

CHAIR:

N. IANNICCA

MEMBERS:

N.K. BRAR

P. BROWN

B. BUTT

D. DAMERLA

S. DASKO

C. EARLY

C. FONSECA

P. FORTINI

A. GROVES

N. HART

J. HORNECK

D. KEENAN

J. KOVAC

M. MAHONEY

S. MCFADDEN

M. MEDEIROS

M. PALLESCHI

C. PARRISH

M. REID

M. RUSSO

R. SANTOS

A. TEDJO

G.S. TOOR

P. VICENTE



The Council of the
Regional Municipality of Peel
REVISED AGENDA

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM

Place: Council Chamber, 5th Floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

The meeting will be live streamed on <http://www.peelregion.ca/>

For inquiries about this agenda or to make arrangements for accessibility accommodations including alternate formats, please contact:

Jill Jones at jill.jones@peelregion.ca.

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**The Council of the
Regional Municipality of Peel**

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Council Chamber, 5th Floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

***Denotes Revised/Additional Items.**

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1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

2. INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 March 20, 2025 Regional Council meeting

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. CONSENT AGENDA

7. DELEGATIONS

*7.1 Ken Dryfhout, Director of Programming, The Dam; Catharine Chamberlain, Collaborative Coordinator, Erin Mills Connects; and Jennifer Sharman, Community Development Advisor, Indus Community Services

Regarding Planet Youth Mississauga, a Pilot of the Public Health Agency of Canada
(Revised Presenters) (Presentation now available)

*7.2 Andy Seto, Director, Peel Student Nutrition Program, YMCA of Greater Toronto

Regarding a Request for Funding for the Peel Student Nutrition Program **(Presentation now available)**

8. PRESENTATION OF STAFF REPORTS

8.1 TransHelp Program Update

(For information)

Presentation by Mark Castro, Director, TransHelp

8.2 Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

Presentation by Louise Aubin, Director, Health Protection

8.3 2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

(For information)

Presentation by Arlene Coventry Bauer, Manager, Community Capacity and Investment; and Jessica Noble, Advisor, Performance and Accountability

9. ITEMS RELATED TO HUMAN SERVICES

Chaired by Councillor M. Reid or Vice-Chair Councillor P. Vicente

- 9.1 2025 Contract Renewal for Human Services Emergency Response – Canadian Red Cross Society

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- 10.1 Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
Letter received March 13, 2025, Regarding Financial Support from the Government of Canada under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (Receipt recommended)

11. ITEMS RELATED TO PLANNING AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Chaired by Councillor M. Russo or Vice-Chair Councillor M. Palleschi

12. COMMUNICATIONS

13. ITEMS RELATED TO CORPORATE AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Chaired by Councillor C. Fonseca or Vice-Chair Councillor B. Butt

WITHDRAWN

- ~~*13.1 Supply of Accounting Seed Application Licenses, Maintenance and Support – Document 2025-164N~~
- 13.2 Report of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC-1/2025) meeting held on March 6, 2025
- 13.3 Report of the Government Relations Committee (GRC-1/2025) meeting held on March 6, 2025
- 13.4 Report from the Regional Clerk Regarding the Public Meeting held on March 20, 2025
(For information)
(Related to By-law 18-2025)

14. COMMUNICATIONS

- 14.1 Sue McFadden, Regional Councillor, City of Mississauga
Letter dated March 24, 2025, Providing a Notice of Leave of Absence (Receipt recommended)

15. ITEMS RELATED TO PUBLIC WORKS

Chaired by Councillor M. Medeiros or Vice-Chair Councillor P. Fortini

- 15.1 Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region
(For information)

- 15.2 Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3
- 15.3 Request for the Extension and Increase of Peel's Laboratory Sample Analysis Service Contract

16. COMMUNICATIONS

- *16.1 Letter Provided by Mayor Parrish on April 7, 2025 Regarding Peel TransHelp Services
(Receipt recommended) (Related to 8.1)

17. ITEMS RELATED TO HEALTH

Chaired by Councillor N.K. Brar or Vice-Chair Councillor A. Tedjo

- 17.1 Discontinuation of the Food Handler Certification Program
(For information)

18. COMMUNICATIONS

19. OTHER BUSINESS/COUNCILLOR ENQUIRIES

20. NOTICE OF MOTION/MOTION

- *20.1 Motion Regarding Mayor's Housing Task Force
(As requested by Mayor Parrish)

21. BY-LAWS

Three Readings

- 21.1 By-law 18-2025
A by-law pursuant to Section 218 (3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 to designate members entitled to cast additional votes during certain vacancies on Regional Council.
(Related to 13.4)
- 21.2 By-law 19-2025
A by-law to amend By-law 45-2023 being a by-law to govern the procurement and disposal of goods and services.

22. CLOSED SESSION

- 22.1 March 20, 2025 Regional Council Closed Session Report
- 22.2 Closed Session Report of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC-1/2025) meeting held on March 6, 2025

- 22.3 Expropriation Proceedings – Cawthra Road Sanitary Sewer – EXP-25024.01 – Dundas Street East to Burnhamthorpe Road East – City of Mississauga, Wards 3 and 4
(A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)
- 22.4 Proposed Property Acquisition – Cawthra Road Sanitary Sewer – PF-15176.01 – Dundas Street East to Burnhamthorpe Road East – City of Mississauga, Wards 3 and 4
(A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)
- 22.5 Litigation or Potential Litigation, Including Matters Before Administrative Tribunals, Affecting the Municipality or Local Board

23. BY-LAWS RELATING TO CLOSED SESSION

- 23.1 By-law 20-2025

24. BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

25. ADJOURNMENT



**THE COUNCIL OF
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
MINUTES**

March 20, 2025

Members Present:	P. Brown	M. Mahoney
	B. Butt	S. McFadden
	S. Dasko***	M. Palleschi*
	C. Early	C. Parrish
	P. Fortini****	M. Reid
	A. Groves	M. Russo
	N. Hart	R. Santos
	J. Horneck	A. Tedjo
	N. Iannicca	G.S. Toor
	D. Keenan	P. Vicente
	J. Kovac**	
Members Absent:	N.K. Brar* (Proxy M. Palleschi)	C. Fonseca*** (Proxy S. Dasko)
	D. Damerla** (Proxy J. Kovac)	M. Medeiros**** (Proxy P. Fortini)
Staff Present:	G. Kent, Chief Administrative Officer D. Valeri, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services P. Caza, Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services A. Parente, Acting Commissioner of Public Works S. Jacques, Commissioner of Human Services N. Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health Services	
	Dr. G. Hovhannisyan, Acting Medical Officer of Health A. Adams, Regional Clerk C. Thomson, Deputy Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services J. Jones, Legislative Specialist J. Coley, Legislative Technical Coordinator R. Cruz, Audio Visual Specialist	

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Regional Chair Iannicca called the meeting of Regional Council to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton.

Councillor Brar was absent due to a personal matter.
Councillor Fonseca was absent due to other municipal business.
Councillor Medeiros was absent due to other municipal business.
Councillor Palleschi arrived at 9:41 a.m.
Councillor Brown departed at 11:48 a.m.
Councillor Palleschi departed at 12:10 p.m.

2. INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Regional Chair Iannicca read an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement.

Regional Chair Iannicca acknowledged Employee Appreciation Month and recognized the work of Peel Region employees.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**4.1 February 27, 2025 Regional Council meeting****Resolution Number 2025-151**

Moved by Councillor McFadden

Seconded by Councillor Kovac

That the minutes of the February 27, 2025 Regional Council meeting, be approved.

Carried

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**Resolution Number 2025-152**

Moved by Councillor Early

Seconded by Councillor Dasko

1. *That the delegation listed as Item 7.5 on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda be withdrawn; and*
2. *That the agenda for the March 20, 2025 Regional Council meeting include a communication from Stephanie Smith, Supervisor, Secretariat, City of Mississauga, providing a copy of a City of Mississauga Resolution and By-law regarding the transfer of waste collection services to the City of Mississauga, to be dealt with under Items Related to Public Works - Item 18.2; and*
3. *That the agenda for the March 20, 2025 Regional Council meeting include a communication from Terri Brenton, Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office, City of Brampton, providing a copy of a City of Brampton Resolution and By-law regarding the transfer of waste collection services to the City of Brampton, to be dealt with under Item Related to Public Works – Item 18.3; and*
4. *That the agenda for the March 20, 2025 Regional Council meeting be approved, as amended.*

Carried

6. CONSENT AGENDA**Resolution Number 2025-153****Moved by** Councillor Parrish**Seconded by** Councillor Groves

That the following matters listed on the Regional Council Agenda be approved under the Consent Agenda: Items 9.1, 11.1, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 15.6, 15.7, 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 18.2, 18.3, 22.2 and 22.3.

Carried**RESOLUTIONS AS A RESULT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA****9. ITEMS RELATED TO HEALTH****9.1 Federal Funding for Harm Reduction Vehicle Replacement Capital Project****Resolution Number 2025-154****Moved by** Councillor Parrish**Seconded by** Councillor Groves

1. *That a new 2025 capital project for the purchase and retrofit of two harm reduction vehicles in the amount of \$320,000 be established, funded by funds received from Health Canada's Emergency Treatment Fund; and*
2. *That the 2025 Public Health operating budget expenditures and revenues be increased by \$282,163 funded from Health Canada's Emergency Treatment Fund for harm reduction program expenses, with no net impact.*

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

11. ITEMS RELATED TO HUMAN SERVICES**11.1 Haven House – Recommendation for Continued Services****Resolution Number 2025-155****Moved by** Councillor Parrish**Seconded by** Councillor Groves

1. *That the contract (Document 2025-052N) for the provision of shelter beds and support services for single women at Haven House be awarded to EFRY Hope and Help for Women for the period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, in the estimated amount of \$689,623 (excluding applicable taxes) pursuant to Procurement By-law 45-2023; and*
2. *That authority be granted to renew the Contract (Document 2025-052N) with EFRY Hope and Help for Women for the provision of the shelter beds and support services for four optional 12-month extension periods, subject to the satisfactory performance and approved budget, and*

escalated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract, all pursuant to Procurement By-law 45-2023.

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

15. ITEMS RELATED TO CORPORATE AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

15.1 Proposed Surplus and Transfer of Permanent Easement Interests Over Region Lands on the Southeast Intersection of Main Street South and Wellington Street East – City of Brampton, Ward 3

Resolution Number 2025-156

Moved by Councillor Parrish

Seconded by Councillor Groves

1. *That a permanent easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel, be declared surplus to the needs of the Regional Municipality of Peel and transferred gratuitously to The Corporation of the City of Brampton; and*
2. *That the Regional Municipality of Peel, as Vendor, enter into an Offer to Sell Agreement with The Corporation of the City of Brampton, as Purchaser, for the gratuitous transfer of a permanent easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel; and*
3. *That a permanent hydro easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Part 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel be declared surplus to the needs of The Regional Municipality of Peel and transferred gratuitously to Alectra Utilities Corporation; and*
4. *That the Regional Municipality of Peel, as Vendor, enter into an Offer to Sell Agreement with Alectra Utilities Corporation, as Purchaser, for the gratuitous transfer of a permanent hydro easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Part 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel; and*
5. *That a permanent easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel be*

declared surplus to the needs of The Regional Municipality of Peel and transferred gratuitously to Rogers Corporation; and

6. *That the Regional Municipality of Peel, as Vendor, enter into an Offer to Sell Agreement with Rogers Corporation, as Purchaser, for the gratuitous transfer of a permanent easement interest in a portion of lands described as Part of Lot 5, Concession 1, East of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 43R-41518, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel; and*
7. *That the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services be authorized to complete any and all transactions, including the execution of all agreements, documents, affidavits, statutory declarations, and undertakings required.*

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

15.2 Bill 241 - Municipal Accountability Act, 2024

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-157

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

15.3 2024 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-158

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

15.4 Procurement Activity Report – T3 September 1 to December 31, 2024

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-159

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

15.6 Report of the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC-1/2025) meeting held on February 20, 2025

Resolution Number 2025-160

Moved by Councillor Parrish
Seconded by Councillor Groves

That the report of the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC-1/2025) meeting held on February 20, 2025, be adopted.

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION AAC-1-2025:

Resolution Number 2025-161

That the agenda for the February 20, 2025, Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, be approved.

Approved

5. REPORTS

**5.1 Update on Credit River Way – Affordable Housing Project
Accessibility Features**

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-162

Received

5.2 Accessibility Planning Program Update – September 19, 2024

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-163

Received

5.3 Accessibility Planning Program Update – February 20, 2025

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-164

Received

15.7 Report of the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee (DEAR-1/2025) meeting held on February 20, 2025

Resolution Number 2025-165

Moved by Councillor Parrish

Seconded by Councillor Groves

That the report of the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee (DEAR-1/2025) meeting, be approved.

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION DEAR-1-2025:

Resolution Number 2025-166

1. *That the agenda for the February 20, 2025 Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism (DEAR) Committee meeting be amended to bring forward Other Business – Item 8.1, to be dealt with as the first item of business; and*
2. *That the agenda for the February 20, 2025 DEAR Committee meeting be approved, as amended.*

Approved

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee

RECOMMENDATION DEAR-2-2025:

Resolution Number 2025-167

That Councillor Early be elected Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

Approved

RECOMMENDATION DEAR-3-2025:

Resolution Number 2025-168

That Councillor Santos be elected Vice-Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

Approved

6. REPORTS

6.1 Enhancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Practices in Early Years and Child Care Services in Peel

(For information)

Presentation by Nakiema Palmer, Director, Early Years and Child Care Services

Resolution Number 2025-169

Received

6.2 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Update Report – Feb 20, 2025

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-170

Received

7. COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Ghada Melek, Civic Revival, Founding Member and Chair, Civic Revival

Letter dated December 2, 2024, Expressing Concerns About the Five-Year Proposed DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Plan (Receipt recommended)

Resolution Number 2025-171

Received

16. COMMUNICATIONS

16.1 Patricia Caza, Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services, Region of Peel

Memo dated March 4, 2025 Regarding the Potential Transfer of Waste Collection Powers from The Regional Municipality of Peel to its Local Municipalities (Receipt recommended)

Resolution Number 2025-172

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

16.2 Annette Groves, Mayor, Town of Caledon

Email dated February 25, 2025, Providing a Copy of a Town of Caledon Resolution in Support of the Plant Based Treaty (Receipt recommended)

Resolution Number 2025-173

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

16.3 Krista South, Executive Director, Strategies and Initiatives Branch, Office of the CAO, York Region

Email dated March 13, 2025, Providing a Copy of a York Region Resolution Requesting Support for an Expression of Interest Bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games (Receipt recommended)

Resolution Number 2025-174

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

18. COMMUNICATIONS

18.2 Stephanie Smith, Supervisor, Secretariat, City of Mississauga

Email dated March 19, 2025, Providing a Copy of a City of Mississauga Resolution and By-law Regarding the Transfer of Waste Collection Services to the City of Mississauga (Receipt recommended) (Related to 18.3 and 20.2)

Resolution Number 2025-175

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

18.3 Terri Brenton, Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office, City of Brampton

Letter dated March 19, 2025, Providing a Copy of a City of Brampton Resolution and By-law Regarding the Transfer of Waste Collection Services to the City of Brampton (Receipt recommended) (Related to 18.2 and 20.2)

Resolution Number 2025-176

Received

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION AND DEBATE

7. DELEGATIONS

7.1 Davinder Valeri, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services

Presenting the Government Finance Officers Association's Canadian Award for Financial Reporting and Award for Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Corporate Finance Staff

Resolution Number 2025-177

Received

Davinder Valeri, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services, provided an overview of the Government Finance Officers Association; the Canadian Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award; and recognized Peel's award recipients for the 2023 financial reporting period.

7.2 Jeffrey A. Abrams, Co-Principal and Integrity Commissioner, Principles Integrity

Providing the Integrity Commissioner's Periodic Report

Resolution Number 2025-178

Received

Jeffrey A. Abrams, Co-Principal, Principles Integrity, provided an overview of Principles Integrity's role as Integrity Commissioner; an update on Region of Peel activities; lessons learned from advice requests and investigations conducted in various municipalities across the province; and Bill 241's proposed mechanism that could result in the removal of a Member of Council in the event of an egregious breach of conduct.

7.3 John Nicholson, Resident, City of Mississauga, Ward 1

Requesting the Region of Peel Adopt a "Buy Canadian" Approach

Resolution Number 2025-179

Received

John Nicholson, Resident, City of Mississauga, Ward 1, provided an overview of the buy Canadian approach being adopted by municipal governments, organizations, businesses and citizens in Ontario and Canada. The delegate requested that the Region of Peel adopt a "Buy Canadian" approach.

Members of Regional Council discussed and asked questions regarding the approach taken for contracts at the G.E. Booth project; legal implications and/or potential liabilities and penalties for terminating existing U.S. contracts; how dollar thresholds may be set for contracts that may be open to Canadian vendors only as per the approach taken by the City of Toronto and the applicability of existing free trade agreements.

Item 20.1 was dealt with.

20. NOTICE OF MOTION/MOTION

20.1 Motion Regarding the Prioritization of Canadian and other Non-US Goods and Services

Resolution Number 2025-180

Moved by Councillor Brown

Seconded by Councillor Parrish

Whereas on March 4th, 2025 the U.S. implemented a 25 per cent tariff on imports that are the product of Canada (with the exception of Canadian energy imports subject to 10 per cent import duties) with additional trade tariffs anticipated to be imposed by the U.S.;

And whereas, the Canadian government has responded with counter-tariffs on U.S. goods and Ontario and municipalities across the country are considering and advancing their own measures;

And whereas, Peel Region procured \$2.4B in goods and services in 2024, making it one of the largest procurer of goods and services amongst all municipalities in Ontario and, as such, may be significantly impacted by these new tariffs;

And whereas, local, provincial, and federal leaders are encouraging Canadians and Canadian municipalities to prioritize Canadian goods and services;

And whereas, the Region of Peel Procurement By-law upholds respect for international and domestic trade agreements applicable to and within Canada, including the free trade agreement with the European Union (CETA), which prohibit preferential treatment to goods or services based on location or origin;

And whereas, the Canada-United States-Mexico free trade agreement does not apply to municipal procurement, making it possible for municipalities to adopt strategies that prefer Canadian and other non-U.S. goods and services to those of the U.S.;

Therefore be it resolved, that:

- 1. In response to trade tariffs imposed by the U.S., staff be directed to adopt procurement strategies that prioritize Canadian and other non-U.S. goods and services over those of the U.S. where feasible, during such time as U.S. tariffs are in effect; and*
- 2. Amendments to the Region of Peel's Procurement By-law necessary to implement the above direction be brought forward to Regional Council for enactment; and*
- 3. The Region of Peel align its procurement strategies with any legislation or direction to municipalities that may be issued formally by the federal or provincial government in response to tariffs imposed by the U.S., to support a unified, cross-Canada approach that effectively leverages the considerable buying power of municipalities to support a broader trade and economic strategy in Canada; and*
- 4. A copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, Premier of Ontario, City of Brampton, Town of Caledon, City of Mississauga, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, Caledon Chamber of Commerce, Brampton Board of Trade and Mississauga Board of Trade.*

Carried

Councillor Brown provided an overview of the motion to adopt procurement strategies that prioritize Canadian and other non-U.S. goods and services over those of the U.S. where feasible, during such time as U.S. tariffs are in effect.

7. DELEGATIONS

7.4 Ted Smith, Chris Persaud, and Ranbir Thind, Members, CUPE Local 966

Regarding Uncertainty about the Implications of Bill 240, *Peel Implementation Act, 2024* on the Public Services and Unionized Jobs Across the Region of Peel

Resolution Number 2025-181

Received

Ted Smith, Chris Persaud, and Ranbir Thind, Members, CUPE Local 966, provided an overview of their experience as Peel employees in the community recycling centres; concerns regarding uncertainty resulting from Bill 240; and requested prioritization of Canadian contracts, assurance of Union representation and consultation, and fair agreements for all workers affected by the transition of waste services from Peel to the local municipalities.

Councillor Parrish clarified that the proposed motion excludes the transfer of services provided at community recycling centres.

Item 20.2 was dealt with.

20. NOTICE OF MOTION/MOTION

20.2 Motion Regarding the Transfer of Waste Collection Services in Peel Region

Resolution Number 2025-182

Moved by Councillor Parrish

Seconded by Councillor Brown

Whereas on October 13, 1994 Regional Council decided that the responsibility for waste collection would be transferred to the Region of Peel from the City of Mississauga and the City of Brampton;

And whereas, the transfer of waste collection back to the local municipalities was reviewed as part of the work with the Peel Transition Board and in December 2024, Bill 240, the Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024 was introduced that, had it been enacted, would have transferred responsibility for waste collection services, including community recycling centres, from the Region of Peel to the City of Mississauga as of July 1, 2026;

And whereas, Mississauga and Brampton support the transfer of waste collection powers, excluding with respect to the community recycling centres, from the Region of Peel to the local municipalities and that the City of Mississauga and the City of Brampton have passed by-laws in support of the transfer;

And whereas, sections 188-193 of the Municipal Act, 2001 (Act) contain provisions permitting transfers of certain powers from upper-tier to lower-tier municipalities;

And whereas, the process to transfer the Region of Peel's powers in relation to waste collection to the local municipalities under sections 191 and 192 of the Act involves the following processes:

- *A local municipality must pass a by-law to provide for the transfer of Peel Region's powers with respect to waste collection to its respective municipality and for transitional matters to facilitate the assumption of the powers;*
- *at least one of the other two municipalities in the Region of Peel must pass resolutions consenting to the by-law;*
- *the total number of electors in the local municipalities which have passed resolutions consenting to the by-law and in the local municipality which passed the by-law must form a majority of all electors in the Region of Peel;*
- *the Region of Peel Council must pass a resolution consenting to the local municipalities assuming waste collection in their respective municipalities, with a majority of all the votes on Regional Council cast in favour of the resolution;*

And whereas, the City of Mississauga and the City of Brampton have each passed a by-law to support the transfer of Peel Region's powers with respect to waste collection, excluding with respect to the community recycling centres, in their respective municipalities, and passed resolutions consenting to the by-laws:

Therefore be it resolved that the Region of Peel:

1. *Consent to the assumption of its powers in relation to waste collection services, excluding with respect to the community recycling centres, to the City of Mississauga, the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon, under sections 191 and 192 of the Municipal Act; and*
2. *Direct Regional staff to form a transition committee with the City of Mississauga, the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to develop a detailed implementation plan that includes:*
 - *the timing of the transition of services with a target date of January 1, 2026;*
 - *an operations model for the local municipalities;*
 - *a staff transition plan that shall include rights of first offer of employment from the local municipalities to Regional staff impacted by the transfer;*
 - *a financial plan that transfers resources to the local municipalities;*
 - *all other items that would be required to transition services to the local municipalities; and*
3. *Direct Regional staff to provide the local municipalities with waste collection documentation including but not limited to:*

- *waste collection contracts including amendments and extensions, curbside and multi-unit residential*
 - *draft procurement request detailing waste collection requirements after 2027*
 - *Emterra zero emission vehicle contract*
 - *multi-unit residential collection contract pilot with Peel Living and any voluntary MURBs*
 - *textile collection pilot (MURBs and curbside); and*
4. *Direct Regional staff to work with the local municipalities in their development of procurement documents for new waste collection contracts to be effective at the end of the current Region of Peel waste collection contract in September 2027; and*
 5. *The three lower tier municipalities will honour the existing contract for waste collection services that is in place until the end of Sept 30, 2027, and continue to contribute under current agreements; and*
 6. *That the portion of the current regional levy rate(s) associated with waste collection will be maintained at the current ratios by each of Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon and that the tax funding allocation to support the cost of waste collection will be maintained by each of Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon at the same ratios throughout the remainder of the term of the existing waste collection contract; and*
 7. *That a working group be established comprised of the CAOs of the Region of Peel and the three local municipalities.*

In Favour (24): Councillor Brar* (Proxy M. Palleschi), Councillor Brown, Councillor Butt, Councillor Damerla** (Proxy J. Kovac), Councillor Dasko, Councillor Early, Councillor Fonseca*** (Proxy S. Dasko), Councillor Fortini, Councillor Groves, Councillor Hart, Councillor Horneck, Councillor Keenan, Councillor Kovac, Councillor Mahoney, Councillor McFadden, Councillor Medeiros**** (Proxy P. Fortini), Councillor Palleschi, Councillor Parrish, Councillor Reid, Councillor Russo, Councillor Santos, Councillor Tedjo, Councillor Toor, and Councillor Vicente

Carried

Councillor Brown and Councillor Parrish requested the motion be amended to include that a CAO working group be established to assist with the transition of waste services.

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) noted the need for clarity for impacted staff regarding the scope of the transition, timelines and employment status.

