



Correspondence Items Presented for Information September 28, 2026

- 1) Correspondence from AMO Re: AMO Policy Update – Data Centres and Building Code Review.
- 2) Correspondence from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Re: Ontario Regulatory Registry Commenting Period for *Municipal Accountability Act, 2026*.
- 3) Correspondence from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Re: Buy Ontario and Municipal Procurement.
- 4) Correspondence from the Chair, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board Re: Submission to ERO 026-0740: Proposed Governance Regulations for Regional Conservation Authorities and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency.
- 5) Correspondence from the Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator, Township of North Huron Re: Mandated Conservation Authority Amalgamation.
- 6) Correspondence from the Clerk, Township of Puslinch Re: *Aggregate Resources Act*.
- 7) Correspondence from the Nuclear Innovation Institute Re: 2026 Clean Energy Frontier Conference.



AMO Policy Update – Data Centres and Building Code Review

Top Insights

- AMO's submission to the provincial Data Centre Playbook consultation calls for a framework that balances data centre development with other provincial and municipal priorities and ensures tangible benefits for host communities.
- AMO's advocacy on the Ontario Building Code review supports exploring opportunities to streamline building approvals while strengthening key outcomes, including strong energy efficiency standards that are increasingly important as municipalities can no longer set their own.

AMO's Advocacy on the Proposed Provincial Data Centre Playbook

AMO has submitted comments to the provincial Data Centre Playbook [consultation](#). We are pleased that the proposed Playbook reflects AMO's [previous advocacy](#) by recognizing the need for a province-wide framework that balances the strategic opportunities data centres provide with the risks and impacts on host communities.

Our new submission, [Balanced Priorities, Local Benefits: A Framework for Data Centre Development](#) outlines five recommendations to provide clarity and consistency in how data centres are evaluated to help advance projects only where they are the right fit for Ontario's economy and host community:

1. Create a requirement and framework to balance provincial and municipal priorities alongside data centres.
2. Give priority to Canadian-owned companies.
3. Give priority to projects that offer a community benefit agreement to ensure economic benefits accrue to host communities.
4. Create a collaborative process for the review of proposed facilities that involves the province, municipalities, and Indigenous Communities.
5. Commit to maintaining full municipal planning and development approvals.

AMO's Submission to the Provincial Building Code Review

AMO has written to the Chair of the Building Code Short-Term Advisory Body with recommendations for the ongoing line-by-line review of the Ontario Building Code (OBC). [The letter](#) expresses AMO's ongoing support for efforts that can help make building faster, easier and more affordable, while helping building officials review, approve and inspect projects more efficiently. These changes can help municipalities accelerate priority housing and economic development projects. AMO also recommends that changes to the OBC balance streamlining with protecting important outcomes like strong energy efficiency standards that municipalities no longer have the authority to require through local development standards.

An online version of this Policy Update is also available on the [AMO Website](#).

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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Tel.: 416 585-7000

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Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

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234-2026-3320

September 10, 2026

Dear Head of Council,

I am writing to advise that the content of proposed regulations under the [Municipal Accountability Act, 2026](#), which received Royal Assent on June 2, 2026, is now posted on Ontario's regulatory registry for public comment.

The Act represents a significant step toward strengthening accountability and public confidence in local government. If the changes made by this Act are brought into force, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is proposing regulations that would:

1. Establish a standardized municipal code of conduct for members of council and certain local boards;
2. Establish standardized municipal integrity commissioner inquiry processes; and
3. Establish education and training requirements for municipal integrity commissioners and for members of councils and certain local boards.

I value your perspective as Head of Council and encourage you to provide comments through the Regulatory Registry on behalf of your municipality, including any views or feedback from members of council: [Proposal for Regulations to Establish a Standardized Municipal Code of Conduct; Municipal Integrity Commissioner Processes and Education and Training Requirements | regulatoryregistry.gov.on.ca](#)

The proposal is open for public comment until October 2, 2026. Feedback will help inform the development of these regulations and support their effective implementation for the start of the new municipal council term on November 15, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the proposal, please contact Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Robert.Dodd@ontario.ca.

