Region of Peel Advocacy Activity and Progress Report Table

Updated: February 20, 2020

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
1. Municipal Fiscal Sustainability Work with federal and municipal levels of government to understand and address the financial challenges created by the changing macroeconomic environment that is shifting property tax from the non-residential to the residential sector.	 The Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer presented the findings of the joint Peel-Mowat Center report at the annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference to municipal partners and stakeholders from all 444 municipalities in Ontario. The report findings were featured in a Public Sector Digest article Building a Field of Dreams: The Risk to Municipal Financial Sustainability in Ontario. The Region's efforts were cited in the recent Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) report, The Case for Growing the Gas Tax Fund. Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is working on publishing an article on Peel's research and the impact of these trends on municipalities in the United States. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 The Region's Treasurer, Stephanie Nagel, has been asked to present on this topic at the GFOA's annual conference (on the Future of Revenue) in May 2020. The presentation will occur in the United States and reaches a North American audience. Region will continue to look for opportunities to educate stakeholders and provincial and federal officials about the issue of municipal fiscal sustainability at upcoming conferences (Ontario Good Roads Association and AMO).
2. Growth Paying for Growth Work with the Province to ensure that new initiatives and legislation such as the Housing Supply Action Plan and Bill	 Regional staff met with local municipal staff through summer and early fall to align legislative and regulatory responses to Bill 108. 	As a follow-up to the Region's meeting with the Minister of Finance at the AMO Conference, the Regional Chair has reached out to the

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
108: More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, do not create unintended risks to municipal revenues and slow down growth.	 Aligned with advocacy positions in previous Region of Peel Bill 108 submissions, the Province has taken positive steps to mitigate the potentially negative financial impacts of Bill 108 on municipalities. These include: Bill 138, the Province's budget implementation bill, which removed industrial and commercial developments from the DC deferral Ontario Regulation 454/19 which:	 Minister's office to continue the conversation. Staff is currently determining whether the Region could qualify for funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan (ICIP) streams that are currently open. Staff is also reaching out to provincial and federal staff to ensure that Ontario's Environment Plan meets the Federal criteria needed for the release of the funding under the Green Infrastructure stream. Pending discussions with the Province on the 2046 growth forecast provide an opportunity to highlight the Region's growth-related funding requirements.
	Affairs and Housing's community benefits charge technical working group.	

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
	 Regional staff have participated in the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario's (MFOA) community benefits charge (CBC) working group. On December 2, 2019, the Region wrote to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance and the Clerk of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs in support of the MFOA and the Ontario Regional and Single Tier Treasurers letters that recommended: An extension to the consultation on the community benefits charge capping formula and CBC capping policy options The impact analysis results done by provincial consultants be shared with the community benefits charge working group. 	
 Long-term Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure Planning and Funding Ensure that infrastructure funding programs promote the best use of funds by implementing timelines that reflect the reality of the construction and development processes. Ensure a climate change plan is in place that meets the federal government's criteria and that the Province work with its federal 	 In January 2020, the Regional Chair sent a letter to Ontario Infrastructure Minister Laurie Scott highlighting improvements made to provincial infrastructure funding processes and identifying areas for further improvement. Staff also met with Infrastructure Canada to attain greater clarity around ICIP funding criteria and processes from the Federal perspective. All federal funding streams under ICIP, except for the Phase II of the Green Infrastructure stream (which is for larger municipalities), have been 	Staff is currently determining whether the Region could qualify for funding under the ICIP streams that are currently open. Staff is also reaching out to provincial and federal staff to ensure that Ontario's Environment Plan meets the Federal criteria needed for the release of the funding under the Green Infrastructure stream.

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
counterparts to ensure that \$1.4 billion of Phase 2 federal infrastructure funding is distributed to municipalities in a timely manner.	 opened for application in Ontario. The Green Infrastructure Stream was expected to open in late fall 2019. The Region applied to the ICIP Public Transit stream for two projects: TransHelp Vehicle Replacement (\$5,312,758 between 2020 and 2029); and Automotive Fare Payment Solution (\$1,121,949 between 2020 and 2029). Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) applied for one project: Heating Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) (\$590,306.50). 	
 4. Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing Ensure that the Region of Peel as Service Manager has the funding and the flexibility to provide housing for low and middle-income households by: improving access to and increasing the funding contribution for affordable housing based on need, and established targets as stated in the Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan providing greater flexibility and reducing regulatory red tape 	 On December 19, 2019, the Province and Federal government announced a new Canada-Ontario Housing benefit of \$1.4 billion to directly support Ontarians who are in housing need. The Canada-Ontario Housing benefit will prioritize households in need that are on, or eligible to be on, a social housing waiting list and households in financial need living in community housing. This includes survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness, Indigenous persons, seniors and people with disabilities. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 Staff is currently developing an advocacy strategy to help ensure all three levels of government contribute equally to the funding of the implementation of the Housing Master Plan, thereby achieving much-needed affordable housing supply in Peel. As a Housing Service Manager, the Region of Peel will have a role in identifying and recommending households on the Central West List for the benefit.