At the request of Councillor Parrish, the CAO undertook to report back to Regional Council regarding the potential engagement of consultants for matters such as labour relations issues, if deemed to be required by the Transition Committee.

Item 17.1 was dealt with.

17. ITEMS RELATED TO PUBLIC WORKS

17.1 Waste Collection Contracts Requests for Proposals (RFPs) - February 2025 Update

Resolution Number 2025-183

Received

Regional Council moved into Closed Session.

Closed Session items are dealt with under Section 22.

8. PRESENTATION OF STAFF REPORTS

8.1 Citizens' Table and Encampment Residents' Insights on Peel's Encampment Policy and Protocols

(For information)

Presentation by Erin Mifflin, Advisor, Housing Services; Devin Lennox, Clinical Manager, Peel Outreach; and Jodi Shanoff, Principal, JS Insights

Resolution Number 2025-184

Received

Erin Mifflin, Advisor, Housing Services, Devin Lennox, Clinical Manager, Peel Outreach, and Jodi Shanoff, Principal, JS Insights, provided a summary of feedback from the Citizens' Table and encampment residents regarding Peel's draft Encampment Policy and Protocols.

Members of Regional Council discussed and asked questions regarding the Citizen's Table recommendations, a program communications plan, and measures to deal with drug use in public spaces.

Aileen Baird, Director, Housing Services, advised that staff would report back to Regional Council in June 2025 with final recommendations and protocols. She noted that protocols recommended to Regional Council would be reviewed and endorsed by Peel's local municipal partners and Peel Regional Police; and presented to Regional Council and the local municipal councils.

8.2 Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program Funding Implications on Service Delivery

(For information)

Presentation by Paul Sharma, Director, Public Health Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

Resolution Number 2025-185

Received

Paul Sharma, Director, Public Health Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, provided an overview of the evolution of seniors' dental programs in Peel; current status of the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP); expansion of services and funding challenges; and OSDCP funding implications on service delivery.

Members of Regional Council discussed and asked questions regarding how the federal and provincial seniors' dental programs work together for funding and coordination of client benefits.

Staff were requested to report back to Regional Council regarding the most appropriate form of advocacy from the Mayors and Regional Chair, to request operating funding for the provincially funded OSDCP clinics in Peel Region.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

13. ITEMS RELATED TO PLANNING AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Nil.

14. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

Councillor Butt assumed the Chair.

15. ITEMS RELATED TO CORPORATE AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

15.5 2025 Final Levy By-law

(Related to By-law 12-2025)

Resolution Number 2025-186

Moved by Councillor Vicente

Seconded by Councillor Russo

That a by-law to adopt the property tax rate calculation adjustment, and to apportion the 2025 Regional net levy requirement of \$1,678,843,751 to the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga and the Town of Caledon, in accordance with the apportionment calculations attached as Appendix I to the report of the Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services, listed on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda titled "2025 Final Levy By-law", be presented for enactment.

Carried

Councillor Vicente requested that Peel Financial Services staff connect with financial staff at the local municipalities regarding changes to Planning functions and any outstanding financial adjustments or assets that may be transferred to the local municipalities.

Regional Chair Iannicca resumed the Chair.

17. ITEMS RELATED TO PUBLIC WORKS

17.2 2024 Water Compliance Update – Annual Summary Report

(For information)

Resolution Number 2025-187

Received

In response to a question from Councillor Parrish regarding water fluoride treatment, Anthony Parente, Acting Commissioner of Public Works, advised that fluoride is dosed in compliance with established rates.

18. COMMUNICATIONS

18.1 Mike Cowbrough, Chief Weed Inspector, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness

Letter received February 27, 2025, Regarding the Appointment of Weed Inspectors as Required under the Weed Control Act R.S.O. 1990 (Direction required) (Related to By-law 13-2025)

Resolution Number 2025-188

Received

Resolution Number 2025-189

Moved by Councillor Fortini

Seconded by Councillor Horneck

1. *That Jagwinder Dhensa, Supervisor, Transportation Maintenance; Dwayne Gregson, Supervisor, Transportation Maintenance; and Ali Farhat, Specialist, Transportation Maintenance, be appointed as the Region of Peel's Area Weed Inspectors, in accordance with Section 6(1) of the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5; and*
2. *That the Commissioner of Public Works be delegated authority to appoint Area Weed Inspectors in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, and present by-laws in this regard; and*
3. *That the necessary by-law be presented for enactment; and*
4. *That the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, be so advised.*

Carried

19. OTHER BUSINESS/COUNCILLOR ENQUIRIES

19.1 Request to Expand the Red Light Camera Program (Oral)

Resolution Number 2025-190

Received

At the request of Councillor Tedjo, the Chief Administrative Officer advised that Transportation staff would send information to Regional Council regarding the Red Light Camera Program.

Members of Regional Council expressed concern regarding provincial criteria that limits potential locations for red light cameras.

19.2 Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and Lynch Syndrome Day (Oral)**Resolution Number 2025-191****Received**

Councillor Dasko acknowledged that March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and March 22 is Lynch Syndrome Awareness Day 2025. He advised that a delegation regarding Lynch Syndrome would present to a future Regional Council meeting.

21. BY-LAWS

Three Readings

Resolution Number 2025-192

Moved by Councillor Fortini

Seconded by Councillor Keenan

That the by-laws listed on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda, being By-law 12-2025 and By-law 13- 2025, be given the required number of readings, taken as read, signed by the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk, and the Corporate Seal be affixed thereto.

Carried**21.1 By-law 12-2025**

A by-law to adopt estimates of all sums required during the year 2025 for the purposes of the Regional Corporation and to provide general and special levies on lower-tier municipalities, and to elect to adjust the total assessment for property in a property class with changes to the tax roll for 2024 resulting from various prescribed events.

(Related to Item 15.5)

21.2 By-law 13-2025

A by-law to amend By-law 73-75, as amended, being a by-law to appoint an Area Weed Inspector for the Regional Municipality of Peel.

(Related to Item 18.1)

22. CLOSED SESSION**Resolution Number 2025-193**

Moved by Councillor McFadden
Seconded by Councillor Horneck

That Council proceed into "closed session" to consider reports relating to the following:

- Proposed Acquisition, City of Mississauga, Ward 2 (A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)
- Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual Including Municipal or Local Board Employees; and for the Purpose of Educating or Training the Members

Carried

Resolution Number 2025-194

Moved by Councillor Toor
Seconded by Councillor Early

That Council move out of "closed session".

Carried

Council moved into closed session at 10:29 a.m.
 Council moved out of closed session at 11:05 a.m.

22.1 Proposed Acquisition, City of Mississauga, Ward 2

(A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)

Resolution Number 2025-195

Moved by Councillor McFadden
Seconded by Councillor Horneck

That the closed session direction to the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services, contained within the closed session report listed as Item 22.1 on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda, be approved and voted upon in accordance with section 239(6)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended.

Carried

22.4 Personal Matters About an Identifiable Individual Including Municipal or Local Board Employees; and for the Purpose of Educating or Training the Members

Resolution Number 2025-196

Received

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTIONS AS A RESULT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**22.2 Commencement of Expropriation Proceedings – Sanitary Sewer Diversion along Kirwin Avenue from Hurontario Street to just South of Lynwood Lane – EXP-24133.01 – City of Mississauga, Ward 7**

(A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)

Resolution Number 2025-197

Moved by Councillor Parrish

Seconded by Councillor Groves

1. *That commencement of expropriation proceedings regarding the Sanitary Sewer Diversion along Kirwin Avenue for the acquisition of the lands set out in Appendix I to the Closed Session report of the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services, listed on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda titled “Commencement of Expropriation Proceedings – Sanitary Sewer Diversion along Kirwin Avenue from Hurontario Street to just south of Lynwood Lane – EXP-24133.01 - City of Mississauga, Ward 7” be approved; and*
2. *That the necessary by-law, including the Application for Approval to Expropriate Land and the Notice of Application for Approval to Expropriate Land attached as Schedules B and C to the by-law, for the lands as set out in Appendix I to the subject report, be presented for enactment; and*
3. *That following service and publication of the Notice of Application for Approval to Expropriate Land, the Application for Approval to Expropriate Land and recommendation of any hearing of necessity be reported to Regional Council for its consideration and decision as the approving authority under the Expropriations Act; and*
4. *That this recommendation become public upon adoption.*

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

22.3 Proposed Road Closure and Surplus and Transfer of Permanent Easement Interests - City of Brampton, Ward 6

(A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board)

Resolution Number 2025-198

Moved by Councillor Parrish

Seconded by Councillor Groves

1. *That the lands described as Firstly: Part of Lot 12, Concession 5, West of Hurontario Street, (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Part 1 on draft strata plan 22194r07b, JOB No. 22-194; Secondly: Part*

of Road Allowance Between Concessions 4 and 5, West of Hurontario Street, designated as Part 2 on draft strata plan 22194r07b, JOB No. 22-194; Thirdly: Part of Lot 12, Concession 4, West of Hurontario Street (Geographic Township of Chinguacousy), designated as Part 3 on draft strata plan 22194r07b, JOB No. 22-194; City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel, be stopped up, closed and deprived of its character as a public highway or street once the Mississauga Road grade separation bridge and private access road are constructed pursuant to Site Plan SP-24-055B; and

2. *That the necessary by-law be presented to Regional Council at a future date for enactment; and*
3. *That the Manager Real Property and Facility Acquisitions, Real Estate be authorized to execute any and all agreements and/or related documents required for the written authorization of the lands described in the subject report; and*
4. *That the Regional Solicitor be authorized to complete any and all transactions including the execution of all documents, affidavits, statutory declarations, and undertakings required; and*
5. *That the closed session direction to the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services and the Manager Real Property and Facility Acquisitions, Real Estate, contained within of the closed session report listed as Item 22.3 on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda, be approved and voted upon in accordance with section 239(6)(b) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended.*

Carried

This item was dealt with under the Consent Agenda.

23. BY-LAWS RELATING TO CLOSED SESSION

Resolution Number 2025-199

Moved by Councillor Kovac

Seconded by Councillor McFadden

That the closed session by-law listed on the March 20, 2025 Regional Council agenda, being By-law 14-2025, be given the required number of readings, taken as read, signed by the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk, and the Corporate Seal be affixed thereto.

Carried

23.1 By-law 14-2025

A by-law to authorize an application for approval to expropriate Limited Interests in Perpetuity (Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement) and Temporary Limited Interests (Temporary Construction Easement) in lands in the City of Mississauga, in the Regional Municipality of Peel, as more particularly described in Schedule "A" to this By-law.

24. BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

Resolution Number 2025-200

Moved by Councillor Santos

Seconded by Councillor Russo

That By-law 15-2025 to confirm the proceedings of Regional Council at its meeting held on March 20, 2025, and to authorize the execution of documents in accordance with the Region of Peel by-laws relating thereto, be given the required number of readings, taken as read, signed by the Regional Chair and the Regional Clerk, and the Corporate Seal be affixed thereto.

Carried

25. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Regional Clerk

Regional Chair

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
MEETING DATE YYYY/MM/DD 2025/04/10	MEETING NAME Regional Council	Attention: Regional Clerk Regional Municipality of Peel 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A Brampton, ON L6T 4B9 Phone: 905-791-7800 ext. 4582 E-mail: council@peelregion.ca
DATE SUBMITTED YYYY/MM/DD 2025/03/20		
NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S) Ken Dryfhout, Catharine Chamberlain and Jennifer Sharman		
POSITION(S)/TITLE(S) Director of Programming, The Dam (Ken) and Collaborative Coordinator, Erin Mills Connects (Catharine) and Community Development Advisor, Indus Community Services (Jennifer)		
NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S) Planet Youth Mississauga		
E-MAIL info@erinmillsconnects.org	TELEPHONE NUMBER 647-669-5862	EXTENSION
INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ORGANIZATION(S) ADDRESS The Dam, P.O. Box 21217 Meadowvale Postal Station Mississauga, ON L5N 6A2		
REASON(S) FOR DELEGATION REQUEST (SUBJECT MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED) Region Councillors requested that a delegation be made about Planet Youth Mississauga to Region Council. Planet Youth Mississauga is a pilot of the Public Health Agency of Canada. The pilot is to adapt the Icelandic Prevention Model (to reduce substance use and improve youth mental health) in the context of diverse, urban centres.		
A formal presentation will accompany my delegation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Presentation format: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint File (.ppt) <input type="checkbox"/> Adobe File or Equivalent (.pdf) <input type="checkbox"/> Picture File (.jpg) <input type="checkbox"/> Video File (.avi,.mpg) <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>		
Additional printed information/materials will be distributed with my delegation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Attached		

Please save the form to your personal device, then complete and submit via email attachment to council@peelregion.ca

Note:

Delegates are requested to provide an electronic copy of all background material / presentations to the Clerk's Division if possible 72 hours prior to the meeting start time. **Delegation requests and/or materials received after 9:30 a.m. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting will not be provided to Members.**

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Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information

(Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 4.4 of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law 27-2022, as amended, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Regional Council or a Committee of Council. The completed Delegation Request Form will be redacted and published with the public agenda. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended. Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. All Regional Council and Committee meetings are live streamed via the internet and meeting videos are posted and available for viewing subsequent to those meetings. Questions about collection may be directed to the Manager of Legislative Services, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 5th floor, Brampton, ON L6T 4B9, (905) 791-7800 ext. 4462.



PLANET
Youth®

PARTNER *Mississauga*

Ken Dryfhout: ken@thedam.org

Jennifer Sharman: jennifer.sharman@induscs.ca

Catharine Chamberlain: info@erinmillsconnects.org



What is Planet Youth?

- » The Planet Youth Guidance Program is a population-wide universal prevention process designed to have a long-term impact in communities by reducing youth substance use.
- » The Planet Youth Guidance Program is based on the Icelandic Prevention Model and supports communities in adapting and sustaining this primary prevention approach.
- » Instead of discussing the facts and faults of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use with adolescents, Planet Youth treats society as “the patient.”

Who is Planet Youth Mississauga?

»» Three Neighbourhoods

Cooksville
Meadowvale
Erin Mills



»» Community Action Teams include

- Schools
- Settlement Agencies
- Faith Leaders
- Government Officials
- Parents/Guardians
- Educators
- Youth
- Youth Programs
- Social Scientists and Researchers
- Mental Health Professionals
- Peel Public Health
- Peel Regional Police
- Social Justice Groups
- And many more

The 10 core steps of the Icelandic Prevention Model



What Are Our Next Steps?

»» Accomplishments

- 70 volunteers representing 35 organizations, plus youth and caregivers
- Already 500 hours donated
- 3 Community Action Teams plus a Steering Committee (Core Group)
- MOU with Peel District School Board
- Research partner in UTM



PARTNER *Mississauga*

»» Future

- Up to \$750,000 over 3 years – if successful in gaining Stream 2 funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada (May 16 deadline)
- Survey Grade 10s at 6 high schools starting in October
- Develop a snapshot of where our youth are at
- Create community solutions and proof of the IPM model
- Healthier young people



PARTNER *Mississauga*

Thank You

Ken Dryfhout: ken@thedam.org

Jennifer Sharman: jennifer.sharman@induscs.ca

Catharine Chamberlain: info@erinmillsconnects.org

<https://erinmillsconnects.org/planet-youth-mississauga>



Youth Substance Use Prevention Program (YSUPP)

WHAT IS THE YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION PROGRAM (YSUPP)?

A community-based funding program designed to help prevent and delay substance use among youth in Canada

WHAT ARE WE WORKING TOWARDS?

- Preventing and delaying substance use in youth, and lowering experiences of substance use and associated harms into adulthood
- Generating knowledge on:
 - The implementation and adaptation of the Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM) in the Canadian context
 - What population-level interventions work, in what ways, and in what contexts

YSUPP GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1 Scalable**
Support communities to build a strong evidence-informed foundation for continuous expansion and success
- 2 Sustainable**
Achieve sustainability through effective and collaborative partnerships at the community level
- 3 Cultural Adaptation**
Adapt the IPM to reflect the diverse cultural perspectives, practices and values in Canada
- 4 Health Equity**
Ensure fair and just opportunities for all to attain their highest level of health
- 5 Youth-centred**
Engage youth as essential partners to inform action at the community level



What is Planet Youth?

An organization based out of Iceland, that supports communities worldwide to adapt and implement a substance use prevention approach called the **Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM)**

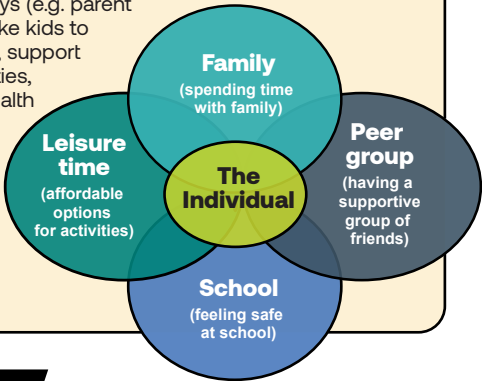
What is the Icelandic Prevention Model?

The IPM was developed in Iceland to ensure children and youth have the supports they need to live their best lives. This includes using less alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, experiencing less violence, better mental health, and feeling like they belong. The IPM has been adopted in more than 18 countries and hundreds of cities and towns around the world

What does the IPM Look Like in Practice?

- Building local coalitions** of community members, community-based organizations, policy-makers, researchers, professionals, schools, youth service and health organizations, public health practitioners and youth
- Conducting youth Surveys** every two years in schools and providing user-friendly reports to give communities real-time data on youth substance use behaviors and risk and protective factors (things that make it more or less likely for a youth to use substances)
- Community engagement**
 - Based on local findings, communities design programs and policies that address the risk and protective factors identified in the surveys (e.g. parent groups, buses that take kids to activities after school, support for recreational activities, and school-based health promotion activities)

Examples of protective factors



THE IPM IS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF 5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1 Society is the patient**
- 2 Meaningful connection is treatment**
- 3 Sustained attention as a treatment**
- 4 Builds community-specific and institution-level capacity for leadership and problem-solving**
- 5 The scope of the solution matches the scope of the problem**

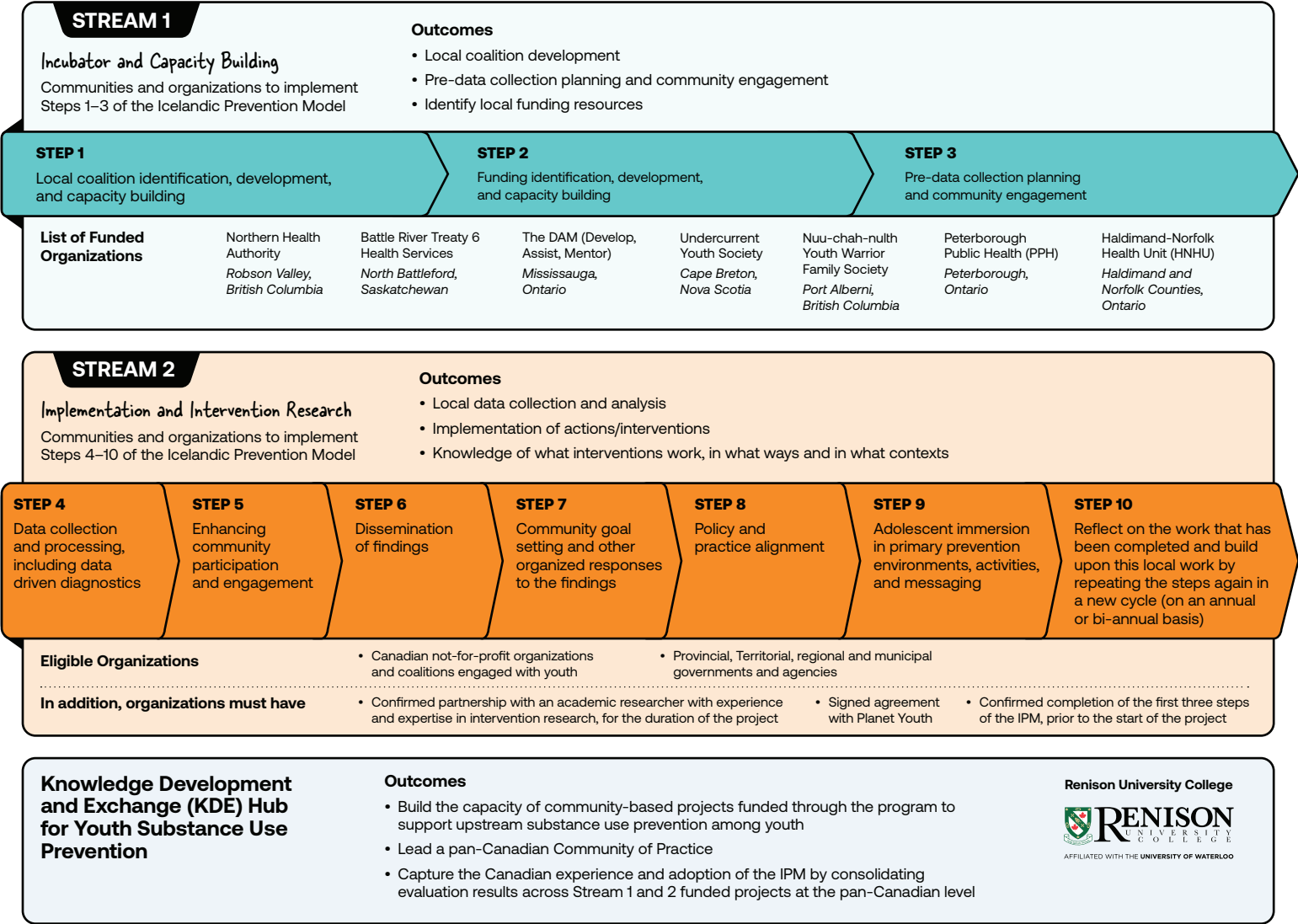
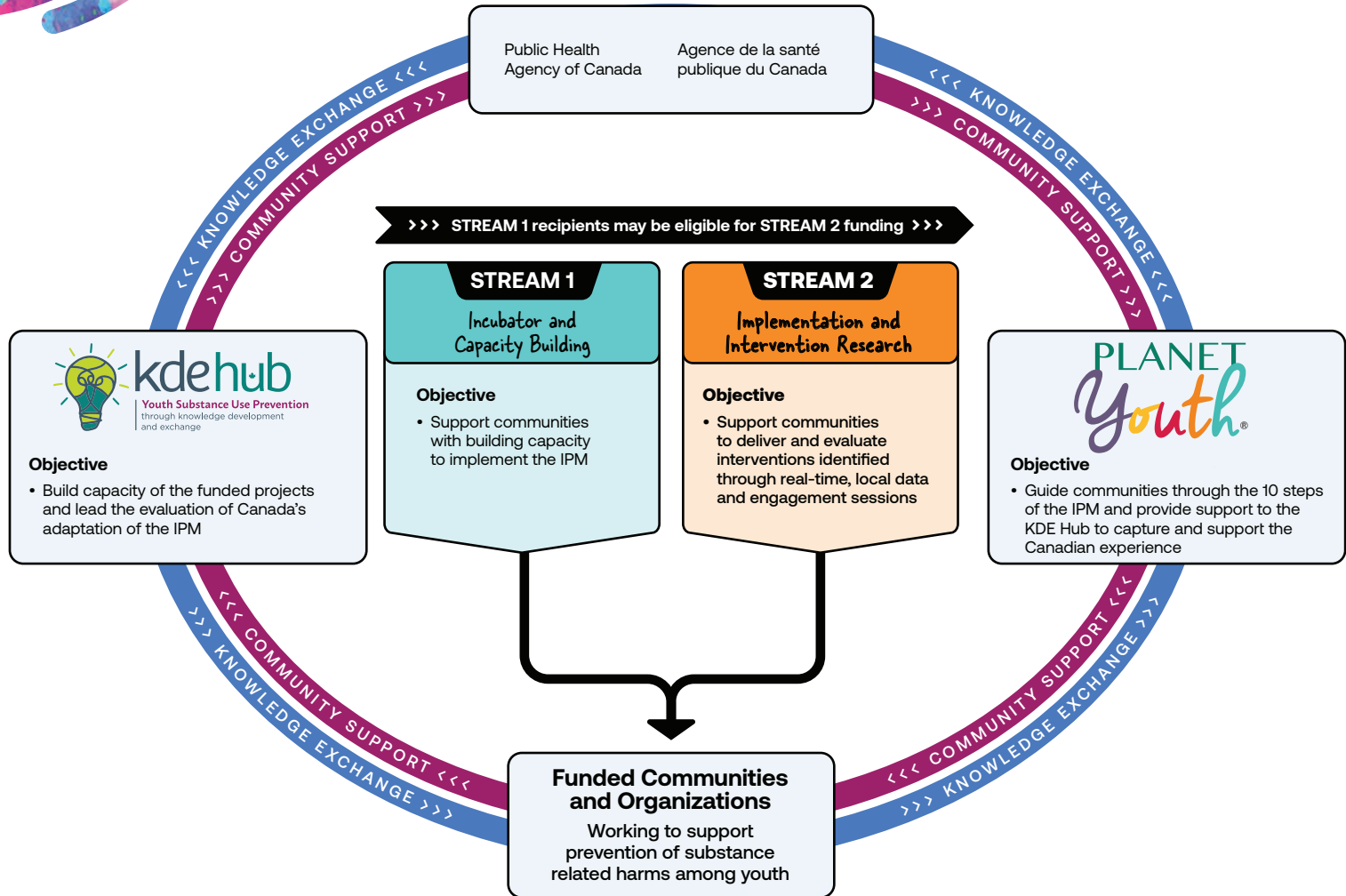
10 CORE STEPS OF THE IPM

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| STEP 1
Local coalition identification, development, and capacity building | STEP 2
Local funding identification, development, and capacity building | STEP 3
Pre-data collection planning and community engagement | STEP 4
Data collection and processing, including data-driven diagnostics | STEP 5
Enhancing community participation and engagement | STEP 6
Dissemination of findings | STEP 7
Community goal setting and other organized responses to the findings | STEP 8
Policy and practice alignment | STEP 9
Child and adolescent immersion in primary prevention environments, activities, and messages | STEP 10
Repeat steps 1-9 annually |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|

Youth Substance Use Prevention Program (YSUPP)

Objectives

- Prevent and delay substance use in youth and lower experiences of substance use and associated harms into adulthood
- Generate knowledge on the implementation and adaptation of the 10-step Icelandic Prevention Model in Canada (IPM) including what interventions work, in what ways, and in what contexts



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

MEETING DATE YYYY/MM/DD

2025/04/10

MEETING NAME

Regional Council

Attention: Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of Peel
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
Phone: 905-791-7800 ext. 4582
E-mail: council@peelregion.ca

DATE SUBMITTED YYYY/MM/DD

2025/04/03

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S)

Andy Seto

POSITION(S)/TITLE(S)

Director, Peel Student Nutrition Program

NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S)

YMCA of Greater Toronto

E-MAIL

andy.seto@ymcagta.org

TELEPHONE NUMBER

EXTENSION

INDIVIDUAL(S) OR ORGANIZATION(S) ADDRESS

head office: 90 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 300. Toronto, Ontario M4P 2Y3

REASON(S) FOR DELEGATION REQUEST (SUBJECT MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED)

Requesting Funding for the Peel Student Nutrition Program

A formal presentation will accompany my delegation ☒ Yes ☐ No

Presentation format:

☒ PowerPoint File (.ppt)

☐ Adobe File or Equivalent (.pdf)

☐ Picture File (.jpg)

☐ Video File (.avi,.mpg)

☐ Other

Additional printed information/materials will be distributed with my delegation:

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Attached

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Dear Region of Peel Council Members,

My name is Andy Seto, and I am the Director of the YMCA Peel Student Nutrition Program. I have requested this delegation on behalf of the YMCA Peel Student Nutrition Program to discuss the current state of student nutrition programs, and cost-effective municipal action that will make life more affordable for Peel families and support the health and wellbeing of children and youth.