I look forward to receiving your input.

Sincerely,

Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

cc : Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Laurie Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal and Housing Operations Division
Municipal Chief Administrative Officer
Municipal Clerk

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234-2026-3477

September 15, 2026

Dear Head of Council,

As we continue working together to protect Ontario workers and communities from President Trump's tariffs, I am writing to make clear our government's expectation that municipalities fully comply with Ontario's Buy Ontario policies and maximize the use of Ontario and Canadian goods and services in municipal procurement. In addition, we will be seeking to extend the Building Ontario Business Initiative (BOBI) to municipalities for good and services procurement.

American tariffs and anti-trade actions against Canadian imports are causing uncertainty for thousands of Ontario businesses and millions of Ontario workers. In response, Ontario has implemented strong procurement requirements that prioritize Ontario and Canadian goods and services in provincial and municipal procurement. These requirements ensure that every possible dollar of Ontario's more than \$30 billion in annual procurement, as well as our \$236 billion, 10-year infrastructure plan, supports Ontario and Canadian workers.

Ontario taxpayers expect municipalities to do the same. Ontario municipalities spend more than \$22 billion each year procuring goods and services. The Municipal Buy Ontario Procurement Directive requires municipalities, local boards and municipal services corporations to prioritize Ontario and Canadian products. In light of this latest round of tariffs and anti-trade actions against Canada, adherence to these requirements is not optional. It is an absolute must. Municipalities must use every available opportunity to prioritize Ontario and Canadian goods and services.

I appreciate that many municipalities are already taking steps to maximize their use of Ontario and Canadian content. Today, I am making clear your obligation, and that of your municipal leadership team, to closely review your supply chains, procurement practices and upcoming purchases to identify every opportunity to increase domestic procurement. This should include determining whether goods and services currently sourced from outside Canada can be replaced with Ontario or Canadian alternatives, including through the expanded application of BOBI.

Failure to comply with Buy Ontario requirements will force us to reconsider provincial funding made available to municipalities, in addition to other consequences under the Buy Ontario Act (Public Sector Procurement), 2025.

In the face of these unprecedented economic attacks against our province and country, we all have a responsibility to do everything within our control to protect our workers and communities. Following Buy Ontario procurement policies can make the difference for an Ontario company that might otherwise be forced to close its doors or lay off workers because of U.S. tariffs.

I welcome your continued partnership as we work together as a united Team Canada to stand up for our province and country and protect Ontario workers and families.

Your Chief Administrative Officer will also receive correspondence outlining our government's expectations that municipal administrations identify further opportunities to increase domestic procurement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Flack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c: The Hon. Stephen Crawford, Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement



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September 8, 2026

MECP Conservation and Source Protection Branch
300 Water St. North Tower, 5th Floor
Peterborough, ON
K9J 3C7

Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Submission to ERO 026-0740: Proposed Governance Regulations for Regional Conservation Authorities and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency

The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Province's proposed governance framework for Regional Conservation Authorities. GSCA recognizes the need to establish board structures that are both manageable and effective following the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities into regional organizations. GSCA supports the objective of ensuring participating municipalities are represented in governance while maintaining board sizes that allow for informed and efficient decision-making.

GSCA's comments focus primarily on the proposed representation model for the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority.

Population Methodology

GSCA has concerns regarding the proposed approach of using adjusted upper-tier municipal populations to determine representation. Under the proposed formula, where only part of a municipality falls within a Regional Conservation Authority, population is estimated by applying the percentage of municipal land area located within the Regional Conservation Authority to the municipality's total population.

While this methodology may be straightforward to administer, it may not accurately reflect the number of residents actually residing within the Regional Conservation Authority boundary. In large upper-tier municipalities, population distributions are rarely uniform, particularly where major urban centres are concentrated in specific portions of a municipality. As a result, the proposed methodology may overstate or understate the population that is genuinely connected to the watershed and conservation authority services being governed.

