

# Corporation of the Township of Chisholm

Municipal Office/Council Chambers: 2847 Chiswick Line, Powassan, Ont. P0H 1Z0

Phone (705)724-3526 - Fax (705)724-5099 [info@chisholm.ca](mailto:info@chisholm.ca)

## AGENDA

### COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026 7:00 PM

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER & ACKNOWLEDGE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES AND LAND**

*"We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honor these teachings."*

#### **2. NOTIFICATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

#### **3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

#### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – February 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

#### **5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**

#### **6. PRESENTATION AND DELEGATIONS**

#### **7. OPEN FORUM**

#### **8. MAYOR STAFF COMMITTEE AND GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

- (a) Mayor and Council Reports
  - Mayor – General Update
- (b) Staff Reports
- (c) Committee Reports
  - Minutes, General Government, November 19, 2026 (Encl.)
  - DRAFT Minutes, General Government, February 19, 2026 (Encl.)
- (d) Correspondence
  - North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit, Board of Health 2026 Ontario Budget (Encl.)
  - Municipality of East Ferris, Notice of Public Meeting RE: OP Amendment (Encl.)
  - Township of Southgate, Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act. (Encl.)
  - Mun. of Magnetawan, RE: Broadband Infrastructure Costs (Encl.)

#### **9. REVIEW BUDGET REPORT**

#### **10. PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS**

#### **11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

- (a) Short Term Rentals – Staff Report from CAO Lesley Marshall (Encl.)

#### **12. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) By-law 2026-08, Being a by-law to appoint an Integrity Commissioner (Encl.)
- (b) Building Permit Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2025 (Encl.)
- (c) Dates to consider for Official Plan Review Open House (Encl.)
- (d) Resolution Support, Township of Perry, RE: Reduced Rate Postage for Library Material (Encl.)

#### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

- (a) By-law 2026-09 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting.
- (b) Resolution re: Adjournment.

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## MINUTES COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026 7:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ACKNOWLEDGE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES AND LAND

*"We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honor these teachings."*

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gail Degagne, in Council Chambers at 7:02 p.m., with Councillors, Bernadette Kerr, Claire Riley, Nunzio Scarfone, and Paul Sharp. Staff member present was CAO Lesley Marshall and OS Shawn Hughes(Online).

### 2. NOTIFICATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

#### 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Resolution 2026-25** Bernadette Kerr and Nunzio Scarfone: Be it resolved that the Agenda for this meeting be adopted, with the addition of 11 e. Integrity Commissioner submission summary. 'Carried'

#### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – January 27, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

**Resolution 2026-26** Claire Riley and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Minutes of the January 27, 2026 Regular Council Meeting, be adopted as printed and circulated. 'Carried'

#### 5. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS – January 2026

**Resolution 2026-27** Paul Sharp and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that the January 2026 Payroll in the amount \$32,736.55 and the General Accounts Report in the amount of \$151,424.80, paid in accordance with the approved budget and delegated authority, be received.

### 6. PRESENTATION AND DELEGATIONS

### 7. OPEN FORUM

### 8. MAYOR STAFF COMMITTEE AND GOVERNMENT REPORTS

#### (a) Mayor and Council Reports

- Mayor – General Update on the following topics: Cards, Family Day Event, Landfill Hours changing, Source Water Protection comments due March 1, OP Review, Integrity Commission, AMO sessions, and Compliance Audit Committee.

#### (b) Staff Reports

- Tax Arrears Report (Encl.)
- 2025 Building Permits (Encl.)

#### (c) Committee Reports

- 2025 NBMCA Member Meeting Attendance (Encl.)
- Minutes, Golden Sunshine, December 16, 2025 (Encl.)

(d) Correspondence

- FONOM, Resolution RE: Closure of Sudbury LifeLabs (Encl.)
- FONOM, Resolution RE: Nation-Building Opportunity for Hwy 11 & 17 (Encl.)
- FONOM Conference, May 11-13, 2026 in Timmins (Encl.)
- Resolution Supports RE: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fun (OCIF) (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-28** Claire Riley and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Mayor, Staff, Committee and Correspondence reports be received. **‘Carried’**

**9. REVIEW BUDGET REPORT** – Printed February 5, 2026 (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-29** Nunzio Scarfone and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Budget Report printed February 5, 2026, be received. **‘Carried’**

**10. PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS**

(a) Memo to Council from OS Shawn Hughes Re: Activity Report (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-30** Bernadette Kerr and Claire Riley: Be it resolved that the Activity Report from Operations Superintendent Shawn Hughes, dated January 10, 2026, to February 5, 2026, be received. **‘Carried’**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