Who we are

The YMCA of Greater Toronto Peel Student Nutrition Program supports nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and snacks for students in 285 schools across Peel Region.

For the 60,000 students who rely on this program every year, it means heading to class every day with a full stomach, ready to learn and succeed.

Our Vision is to create Vibrant Communities where everyone can shine.

By the numbers:

Criteria	Number of Programs
Total Number of Programs	292
Total Number of Locations	285
Total Number of PDSB Programs	211
Total Number of DPCDSB Programs	74
Total Number of CSV (Viamonde) Programs	3
Total Number of CSCMA (MonAvenir) Programs	2
Total Number of Community Based Programs	2
Number of Elementary Programs	222
Number of Secondary Programs	70
Total number of Mississauga Programs	136
Total number of Brampton Programs	139
Total number of Caledon Programs	17
Total Number of Students served daily	35,000
Total number of Students with access to Food daily (Enrolment)	175,000
Approximate number of unique students accessing annually	60,000
Approximate number of meals served in the school year	6,000,000+

The YMCA Peel Student Nutrition Program is the community partner for the Peel Region which is part of the Central West Region of [Student Nutrition Ontario](#)

Funding

Funding has varied year to year, which is a big part of the issue. Historically, there has been 'seed' funding from the Province (Ministry of Children Community and Social Services – MCCSS). Schools have always needed, and will continue to fundraise and contribute to make the program possible.

The funding the program has received for the 2024-25 School year is as follows:

- Provincial (MCCSS) - \$815,000
- Federal (New National School Food Program) - \$528,000
- Other Organizations* - \$300,000
 - * The Grocery Foundation, Breakfast Clubs of Canada, etc.

This adds up to approximately \$1,650,000

Schools have been able to fundraise about \$1,000,000 for this program, bringing the annual total to \$2,650,000

•	Per Student/Day 225,000 Students	Per Student/ Day 35,000 students	Per Student/ Day 50,000 Students
YMCA Funding (Provincial, Federal, Other) \$1,650,000	\$0.04	\$0.25	\$0.18
School Fundraising \$1,000,000	\$0.024	\$0.15	\$0.10
TOTAL	\$0.064	\$0.40	\$0.28

This chart shows \$2,650,000 shared amongst all Peel Students (225,000), the current program usage of 35,000, and the expected future usage of 50,000 students per day based on 187 instructional days.

What Now – Current Trends and Shortfalls

- Although some schools are very successful with fundraising, a growing number are not. Fundraising has been decreasing at a rapid rate, while program usage has been greatly increasing.
- A number of other organizations help support annually but it is inconsistent. What is needed is consistent funding to allow these programs to get properly established and remain effective
- There are 17 schools on wait list, plan to operate a small grab and go bin this Spring and hopefully join in September 2025.

- Additional funding is needed to bring on these programs, as are additional staff, as there are currently there are 65 programs for every YMCA Peel SNP staff.
- As schools try to stretch their dollars given the affordability crisis, many programs have tried different strategies to continue to operate
 - Reducing access to the program (less food stations available for a shorter time)
 - Reducing the amount of food being offered (smaller portions)
 - Reducing the amount of days the program runs

Municipal Funding Opportunities

A growing number of Ontario Cities have been able to support their Student Nutrition Programs.

- Toronto most notably investing \$26 million this year into student nutrition programs.
- Other cities investing in student nutrition programs include Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston, and more.

Investing in school food programs can make a powerful community impact

- Families benefit with a lower grocery bill
- Student academics improve and attendance improve
- Graduation rates increase
- Community Health Strengthened

An **annual commitment** from the Region of Peel to Peel Student Nutrition Programs would provide the following:

- Every additional \$1M added to the program adds \$0.10 per student per day
 - Based on 50,000 students accessing daily
- Increase the number of Schools offering SNPs (remove waitlists)
- Increased access at current schools
- More staffing to support programs
- Increase in food quantity and quality
- Allow students to focus on education, not on hunger
- Community impact on health and overall well-being

In addition to monetary support, we would recommend the Region of Peel Council:

- Establish a multi departmental committee focused on school food programs (Community investment, Public Health, Mayor's Office)
- Have the Region of Peel join other cities like Toronto, Halifax, Vancouver in [endorsing the Coalition of Healthy School Food](#)
 - Support the Coalition's Provincial ask to increase provincial funding to school programs

There is tremendous need here in Peel to support and continue the growth of student nutrition programs, and municipal support is desperately needed.

The Region of Peel can address these problems and support healthier children and youth by strengthening Peel's school food programs and building on the new federal funding. This will immediately take pressure off household budgets and will be welcomed by families across the Region as a tangible response to the affordability crisis. The student nutrition programs in Peel need your support to ensure our programs are robust and sustained, so we can help the over 60,000 children and youth we currently serve to learn, thrive, and succeed.

The team at the YMCA Peel Student Nutrition Program is grateful for the opportunity to present this data and plan, and we would be pleased to continue discussions around potential solutions.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you,



Andy Seto

Director, Peel Student Nutrition Program

YMCA of Greater Toronto, Child & Family Development

E: andy.seto@ymcagta.org

Peel Student Nutrition Program

Region of Peel Delegation
April 10, 2025



- “The Breakfast Club at our school allows students to cope with the challenges of the day, because they do not have to struggle with being hungry. The difference a nutritious meal can have on the overall well-being of young learner is immeasurable. We see the impact through increased focus, improved academic performance, and a positive learning environment. Parents have told us they have saved money on their household grocery bills, that has provided a level of relief during the affordability crisis”

- Brampton Elementary School

- A well-fed school is a safe and calm school

Current Numbers and Funding in Peel

- Students – 225,000 in Peel
- Currently support SNPs at 285 schools (70%)
 - Enrollment/ Access to program is 175,000
- Average program feeds 130 students per day
- 35,000 students accessing each day

Current Numbers and Funding in Peel

- Annual Funding for the Region is approximately \$ 1.65M
 - Province - \$815,000
 - Federal - \$528,000
 - Other Organizations - \$300,000
- \$0.04 per Peel Student, or \$0.25 given the current usage
- School Annual Fundraising - \$1,000,000
 - Additional \$0.15 per student
- Total - \$0.40 per student per meal

Current Trends and Shortfalls in Peel

- 30% increase in Student Nutrition Programs in the past 5 years
- Waitlist with 17 schools (Snack bin start)
- 1 in 4 children in Ontario lives in a household that is food insecure (ODPH)
- Schools are reducing access to food (quantity, location, timing)
- Fundraising Struggles

What Can Be Done – Municipal Support

- Consistent Funding is needed
- Other Cities in Ontario give funding to SNPs
 - Toronto (\$26m), Ottawa (\$400k), Hamilton, Kingston
- Region of Peel Support is needed
 - Opportunity for big impact
 - Increase # of schools, access, quality of food, YMCA Support

Region of Peel Support

- Every \$1M adds approx \$0.10 per student per day (50,000 accessing)
 - Allows students to focus on Education, not on Hunger
 - Community benefits, increased potential in students
- Establish Committee across ROP Departments focused on school food programs (Public Health, Community Investment, Mayor's office)
- Endorse the Coalition for Healthy School Food, continue to advocate for increased support at all levels

Thank You

Shine On

For Information

REPORT TITLE: **TransHelp Program Update**

FROM: Kealy Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works

OBJECTIVE

To provide an update on the TransHelp program, highlighting the increasing demand for services and outlining plans to update the Accessible Transportation Master Plan in 2025.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- TransHelp's ridership exceeded pre-pandemic levels in 2024, sooner than expected, with continued growth expected in the future.
 - The Accessible Transportation Master Plan will be updated in 2025 to reflect new trends and guide future growth, with final recommendations due in 2026.
 - New programs, including the One Fare Program, flexible trip times, and DriverMate technology, have improved service quality and customer satisfaction.
 - TransHelp plans to begin integrating the PRESTO fare system in 2026 to streamline fare coordination and facilitate easier transfers across transit services.
 - TransHelp will consolidate operations to a single facility by the end of 2025 and enhance driver recruitment and contractor training to ensure service consistency as ridership grows.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

TransHelp is the Region of Peel's specialized transit service for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities who cannot use conventional transit. On average, TransHelp provides over 2,600 door-to-door trips daily, with around 80% of these trips delivered by contractors (e.g., taxis and private companies) and the remaining 20% by TransHelp buses and drivers. The program manages client intake, eligibility, service delivery, and oversight.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, TransHelp's ridership dropped significantly, from over 700,000 trips in 2019 to under 300,000 trips in 2021. However, ridership began to recover in 2022 and surpassed pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2024, much sooner than expected.

TransHelp Program Update

2. Findings

a) Status on the Accessible Transportation Master Plan

In 2014, Regional Council adopted the Accessible Transportation Master Plan (ATMP) to ensure cost-effective, high-quality accessible transportation services, while complying with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA). In 2016, a revised TransHelp Eligibility Policy (resolution 2016-278) was introduced to meet AODA standards, which broadened the definition of disability. This change, along with an aging population, has led to increased demand for TransHelp services.

The ATMP remains the strategic guide for TransHelp. Since its adoption, several improvements have been made, such as new service provider contracts, the introduction of Inspectors, on-board cameras, and online booking options.

The 5-year update to the ATMP, planned for 2020, was delayed due to the pandemic. As a result, initiatives like Travel Training, Family of Services coordination, and PRESTO deployment were paused.

b) Recent Service Changes and Enhancements

Despite rising demand and increasingly complex user needs, TransHelp has implemented several service improvements. These changes have enhanced the user experience, as reflected in an 85% satisfaction rate in the 2024 Passenger Experience Survey.

i. Passenger Experience and Feedback

In February 2024, TransHelp launched Passenger Orientation Training to help new users familiarize themselves with the service. The voluntary training includes online sessions covering ride scheduling, travel expectations, and tips for navigating bad weather. A modest reduction in policy-related complaints has been observed.

TransHelp prioritizes customer feedback, using data to enhance the passenger experience. An annual Passenger Experience Survey gathers key metrics for future improvements and strategic planning. In 2024, over 1,400 clients provided insights, highlighting areas of success and focus for the future. The survey also helps assess the impact of past changes, such as improvements in wait times and the trip booking process.

ii. One Fare Program

In May 2024, TransHelp introduced the One Fare Program in partnership with the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) and GO Transit. This program allows passengers to transfer between services for free when traveling to and from Humber College, Kipling Station, or GO Transit stations, making cross-boundary travel easier and more affordable.

TransHelp Program Update

iii. Flexible Trip Times

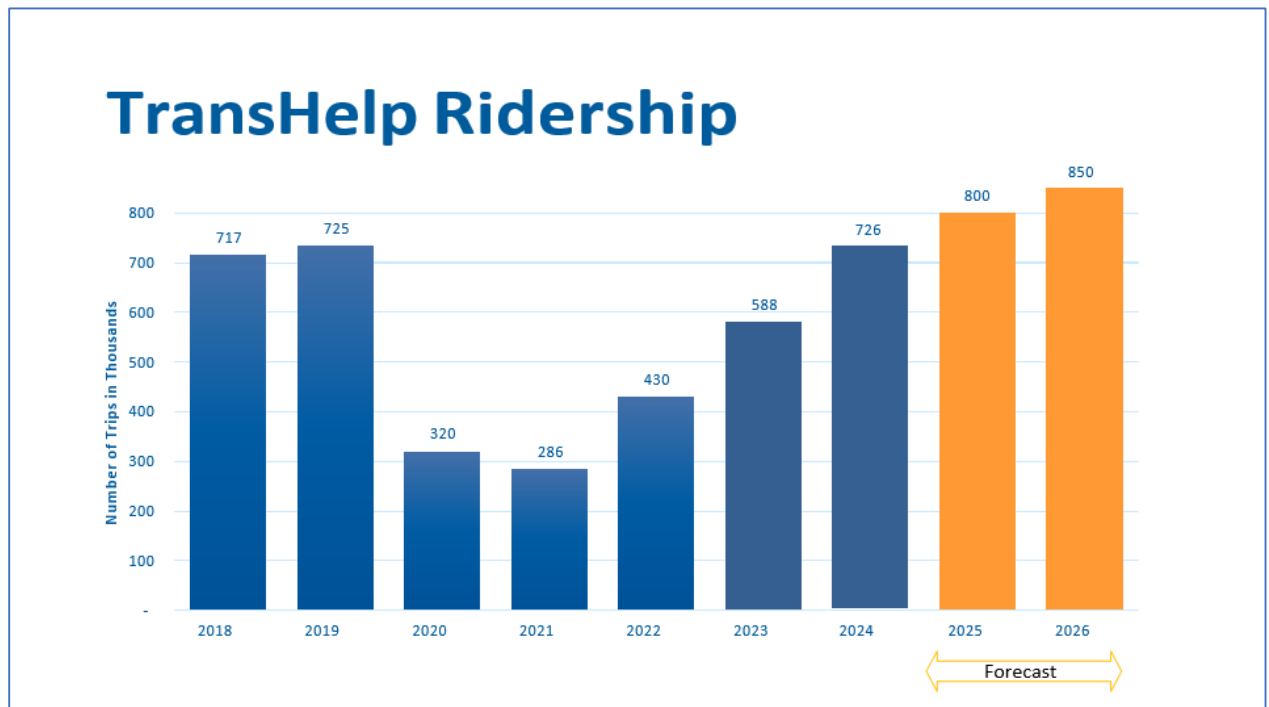
TransHelp launched a pilot program in 2024 to offer flexible pick-up times for passengers, aiming to reduce delays during peak hours. This voluntary initiative has been successful in improving on-time performance and alleviating pressure on vehicle resources. Staff will assess its long-term viability.

iv. Technology Improvements

In late 2023, TransHelp began implementing DriverMate, a cost-effective in-vehicle technology that runs on Android devices. By Spring 2024, all TransHelp buses and contracted vehicles were equipped with DriverMate. This system improves communication between drivers and dispatch, allows real-time vehicle tracking, and optimizes travel routes to avoid traffic congestion.

c) Ridership

The COVID-19 pandemic and provincial lockdowns drastically reduced demand for TransHelp services, with scheduled trips dropping by 60%. This resulted in a 415,000-trip reduction, from 725,000 in 2019 to 320,000 in 2020. As social restrictions eased, trip numbers began to rise. Between 2021 and 2024, TransHelp's operating budget was adjusted due to lower demand and ridership uncertainty. Forecasting future demand remains challenging, with ridership initially expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2026-2027. However, in 2024 demand unexpectedly surged, exceeding budget by 40,000 trips. This trend is expected to continue in 2025, with growth normalizing to approximately 3% annual growth by 2028.



TransHelp Program Update

3. Proposed Future Direction

a) Update the Accessible Transportation Master Plan

Since 2014, the ATMP has guided improvements to service sustainability, AODA compliance, and resident needs. However, the pandemic has changed the specialized transportation landscape, with new trends in technology, vehicles, and workforce requirements. In 2025, staff will update the ATMP with the help of a consultant to align service delivery with current practices. The update will include revised ridership and financial models, helping to manage growth over the next five years. Staff aim to present the final recommendations to Regional Council in 2026 and engage the ATMP Council Advisory Group throughout the review.

b) Plan for transition to PRESTO Payment System

TransHelp is planning to integrate the PRESTO fare system by the end of 2026. This integration will improve fare coordination and enable easier transfers between TransHelp and other transit services like GO, MiWay, and ZUM. The transition to PRESTO will also support the “family of services” model, enhancing cross-boundary travel for passengers.

c) Continuous Improvement

TransHelp is committed to continuously improving the services it provides, ensuring sustainability, operational efficiency, and ease of access for all users. Key initiatives in the areas of operational efficiency, quality assurance, fare and service integration highlight the dedication to meeting the evolving needs of the community and the future of specialized transit services.

i. Relocation to Mavis Rd Facility

The Mavis Rd facility has remained inactive due to reduced ridership during the pandemic. TransHelp is planning to merge all operations to a single facility to increase efficiency and back-office support. The Mavis Rd facility is undergoing renovations to accommodate the program's growing needs with the transition expected by the end of 2025.

ii. Operator Recruitment and Retention

Recruiting and retaining qualified drivers has become a challenge, particularly for part-time positions. In 2025, TransHelp will implement a new strategy to address recruitment issues, including offering more flexible shift schedules and exploring in-house license upgrades to expand the pool of qualified candidates.

iii. Contractor Training and Quality Assurances

TransHelp relies on third-party providers for many trips. As ridership increases, ensuring consistent service quality and safety has become more difficult. By the end of 2025, TransHelp plans to enhance training for contractors, focusing on customer care and safety. A key proposal is to bring vendor training in-house to ensure uniform standards across all drivers.

TransHelp Program Update

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Due to the pandemic's impact on trip demand, TransHelp reduced the number of budgeted trips between 2021 and 2024. However, by the end of 2024 demand exceeded expectations by 40,000 trips over budget. Given this trend, the budgeted number of trips for 2025 may also be surpassed, with additional financial pressures anticipated from driver shortages and increased reliance on vendors. Staff are evaluating the need for additional resources, which will be addressed in the 2026 budget. While forecasting demand and managing staffing challenges remain concerns, improvements are expected by 2026 with the updated ATMP and new recruitment strategies.

BILL 112 RISKS AND IMPLICATIONS

On June 8, 2023, the Province passed Bill 112, the *Hazel McCallion Act (Peel Dissolution)*, 2023 and created a Transition Board to make restructuring recommendations to the Province. The Transition Board was dissolved on December 31, 2024 pursuant to O. Reg. 547/24. The Transition Board's recommendations have not been released to the Region.

On December 12, 2024, Bill 240, the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024* was introduced. If passed, Bill 240 would have resulted in a transfer of regional services including all regional roads, and waste collection within the City of Mississauga, to the lower tiers on or about July 1, 2026.

On January 28, 2025, the 43rd Parliament of the Province of Ontario was dissolved and the issuance of writs for the general election were issued on January 29, 2025, naming February 27, 2025 as the date of Ontario's general election. As a result, all parliamentary business, including consideration of Bill 240, was terminated.

It is unclear at this time how the provincial government will proceed. Staff will report back to Council when additional details become available.

CONCLUSION

TransHelp has seen a strong recovery in ridership, with passenger satisfaction remaining high. The program's reliance on contractors underscores the need for improved safety and customer care training. In 2025, TransHelp will update the Accessible Transportation Master Plan to guide future planning, with final recommendations expected in 2026. Additionally, efforts to improve operational efficiency, quality assurance, and service integration will continue.



