

The Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin

Council Meeting July 8, 2020

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CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN
AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, July 8, 2020 9:00 a.m.

ZOOM MEETING You Tube Channel: South Algonquin Council

1. Open Meeting/Call to order – 9:00 a.m.
2. Additions / Amendments to the Agenda
3. Adoption of the Agenda

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated for the Regular Council meeting of July 8, 2020.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
5. Petitions, Delegations and/or Presentations
6. Minutes of Previous Meetings (s)
 - i. Adopt the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 3, 2020
 - ii. Adopt the Minutes of the Emergency Services Meeting of June 17, 2020

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 3, 2020.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	

TOTALS	
Carried:	
Defeated by:	

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Emergency Services Meeting of June 17, 2020 as circulated.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:	
Defeated by:	

7. Committee, Staff and/or Councillor Reports
8. Business Arising from the Minutes
9. Unfinished Business
10. Correspondence – Action Items
11. Correspondence – Information Items
12. New Business
13. Motions of Council

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“WHEREAS The Government has amended Regulation 719 under the Liquor Licence Act (LLA) to provide flexibility for liquor sales licensees (e.g. licensed bars and restaurants) to temporarily extend their physical premises beyond 14 days provided they have municipal approval and meet certain requirements and; **WHEREAS** the regulation states once they are again permitted to welcome patrons on-site and until January 1, 2021 at 3:00 a.m., liquor sales licensees who wish to temporarily extend the physical size of their existing licensed patio or to temporarily add a new licensed patio within the approved period, are authorized to do so, if the following criteria are met:

1. The physical extension of the premises is adjacent to the premises to which the licence to sell liquor applies;
2. The municipality in which the premises is situated has indicated it does not object to an extension;
3. The licensee is able to demonstrate sufficient control over the physical extension of the premises;
4. There is no condition on the liquor sales licence prohibiting a patio; and
5. The capacity of any new patio, or extended patio space where the licensee has an existing licensed patio, does not exceed 1.11 square metres per person;

THEREFORE Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin grants municipal approval to provide flexibility for liquor sales licensees to temporarily extend their physical premises conditional that they meet the requirements as outlined by the Alcohol Gaming Commission of Ontario, Consult with Renfrew County District Health Unit, and adhere to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act(AODA) and; **FURTHER THAT** the licensed business must arrange for parking as they may use their parking area for the patios to ensure parking overflow is not on a travelled area and;

FURTHER THAT the extended or new patio area which meets criteria as set out also does not restrict sidewalks or township roads and;

FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Alcohol Gaming Commission of Ontario.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin awards Tender SA2020-04 ‘Tandem Truck and Plow Unit’ to Winslow Gerolamy Motors Ltd. for \$271,545.00 excluding HST.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin awards Tender SA2020-05 ‘One (1) New Half Ton 4x4 Pickup Truck’ to Hunter Ford Sales Limited for \$35,637.00 excluding HST
AND THAT Council approves the purchase of fitted attachments for approximately \$10,000.00.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin approves staff to prepare and advertise a tender for the purchase of a 350/3500 class truck for the Madawaska Station.
AND THAT the truck will be funded from the Fire Equipment Reserve.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin direct staff to sign the Engagement Letter with KPMG for the completion of the Municipal Modernization Study in the amount of \$27,500, which is funded by a grant received from MMAH.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	

	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:	Seconded by:	

“**WHEREAS** electronic meetings allow councillors to meet safely with no chance of transmitting or contracting COVID-19, and

WHEREAS electronic meetings save tax payers money by reducing travel cost for each meeting to and from the Township office, and

WHEREAS electronic meetings allow council, staff, and people giving delegations the convenience of not having to drive long distances and avoid snowy/dangerous driving conditions to the council chambers, and Whereas electronic meetings allow for broader engagement across our constituency due to the widespread accessibility of YouTube, and

WHEREAS electronic meetings provide acceptable audio and video of all meeting participants in a professional manner, and

WHEREAS electronic meetings allow closed captions for the hearing impaired using a free feature of YouTube, further expanding council's reach to our consistency, and

Whereas electronic meetings demonstrate accountability and transparency through record and permanent placement on online,

WHEREAS in response to the emergency COVID19 pandemic Municipalities throughout Ontario have developed procedures and amended by-laws to successfully continue the business of their organization proving that meeting electronically is a viable option,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Township of South Algonquin is asking the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to amend the Municipal Act such that all Municipal Council in Ontario can chose to continue electronic meetings beyond the term of the emergency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be forwarded to; the Honourable Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; local MPP; and all Municipalities with the Province of Ontario.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

14. Notice of Motions

15. By-Laws

- Tax Capping Options

COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
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FIRST and SECOND READING

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

“**BEING A BY-LAW** to adopt optional tools for the purposes of administering limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the year 2020,

AND THAT it be read a first and second time and be referred to a committee of the whole council.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
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THIRD READING

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

“**BEING A BY-LAW** to adopt optional tools for the purposes of administering limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the year 2020; as referred by the committee of the whole council;

AND THAT it be read a third time and passed and numbered **20-620** and that the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and CAO/Clerk Treasurer-sealed with the seal of the Corporation and be entered in the By-Law Book.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

- Committee of Adjustment Members

COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
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FIRST and SECOND READING

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

“**BEING A BY-LAW** to constitute and appoint a committee of adjustment for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin,

AND THAT it be read a first and second time and be referred to a committee of the whole council.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Regular Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
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THIRD READING

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

“**BEING A BY-LAW** to constitute and appoint a committee of adjustment for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin; as referred by the committee of the whole council;

AND THAT it be read a third time and passed and numbered **20-621** and that the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and CAO/Clerk Treasurer-sealed with the seal of the Corporation and be entered in the By-Law Book.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

16. Resolution to Move into a “Closed Session”

17. Payment of Accounts

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:		Seconded by:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorizes the payment of all bills as recorded for the meeting of July 8, 2020: Batch 2020-00030 \$27,432.83, Batch 2020-00032 \$240,921.15, Batch 2020-00034 \$53,891.52 and Batch 2020-00036 \$40,016.81.”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

18. Adjournment

RESOLUTION CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN

Date: July 8, 2020	Meeting: Council Meeting	Res. No.: 20-
Moved by:		Seconded by:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the regular meeting of July 8, 2020, at .”

YES		NO
	MAYOR DUMAS	
	COUNCILLOR BONGO	
	COUNCILLOR COLLINS	
	COUNCILLOR FLORENT	
	COUNCILLOR HARPER	
	COUNCILLOR SHALLA	
	COUNCILLOR VERMAIRE	
	TOTALS	

Carried:
Defeated by:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the motion passed by the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley, #20.066, and urges the federal government to revoke the Criminal Code amendment that ordered regulations prescribing certain firearms, components and parts of firearms, accessories, cartridge magazines, ammunition and projectiles as prohibited or restricted.”

Councillor Florent requested a recorded vote:

Councillor Florent-For

Councillor Harper – For

Councillor Shalla -For

Councillor Vermaire-Against

Councillor Bongo- For

Mayor Dumas-For

Councillor Collins- For

-Carried-

14. NOTICE OF MOTIONS: None

15. BY-LAWS:

FIRST AND SECOND READING

Moved by: S. Collins

Seconded by: J. Vermaire

Res. # 20-095

“BEING A BY-LAW to establish a Schedule of Fees for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin,

AND THAT it be read a first and second time and be referred to a committee of the whole council.”