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
within the Housing Services Act, 2011, to better determine and implement priorities that address local needs orecognizing that affordable housing is key to business retention and attraction.		The Region has been working collaboratively with the local municipalities related to housing incentives and inclusionary zoning, aligning messaging, work plans and policies, where possible.
 5. Transition the blue box program to producers and develop a provincial single-use plastics strategy Blue Box Transition Wind-up Stewardship Ontario in accordance with the Minister's wind-up letter. Develop regulations to transition the Blue Box Program, generally, in accordance with the Special Advisor's Report. Provincial Single-Use Plastics Strategy The Region of Peel Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee endorsed support for a province-wide single-use plastics strategy as well as participation in discussions with the Province, the Retail Council of Canada and other stakeholders to develop a harmonized, Ontario-wide strategy for single-use plastics. 	 In October as part of Bill 132, the Province proposed changes to the mandate of Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) to include digital reporting services through its registry for a wider range of waste and resource recovery programs. These changes were posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) for comment. The Region in its response to the ERO posting said it supports changing the mandate of the RPRA and RPRA's continuing role in oversight and enforcement. Peel supports the Province's efforts in gathering waste related data and has called for the Province to collect better data. Expanding RPRA's mandate to include digital reporting services, fee setting and cost recovery for waste outside of their current mandate improves the efficiency and accuracy of data and reduces the administrative burden for organizations, including municipalities, that manage these materials. It will also provide the Province with access to much needed data. 	 Participate in consultation sessions on: Draft Blue Box regulation Proposed wind-up plan with Stewardship Ontario and the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority Regional staff and Council to continue to advocate: the need for a speedy transition ensure that the regulation doesn't reduce environmental or performance outcomes ensure adequate oversight of producers

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6. Provincial support of regional and provincial GHG reduction targets and sustained climate change adaptation and mitigation funding Ensure the Provincial Environment Plan supports meeting regional and provincial greenhouse gas reduction targets and that sustained adaptation and mitigation funding programs are available to accelerate transformation to a low carbon and resilient community.	 On October 24, 2019, Region of Peel council unanimously approved its first Climate Change Master Plan (CCMP). The actions in the plan aim to reduce GHG emissions and increase resilience. At the same meeting, Region of Peel Council declared a climate change community. As part of Bill 132, the Province expanded the use of administrative monetary penalties for environmental contraventions. Funds collected from these penalties will be used to set up a fund to support local environmental activities (e.g. litter clean up, tree planting and flood prevention). The funding program will be launched in 2020. In November 2019, the Flood Advisor Report, commissioned by the Province, was released. It provided advice to government and contained 66 recommendations. The implications for municipalities will depend on the response by the government to the recommendations. Through the Peel Climate Change Partnership, the Region and local municipalities are developing flood resiliency mapping and an Electric Vehicle Strategy. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 The CCMP has an outcome focused on raising capital to fund the CCMP's actions, including public funding available from other levels of government. Staff will monitor for the launch of the fund and work with its conservation partners and other stakeholders to apply. Staff will monitor how the Province responds to the recommendations in the Flood Advisor Report and work with conservation authorities and other stakeholders to determine implications to the Region. Staff from the Regional Planning and Growth Management Division have coordinated a staff review with the Conservation Authorities and Local Municipal staff for awareness.

