipated that municipal planning approvals, permitting, detailed design, and construction will require an additional three to four years to complete, resulting in a total development timeframe in excess of ten years. This timeframe is typical of other recent Ontario landfill developments, and of York Region's own experience with the Durham York Energy Centre.

**The Province should set ambitious and measureable waste diversion targets and timelines for all sectors**

The Government of Ontario is currently updating its waste diversion regulation framework through the *Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016*. This provides an excellent opportunity for the province to reduce demand for new landfill capacity by expanding mandatory diversion programs to include additional mid-sized municipalities and multi-residential buildings, and more importantly, businesses, and industries not covered by the previous regulatory framework. The Region advocated for greater focus and target setting for underperforming sectors in consultation with the Province on the *Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario (2017)* and *Food and Organic Waste Framework (2018)*. It was encouraging to see that the finalized *Food and Organic Waste Framework (2018)* includes targets for organic waste reduction and diversion for the commercial sector. The Province should set ambitious and measureable performance targets and timelines for all sectors and ensure these are enforced.

**The Province should increase waste diversion capacity through new funding opportunities and streamlined approvals for waste processing facilities**

Expanding the scope of mandatory diversion programs to include new municipal, industrial, commercial, and institutional participants will increase demand for waste diversion infrastructure which is already operating at full capacity. The Government of Ontario should take action to increase waste diversion capacity through new funding opportunities and streamlined approvals for waste processing facilities to meet this additional demand.



**Rigorous Environmental Assessment process ensures meaningful public consultation and environmentally responsible landfill development**

New and expanding landfill sites larger than 100,000 cubic meters are required to obtain approval from the MECP in accordance with the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The Environmental Assessment process for landfill sites is a rigorous, multi-step process that typically requires five to ten years to complete. Every step in the process includes mandatory review and comment periods and consultation with affected stakeholders such as local municipal governments, Indigenous communities, conservation authorities, advocacy groups and the public at large.

The MECP posts its review of the final Environmental Assessment Study Document for a five-week public comment period. During this comment period, concerned stakeholders such as local municipalities may request a hearing before the Environmental Review Tribunal. Landfills are also subject to other provincial-level approvals under the *Environmental Protection Act*, *Ontario Water Resources Act*, and *Species at Risk Act*.

**Public engagement opportunities and compliance monitoring are common conditions of Environmental Assessment approvals**

When an Individual Environmental Assessment is approved, the MECP issues conditions which commonly include mandatory annual reporting on how the proponent is complying with the conditions of approval. It is also common for a public liaison committee to be established for continued stakeholder engagement after approval is obtained.

**Staff recommend support for rigorous application of the existing landfill approval process without requiring pre-approval by the local municipality**

In addition to the above-noted provincial Environmental Assessment approval, municipalities can also regulate landfill sites through official plan and zoning by-law amendments. Local municipalities can use zoning bylaws to restrict landfill development to specified areas and enforce reasonable development standards that are consistent with standards that apply to other types of businesses. However, a local municipal council currently cannot block a landfill development once provincial approval has been granted. Mayor Comiskey's deputation to Council referenced Bill 201 2018, a private member's bill halted by the recent provincial election, that would have required local municipal approval prior to issuing provincial level approvals for landfills.

While every effort should be made to reduce demand for landfill capacity through waste reduction and diversion, landfills continue to play a critical role in Ontario's waste management system. Staff are concerned that requiring local municipal approval prior to issuance of provincial approvals would allow a local municipality to stall the provincial process indefinitely. The current provincial and municipal approvals processes work together to ensure landfills are protective of the environment and developed in a manner that respects the local community. The amended resolution before Council expresses support for rigorous application of the existing process without requiring pre-approval by the local municipality.

### **Proposed right to block landfill development in adjacent municipalities reduces local municipal autonomy**

Private landfill developers typically make financial contributions to local municipalities through a host community agreement. As private businesses, landfill developers also pay property taxes to the local municipality and bring both direct and indirect employment opportunities to the area. The Ontario Waste Management Association reports that private landfills currently pay approximately \$8.5 million per year to local municipalities through host community agreements and \$3.5 million per year in property taxes or payments in lieu of taxes on landfill properties.