-Carried-

THIRD READING

Moved by: R. Shalla

Seconded by: J. Florent

Res. # 20-096

“BEING A BY-LAW to establish a Schedule of Fees for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin; as referred by the committee of the whole council;

AND THAT it be read a third time and passed and numbered 20-619 and that the said by-law be signed by the Mayor and CAO/Clerk Treasurer-sealed with the seal of the Corporation and be entered in the By-Law Book.”

-Carried-

16. CLOSED SESSION: None

17. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

Moved by: D. Harper

Seconded by: B. Bongo

Res. # 20-097

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorizes the payment of all bills as recorded for the meeting of June 3, 2020: Batch 2020-00024 \$100.00, Batch 2020-00026 \$111,693.05, Batch 2020-00028 \$19,924.50.”

-Carried-

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: J. Vermaire

Seconded by: D. Harper

Res. # 20-098

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council meeting of June 3, 2020, at 10:47 a.m.”

-Carried-

The next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Jane Dumas

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Holly Hayes

Deputy Clerk Carla Gatley
Recording Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, June 17, 2020 the Emergency Services Committee held a Zoom Meeting broadcasted to YouTube

Council Present:
Mayor Dumas, Chair
Councillor Sandra Collins
Councillor Dave Harper
Councillor Joe Florent
Councillor Bongo
Councillor Richard Shalla
Councillor Joey Vermaire

Township Staff Present:

Holly Hayes, CAO/Clerk Treasurer
Don Kruger, Fire Chief
Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator, *Recording Secretary*

Chair of the Emergency Services Committee, Mayor Dumas called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: D. Harper

Seconded by: R. Shalla

To adopt the agenda as prepared for the Emergency Services Committee meeting of Wednesday, June 17, 2020 as circulated.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None declared

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Chief Don Kruger provided a written report.

Due to Covid-19 all training sessions has stopped. During this time D. Kruger researched and began the process to improve administrative practices and standardized documents, such as lesson plans for future training sessions, began to update Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) and started an inventory of equipment and supplies. IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting 7th Edition and binders have been provided to each member.

Fire Chief Don Kruger provided a second written report.

Discussion regarding vehicles and apparatus for both stations. Currently tender SA2020-05 has been advertised for the purchase of a 4x4 Half-ton Truck. When not being used by the Fire Chief this truck will be stationed at the Whitney Fire Hall and it will be outfitted and used in the same manner as the current rescue truck.

The cube van stationed at the Madawaska Fire Hall is not reliable for its current use. Recommendation is to purchase a 4x4 Super Duty Truck to be stationed at the Madawaska Fire Hall. It can either be purchased through reserve funds, financed or included in the 2021 budget.

Preliminary discussion regarding the request from Ayleen Lake Cottage Association (ALCA) for the township to expand fire services and take on the responsibility of the fire pumps.

CAO/Clerk Treasurer H. Hayes has a meeting this afternoon with District of Nipissing Social Service Administration Board (DNSSAB) regarding the creation of an agreement for the use of the EMS building.

ACTION:

- Resolution to be presented at the July 8th Council meeting for the purchase a 4x4 Super Duty Truck for Madawaska Hall and how it will be financed.
- Staff to do an inventory of surplus equipment/vehicles.
- Councillor Vermaire will request ALCA present their request in writing.
- H. Hayes will update Council on the discussion with DNSSAB.

To adjourn the Emergency Services Committee meeting of June 17, 2020 at 9:48 a.m.

Mayor Jane A.E. Dumas
Emergency Services Committee Chairperson

Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2020

COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS:

- 1) Library Report
- 2) Fire Report
- 3) Administration Report
- 4) Public Works/Operations Report

Township of South Algonquin Public Library
Report to Council
June 30th 2020
Prepared by Charlene Alexander

Recent library board meetings via zoom. June 29th 2020, next meeting August 24th @ 6:30.
The Library is on track with re-opening plans and to begin curbside services starting the week of July 6th.

Re-opening Phase 1

Web OPAC:

Software upgrades have been completed at both branches and links to the collections are active.

Curbside Service:

We have all necessary PPE at both sites.

All items needed to provide this service have been received.

J.R. Booth Exhibit:

Two beautiful, custom cabinets have been built and are on site at the Madawaska branch.

Library board members will arrange a time/date and will begin selecting and packing up collection.

Cynthia has completed some rearranging to accommodate the new collection/cabinets.

Cynthia is coordinating with Adam to move the wall mounted TV to its new location.

Programming

- Medicinal Plant Talk & Guided Walk, Kevin Callan Book Talk, and The National Film Board of Canada: Film Club events are all postponed until the state of emergency has been lifted.
- Virtual Programming: TD summer reading club will be a virtual, self guided program.

Librarians have started making book and capital expenditure purchases.

MONTHLY FIRE REPORT TO COUNCIL

South Algonquin FD

Reporting Date: June 2020

Training / Courses

- Resumed Fire Practice, Madawaska Station used the Reids Rd dry hydrant and did some drafting and pumping practice. Whitney Station used the dry hydrant at Galeairy Lake and did the same. Personnel at both stations completed skill sheets for Water Supply and some for Fire Control.

Calls / Responses

Madawaska Station

- 13th – Fire call @ Riverland Camp, a couple of the abandoned trailers parked in the front burned – Fire Chief was on scene and investigated, nothing definitive on cause.

Whitney Station

Nothing to report

Complaints / Concerns

- Nothing to report

Upcoming Events

- Nothing to report

Correspondence / Other

- 23rd – DC Thom received a call from FF Girouard, he was doing weekly checks and had an issue with truck #534. This is the main pumper and it would not start, he tried to boost it with a charger and Councilor Florent stopped by and tried to boost it with his vehicle. FF Haskin ordered 2 batteries from NAPA that afternoon and installed them the following day. All is good now!
- Meeting with DNSSAB H & S committee about concerns around the Whitney Station and diesel fumes from the fire side seeping into the paramedic side. They recommended removing the door between the two sections (at their cost) and creating some procedures around the idling of the fire apparatus in the bays. An SOG (#509) was created to address the issue and will be presented to the fire department personnel during the July training.

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: 8 July 2020

Agency: Township of South Algonquin

Staff Contact: Don Kruger Fire Chief

Agenda Title:

Agenda Action:

Recommendation

Accept the tender SA 2020-05 proposal from Madoc Ford and have the vehicle prepared and sent to Sterlmar or similar company for installation of lights, sirens, and other necessary accessories.

Prepare a new tender to be submitted for the purchase of a 350/3500 class truck for the Madawaska station to be used for bush/grass fire equipment and response. Use funds from reserve to purchase a new truck for use out of the Madawaska station.

Background

As previously discussed, Car 1 (new truck) will be stationed at the Whitney station when not in use by the Fire Chief for use by the firefighters there. This truck will be prepared and outfitted accordingly to suit the needs of the Whitney station and the Fire Chief, and meet the standards laid out in NFPA 1901 Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, section 13.

A cube van that was previously stationed at the Whitney station was moved to the Madawaska station and has been loaded with bush/grass firefighting equipment.

Analysis

SA firefighters out of the Madawaska station currently have a cube van that is loaded and used to transport bush/grass firefighting equipment and personnel to a fire scene. This vehicle is old (30+ years) and is unreliable because it has trouble starting, and the firefighters complain it has steering issues. It has after-market seatbelts installed that personnel will not use out of safety concerns and has more weight on it than is permitted. The vehicle is also only a two-wheel drive and cannot be driven off a paved surface which is impractical for its use. A 4x4 heavy duty pick-up truck that can seat minimum of 5 firefighters and carry all the needed equipment and gear would be needed if it can be fit into the budget.