Kealy Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works

Authored By: Mark Castro, TransHelp Director



TransHelp Program Update

Regional Council

Mark Castro, Director, TransHelp

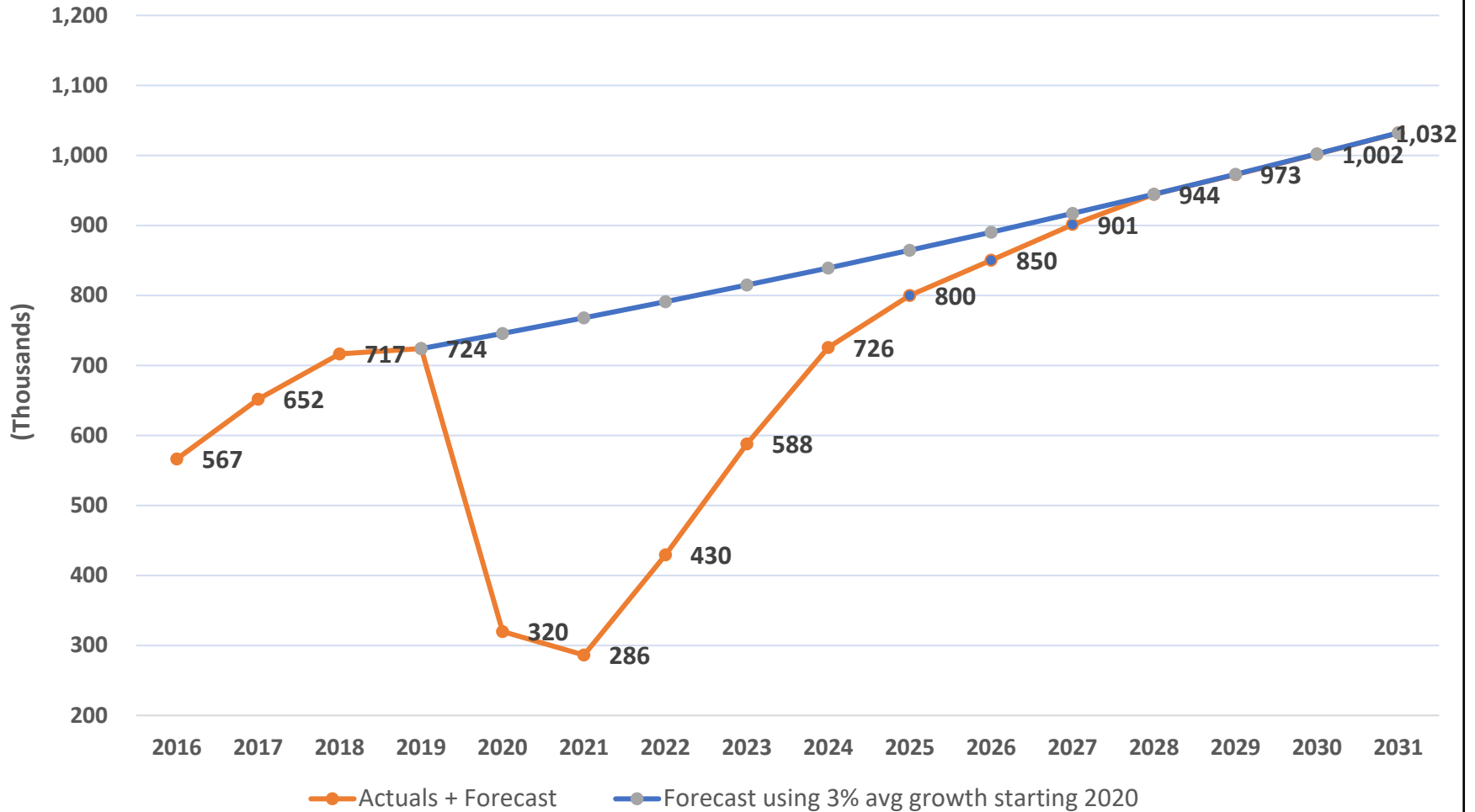
April 10, 2025



Agenda

- Ridership Demand Trends
- Operating Budget Pressures
- Continuous Improvement
- TransHelp Master Plan Update
- Looking Ahead

TransHelp Trip Forecast



Budget Pressures

- Budgeted trips were reduced due to the pandemic between 2021 and 2024
- Ridership returned to pre-pandemic levels quicker than anticipated
- By the end of 2024 demand exceeded expectations by 40,000 trips over budget
- Driver shortages and increased reliance on contractors causing additional financial pressure
- Broadened AODA Eligibility, increased complexity

Continuous Improvements

Overall Customer
satisfaction in 2024

85%



Recent Service Enhancements

- Passenger Orientation Training
- One Fare Program
- Flexible Trip Times
- DriverMate Technology

Operational Efficiency

- Relocation to single facility on Mavis Road
- Operator Recruitment and Retention
- Contractor Training and Quality Assurance



Master Plan Update

- Master Plan Update 2025
 - Update ridership and financial models to help plan for and manage growth
 - Align service delivery with current best practices in technology, vehicles and workforce requirements
 - Council Advisory Group to be engaged throughout the review
 - Final recommendations expected in 2026

Looking Ahead

- Improvements are expected with an updated Master Plan
- Continue to plan for PRESTO Fare System
 - Improve fare coordination and easier transfers with other transit systems
- Continued focus on passenger experience and operational efficiency

Thank You

Mark Castro
Director, TransHelp
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REPORT TITLE: **Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion**

FROM: Nancy Polsinelli, RD HBS Sc MPA, Commissioner of Health Services
 Hamidah Meghani, MD, FRCPC, MPH, MM, Medical Officer of Health

RECOMMENDATION

That Regional Chair on behalf of Regional Council write to the Ministers of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and of Health expressing concern about the anticipated increase in air emissions associated with the proposed Emerald Energy from Waste expansion that may result in exceedances of some air pollutant limits and health benchmarks in an area where the air quality is already compromised and requesting that:

- 1. approval be contingent upon the installation of both best available technology to burn the waste and best available practices undertaken to monitor and control pollution in the air and soil; and**
- 2. an independently-facilitated liaison committee with broad representation from the surrounding community be established; and**
- 3. monitoring data, particularly data from continuous emissions monitoring of criteria air contaminants, be made publicly available to increase transparency; and**
- 4. consideration of the long-term impact associated with the sixfold increase in greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, including the potential adverse health impacts; and**
- 5. consideration of the impacts of establishing robust circular economy markets that can achieve many co-benefits, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- This report is in response to Resolution Number 2024-598 asking Peel Public Health staff to report back to Regional Council on the health-impacts of the Emerald Energy from Waste (EEFW) proposed expansion. The community expressed concerns related to air quality (in particular, dioxins and furans) and environmental justice issues.
- EEFW, located in Brampton, is proposing to expand its incineration capacity up to 900,000 tonnes per year, an almost five-fold increase.
- The EEFW project has completed the provincially-required Environmental Screening process including the completion of air quality and human health risk/impact studies. The decision for the approval of the expansion rests with the MECP.
- Modelling under worst-case emissions conditions show that most air pollutants emitted from the facility are estimated to be within the current provincial and federal air quality limits except for benzo(a)pyrene and nitrogen dioxide. In addition, upon completion of the expansion, the dioxin and furan levels are estimated to be at the limit.

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

- When emissions from the EEFW project are combined with industrial and transportation sources emissions in the surrounding area, there is a potential for health benchmarks to be exceeded and for an increased risk for negative health outcomes including heart and lung impacts.
 - Residents living closest to the EEFW facility have higher rates of certain health conditions (e.g., COPD, ischemic heart disease and diabetes) that may be worsened by exposure to increased air pollution. These areas also have a greater risk of poor health outcomes due to social determinants (e.g., racialized and immigrant populations, low income, and unemployment).
 - Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are estimated to increase six-fold due to the capacity increase. Some of the GHG emissions will be off set with the reduction in transportation of waste and landfilling.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

This report is in response to Council Resolution Number 2024-598 that Peel Public Health staff report back to Regional Council on the health-impacts of the proposed Emerald Energy from Waste (EEFW) expansion. EEFW owns and operates an energy from waste facility located at 7656 Bramalea Road in Brampton.

The facility is in an industrial area near Highways 407 and 410. It has processed waste since 1992 and has an Environmental Compliance Approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to process 182,000 tonnes per annum (tpa). It is licensed to incinerate solid non-hazardous waste from domestic, commercial, industrial and institutional sources and solid non-hazardous international waste to produce and sell electricity and steam. The Region of Peel does not currently send any waste to this facility.

EEFW is proposing to increase its incineration capacity by expanding the facility on the existing property. The proposed expansion will increase the incineration capacity up to 900,000 tpa; representing an almost five-fold increase. The source of the additional waste is unknown at this time.

This project is subject to Ontario Regulation 101/07 (Waste Management Projects) under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. EEFW completed an Environmental Screening in accordance with Ontario's "*Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Waste Management Projects*". Various technical studies were completed by the EEFW, between November 2022 and December 2023 and the findings were shared with interest-holders and with the public at four open houses. EEFW has also been in consultation with Indigenous communities. The MECP is considering requests from environmental groups for a bump-up to an individual Environmental Assessment. An individual Environmental Assessment includes considerations of planning and design alternatives, a more detailed assessment of environmental effects, and the development of mitigation plans to reduce any potential adverse effects from the facility.

Peel Public Health (PPH) reviewed the air quality and health studies' methodologies and assumptions and assessed the potential public health implications of the expansion. PPH has been a participant in the EEFW Environmental Screening process since January 2023. Throughout this process, PPH has submitted questions

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

and comments. Appendix I and II provide more detail on the findings of the technical studies completed and a summary of the pollutants assessed, and the potential health effects.

PPH also consulted with Public Health Ontario (PHO) regarding the proposed EEFW expansion and comments and questions regarding EEFW study methodologies were in alignment with Peel's review.

2. Findings

Industrial and transportation emissions impact the air quality surrounding the EEFW facility and some pollutants exceed the provincial and federal air quality limits even without the addition of emissions associated with the proposed expansion. The additional emissions associated with the expansion results in an overall increase in cumulative exposure to air pollutants and can result in an increased risk of negative health effects to the surrounding community.

In addition, the health and sociodemographic data of the communities that live near the EEFW facility demonstrates the potential for worsening health disparities. When compared to Peel as a whole, residents living in these nearby communities have higher rates of certain health conditions, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cerebrovascular disease, ischemic heart disease and diabetes. These communities also have a higher percentage of racialized residents, more one-parent families, and a higher percentage of residents that did not complete high school and are unemployed. Reducing community exposure to any additional pollution to the best extent possible aligns with PPH's goal of decreasing health inequities across Peel.

Emissions for many air pollutants are estimated to increase substantially with the expansion project. Many of them will be within the pollutant limits, however, some will exceed those limits and some of the pollutants are persistent and bioaccumulative. Peel Health is concerned about the potential for health impacts associated with air pollutants that exceed limits and health effect benchmarks and/or persistent in the environment.

Peel Health has submitted comments for the MECP's consideration related to some of the assumptions used to estimate the air quality and health impacts. For example, the EEFW currently maintains a burning temperature of 1000 degrees for one second Celsius and is proposing a lower temperature, 850 degrees Celsius with a longer retention period (two seconds). Generally, the higher temperatures will result in fewer emissions of compounds like dioxins and furans.

In addition, Peel Health has shared health status data for the communities surrounding the EEFW facility that became publicly available later in 2024. The health impact assessment would benefit from the inclusion of this information and will allow for a clearer understanding of the potential health impacts of the expansion project on the surrounding community.

Peel Health has not heard directly from residents but, at their request, has met with representatives from Sierra Club Peel and Environmental Defense Canada, to hear their perspectives and concerns. The lack of resident inquiry may be a reflection of various sociodemographic factors that prevent active engagement from the surrounding community.

With respect to green house gas (GHG) emissions, the proposed expansion is estimated to result in a six-fold increase. EEFW has indicated that some of the GHG emissions will be off

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

set with the reduction in transportation of waste and landfill. This has been raised with the Region of Peel's Office of Climate Change and Energy Management as well as Public Works.

The long-term health implications associated with the expansion's net greenhouse gas increases are not quantifiable, but the health impacts of climate change are currently being experienced in Peel.

Further to GHG emissions sourced to the proposed expansion increasing, the business case of this type of operation is predicated on collecting enough tonnage of non-hazardous waste to generate a predictable and profitable amount of energy by incineration. This approach to waste management is counter to the promotion and sustainability of robust circular economy markets, which are crucial for minimizing waste, pollution and resource consumption, maximizing resource efficiency that, taken together can lead to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

3. Proposed Next Steps

The Environmental Screening process under the *Environmental Assessment Act* has concluded and a decision by MECP on whether the expansion will go forward is pending. The MECP is reviewing the Environmental Screening report, and the comments submitted by interest-holders including PPH's recommendations on the air quality and health impact studies. The recommendations include:

- Consideration of operational enhancements to minimize emissions of nitrogen oxides, fine particulate matter, and dioxins/furans given existing elevated regional background conditions.
- Monitoring data, particularly data from continuous emissions monitoring of criteria air contaminants like nitrogen oxides and PM_{2.5} be made publicly available to increase transparency.

Regional Council can express to the Minister of the MECP the importance for the MECP to consider the comments submitted by interest-holders and review the implications closely, particularly as it relates to increased air pollutant emissions to an area that is already experiencing exceedances of some health benchmarks.

In alignment with the recommendations of the technical studies, Region Council can also request the MECP and the Ministry of Health to require the EEFW to:

- Install the best available pollution control technology and the best available incineration technology, as determined by the MECP, to reduce emissions to the greatest extent possible. This includes prioritizing the assessment and requirement of a minimum burn temperatures that ensures as dioxins and furans, are reduced as much as possible.
- Establish a regular and on-going air and soil monitoring and reporting program as a requirement of their Environmental Compliance Approval.
- Establish an independently-facilitated Community Liaison Committee that is transparent and allows residents to be informed of the facility's compliance with provincial and federal requirements and receives reports of the proposed monitoring and reporting program.

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

- Incorporate contract and administrative processes with waste suppliers to ensure the removal of waste that is known to have persistent and bio accumulative materials (e.g., heavy metals, plastics) from the waste stream such that it is not incinerated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications to this report.

CONCLUSION

The proposed expansion of the EEFW facility itself is anticipated to result in exceedances of some air pollution limits and health benchmarks under worst-case operating assumptions. Implementation of measures to minimize the health impacts to the community include reducing emissions as much as possible, establishing ongoing monitoring of pollutant and ensuring transparency with the local community.

APPENDICES

Appendix I – Technical Studies – Summary
Appendix II - Summary of Health Effects



Nancy Polsinelli, RD HBS Sc MPA, Commissioner of Health Services

Authored By: Franca Ursitti, Manager Health Protection

Technical Studies - Summary

The following are additional details of the technical studies reviewed by Peel Public Health.

a) Air Quality Study

As per MECP guidelines, the air quality study modelled worst-case operating scenario impacts. The EEFW is anticipated to be in compliance with the limits for most air pollutants at the property line and at community locations. However, benzo(a)pyrene and nitrogen dioxide are estimated to exceed the short-term exposure limits by 115% and 29% respectively. The exceedances are anticipated to occur very close to the EEFW property line. Background levels of benzo(a)pyrene levels presently exceed limits for both short- and long-term exposures even before the expansion project by approximately 2.1 and 1.8 times, respectively.

The estimated benzo(a)pyrene and nitrogen dioxide air levels after the expansion are largely driven by emissions related to the mix of commercial, industrial and transportation sources in the area. Adding emissions of air pollutants to an airshed that exceeds limits even before the expansion will increase the cumulative air pollutant burden.

At the July 11, 2024 Regional Council meeting, community members expressed concern about dioxins and furans. In the initial analysis, dioxins and furans levels were estimated to exceed the limits but when recalculated they are estimated to be within the limits for Phase 1 and 2 of the expansion. At the end of Phase 3, the levels will be at the limit. This recalculation may have impacted the health risk assessment related to the deposition of dioxins and furans to soil.

Also, despite emissions of many air pollutants being within the limits, emissions for many of them are estimated to increase substantially (e.g., mercury, cadmium, sulphur dioxide) which may have a broader impact over time.

b) Human Health Risk Assessment

The Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) study evaluated the possibility for negative health effects to occur due to exposures to the air pollutants present in the study area. Health risks to those at the closest community locations (i.e. residential homes and sports fields) were assessed based on air pollutant exposures from the proposed facility combined with exposure already present from background air pollution.

The levels of nitrogen oxides and trichloroethylene (TCE) under the planned expansion exceed the health effect benchmark at the closest sensitive community location (i.e., Sportsfield – 720 m south of the facility). Health benchmarks can be lower than the limit depending on the timeframe (e.g., 30 minutes compared to 24 hours). When pollutants are mixed together in the air there is an increased risk for potential negative health outcomes.

The nitrogen oxides exceedance is estimated to result in an adverse respiratory event (e.g., breathing difficulties, asthmatic event) approximately less than 1% of the time at community locations. This works out to approximately 18 days in a five-year period). With respect to TCE, the emissions associated with the expansion are well within the limits at the property

Appendix I

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

line of the facility. However, the exposures in the community are at levels that can impact health. This is due to the many emissions sources located in this area contributing to poor air quality and increasing the risk of health effects.

In addition, the study concluded that there would be no increased risk from exposures to soil or from growing crops within the surrounding community. However, PPH has questions about the study assumptions.

c) Health Impact Assessment

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) evaluates the potential positive and negative health outcomes of a proposed project and considers the physical, social, and economic impacts.

The study found that there will be marginal traffic impacts to the facility entrance and access to 7653 to 7639 Bramalea Road. Local commuters may be affected by the increased traffic volumes which may negatively impact travel time. The study highlighted the potential for positive financial impacts due to the increase in employment and labour supply.

This study also outlined the importance of social cohesion and provision of regular communication with the local community to maintain transparency with regards to emissions and adherence to air quality limits.

Appendix II

Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

Summary of Health Effects Associated with Dioxins & Furans, Nitrogen Dioxide, Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}), Benzo(a)pyrene, and Trichloroethylene

Pollutant	Potential Human Health Effects	Populations at Higher Risk
Dioxins and Furans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attach to small particles that can travel long distances in the air. They can work their way into the food chain and remain stored in animal body fat. Most human exposure is through food (e.g., meat, milk products, shellfish, and fish).• Health effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ skin disorders, such as chloracne○ liver problems○ impairment of the immune system, the endocrine system and reproductive functions○ effects on the developing nervous system and other developmental events○ certain types of cancers• Dioxin is classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a known human carcinogen.	<p>The developing fetus is most sensitive to exposure.</p> <p>Newborns, with rapidly developing organ systems, breast-fed infants, and children are more vulnerable to certain effects.</p>
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short-term exposure health effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ decreased lung function○ increased respiratory symptoms, and airway inflammation○ aggravation of respiratory diseases, such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)• Long-term exposure health effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ allergic responses○ development of asthma○ increased susceptibility to respiratory infections• Associated with effects on the cardiovascular system, and some reproductive effects• Any incremental increase in ambient levels presents an increased risk for health effects, up to and including mortality.• Associated with increased respiratory and asthma hospitalizations and asthma emergency room visits.• Other emerging effects are still being studied, including the effects on the central nervous system, diabetes, appendicitis, inflammatory bowel disease, otitis media, osteoporosis and rheumatoid arthritis.	<p>Groups that have increased sensitivity or exposure to NO₂ include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• children• older adults• individuals with asthma, bronchitis, or COPD• people engaged in vigorous outdoor physical activity• those spending substantial amounts of time near local sources and/or major roadways
Fine Particulate Matter (PM _{2.5})	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes particles in the air that measure less than 2.5 micrometers (µm) in diameter. Poses a health risk because, when inhaled, it can travel deeply into your lungs.• Health effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ eye, nose, throat and lung irritation○ wheezing, coughing and shortness of breath○ decreased lung function○ aggravation of lung and heart conditions like asthma and heart disease○ impacts to the heart and lungs (e.g., asthma attacks, chronic bronchitis, and heart attacks)	<p>Fine particulate matter is most hazardous for the following at-risk groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ children with asthma older adults○ people with an underlying breathing and/or heart conditions

Appendix II
Potential Health Impacts Related to the Emerald Energy from Waste Proposed Expansion

Pollutant	Potential Human Health Effects	Populations at Higher Risk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cerebrovascular (stroke) impacts ○ long-term exposure has been linked to adverse perinatal outcomes and lung cancer • Linked to increased emergency room visits and hospitalization due to respiratory and cardiovascular problems, as well as increased risk of premature mortality • Both long-term and short-term exposure to particulate matter is associated with morbidity and mortality from cardiovascular and respiratory diseases • Classified as a human carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). 	
<p>Benzo(a)pyrene (BaP)</p> <p>Benzo(a)pyrene (BaP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be transported over considerable distances and exposure can be through food, air, consumer products, drinking water, soil, and some occupational settings. • Present in breast milk and can readily cross the placenta • Health effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ increased incidences of tumours and cancers ○ developmental and reproductive effects including adverse birth outcomes (e.g., reduced birth weight, postnatal body weight, and head circumference, decreased fertility) • Classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a human carcinogen 	General population is at risk.
Trichloroethylene (TCE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term exposure health effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ irritation to the nose and throat ○ effects to the nervous system ○ skin rashes ○ symptoms such as headache, nausea, dizziness, drowsiness and confusion • Long-term exposure health effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ effects to the nervous system (e.g., nerves of the face and head (cranial nerves)) ○ symptoms such as headaches, fatigue, memory loss, irritability, depression and reduced ability to think or reason ○ hearing or vision loss ○ reproductive effects (e.g., decreased sperm quality and reproductive hormone levels) ○ developmental effects (e.g., congenital heart defects, small birth weight, spontaneous abortion) ○ effects to the liver and kidneys ○ effects to the immune system ○ known to cause kidney cancer ○ associated with liver, and lymphatic system cancer (e.g., lymphoma) • Classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a human carcinogen 	General population is at risk.



Emerald Energy From Waste

Presentation by Louise Aubin, Director, Health Protection
April 10, 2025



Outline:

1. Background

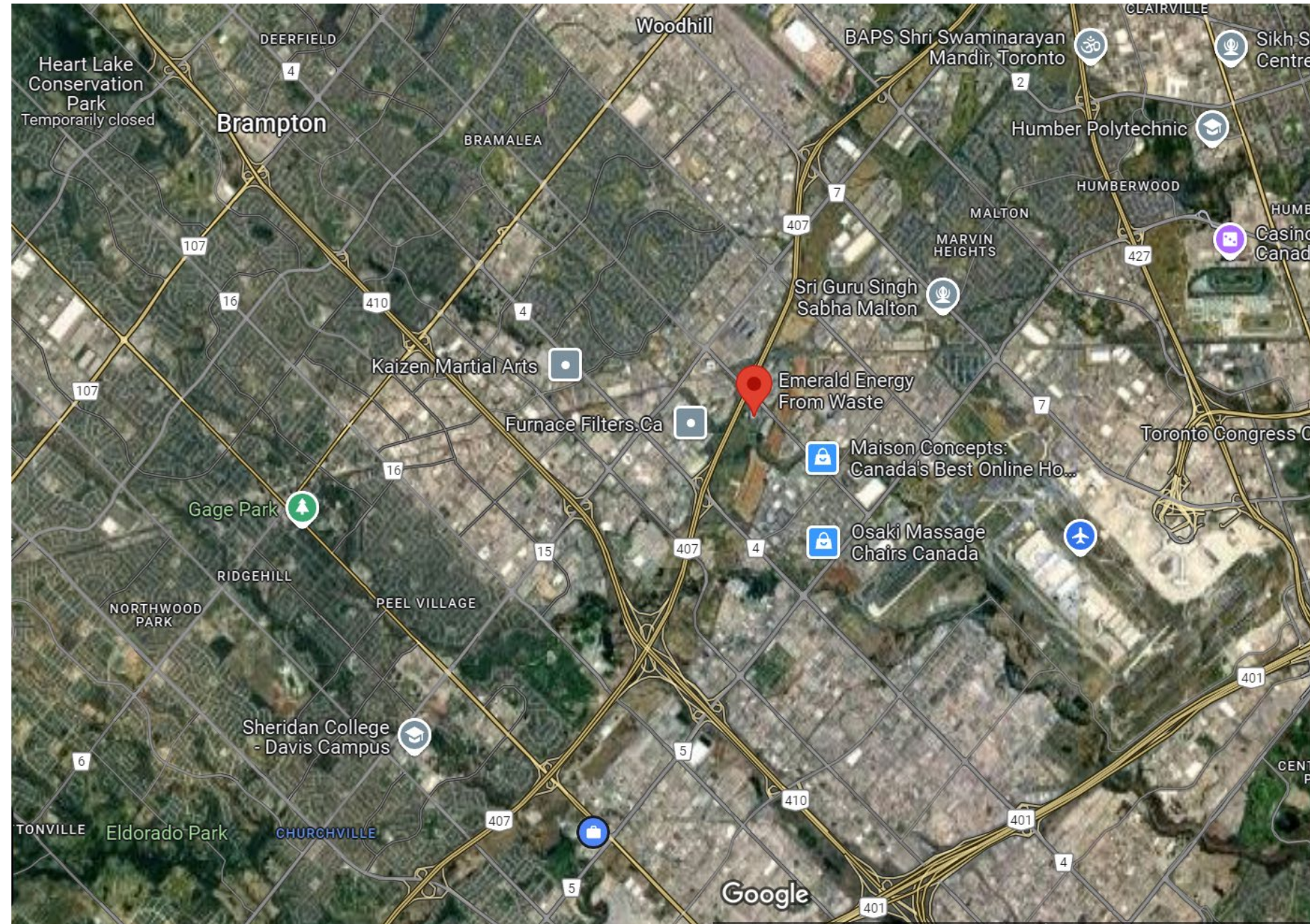
2. Emerald Energy from Waste (EEFW) Study Findings

3. Public Health Concerns

4. Next Steps

Background:

- Emerald operates an Energy from Waste (EEFW) Facility located in Brampton to thermally treat non-hazardous municipal waste and produce electricity and steam.
- Approved waste processing rates of 546 tonnes per day (tpd) and 182,000 tonnes per annum (tpa).
- Proposing to redevelop its incineration capacity by replacing the existing Facility and construct and operate a new Facility on the existing property.
- The redevelopment will be carried out in 3 phases to expand the Facility's incineration capacity up to 900,000 tpa (~ 5-fold increase).



EEFW Study Findings - Air Quality

Exceedances	At the limit	Significant increases
Benzo(a)pyrene	Dioxins and Furans	Mercury
Nitrogen dioxide		Cadmium
		Sulphur dioxide

Greenhouse gas emissions are estimated to result in a six-fold increase.

EEFW Study Findings – Human Health Risk Assessment

- Levels of **nitrogen oxides and trichloroethylene (TCE)** exceed the health effect benchmark at community locations under short-term exposure modelled conditions.
- The **nitrogen oxides** exceedance is estimated to result in an adverse respiratory event
- **Chemical mixtures** increase the risk for potential negative health outcomes. This is mainly due to the existing background levels of nitrogen oxides, small particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), and dioxins and furans.
- No increased risk from exposures to **soil** or from growing crops within the surrounding community, however study assumptions require clarification.

Public Health Concerns

- Additional emissions associated with the expansion results in an overall increase in cumulative exposure to air pollutants; increasing the risk of negative health effects.
- Health and sociodemographic data of the communities that live near the EEFW facility demonstrates the potential for worsening health disparities. These communities have higher:
 - rates of certain health conditions, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cerebrovascular disease, ischemic heart disease and diabetes.
 - percentages of racialized residents, more one-parent families, and higher percentages of residents that did not complete high school and are unemployed.
- Reducing community exposure to any additional pollution to the best extent possible aligns with PPH's goal of decreasing health inequities across Peel.

Next Steps

- The Environmental Screening process has concluded and a decision on whether the expansion will go forward is pending.
- The MECP will review detailed plans/processes as part the Environmental Compliance Approvals.
- Public Health's recommendations from the air quality and health studies include:
 - further operational enhancements be considered to minimize emissions given existing elevated background conditions
 - monitoring data be made publicly available to increase transparency

Recommendation:

That Regional Chair on behalf of Regional Council write to the Ministers of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and of Health expressing concern about the anticipated increase in air emissions associated with the proposed Emerald Energy from Waste expansion that may result in exceedances of some air pollutant limits and health benchmarks in an area where the air quality is already compromised and requesting that:

1. approval be contingent upon the installation of both best available technology to burn the waste and best available practices undertaken to monitor and control pollution in the air and soil; and
2. an independently-facilitated liaison committee with broad representation from the surrounding community be established
3. monitoring data, particularly data from continuous emissions monitoring of criteria air contaminants, be made publicly available to increase transparency.
4. consideration of the long-term impact associated with the sixfold increase in greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, including the potential adverse health impacts.
5. consideration of the impacts of establishing robust circular economy markets that can achieve many co-benefits, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Thank you

Questions?

For Information

REPORT TITLE: 2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

FROM: Steve Jacques, MScPI, MCIP, RPP, Commissioner of Human Services

OBJECTIVE

To provide Regional Council with an update on the 2025 Food Insecurity Fund.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Regional Food Sector Investments: From 2022 to 2024, Regional Council has invested over \$7 million to deliver emergency food to Peel's most vulnerable.
 - Food Insecurity Declared a Crisis: In 2023, Regional Council (RBC 2023-110) declared food insecurity a crisis in Peel.
 - Rising Demand: Peel Food agencies continue to report a 40 to 60% increase in visits year over year.
 - Advocating for Change: Through a whole-of-Regional approach, continued advocacy for policy and funding changes to the Provincial and Federal governments is critical.
 - Impact of Investments: Funding has improved access to emergency food, by contributing to the total procurement of 35% more pounds of food in 2024 from 2023 and serving over 117,574 residents from 2024.
 - 2025 Food Fund Direction: The fund will support the continued emergency food security needs, and also support commitment to community collaboration, inclusivity, transparency, and equity in addressing the multi-faceted challenges of food insecurity in Peel Region.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

Community Investment Program (CIP) is focused on strengthening the social safety net by supporting not-for-profit and community agencies to build safe, livable communities for Peel's most vulnerable residents. Through a budget of \$14.7 million in 2024, the Community Investment Funds provides support for local not-for-profit agencies to successfully deliver community and social services by investing in their core operating expenses, build internal capacity, strengthen business practices, and encourage collaborative partnerships to advance system-level solutions. This funding approach is a unique model across the province and is highly regarded throughout the not-for-profit sector in Peel as being innovative and responsive.

From 2022 to 2024, the Region of Peel has invested over \$7 million in Peel to deliver emergency food to Peel's most vulnerable residents. In 2022, Peel Region became one of

2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

first regional governments in Ontario to support food insecurity (RCB2021-74) through allocating \$4 million over two years to assist with capital and operational needs to better serve those in need in Peel. In 2023, Regional Council (RBC2023-110) declared food insecurity a crisis in Peel with direction to amend the 2024 budget to support an additional \$2 million to fund food banks. An additional \$1.34 million was invested to support the food providers through CIP's operational three-year Core Funding (i.e. note this is year 1 (2024) of 3-year core funding).

a) Food Insecurity in Peel

As of April 2024, 8.6 percent (123,660) of Peel's population lives in poverty, including 9.5 percent (27,900) of children ages 0 to 17 years¹. Poverty and insufficient financial resources have been directly linked to food insecurity, however, in 2023, approximately 23 percent of Peel residents were impacted by some level of food insecurity². The difference in the rates of poverty and food insecurity reveal an alarming trend that food insecurity in Peel is experienced by residents both above and below the official poverty rate with more than 1 in 5 households experiencing food insecurity.

The situation with food providers in Ontario, particularly in Peel, have worsened for the eighth year in a row. Food inflation rates of 3-5% have pushed the average family's 2025 annual food bill to \$16,834 an increase of \$801.56 compared to 2024³. In 2024, food providers reported increased service demand of 40-60% compared to the previous year. Food Banks Mississauga reports serving 1 of 13 residents in Mississauga⁴, Knights Table reports serving 1 of 16 residents in Brampton⁵ and Caledon – The Exchange food bank is reporting a 43% increase with 27% being first time users⁶. To date, Provincial and/ or Federal governments have provided limited project-based funding (Ontario Trillium Foundation) having community-based organizations (CBO's) rely on ad-hoc grants, donations, and fundraising as their primary source of revenue to deliver food programming.

b) Regional Advocacy and Collaboration

As one of the most culturally diverse Regions in Canada, Peel is uniquely challenged in ensuring all residents impacted by food insecurity have reliable access and availability to nutritious, culturally appropriate food. Root causes contributing to the rising rates of food insecurity include housing affordability issues, inadequate social assistance, precarious employment, rising cost of living, climate change and low wages. These critical issues disproportionately impact specific vulnerable groups including, Black, South Asian, and Indigenous households, newcomers and asylum claimants, children, seniors, single individuals and female-lone parent households, and individuals with disabilities and complex needs.

¹ 2Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard of Indicators: Trends, April 2024 (statcan.gc.ca)

² Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Snapshot (PHU 2019 to 2023)

³ Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Snapshot (PHU 2019 to 2023)

⁴ Food Banks Mississauga, Annual Report 2024

⁵Knights Table, Annual Impact Report 2024

2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

Community Investment is working through a whole-of-Regional approach (income and social support, housing, government relations, poverty, early childcare, health, community safety and wellbeing, climate change, public works, food sovereignty and justice), with a poverty reduction lens to address food insecurity in Peel. Advocating for policy changes is crucial, included as Appendix I is a list of Regional food security initiative examples. Access to food is a human right⁷. Staff will continue to advocate to different orders of government and build strong cross-divisional partnerships to align regional food security priorities working towards achieving sustainable, systemic change in Peel.

2. 2022-2024 Food Fund Impacts and Reach

Community Investment is aligned with the Region of Peel's Community Investment Service Outcome "Community groups in need have support to deliver services to Peel residents". The Food Fund results are below.

a) 2022-2023 Food Fund

The Food Security Capital and Innovation Fund, a \$4 million investment, over two years, funded 17 agencies. This initiative significantly enhanced local food banks' capabilities, expanding food distribution space by 56,000 square feet and tripling chilled storage capacity, and serving 267,709 Peel residents. The Brampton Food Hub, launched in the last quarter, served 15,115 unique clients.

b) 2024 Food Security Fund

The Food Insecurity Fund, a \$2 million investment funded 8 agencies. Due to the impending dissolution of the Region in 2024, a targeted low-barrier, population-based formula was used to allocate funds, aligning with prevalence of individuals living under the poverty line and high shelter costs across Peel. The fund was instrumental in addressing immediate and systemic food insecurity challenges, supporting expansion, operations, transportation and distribution solutions. It contributed to the procurement of approximately 35% more pounds of food in 2024 compared to 2023, serving 117,574 Peel residents.

An additional \$1.34 million was invested to support the food providers through CIP's operational three-year Core Funding (i.e. note this is year 1 (2024) of 3-year core funding).

3. 2025 Investments in Food Sector:

The Region's 2025 budget approved \$4.34 million in investments in the Peel food sector. Breakdown: 1) \$1.75M from reserves; 2) \$1.25M through CIP base food funding; and 3) \$1.34M invested to support the food providers through CIP's operational three-year Core Funding (i.e. note this is year 2 (2025) of 3-year core funding).

The Fund will be agile and consist of a two-pronged approach.

⁷ Universal Declaration of Human Rights | United Nations (Article 25)

2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

- a) **Emergency Food Insecurity Fund (April 2025)** – The Fund will provide emergency, one-time funding to food agencies that have identified urgent needs. All funding will adhere to strict guidelines, eligibility and a review of an agency's organizational health and risk tolerance. All emergency funding will be assessed on a case-by-case basis with Director and Commissioner authority and approval. All successful approved funding will be pro-rated and aligned to the 2025 Food Fund.
- b) **Food Insecurity Fund (July 2025)** – The Fund will be an equitable, outcome-based fund that addresses Peel's food insecurity needs. Although food insecurity cannot be eliminated through community-level interventions, the 2025 Food Insecurity Fund aims to maximize available resources, enhance collaboration, and improve effectiveness and efficiency of service-delivery to improve outcomes for Peel residents.
- c) **Community-Based Design Approach:** A Community Advisory Board of 10-14 diverse community food providers has been established to collaboratively co-design the development of the Fund with the Region through an inclusive, transparent, and equitable process. The Advisory is comprised of leadership from community-based food programming agencies, anchor academic experts, community development coaches, and internal Regional partners to ensure outcomes and the funding allocation formula meet the needs of Peel's diverse community. An engagement framework will collect feedback from the broader Peel Food community-based organizations and residents with lived experience.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The not-for-profit sector in Peel plays a crucial role within our broader human services system, acting as a vital support network. It has proven to be an essential safety net, especially as it has absorbed increasing demands for services and coordinated efforts to assist the most vulnerable members of our community. Investing in Peel's not-for-profit sector will help to build more resilient and safe communities. Community Investment staff will also continue to work with Metamorphosis Network to advocate to the various levels of government and funders for increased investment for the Peel not-for-profit sector to meet growing demand for services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications from this report. Regional investment in food security is included in the Community Investment service budget, funded through base funding and temporary funding from reserves.

CONCLUSION

Food insecurity in Peel is a multifaceted issue, affecting a significant portion of the population, even those above the official poverty line. Addressing this issue requires a combination of emergency food relief, long-term systemic change, and a focus on community-driven solutions. By working collaboratively across sectors—government, nonprofit, community organizations,

2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

and local businesses—Peel can create a more equitable, resilient food system that supports all residents.

APPENDICES

Appendix I – Regional Food Security Initiatives



Steve Jacques, MScPI, MCIP, RPP, Commissioner of Human Services

Authored By: Arlene Coventry-Bauer, Manager, Community Capacity and Investment, Social Development, Planning and Partnership

Regional Food Security Initiatives

Regional Programs	Food Security Initiatives
A. Community Safety and Well being	<p>The Community Response Table (CRT) is a community-driven collaborative, backboned by Peel Region, that brings together organizations and individuals from various sectors each month to collectively address emerging and acute issues, build capacity, and better serve vulnerable populations in Peel. Over 110 unique community organizations participate at CRT, including executive directors, community leaders, advocates, educators, and municipal partners.</p> <p>CRT hosted a lively discussion on food security in October 2024, and in January 2025 the CIP presented the intention to co-design the food fund, along with circulation of the survey to enable partners to shape the Food Fund and identify what supports are needed to address food insecurity in Peel.</p>
B. Circular Economy	<p>The Circular Economy Initiatives Fund supported community-based organizations in Peel focusing on waste reduction and circular economy initiatives. Funding was awarded through an annual competitive application process, enabling multiple community-based organizations to receive support after a thorough review.</p>
C. Early Years and Child Care Services	<p>Under the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care program, participating childcare programs are required to provide meals and snacks for children who attend for 6 hours or more with no additional cost to families. To support this, childcare providers have regular access to professional learning about menu planning based on the Ontario Dietitians in Public Health Child Care Menu Planning Practical Guide. Peel Region is committed to building community knowledge around the inappropriate use of food in early years programs such as the use of pasta in crafts, and helping families, who connect with us through system navigation, to find food banks using Info Peel's community directory.</p> <p>Each year, Peel funds several customized programs through EarlyON Child and Family Centres focused on budget friendly nutrition. These programs are supported by registered dietitians and help families source local foods, develop sustainable practices, and reduce waste. Some EarlyONs offer indoor and outdoor food-based gardening programs which may include families harvesting some fruit and vegetables together and/or enjoying a snack together as part of the program. Peel Region encourages partnerships between EarlyONs and community agencies, which can include access to food bank services in EarlyON spaces.</p>
D. Government Relations and Strategic Initiatives	<p>On June 8th, 2024, Councillor Santos and Councillor Fonseca presented to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2024 Annual Meeting in Calgary to advocate for the federal government's support in addressing the food insecurity crisis by providing emergency funding to food banks.</p>

Appendix 1
2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

E. Income and Social Support (ISS)	<p>In 2025, ISS has identified addressing food insecurity as a priority and has engaged with Ontario Works clients to identify barriers. ISS continues to collaborate with internal and external partners to advocate for Ontario Works rate increases, and support Peel residents experiencing crisis or urgent needs (i.e. food insecurity, homelessness, leaving an institution, etc.) through the provisions of emergency gift cards that supports access to basic needs and resources that the client may need to avoid undue hardship.</p> <p>Ontario Works (OW) rates have not increased, and no inflation-based adjustments have occurred. The rates have remained the same despite the ongoing impacts of high inflation on the cost of living. Due to inflation, individuals (single person households) receiving \$733 in 2024 have significantly less purchasing power compared to 2018. To match inflation, Ontario Works rates would need to be increased by more than \$150 per month. Continued advocacy for increasing the Ontario Works rates will help address poverty and food insecurity.</p>
F. Metamorphosis Network	<p>Metamorphosis Network continues to advocate and highlight food banks through the 2025 Cut-in-Half campaign that raises awareness of how Peel is comparatively underfunded for municipal services, not-for-profit service providers, school boards and Ontario Health Teams.</p>
G. Peel Poverty Reduction Initiatives	<p>Peel Region's Poverty Reduction Initiatives team is addressing food insecurity by back boning and facilitating the Peel Poverty Reduction Committee (PPRC), a collaborative network that includes residents, people with lived experience, poverty reduction advocates, academia, municipal government and non-profit organizations who work together to mitigate poverty. Income insecurity, one of the main drivers of food insecurity, is a key priority of the PPRC. In 2025 it will be advocating for higher Ontario Works rates and promoting initiatives that help address income security such as a living wage and low-income tax clinics. PPRC is also leading the Youth in Poverty: Systems Mapping Project, a 3-year research project that is underway in collaboration with University of Toronto and key community agencies across Peel that will provide data and insights specific to Peel youth.</p> <p>The Region's Community Engagement team is helping to address food insecurity by working with colleagues to update the Peel Food Map to enhance its sustainability and ensure real-time updates on food security resources across Peel. This partnership between the Peel Data Centre and Findhelp 211 will provide automated data on free food programs across Peel, while a newly developed communications strategy will boost awareness and engagement among grassroots and culturally specific organizations and client-facing staff. The updated map is set to launch in the Spring of 2025, serving as a centralized tool for residents, service providers, and community organizations in Brampton, Caledon, and Mississauga.</p>

Appendix 1
2025 Food Insecurity Fund Update

H. Public Health	Peel Public Health's current advocacy is focused on improving the understanding of food insecurity across Peel, promoting initiatives that address the root cause of household food insecurity, and implementing programs that offset costs for residents (e.g., Student Nutrition Programs). Each year, Peel Public Health conducts the Nutritious Food Basket costing survey which measures food costs, and monitors food affordability in Peel. The results demonstrate that many lower income households don't have enough money to cover the basic costs of living including rent and food and other essential expenses. These results are shared with other programs and partners to support several advocacy priorities. Peel Public Health will bring a report to Regional Council to provide a more detailed update on ongoing work related to food insecurity in Peel later this year.
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2025 Food Security Fund - Update

Presenters: Arlene Coventry Bauer, Manager
Jessica Noble, Advisor

Community Investment
April 10th, 2025



Objectives



Update on the 2025 Food Insecurity Fund



Food Fund Impacts and Reach 2022-2025



Community Food Fund Co-Design Methodology

Region of Peel's Food Security Fund

Poverty and Food Insecurity in Peel



As of April 2024, **8.6%** (123,660) of **Peel's population lives in poverty**, including **9.5%** (27,900) **of children** ages 0 to 17 years



In 2023, **22.9% of Peel residents**, more than **1 in 5** households, were **impacted** by some level of **food insecurity**.



In 2025, **food inflation rates of 3-5%** have **pushed** the **average family's 2025 annual food bill** to **\$16,834** an **increase of \$801.56** compared to 2024



In 2024, **food providers** reported **increased service demand** of **40-60%** compared to the previous year

1. Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard of Indicators: Trends, April 2024 (statcan.gc.ca)

2. Public Health Ontario: Household Food Insecurity Snapshot (PHU 2019 to 2023)

2022-2024 Regional Investments

Since 2022, the Region's Community Investment Program (CIP) has invested \$7.34 million to improving access to emergency food.

Outcomes

Enhanced
Capacity of Food
Sector

Increased number
of residents
accessing
emergency food

Increased
procurement and
distribution of
food

2022 - Peel Region became one of first regional governments in Ontario to support food insecurity (RCB2021-74)

2023 - Regional Council declared food insecurity a crisis in Peel (RBC2023-110)

2022/23 - The Food Security Capital and Innovation Fund invested \$2M annually, over 2 years, to 17 agencies.

2024 - The Food Insecurity Fund invested \$2 million to 8 agencies.

Household Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is the inability to *consistently and reliably* acquire or consume an adequate diet quality or sufficient quantity of food in socially acceptable ways, or the uncertainty that one will be able to do so. Household food insecurity is often linked with the household's financial ability to access adequate food. *(Household Food Security Survey Module, 2022).*

2023: % of People living in food-insecure Households

22.9% (8.7M) of Canadians across all 10 provinces

24.5% of people in Ontario

22.9% of Peel residents

Community Food Security

A situation in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through sustainable food systems that maximizes community self-reliance and social justice (Hamm & Bellows, 2003 p.37)



Advocating for Change

Regional Advocacy and Collaboration

- Upstream Interventions across the Region.
- Whole-of-Regional approach with a poverty reduction lens
 - **Income and Social Supports**
 - **Public Health**
 - **Public Works**
 - **Poverty Reduction**
 - **EYCC**
 - **Climate Change**
 - **Public Health**
 - **CSWB**
 - **Community Engagement**

2025 Food Security Fund

2025 \$3M

Two- Prong Approach:

- 1. Emergency Food Fund (April)-** Emergency funding identified urgent needs.
- 2. Co-design Fund (July):** Equitable outcomes-based fund that is co-designed with and along side community.



2025 Food Security Fund

Co-design Process: Co-design refers to a participatory approach to designing solutions, in which community members are treated as equal collaborators in the design process.

Benefits of Co-design:

- Allows for diverse perspectives of Peel's food systems to develop an equitable, outcome-based fund framework that is relevant to community needs
- Builds community capacity to work collaboratively to address complex problems
- Generates innovative, practical solutions
- Empowers community stakeholders to make decisions and take action that builds positive outcomes for their communities



Community Advisory Board

Selection Criteria

- Experience working in the not-for profit/ charitable sector and addressing food insecurity
- Relevant strengths and experience
- Experience fostering inclusive, safe environments for others
- Future-forward thinking with a focus on sustainable, innovative approaches
- Systems-level thinking



Community Advisory Board

Community Organizations

Balanced Representation:

Geographic Areas

Size and Longevity

Service Types

Populations Served

1. Anba Abraam Charity-St. Mary's Food Bank
2. Bethel Outreach Community Services
3. Caledon Community Services
4. Caledon Meals on Wheels
5. Case Community Services
6. Ecosource
7. Food Banks Mississauga
8. Knights Table
9. Punjabi Community Health Services
10. Regeneration Outreach Community
11. YMCA of Greater Toronto
12. Seva Food Bank



Community Advisory Board

- Academics specializing in Food Insecurity
 - **Sara Edge & Jennelle Regnier-Davies** – Arrell Institute, University of Guelph
 - **Julian Hasford** – Toronto Metropolitan University, Center for Studies in Food Security
- Indigenous Engagement Advisor
 - **Gina Hartwick** – Indigenous Engagement Advisor, Peel Region

2025 Food Security Fund: Key Objectives of Co-design Process



1. Co-Design Peel's 2025 Food Security Fund

Develop an equitable, outcome-based fund **framework** to address food insecurity in Peel by working closely with community partners and considering the entire food system.



2. Enhance Stakeholder Capacity and Collaboration

Increase knowledge and strengthen **collaboration** among Community Advisory Board members to effectively work together to develop and implement impactful solutions for Peel residents.



3. Develop Sustainable Strategies

Enhance Peel Region's **ability to collaborate with community partners** and apply **sustainable strategies** to address food insecurity.



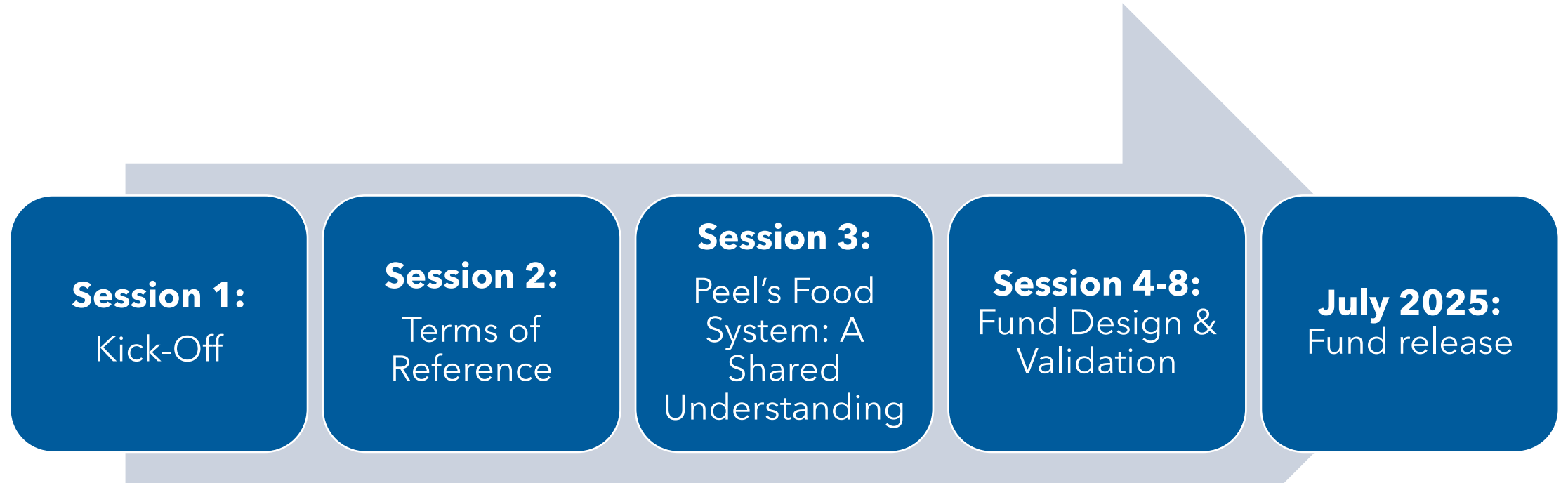
2025 Food Security Fund

Deliverables

1. 2025 Food Security Fund framework
2. Revised Peel Region Food System Map
3. Recommendations for addressing food insecurity in Peel in future



Design Session Schedule



Timeline: March to June 2025

Thank You



REPORT TITLE: **2025 Contract Renewal for Human Services Emergency Response – Canadian Red Cross Society**

FROM: Steve Jacques, MScPI, MCIP, RPP, Commissioner of Human Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the Director of Income and Social Supports be authorized to enter into a 12-month contract (Document 2023-334N) for the provision of Preparedness Services, Core Response Services, and Volunteer Management with the Canadian Red Cross Society for the 12-month term, valued at \$135,735, beginning January 1, 2025, in a legal form that is satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor, with an option to grant a maximum of three additional year-long extensions, subject to available budget all in accordance with Procurement By-Law 30-2018, as amended.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Under the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Order in Council, the Region of Peel is legislated to provide emergency shelter, clothing, food, registration and inquiry and personal supports and services due to an emergency or disaster in our community.
- The Region of Peel Human Services currently has a formal agreement with the Canadian Red Cross Society to provide Preparedness Services, Core Response Services and Volunteer Management that came to end on December 31, 2024.
- To maintain disaster relief services, staff is seeking Council authority to directly negotiate a new contract with Canadian Red Cross Society ending December 31, 2025, in the estimated amount of \$135,735 with 3 12-month extensions based on satisfactory performance, including cost-of-living adjustments.
- There are sufficient funds in the Income and Social Supports budget to fund a new contract for Human Services Emergency Response.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Region of Peel as a municipality, under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, R.S.O 1990, c. E.9, is legislatively required to have an emergency response program.

At present the Region of Peel has a binding agreement with the Canadian Red Cross Society (CRCS) for the provision of disaster relief services including personal disaster allowance (PDA) for a period of 3 days post emergency event.

This agreement came to an end on December 31, 2024. To maintain disaster relief services, staff is seeking Council authority to directly negotiate a new contract with CRCS until December 31, 2025.