Mayor Comiskey's original resolution proposes that landfill developments should require approval by adjacent municipalities, and in the case of two-tier municipalities, that approval should be required at both levels. This creates the possibility that a lower-tier municipality, having reached agreement with a landfill developer on acceptable compensation through a host community agreement, could have the development blocked by a neighboring municipality or the upper-tier municipality. Staff have removed this requirement from the amended resolution to preserve a local municipality's right to regulate land use within its own boundaries.

### **Amended resolution supports the Sustainable Environment objective of the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan**

York Region and other Ontario municipalities have made significant gains in waste diversion in recent years through implementation of mandatory diversion programs and targets. The amended resolution to expand these mandatory programs and targets to new sectors supports the Sustainable Environment objective of the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan by driving further province-wide improvements in waste diversion.

## **5. Financial Considerations**

### **Expanding mandatory diversion programs in the non-residential sector provides the largest opportunity for improvement**

The Province's previous waste diversion regulations have achieved significant improvements in the residential sector, with 20 of the 105 municipalities participating in the 2016 Resource Productivity Recovery Authority Datacall achieving diversion rates of 50 per cent or higher. Continuing to focus on the residential sector, while neglecting to address waste diversion in the business sector where more than half of all waste is generated misses the largest opportunity to increase diversion across the Province. Many businesses produce homogeneous waste streams that are cheaper and easier to recycle and would significantly increase diversion across all sectors.

The amended resolution recommended in this report calls on the Province to seek a better return on investment by expanding mandatory waste diversion programs to non-residential sectors. An economic analysis of all sectors to determine the lowest cost per diverted tonne would help the Province to set effective policies and achieve its goals.

### **Proposed regulatory changes are expected to be cost neutral for the Region's public depots**

York Region currently receives recyclables and residual waste from small businesses at its public depots. Proposed provincial initiatives to increase business sector diversion could potentially affect both the total quantity of material received and the ratio of recyclable to non-recyclable materials received at the depots.

The new fee structure approved by Council in November 2017 allows the depots to operate in a cost neutral manner, sustained by user fees paid on a per-tonne basis. As a result, staff do not anticipate any change to net depot operating costs if small business usage patterns change as a result of proposed changes to provincial legislation.

## **6. Local Municipal Impact**

York Region works with its local municipal partners to provide sustainable long term waste management programs that maximize diversion from landfill. The amended resolution seeks to drive additional improvement in waste diversion while ensuring that the cost of these improvements is not borne entirely by municipal taxpayers. The amended resolution supports a rigorous landfill approvals process that respects the concerns of the host community while also respecting the right of municipalities to regulate land use within their own boundaries.

## **7. Conclusion**

Despite recent gains in municipal residential waste diversion, Ontario continues to rely heavily on landfills for its waste disposal needs, and at current rates of usage the province's existing landfill capacity is expected to be exhausted in less than 20 years. The Regional Municipality of York calls on the Government of Ontario to reduce demand for new landfill capacity by expanding mandatory waste diversion programs with increased emphasis on the non-residential sector. Any new landfill developments should continue to be subject to rigorous approvals requirements that are fully protective of the environment and sensitive to the needs of host communities.

Expanding mandatory diversion programs will increase demand for waste diversion processing capacity. The Government of Ontario should take action to increase waste diversion capacity through new funding opportunities and streamlined approvals for waste processing facilities

For more information on this report, please contact Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext.75077.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

October 25, 2018

Attachments (2)

8854670

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

## **Attachment 1**

### **Resolution to Expand Mandatory Waste Diversion Programs and Increase Waste Diversion Capacity**

WHEREAS the Ontario Waste Management Association estimates that Ontario's existing landfill capacity could be exhausted within the next 11 to 17 years; and,

WHEREAS new or expanding landfill sites and energy-from-waste facilities can require in excess of 10 years for approval, design, and construction; and,

WHEREAS non-residential sources account for approximately 54 per cent of the waste generated in Ontario, of which, only 17 per cent is currently diverted from landfill; and,

