

**Appendix I**  
**Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<p><b>1. Federal and Provincial Funding for Associated COVID-19 Costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to provide sufficient funding for the ongoing COVID-19 response, including significant costs associated with the Region's COVID-19 Response and Mass Vaccination Program</li> <li>• Provide additional funding support to offset incremental service costs and loss of revenue for services that have continued to operate during the pandemic</li> <li>• Increase funding for provincially mandated services to keep pace with inflation and population growth</li> <li>• Review provincial-municipal service responsibilities to modernize the planning, regulating, funding, and delivery of those services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Province committed, in the November 2021 Fall Economic Statement, to temporarily suspend the 5% cap until passenger volumes return to pre-pandemic levels for each airport. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This will enable the PILT to grow in tandem with the recovery in passenger volumes, allowing the Region to recover at the same pace as the GTAA, but still result in sharing the mid-term impact, which for Peel is \$7.1 million in 2022</li> <li>○ The Province commits to continue to engage with stakeholders to consider their input on issues surrounding PILT</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Since the last GRC Update, Oct. 21, 2021, the Region has received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Additional funding for Peel's mass vaccination program, bringing total funding to \$102,957,200.</li> <li>○ \$28 million in one-time COVID-19 Extraordinary Cost funding.</li> <li>○ \$8.8 million for the Early Years and Child Care sector, as a one-time transitional grant to offset the impact of the administrative funding cut and to address the ongoing challenges the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>○ On-going COVID-19 support funding for testing, pandemic pay, wage enhancements and minor capital spending</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Stimulus Infrastructure Funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase infrastructure funding to stimulate Peel's economic recovery, including green infrastructure projects</li> <li>• Implement an allocation model to distribute stimulus funds expeditiously</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the last GRC Update, Oct. 21, 2021, the Region has made note of the following announcements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On Jan. 27, 2022 the Province announced \$15 million, over two years, for minor sewage treatment plant improvements - Peel is one of 18 eligible municipalities.</li> <li>○ The Region was approved for up to \$356,160 through the Province's Audit and Accountability Fund for the Water Billing Resident Portal Integration Review.</li> <li>○ \$1.2 million in federal funding for Electric Vehicle Charging stations, through the Zero-emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional staff made a submission to the Province as it relates to Community Housing Regulations. The Ministry is proposing to amend Ontario Regulation 367/ 11 under the <i>Housing Services Act</i> to make changes to Municipal and District Social Service Administration</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve housing affordability outcomes in Peel by contributing at least \$319.6 million in capital funding for initial implementation of the Housing Master Plan to build 2,240 affordable rental and supportive units and emergency shelter beds in Peel by 2028, and committing more long-term, stable operating funds for homelessness and supportive housing programs.</li> <li>• Provide legislative and policy changes at levels to increase local autonomy and improve housing affordability outcomes in Peel.</li> </ul>	<p>Boards’ service system management of community housing with respect to service agreements, service levels and access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On January 19, 2022, the Region participated in the provincial-municipal housing summit, hosted by Minister Clark. The Region highlighted a number of positions including, but not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Allocate Long-term, predictable operational dollars to maintain affordable rents with appropriate supports.</li> <li>○ Address funding deficits for infrastructure such as water and wastewater, transit, active transportation through direct funding.</li> <li>○ Reinforce municipal decision-making authority to streamline affordable housing developments, while adhering to sound planning principles.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Regional staff is reviewing the Housing Affordability Task Force report and will be consulting with Peel’s lower tier municipalities to better understand the potential benefits and challenges. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Regional staff is also preparing a report for a future meeting of the Planning and Growth Management Committee.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• As part of the federal government’s ‘Call for Ideas’, Regional staff provided comments related to the Housing Accelerator Fund and the Rent-to-Own program.</li> <li>• On December 17, 2021, the Region hosted meetings with Peel MPs and MPPs to provide an overview of the affordable housing crisis facing Peel and proposed solutions including addressing the \$319.6 million funding gap with the Region’s \$1 billion Housing Master Plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Sustainable Funding to Support Peel’s Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide long-term sustainable operational funding to support the costs of housing, and support services for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Peel Anti-Human Sex Trafficking Strategy is being evaluated by an external vendor. The interim evaluation will be available in March 2022.</li> <li>• Updates to the Peel Anti-Human Sex Trafficking Strategy will be presented to Council in June 2022</li> </ul>

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<p>victims, survivors and individuals at-risk of human sex trafficking in Peel Region.</p>	