2025 Contract Renewal for Human Services Emergency Response – Canadian Red Cross Society

Overview of Canadian Red Cross Society Services

The CRCS is recognized officially as an auxiliary to public authorities in providing protection and assistance to people affected by emergency incidents and has the resources and mandate to assist in the provision of emergency social services. In the event of an emergency, CRCS provides the Region with the following support services (full descriptions provided in Appendix I):

- a) **Preparedness Services:** The CRCS provides education and training for disaster management personnel, preparedness workshops, training exercises, maintenance of pre-positioned stockpiles and joint planning on procedures, operational structure, and response.
- b) **Core Response Services:** The CRCS provides shelter and/or reception center management services, family reunification services, emergency lodging services, reception and information services, emergency food services, personal services, and emergency clothing.
- c) **Volunteer Management:** Recruitment, orientation, training, and placement of unaffiliated volunteers to be utilized by the CRCS during a major incident as surge capacity personnel.

2. Benefits of the Program

The agreement that Peel Region has with the CRCS ensures that we are prepared to deal with unforeseen situations such as fires, chemical spills, explosions, floods, injury, illness, and other crisis situations. In a time where our emergency shelters are seeing an increase in need, the support CRCS provides reduces the likelihood of individuals requiring the use of emergency shelter in the event of an incident that displaces them from their home. When an incident occurs, the Region's Human Services Emergency Response Team is contacted as a first response. From there, information is gathered, and an assessment is made to determine if CRCS support is required. The table below shows the number of incidents recorded for 2023 and 2024 and the number of incidents for which CRCS provided support.

	2023	2024
Incidents Tracked*	38	34
CRCS Supported	13	8

*Incidents not part of CRCS scope of work not included (e.g. funeral support)

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

If a new agreement is not approved, disaster relief services would become unavailable. This would destabilize the supports available to families and possibly increase service demand to the shelters.

2025 Contract Renewal for Human Services Emergency Response – Canadian Red Cross Society

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The prior agreement with CRCS had a yearly budget of \$132,943. It is proposed that this amount be increased to \$135,735 for the 2025 calendar year to account for inflation, plus cost-of-living adjustments should extensions be granted for additional terms.

There are sufficient funds in the Income and Social Supports approved operating budget to support this request.

CONCLUSION

The Region of Peel had a binding agreement with the Canadian Red Cross Society for the provision of disaster relief services including personal disaster allowance for a period of 3 days post emergency event.

This agreement ended on December 31, 2024. To maintain disaster relief services, staff is seeking Council authority to directly negotiate a new contract with Canadian Red Cross Society until December 31, 2025, and provide 3 12-month extensions based on satisfactory performance.

APPENDICES

Appendix I - Overview of Canadian Red Cross Society Services



Steve Jacques, MScPI, MCIP, RPP, Commissioner of Human Services

Authored By: Arman Bachmann, Program Analyst, Housing

Overview of Canadian Red Cross Society (CRCS) Services

Preparedness Services

- *Education*: preparedness workshops to staff of the Region including content relevant training.
- *Joint Planning*: planning support and collaboration associated with, but not limited to, acquisition and pre-positioning of supplies, shelter surveys, development of plans and procedures, operational structure and response as they relate to the provision of CRCS Services.
- *Exercises*: participate in exercises with the Region (as deemed appropriate by the Region) and provide the Region with the option to deploy staff to CRCS exercises.
- *Education and Training for Disaster Management Personnel*: maintain a cadre of trained, exercised and ready-to-respond CRCS personnel, sufficient to fulfill the terms of the Agreement, and undertake continuing education including drills and training.
- *Maintenance of Pre-Positioned Stockpiles*: maintain a stockpile of materials within Peel deemed necessary to provide immediate service in the event of an Incident, Stockpiled items may include vouchers, gift cards, hygiene kits, cots, blankets, water and/or other items as deemed necessary.

Core Response Services

- *Shelter &/or Reception Centre Management Services*: set up and operate the Standard Services of a Reception Centre, a safe and temporary facility where incident-affected persons are received and provided with a variety of emergency social services. The aforementioned Standard Services that will be provided by the CRCS are: clothing, lodging, food, family reunification services and inquiry, reception and information and personal services.
- *Family Reunification Services*: contribute to the alleviation of the anxiety and fear of affected persons experience when family members are separated because of a Major Disaster. This service involves collecting specific and accurate information from affected peoples (registration) and responding to requests for information about their family members' health and how to contact them. Client Registration is also helpful in supporting the delivery of other types of assistance and direct aid services.
- *Emergency Lodging Services*: If the Regional shelters are unable to accommodate displaced people, the CRCS provides Incident-Affected Persons with a temporary, safe shelter, to preserve their dignity and support them during a response.

Appendix I

2025 Contract Renewal for Human Services Emergency Response – Canadian Red Cross Society

- *Reception and Information Services:* receive Incident-Affected People at locations where they can obtain services and/or inform them about the available services offered by the CRCS or other organizations.
- *Emergency Food Services:* emergency feeding services for Incident-Affected People.
- *Personal Services* initial reception of Incident-Affected People arriving at Reception Centres or other Region approved locations; inform them of immediate emergency help available; offer temporary care for unattended children and dependent elderly; assist with the temporary care of residents from special care facilities; and offer emotional care and comfort.
- *Emergency Clothing:* clothing to preserve affected peoples' dignity and ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather. (Provide new clothing with the assistance of clothing suppliers; or Administer voucher(s) or pre-paid gift/debit cards for clothing.)

Volunteer Management

- Recruitment, orientation, training, and placement of unaffiliated volunteers to be utilized by the CRCS during a Major Incident as surge capacity personnel.

Minister
of Immigration,
Refugees and Citizenship



Ministre
de l'Immigration,
des Réfugiés et de la Citoyenneté

Ottawa, Canada K1A 1L1

RECEIVED
March 13, 2025
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer
10 Peel Centre Dr.
Brampton ON L6T 4B9
nando.iannicca@peelregion.ca

Dear Regional Chair Iannicca:

I am writing in response to the Regional Municipality of Peel's request for financial support from the Government of Canada under the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) for costs incurred between April 1 and December 31, 2024, in the provision of interim housing for asylum claimants. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has worked closely with Peel Region's senior officials responsible for this file, and I would like to express my gratitude for the Region's ongoing commitment to providing assistance to asylum claimants in recent years.

I am aware that Peel continues to face a number of acute pressures, including with respect to the provision of interim housing for asylum claimants. Therefore, I am pleased to report that IRCC is prepared to offer the Region of Peel a payment of \$38,486,328.45 under IHAP to reimburse related expenses incurred in April to December 2024. This is in addition to the \$22 million already provided to Peel as an instalment towards its 2024 costs. Please see the attached IHAP grant agreement for signature by March 14, 2025, at the latest. The Department will also work with your officials to process Peel's IHAP proposal for 2025-27 at the earliest opportunity.

Peel Region has been a key partner to IRCC in supporting newcomers in Canada, and I am confident that our effective collaboration will continue.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Marc Miller, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

Attachment (1)

Canada

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Members Present:	C. Early C. Emick C. Fonseca	J. Horneck N. Iannicca P. Vicente
Members Absent:	M. Ali	A. Tedjo
Staff Present:	G. Kent, Chief Administrative Officer D. Valeri, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services P. Caza, Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services S. Jacques, Commissioner of Human Services K. Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works N. Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health Services Dr. H. Meghani, Medical Officer of Health	J. Weinman, Director, Internal Audit A. Adams, Regional Clerk C. Thomson, Deputy Clerk and Manager, Legislative Services H. Lockyer, Committee Clerk J. Jones, Legislative Specialist S. MacGregor, Legislative Technical Coordinator J. Coley, Legislative Technical Coordinator R. Cruz, Audio Visual Specialist

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Hannah Lockyer, Committee Clerk, called the Audit and Risk Committee meeting to order on March 6, 2025 at 11:15 a.m., in the Council Chambers, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive. Members of the Committee and staff participated electronically.

Member Ali was absent due to personal matters.

Councillor Tedjo was absent due to other municipal business.

Regional Chair Iannicca arrived at 11:18 a.m.

Other Members present: Councillor Fortini.

Councillor Horneck, Committee Chair, presided.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION ARC-1-2025

1. *That the agenda for the March 6, 2025 Audit and Risk Committee meeting include a closed session oral update regarding Information Technology: the security of the property of the municipality or local board, to be dealt with under Closed Session – Item 8.2; and*
2. *That the agenda for the March 6, 2025 Audit and Risk Committee meeting, be approved, as amended.*

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Jennifer Weinman, Director, Internal Audit, Region of Peel

Presenting the Institute of Internal Auditors Quality Assessment Generally Conforms Plaque (Related to 5.1)

Deferred to the next meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee

5. REPORTS

5.1 2024 External Quality Assessment Results

(For information) (Related to 4.1)

Received

Jennifer Weinman, Director, Internal Audit, provided an overview of the audit process and outcome.

5.2 Water and Wastewater Operations Audit

(For information)

Presentation by Elaine Gilliland, Director, Water & Wastewater and Anila Lalani, Manager, Internal Audit

Received

Anila Lalani, Manager, Internal Audit and Elaine Gilliland, Director, Water and Wastewater provided an overview of the Water and Wastewater Operations Audit. They provided background information on Water and Wastewater Operations management; summarized the audit objectives and observations, noting effective internal controls over manhole flushing, flow monitoring equipment and manhole inspections and deficiencies in contract management practices; and discussed plans to address the audit observations and risks.

Chair Horneck asked questions regarding the frequency that Peel met timelines for responding to locate requests; what the required deadlines are; and how frequently monitoring was occurring on contracts.

Elaine Gilliland advised that overall, Peel responded within the timelines 70 per cent of the time, but during busy season that number dropped to approximately

40 percent; the deadline is within ten days; and the data was reviewed on a monthly basis.

5.3 2025 Internal Audit Risk Based Work Plan

Presentation by Anila Lalani, Manager, Internal Audit

RECOMMENDATION ARC-2-2025

That the 2025 Internal Audit Risk Based Work Plan as outlined in the report of the Director, Internal Audit, listed on the March 6, 2025, Audit and Risk Committee agenda, titled “2025 Internal Audit Risk Based Work Plan”, be approved.

Anila Lalani, Manager, Internal Audit provided an overview of the provisions for the 2025 Internal Audit Risk Based Work Plan; review of the work plan methodology; and key projects included in the work plan.

Chair Horneck noted that the waste collection audit was moved to 2027 as the service is currently being evaluated; and requested an update on outstanding items from previous audits.

5.4 2024 Fraud Information

(For information)

Received

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee

RECOMMENDATION ARC-3-2025

That Councillor Horneck be elected Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

RECOMMENDATION ARC-4-2025

That Councillor Early be elected Vice-Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

8. CLOSED SESSION

RECOMMENDATION-5-2025

That the Audit and Risk Committee proceed into “closed session” to consider matters related to the following:

- *8.1 Litigation or Potential Litigation, Including Matters Before Administrative Tribunals, Affecting the Municipality or Local Board; and*
- *8.2 Information Technology Update: the security of the property of the municipality or local board.*

RECOMMENDATION-6-2025

That the Committee move out of "closed session".

8.1 Litigation or Potential Litigation, Including Matters Before Administrative Tribunals, Affecting the Municipality or Local Board

Received

8.2 Information Technology Update

(The security of the property of the municipality or local board)

Received

Committee moved into closed session at 11:49 a.m.
Committee moved out of closed session at 12:45 p.m.

9. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 15th, 2025
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Council Chamber, 5th Floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

Please forward regrets to Hannah Lockyer, Committee Clerk, at
hannah.lockyer@peelregion.ca.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.



**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Members Present: D. Damerla
J. Horneck
N. Iannicca
M. Medeiros

C. Parrish
M. Russo
R. Santos
P. Vicente

Members Absent: P. Brown
B. Butt

A. Groves
A. Tedjo

Staff Present: G. Kent, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Valeri, Chief Financial Officer and
Commissioner of Corporate Services
N. Lum, Acting Commissioner of Public
Works
P. Caza, Regional Solicitor and
Commissioner of Legislative Services
S. Jacques, Commissioner of Human
Services
N. Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health
Services
Dr. H. Meghani, Medical Officer of
Health
K. Medenblik, Director, Government
Relations and Strategic Initiatives
A. Adams, Regional Clerk
C. Thomson, Deputy Clerk and
Manager of Legislative Services
H. Lockyer, Committee Clerk
J. Jones, Legislative Specialist
J. Coley, Legislative Technical
Coordinator
S. MacGregor, Legislative Technical
Coordinator
J. Chen, Technology Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Hannah Lockyer, Committee Clerk, called the Government Relations Committee meeting to order on March 6, 2025 at 1:35 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive. Members of the Committee and staff participated electronically.

Councillor Brown was absent due to other municipal business.

Councillor Butt was absent due to other municipal business.

Councillor Groves was absent due to other municipal business.

Councillor Tedjo was absent due to other municipal business.

Other Members present: Councillor Early and Councillor Fortini.

Councillor Russo, Acting Committee Chair, presided.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION GRC-1-2025

That the agenda for the March 6, 2025 Government Relations Committee meeting, be approved.

4. DELEGATIONS

Nil.

5. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

5.1 Government Relations Update

Presentation by Giancarlo Cristiano, Advisor, Strategic Public Policy

Received

Giancarlo Cristiano, Advisor, Strategic Public Policy, provided an update on the 2025 Ontario provincial election results and the pre and post election advocacy activities; federal government political developments, election preparation and impacts of the U.S. Tariffs; and upcoming advocacy opportunities.

Councillor Vicente asked questions regarding the Metamorphosis Network's pledge circulated to provincial election candidates and if any of the newly elected Members of Provincial Parliament representing areas in Peel Region signed.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Metamorphosis Network confirmed that the candidates elected to Peel Region ridings did not sign the pledge, but there were indications they would work with the Metamorphosis Network after the election.

5.2 Early Years and Child Care Workforce Crisis

Presentation by Nakiema Palmer, Director, Early Years and Child Care Services

Received

Nakiema Palmer, Director, Early Years and Child Care Services provided an update on Peel's early years and child care workforce crisis and its impact; key issues facing Peel's workforce, including immigration policies and low compensation; steps Peel has taken to address the crisis; and how Council can support advocacy efforts moving forward.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Update on Peel Region Advocacy Priorities

(For information)

Received

6.2 2025 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference

RECOMMENDATION GRC-2-2025

That the approach outlined in the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, listed on the March 6, 2025, Government Relations Committee agenda titled "2025 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference", be endorsed.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Oral Health Branch, Health Canada

Email dated December 16, 2024, Responding to a Letter from Regional Chair Iannicca, Regarding Integration between the Canadian Dental Care Plan and the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (Resolution 2024-808) (Receipt recommended)

Received

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Government Relations Committee

RECOMMENDATION GRC-3-2025

That Councillor Tedjo be elected Chair of the Government Relations Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

RECOMMENDATION GRC-4-2025

That Councillor Medeiros be elected Vice-Chair of the Government Relations Committee, for a term ending November 14, 2026, or until a successor is appointed.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Nil.

10. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 5, 2025
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Council Chamber, 5th Floor
Regional Administrative Headquarters
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
Brampton, Ontario

Please forward regrets to Hannah Lockyer, Committee Clerk at
hannah.lockyer@peelregion.ca

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.



**PUBLIC MEETING
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL CLERK**

March 20, 2025

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

2. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

Regional Chair Iannicca opened the public meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton. He stated that the public meeting was being held pursuant to section 219(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, for the purpose of obtaining input from the public on a proposed by-law to designate council members entitled to cast additional votes during certain vacancies on Regional Council.

3. CONFIRMATION OF NOTIFICATION

Aretha Adams, Regional Clerk, stated that Notice of the Public Meeting was given in accordance with Section 219(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, and Region of Peel Corporate Policy G00-16 by publication in the following News Outlet Websites in the Region of Peel:

- MississaugaNews.com - March 8-13, 2025
- BramptonGuardian.com - March 8-13, 2025
- CaledonEnterprise.com - March 8-13, 2025

The Notice of Public Meeting was posted on the Region's website as of March 7, 2025, and was shared on Peel's social media Twitter and LinkedIn channels. The proposed by-law was available to the public on-line as of March 14, 2025.

4. FURTHER NOTICE REQUEST

5. STAFF OVERVIEW

5.1 Patricia Caza, Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services

Providing an Overview of a Proposed By-law to Designate Council Members Entitled to Cast Additional Votes During Certain Vacancies on Regional Council.

(Oral)

Received

Patricia Caza, Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Legislative Services provided an overview of the proposed by-law to designate council members entitled to cast additional votes during certain vacancies on Regional Council and the specific circumstances that must exist, as outlined in the by-law.

She advised that the proposed by-law is authorized under Section 218 (3) of the *Municipal Act* (Act) which enables an upper-tier municipality to change the number of votes given to any member, provided that each member shall have at least one vote. The use of this authority is subject to significant procedural requirements under the Act including giving public notice and holding a public meeting.

The adoption of the proposed by-law is also subject to a triple majority support requirement. To achieve triple majority support, the following must occur:

- a majority of all votes on Regional Council are cast in favour of the by-law (this means a minimum of 13 votes must be cast in favour of the by-law at Regional Council);
- a majority of the local municipal Councils must pass resolutions consenting to the by-law (this means a minimum of two of the three local municipalities in Peel must pass resolutions consenting to the by-law); and
- the total number of electors in the local municipalities that have consented to the by-law must form a majority of all the electors in Peel.

Under the provisions of the Act the by-law, if passed, would not come into effect until the new Council is organized following the next regular election in 2026.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ORAL SUBMISSIONS)

Nil.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS)

Nil.

8. CONCLUSION AND CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING

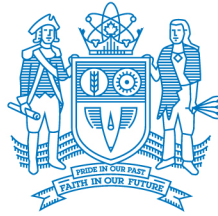
Regional Chair Iannicca stated that there were no oral submissions and that any received written comments would be noted and included in the final report to be considered by Regional Council.

The report of the Public Meeting and the proposed by-law will be considered by Regional Council at the April 10, 2025 Regional Council meeting.

Regional Chair Iannicca closed the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

Regional Clerk

Sue McFadden
Councillor, Ward 10
T 905-896-5010
F 905-896-5863
sue.mcfadden@mississauga.ca



City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive
MISSISSAUGA ON L5B 3C1
mississauga.ca
mississaugaward10.ca

March 24, 2025

RECEIVED
March 24, 2025
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

To the Regional Clerk and Fellow Members of Regional Council,

In light of the call of Canada's 45th general election, I am writing to advise that I will be seeking the federal seat in Mississauga-Streetsville with the Conservative Party of Canada. It is my intent and desire to take an unpaid leave of absence as Regional Councillor for Mississauga Ward 10 for the duration of the five-week campaign, March 24 to April 28, 2025, inclusive. Councillor Butt has agreed to and been appointed as my proxy.

Any questions or concerns of a municipal nature related to Mississauga Ward 10 can continue to be directed to my office using the contact information above and my staff – David Raakman and Sharon Persaud – will address them.

As always, thank you for your encouragement and support.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue McFadden".

Sue McFadden
Ward 10 Councillor
City of Mississauga, Region of Peel

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒ _____

For Information

REPORT TITLE: Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

FROM: Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA, Commissioner of Public Works

OBJECTIVE

To provide Regional Council with an update to the Report on “Forever Chemicals” and Peel Region Drinking Water on June 27, 2024, on per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS; known as “forever chemicals”). This update report covers the state of the industry, Peel’s actions regarding contaminants of emerging concern (CEC), and 2024 drinking water PFAS results.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- *Report on “Forever Chemicals” and Peel Region Drinking Water (Resolution Number 2024-489) on June 27, 2024, included a commitment to provide an update in 2025 on PFAS in Peel’s drinking water supplies.*
 - Contaminants of emerging concern refers to a broad array of substances that are becoming recognized as concerning to public health and the environment but are not yet regulated in Ontario drinking water. This includes per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), known as “forever chemicals” due to their stability and environmental persistence.
 - Health Canada finalized a Total PFAS objective for drinking water in August 2024.
 - To date, the PFAS levels detected in Peel’s drinking water are below Health Canada’s total PFAS objective and the US Environmental Protection Agency’s limits for the parameters Peel tests.
 - In 2025, Peel Region significantly expanded the contaminants of emerging concern surveillance program, enhancing its scope and capabilities, while reinforcing Peel’s role as a municipal leader in Ontario.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

a) Contaminants of Emerging Concern

Contaminants of emerging concern (CEC) is a term that encompasses a broad range of substances detected through environmental monitoring that may cause ecological and/or human health impacts and are typically unregulated in environmental or drinking water regulations. Advances in technology have improved the Region’s ability to detect these substances at lower levels, increasing awareness of their potential impacts. While research on individual substances is limited, an even greater concern is the unknown

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

impact of exposure to mixtures of these chemicals on humans, animals, and ecosystems.

i) Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances

One of the most well-known CEC today is the chemical group called per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS have been in use since the 1940s; however, their dangers as a group of chemicals are not well understood and testing methods are only now becoming standardized and sensitive enough to understand their prevalence and impact. PFAS have been linked to multiple adverse health issues and some may cause cancer. PFAS exposure sources include food and food packaging, cosmetics, consumer products, ambient air, indoor air and dust, and drinking water. PFAS contamination is a global issue, spurring work to determine appropriate methods for their detection, management, removal, and destruction. Given the broad public awareness and media focus about PFAS in recent years, this report will focus primarily on this group of substances.

b) US Environmental Protection Agency PFAS Limits

In April 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) introduced new drinking water rules for PFAS, setting six limits. Five specific PFAS have individual limits, and a calculation is used for mixtures of certain PFAS. Public water systems must test for these substances every three months for a year by 2027, put treatment measures in place by 2029, and notify the public of any violations starting in 2029.

On January 21, 2025, the Trump administration canceled plans to limit PFAS discharges from industries. Since industrial pollution is a major source of PFAS in drinking water, this decision could make it more challenging for water systems to meet the EPA's PFAS limits. With a shared border, the effects of US industrial pollution could potentially impact Peel Region's most significant source of municipal drinking water – Lake Ontario.

c) Canadian Federal and Provincial PFAS Standards

The Canadian federal government establishes drinking water guidelines; however, the provinces establish and enforce drinking water regulations and standards. Currently, PFAS are not listed in the *Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards* under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, but this is currently being explored by the Ontario government.

In August 2024, Health Canada finalized a PFAS objective in Canadian drinking water of 30 ng/L Total PFAS as a sum of 25 specific substances. For context, 1 ng/L is equivalent to 1 drop of water in 20 Olympic sized pools. This new objective is more stringent than the objective that was proposed in 2023. The Health Canada objective does not make PFAS testing mandatory for drinking water systems but provides a basis against which to compare Peel's results until such time that it may become adopted into Ontario drinking water legislation. The Ontario Minister's Report on Drinking Water (2024) states "The ministry is reviewing the basis of Health Canada's new objective and will assess the applicability for its use in Ontario and the best way to implement it."

Health Canada is managing PFAS as a group because they consider the combined exposure to these substances. This approach has the added benefit of preventing the chemical industry from replacing a regulated PFAS with a similar, but less studied and

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

unregulated one that might have unknown health effects. Canada's approach demonstrates our government's commitment to protecting the health of Canadians.

In October 2024, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) began enforcing an interim standard for PFAS that requires biosolids used as fertilizers to contain less than 50 parts per billion of per-fluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS).

2. 2024 Successes

a) Voluntary Monitoring of PFAS and other CEC

Peel Region has a Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) Committee that meets quarterly to review findings and discuss new and evolving studies and industry information. The Committee collaborates through an online platform, where members remain current with the latest technical news, sample results and meeting notes.

Staff began conducting regular annual testing for PFAS in its source water, including Lake Ontario and municipal groundwater wells, in 2020. From November 2022 and November 2024, testing was expanded to include both source water and treated drinking water, with semi-annual sampling at municipal wells, Lake Ontario, and all Peel water treatment plants.

In 2024, staff completed a review of the CEC sampling program with external support from a consultant (CDM Smith). This was a multidisciplinary review considering factors such as: best in class water and wastewater CEC sampling programs (other utility comparisons), regulatory status in Canada and globally, likelihood of compound presence in Peel, laboratory standards and local capability, cost, risk of compound to human and ecological health, and whether information exists on the ability to treat (remove/destroy) the compound. The Technical Memorandum (review report) was finalized in November 2024 and largely validated Peel's existing CEC program testing scope.

The Technical Memorandum recommended adjusting testing frequency by risk level, which involved increasing frequency across many compounds. Notably, PFAS testing has been increased to the highest frequency testing – quarterly – across all sample types. The PFAS analytical method will soon be expanded to include over 40 substances, to ensure the Region can compare Peel's results to multiple jurisdictions' limits and objectives. While many CEC of interest cannot be tested by commercial laboratories due to limited availability or high costs, the Region continues to gain valuable insights on these substances through participation in academic studies.

b) Peel's Drinking Water PFAS Results

In February 2025, the Region completed the initial 12 months of quarterly treated drinking water sampling. Results (May 2024 to February 2025) show Peel's drinking water PFAS levels are below the USEPA PFAS regulatory limits (refer to Table 1 below).