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
 ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY 7. Governance, Geographic Boundaries and Funding of Public Health and Paramedic Services Public Health Maintain the existing geographic boundaries of Peel Public Health to ensure local planning and service delivery is responsive to community needs given Peel's geography and population size. Maintain Peel Regional Council as the Board of Health for Peel. Achieve 75% Provincial funding and not increase the municipal share of funding. Paramedics Consult with municipalities on possible future changes to Paramedic Services to ensure consideration of impacts from a local lens and responsiveness to community needs. Not reduce Provincial funding for Paramedic Services in order to ensure service levels are maintained and do not adversely impact residents in Peel. 	 In December, consultations led by provincially appointed Special Advisor Jim Pine, were announced for both public health and emergency health system transformation and modernization. Discussion papers were also released with the Ministry of Health accepting written submissions until Spring 2020. The Special Advisor conducted an in-person consultation session in Peel on January 8, 2020, which included participation from Halton Region and Regional Councillors Downey and Fonseca. Peel Public Health and Paramedic staff also made presentations. The Region of Peel made written submissions for both consultations, which were endorsed by Regional Council on January 23, 2020. Regional Councillors and the CAO have participated in separate consultation meetings with AMO. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 The Region continues to advocate for continued consultation on changes to paramedics and public health following the Special Advisor providing his findings to the Province. Paramedic Services Key Opportunities: Ensuring dispatch technologies remain a priority before new models of care are adopted to effectively deploy resources and ensure quality of care for patients. Improving interoperability between the dispatch communications centre and paramedics for enhanced accountability and efficiency; Exploring new models of care and integration of paramedic service in partnership with other local service providers (i.e. Ontario Health Teams) that will leverage the skills of paramedics and fill potential gaps in the system.

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
8. Enhance dementia supports and funding to redevelop Peel Manor • Enhance dementia supports across the long-term care sector through funding that aligns with increasingly complex resident care needs, dedicated and consistent training related to person-centered emotional dementia care, enhanced specialized supports and supportive structural design; and • Provide funding to the Region to support the redevelopment of the Seniors Health and Wellness Village at the Peel Manor long term care home, while also partnering on an innovative project aimed at improving integrated care in the community.	 The Region of Peel has applied to several federal dementia grants with no success. Regional staff have been in contact with the Ministry of Long-Term Care to discuss opportunities for funding long term care redevelopment and enhancing emotional care supports in long term care homes. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 The Region will continue to explore funding opportunities particularly through the Senior's Health and Wellness Village aligned to the Province's vision for integrated care. Staff are monitoring for any future direction from the provincial Seniors Strategy that can be leveraged to support enhancing supports for seniors in our community.
 9. Integrate mental health and addictions planning and service delivery across entire age continuum and address historical inequities in provincial funding Integrate mental health and addictions system planning and service delivery to ensure seamless access to services across the entire age continuum and coordinate across ministries on the basic social 	 On October 21, 2019, the Region hosted a community mental health and addictions roundtable with the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Michael Tibollo and key community partners to understand how Peel is addressing mental health and addictions issues. On December 12, 2019, Bill 116, Foundations for Promoting and Protecting Mental Health and Addictions Services Act, 2019 received Royal Assent. It establishes a Mental Health and 	 Building on the community mental health and addictions round table, Regional staff will continue to steward and work alongside community partners to coordinate consistent messaging and identify strategic investments that can be shared with the Province to strengthen our community mental health and addictions system in Peel.

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
needs to support mental health promotion and recovery. • Address historical inequities in provincial funding for mental health and addictions services in Peel to support upstream prevention and improved access to services within the community and ensure that funding matches community needs and reflects demographic changes.	Addictions Centre of Excellence within Ontario Health and support the Province's participation in a national class action lawsuit against more than 40 opioid manufacturers and wholesalers. In November the Province announced it is investing up to \$60 million to support the construction of the Garry Hurvitz Brain Sciences Centre, a new, state-of-the-art facility dedicated to brain and mental health at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. It will be the largest youth mental health service in the Greater Toronto Area. In December 2019 Region of Peel Council endorsed the Peel Opioid Strategy which includes a treatment pillar, led by service providers, focused on enhanced access to effective addiction treatment services. Coordinated with local municipalities to provide information/data support to local councillors and mayors attending conferences or events (e.g., FCM) and to support planned meetings with Ministers or government officials. On February 20, 2020 a report went to the Health Services Integration Committee (HSIC) reinforcing the importance and need for ongoing advocacy. Community delegates presented on the local data and needs in Peel.	 Mental Health and Addictions is an area of early focus of the Community Safety and Well-Being plan and an Action Table is underway to identify its goals. The Action Table is an example of cross-sector collaboration and coordination among partners who are collectively working to achieve a shared goal. Peel Public Health continues to collaborate with Peel school boards and community partners to support child and youth mental health promotion.
	budget submission.	

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10. Prohibit the promotion of vaping product and the sale of flavoured vaping products, require warning labels and introduce municipal licensing requirements On November 14, 2019, Regional Council passed resolution (2019-1041) related to advocacy to the federal and provincial governments on the issue of vaping and youth. The resolution calls on the Region to advocate to the federal government to: amend the Tobacco and Vaping Products Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of vaping products with flavours and flavouring ingredients, and to align the prohibitions on the mass media promotion of vaping products with	 On September 4, 2019, Peel Public Health submitted comments to the federal governments' consultation on proposed regulations for vaping product labelling and packaging. On January 3, 2020, Peel's Medical Officer of Health wrote to James Van Loon, Director General, Tobacco Control Directorate, Health Canada regarding the Region's various vaping related advocacy positions directed at the federal government. On Jan 3, 2020, Peel's Medical Officer of Health wrote to Minister Elliott about the Region's various vaping related advocacy positions that directed at the provincial government. On January 7, 2020 Peel's Medical Officer of Health, on behalf of Councillor Fonseca, submitted to FCM a proposed resolution that aims to limit 	 Peel Public Health will continue to advocate for policies to protect youth and non-users of vapour products. Through analysis, Peel Public Health will recommend licencing options for vapour product retailors and work in collaboration with local municipalities to implement. Licencing vapour product retailors in Peel may identify opportunities to strengthen municipal tobacco retailor licenses in order to increase how effectively they can protect youth from exposure to and use of tobacco products.
those for tobacco products. o limit the concentration of nicotine in vaping products to 20 mg/mL or less;	 the access and the appeal of vaping to youth On January 20, 2020, Peel Public Health submitted comments to the federal government's consultation on proposed Vaping Product 	
 require warning labels for all packaging of vapour products; And calls on the Ontario government to: amend the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 	 Promotion Regulations. Region of Peel-Public Health staff are in the process of analyzing municipal vapour product retailor licencing options and plan to contact local municipalities in the next couple of months. 	

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
2017 to align penalties for e- cigarette sales offences with the current penalties for tobacco sales offences		
 amend the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 and Ontario Regulation 268/18 to prohibit the retail promotion of vaping products and to prohibit the sale of flavoured vaping products. 		
The resolution also calls on both the federal and provincial governments to:		
 ensure advertising and promotion of vapour products not target youth. 		
Region of Peel staff will work with staff at the local municipalities to introduce licensing requirements for vapour product retailers.		
11. Sustainable and Integrated		
Transportation System	The technically preferred route as released at a Builting for a series of a standard 2010.	GO Transit and Public Transit Continue to advocate for continued
The Region of Peel recommends that the Ontario government:	Public Information Centre in September 2019 shows an extension of Highway 427 and future alignment with the GTA West Corridor.	implementation and completion of two-way, all-day 15-minute GO rail service on the Kitchener line, from
 Provide support for key strategic transit projects across Peel, including: 	MTO has established a Business Advisory Council on rail transit in the Innovation Corridor Employment Zone. The council will be comprised	Union Station to Bramalea GO and further to Mount Pleasant GO Station

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
Improving transit connections between the Town of Caledon and Toronto Continue with the implementation of two-way, all-day, 15-Minute GO Regional Express Rail on the Kitchener Line from Bramalea GO Station to Union Station and further to Mount Pleasant GO Station Expedite two-way, all-day, 15-Minute GO Regional Express Rail for Milton Line Complete the GTA West Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA) process expeditiously and move forward as soon as possible with the implementation of a highway and a dedicated transit right-ofway. Extend Highway 427 to Highway 9	 PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY of community, business and municipal leaders from across the Innovation Corridor who will work with Minister Mulroney, the Ministry of Transportation and Metrolinx on delivering two-way all-day GO on the Kitchener line. Brampton Board of Trade CEO, Todd Letts, is a member of the council. The Ministry has shown interest in the Smart Freight Centre's in the Region's off-peak delivery pilot. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	 Expedite two-way, all-day 15-minute GO service on the Milton Line Improved services between Caledon and Toronto The Region will continue to seek opportunities to encourage ongoing provincial investments in local municipal transit in Peel such as the Hurontario LRT project. The investments are integral to Peel meeting its goal of a 50 per cent sustainable mode share by 2041 and accommodating growth over the same period. GTA West Corridor Find opportunities to continue to work with and support the Province in completing the EA by 2022. Ministry of Transportation is working
forward as soon as possible with the implementation of a highway and a dedicated transit right-ofway.		Find opportunities to continue to work with and support the Province in completing the EA by 2022.
 Encourage the Province to continue its involvement with the Smart Freight Centre and lead the province-wide Off-Peak Delivery Pilot in support of the safe and efficient movement of goods. 		 A report on the Coleraine interchange matter was brought to Regional Council on February 27, 2020.