GSCA encourages the Province to explore whether representation calculations could be based on lower-tier municipal populations that more accurately reflect population within the Regional Conservation Authority boundary. A governance structure grounded in actual watershed population would strengthen confidence that representation corresponds to the communities directly affected by Regional Conservation Authority decisions.

Member Municipalities

Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Town of the Blue Mountains, Township of Chatsworth, Township of Georgian Bluffs,
Municipality of Grey Highlands, Municipality of Meaford, City of Owen Sound, Town of South Bruce Peninsula

Representation Equity

GSCA also notes that the proposed formula can result in significant differences in the number of residents represented by individual board members.

Under the proposed Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority allocation, Huron County would appoint one member representing an adjusted population of approximately 57,945 residents. Bruce County would similarly appoint one member representing approximately 57,736 residents. In comparison, Kawartha Lakes would appoint one member while representing an adjusted population of approximately 2,750 residents within the Regional Conservation Authority. Likewise, Grey County would have a representative in the Eastern Lake Erie Regional CA to represent 1,000 residents from Grey County.

GSCA fully supports the principle that every participating municipality should have a voice at the table. However, the examples above demonstrate that the proposed model can produce substantial inconsistencies in representation. While perfect parity may not be achievable, GSCA encourages the Province to consider whether adjustments to the formula could better align representation with the populations being represented while still maintaining a minimum level of participation for all municipalities.

Urban and Rural Balance

GSCA believes that effective watershed governance requires more than population-based representation alone. Conservation authorities operate across diverse landscapes that include urban areas, rural communities, agricultural lands, forests, wetlands, shorelines, and headwater regions. The interests and challenges associated with managing these landscapes are often significantly different.

The proposed Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority encompasses a large geographic area that is predominantly rural in character. While population should remain an important consideration in determining representation, governance structures should also recognize the importance of rural communities that comprise much of the watershed landscape and are directly affected by conservation authority programs, regulations, stewardship initiatives, and flood management activities. In the LHRCA, four urban municipalities currently account for approximately 70% of the population, but only 25% of the geographic area. Conversely, the other 75% of the geographic area is represented by only 30% of the population.

GSCA encourages the Province to continue evaluating mechanisms that achieve an appropriate balance between urban population representation and the broader geographic and watershed interests that Regional Conservation Authorities are expected to serve. Such an approach would help ensure that governance decisions reflect the full diversity of communities within the watershed.

Municipal Flexibility

GSCA supports the Province's proposal allowing participating municipalities to establish an alternative representation model through municipal agreement following the transition period. Local municipalities are often best positioned to identify governance arrangements that are fair,

workable, and reflective of regional circumstances. The opportunity to adapt representation by agreement provides an important mechanism for addressing issues that may emerge after implementation of the standard allocation formula.

Members-at-Large

GSCA also encourages consideration of a limited number of members-at-large within Regional Conservation Authority governance structures.

A small number of members-at-large could provide additional flexibility to address representation gaps that may arise under a strictly municipal appointment model. Such positions could be used to support balanced representation between urban and rural interests, provide broader watershed perspectives, or bring expertise relevant to Regional Conservation Authority responsibilities. Any members-at-large should complement rather than replace municipal representation and should be appointed through a transparent process established in regulation or approved governance agreements. This approach could enhance board effectiveness while preserving municipal accountability.

Conclusion

GSCA supports the Province's objective of creating governance structures that are efficient, accountable, and representative. However, GSCA recommends that further consideration be given to the method used to calculate population within Regional Conservation Authorities, the representational disparities that result from the proposed formula, and the need to balance both urban and rural interests within watershed-based governance. GSCA believes that a governance model that better reflects actual watershed populations and provides flexibility to address regional circumstances will strengthen both decision-making and public confidence in the future Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on this proposal. If any questions should arise, please contact me through GSCA at t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca.