As of August 2024, Health Canada set a total PFAS objective that includes twenty-five specific PFAS. Peel's current testing covers twenty-one of these, meaning four are not yet included in its results. However, testing so far shows that Peel's total PFAS levels, based on the twenty-one tested substances, remain below Health Canada's objective value. The Region's contract laboratory has recently validated a new testing method that

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

can detect over forty PFAS, including all twenty-five required by Health Canada. Starting in 2025, Peel will conduct quarterly testing using this improved method, providing a clearer picture of how its water compares to Health Canada's PFAS objective.

Table 1. Peel's 2024 PFAS Test Results vs. Various Standards (in ng/L)

Parameter	Peel Drinking Water Results ¹		Ontario Interim Objective (2017)	Health Canada Objective (2024)	US EPA Regulatory Limit (2024)
	Average	Max			
PFOS	0.06	2.1	Not applicable	Not applicable	4
PFOA	0.34	2.8	Not applicable	Not applicable	4
PFHxS	ND	ND	Not applicable	Not applicable	10
PFNA	ND	ND	Not applicable	Not applicable	10
HFPO-DA ²	ND	ND	Not applicable	Not applicable	10
Hazard Index ^{2,3}	0	0	Not applicable	Not applicable	1 (unitless)
Total PFAS ⁴	2.81	14.9	70	30	Not applicable

¹ Average represents the mean value of all samples collected during 2024. Max represents the highest single sample result for the 2024 year. ND means not detected, indicating results below the laboratory's reporting limit.

² HFPO-DA was not reported for the samples collected in February 2024. Peel adopted an extended PFAS testing suite for our treated water samples beginning in May 2024.

³ Hazard Index calculates a sum of 2 or more of: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS. Where HFPO-DA was not tested, Peel's Hazard Index calculations are based only on 3 of the 4 PFAS included in this index.

⁴ The list of PFAS reported changed throughout 2024. This represents the total of all PFAS reported on each sample.

c) Peel's Other PFAS Testing Results

In addition to drinking water, Peel Region's CEC surveillance program also tests water from Lake Ontario, municipal groundwater supply wells, surrounding monitoring wells, wastewater from the sewage collection system, treated wastewater effluent, and wastewater process biosolids. This practice allows Peel a full view of the water cycle: water drawn from the environment is treated for drinking, and wastewater is treated and returned to the environment. By testing all these sample types, Peel Region is demonstrating its commitment to both public health and environmental responsibility.

i) Source Water

Peel Region's drinking water systems draw water from Lake Ontario and several groundwater wells in Caledon. The source waters are tested for CEC to determine their presence and calculate removal efficiencies through our water treatment plants.

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

CEC can enter water sources from industrial discharges, environmental spills, treated municipal wastewater, and everyday consumer products like paint and car wax that wash into storm drains. The best management strategy is to prevent CEC from entering the environment in the first place. In Peel, efforts to minimize CEC pollution include:

- industry inspections and bylaw enforcement
- timely and effective spill response measures
- maintaining and enforcing source water protection plans
- drinking water source vulnerabilities assessment and threat identification
- robust communication and notification practices between neighbouring municipalities and governing agencies
- water quality management system risk assessment and mitigation measures
- public education

As an added precaution, Peel Region tests for PFAS at the monitoring wells that surround its drinking water supply wells. Contamination travels slowly through the groundwater aquifers. Detection of PFAS at any of these monitoring wells may indicate the direction of a contamination source, alert Peel to PFAS approaching drinking water supply wells and provide response time to prepare a plan of action if warranted.

ii) Wastewater

There are presently no standards or guidelines for PFAS in wastewater. Peel Region staff review test results to understand CEC levels in the community wastewater, observe trends and changes over time, determine treatment effectiveness, learn how CEC behave during treatment – whether they remain in the liquid stream or get separated into the solids that are removed, and understand Peel's impact on the waterbodies receiving treated wastewater discharges.

iii) Biosolids

Peel Region's two large Water Resource Recovery Facilities – Clarkson and G.E. Booth – produce biosolids as byproduct of their wastewater treatment processes. As part of exiting processes, biosolids are either incinerated, sent to landfill, or applied to farmland (beneficial use). Land applied biosolids would be required to comply with the CFIA's interim PFAS standard (mentioned in section 1.c of this report). Peel Region's biosolids met the CFIA PFOS threshold in 2024.

d) Firefighting Foam

In the 2024 council report on PFAS, staff noted that the Region frequently detects three PFAS compounds in drinking water that are common components of aqueous firefighting foam. Region staff reached out to each of the three local municipal fire departments within Peel and obtained details on their firefighting foam products. Two fire departments were already using PFAS-free product at the time of outreach (spring 2024), and the third is in the process of transitioning to a PFAS-free product – a process that should be completed by spring 2025.

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

e) Research and Collaboration

The CEC Committee collaborates with government and academic partners, contributing Peel's water samples to important research while gaining valuable insights in return. These partnerships provide access to advanced analyses not available commercially, allowing Peel to expand its understanding of water quality beyond provincial and federal requirements.

Findings from a recent study conducted by the University of Toronto were presented to the CEC Committee in 2024. Monitoring results demonstrated that Peel Region's lake-based drinking water treatment plants achieved over 95% removal of microplastics.

The Region actively collaborates with other municipalities, research partners, and industry experts to expand Canada's knowledge of PFAS and CEC for the benefit of all communities. Through these partnerships, the Region shares valuable insights, experiences, and data, helping to advance understanding of CEC in water and wastewater systems. The Region's unique CEC program has drawn attention from regulatory agencies, municipalities, and industry associations, reinforcing its role as a leader in driving progress and innovation in water quality management. The Region's wholistic approach to CEC is aligned to Peel's strategic agenda and continuous improvement approach.

Peel's recent knowledge sharing avenues include:

- John Glass, Peel's Manager, Operations, Plant Optimization, Chair of the CEC Committee, presented on Peel's CEC program to the Water Environment Association of Ontario Biosolids and Residual Committee in June 2024;
- John Glass was a panelist at the Water Environment Association of Ontario Biosolids Annual Seminar in February 2025 discussing CEC monitoring in biosolids;
- The consultant who worked with on Peel's CEC surveillance program review has submitted an abstract to present at the Water Environment Federation's Technical Exhibition and Conference in September 2025;
- Peel Region has exchanged CEC findings with other Ontario municipalities;
- In November 2024, Peel Region signed a letter of commitment with the American Water Works Association Water Research Foundation to contribute technical advisement time (estimated as in-kind contribution of \$6,000) on a research study entitled *Available Options for Regeneration or Disposal of PFAS-Laden Drinking Water Residuals, Media, and Waste (5285)*.

f) Awareness and Advocacy

In September 2024, staff from Peel Region Water and Wastewater and Public Health submitted a response to Environment and Climate Change Canada on its latest review of PFAS. The government reports indicated that fluoropolymers are being treated separately and are not included in the current assessment. They noted that commercial-scale technologies to remove or destroy PFAS are still very limited. While Canada has started restricting or regulating nearly a third of new PFAS, experts warn that all PFAS should be managed as a group to prevent companies from simply switching to similar, potentially harmful chemicals. If the federal government proceeds with new PFAS regulations under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, there could be national limits or bans on these substances by early 2028. This could have significant implications for municipalities in terms of compliance, water treatment costs, and

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

environmental protection efforts. The result of expanded regulations may result in significant capital, operating and resources costs in the foreseeable future.

In July 2024, Environment and Climate Change Canada published *Notice with respect to certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)* that required parties who manufacture, import, or use listed PFAS in certain quantities/concentrations to report this data by January 29, 2025. Although Peel was not obligated to report under the notice, Peel Region staff submitted a letter to Environment and Climate Change Canada in early 2025 to commend their efforts to gather information on PFAS in Canadian consumer goods and encourage them to do more.

3. Next Steps

a) Continued CEC Monitoring

Through Peel's CEC Committee, staff will continue monitoring for PFAS and other CEC to maintain awareness of levels of these contaminants in Peel. The enhanced 2025 monitoring plan will provide valuable insight on Peel's water quality. Ongoing review of sampling results will prompt discussions when data trends suggest the need for changes to operational practices or additional treatment.

b) Future Capital and Operating Impact Study

Since CEC are contaminants that are not currently regulated, water and wastewater treatment facilities are not intentionally designed to remove them. Some of the treatment processes used in Peel's largest water treatment facilities have been proven effective in reducing levels of some CEC, such as microplastics, some pharmaceuticals and some endocrine disrupting compounds.

Health Canada's finalization of a drinking water PFAS objective in August 2024 advanced the likelihood of these substances becoming regulated in Ontario. Further Government of Canada studies will inform their position on fluoropolymers and possibly other CEC.

If Ontario introduces new regulations with limits on CEC, and Peel does not meet these standards, staff will complete a detailed study of feasible treatment technologies. This assessment will include evaluating potential upgrades to Peel's treatment facilities, as well as the associated capital, operations, maintenance and resource requirements.

c) Future Pilot Facilities

The Region's Water and Wastewater Plant Operations and Optimization team is exploring the benefits of building small-scale pilot facilities that replicate Peel's full-size water and wastewater treatment processes. These pilot facilities would help identify the best operating conditions for full-scale plants and allow the Region to test new treatment products before making major upgrades. They would also enable controlled testing of how well different processes remove contaminants by adding known amounts of pollutants to incoming water and assessing treatment effectiveness.

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

BILL 112 RISKS AND IMPLICATIONS

On June 8, 2023, the Province passed Bill 112, the *Hazel McCallion Act (Peel Dissolution), 2023* and created a Transition Board to make restructuring recommendations to the Province. The Transition Board was dissolved on December 31, 2024 pursuant to O. Reg. 547/24. The Transition Board's recommendations have not been released to the Region.

On December 12, 2024, Bill 240, the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024* was introduced. If passed, Bill 240 would have resulted in a transfer of regional services including all regional roads, and waste collection within the City of Mississauga, to the lower tiers on or about July 1, 2026.

On January 28, 2025, the 43rd Parliament of the Province of Ontario was dissolved and the issuance of writs for the general election were issued on January 29, 2025, naming February 27, 2025 as the date of Ontario's general election. As a result, all parliamentary business, including consideration of Bill 240, was terminated.

It is unclear at this time how the provincial government will proceed. Staff will report back to Council when additional details become available.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications resulting from the report. However, there is the potential for significant future financial implications should Ontario drinking water and wastewater regulations enforce limits on any new substances that Peel's treatment processes are not capable of meeting.

a) Potential Treatment Upgrades (Capital and Operating Budget)

Although Peel's PFAS drinking water test results to date suggest that treatment upgrades may not be required to meet the Health Canada objective, ongoing monitoring is needed to continue to understand PFAS levels in Peel. If Ontario introduces new regulations that dictate specific design requirements, and/or Peel's monitoring results exceed the regulatory limits, the potential capital cost could be significant to implement treatment processes designed to meet the requirements.

Funding for drinking water treatment upgrades may need to be sourced from the Water Capital Stabilization Reserve R0241 for existing capacity upgrades. Funding for future expansions to support growth would originate from development charges. As the capital expenditure for retrofitting existing capacity will not be related to growth, the cost may significantly impact future rate-based contribution and result in increases to water user rates.

The capital and operating costs related to addressing treatment and monitoring needs cannot be determined at this time and will be subject to assessing regulatory limits and available technologies. Staff will assess costs when more information on regulatory limits is made available by the province. This will also include resource implications. Depending on the technology selected, cost considerations include:

- Addition or replacement of existing treatment process assets,
- Additional land and building expansions necessary to house the added treatment process assets,

Update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern in Peel Region

- Installation or expansion of process control and automation system, including monitoring devices and digital data records management,
- Ongoing operating costs, including energy, treatment chemicals, treatment media/product replacement, disposal of spent media/products, and
- Operating and maintenance staff resources.

CONCLUSION

Despite the absence of regulatory standards for CEC for drinking water in Ontario, Peel Region has adopted a continuous improvement approach including participating in provincial studies, implementing a surveillance program to assess CEC levels, and initiating studies aimed at understanding and mitigating the risks associated with CEC, including PFAS. Looking ahead, it is imperative that Peel Region remains vigilant in its efforts, staying abreast of evolving scientific understanding and regulatory developments, assessing new and emerging technologies, to ensure the continued protection of public health. Further detailed study is warranted to assess future capital and operating related cost impacts.



Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA, Commissioner of Public Works

Authored By: October Bell, Advisor – Policy and Regulatory Compliance, Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Planning, Partnerships and Compliance

REPORT TITLE: **Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3**

FROM: Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA, Commissioner of Public Works

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the contract (Document 2024-316P) for the Engineering Services, for structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek, be awarded to R.V. Anderson Associates Limited in the estimated amount of \$1,455,390 (excluding applicable taxes), pursuant to Procurement By-law 45-2023; and**
- 2. That the Capital Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865, for structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek be increased by \$600,000 (\$350,000 and \$150,000 respectively), financed from the Roads Capital Financing Stabilization Reserve, R0210, in order to proceed with the award of this contract.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The budget for the estimated cost of the structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek was approved under the 2024 Capital Budget, Council Resolution RCB-2023-109 approved on November 30, 2023.
 - Request for Proposal (RFP) Document 2024-316P was issued to retain a consulting engineering firm to provide Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek, City of Brampton and King Street over Salt Creek, Town of Caledon.
 - The proposal from R.V. Anderson Associates Limited represents the Best Value Bid based on a combination of technical proficiency and price.
 - The funds in the Capital Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865 allocated for the engineering services are not sufficient to award this assignment and an increase of \$600,000 to the project budgets is required (\$400,000 to 24-4850 and \$200,000 to 24-4865).
 - In accordance with Procurement By-law 45-2023, where the cost to award to the Best Value Bid exceeds the approved budget allocation, award of the contract requires Regional Council approval.
-

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3

DISCUSSION

1. Background

Following comprehensive assessments, rehabilitation work is required to extend the lifespan of these key transportation structures and ensure public safety. The recommended improvements will address structural deficiencies, enhance resilience, and maintain compliance with current engineering standards.

a) Bovaird Drive Bridge Rehabilitation (Capital Project 24-4850)

This project includes:

- i) Superstructure replacement to meet current safety and design standards (CHBDC code);
- ii) Installation of new girders and bearings to improve structural integrity;
- iii) Construction of a new concrete deck slab with waterproofing and resurfacing for durability; and
- iv) Concrete repairs to address existing deterioration.

The Bovaird Drive East over Etobicoke Creek bridge is 53 years-old with an expected service life of 90 years. The most recent rehabilitation was completed in 2004. The 10-year infrastructure reinvestment needs identified in the Enterprise Asset Management Plan included the rehabilitation of this asset. The feasibility study identified that the bridge was in good to fair condition (BCI 71) and recommended major rehabilitation due to the critical defects and to improve the condition to good (BCI of 90). This rehabilitation will minimize the risk of premature replacement.

These upgrades will enhance the bridge's safety, reliability, and long-term performance.

b) King Street Culvert Rehabilitation (Capital Project 24-4865)

This project includes:

- i) Sealing of joints and cracks to prevent further deterioration;
- ii) Gabion basket wall repairs to restore erosion protection;
- iii) Concrete patch repairs, waterproofing, and asphalt resurfacing to ensure roadway stability; and
- iv) Embankment restoration to improve drainage and prevent future erosion;

The King Street over Salt Creek Culvert is 60 years old with expected service life of 80 years. There are no records of any rehabilitation completed since installation. The 10-year infrastructure reinvestment needs identified in the Enterprise Asset Management Plan included the replacement of this asset. The feasibility study identified that the culvert was in poor condition (BCI 56) and recommended minor rehabilitation to improve the condition to good (BCI of 90). This rehabilitation will extend the life of the asset.

Investing in these rehabilitation projects will help avoid costly emergency repairs, improve road safety, and maintain essential infrastructure in a state of good repair.

2. Procurement Process

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3

In December 2024, Peel Region issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) 2024-316P for the engineering services, for structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek, Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865.

Four submissions were received on the closing date, from R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, Gannett Fleming Canada ULC, Egis Canada and Jewell Engineering Inc.

The submissions were reviewed and evaluated for technical requirements, including project understanding, methodology, firm experience, and the proposed schedule and resources. Upon completion of the technical evaluation, the submissions of R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, Gannett Fleming Canada ULC, and Egis Canada were deemed by the staff evaluation committee to have met the stated minimum technical threshold and advanced to Stage III of the evaluation, where their pricing was unsealed. All three unsealed financial submissions exceeded the allocated budget for the project.

The proposal from R.V. Anderson Associates Limited demonstrated a superior understanding of the project scope of work and included a detailed approach to completing project tasks, including but not limited to road and active transportation design along with full traffic staging analysis. Proposed traffic staging methodology focused on maintaining two-way traffic to accommodate the existing traffic volumes on Bovaird Drive and preserving of accesses for local businesses and residents, while minimizing duration of interruptions caused by construction activities.

The submission showed a strong understanding of key challenges and opportunities, as it described all known right-of-way constraints and offered alternative design solutions for addressing identified issues. The proposal also included a comprehensive approach to perform coordination and consultation with project stakeholders, as well as an itemized process of obtaining environmental approvals.

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited's extensive project experience, as presented in their proposal, demonstrates their competency. Their proposed project team includes highly experienced staff who have successfully completed several similar projects, including but not limited to, projects of comparable size and scope for Peel Region. Furthermore, their proposed staff hours and resources reflect a thorough understanding of the effort required for the successful completion of this assignment.

Despite all three financial submissions exceeding the allocated budget for the project, R.V. Anderson's proposed methodology and extensive experience provides long-term value by ensuring efficient project execution, reducing potential delays, and mitigating risks, ultimately leading to potential cost savings and enhanced project sustainability over time.

The proposal from R.V. Anderson Associates Limited represents the Best Value Bid based on a combination of technical proficiency and price and is being recommended for contract award.

In accordance Procurement By-law 45-2023, where the cost to award to the Best Value Bid exceeds the approved budget allocation (an "Irregular Result"), award of the contract requires Regional Council approval.

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3

3. Findings

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited's proposed fee for the Engineering Services (\$1,455,390), exceeds the budget for this component approved under the Capital Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865. The estimated combined cost for Consultant Fees under the two Capital Projects is \$962,000 (\$690,000 under 24-4850 and \$272,000 under 24-4865) and needs to be increased by \$600,000 in order to award this assignment and cover corresponding internal costs.

The budget for the Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865 was prepared in 2023 and did not account for the considerable cost increases and inflationary pressures.

4. Proposed Direction

The proposal from RVA received the highest overall score when assessing the combination of technical proficiency and price.

Staff therefore recommends that the contract (Document 2024-316P) for the detailed design, contract administration and construction inspection services for the structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek, be awarded to R.V. Anderson Associates Limited.

And further, that the Consultant Fees component of the budget for the Capital Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865 be increased by \$600,000 (24-4850 by \$400,000 and 24-4865 by \$200,000) in order to proceed with the award of this assignment.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Should the award of this project be delayed, the structural integrity of these structures will be jeopardized, and further deterioration will progress. Not proceeding with the recommended repairs now, may lead to a need for future major repairs or complete structure replacements. This may pose safety risks to travelers in case of structural failure and also the movement of goods will be impacted.

BILL 112 RISKS AND IMPLICATIONS

On June 8, 2023, the Province passed Bill 112, the *Hazel McCallion Act (Peel Dissolution), 2023* and created a Transition Board to make restructuring recommendations to the Province. The Transition Board was dissolved on December 31, 2024 pursuant to O. Reg. 547/24. The Transition Board's recommendations have not been released to the Region.

On December 12, 2024, Bill 240, the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024* was introduced. If passed, Bill 240 would have resulted in a transfer of regional services including all regional roads, and waste collection within the City of Mississauga, to the lower tiers on or about July 1, 2026.

On January 28, 2025, the 43rd Parliament of the Province of Ontario was dissolved and the issuance of writs for the general election were issued on January 29, 2025, naming February 27,

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive, City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3

2025 as the date of Ontario's general election. As a result, all parliamentary business, including consideration of Bill 240, was terminated.

It is unclear at this time how the provincial government will proceed. Staff will report back to Council when additional details become available.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

R.V. Anderson Associates Limited's proposed fee for the Engineering Services (\$1,455,390), exceeds the budget for this component approved under the Capital Projects 24-4850 and 24-4865.

Staff is seeking Council approval for an additional funding of \$600,000 to Capital Projects 24-4850 (\$400,000) and 24-4865 (\$200,000) to be financed from the Roads Capital Financing Stabilization Reserve, R0210.

CONCLUSION

Proposals for the the engineering services, for the structure rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive over Etobicoke Creek and King Street over Salt Creek were received and evaluated by Regional staff. The proposal from R.V. Anderson Associates Limited represents the Best Value Bid. Staff recommend that the contract (Document 2024-316P) be awarded to R.V. Anderson Associates Limited and that additional funding of \$600,000 be approved for Capital Projects 24-4850 (\$400,000) and 24-4865 (\$200,000), to be financed from the Roads Capital Financing Stabilization Reserve, R0210.

APPENDICES

Appendix I - Location Map Bovaird Drive

Appendix II - Location Map King Street



Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA. Commissioner of Public Works

Authored By: Olek Garbos, Project Manager, Transportation-Design and Construction

Location Map Bovaird Dr.

Appendix I

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive,
City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3

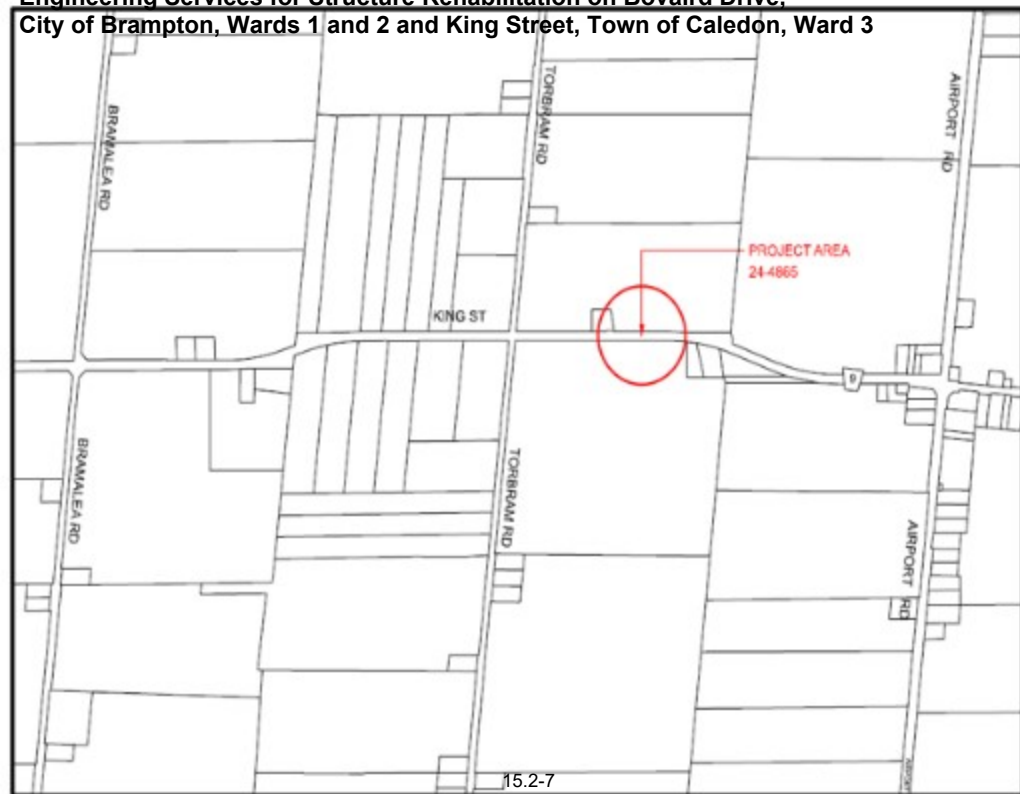


Location Map King St.