<p><b>5. Mental Health and Addictions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Implement a funding formula for mental health and addictions services that considers population and demographic factors, community need and accounts for additional systems pressures due to the impacts of COVID-19</li> <li>• Provide targeted, specific and sustainable investments to Peel’s community-based mental health and addictions services to address growing waitlists and crisis levels exacerbated by COVID-19</li> <li>• Invest in the integration of 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 needs to support mental health promotion and recovery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From July – August 2021, the Region, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association and EveryMind, launched a targeted social media advocacy campaign targeted at provincial partners to call for increased funding to help address existing pressures within the community mental health and addictions system in Peel. The campaign was part of the Region’s council-endorsed advocacy strategy to increase funding for Peel’s mental health and addictions system and address existing gaps in service.</li> <li>• In October 2021, the Ontario government announced that it is investing in a new mobile mental health and addictions clinic for unserved and underserved areas. Initial investment focused on areas in Peterborough but signals potential opportunities for similar funding in priority communities within Peel.</li> <li>• In November 2021, the Ontario Government highlighted a \$12.4 million investment over two years to provide existing and expanded mental health and addictions supports for all frontline health care workers – a commitment made in the 2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review.</li> <li>• On February 11 2022, the Province announced \$90 million over three years through the New Addictions Recovery Fund. This funding is in addition to the \$175 million Roadmap to Wellness investment announced in the 2021 Budget. The funding announced spans three fiscal years with the bulk of the funding commitment beyond the next Provincial election on or before June 2022. While it is still unclear how this funding will support Peel, investments will support 396 new addictions treatment beds, as well as the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Two new Mobile Mental Health Clinics to provide a full suite of mental health and addictions services directly to individuals living in remote, rural and underserved communities</li> <li>○ Three new police-partnered Mobile Crisis Response Teams to support individuals in a mental health or addictions crisis</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Additional community supports including day/evening intensive treatment, mild to moderate intensive treatment, and after-care programs</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Enhanced Supports for Seniors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide funding and stronger regulatory requirements and measurement to support emotion-based care and enable dementia friendly design in Long-Term Care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On Oct. 26, 2021, the Province announced \$20 million to hire and train 193 additional inspection staff for long-term care homes.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide \$4 million in sustainable operational funding and \$30 million in capital funding to support the expansion of community support services and wrap-around care at the Seniors Health and Wellness Village at Peel Manor.</li> <li>• Provide additional funding and service delivery changes for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program to meet the number of eligible seniors in Peel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Oct. 28, 2021, the Province announced it would extend the temporary wage enhancement, of \$2 or \$3 per hour, for PSWs and direct support workers to March 31, 2022</li> <li>• The Province’s Nov. 4, 2021 Fall Economic Statement included an additional \$17 million over two years to increase access to dental services for eligible seniors across Ontario. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This investment will serve up to an additional 35,000 eligible seniors</li> <li>○ Funding would support new and renovated dental clinics and the procurement of additional mobile dental buses for seniors enrolled in the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On December 9, 2021, <i>the Providing More Care, Protecting Seniors, and Building More Beds Act, 2021</i> received Royal Assent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 is replaced by the Fixing Long Term Care Act, 2021.