(a) Memo from CAO Lesley Marshall Re: Library Agreement (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-31** Nunzio Scarfone and Claire Riley: Be it resolved that the memo dated February 5, 2026 from CAO Lesley Marshall Re: Library Agreement be received and further that agreement, in principle with the noted percentages and language be provided to Union partners, and that the agreement be brought back to the next regular meeting of Council. **‘Carried’**

(b) Memo from CAO Lesley Marshall Re: Recycling Receptacle Landfill (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-32** Claire Riley and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that memo dated February 5, 2026, from CAO Lesley Marshall regarding potential measures to facilitate the transition of Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (IC&I) properties in the new Recycling Collection rules provided as requested at the Council meeting of January 28th, be received. **‘Deferred’**

(c) Knight Piesold Chisholm Landfill Monitoring and Reporting 2024 & 2025 (The first 20 pages are attached. The full document will be sent separately)

**Resolution 2026-33** Paul Sharp and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that the Chisholm Landfill Monitoring and Reporting 2024 & 2025 from Knight Piesold Consulting, be received. **‘Carried’**

(d) Donation Request Powassan Maple Syrup Festival (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-34** Nunzio Scarfone and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Council agrees to donate \$100 to the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival. **‘Carried’**

(e) RFP 2026-01 Integrity Commissioner submission evaluations (Encl.)

**Resolution 2026-35** Claire Riley and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that the Council appoint Probity Municipal Consulting as Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Chisholm for the four-year term contemplated in RFP 2026-01, subject to execution of an agreement. **‘Carried’**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

(a) By-law 2026-07 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council meeting.

**Resolution 2026-36** Nunzio Scarfone and Bernadette Kerr: Be it resolved that by-law 2026-07, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at the February 10, 2026, Council meeting, be read a first, second, and third time and passed this February 10, 2026.

**'Carried'**

(b) Resolution re: Adjournment.

**Resolution 2026-37** Claire Riley and Paul Sharp: Be it resolved that the Council now adjourn this meeting. Time: 7:45 p.m. **'Carried'**

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Mayor, Gail Degagne

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CAO Clerk Treasurer, Lesley Marshall

# Corporation of the Township of Chisholm

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Gail Degagne, Mayor  
Lesley Marshall, CAO Clerk-Treasurer

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 7:00 pm

### CALL TO ORDER & ACKNOWLEDGE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES AND LAND

*"We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honor these teachings."*

Present: Mayor G. Dégagne, Councillors P. Sharpe, N. Scarfone, C. Riley, B. Kerr  
Staff: L. Marshall

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST- None Declared

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Moved by Councillor Sharp, Seconded by Councillor Riley*

*Be it resolved that the Agenda for this meeting be approved with the addition of; item 7: Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, verbal. Carried.*

OPEN FORUM - None

### NEW BUSINESS

**Moved by: Councillor Riley, Seconded by: Councillor Scarfone**

*That Memo dated November 3rd, 2025 from CAO Clerk Treasurer, L. Marshall regarding the Establishment of a Compliance Audit Committee for the 2026 Municipal Election be received; and further that staff be directed to proceed with the recommendations 1 & 2, working towards establishing a Joint Committee Agreement with neighbouring municipalities, and returning the completed by-law to a future meeting of Council. Carried.*

**Moved by: Councillor Kerr, Seconded by: Councillor Scarfone**

*That Memo dated November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from CAO Clerk Treasurer, L. Marshall regarding the Delegation of Authority during Lame Duck Period as it relates to the 2026 Municipal Election be received; and further that staff be directed to prepare the By-law to Delegate Authority to the CAO during Restricted periods for an upcoming meeting of Council. Carried.*

**Moved by: Councillor Sharp, Seconded by: Councillor Kerr**

*That resolution 2025-239 from the Municipality of East Ferris be received, in conjunction with summary reports from Conservation Ontario and relevant news articles regarding the Consolidation of Conservation Authorities in Ontario, and further that Council recommends it be added to the next regular agenda. Carried.*

**Moved by: Councillor Sharp, Seconded by: Councillor Kerr**

*That updating costing from Voter View and Vote-by-mail be received, and further that staff be instructed to bring back a by-law authorizing alternative voting methods, and the execution of the necessary agreements.*  
**Carried.**

**Moved By: Councillor Riley, Seconded by: Councillor Sharp**

*That report dated November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from CAO Clerk Treasurer regarding ROMA Delegation Requests be received;*

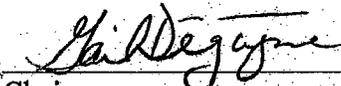
*And further that decisions regarding attendance at this event by municipal staff and officials be determined at a future date based on our success in obtaining a Ministry Delegation, and Council's determination of the value of said meeting, at that time. Carried.*

CAO Clerk Treasurer gave a brief verbal summary of Procedural By-law items to be discussed at an upcoming meeting, as well as the Pothole Prevention and Repair Program, for which an application has been completed. Monetary allotment, as decided by the Ministry of Transportation has yet to be determined, but will be brought to Council for approval when available.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by: Councillor Sharp, Seconded by: Councillor Scarfone**

*Be it resolved that this meeting be adjourned at 8:00pm. Carried.*



Chairperson



CAO Clerk-Treasurer

# Corporation of the Township of Chisholm

GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - February 19, 2026 7:00 pm - DRAFT

## CALL TO ORDER & ACKNOWLEDGE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES AND LAND

*"We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honor these teachings."*

Present: Mayor G. Degagne, Councillors P. Sharpe, C. Riley, B. Kerr

Absent: N. Scarfone

Staff: L. Marshall

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST-** None Declared

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved by Councillor Sharp, Seconded by Councillor Riley**

Be it resolved that the agenda for this meeting be approved as presented **Carried.**

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**Moved by: Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Sharp**

Be it resolved that the minutes of the November 19, 2025 General Government Committee meeting be adopted as printed and circulated. **Carried.**

## NEW BUSINESS

**Moved by: Councillor Riley, Seconded by: Councillor Kerr**

That Memo dated November 3rd, 2025 from CAO Clerk Treasurer, L. Marshall regarding Suggested Procedural Amendments to by-law 2023-16 be received;

And further that staff are directed to review language proposals and amendments with the Integrity Commissioner and bring back recommendations to a future Regular meeting of Council. **Carried.**

**Moved by: Councillor Kerr, Seconded by: Councillor Scarfone**

That Staff Report from L. Marshall regarding Election Reminders, be received. **Carried.**

CAO Clerk Treasurer gave a brief verbal summary of the previous discussions regarding Short Term Rentals, and the staff recommendation that a report be brought back to Council to allow for some forward-facing language should inquiries be received.

CAO Clerk Treasurer spoke to some further suggestions regarding formatting of minutes that Council be phased in, without need for procedural by-law amendment. This would result in more secure resolution language.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Moved by: Councillor Kerr, Seconded by: Councillor Sharp**

Be it resolved that this meeting be adjourned at 8:09pm. **Carried.**

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Chairperson

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CAO Clerk-Treasurer

February 13, 2026

**SENT ELECTRONICALLY**

Dear Honourable Ministers, Members of Provincial and Federal Parliament, and Stakeholders,

**Re: Board of Health Resolution and Recommendations for the 2026 Ontario Budget Consultation – Strengthening Social Assistance Rates**

The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit) is writing to share the recent motion passed and correspondence sent by our Board of Health to the Province of Ontario for the 2026 Ontario Budget Consultation. Based on the results of our 2025 food and housing affordability data, our key recommendations are to increase Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) rates, and to index OW rates to inflation.

Annually, public health agencies in Ontario monitor food affordability as a requirement of the Ontario Public Health Standards.<sup>1</sup> This involves estimating food costs using the Ontario Nutritious Food Basket (ONFB) survey and examining them in relation to local rent rates within a variety of household income scenarios. Year after year, the results show that households with social assistance through OW or ODSP as their main income do not have enough money for the costs of living, including food.<sup>2</sup>

The rent data typically utilized in food affordability reporting is sourced from the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).<sup>3</sup> These rates are often criticized as they reflect averages that include long-standing rental agreements that maintain affordability and therefore are not representative of rates faced by households entering the rental market. In 2025, the Health Unit undertook a pilot project examining market rent data in North Bay and Parry Sound to determine how current rental rates compare with CMHC data. Both data sets are valuable, providing insight into the financial circumstances of households in longer-standing rental situations, and the reality for households who moved to new rental housing in 2025. Together with ONFB data, these data sets show that social assistance rates fall short of what is needed to cover housing and food expenses, with the situation being very dire for households who were seeking new rental housing in 2025.<sup>2</sup>

The 2025 factsheets on food and housing affordability for North Bay and Parry Sound are now available on the [Health Unit website](#). They present the financial situation of a single adult, and a single adult with two school-aged children, as about 95% of households receiving OW in Nipissing and Parry Sound districts are single adults.<sup>4,5</sup> Although these scenarios only present rent and food costs, the urgent need for higher OW rates is clear. Current amounts are significantly mismatched with the real costs of living.

This information provides important local context about food and housing affordability. Adequate income is a foundational social determinant of health that significantly influences housing and food security. Recent homelessness data from the Nipissing District revealed that over 80% of people identifying as homeless had OW or ODSP as their main income. Respondents also cited low income and rent as the top barriers to finding housing.<sup>6</sup> Homelessness and food insecurity continue to escalate in our district, with significant health consequences.<sup>6-10</sup> Strengthening social assistance is a critical component of increasing income security for many of the lowest income households in Ontario. Sharing this information with

decision makers ensures they are aware of the local situation and that evidence from our district is available to inform policy decisions. The Health Unit's recent work to share local context to decision-makers related to affordability also includes our submission for the 2025-2030 Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy consultation.

At its meeting on January 28, 2026, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #BOH/2026/01/12.

**Whereas**, the Ontario Public Health Standards require public health agencies to monitor food affordability, and assess and report on the health of local populations, describing the existence and impact of health inequities including housing and food insecurity; and

**Whereas**, income is an important social determinant of health that greatly impacts a household's ability to pay for the basic costs of living, including housing and food; and

**Whereas**, food insecurity and housing insecurity have detrimental impacts on physical and mental health; and

**Whereas**, the 2025 North Bay Parry Sound food affordability results show that households with social assistance as their main income do not have enough money for the costs of living; and

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit continues to support in principle the efforts of staff to monitor, raise awareness about, and work to reduce health inequities including poverty, homelessness, and household food insecurity; and

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit calls on the Province of Ontario to strengthen social assistance by increasing OW and ODSP rates to reflect the costs of living, and index Ontario Works rates to inflation as part of the 2026 Ontario budget; and

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit provide correspondence of these resolutions to district municipalities, Ontario Boards of Health, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Michael Parsa (Minister of Children, Community and Social Services), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health), the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), Pauline Rochefort, MP (Nipissing-Timiskaming), Scott Aitchison, MP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB), District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH).

Sincerely,



Rick Champagne (Feb 17, 2026 15:49:48 EST)

Rick Champagne  
Chairperson, Board of Health



Dr. Carol Zimbalatti, M.D., CCFP, MPH  
Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer

## References

1. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Population health assessment and surveillance protocol, 2018. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario. 2018. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-population-health-assessment-surveillance-protocol-2018-en.pdf>
2. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit. Household food insecurity. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.myhealthunit.ca/en/health-topics/food-insecurity.aspx>
3. Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Rental market report. October 2025. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www03.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/hmip-pimh/en/TableMapChart/Table?TableId=2.1.31.2&GeographyId=35&GeographyTypeId=2&DisplayAs=Table&GeographyName=Ontario#Apartment>
4. District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board. Ontario Works data portal. 2024. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.dnssab.ca/en/data-portal/ow-data-portal/>
5. District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board. Personal communication with J. Degagne, December 17, 2025.
6. District of Nipissing Social Service Administration Board. Nipissing counts. 2024. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.dnssab.ca/media/2kwlugre/2024-nipissing-pit-count-infographic.pdf>
7. Donaldson J, Wang D, Escamilla C, Turner A. Municipalities under pressure: The human and financial cost of Ontario's homelessness crisis. HelpSeeker. 2025. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.helpseeker.org/reports/municipalities-under-pressure-the-human-and-financial-cost-of-ontarioshomelessnesscrisis>
8. Homelessness hub. Homelessness 101: health. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://homelesshub.ca/collection/homelessness-101/health/>
9. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Household food insecurity snapshot. 2025. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Health-Equity/Household-Food-Insecurity>
10. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Food insecurity & food affordability in Ontario. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario. April 2025. Accessed January 5, 2026.
11. Government of Ontario. Budget consultations. December 23, 2025. Accessed January 5, 2026. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/budget-consultations>

FEB 09 2026



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Proposed Amendments to the East Ferris Official Plan**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Municipality of East Ferris will hold the statutory public meeting on Wednesday **February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30pm** by the **Planning Advisory Committee** for the purpose of receiving public comment and reviewing the proposed amendments and making a recommendation to Council. The Planning Advisory Committee will be considering an amendment to the East Ferris Official Plan under Section 17 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended. The public meeting will be held in Council Chambers at the East Ferris Municipal Office – 25 Taillefer Road, Corbeil, ON. P0H 1K0.

**EXPLANATION OF THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE  
PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT**

The purpose and effect of the proposed amendment to the East Ferris Official Plan is to amend section 5.5.6 of the East Ferris Official Plan.

The intent of the proposed policy amendment is to make changes to the subdivision phasing policies that apply to certain residential development projects in the Municipality. The changes would provide greater flexibility for multiple residential development projects to proceed simultaneously.

A key map has not been provided as this policy amendment is not site specific and affects the entirety of East Ferris.

**Any Person** may attend the Public Meeting and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed amendments.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY** does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make a written submission to the Municipality of East Ferris Planning Advisory Committee or Council in respect to the proposed policy amendments before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the Official Plan Amendment, the person or public body may not be entitled to appeal the decision of the Municipality of East Ferris to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

**IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY** does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make a written submission to the Municipality of East Ferris Planning Advisory Committee or Council in respect to the proposed policy amendments before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the Official Plan Amendment, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

**IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED** of the decision of the Council of the Municipality of East Ferris in respect to the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Municipality or the Director of Community Services of the Municipality.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** related to the proposed Official Plan Amendment is available during regular office hours at the Municipal office.