Alternatives

Wait until the next budget year and purchase the truck then, Madawaska firefighters continue to use the van as best they can.

Strategic Plan

Addressed in the discussion about fire department equipment and asset management.

Fiscal Impact

This second truck was not budgeted for and the funds would have to come from reserves. Although not inserted in this year's budget the vehicle needs to be purchased to replace the van.

Consultations

District Chief John Stubbs, District Chief Aurel Thom, CAO Holly Hayes

Attachments

All information listed are estimates based on website, not formal quotes and don't include taxes.

Super Duty 350

\$56,494

Model A.R.E. HD Series Material Fiberglass Finish Painted Install Clamp On Type Hard Style Camper Shell Starting at

\$3179

Vehicle Lighting Package

\$3,608.00

95" Ford Cargo Slide:

2,000 LB Capacity Heavy Duty

\$1,995.00

This vehicle outfitted properly would cost roughly \$ 70-75k.

An actual Bush Fire Truck would cost anywhere between \$100-200k depending on how it is outfitted.

ADMIN REPORT July 8, 2020 from the desk of CAO/Clerk/Treasurer as of June 29, 2020

1. **Administration;**

- Office will be open July 6;
 - signs/floor markings will be posted to direct the public into and out different doors,
 - only one person will be permitted at the front counter at a time,
 - planning and building matters will be taken by appointment,
- Economic Development Intern will be starting July 6 and will zoom into the council meeting to meet council.
- Municipal Modernization Proposal is included in the action portion of the council package. A **resolution** is included.
- Resolution** to support lobbying the provincial government to continue to allow Municipal Government to continue to meet using electronic means beyond the timeline of the provincial emergency,
- Andrea Ruzzo has stepped down from the Chair of the library board, offering to volunteer in other ways. A call for board volunteers will be advertised this week, the board will vote to replace the chair at the fall meeting.
- SA2020-07 Asphalt Resurfacing Galeairy Lake Road, Paradise Road and Park Street tender closes on July 7th. A resolution will be presented at the council meeting.
- Library will re-open using curbside pick up July 6, 2020 procedures to reduce risk associated with the spread of COVID19 have been developed and will be followed.

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2. **Finance**

- Budget Control Summary ending June 16, has been provided to council members.

3. **Emergency Management**

- The Pandemic Response Team will start to meet monthly to discuss need for changes to the Pandemic Plan, operations or administration.

Public Works Department Operations Update

From: Dave Gatley, Public Works Superintendent
To: Mayor Dumas & Councillors
Date: June 30, 2020

Health and Safety:

COVID 19 – The majority of the public outdoor privies have been opened for use. One staff member has been designated to clean them twice a week and is following the township's policy. Appropriate signage has also been placed on the privies.

Human Resources:

New Hire – The new full time Public Work Employee started June 8th and is integrating well into daily operation.

Staff – A full time Public Work Employee has been off since June 18 with a personal health issue. We anticipate their return July 2nd.

Canada Summer Jobs – The seasonal employee started June 15th and is contributing to daily operations.

Transportation Services:

Aylen Lake Road –The resident that uses the recently washed out entrance at #1567 Aylen Lake Road has confirmed that it is their primary access and would like it restored. The work will be completed as soon as practical.

Calcium –The majority of the Township's roads have been completed; however, extended periods of dry weather has delayed completion of some roads in the Aylen Lake area. These roads will be completed as soon as possible.

Whitney – Some unauthorized drainage work has occurred that effects a Municipal road and we are working toward a satisfactory resolution with the resident.

Capital Equipment:

Tandem Plow Truck – Only one Tender was received and is over the budgeted amount. The base cost of the unit has increased by about \$38,000 over the Township's 2017 purchase. The supplier has explained that the increase is due to a difference in the Canadian dollar value and steel tariffs. Some discussion is required.

Capital Projects:

Galeairy Lake Road, Paradise Road & Park Street – Layout, ditching and culvert replacement work began on June 17th and is progressing well.

Drilled Wells – All three wells have been complete and are in use.

Galeairy Lake Park Privy Replacement - Only one Tender was received and is over the budgeted amount. Some discussion is required.

COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2020

ACTION:

No Action Items

COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2020

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION:

- 1) FONOM, RE: Media Release
- 2) MMAH, RE: Temporary Suspension of Planning Act Timelines
- 3) Attorney General, RE: ACGO/Patio Sizes
- 4) MMAH, RE: Project Deadline Extension- Municipal Modernization Program
- 5) Ministry of the Solicitor General, RE: CSWB Plan Deadlines
- 6) OPP, RE: Change in Security and Revenue Distribution Processes
- 7) Rural Policy Learning Commons Rural Governance Network, RE: Connecting Rural Canada

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

May 14, 2020

The Federation of Northeastern Ontario Municipalities met on Wednesday, May 13th, 2020, by ZOOM, to discuss the issues and challenges facing their 110 members. Since the COVID19 Pandemic contributed to the cancellation of FONOM's Annual Conference, the Executive and Board have been meeting monthly to understand the changing landscape better. President Danny Whalen said "with several members of the Board sitting at other political tables, it's important that we hear from our members about the impacts the COVID19 Pandemic is having in the North".

The Board reviewed and discussed AMO's Policy Paper on the "OPP Detachment Boards, Building a Framework for Better Policing Governance." The Paper notes that Northern Ontario is unique, but the FONOM Board identified several issues with the DSSAB Boards replacing the current Detachments Boards. Community Policing is distinctive to each Municipality, and the current DSSAB's would not be the best solution for overseeing the Northern OPP Detachments. Several of those issues were;

- The discrepancy between the number of DSSAB Boards to the number of Detachments.
- Representation on some boards, with members of the municipalities with no OPP contracts.
- The concern that this will start a conversation about the creation of Upper Tier or Regional Governments in the North.

During the meeting the Board appointed Sandra Hollingsworth to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Nominations and Community Relations Committee and as our representative to the AMO's Health Task Force. Sandra's experience working in the Health field will be a benefit for our members.

FONOM is an association of some 110 districts/municipalities/cities/towns in Northeastern Ontario mandated to work for the betterment of municipal government in Northern Ontario and to strive for improved legislation respecting local government in the north. It is a membership-based association that draws its members from northeastern Ontario and is governed by an 11-member board.



President Danny Whalen
705-622-2479

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tél.: 416 585-7000



234-2020-2382

June 12, 2020

Dear Heads of Council / Clerks and CAOs:

Nothing is more important than protecting the health and well-being of Ontarians. Since first learning of COVID-19, Ontario has taken decisive action to stop the spread of this deadly virus, and we thank you for your support in our efforts.

We appreciate that the current situation for municipalities is not “business as usual”, and that all municipalities have had to make adjustments to adapt to new priorities and shifting ways of doing business.

When municipalities requested our help, we listened and acted quickly to legislate [changes to the Planning Act and make the necessary regulation to suspend decision-making timelines](#). These changes balanced the need to suspend the timelines that would allow a municipality to refocus time and resources on the COVID-19 outbreak, while allowing councils to continue to make decisions on planning matters as municipal capacity evolved.