WHEREAS urgent action is required to conserve existing landfill capacity and reduce demand for construction of new or expanded landfills;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Regional Municipality of York calls on the Government of Ontario to expand mandatory diversion programs and set and enforce performance targets and timelines with increased emphasis on improving waste diversion in the non-residential sector through its powers under the *Waste Free Ontario Act, 2016*; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario should increase waste diversion capacity through new funding opportunities and streamlined approvals for waste processing facilities; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario should continue to subject new and expanding landfill sites and energy-from-waste facilities to rigorous environmental approval processes, planning, and public consultation requirements to ensure that these facilities are designed, built, operated, closed, rehabilitated, and monitored in a manner that is fully protective of the natural environment and sensitive to the needs and concerns of the communities in which they are located.

**MOTION COUNCIL  
FOR THE  
[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]**

**MUNICIPALITIES CALL ON PROVINCE FOR “RIGHT TO APPROVE”  
LANDFILL DEVELOPMENTS**

WHEREAS municipal governments in Ontario do not have the right to approve landfill projects in their communities, but have authority for making decisions on all other types of development;

AND WHEREAS this out-dated policy allows private landfill operators to consult with local residents and municipal Councils, but essentially ignore them;

AND WHEREAS proposed Ontario legislation (Bill 139) will grant municipalities additional authority and autonomy to make decisions for their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities already have exclusive rights for approving casinos and nuclear waste facilities within their communities, AND FURTHER that the province has recognized the value of municipal approval for the siting of power generation facilities;

AND WHEREAS the recent report from Ontario's Environmental Commissioner has found that Ontario has a garbage problem, particularly from Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) waste generated within the City of Toronto, where diversion rates are as low as 15%;

AND UNLESS significant efforts are made to increase recycling and diversion rates, a new home for this Toronto garbage will need to be found, as landfill space is filling up quickly;

AND WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are quietly being identified and targeted as potential landfill sites for future Toronto garbage by private landfill operators;

AND WHEREAS other communities should not be forced to take Toronto waste, as landfills can contaminate local watersheds, air quality, dramatically increase heavy truck traffic on community roads, and reduce the quality of life for local residents;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should be considered experts in waste management, as they are responsible for this within their own communities, and often have decades' worth of in-house expertise in managing waste, recycling, and diversion programs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have the exclusive right to approve or reject these projects, and assess whether the potential economic benefits are of sufficient value to offset any negative impacts and environmental concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** calls upon the Government of Ontario, and all political parties, to formally grant municipalities the authority to approve landfill projects in or adjacent to their communities, prior to June 2018;

AND THAT in the case of a two-tier municipality, the approval be required at both the upper-tier and affected lower-tier municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** encourage all other municipalities in Ontario to consider this motion calling for immediate provincial action.



# Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

56 Lindsay Road 5, R.R. #2, Lion's Head, ON N0H 1W0  
Telephone: (519) 793-3522 • Fax: (519) 793-3823  
[www.northbrucepeninsula.ca](http://www.northbrucepeninsula.ca)

December 4, 2018

TOWN OF KEARNEY  
8 MAIN STREET  
KEARNEY, ON  
P0A 1M0

Att: Cindy Filmore

Dear Ms. Filmore:

Re: The Creation, Maintenance and General Quality of the Municipal  
Voters' List

The resolution received by the Town of Kearney (attached), was reviewed by the Council of the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula on December 3, 2018, relating to the above noted item. At this meeting, Resolution # 28-07-2018 was carried and adopted by Council:

"THAT Council supports the attached resolution No. 10.(d)(iii)/21/11/2018 from The Corporation of the Town of Kearney in regards to the creation, maintenance and general quality of the municipal voters' list. "

The above is being provided for your information.

Yours truly,

Mary Lynn Standen  
Clerk

Encl.