Please contact **Greg Kirton, Director of Community Services** either by email at [greg.kirton@eastferris.ca](mailto:greg.kirton@eastferris.ca) or by telephone at 705-752-2740 (ext. 223) for further information.

Dated at the Municipality of East Ferris – February 3, 2026

**Schedule A**

**Draft Official Plan Amendment**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF EAST FERRIS**

**DRAFT BY-LAW NO. 2026-XX**

**OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT No. 2026-01**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of East Ferris has proposed an amendment to the Official Plan of the Municipality of East Ferris;

**AND WHEREAS** the Municipality of East Ferris has ensured that adequate information has been made available to the public and has held at least one public meeting after due notice for the purpose of informing the public of this By-law;

**AND WHEREAS** it is deemed desirable to amend section 5.5.6 of the Official Plan of the Municipality of East Ferris, as outlined below, pursuant to Section 17 of the Planning Act R.S.O. 1990, as amended;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of East Ferris enacts as follows:

1. That the Official Plan for the Municipality of East Ferris be amended, as follows:
  - a. By deleting Section 5.5.6 and replacing it with the following:

"5.5.6 Estate Residential – Phasing

New applications for development projects in the Estate Residential designation will be evaluated based on the demand for the proposed type of development. Consideration will be given to multiple Estate Residential projects at one time, provided that reasonable justification is shown for their need. The form of development, lot pattern, lot sizes and geographic location will be among the factors considered when evaluating new Estate Residential projects.

The municipality may consider requiring phasing for new development projects if a need for the development is not clearly identified. Holding zones, as outlined in section 9.8 of this plan, may be utilized to manage phased developments."
2. Notice of this By-law shall be given by the Clerk in the manner and form and to the persons prescribed by Section 4 of O.Reg. 543/06 as amended.
3. Where no notice of appeal is filed with the Clerk of the Municipality of East Ferris within twenty (20) days after the day that the giving of written notice as required by the Act is completed, then this By-law shall be deemed to have come into force on the day after the last day for filing an appeal.
4. Where one or more notices of appeal are filed with the Clerk of the Municipality of East Ferris within twenty (20) days after the day that the giving of written notice as required by the Act is completed, setting out the objection to the By-law and the reasons in support of the objection, then this By-law shall not come into force until all appeals have been finally disposed of, where upon the By-law shall be deemed to have come into force on the day after the last day all appeals have been finally disposed of.

**READ A FIRST AND SECOND** time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

**READ A THIRD TIME, AND FINALLY** passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor  
Richard Champagne

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk  
Kim Rose

**Township of Southgate**  
**Administration Office**  
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1  
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



**Phone:** 519-923-2110  
**Toll Free:** 1-888-560-6607  
**Fax:** 519-923-9262  
**Web:** www.southgate.ca

February 20, 2026

**Re: Township of Southgate – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025**

Please be advised that at the February 18, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-073

**Moved By** Councillor Shipston

**Seconded By** Councillor Ferguson

**WHEREAS** arable land is a critical finite resource; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Southgate support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

**That** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

*Lindsey Green*

Lindsey Green, Clerk  
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness  
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs  
Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and  
Trade  
MPP Paul Vickers – Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound  
Senator Rob Black  
Ontario Federation of Agriculture  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Municipalities in Ontario



RESOLUTION NO. 2026-20

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Moved by: [Signature]

Seconded by: [Signature]

WHEREAS reliable, high-speed internet access is essential infrastructure that supports economic development, housing construction, healthcare, education, municipal operations, and overall community well-being;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has recognized the importance of digital infrastructure through the Accelerating Access to Broadband for Ontario Act, 2021, which seeks to expand broadband access to all Ontarians, particularly in underserved and rural communities;

AND WHEREAS access to affordable high-speed internet is a necessary precondition to achieving provincial and federal housing, economic development, and population growth targets;

AND WHEREAS Bell Canada currently offers dedicated fibre internet services at the following indicative rates under a five (5) year term within a regulated area: 100 Mbps / 100 Mbps \$1,010 per month, 500 Mbps / 500 Mbps \$3,090 per month and 1 Gbps / 1 Gbps \$3,250 per month.

AND WHEREAS such pricing structures place dedicated fibre services beyond the financial reach of many municipalities, small businesses, housing developments, non-profit organizations, and community facilities;

AND WHEREAS unaffordable broadband infrastructure costs undermine the intent of provincial and federal legislation aimed at universal access to high-speed internet, including federal programs administered by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) and regulatory oversight by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC);

AND WHEREAS affordable, high-speed internet access is essential infrastructure and a foundational requirement for inclusive growth, housing delivery, and community resilience and municipalities are required to plan for growth, housing, and economic competitiveness, yet have no say in telecommunications pricing and market structures;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the CRTC to examine the affordability of dedicated fibre pricing and its impact on municipal infrastructure, housing development, and equitable internet access;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the Government of Ontario to work with telecommunications providers to ensure that broadband infrastructure costs do not impede the objectives of the Accelerating Access to Broadband for Ontario Act, 2021 and the Building Faster Homes and More Choice Act, 2022;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon Bell Canada to review and revise its dedicated fibre pricing models to ensure they are affordable, transparent, and scaled appropriately for municipalities, community institutions, and local development projects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Magnetawan calls upon the Government of Canada, including ISED, to strengthen affordability requirements tied to federal broadband funding and universal access programs;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada Mark Carney, the Honourable Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Honourable Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, Bell Canada, the CRTC, FONOM, AMO, NOMA, and all Ontario municipalities through AMCTO.

Carried  Defeated  Deferred

[Signature]  
Sam Dunnett, Mayor

Recorded Vote Called by: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded Vote

Member of Council	Yea	Nay	Absent
Bishop, Bill			
Hetherington, John			
Hind, Jon			
Kneller, Brad			
Mayor: Dunnett, Sam			

## Staff Report

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Lesley Marshall, CAO / Clerk-Treasurer

Date: February 20, 2026

Subject: Short-Term Rentals

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### Recommendation

That Council approve the use of the following standardized, forward-facing language when responding to public inquiries regarding short-term rentals in the Township of Chisholm:

*The Township of Chisholm has not adopted a licensing or governance by-law specific to short-term rental accommodations. Short-term rentals are therefore subject to the same municipal by-laws as other residential properties. Any complaints or concerns related to short-term rental properties, such as noise, parking, or property standards, are addressed through the Township's by-law enforcement process.*

### Background

Council previously directed staff to monitor and track complaints related to short-term rental accommodations within the Township.

Since that direction was given, very few complaints have been received, and those that have occurred were addressed through existing by-law enforcement tools. No pattern of issues has been identified that would suggest a need for additional regulation at this time.

### Discussion

The Township currently does not have a licensing or governance by-law specific to short-term rentals. Properties operating as short-term rentals are subject to all applicable municipal by-laws, including those related to noise, parking, nuisance, and property standards.

The development and administration of a formal short-term rental licensing regime would require:

- new policy development;
- procedures and enforcement mechanisms;
- fee structures;
- administrative oversight and staffing resources; and

- ongoing compliance monitoring.

Given the limited number of complaints received, staff are of the opinion that implementing such a framework would be cost-prohibitive and disproportionate to the level of demonstrated need.

In addition, licensing regimes can introduce legal and financial risk, including costs associated with enforcement actions, disputes, appeals, and potential litigation. Maintaining the current approach allows the Township to address issues on an as-needed basis, using established by-law enforcement processes that are already in place and understood.

#### Future Review

Should Council wish to consider further regulation of short-term rentals, staff recommend that the matter be reviewed as part of a comprehensive zoning by-law review, where land use considerations, enforcement implications, administrative capacity, and financial impacts can be evaluated collectively. Council may determine at that time whether additional regulation or licensing is warranted.

#### Conclusion

The recommended approach provides clarity and consistency in responding to public inquiries, reflects current Township practice, and balances enforcement needs with administrative and financial realities, while preserving Council's ability to revisit the issue in the future.

# CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHISHOLM

## BY-LAW NUMBER 2026-08

*A by-law to appoint Probity Municipal Consulting as the Integrity Commissioner for the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm pursuant to Section 223.3 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended*

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

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act authorizes the Township of Chisholm to establish codes of conduct for members of Council and to appoint an Integrity Commissioner who reports to Council;

AND WHEREAS an Integrity Commissioner is responsible for performing in an independent manner the functions assigned by the township;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act, pursuant to Part V.1, Accountability and Transparency, requires all municipalities in Ontario to appoint an Integrity Commissioner to perform the following functions:

1. The application of the code of conduct for members of council and the code of conduct for members of local boards;
2. The application of any procedures, rules and policies of the township and local boards governing the ethical behaviour of members of council and of local boards;
3. The application of sections 5, 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act to members of council and of local boards;
4. Requests from members of council and of local boards for advice respecting their obligations under the code of conduct applicable to the member;
5. Requests from members of council and of local boards for advice respecting their obligations under a procedure, rule or policy of the township or of the local board governing the ethical behaviour of members;
6. Requests from members of council and of local boards for advice respecting their obligations under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act; and

7. The provision of educational information to members of council, members of local boards, the township and the public about the township's codes of conduct and the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

**NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm enacts as follows:**

1. That Probity Municipal Consulting is hereby appointed as the Integrity Commissioner for the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm pursuant to Part V.1 of the Municipal Act.
2. That upon appointment, Probity Municipal Consulting shall have all the functions, powers and duties of an Integrity Commissioner as set out in Part V.1 of the Municipal Act, and such additional duties as may be assigned by Council from time to time.
3. That the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm hereby indemnifies and saves harmless the Integrity Commissioner or any person acting under the instructions of the Integrity Commissioner for costs reasonably incurred in connection with the defence of a proceeding if the proceeding relates to an act done in good faith in the performance of a function under Part V.1 of the Municipal Act.
4. That the appointment shall be in accordance with an agreement attached hereto as Schedule "A."
5. That this By-law shall come into force and take effect upon the passing thereof.

READ a first, second and third time and passed this 24th day of February, 2026.

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Mayor, Gail Degagne

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CAO Clerk-Treasurer, Lesley Marshall



# Probity Municipal Consulting

Specializing in Small Rural & Northern Communities  
236407 Wendigo Lake Rd, PO Box 171,  
Englehart, ON P0J 1H0

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Township of Chisholm  
2847 Chiswick Line  
Powassan, Ontario, P0H 1Z0

Via Email - [L.marshall@chisholm.ca](mailto:L.marshall@chisholm.ca)

**Attention: Ms. Lesley Marshall – CAO / Clerk-Treasurer**

February 20, 2026

Dear Ms. Marshall:

**RE: LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT – Integrity Commissioner**

The following outlines the considerations pursuant to our appointment as Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Chisholm:

**1. Undertaking**

The Township of Chisholm is contracting the services of Probity Municipal Consulting; hereinafter referred to as PMC, as Integrity Commissioner as set out respectfully in Section 223.3(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, R.S.O. 1990*; hereinafter referred to as the “Act”.

As Integrity Commissioner for the Township of Chisholm, PMC shall carry out the roles and responsibilities of the Office as outlined in the “Act”, (as amended) and the Integrity Commissioner protocol of the Township of Chisholm (as amended).

**2. Fees and Payments<sup>1</sup>**

Fees will be based on time spent in connection with carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Integrity Commissioner as outlined in the “Act” and the Integrity Commissioner protocol of the Township of Chisholm (as amended).

An hourly rate of \$150 shall apply to all Integrity Commissioner services, including the provision of advice, complaint review and screening, investigations, reporting, and attendance at meetings or hearings where required. Time is billed only for work actually performed. While it is likely that most investigations can be conducted remotely, if attendance in Chisholm is a necessity of any investigation, all travel and accommodation would be in addition to the hourly fee.

Educational sessions conducted in a workshop setting for Council or Local Board orientation or similar purposes will be invoiced at a cost of \$1,000 per day plus travel, accommodation and other costs, for the term of this agreement. These workshops would be limited to one

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<sup>1</sup> All rates are subject to HST if applicable.



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PMC presenter. Additional presenters can be added for an additional cost which would be negotiated on an as needed basis.

Every effort will be taken to keep disbursements to a minimum using technology when appropriate. Disbursements incurred in connection with providing advice, any investigation or workshop include postage, deliveries, travel expenses, photocopying and other reasonable expenses and office charges.

Accommodation costs will be based on expenses incurred and mileage will be billed at a rate equivalent to the Treasury Board of Canada; adjusted annually or as adjusted by the Treasury Board. The current rate is 70 cents per kilometre.

In the event our participation is required in any legal proceeding; our hourly investigative rate of \$150 per hour for the term of this agreement will apply for preparation and participation. Should such a circumstance arise a new Letter of Engagement will be necessary.

An invoice will be delivered by email to the attention of the CAO or designate on the first of every month for work carried out during the previous month and immediately after the completion of any final report; as necessary.

PMC reserves the right to increase investigative, advisory and workshop rates annually to keep pace with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Ontario. Any and all changes will be communicated in writing to the Chief Administrative Officer or designate at the time of change.

### 3. Third Parties

It is not the intention of PMC to use third parties for any advice or investigation. Should circumstances arise where a third party needs to be engaged, PMC will obtain prior approval from the Township of Chisholm.

### 4. Product

Documents, workshop presentations, voice recordings, handwritten notes and any draft reports are the property of PMC and will be retained as part of our file.

Any work product that is not considered confidential, may not be reproduced without prior permission.

### 5. Confidentiality

In keeping with Section 223.5 of the "Act", as amended, any work as well as any and all information obtained during the course of any investigation will be kept strictly confidential and not disclosed except as may be required by law.

### 6. Indemnity

The Township of Chisholm agrees to indemnify and save harmless PMC, in connection with the exercise of duties under Section 223.3(1) (*Integrity Commissioner*) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, provided that such actions were taken in good faith and within the scope of PMC's authority, against any and all claims, demands, suits, or other proceedings, including:



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- costs, damages, losses, liabilities, and expenses; and
  - reasonable legal fees incurred in defending such claims,

that may be made against PMC by a third party arising out of this agreement or any duties of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner.

This indemnification shall not apply to the extent that such costs, damages, liabilities, or expenses result directly from negligent, dishonest, or fraudulent acts committed by PMC in the course of its undertakings.

## 7. Termination of Services

This Letter of Engagement shall be effective from the date of signing and shall continue for a term of four (4) years.

Either party may terminate this agreement in writing at any time, with such notice being provided ninety (90) days in advance of the actual termination date. Should events arise prohibiting PMC from carrying out our obligations under this agreement; in keeping with professional standards, PMC reserves the right to terminate our services at any time with the same ninety (90) day notification.

If the Township of Chisholm terminates our services, or if services are withdrawn, fees up to the termination date will be invoiced and owing.

## 8. Reporting

All reporting will be conducted in keeping with the applicable sections of the "Act" and the policies of the Township of Chisholm.

Progress reporting for any responsibility of the Office of Integrity Commissioner will be done on a bi-weekly basis or as otherwise arranged. Such reporting will be limited to details as to what has transpired and not judgements as to the merit of the allegation, nor identity of witnesses or witness statements/information (in the case of an investigation). Should you have questions or pertinent information respecting any investigation please bring these matters to my attention as soon as possible.

PMC will make every attempt to complete all reports within a reasonable amount of time, notwithstanding delays that may not be of our doing.



# Probity Municipal Consulting

Specializing in Small Rural & Northern Communities  
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Englehart, ON P0J 1H0

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We look forward to working with you and the Township of Chisholm.

Respectfully,

**Chris Wray, AMCT**  
**Managing Partner**

On behalf of the Township of Chisholm, I agree to the terms of the letter of engagement and by signing below confirm that I am authorized to accept said terms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

I have authority to bind the Corporation

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Title**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

I have authority to bind the Corporation

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Title**



# Probity Municipal Consulting

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Chris Wray, AMCT  
Senior Partner & President

**Corporation of the Township of Chisholm**

**Building Permit Fee Annual Report**

**For the year ending December 31, 2025**

This report is issued pursuant to the requirements of Section 7(4) of the Building Code Act, as amended. This report sets out the Total Fees collected, a summary of the indirect and direct costs of administration and enforcement and the statement of reserve funds for building services.

**Total Fees:**

*Total Fees collected for the period  
January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025  
Under By-Law 2023-39 of the Township of Chisholm* **\$ 33,772.94**

**Cost of Delivery Services:**

*Direct Costs of administration and enforcement of the Act,  
Including the review of applications for permits and the  
Inspection of buildings.* **\$ (16,815.28)**

*Indirect Costs of administration and enforcement of the Act,  
Including support and overhead costs, staff training,  
Information technology, accommodation, insurance and  
Legal services.* **\$ (12,863.52)**

*Clerical support - 2 days/month (30.26 @ 15 x 12)* **\$ (5,184.00)**

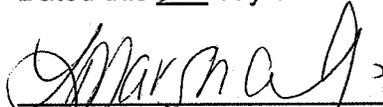
*Chief Building Official (CBO) Module (\$306.60 x 4)* **\$ (1,226.40)**

**Total Costs of Delivering Services: \$ 36,089.20**

**Expenditures over Revenue as of December 31, 2025 (\$ 2,316.26)**

**Statement of Building Dept. Reserve Fund as of December 31, 2025 \$ 29,134.58**

Dated this 30 day of January, 2026

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lesley Marshall, CAO Clerk-Treasurer  
Township of Chisholm

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

**Date:** February 20, 2026

**Subject:** Direction Requested – Official Plan Review Open House Dates

In order to allow JL Richards and Staff to prepare required public notices and confirm the event format for the Official Plan Review open house, direction is requested from Council on preferred dates.

The following dates are being considered:

- **March 30 or March 31, or**
- **April 8 or April 9**

These options best align with the availability of Township and JL Richards staff, our meeting schedule, Statutory Holidays, and Ministry feedback timelines.

Should none of these dates prove acceptable, we will offer additional dates.



**The Corporation of the  
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

**Moved By:** Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

**Whereas** public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

**And whereas** interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

**And whereas** reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

**And whereas** recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

**Now therefore be it resolved that** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

**And that** Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;

**And that** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Joel Lightbound, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement, Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka, Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities for support.

Carried:  Defeated:    
Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
Council	For	Against
<b>Councillors</b> Jim Cushman		
Joe Lumley		
Margaret Ann MacPhail		
Paul Sowrey		
<b>Mayor</b> Norm Hofstetter		