As we move forward with our gradual approach that will allow Ontario to emerge from the COVID-19 outbreak, we know that getting shovels in the ground is key to moving forward on the path to economic recovery together. Many municipalities may be well on their way to a more normalized planning review process, and we want to ensure that the land use planning system is in step with a municipality’s expanding capacity during this time. As a result, we intend to end the temporary suspension of the Planning Act timelines as of June 22nd, 2020.

We understand that the safety of your constituents must remain a priority, and that there are certain provincial restrictions in place regarding public gatherings. Therefore, we encourage you to continue to use electronic and virtual channels, as appropriate, to engage and provide the public with an opportunity to make representations on planning matters, while following the advice of Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health.

It is vital for our economic recovery from this outbreak that we work together to help move the planning approvals process forward. We need to continue the important job of creating housing and keeping infrastructure projects moving while also ensuring we maintain public health. Development has always played a key role in supporting growth in our communities, and it will play an especially important role on our road to economic recovery from COVID-19.

Let me assure you that our government is working to support you, our municipal partners, and will continue to work collaboratively to keep all Ontarians safe.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

c. Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building
720 Bay Street
11th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2S9
Tel: 416-326-4000
Fax: 416-326-4007

Procureur général
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Our Reference #: M-2020-6431

June 8, 2020

Dear Head of Council:

We know that people, businesses and municipalities in Ontario have been significantly affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, including our hospitality sector and workers. Restaurants, bars and other licensed establishments like tap houses and breweries play an essential role in the success of local economies and the vibrancy of communities in our province. That is why our government is committed to supporting them, while doing all we can to keep people safe based on the guidance of public health experts.

Early on in this public health emergency the Attorney General led our government's swift action to allow licensed restaurants and bars to offer takeout and delivery of alcohol with food orders, to extend all liquor licenses for three months at no extra cost to licensees and to reduce the minimum price restaurants and bars are required to sell spirits at by 33 per cent.

Last fall Minister Sarkaria tabled the *Smarter for Business, Better for People Act* which, since passed, gives restaurants, bars and breweries the ability to allow dogs in outdoor eating areas, like patios and inside food premises where only pre-packaged and/or low risk foods are served. This change has provided more flexibility and business opportunities to the hospitality sector.

There is still more that can be done. Each of us have heard loud and clear the calls from municipalities and the hospitality sector to allow licensed establishments to extend their outdoor patio licenses for the duration of summer and into the fall. The current process is time-consuming and presents too many barriers for businesses already struggling to succeed in the face of COVID-19.

We are therefore pleased to inform you that, as the Minister responsible for the regulation of alcohol sale and consumption in Ontario, the Attorney General has implemented regulatory changes that give the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) the discretion to allow licensed establishments to temporarily add or increase the size of their patios once they are permitted to reopen. These opportunities will be available to all licensed establishments, whether or not they currently have a patio, and will be subject to any additional requirements set out by the AGCO and municipality (such as by-laws or other restrictions).

The Attorney General and Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Small Business and Red Tape Reduction recognize the need to give licensed establishments certainty as they prepare to operate their businesses safely, successfully and respectful of social distancing protocols. That is why we came together quickly to find an effective solution as Ontario gradually re-opens its economy.

Additionally, we encourage you and your municipal council to look at the options available to support your Main Streets. A few innovative municipalities have considered extending patios onto sidewalks and into parking lots, allowing the alternative use of a section of downtown streets, or transforming public parks into food gardens. We encourage you to consider what may work in your community to support our small businesses.

We look forward to seeing the Ontario spirit in action as licensed establishments take advantage of this latest change and municipalities launch plans to further support their local hospitality sectors this summer while keeping their communities safe and following all public health guidance.

Sincerely,



Doug Downey
Attorney General



Steve Clark
Minister
Municipal Affairs and Housing



Prabmeet Sarkaria
Associate Minister
Small Business and
Red Tape Reduction

June 12, 2020

Dear Chief Administrative Officer,

Thank you for your municipality's participation in the Municipal Modernization Program. The ministry appreciates your commitment to modernizing service delivery and finding efficiencies.

I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is extending project deadlines for municipalities undertaking projects under Intake 1 of the program, in recognition that the COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in project delays.

Despite anything to the contrary in the transfer payment agreement for your project, you may refrain from providing the Interim Progress Report, Draft Report, Third-Party Reviewer's Report and Final Report until the respective extended deadlines set out below, and the Ministry waives any contractual rights under the agreement that would prevent you from doing so. Except for the deadline extensions outlined in this letter, all provisions in the agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Reporting templates are available on Transfer Payment Ontario.

Report	Original Deadline	Extended Deadline
Interim Progress Report	June 15, 2020	June 30, 2020
Draft Report	August 31, 2020	November 13, 2020
Third-Party Reviewer's Report	September 18, 2020	December 4, 2020
Final Report	September 18, 2020	December 4, 2020

Please confirm your acknowledgment of the deadline extensions by email to Municipal.Programs@ontario.ca. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact program staff at Municipal.Programs@ontario.ca or your Municipal Services Office contact.

Once again, thank you for your participation in the program.

Sincerely,



Hannah Evans
Assistant Deputy Minister

c. Municipal Treasurer
Project Lead

From: [Biordi, Tiana \(SOLGEN\)](#)
To: clerk@southalgonquin.ca
Cc: [Anastasopoulos, Steffie \(SOLGEN\)](#); [Jefferson, Emily \(SOLGEN\)](#)
Subject: RE: Community Safety and Well-being Planning
Date: June 10, 2020 3:20:38 PM

Good afternoon Holly,

I hope you're doing well and keeping safe. Emily has forwarded me your email and I'm happy to respond.

As you may know, on April 14th, the government passed the *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020*, which includes amendments to the *Police Services Act* that allow the Solicitor General to extend the deadline to prepare and adopt CSWB plans, and prescribe a new deadline through regulation past the current deadline of January 1, 2021. The amendments came into force immediately upon Royal Assent.

At this time, a new deadline has not yet been set. We will work to determine an appropriate new deadline once the provincial emergency is over and will continue to keep stakeholders updated on this process as well as the new deadline once determined.

We understand that municipalities may experience challenges undertaking planned or on-going consultation and engagement efforts as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Where possible, municipalities may want to explore alternative options to continue with their planning efforts. This may include conducting virtual engagement and consultations with community members through webinars, teleconferences and online surveys.

I hope this information is helpful and if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thanks and take care,

Tiana Biordi

Community Safety Analyst

Program Development Section / External Relations Branch / Public Safety Division

Ministry of the Solicitor General

25 Grosvenor Street, 12th Floor, Toronto, ON M7A 2H3

Tel: (416) 326-9355 / Email: tiana.biordi@ontario.ca

If you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats, please let me know.

From: Holly Hayes <clerk@southalgonquin.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 10:10 AM

To: Jefferson, Emily (SOLGEN)

Subject: Community Safety and Well-being Planning

CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi Emily,

I was at a training session that you provide in Pembroke at the OPP station a while ago. Following our discussion I created a group with my neighbouring Municipalities and we hired a coordinator to create your CSWB. We were making great progress until COVID. We are now trying to re-establish our timelines and figure out when the best time to do the community consultation which we had planned to do over this summer.

I just wanted to reach out and ask if you have been having discussions and if you have any advice regarding new timelines – should we be forging ahead? Or taking a longer break?

I understand that you are likely in flux as well, but any suggestions or information that you have would be appreciated.