Appendix II

Engineering Services for Structure Rehabilitation on Bovaird Drive,

City of Brampton, Wards 1 and 2 and King Street, Town of Caledon, Ward 3



REPORT TITLE: Request for the Extension and Increase of Peel's Laboratory Sample Analysis Service Contract

FROM: Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA, Commissioner of Public Works

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the contract (Document 2019-032N) for as-required Laboratory Sample Analysis Services, awarded to Bureau Veritas Canada (2019) Inc., be increased and extended in the estimated amount of \$7,500,000, (excluding applicable taxes), for a period commencing June 11, 2025 and expiring December 31, 2027, on the same terms and conditions governing the current agreement, subject to available budget, and pursuant to Procurement By-law 45-2023; and**
- 2. That the Director of Procurement be authorized to approve any further contract increases during the extension term, should demand for laboratory sample analysis services require it, subject to approved budget, and pursuant to Procurement By-law 45-2023.**

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2019 Regional Council approved award of the contract (Document 2019-032N) for the provision of Laboratory Services to Bureau Veritas Canada (2019) Inc. (formerly Maxxam Analytics International Corporation), through Council Resolution 2019-173.
 - The current contract is in the final 12-month extension term of the total six-year contract duration and is set to expire June 10, 2025.
 - Staff are proactively seeking approval to extend Peel's laboratory analysis contract to December 31, 2027, to ensure continued operational service levels and regulatory compliance while staff prepare and issue a Request for Proposal for a new laboratory analysis services contract with an intended commencement date of January 1, 2028.
 - In accordance with Procurement by-law 45-2023, Part VIII – Contract Increases, the extension and increase of this contract requires Regional Council approval.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

In 2012, the Region of Peel closed its internal laboratory and, in 2013 Regional Council approved the outsourcing of laboratory services to Maxxam Analytics International Corporation (Council Resolution 2013-228). In 2017, two years before the original contract ended, Peel began the process to procure laboratory sample analysis services. After an extensive procurement process Maxxam was awarded a five-year contract commencing in 2019 with a one-year extension option (Council Resolution 2019-173). Maxxam was renamed in 2019 as Bureau Veritas Canada (2019) Inc. (Bureau Veritas).

The original laboratory services contract was structured to allow for growth as organizational needs matured. The first year of the contract in 2013 included chemical analysis of water and wastewater samples and in the second year, microbiology samples were added along with analysis for the Waste Management Division. In 2018, the Transportation Division commenced using the contract to analyze their de-icing materials. In 2020, due to economies of scale, the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) sampling requirements for water and wastewater facilities were also transferred to the lab contract. As legislative requirements changed, soil sampling, biosolids and ash analysis were also added. Specialized analysis for material characterization has been used by both the Operations Support Division in Public Works and the Health Department. All costs for services are recovered directly from operating or capital budgets for each service area.

The number of samples analyzed has more than doubled over the past ten years. Table 1 below highlights the key years of significant growth in the volume of samples analyzed as the contract expanded. In addition to this growth, the contract includes an annual price escalation, which allows for price adjustments based on the lesser of the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 2%.

Table 1: External Laboratory Analysis Significant Growth Years					
Year	2013	2014	2018	2020	2025
	Year 1 – Chemical analysis	Microbiological samples added	Transportation Division samples added	OCWA samples added	Current Year
Total Samples	34,547	100,176	174,437	197,295	225,000*
	<i>*Forecasted sample analysis based on known client requests</i>				

In March of 2023, Council Resolution 2023-206 approved the current 12-month contract extension term to support increases in the Region's laboratory analysis requirements. The final optional extension term of the contract commenced in June of 2024, with an end date of June 10, 2025. The Region's estimated total contract spend for laboratory analysis services from June 2019 to June 2025 is anticipated to be \$16,354,653.66, excluding applicable taxes.

Various Provincial legislative changes are impacting Peel Region's services.

Request for the Extension and Increase of Peel's Laboratory Sample Analysis Service Contract

The laboratory analysis of samples is critical in meeting Peel's Provincial Environmental Compliance Approval requirements for Water, Wastewater, and Waste management services. The Water and Wastewater Division is also dependent on these laboratory services to ensure compliance with requirements under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

2. Proposed Direction and Next Steps

Staff continue to prepare a multi-stage procurement process to ultimately select a qualified laboratory service provider that can meet current and future needs of Peel. However, the requirements for future laboratory analysis for the various current user groups at the Region of Peel remain uncertain.

The proposed contract extension will ensure that Peel Region maintains the necessary service levels required for critical regulatory compliance for all current business operations and allow for an efficient transition to the municipalities for Transportation and Waste Management analysis requirements, should legislation pass. This extension also allows for a needs assessment and analysis of Peel Region's future required laboratory analysis services and obligations, to ensure an accurate laboratory contract is established. Waste Management and Transportation have specific analysis requirements that may not be required under Peel's future lab contract. Given the current level of uncertainty, an extension of the current contract would allow for impacts of applicable legislation and regulations to be known and for Peel Region to confirm its future operational requirements regarding laboratory analysis services.

Staff are requesting an extension to the laboratory analysis services contract in the estimated amount of \$7,500,000, excluding applicable taxes, for a period commencing June 11, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2027, to maintain critical regulatory analysis for compliance while awaiting confirmation on the future governance of Water and Wastewater, Transportation and Waste Management and associated impacts on Peel Region's lab contract. The proposal for the extension of the existing contract makes the following assumptions:

- The total spend for 2024 was \$2,443,324.14, with an average of \$2,506,565.37 annually over the past three years.
- There will be an increased demand for sample analysis as clients plan for regional growth.
- It is estimated that this increased demand will require an additional \$500,000 per year for a projected annual spend of \$3,000,000 (\$7,500,000 over 2.5 years).

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The Region is required to use a fully licensed and accredited laboratory for all drinking water sample analysis to ensure compliance with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) regulations. Failure to do so would result in non-compliance with drinking water regulations.

If the current laboratory services contract is not extended, it will impact the ability of staff to submit samples to MECP-compliant laboratories. Timely and accurate analysis is

Request for the Extension and Increase of Peel's Laboratory Sample Analysis Service Contract

essential to ensure the continued provision of safe drinking water and compliance with the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

In addition, not extending the contract will result in an inability to complete required sampling and analysis in key business areas including Peel Health, Waste Management and Transportation.

BILL 112 RISKS AND IMPLICATIONS

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On December 12, 2024, Bill 240, the *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2024* was introduced. If passed, Bill 240 would have resulted in a transfer of regional services including all regional roads, and waste collection within the City of Mississauga, to the lower tiers on or about July 1, 2026.

On January 28, 2025, the 43rd Parliament of the Province of Ontario was dissolved and the issuance of writs for the general election were issued on January 29, 2025, naming February 27, 2025 as the date of Ontario's general election. As a result, all parliamentary business, including consideration of Bill 240, was terminated.

It is unclear at this time how the provincial government will proceed. Staff will report back to Council when additional details become available.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are sufficient funds available in current approved operating and applicable capital budgets to carry out the report's direction. Future costs for sample analysis are recovered from users of the service including capital projects and operating accounts.



Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA. Commissioner of Public Works

Authored By: Kyle Atanas, Supervisor, Sampling and Lab Client Services, Environmental Control



RECEIVED

April 7, 2025

REGION OF PEEL

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

May 24, 2024

John Livey
Chair, Peel Transition Board

Re: Peel Transhelp Service

As you are aware, the Region of Peel currently provides TransHelp service, a vital paratransit service for individuals who live with physical, cognitive, visual, sensory, or mental health disabilities. Over the years, TransHelp has proven to be an essential lifeline for many residents within our communities, ensuring they have access to services, employment opportunities, and social activities.

We fully recognize the importance of TransHelp and propose that the Cities of Mississauga and Brampton assume responsibility for providing this service. As far as the Town of Caledon is concerned, it is noted that a well-established partnership for the delivery of conventional transit service already exists between Caledon and Brampton. The parties recognize that the transition of TransHelp services to Caledon would be subject to an agreement on provision of the same paratransit service to Caledon through Brampton Transit without undue financial hardship for either municipality.

By bringing TransHelp under the jurisdiction Mississauga and Brampton and integrating with MiWay and Brampton Transit, we can enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and responsiveness of the service to provide a better customer experience that meets the unique needs of TransHelp customers and our residents. Integrating both conventional and paratransit services is an industry best practise, with all other large public transit services in Ontario managed under a similar operating model.

Additional context on why this transition would be beneficial are outlined below:

- **Localized Decision-Making:** As municipalities providing large scale public transit service, Brampton and Mississauga are better positioned to understand the specific travel needs of our residents and tailor paratransit services accordingly. Localized decision-making allows for greater flexibility in service delivery, route planning, and resource allocation.
- **Enhanced Service Quality:** The need for better integration of TransHelp services with MiWay and Brampton Transit has been a constant theme of our transit customers and our municipal Accessible Advisory Committees. MiWay and Brampton Transit will be able to enhance overall transit accessibility for customers by improving service coverage, reducing duplication of services, and lowering costs for customers who could utilize fare discounts offered on the Presto smartcard. Further MiWay and Brampton Transit would offer continued integrated travel for customers between the two cities and the Town of Caledon. Brampton Transit would also offer the same TransHelp services in Caledon to ensure service continuity.

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒

- **Improved Customer Experience:** By integrating the scheduling of paratransit trips into MiWay and Brampton Transit's existing software, it would allow customers to expand their travel plans by providing on-demand access to both paratransit and conventional buses, providing more timely and independent travel options for TransHelp customers. Additional benefits that would be available to customers include enhanced accessibility features such as stop announcements (visual and audible), real-time schedule information, and simplified access to stop and shelter infrastructure, including convenient connections at transit terminals. Further, integration of paratransit with conventional transit would remove any negative stigma and/or travel restrictions associated with exclusive paratransit travel and provide increased flexibility and options for customers wishing to take advantage of a family of transportation services tailored to meet the individual needs of each customer and each trip.

As MiWay and Brampton Transit introduce and expand on-demand transit services, the integration of paratransit vehicles to our existing fleet will significantly improve on first/last mile options within our communities.

- **Community Engagement:** Having paratransit services at the local level provides for enhanced community engagement and collaboration. Both MiWay and Brampton Transit have extensive community outreach programs that allow for residents, advocacy groups, and stakeholders to have a direct voice in shaping the future of the service, ensuring that it remains responsive to evolving needs and priorities.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** The integration of TransHelp with MiWay and Brampton Transit will provide long-term fiscal benefits realized through improved operational efficiencies, reduced administrative overhead, and the ability to leverage transit funding opportunities from levels of government that base decisions on system wide transit ridership. The integration of these services also creates the opportunity to shift some paratransit trips to conventional transit services at approximately 1/8th of the cost.
- **Human Capital:** Staff at MiWay and Brampton Transit have extensive skills, knowledge and experience in operating and maintaining public transit services in our municipalities. Staff from Brampton Transit have extensive experience in leading and supporting paratransit operations in Hamilton, London and Niagara Region. In addition, the Director of MiWay was previously the Head of TTC Wheel-Trans, the largest paratransit provider in Canada. With this level of hands-on operating experience, the transition of paratransit services will be seamless to the customer and deliver the right services from the beginning.

We would welcome the opportunity to further discuss this proposal with you and the members of the Transition Board and explore potential next steps in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Shari Lichterman
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Mississauga



Marlon Kallideen
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Brampton

Nathan Hyde
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Caledon

For Information

REPORT TITLE: **Discontinuation of the Food Handler Certification Program**

FROM: Nancy Polsinelli, RD HBS Sc MPA, Commissioner of Health Services
Hamidah Meghani, MD, FRCPC, MPH, MM, Medical Officer of Health

OBJECTIVE

To inform Regional Council of the discontinuation of the Food Handler Certification (FHC) program.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Peel Public Health is discontinuing the public facing food handler certification (FHC) program as of June 30, 2025, as it is readily available through alternative providers.
 - A change management and communication plan will be implemented outlining that Public Health will discontinue the FHC program and where Ministry of Health approved alternative training providers can be found.
 - Public Health will continue to support equity-deserving groups as needed.
 - Staff resources currently spent on the food handler course will be repurposed to focus on critical program areas including mandated inspections of food premises.
 - The 2026 budget will be revised to reflect discontinuation of the program, including removal of the user fees and program revenue.
 - Public Health will continue to meet the requirements of the *Food Safety Protocol* under the *Ontario Public Health Standards*, despite no longer offering the FHC program directly.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Background

In Ontario, food premises are required to have at least one certified food handler or supervisor on site during every hour that the food premises operates. Public Health Units (PH Units) are mandated under the *Ontario Public Health Standards* to ensure access to training for Ministry of Health recognized Food Handler Certification (FHC) program(s) in their boundaries. Public Health currently offers a FHC program that enables clients to become certified through a full-day, in-person class taught by a public health inspector, with a proctored examination, or through a home-study option, where the client studies on their own (with an optional study guide) and takes a proctored exam. Clients pay \$65.12 to take the classroom course, \$41.43 for the home study materials and exam and \$23.67 for just the exam. As discussed below, these fees do not cover the full cost of offering the program. In 2024, approximately 1,200 people took part in the program.

Discontinuation of the Food Handler Certification Program

While PH Units were historically the main provider of food handler certification in Ontario, in recent years the Ministry of Health has approved FHC programs offered by alternative providers (e.g., commercial/private entities, educational institutions, organizations, associations, etc.). The Ministry considers these alternative provider programs to be equivalent to those offered by PH Units. Therefore, an individual can become a certified food handler in Ontario either through a PH Units (where offered), or an alternative provider. The alternative providers mainly offer the FHC in virtual self-study format with some offering in-person classroom/or virtual instructor-led options to meet clients' diverse needs. The Ministry website maintains a list of approved providers and their contact information. In part, due to the availability of alternative providers, some PH Units, including York Region Public Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, and Toronto Public Health have stopped their public facing FHC programs.

2. Increasing Pressures

Public health inspectors play a vital role in protecting the health of the community. In 2024, Public Health conducted 19,019 compliance, pre-operational, complaint-based and follow up inspections at various settings in Peel, including food premises and personal services settings (e.g., tattoo studios and nail salons). There have been significant increases in the volume and complexity of work required due to growth in the Region. As such, Public Health is challenged in meeting the mandatory inspection requirements in the *Ontario Public Health Standards* and in completing other mandated work such as timely data entry into Ministry of Health information systems.

Discontinuing the FHC program will allow for public health inspector and administrative professional resources currently spent on the FHC program to be redirected to the critical programs that only Public Health can deliver. In 2024, approximately 65 hours a month of public health inspector time was spent on the FHC program and 16 hours a month of administrative support time. When the program is discontinued, the public health inspector time will be redirected to inspections of food premises and personal service settings. Administrative support staff will use the hours to improve timeliness of mandatory data entry into Ministry databases. Moving staff resources from the food handler certification course to these other tasks will assist Public Health in managing the inspection pressures that have resulted from the growing number of food premises and personal services settings in Peel and will help defer the need for Public Health to ask for additional public health inspector staff for 2026.

3. Next Steps

Public Health will discontinue the public facing FHC program as of June 30, 2025. Private courses for clients serving vulnerable clientele will be offered (where there are 10 or more registrations) until September 30, 2025. To ensure interest holders are made aware of the decision, a change management and communication plan will be implemented outlining that Public Health will discontinue the FHC program and where Ministry of Health approved alternative training providers can be found. Although Public Health will discontinue the FHC program, public health inspectors will continue to provide focused, event or context-specific food safety training (without certification) where a need is identified. For example, public health inspectors work closely with special event organizers and in certain situations will provide food safety education for the food handlers attending the event, focused on the keys to preventing foodborne illness. Public Health will monitor the availability of FHC through alternative providers to ensure food handlers in Peel can access FHC.

Discontinuation of the Food Handler Certification Program

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

There are no significant risks to our organization or clients if the FHC program were to be discontinued.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Discontinuing the FHC program will allow for public health inspector and administrative professional resources currently spent on the FHC program to be redirected to the critical programs that only Public Health can deliver. It ensures that Peel Health directs resources to ensure that quality public health programs are delivered and reducing duplication in services that alternative providers can offer.

The current Public Health budget includes budgeted revenue of \$112,500, however, post COVID-19 pandemic these revenues have not been realized. The overall costs of the program including staff time, administration time and other associated costs have historically been greater than the revenues received. These resources include both Public Health Inspectors and administration time and are better being redeployed to address other pressing needs, reducing the requests being brought forward for additional resources in future budgets. The 2025 operating results will include a projected variance of \$82,500 for the reduced revenue. For 2026, there will be a budget impact of \$112,500 in Health Protection from removing the user fees and budgeted revenue associated with the program while the resources used for the program will continue to be redeployed to other priorities.

CONCLUSION

There have been significant increases in the volume and complexity of public health inspection work required due to growth in the Region. FHC training is available through Ministry of Health recognized alternative providers. Discontinuing Peel Public Health's FHC program will create additional capacity for staff to focus on mandated program areas including inspections and investigations and data entry.



Nancy Polsinelli, RD HBS Sc MPA, Commissioner of Health Services

Authored By: Kathie Brown, Manager Health Protection.

Motion

Agenda Number: 20.1
Date: April 10, 2025

Moved by Mayor Parrish
Seconded by Councillor Mahoney

Whereas there is a housing affordability crisis in the Region of Peel and across Ontario;

And whereas, more housing supply is needed, including low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise options for residents;

And whereas, the Region of Peel lower-tier municipalities have agreed to provincial housing pledges for a number of units of housing by 2032;

And whereas, Developers have indicated that very few new residential units will start construction over the next two years without interventions in the form of incentives;

And whereas, the cost of housing relative to incomes is a growing issue underlying the housing crisis, as well as a shortage of supply;

And whereas, municipal charges and taxes have been recognized as factors affecting new house prices and rents;

Therefore be it resolved that the Region of Peel:

1. Defer the collection of Regional residential development charges for all multi-unit residential developments, effective immediately, until the first occupancy permit is issued, provided a building permit allowing for footings and foundations is issued pursuant to the *Building Code Act, 1992* prior to November 13, 2026; and
2. Authorize The Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, and the Regional Clerk, or their designate, to enter into deferral agreements on behalf of the Region providing for the payment of development charges, in accordance with paragraph 1; and
3. Request the Region of Peel staff prepare comments on the impact of reducing Regional Development charges by 25%, up to 50%, to be discussed at a future meeting; and
4. Direct staff to apply for the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund – Municipal Direct Stream from the Federal government, to request that the funds be used to offset the financial impacts from the Development Charges incentives; and
5. That the necessary by-laws be presented to Regional Council for enactment.

Regional Chair

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

BY-LAW NUMBER 18-2025

**A by-law pursuant to Section 218 (3) of the
Municipal Act, 2001 to designate members
entitled to cast additional votes during certain
vacancies on Regional Council.**

WHEREAS s. 267(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (“Act”) provides that if the offices of a person who is a member of council of both a local municipality and its upper-tier municipality become vacant and the vacancies will not be filled for a period exceeding one month, the local council may appoint one of its members as an alternate member of the upper-tier council until the vacancies are filled;

AND WHEREAS, a local municipality is unable to appoint one of its members as an alternate member of Regional Council where all members of the local municipal council are already members of Regional Council;

AND WHEREAS, it is the intention of Regional Council to enable its local municipalities to maintain their collective voting weight during periods when there is a vacant seat on Regional Council;

AND WHEREAS, s. 218(3) of the Act authorizes an upper-tier municipality to change the number of votes given to any member, provided that each member shall have at least one vote;

AND WHEREAS, designating certain members who shall be entitled to cast an additional vote in circumstances where there is a vacant seat on Regional Council and the local municipal council is unable to appoint an alternate under s. 267(2) of the Act would enable the local municipality to maintain its collective voting weight pending the filling of the vacancy;

AND WHEREAS, the Council of The Regional Municipality of Peel has, by Resolution 2025-120 passed on the 27 day of February, 2025, authorized commencement of the process for passing a by-law to designate certain members who shall be entitled to cast an additional vote at Regional Council meetings where there is a vacant seat on Regional Council and the local municipality is unable to appoint an alternate to fill the vacancy temporarily under section 267 (2) of the Act because all members of its local municipal council are already members of Regional Council;

AND WHEREAS, public notice of the intention to pass this by-law was given on the 7th day of March, 2025;

AND WHEREAS, a public meeting to consider the matter of this by-law was held on the 20th day of March, 2025;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 219(3) of the Act, a by-law to implement such changes must be enacted before the end of the 2025 calendar year in order to be effective immediately following the 2026 municipal election;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Peel enacts as follows:

1. Pursuant to s. 218(3) of the Act, a local municipality with a vacant seat on Regional Council shall be entitled to appoint, by resolution, a member of its local council to act as a designated enhanced voting member who shall be entitled to cast two votes (their own vote and one additional vote) at Regional Council meetings until the vacancy is filled (the "Designated Enhanced Voting Member"), where all of the following circumstances exist:
 - (i) the offices of a person who is a member of council of both The Regional Municipality of Peel ("Region of Peel") and the local municipality become vacant and the vacancies will not be filled for a period exceeding one month; and,
 - (ii) the local municipal council to which the vacancy relates is unable to appoint one of its members as an alternate member of Regional Council under s. 267(2) of the Act until the vacancies are filled permanently because all members of the local municipal council are already members of Regional Council; and,
 - (iii) there are no other provisions of the Act that may be utilized by the local municipality to fill the vacancy temporarily or maintain its voting weight on Regional Council during the period of the vacancy.
2. Where a local municipality appoints a Designated Enhanced Voting Member pursuant to the provisions of this By-law, the Designated Enhanced Voting Member shall be entitled to cast two votes (their own vote and one additional vote) at Regional Council meetings until the vacancy is filled, provided all circumstances identified in subsection 1 (i), (ii) and (iii) of this by-law exist.
3. Notwithstanding subsection 263(5) of the Act, a local municipality may appoint a Designated Enhanced Voting Member where a vacancy occurs within 90 days before voting day of a regular election.
4. Should additional vacancies arise on Regional Council during the period of an existing vacancy for the same local municipality, the local municipality with the additional vacant seat may appoint, by resolution, another member of its local council to act as a Designated Enhanced Voting Member, provided that the circumstances identified in subsections 1 (i), (ii) and (iii) exist.
5. A member may not be designated a Designated Enhanced Voting Member for more than one vacancy during the same period.
6. Where the Designated Enhanced Voting Member is absent from a Regional Council meeting at which they are entitled to cast two votes under this By-law, they may appoint a proxy under the provisions of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law. A proxy properly appointed under this paragraph pursuant to the provisions of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law shall be entitled to cast a vote for themselves and the two votes for the Designated Enhanced Voting Member for whom they are exercising the proxy.

7. For the purpose of determining quorum, a Designated Enhanced Voting Member shall be counted as one member.
8. The Designated Enhanced Voting Member will not receive additional remuneration from the Region of Peel.
9. The composition of Regional Council shall remain in all respects as it was the day before the coming into force of this By-law, except as specifically provided for in this By-law.
10. This By-law shall come into force on the day the new Council is organized following the first regular election following the passing of this By-law.
11. A by-law to amend the Region of Peel Procedure By-law necessary to give effect to this By-law shall be presented for enactment at the appropriate time.
12. This By-law may be referred to as the “Designated Enhanced Voting Member By-law”.

READ THREE TIMES AND PASSED IN OPEN COUNCIL this 10th day of April, 2025.

Regional Clerk

Regional Chair

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

BY-LAW NUMBER 19-2025

**A by-law to amend By-law 45-2023 being a by-law
to govern the procurement and disposal of
goods and services.**

WHEREAS the Council of the Regional Corporation enacted By-law 45-2023 on October 12, 2023, to govern the procurement and disposal of goods and services;

AND WHEREAS, in response to trade tariffs imposed in 2025 by the U.S. on Canadian goods and retaliatory tariffs imposed by Canada on U.S. goods, Regional Council desires the ability to prioritize Canadian and other non-U.S. Goods and Services over those of the U.S. where feasible, in the procurement of Goods and Services, for such time as such tariffs are in effect;

AND WHEREAS, the Council of the Regional Corporation has by resolution passed on March 20th, 2025, authorized the enactment of a by-law to amend By-law 45-2023 to enable the prioritization of Canadian and other non-U.S. Goods and Services over those of the U.S. where feasible;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Regional Corporation enacts as follows:

1. That Part XIV (No Local Preference) of By-law 45-2023 be amended by deleting subsection 14.1 and replacing it with the following:
 - 14.1 In alignment with domestic and international trade agreements, Goods and Services shall not be afforded preferential treatment under this By-law or in any Bid Solicitation based on location or origin of the Goods and Services unless otherwise required by law.
 - 14.2 Notwithstanding the above, for the purpose of minimizing exposure to tariffs that have been imposed in 2025 by the U.S. on Canadian goods and retaliatory tariffs imposed by Canada on U.S. goods, the Director of Procurement is authorized to adopt procurement strategies that prioritize Canadian and other non-U.S. Goods and Services over those of the U.S. where feasible, during such time as such tariffs are in effect.
 - 14.3 Where procurement strategies are adopted in accordance with subsection 14.2 above, the procurement of Goods and Services shall be carried out in accordance with such strategies, and the provisions of this By-law shall in all respects continue to apply to such procurements, with all necessary modifications, including the requirement to comply with the thresholds and approval authorities set out in Schedule "B".

2. That this by-law comes into effect on the date it is passed.

READ THREE TIMES AND PASSED IN OPEN COUNCIL this 10th day of April, 2025.

Regional Clerk

Regional Chair