</li> <li>○ Measures proposed under the <i>Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021</i> fall under three pillars: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving staffing and care</li> <li>2. Protecting residents through better accountability, enforcement and transparency</li> <li>3. Building modern, safe, comfortable homes for seniors</li> </ol> </li> <li>○ The <i>Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021</i> included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish the commitment to provide an average of four hours of daily direct care per resident per day by March 31, 2025</li> <li>- Strengthen the Residents’ Bill of Rights to align with the Ontario Human Rights Code and recognizing the role caregivers play in resident health and well-being</li> <li>- Implement new requirements for annual resident, family, and caregiver surveys</li> <li>- Establish new compliance and enforcement tools, including doubling the fines on the conviction of an offense under the proposed legislation</li> <li>- Introduce a Minister’s review of a director’s decision in the licensing process</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Health Standards Organization (HSO) released its National Long-Term Care Services standard on January 27, 2022. The public review is open from January 27 to March 27, 2022.</li> </ul>

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	<p>The standard includes a focus on quality and person-centred care, but additional funding and intersection with legislation at the provincial level (i.e. Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021) is required to ensure meaningful and sustainable change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021</i> is expected to come into effect in April 2022. Regional staff made a submission to the Province in February 2022, in coordination with AMO and AdvantAge, on Phase 1 regulations under the <i>Fixing Long-Term Care Act</i>. The new regulations will have operational implications for the Region’s five LTC homes, details on these impacts will be presented to Council in April 2022. Ongoing Regional advocacy continues to focus on improving the quality care for seniors along the care continuum and remains a central focus of the Region’s election strategy.</li> <li>• On February 7, 2022, the Province announced that they are adding 128 new LTC beds and building a new LTC home, VMSA-Mississauga, in Mississauga that will offer culturally appropriate services to the Coptic Christian community. This is part of the government’s \$6.4 billion commitment to build more than 30,000 net new beds by 2028 and 28,000 upgraded LTC beds.</li> <li>• On February 11, 2022, the Province announced a \$73 million investment over three years (known as the new <i>Preceptor Resource and Education Program for Long-Term Care</i>) to train and provide clinical placements for over 16,000 PSW and nursing students.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the Province to provide fair, predictable, flexible funding to service system managers</li> <li>• Work collaboratively with service system managers on a workforce strategy for Registered Early Childhood Educators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Feb. 17, 2022, the Province announced \$304 million in time-limited additional staffing supports, through the COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund. This funding will go towards the hiring of an estimated 3,000 front line staff – including teachers, early childhood educators, educational assistants, and other education workers to address learning recovery.</li> <li>• Regional staff continue to leverage advocacy opportunities to highlight concerns and advocacy priorities with the Ministry of Education and staff, based on previously endorsed Council positions.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the Province to sign the Canada-wide Child Care Plan to create an affordable, inclusive, high quality, accountable and accessible child care system.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. Transition the Blue Box program to producers and develop a provincial single-use plastics strategy</b></p> <p><u>Blue Box Transition and Regulation Development</u></p> <p>The Region continues to advocate for Administrative Monetary Penalties for programs under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act.</p> <p><u>Single-Use Plastics Strategy</u></p> <p>Work with the federal government and other stakeholders to develop a harmonized, Ontario-wide single-use plastics strategy.</p> <p>Continue to advocate for investment in waste infrastructure, such as Anaerobic Digestion and Mixed Waste Processing, to increase resource recovery and strengthen end-markets for recovered resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On February 3, staff reported to Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee regarding comments submitted by staff on Proposed Amendments to the Producer Responsibility Regulations for Tires, Batteries, and Electrical and Electronic Equipment.</li> <li>On February 11, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change launched a consultation process on the development of new regulations that will set minimum percentage recycled content requirements for certain items made of plastic. The proposed regulations would reduce the amount of plastic entering landfills and the environment by strengthening demand for recycled plastics. Comments are to be submitted before March 14.</li> <li>Regional staff continue preparation for transition of the Blue Box program to align with the October 1, 2024 transition date for Peel municipalities.