Thanks for your time, I hope that you are well.

Holly Hayes

CAO/Clerk Treasurer

Township of South Algonquin

7 Third Avenue

PO Box 217, Whitney ON, K0J 2M0

613-637-2650 ext. 202

Notice of Collection/Use/Disclosure: All information about municipal services is collected in accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001*, under s.8 and for Council's purposes under s.239(1) and may be used in Council deliberations, and disclosed in full, including email, names, opinions and addresses to other persons requesting access to records, or as part of a public agenda. All information submitted to the municipality is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). Questions about this notice of collection should be directed to the Clerk 613-637-2650 extension 202.

Ontario
Provincial
Police

Police
provinciale
de l'Ontario



Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

777 Memorial Ave.
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

777, ave Memorial
Orillia (ON) L3V 7V3

Tel: (705) 329-6200

Fax: (705) 330-4191

File Reference: 600

June 8, 2020

Dear Mayor / Worship,

Re: Change in security check and revenue distribution processes

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is doing our part to help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by restricting access to detachments across the province. We have already taken the step of limiting the processing of routine security checks (criminal record checks/vulnerable sector checks) by detachment staff. We are committed to processing security checks deemed to be necessary, or for emergency circumstances, and mitigating any potential COVID-19 related health risks, as much as possible.

In late April 2020, the OPP adopted a new procedure for processing emergent security checks that reduces the risk to applicants and improves on the efficiency of the process by:

- Moving the security check application form to an online submission, reducing applicants' detachment visits to one visit in most circumstances; a visit to pick up the completed security check.
- Centralizing the vetting of applications for emergent needs and oversight of the process.
- Providing applicants access to a paperless payment method to a provincial Point of Sale terminal over the phone, further reducing the risk of potential exposure to a COVID-19 transmission vector.

Under the new process, applicants will make their payment over the telephone to detachments that currently have provincial Point of Sale (POS) machines. The funds will be deposited directly to the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) of the provincial government in accordance with the Financial Administration Act, RSO 1990 (FAA). Security check revenue is tracked to ensure these funds are allocated to the municipality where applicants reside.

Revenue will now be credited back to municipal policing accounts quarterly throughout the year. The credit will be provided to municipalities approximately two months after the end of the quarter (May, August, November, and February). The credit process for 2020 is impacted by the in-year implementation of the new process and details on the timing of the credit will be provided to municipalities in future correspondence.

All revenue collected by OPP detachments for security checks, finger prints and reports provided to the public for a fee will follow this process to ensure compliance with the FAA.

Should you have any further questions regarding this process please email OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@opp.ca. Members of the public can find the most up-to-date information on obtaining a record check by visiting www.OPP.ca.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Whitton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phil Whitton
Superintendent
Bureau Commander
Municipal Policing Bureau

c. CAO / Treasurer / Clerk

CONNECTING RURAL CANADA

A DIGITAL NEW DEAL FOR RURAL CANADA:

Exploring Opportunities for Local
Governments to Invest in
Critical Broadband Infrastructure

Prepared for the Rural Policy Learning Commons Rural Governance Network

S. Ashleigh Weeden, PhD Candidate
School of Environmental Design & Rural Development,
Ontario Agricultural College,
University of Guelph

POLICY BRIEF

The pronounced digital divide between rural and urban communities in Canada remains a persistent and challenging issue despite decades of program announcements and policy statements. Faced with this challenge, how can local governments build their futures through investing in this critical infrastructure and promote a digital new deal for rural Canada?



BROADBAND: AN ESSENTIAL CONNECTION

Reliable high-speed Internet connectivity - powered by broadband infrastructure - is as critical to modern community economic development as well-maintained roads, safe water, and electricity (BDO, 2017; CRRF, 2017). Despite decades of calls for investments in broadband infrastructure that have intensified in recent years (Jeffords, 2019; Middleton, 2017; FCM, 2019) and recognition of the critical role of the Internet in our everyday lives, Canada continues to lack universal broadband access. Rural communities are disproportionately affected by uneven access to high-speed Internet services (Black, 2019). While much advice focuses on federal and provincial policy, local governments may find that advancing their own agendas is just as important as advocating to other orders of government. As chief stewards of both core infrastructure and quality-of-life initiatives that promote social, cultural, and economic development, local governments are uniquely and ideally positioned to lead the way in implementing strategic policies and investments in broadband infrastructure and connect rural and remote Canadians to the modern services that they require to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

This policy brief provides critical background information and ideas to help local government leaders and policy makers in rural areas explore opportunities for working both within current policy and funding frameworks (wherever possible) and around these frameworks, where they are either insufficient or create barriers to building broadband infrastructure in a timely or effective manner. The policy options discussed in this brief include:

**-1-
PLAN FOR
BROADBAND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**-2-
AGGREGATE
DEMAND**

**-3-
COMMIT TO
COMMUNITY
OWNERSHIP**

CONTEXT: WHY BROADBAND

WHY SHOULD LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CARE ABOUT CONNECTIVITY? WHAT ARE THE KEY CHALLENGES & INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

Broadband has become the common term for talking about the infrastructure that enables Internet connectivity. It's the type of Internet connection that goes beyond dial-up (or "narrowband") connections that operated through legacy telecommunications infrastructure as the standard way people access digital services. Although the term 'broadband' can be used to describe a wide variety of technologies that transfer data, it refers mostly to wide bandwidth data transmission services that are capable of transporting multiple signals and traffic types (NRC, 2002). These high-speed transmission technologies can include DSL (Digital Subscriber Line), cable, satellite, wireless, Broadband-Over-Powerlines (BPL), and fibre-optics. Unlike dial-up, where only one connection could take place at a time (i.e., users could either use their service to make phone-calls or connect to the Internet, but not both at the same time), broadband connectivity is "always on" and can be access at any time. Many areas of the world are advance from 3G to 4G and now 5G, where the 'G' stands for 'generation', indicating each step forward in cellular networks that first allowed voice communication, then text and multimedia messaging, to networks that are now capable of handling enormous transfers of data. These 'next generation' broadband cellular networks often function without sufficient physical infrastructure (i.e. fibre-optic connectivity to cellular towers). In practical terms, broadband infrastructure is the type of connectivity required to stream videos, access online education, delivery tele-medicine, or access nearly any modern digital service.

In June 2016, the United Nations declared Internet access a basic human right (UN, 2016). However, the digitization of the Canadian economy remains both uneven and incomplete due in large part to a persistent imbalance in broadband access between urban and rural communities (Middleton, 2017). Many communities are being left behind both in terms of access and adoption. The lack of universal access to affordable, reliable, high-quality, high-speed broadband services remains a serious barrier to rural Canadians' ability to benefit from advances in tele-medicine, virtual education, tele-commuting (Hambly & Lee, 2019), accessing important information about current events both locally and globally, cultural resources and programs, and the full range of public and private digital services. As the federal and provincial governments in Canada pursue plans to deliver services through digital-first and digital-by-default approaches (Government of Ontario, 2019;

Government of Canada, 2018), equitable access to broadband connectivity must remain a top priority for policy makers across all orders of government.