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

The Region of Peel also calls on the federal government to: • invest in projects to support improved transportation access for		The confirmation of the Preferred Route is expected to be released Spring 2020.
people and goods around Toronto Pearson International Airport.		 Regional Staff are continuing to work with the Ministry of Transportation through the Municipal Advisory Group meetings. Smart Freight Centre (SFC) Based on the success of the Region's Off-Peak Delivery Pilot, the Ministry of Transportation is expected to launch a province-wide Off-Peak Delivery Pilot in March 2020. Continue advocating for increased collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation on SFC initiatives to support sound goods movement practices across the Greater Toronto
 12. Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System The Region of Peel recommends that the Ontario government: Continue to phase-in proposed changes to provincial funding for 	 The Province recently deferred some of the expected reductions in funding that were originally planned for 2020: Effective January 1, 2021, the Province will implement a 50/50 cost share with the Region for administrative expenses. 	and Hamilton Area (GTHA). The Province is considering making significant changes to the Early Years and Child Care program and funding formula which could impact our funding. Accordingly, the Region will: • continue advocating for increased

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
to avoid reductions in the availability of quality child care, EarlyON and Special Needs services in Peel. • Proactively consult with the Region on funding and policy changes that impact Early Years and Child Care program delivery and service levels. • Provide adequate operating and capital funding to expand access to childcare and EarlyON programs in areas of need. • Continue to make childcare more affordable (e.g. updating income test formula to reflect the current cost of living, expanding	 PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY Effective January 1, 2022, in addition to the 50/50 cost share, the Province will cap the amount of provincial funding the Region can spend on administration to five per cent from 10 per cent. Through the budget process Council approved an investment of \$2.6 million in order to help offset a 20-per-cent reduction in funding for child care services by the Province in 2020. The Region anticipates reduced funding for child care in 2021 and beyond will result in the creation of significant wait lists for child care fee subsidy and/or children with special needs. Similarly, the elimination of the Region's Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative in 2020 will end 	 NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES share data and provide feedback and insights on funding and policy changes that are being considered. And whenever possible, reinforce the importance of the Province providing the 2020 allocation as soon as possible so we can continue to plan and adapt. The Early Years and Child Care division will begin implementation of Fee Subsidy review recommendations in 2020 and will continue to look for efficiencies to avoid service impacts.
cost of living, expanding affordability investments in child care, and consider enhancements to CARE).	 Care Fee Reduction Initiative in 2020 will end supports that help make child care more affordable for working families who do not qualify for provincial subsidy. The Region received provincial support through the Audit and Accountability Fund to complete a review of the Child Care Fee Subsidy Program. This review, completed in December 2019, found efficiencies and outlined specific and actionable recommendations that could result in cost avoidance, savings and strengthen accountability. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission. 	

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
13. Sustainable Funding to Support Peel's Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking Provide long-term sustainable operational funding to support the costs of housing, and support services for victims and survivors of human sex trafficking in Peel Region.	 Engaging with the Peel School Boards to raise awareness about the issue and how the school boards can partner with other stakeholders. On September 16, 2019, the Director of Community Partnerships delegated to the Brampton Community Safety Advisory Committee, which in response approved a motion passed to train all 3000 City of Brampton staff, using the Region of Peel's e-learning module. On December 9, the Region met with Minister Dunlop and senior staff to discuss funding opportunities and met with the Minister's Chief of Staff on January 23. The Region delegated to the AMO Board on January 31st to increase awareness about the Region's approach and look for opportunities to partner with AMO. 	 The Region is in the process of implementing the strategy and seeking sustainable funding to ensure the supportive services remain in the community long-term. This includes working with community partners and seeking meetings with relevant Ministers. The Region has submitted to provide a panel presentation at the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association Conference in May.
 14. Settlement boundary expansions for Mayfield West Phase 2 Stage 2 and Ninth Line Include the settlement boundary expansions of Mayfield West Phase 2 Stage 2 in Caledon and Ninth Line in Mississauga in the Transitional Regulation for A Place to Grow, 2019. 	 The Region advocated for these changes through Regional comments and discussions on Growth Plan related matters, which supported local municipal positions as well. On November 14, 2019, Minister Clark issued a letter to Heads of Municipal Councils informing them that settlement boundary expansions involving lands of up to 40 hectares can occur outside of a municipal comprehensive review. 	 Staff are partnering with local municipal staff to coordinate work on our respective MCRs and on a number of studies, including Settlement Area Boundary Expansions. No further action on this advocacy position is required.

Appendix I – Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY POSITION/PRIORITY	PROGRESS & RECENT ACTIVITY	NEXT STEPS/POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES
	 The letter also stated that a municipality may undertake a municipal comprehensive review (MCR) through phased multiple amendments. This confirmation of permitted phases provides the opportunity for Ninth Line Lands and Mayfield West Phase 2 Stage 2 settlement area boundary expansions to proceed as amendments ahead of other official plan policy review processes. 	