**Subject:**

Council Resolution re Voters' List for Municipal Elections

Good afternoon,

In light of the recent municipal election, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney passed the following resolution in regard to the creation, maintenance and general quality of the Municipal Voters' List:

**Resolution #**

**10.(d)(iii)/21/11/2018**

**WHEREAS** concern over the quality of the Municipal Voters' List is not a new phenomenon;  
**AND WHEREAS** in 2012, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) published a "Voters' List Position Paper" and since that time has been advocating for transformational changes to the way that Ontario creates and maintains the Voters' List for municipal elections;

**AND WHEREAS** the Preliminary List of Electors which forms the Voters' List in Ontario is supplied by data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC);

**AND WHEREAS** despite the incremental changes made by MPAC, MPAC has a limited ability to fix the currency and accuracy issues that impairs the current process and the Voters' List continues to be flawed with data inaccuracies and outdated information;

**AND WHEREAS** a transformational solution to the way that the Voters' List is created and managed is required;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the re-establishment of the multi-stakeholder working group between the Ministry of

Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, AMCTO, MPAC and Elections Ontario in exploring and identifying ways to create and maintain the Voters' List for Municipal Elections;

**AND FURTHER** Council requests an update be provided from this 'Voters' List Working Group' on the transformational solutions being discussed;

**AND FURTHER** that this resolution be circulated to all Ontario Municipalities for their consideration and support.

**CARRIED**

We hope that this resolution will be of interest to your Municipality, and that you will support this endeavour moving forward.

Sincerely,

*Cindy Filmore*

Senior Office Assistant  
Town of Kearney  
Ph# (705) 636-7752  
Fax (705) 636-0527



December 6, 2018

Via email @ [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

The Hon. Rod Phillips  
Minister  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Ferguson Block, 11th Floor  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2T5

Dear Minister Phillips:

**Re: Ontario Drinking Water Source Protection Program**

It is with great concern that I write you today regarding recent news that the Province's funding for source protection authorities to implement the requirements of the *Clean Water Act* may be in jeopardy. Source Water Protection is the first step in the multi-barrier approach to drinking water protection, and a lack of funding is sure to put the public safety of Ontarians at risk.

As you know, in 2000 a tragedy related to municipal water in Walkerton led to the death of six people and many others who to this day continue to suffer with ongoing health consequences from that tragic event. Eighteen years later, however, residents of Ontario have greater confidence in the safety of the water at their taps, due in large part to the ongoing partnership between the Provincial government, Source Protection Authorities, and municipalities, through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program.

This program, based on the tenets of sound science and local decision making, has resulted in the development of 38 Source Protection Plans. In the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region alone, the implementation of our plan has removed over 2000 threats to municipal drinking water. The removal of these threats has come about with minimal economic burden to Ontario families and businesses.

While great progress has been made, more critical work remains to be done. Additional threats to drinking water still remain on the landscape and with the pace of development and changes in land use, ongoing vigilance is necessary to ensure that new threats are not inadvertently created. Maintaining confidence in the safety of our drinking water requires maintaining the multi-barrier approach, where the partnership between the Province, Source Protection Authorities and municipalities through the Drinking Water Source Protection Program is the most important first step.

The MECP staff premise that the Drinking Water Source Protection is wholly a municipal responsibility and that the cost should be born solely by those municipalities will not result in saving to Ontario tax payers. By decentralizing regional funding, it will ultimately lead to increased costs, losses in efficiencies and subsequent increases in local taxes and development charges. Any increase in development charges will result in the cost being passed onto the potential homebuyers, increasing housing costs and limiting affordability.

The Hon. Rod Phillips  
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
December 6, 2018  
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While large municipalities may have the capacity to deliver a program, many smaller rural municipalities will struggle to afford the additional cost and in these situations risk to the community's source of drinking water will increase.

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors passed a resolution to request that provincial funding provided to Source Protection Authorities be, at a minimum, maintained so that requirements of the *Clean Water Act* can be met, so Ontario residents can remain confident the Province is taking all necessary steps to ensure a safe source of their drinking water.

I would be pleased to provide any additional information that you may require and can be reached @ 905-895-1281 ext 234 or [m.walters@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:m.walters@lsrca.on.ca).

Yours truly,



Michael Walters  
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs  
Jamie McGarvey, Mayor Town of Parry Sound / AMO President  
Ontario's Conservation Authorities c/o Kim Gavine, Conservation Ontario  
Lyn Dollin, Mayor Town of Innisfil / Chair, South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee  
LSRCA Member Municipalities c/o Regional and Municipal Clerks