There has been some progress, as broadband was recognized as critical infrastructure for the first time in the Government of Canada's 2016 Budget and (Government of Canada, 2016) and a new Minister for Rural Economic Development was introduced in 2019, housed within the Ministry of Infrastructure. This new office released two new strategies within its first six months: "Rural Opportunities, National Prosperity: An Economic Development Strategy for Rural Canada" and "High-Speed Access for All: Canada's Connectivity Strategy" (Government of Canada, 2020). Similarly, the Governments of Ontario and Saskatchewan are both moving forward with their own complementary rural broadband strategies (Government of Canada, 2018b). These initiatives indicate that awareness of rural Canada's broadband deficit has reached an all-time high. However, analysis of Canadian broadband funding programs from 1994 to 2016 completed by McNally, Rathi, Evaniew & Wu (2018) reveals concerns about the long-term effectiveness and lack of continuity and meaningful change brought about by these kinds of initiatives. The typical outcome of these programs has been to support private gains for telecommunications firms while not fully realizing the democratic potential of broadband infrastructure as a public good. As evidenced by Bell Canada's recent threat to pull back from building rural broadband infrastructure after a CRTC decision about opening the whole-sale market to smaller firms, the de-regulation of the telecommunications market in Canada has resulted in a landscape where a handful of companies determine which communities get connected (Bickis, 2019).

Despite winning considerable attention for the issue of rural Canada's massive broadband deficit through the focused advocacy of organizations like the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and its provincial equivalents, rural Canadians and the local governments that serve them must not wait for someone else to lead the way on connectivity; as Dr. Ryan Gibson has argued, "Queen's Park is not coming to the rescue" (Craig, 2020). Local governments must not only be the voice for what rural Canadians and rural communities need, but must also lead the way in taking meaningful action in building their own futures through local policy, programming, and strategic investment.

THE STATE OF BROADBAND IN RURAL CANADA

Canada was once a leader in broadband connectivity (McNally, Rathi, Evaniew & Wu, 2018). However, despite eight federal broadband programs over the last twenty-plus years, Canada has experienced declining performance in the extension and adoption of the latest advances in broadband technologies. Rural communities remain at a disadvantage and have yet to accrue the full socio-economic benefits of being connected to modern broadband infrastructure (Hallstrom, Heinrich & Pearson, 2017).

The latest federal broadband program arrived three years after the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) declared broadband a basic telecommunications service and the Government of Canada committed \$500 million to funding broadband infrastructure through the Connect to Innovate program (Kupfer, 2016; ISED, 2016). Since 2016, both the Government of Canada and provincial governments across Canada have announced continued investments in rural broadband, with the federal government committing to \$5-6 billion over 10 years, including \$1.7 billion in a Universal Broadband Fund (FCM, 2019) and the Government of Ontario announcing \$150 million over four years to expand broadband and cellular access (Government of Ontario, 2019). However, the broadband infrastructure deficit is estimated to be \$4-7 billion in Southwestern Ontario alone, indicating a general trend of massively under-investing in this critical infrastructure by both the public and private sectors (SWIFT, 2012). Additionally, as funding programs are announced, they often obscure funding that has been previously committed in prior budgets or programs and continue to promote target speeds in rural Canada that are well-below current urban standards (50 Mbps download/5 Mbps upload speeds). Further, these investments are essentially programmatic responses to structural and systemic challenges and do little to alter the current regulatory landscape that has resulted in de-facto monopoly markets for the major telecommunications service providers in Canada. As a result, despite the importance of broadband as critical infrastructure being recognized in Canadian policy frameworks from as early as 1992 and despite decades of investment strategies, access to reliable, high-quality, affordable broadband service remains out of reach for many rural Canadians (Middleton, 2017).

CHALLENGES TO BUILDING RURAL BROADBAND

PHYSICAL

Most rural Canadians don't have access to fibre connectivity or even older Internet technologies like cable or DSL. While many rural areas are serviced by telephone lines, DSL infrastructure does not support modern data requirements over long distances (Cybera, 2017). Many rural areas are heavily forested, bounded by water or supported by the Canadian Shield, creating environmental obstacles to installing fibre-optic cables underground or using 3G, 4G, or 5G transmission signals.

FINANCIAL

Rural service delivery is challenging. Broadband services are no different (CRRF, 2017; Middleton, 2017). The return on investment for broadband capital projects in rural areas is often not profitable enough to attract private sector investment due to the low number of potential customers and the physical distance that must be covered (CRRF, 2017; Pant & Hambly Odame, 2017). Rural municipalities already facing already challenging budgetary constraints may not be able to handle additional financial burdens associated with added infrastructure costs.

CAPACITY

Rural communities vary enormously in their capacities to manage current and future infrastructure challenges. Because broadband is not considered a core municipal service (yet), local governments may not have the internal skills or capacity to manage a network or assertively pursue appropriate service arrangements. Further, lack of digital literacy sometimes means that decision makers are unsure of justifications for large public investments in broadband infrastructure (Middleton, 2017; Pant & Hambly Odame, 2017).

POLICY OPTIONS

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

Challenges to broadband deployment vary according to place-based factors such as the unique physical and/or human capacity endowments specific to a given community (CWTA, n.d.). Local governments are increasingly responsible for their own development and, as such, are uniquely positioned to advocate for and develop broadband infrastructure investment mechanisms that reflect their community's specific place-based contexts, needs, and aspirations (cf. CRRF, 2015; Carter & Vodden, 2017; Halseth, Markey, & Bruce, 2009; Knickel, Brunori, Rand, & Proost, 2009; OECD, 2014; Reimer, 2006; Spears, 2016; Speer & Jivani, 2017; Vodden, Gibson & Baldacchio, 2015). Now, more than ever, local governments must invest in broadband infrastructure to enable local innovation and support access to critical advances in virtual health, education, and public service delivery as well as access to important social, cultural, and economic opportunities both at home and around the world (cf. Annis & Gibson, 2006; CRRF, 2017; Middleton, 2017; Pant & Hambly Odame, 2017; Weeden, 2016).

There are many actions local governments can take to make their communities investment-ready for broadband infrastructure. Three critical options will be presented in detail in this policy brief and include:

Ensure broadband infrastructure is included in Official Plans, Strategic Plans, Economic Development Plans and, most importantly, Asset Management Plans

1

There is a reason that the old adage "failure to plan is a plan to fail" often rings true. Local governments must ensure broadband infrastructure is included in critical planning processes, particularly capital planning and asset management processes so they can be as 'shovel ready' as possible whenever new investment opportunities become available. For example, local governments should consider "dig once" policies that encourage installing "dark fibre" (conduit) during road maintenance or municipal servicing construction activities.

Work regionally to aggregate demand and negotiate from a position of power.

2

Local governments should work collaboratively with regional public sector partners, such as health care and educational institutions, and other broader public-, private-, and non-profit sector stakeholders to aggregate demand for services. By negotiating as a collective, these networks create more attractive service areas, with higher returns on investment and greater market clout, which enables local actors to negotiate better terms with service providers.

Create a municipally-owned open-access network to connect the community.

3

Treating broadband infrastructure as a public good and investing in building a local network gives local governments the ability to provide public stewardship of this critical infrastructure. Options range from creating a municipally owned and operated network that functions like a utility to leasing/selling bandwidth to private sector service providers based on community-determined service requirements to encourage competition.

POLICY OPTION 1: PLANNING FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

**PUT BROADBAND ON THE LOCAL AGENDA:
ENSURE BROADBAND IS INCLUDED AS PART OF CORE INFRASTRUCTURE &
ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS, STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PLANS, AND
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES.**

One way that local governments can immediately begin seizing their digital destinies is by planning for the broadband infrastructure that serves as the primary enabling foundation for technological innovation and virtual service delivery. For many individuals and families looking to relocate, access to reliable and affordable Internet service is as important as municipally serviced lots or well-maintained roads.