Sincerely,



Scott Greig, Chair, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

Cc via email:

MPP Paul Vickers
GSCA's Board of Directors
GSCA's current participating municipalities
County of Bruce
County of Grey
Transition Committee and Project Executive for the Lake Huron Regional CA



September 9, 2026

Re: Mandated Conservation Authority Amalgamation

To Whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that at their Regular Council meeting held September 8, 2026, the Council of the Township of North Huron adopted the following resolution:

M225/26

MOVED BY: A. van Hittersum

SECONDED BY: C. Palmer

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby directs staff to send a letter of concern regarding the regional consolidation of conservation authorities with a request to reconsider the amalgamation and keep the Lake Huron watershed Conservation Authorities separated from the Lake Simcoe area;

AND FURTHER, THAT the letter be sent to all Ontario municipalities, MPP Lisa Thompson, Premier Doug Ford, the Project Executive for the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority, Minister Todd McCarthy, Minister Trevor Jones, Conservation Authority Ontario, and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

CARRIED

The Township of North Huron is located in Huron County and is within the watershed of the Maitland River Conservation Authority (MVCA). Under the current format for Conservation Authorities, the Township, along with other municipalities who have boundaries within the MVCA watershed have representation on the MVCA Board of Directors. This process has worked well and has ensured that local knowledge of the area is kept, and issues are being handled in a timely manner. With the updated changes to the Conservation Authorities at the end of 2026, the Township of North Huron will be included under the umbrella of Huron County and will be amalgamated into the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority Board which will have twenty-one (21) members.

Recently, the MVCA received news that the proposed board distribution for the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority Board will be based on a tiered allocation formula based on population to assist in determining the amount of members that will be appointed to the board. Out of the thirteen (13) municipalities that will be included on the Board, eight (8), including Huron County will have only one member appointed, while the other municipalities will have a combined 13 members.

P.O. Box 90, 274 Josephine Street, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0
Phone: 519-357-3550 Fax: 519-357-1110

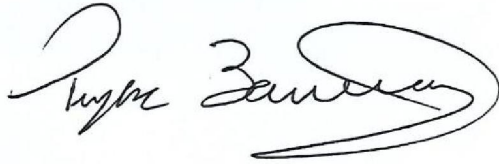
www.northhuron.ca

With this, the Township of North Huron is concerned that our local voice and local concerns will not be addressed, and the decisions will be left to the individuals who have higher populations and higher board representation. Due to this proposed change, local knowledge may be lost and the priorities for heavily populated areas are much different than rural areas and may not achieve the goals or priorities from rural communities. The Township of North Huron also has concerns pertaining to the financial information and effects it will have on local municipalities.

In conclusion, the Township of North Huron respectfully urges the Province of Ontario to reconsider the amalgamation of Conservation Authorities in Ontario, including the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority Board. The Township also encourages the Province to keep the Lake Huron watershed separate from the Lake Simcoe Watershed.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Zamostny', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Tyler Zamostny, AMP, Dipl.M.A.
Deputy Clerk/Planning Coordinator

Cc:

All Ontario Municipalities

Hon. Lisa M. Thompson - minister.mra@ontario.ca

Hon. Doug Ford - premier@ontario.ca

Project Executive for the Lake Huron Conservation Authority - d.goodyear@lsrca.on.ca

Hon. Todd J. McCarthy - minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Hon. Trevor Jones - minister.omafa@ontario.ca

Conservation Authority Ontario - info@conservationontario.ca

Ontario Federal Federation of Agriculture - loni.elliott@ofa.on.ca



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September 10, 2026

RE: 6.17 TAPMO Newsletter July 2026

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on August 26, 2026 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2026-255:

**Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
 Seconded by Councillor Bailey**

That the Consent Agenda item 6.17 be received for information; and

Whereas the Aggregate Resources Act, R.S.O. (ARA) governs the licensing and regulation of aggregate pits and quarries in Ontario;

And Whereas the Planning Act and the Provincial Planning Statement establish the policy framework for land use planning in Ontario and recognize aggregate extraction as an interim land use, with defined expectations for progressive rehabilitation and ultimate transition to an appropriate end use;