</li> <li>Regional staff are submitting comments on the federal government’s proposed single-use plastic prohibition regulation by March 5, 2022, which are also to be included at an upcoming meeting of the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee.</li> <li>In response to a federal consultation, Regional staff have reviewed the proposed minimum recycled content technical paper.</li> <li>A federal consultation is seeking comments by April 13 in response to the reducing methane emissions from landfill discussion paper.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Provincial support of regional and provincial GHG reduction targets and sustained climate change adaptation and mitigation funding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Region’s federal pre-budget submission advocated for meaningful consultation on enabling policies, sharing of best practices as well as sustained and predictable federal funding.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the Province to set the legislative and policy framework to phase-out all fossil fuel natural gas-fired electricity generation while meeting Ontario's growing electricity needs.</li> <li>• Provide sustained funding to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and address climate change risks to critical municipal infrastructure</li> <li>• Develop policy in partnership with municipalities that establishes adaptation targets and defines municipal resilience to climate change.</li> <li>• Share best practices that work towards low-carbon and resilient community transformation meaningful consultation on enabling policies, sharing of best practices as well as sustained and predictable federal funding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated climate change advocacy positions will be brought forward later in 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Sustainable and Integrated Transportation System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support for key strategic transit projects across Peel.</li> <li>• Strong opposition in principle to the construction of the currently proposed GTA West/Highway 413 and Transmission Corridor.</li> <li>• Encourage the Province to study alternatives to the GTA West/Highway 413, such as the Brampton Boulevard, to replace the currently intended highway.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional staff are working with Metrolinx on the advancement of GO Expansion, Hurontario LRT, Dundas BRT, Queen Street BRT, Eglinton Crosstown West Extension and advocating to the Province to advance commuter GO rail service to Bolton. Staff are also working with local municipal staff on the advancement of the Hurontario LRT North Extension and Lakeshore BRT.</li> </ul> <p><u>GTA West Transportation Corridor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Province's 2021 Fall Economic Statement included an additional \$1.6 billion over the next six years to advance key highway expansion projects, including GTA West/Highway 413.</li> <li>• Public Information Centres (PICs) and delegations to impacted municipal councils were held throughout December 2021 and January 2022 for feedback into the Federal Impact Assessment Process.</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request to the Province that money budgeted for the GTA West/Highway 413 be instead invested into regionally connected transit, active transportation, and other sustainable modes of transportation.</li> <li>• Advocate for Provincial legislative changes that would allow municipalities to create Automated School Bus Camera Enforcement programs, enforced through an Administrative Monetary Penalties System (AMPS), and that would direct penalty revenue to the municipalities.</li> <li>• Allow the use of Administrative Monetary Penalties System (AMPS) to process Automated Enforcement violations and direct the net revenue from Automated Enforcement penalties to municipalities.</li> </ul> <p><u>Vision Zero</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate for improved driver education through the license and testing program on safe interactions with pedestrians and cyclists, and micro-mobility services and systems such as e-bikes, bike share, and e-scooters.</li> <li>• Request that the Province convene a stakeholder task force group to advise on how a province-wide Vision Zero strategy can be developed and implemented in Ontario to provide consistent guidance to municipalities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Region’s provincial pre-budget submission advocated for expedited regulatory changes to allow the creation of AMPS for automated enforcement programs to allow the Region to realize the full benefits of automated enforcement programs.</li> <li>• On February 22, 2022, the Province released a proposed regulatory framework for AMPS. The new regulation would create a framework that would allow municipalities to opt-in to an AMP model for vehicle-based infractions captured by automated cameras. Municipalities could continue to utilize the Provincial Offences Act framework for all or some of their camera-based offences.</li> <li>• During the ROMA Conference, in January 2022, Minister Mulroney noted plans by MTO to establish transportation task forces, which is to include a Greater Golden Horseshoe task force. Any updates on this initiative will be provided as information is available.</li> <li>• Regional staff continue working with Ministry of Transportation staff to facilitate a road safety roundtable.</li> </ul>