BROADBAND LEVY & RESERVES

The Town of Caledon has successfully begun the process of planning for broadband infrastructure investments by adding a Broadband Levy to its property taxes. At 1% of the total tax rate, the Broadband Levy is intended to ensure Caledon is ready to support broadband infrastructure investments through its participation in initiatives like the SouthWestern Integrated Fibre Technology Initiative or to ensure that the required funds are available to leverage future broadband infrastructure investment programs and partnerships. Other communities, like Grey County, have set aside specific reserve funds to ensure funds are available for broadband initiatives as they develop into the future.

DARK FIBRE

One of the lowest cost and lowest risk options is for local governments to ensure that conduit and fibre-optic cables are installed as part of other capital projects, such as road maintenance or servicing development sites, making the infrastructure easily accessible to ISPs to lease in the future (or ensure the infrastructure is available for future government use). Typically, this approach is used in specific areas of a community, like a business park or mandated as part of development charges and approvals. However, cities like Stockholm, Sweden and Huntsville, Alabama have employed dark fibre to lay the foundation for connectivity to nearly every premise in their communities (ILSR, n.d.).

PLANNING AHEAD

Finally, ensure that broadband is listed as a key priority in your local government's strategic plan so that it remains top of mind during decision making processes. Begin investigating ways that broadband might be accounted for in an asset management plan, and consider any zoning or development requirements need to be included in your Official Plan to account for broadband infrastructure.

POLICY OPTION 2: AGGREGATE DEMAND

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

LEVERAGE RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS TO FORM A BUYING GROUP OR JOIN A REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT INITIATIVE.

Local governments often share strong relationships with other public sector organizations in their communities and are well connected to private sector stakeholders who they aim to support as part of their economic development strategies. Every single one of these critical institutions, service organizations, and businesses require reliable and affordable connectivity. Often, each organization or corporation is left on its own to negotiate service agreements with ISPs, limiting their ability to influence the terms of service and leaving these core community institutions at the mercy of severely limited market choices (if there are choices at all). In many respects, this is like the individual consumer negotiating a service contract - even large organizations are often left with little influence over their service prices and level.

Local governments can lead their communities by leveraging these relationships to aggregate demand by forming a purchasing collective or co-operative model for procuring broadband services. By combining core public sector sites and key private sector locations with high demand for broadband, community institutions increase their purchasing influence and become a much larger negotiating body. Harnessing the true power of community means this collective can function like a consortium or co-operative to get the best deal for all members.

LEARN FROM SUCCESS: SWIFT & EORN

This model has been adopted to differing extents by the SouthWestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Initiative and the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) to support large-scale public-private-partnerships that both procure capital investments in physical infrastructure as well as aggregating demand for purchasing services on behalf of members (SWIFT, 2017). By working together with regional partners, local governments have championed transformational broadband infrastructure investments in both of these regions. EORN was spearheaded by the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, representing 13 upper- and single-tier municipalities in Eastern Ontario, and worked with ISPs to build a 5,500-km network of new and existing fibre optic, with 160 new access points. SWIFT was spearheaded by the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus, representing 15 upper- and single-tier municipalities in Western Ontario, and was quickly joined by members from First Nations, healthcare, education, and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. SWIFT aims to invest \$300 million to connect over 350 communities to fibre optic broadband.

Visit www.swiftnetwork.ca to learn more about SWIFT or visit www.eorn.ca to learn more about EORN.

POLICY OPTION 3: COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

**BUILD THE NETWORK AS A MUNICIPAL ASSET,
RUN THE NETWORK LIKE A UTILITY OR LEASE BANDWIDTH TO PRIVATE
SERVICE PROVIDERS TO INCREASE COMPETITION.**

“Open Access Networks” typically take the form of a local government building and operating a fibre-optic network and making it available to multiple ISPs that compete for subscribers/customers. The local government typically does not offer services directly to subscribers in this model.

In an open access network, any provider - of any size - is offered the same opportunity to deliver services across municipally owned infrastructure. Rather than relying on service providers to build their own infrastructure, this model allows greater competition by opening the market to smaller providers who may not have the capital to invest in large networks of their own. More competition in the market should result in lower prices and better services for consumers. For ISPs, community owned open access networks offer the opportunity to see higher return-on-investment or profits from infrastructure they didn't have to build from their own funds. Residents, businesses and community organizations receive better terms of service and the local ISP market has the opportunity to grow their businesses - everybody wins.

Alternatively, some communities have opted to run their own full service networks as utilities, like Chattanooga, TN and Stratford, ON. For local governments that already operate a public utility or have the capacity to do so, this is often an attractive way of ensuring community-wide service at affordable rates.

WHO DOES WHAT? HOW DOES A NETWORK WORK?

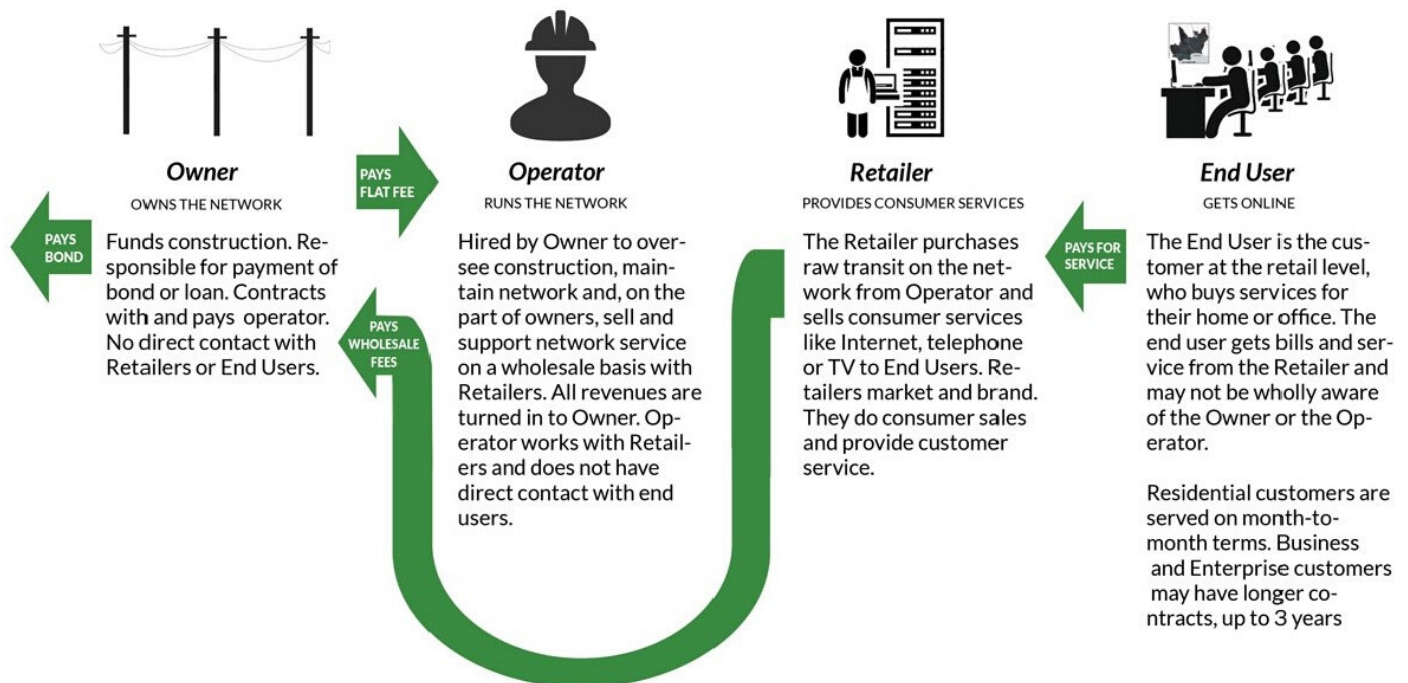


Image Source: MuniNetworks, 2016

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS

HOW DO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS GET STARTED?