And Whereas the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has provided written clarification confirming that where a licensed site's site plan expressly permits the importation of aggregate material from other licensed sites in Ontario:

- such imported material may be brought to the site;
- such imported material does not count toward the site's annual licensed tonnage limit; and
- where processing and blending are permitted in the site plan, imported material may be processed or blended for the duration of the licence;

And Whereas under the Ministry's current interpretation, imported aggregate material that is processed or blended is not currently subject to annual licensed tonnage limits or associated TOARC levy payments;

And Whereas this interpretation may enable a licensed site to function as an ongoing industrial processing and blending facility, including in circumstances where on-site extraction has ceased or is winding down;

And Whereas municipalities may experience increased truck traffic, road deterioration, noise, and dust impacts where processing and blending continue independent of extraction;

And Whereas such an outcome may not align with the planning principle that aggregate operations are intended to be interim land uses and may have implications for municipal land use planning, infrastructure management, environmental oversight, and long-term rehabilitation objectives;

And Whereas clarity and consistency between the implementation of the ARA and the provincial land use planning framework are essential to maintaining policy coherence and municipal planning certainty;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of Township of Puslinch respectfully requests that the MNR reconsider its current interpretation respecting the importation, processing, and blending of aggregate material under the ARA, particularly where such interpretation:

- permits unlimited importation of aggregate material from other licensed sites;



- excludes imported and processed materials from annual licensed tonnage limits; and
- allows processing and blending activities to continue for the duration of the licence without regard to the interim nature of aggregate extraction contemplated under provincial planning policy; and,

That the Province clarify how the interpretation and administration of the ARA will be aligned with the *Planning Act* and Provincial Planning Statement, including the recognition of aggregate extraction as an interim land use with defined rehabilitation and transition objectives;

That the Province provide guidance on how imported and processed aggregate materials are to be considered in relation to licensed tonnage limits, rehabilitation timelines, and the interim land use intent of aggregate operations;

That the Province consult with municipalities prior to finalizing any policy, regulatory, or interpretive direction related to importation, processing, blending, and tonnage calculations under the ARA and importantly any TOARC regulatory reform;

Further be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Puslinch supports TAPMO's call for policy clarification regarding importation, processing and blending under the Aggregate Resources Act; and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Natural Resources, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Top Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario (TAPMO), MPP Joseph Racinsky and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED



As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Top Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario (TAPMO)

From: Erin Beaubien <Erin.Beaubien@nii.ca>

Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 11:07 AM

To: Briana Bloomfield <bbloomfield@owensound.ca>

Subject: 2026 Clean Energy Frontier Conference - for Council distribution

On behalf of the Nuclear Innovation Institute, we would like to invite Council members to join us at the 2026 Clean Energy Frontier Conference, taking place October 8th and 9th, 2026, at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Saugeen Shores. **We are requesting you to share this information with Council, and if time allows, include on Council Agendas prior to October 8th.**

This year's conference theme is *It starts here*: reflecting on how clean energy leadership begins in the Clean Energy Frontier region but delivers real economic benefits to businesses and communities across Ontario and beyond. Highlights include **a keynote from science journalist and TV host Dan Riskin**, workshops on investment attraction, provincial advocacy and municipal resilience, and a full day of sessions featuring Robert Lavigne (OMERS), Eric Chassard (Bruce Power) and James Scongack (Green Ribbon Panel) on **Canada's economic outlook, nuclear refurbishment** and the path toward **our nation as a clean energy superpower**. Plus, you won't want to miss **an exciting announcement on new opportunities** for Canada!

New this year is an **evening reception**, sponsored by Teeswater Concrete, featuring the **Clean Energy Frontier Awards**, our annual recognition of individuals and organizations who demonstrate outstanding contributions, leadership and achievements across the Clean Energy Frontier region of Grey, Bruce and Huron counties.

Please see the attached flyer for details—and you can view the full agenda and register here: nii.ca/clean-energy-frontier-conference

Hope to see you there—and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions!

The NII Team

--

Nuclear Innovation Institute

events@nii.ca | <http://www.nii.ca>



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