This brief has highlight some of the key challenges and opportunities facing Canada's local governments as they seek to respond to current and future infrastructure demands, including the new and increasingly pressing importance of broadband infrastructure (Weeden & Gibson, 2019). While some communities may be just beginning to incorporate broadband into key infrastructure investment plans, some may have the capacity to pursue collaborative service procurement or even build their own networks, while others may be part of regional networks that are actively managing service relationships for member communities and organizations. There are three things that all local governments can do to increase their capacity and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of any current or future broadband initiatives

Assess the state of connectivity in your community:

1 While international data on broadband availability and adoption has grown in recent years, Canadian assessments of rural broadband availability and adoption are still in their early stages (Pant & Hambly Odame, 2017). As trusted public institutions, local governments are ideally positioned to partner with research institutions to collect and analyze data about local connectivity needs, challenges, gaps and opportunities. This data is invaluable to supporting funding applications, determining where investments are most needed, and bench-marking progress toward achieving community connectivity goals.

Identify and pursue funding opportunities and partnerships:

2 There have been several funding opportunities announced in the last several years that focus on supporting local governments involvement in stewarding broadband infrastructure investments. Local governments must evaluate and prepare to respond to these funding opportunities as early as possible while being prepared to advocate for place-responsive applications of these programs that may deviate from their prescribed frameworks. Local governments should consider local or regional partners that may help support funding applications and should involve partners and expert advisors (through networks such as the Rural Policy Learning Commons or the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation) early in the process to build capacity.

Plan for the future, act for today:

3 The worst possible thing that local governments can do is assume that someone else will take care of their broadband infrastructure needs – whether that's the provincial or federal governments or the private sector. As local governments become responsible for more of their own community economic development investments, broadband must be considered as a critical enabling technology for modern business development and public sector service delivery. Connectivity must be made a priority in key local government strategies to ensure investment decisions match community priorities and are front of mind during decision making processes.

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COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2020

BY-LAWS:

1. 20-620 Tax Capping Options
2. 20-621 Committee of Adjustment Members

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN**

BY-LAW NUMBER 2020-620

A BY-LAW to adopt optional tools for the purposes of administering limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the year 2020.

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin (hereinafter referred to as “The Municipality”) may, in accordance with Section 329 to Section 331 of The Municipal Act, S.O. 2001 c.25, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “The Act”) modify the provisions and limits set out in these sections of The Act, with respect to the calculation of taxes for municipal and school purposes payable in respect of property in the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes;

AND WHEREAS this by-law shall only apply to properties in any of the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes to which Part IX of the Act applies;

AND WHEREAS for the purposes of this by-law the commercial classes shall be considered a single property class and the industrial classes shall be deemed to be a single property class;

AND WHEREAS “uncapped taxes” means, the taxes for municipal and school purposes that would be levied for the taxation year but for the application of Part IX of The Act;

AND WHEREAS the Council may pass a by-law to apply any one or any combination of the following options:

- a) set the annual capped taxes to a maximum of 10% of last year’s capped taxes; and/or
- b) set an upper limit on annual increases at the greater of the amount calculated under (a) and up to 10% of the previous year’s annualized CVA tax; and/or
- c) Set a threshold up to a maximum of \$500.00 for increasing properties, decreasing properties or both;

AND WHEREAS the Council may pass a by-law to adopt the provisions of Section 329.1 of The Act whereby a minimum uncapped tax percentage applies to eligible properties in one or more of the uncapped classes;

AND WHEREAS Section 8.0.2(1) of O.Reg 73/03, as amended, of The Act, allows a municipality to exempt certain properties from the application of Part IX of The Act;

AND WHEREAS the Council has reviewed the provisions of The Act and hereby deems it necessary and appropriate to adopt optional tools for the purpose of administering limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby enacts as follows:

- 1. That paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 8, of Subsection 329.1(1) of The Act shall apply to the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes for 2019; and
- 2. That for all properties that become eligible within the meaning of subsection 331 (20) of The Act, the taxes for municipal and school purposes for the year or portion of the year shall be 100% of the uncapped taxes for the property for 2020; and
- 3. That a property is excluded from application of Part IX of The Act in 2020 and the taxes for municipal and school purposes shall be the amount of the uncapped taxes for the property for 2020 if:

- a) The taxes for the property in 2019 were equal to its uncapped taxes for that year;
 - b) As a result of Part IX of The Act, the taxes for the property in 2019 were lower than the property's uncapped taxes for that year, but in 2020, if Part IX of The Act applied, the property's taxes would be equal to its uncapped taxes, or a tax decrease for the property would be limited; or
 - c) A tax decrease for the property in 2019 was limited under Part IX of The Act, but in 2020, if Part IX of The Act applied, the property's taxes would be equal to its uncapped taxes, or a tax increase for the property would be limited.
 - d) A reassessment related increase for the current year occurs. The related reassessment increase will be exempt from the capping calculation.
4. This by-law shall come into place and take effect on the date of its passing.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME on July 8th, 2020.

Jane A. E. Dumas – Mayor

Holly Hayes-CAO/Clerk Treasurer

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ENACTED on July 8th, 2020

Jane A. E. Dumas – Mayor

Holly Hayes-CAO/Clerk Treasurer

**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN
BY-LAW 20-621**

**BEING A BY-LAW TO CONSTITUTE AND APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF
ADJUSTMENT FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH
ALGONQUIN**

WHEREAS Section 44 (1) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13, as amended, authorizes a municipality to constitute and appoint a Committee of Adjustment;

AND WHEREAS Section 44 (3) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13, as amended, sets out the term of office and states that the members of the committee who are members of Council shall be appointed annually;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of South Algonquin deems it advisable and expedient to establish a Committee of Adjustment;

AND WHEREAS Section 54 (5) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 13, authorizes Council to delegate the authority of the Council under Section 53 or any part of that authority to a Committee of Adjustment;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ALGONQUIN ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin constitutes and appoints a Committee of Adjustment.
2. That the following Council members are hereby appointed to sit on the Committee of Adjustment on behalf of Council for the year:
 - Councillor Bongo
 - Councillor Sandra Collins
 - Councillor Dave Harper
 - Councillor Joe Florent
 - Councillor Richard Shalla (Chair of the Committee)
3. That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin appoints Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment.
4. That Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby delegates the authority of Council under Section 53 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P. 13, as amended, or any part of that authority pertaining to consents to the Committee of Adjustment.
5. That this By-law shall come into force and effect on the day it was passed by Council.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME on July 8th, 2020

Jane A. E. Dumas – Mayor

Holly Hayes, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ENACTED on July 8th, 2020

Jane A. E. Dumas – Mayor

Holly Hayes, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer