



Council Agenda September 2, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Details

In-Person Meeting Location: Mulmur Township Offices, located at 758070 2nd Line East
Virtual Links Available at: www.mulmur.ca

Accessibility Accommodations: If you require access to information in an alternate format, please contact the Clerk's department by phone at 705-466-3341 extension 223 or via email at clerk@mulmur.ca

Page	1.0	<u>Call to Order</u>
	2.0	<u>Land Acknowledgement</u>
	3.0	<u>Approval of the Agenda</u>
		Recommendation: That Council approve the agenda.
4	4.0	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u>
		Recommendation: That the minutes of August 5, 2026 are approved.
	5.0	<u>Discussion Arising out of the Minutes</u>
	6.0	<u>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests</u>
	7.0	<u>Presentations</u>
9	7.1	Greg Lloyd: Pine River Fishing Area Trail (9:00 AM)
13	7.2	Jan Irwin: Mulmur Moments Commemorative Photo Book (9:15 AM)
18	7.3	Shannon McGrady: Shelburne Public Library (9:30 AM)
	8.0	<u>Public Question Period</u>
		If attending virtually, please submit your question to clerk@mulmur.ca no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting.
	9.0	<u>Deputations</u>
37	9.1	Graham Jones: Terra Nova Multi-Use Court (10:00 AM)

10.0 Reports for Decision

38

10.1 Traffic By-law Amendment

Recommendation: That Council approve the Traffic Amending By-law to remove the 15-tonne gross vehicle weight restriction on Bridge 12.

41

10.2 Open Air Fire By-law

Recommendation: That Council approve the Open-Air Fire By-law.

55

10.3 Data Centres

Recommendation: Whereas The Township of Mulmur's Official Plan and Strategic priorities include the protection of its environment, water resources and rural character,

And whereas Mulmur is at the Head of the headwaters and is traversed by the Niagara Escarpment, being a World Biosphere, and will consider development that is of a compatible scale and servicing level and contribute positively to the community;

Whereas Mulmur Township does not have full municipally serviced industrial lands;

Now therefore be it resolved, that Mulmur Council receives the Town of Orangeville resolution regarding Regional Water Resources and Infrastructure;

And that Mulmur Council direct Mulmur staff to bring forward a by-law to prohibit data centres on all lands within the Township of Mulmur as part of the next housekeeping by-law;

And that Mulmur Council does not object to the County staff undertaking a Regional Water Resource and Infrastructure study, which may be collectively used to support interim control by-laws by the local municipalities or prohibitions;

And that this resolution be circulated to the County of Dufferin, all local municipalities within Dufferin County and the Member of Provincial Parliament, the County of Simcoe, Clearview Township and Adjala-Tosorontio Township and the Niagara Escarpment Commission.

11.0 Committee Minutes and Reports

61

11.1 Economic Development Committee Minutes: August 6, 2026

- 63 **11.2 Dufferin County Council Minutes: July 9, 2026**
77 **11.3 Dufferin County Council Minutes: August 13, 2026**
82 **11.4 NVCA Summer Update**

Recommendation: That Council receives the committee minutes and reports as copied and circulated.

12.0 Information Items

- 84 **12.1 Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency Correspondence**
88 **12.2 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing: Consultation under the
Municipal Accountability Act, 2026**
104 **12.3 Niagara Escarpment Commission: Request for Comments**

Recommendation: That Council receives the information items as copied;

13.0 Endorsable Motions

- 106 **13.1 Town of Shelburne: Shelburne Public Library**

14.0 Closed Session

- 14.1 Terra Nova Multi-Purpose Pad Correspondence**
14.2 Q2 Legal Claims Against the Municipality
14.3 Q2 By-law Enforcement
14.4 Land Acquisitions (Honeywood Arena)

Recommendation: That Council approve the Closed Session Minutes of June 3, 2026.

15.0 Items for Future Meetings

- 15.1 Fill By-law**
15.2 Service Allocation Policy
15.3 Mono-Mulmur Road Agreement

16.0 Adjournment

- 114 **16.1 Confirmatory By-Law**

Recommendation: That Council approve the September 2, 2026 Confirmatory By-law;

And that Council adjourns the meeting at _____ to meet again on October 7, 2026 or at the call of the Chair.



Council Minutes August 5, 2026 – 9:30 AM

Council Present: Deputy Mayor Hawkins, Councillors Clark, Cunningham and Lyon

Regrets: Mayor Horner

Staff Present: Tracey Atkinson, Roseann Knechtel, Chris Wolnik

1.0 Call to Order

The Deputy Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m.

2.0 Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the agenda.

Carried.

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

That the minutes of June 3, 2026 are approved.

Carried.

5.0 Discussion Arising out of the Minutes - None

6.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Council Clark declared a conflict of interest to item 11.8 Z06-2026 Notice of Public Meeting.

7.0 Public Question Period

Cheryl Russel inquired what the deadline would be to submit comments if Council moves meetings to a webinar format. Roseann Knechtel, Clerk confirmed the deadline would be set through Council's Procedural By-law, but would anticipate it being the day prior to the meeting.

Steven Middleton inquired about public consultation and communication guidelines for changes related to land use, noting paving of gravel roads, applications for data centres, and recreational facilities. Tracey Atkinson, CAO, confirmed that an update to the Township's communication policy is scheduled as part of Council's strategic plan.

8.0 Presentations

8.1 Cole Carlson – Special Olympics (9:45 am)

Council recognized Cole Carlson for his role in Special Olympics Dufferin and the Dufferin Polar Plunge since 2022. Cole was the top fundraiser for the Dufferin Polar Plunge in both 2025 and 2026.

Constable Jeff McLean noted the Dufferin County Polar Plunge for Special Olympics has raised approximately \$450,000 to date, with Cole raising almost \$3,000 by himself this past year. Dufferin County OPP presented Cole with a wrestling belt in honour of being the top fundraiser in 2026.

Council presented a certificate and thanked Cole for his enthusiasm, sportsmanship and dedication, showing true leadership and community spirit.

8.2 North Dufferin Baseball League Certificate

Councillor Cunningham presented a certificate to Council from the North Dufferin Baseball League in recognition of their 175th Anniversary.

9.0 Reports for Decision

9.1 Council Meeting Recordings

Council reviewed the platform's capabilities, chat features, and discussed piloting the program.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

That Council direct staff to move Council Meetings to a webinar-based platform for a trial period of 3 months;

And that staff continue to maintain a limited recording retention, removing the recordings once the minutes are approved.

Carried.

9.2 Mansfield Water Hydrant Replacement

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the hydrant replacement project at a maximum cost of \$24,000 to be funded by the Water Capital Reserves.

Carried.

10.0 Committee Minutes and Reports

- 10.1 NVCA Board Minutes: May 2026**
- 10.2 NVCA Board Minutes: June 2026**
- 10.3 NVCA 2027 Budget**

Direction was given to staff to invite the NVCA to present their budget in the fall.

- 10.4 NVCA Asset Management Plan**
- 10.5 Shelburne Public Library Minutes: May 26, 2026**
- 10.6 Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board Minutes: June 30, 2026**
- 10.7 Economic Development Committee Minutes: June 29, 2026**
- 10.8 Shelburne District Fire Board Minutes: May 5, 2026**
- 10.9 Rosemont District Fire Board Minutes: October 31, 2025**
- 10.10 Rosemont District Fire Board Minutes: June 5, 2026**
- 10.11 Rosemont District Fire Department 2025 Annual Report**
- 10.12 Dufferin County Council Minutes: May 28, 2026**
- 10.13 Dufferin County Council Minutes: June 11, 2026**
- 10.14 Dufferin County Council Minutes: June 25, 2026**
- 10.15 Campaign Cabinet Meeting Notes**

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receive the committee minutes and reports.

Carried.

11.0 Information Items

- 11.1 2026 Q2 Communication Report**
- 11.2 2026 Q2 Planning Report**
- 11.3 2026 Q2 Grant Report**
- 11.4 2026 Q2 Financial Report**
- 11.5 Dufferin County OPA No. 5**
- 11.6 Z04-2026 Notice of Passing**
- 11.7 Z05-2026 Notice of Passing**
- 11.8 Z06-2026 Notice of Public Meeting**
- 11.9 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing: O. Reg. 509-20 Community Benefits Charges and Parkland**

- 11.10 Ontario ERO: Communal Drinking Water and Wastewater System Municipal Consent Requirements
- 11.11 Ontario ERO: Updating and Modernization of Operational Policies Supporting the Delivery of the Provincial Aggregate Resources Act Program
- 11.12 Ministry of Natural Resources: Aggregates Recourse Act Updates
- 11.13 Hunter and Associates: Open AI Query on the Fisheries Significance to Georgian Bay of the Nottawasaga River and the Pine and Boyne Tributaries and Horning's Mills Lake
- 11.14 2025 Dufferin OPP Detachment Board Annual Report
- 11.15 New Tecumseth: Intimate Partner Violence
- 11.16 Town of Caledon: Tick-Borne Diseases
- 11.17 Town of Halton Hills: Modernizing Invasive Plant Rules
- 11.18 Municipality of Trent Lakes: Accuracy of Municipal Voters' Lists
- 11.19 Town of Parry Sound: School Board Governance Consultation
- 11.20 Township of Amaranth: National Agricultural Soil Health Strategy
- 11.21 Town of Orangeville: Deadline for Notices of Intention to Designate Listed Heritage Properties
- 11.22 Town of South Bruce: Outdoor Education as an Essential Part of Public Education
- 11.23 Municipality of Calvin: Request for Provincial Review of CVA-Based Apportionment for Shared Municipal and Provincially Mandated Services

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council receives the information items as copied;
And that the following items be endorsed: 11.16 - 11.23.

Carried.

Council recessed at 10:43 am and returned at 10:56 am

13.0 Items for Future Meetings

- 13.1 Fill By-law
- 13.2 Service Allocation Policy
- 13.3 Open Air Burning By-law
- 13.4 Mono-Mulmur Road Agreement

14.0 Passing of By-Laws

14.1 Confirmatory By-Law

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Cunningham

That by-law 14.1 be approved.

Carried.

15.0 Adjournment

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council adjourns the meeting at 11:04 a.m. to meet again on September 2, 2026 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk

Pine River Provincial Fishing Area - Mulmur

Walking Trail

- Build a walking trail on the South side of the Pine River Provincial Fishing Area lake.
- This would provide a scenic walking path that could be used during all seasons.
- Connect to the current Pine River Bruce Trail system and to the existing parking areas.
- West parking lot is large and could provide safer parking alternatives for hikers.
- Provide easier access to the entire South side of lake for anglers and families.

Project funding: use current funds raised from the former “Friends of the Pine” organization. Funds of \$5300. are held by NVCA in trust and could be used for wood chips, Gravel & general trail construction materials. Volunteers could provide additional help to complete.

Pine River Provincial Fishing Area - Mulmur

Oct 10, 2022

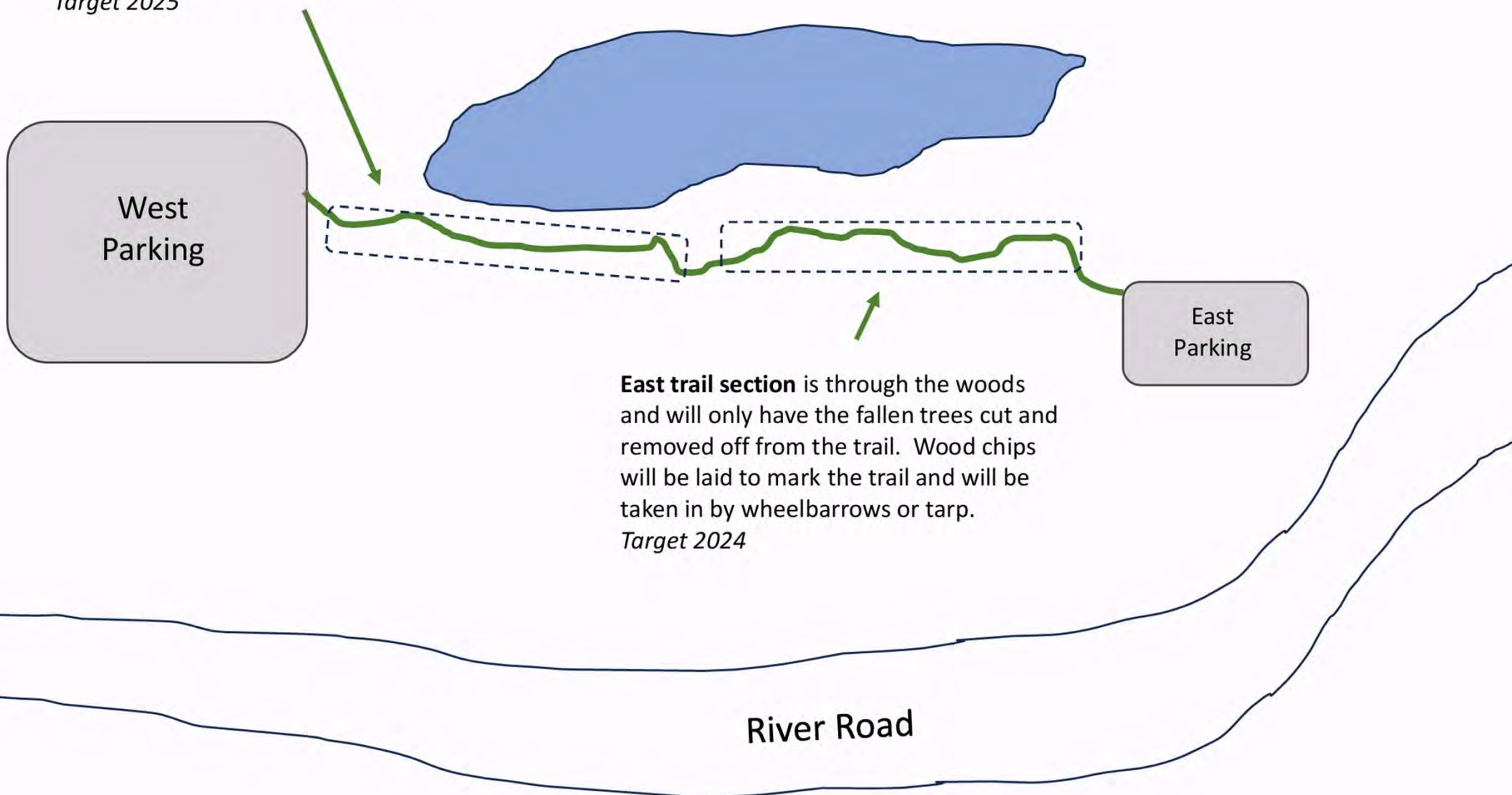
<i>Walking Trail Proposal</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2026</i>
Cost of project	 \$5300.				
Research trail location/plan					
Consult Highland Bruce Trail					
Consult NVCA/MNR for approvals					
Complete necessary applications					
Source local contractors with quotes for materials	Wood chips, gravel & equipment 				
Recruit volunteers to support trail work and schedule work days	 River Rd bridge closed 				
Wood chips and contractors	 				
Completion of the Pine River Trail					

Plan Overview

Sept. 6th, 2024

West trail section will have stepping stones over wet areas, drainage pipe or bridge as required. Wood chips will be laid over exiting walking trail to the forest opening.

Target 2025



East trail section is through the woods and will only have the fallen trees cut and removed off from the trail. Wood chips will be laid to mark the trail and will be taken in by wheelbarrows or tarp.

Target 2024

The Pine River Trail

Mulmur

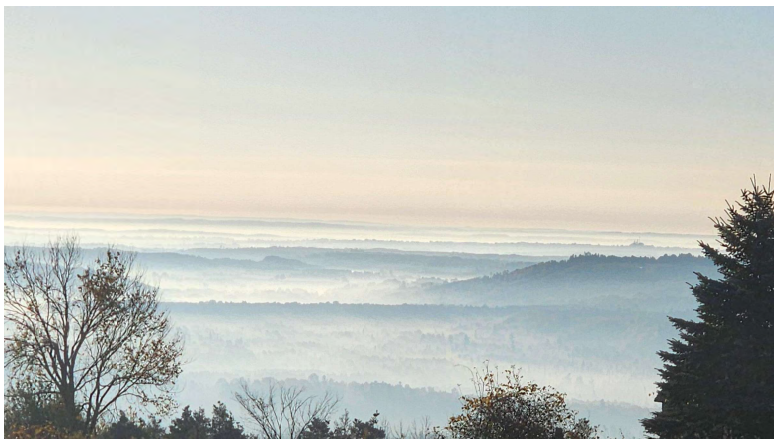
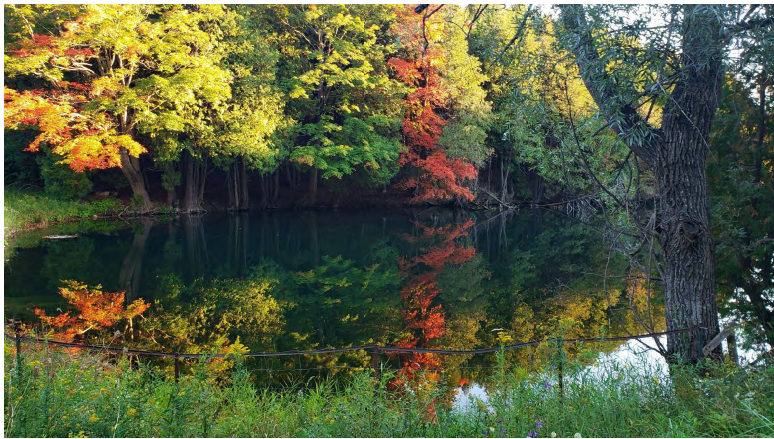


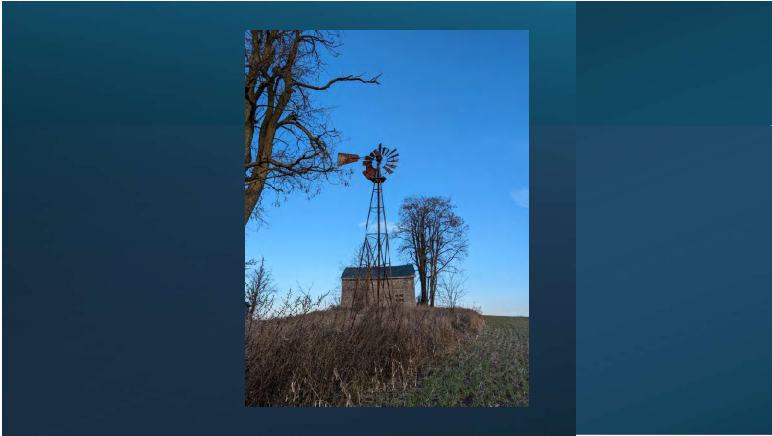
Pictures from the trail build

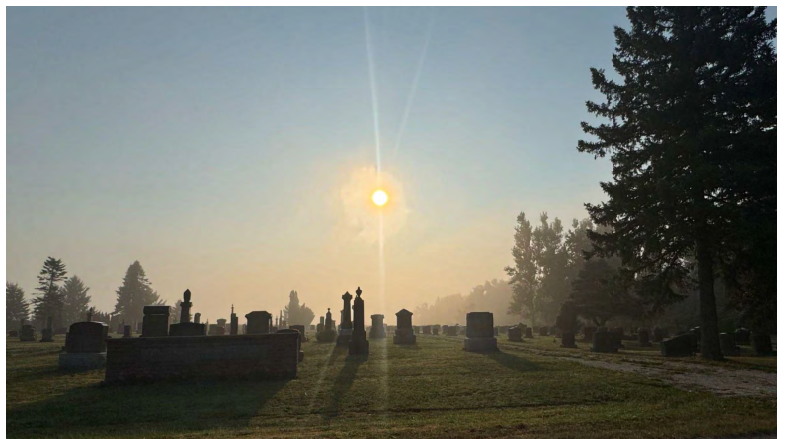


Mulmur Moments











With
appreciation
and thanks to:

Angela Lynch
Carla Faneca
Charlie Eckersley
Eddy Mariotti
Ian Coburn
Jeanette McFarlane
Krystal Krueger
Patricia Ganja

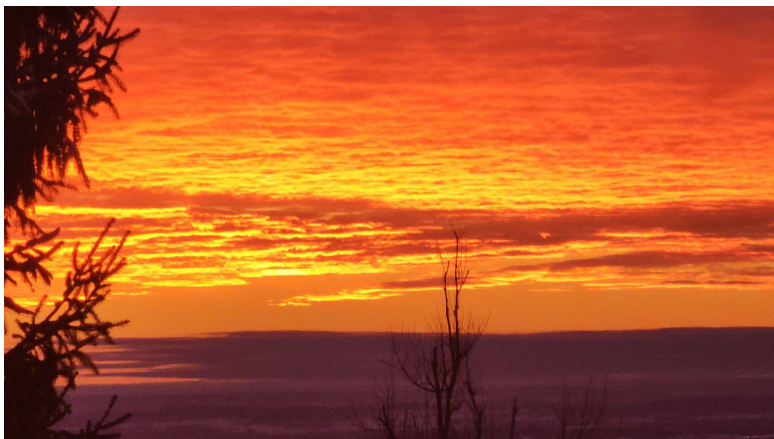
Barbara Nevers
Chak Morcos
Christine Gilpin
Gregg Friday
Jan Irwin
Ken Siegrist
Patty Clark
Samantha Erin

Shared production: Patty Clark, Jan Irwin, Suzanne Lawrence



Mulmur

175th Anniversary
1851 - 2026



Shelburne Public Library



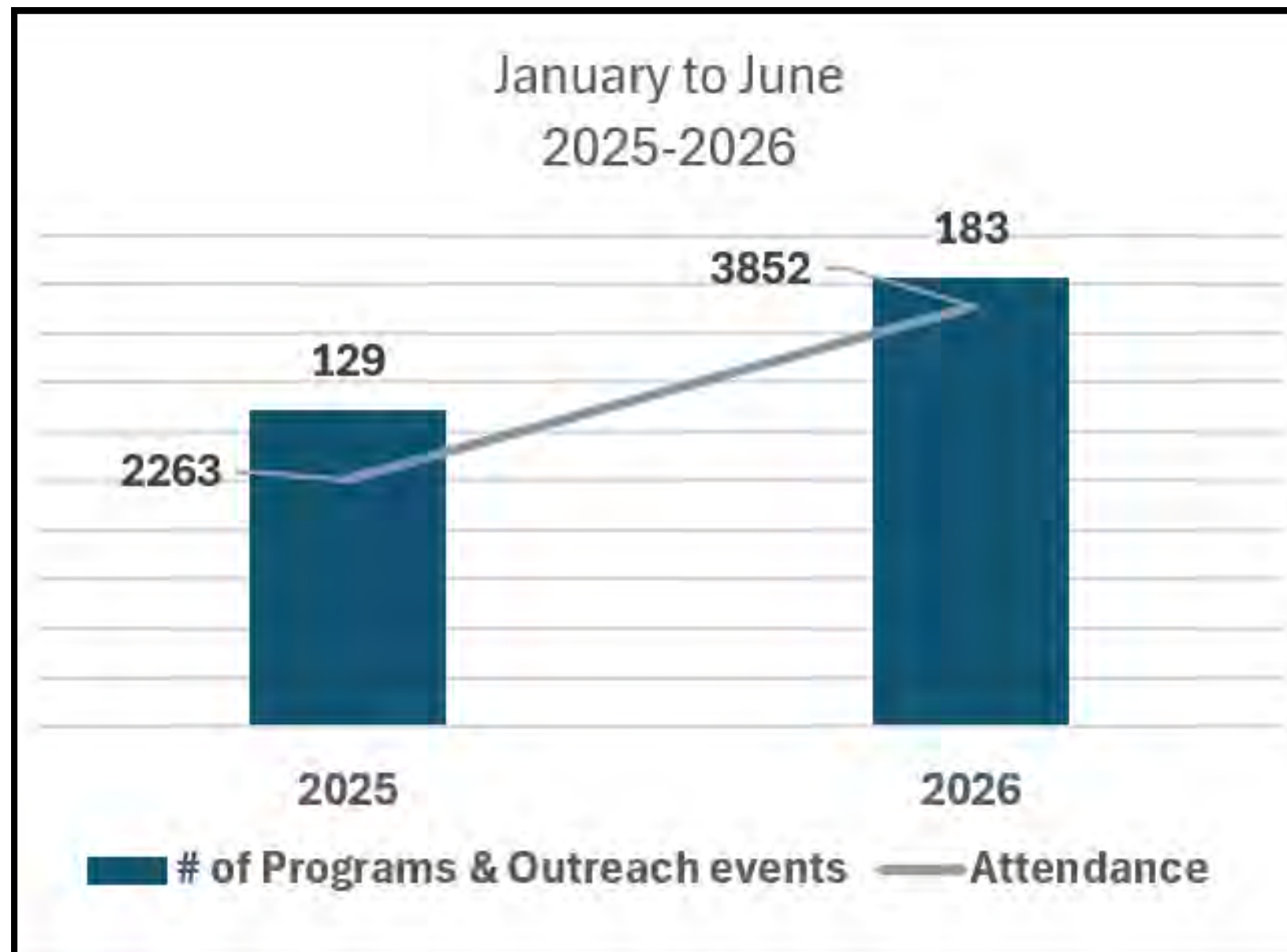
Proudly serving residents of: Shelburne Amaranth Mono Melancthon Mulmur

The Shelburne Public Library
is the place where
possibilities begin.

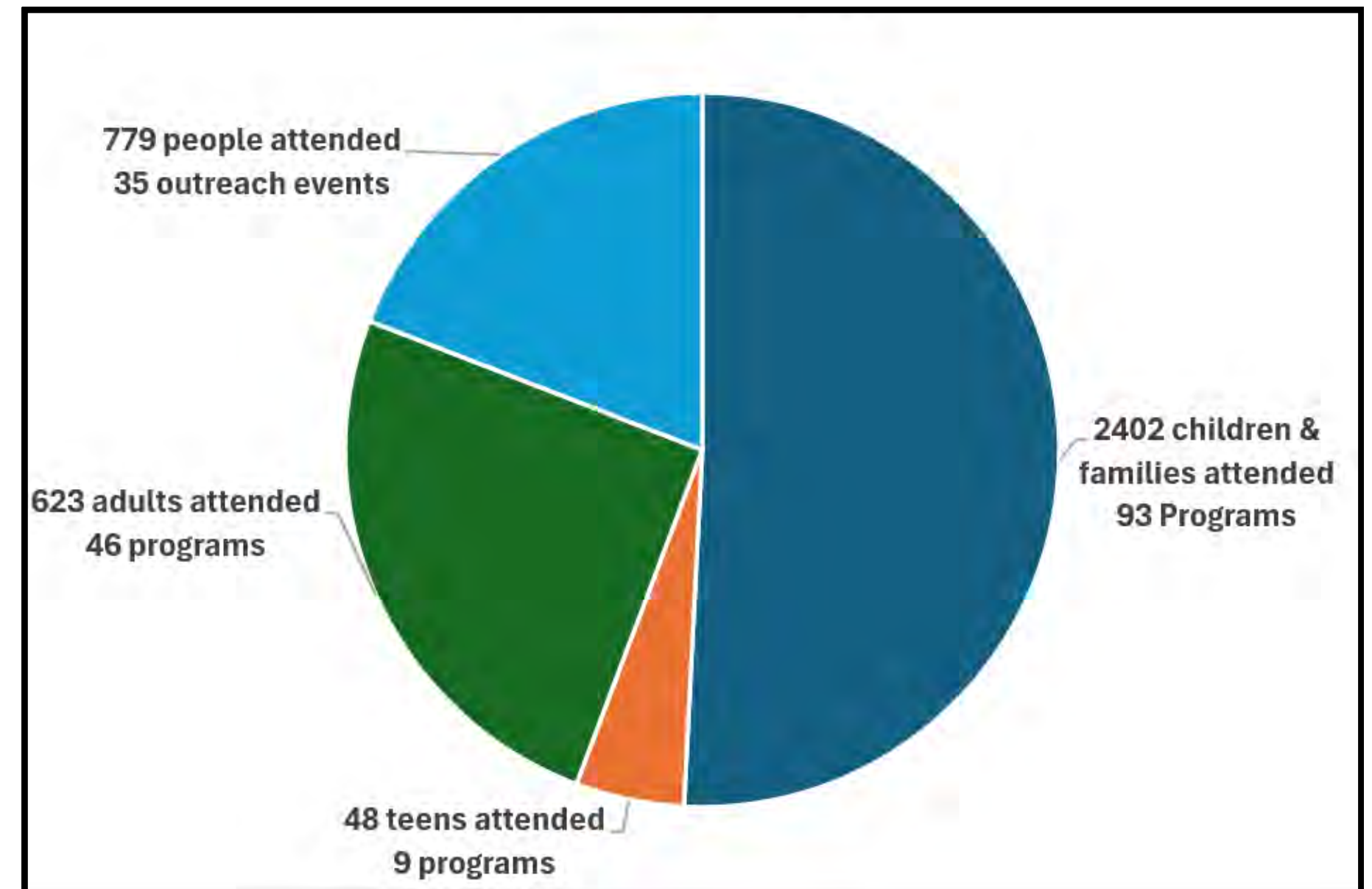


January to June 2026

Programs and Events for all ages



42% increase in number of programs/events



70% increase in attendance

2026

NEW

Partners

- Dufferin and Child Family Services
- Ontario Disability Support
- Dufferin Parent Support Network
- Hart Hub
- Mansfield Outdoor Centre
- Family Transition Place
- Enabled Talent
- Lighthouse Counselling
- RBC
- Choices Youth Shelter
- Mini Intel
- Dufferin County Community Support Services and many more!

Sponsors

Teen Program Sponsors:

- Danny Brackett Auto Group
- Pizza Pizza

Adult Program Sponsors:

- Cecil Books
- Starbucks

Young Adult Collection Sponsor

- Anonymous



Between January to June, 2026

12 individuals volunteered 276 hours!



**Delivering books
to seniors**



**Hosting programs
for adults**



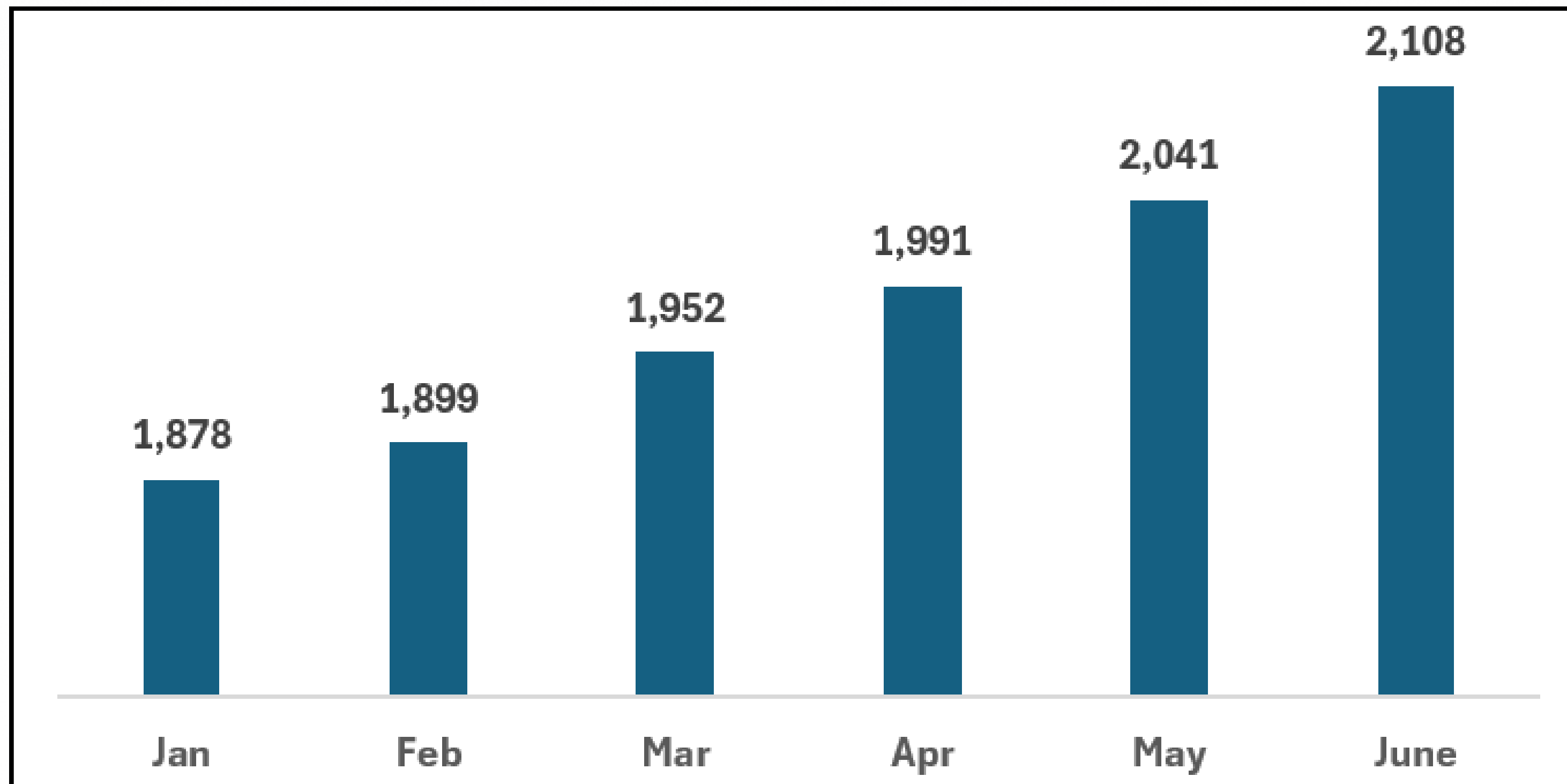
**Keeping our
collection top
shelf!**



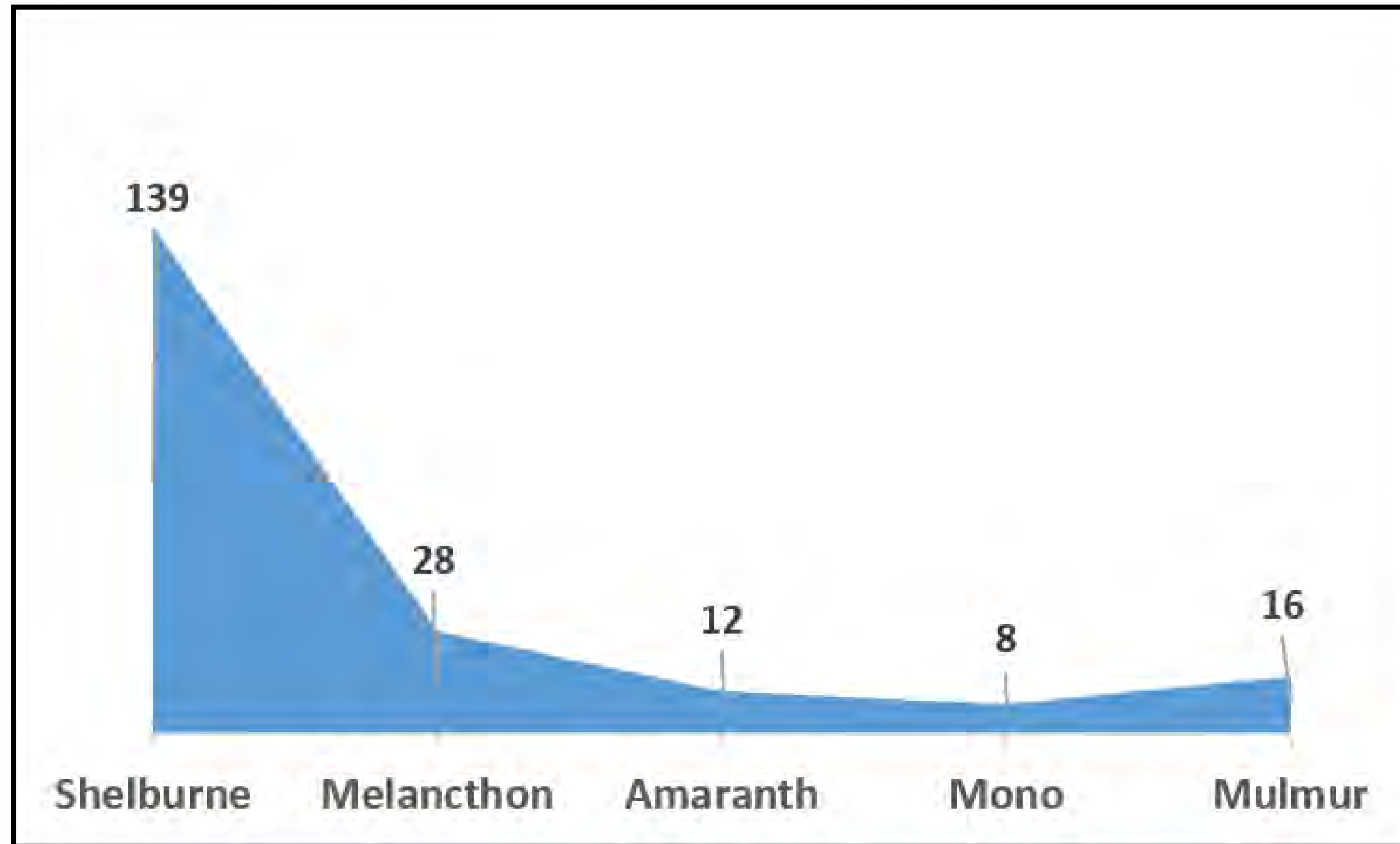
**Hosting meet ups
for writers**



2026 YTD Active Members



203 new members as of June 30, 2026



This data captures new members (first time card holders) and does not include account renewals.

That's an
average of one
new member
every day!



Passes to Places



Borrow passes to cultural, historical, and natural sites



MUSEUM OF
DUFFERIN



Credit Valley
Conservation
inspired by nature



ONTARIO
PARKS



Expanding access with our Kiosk in Foodland...



Expanding access with our digital library...



**Libby
by Overdrive**



Download e-books, audiobooks, and magazines directly to your device with the Libby app.

Hoopla



Download or stream e-books, audiobooks, movies, TV shows, music, comics and graphic novels.

Press Reader



Access thousands of magazines and newspapers (in hundreds of languages) so you can stay connected to the information you need.

**MANGO
Languages**



Over 70 languages at your fingertips with the highest-rated language-learning app designed for the real world by real people.

Public libraries are critical cultural and social infrastructure



EDUCATION

- access to educational resources
- lifelong learning and personal development
- programming for all ages



CULTURE

- Historical information and archives
- culturally relevant books
- cultural events
- passes to local and provincial attractions



INCLUSION & WELL-BEING

- health related information
- internet access
- accessible materials and collections
- citizen attraction and retention



ECONOMIC BENEFIT

- local employment & training
- business development courses, programs, and resources
- donations
- tourism



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- volunteer opportunities
- community development programming
- networking
- access to information & places



ENTERTAINMENT & LEISURE

- access to recreational reading, movies, music and TV series
- workshops & events
- homebound delivery



SPACE

- for creative engagement and business development
- affordable meeting space
- community gathering space



Valuing Ontario Libraries Toolkit



Step-by-step guide that helps libraries measure and share our community impact.



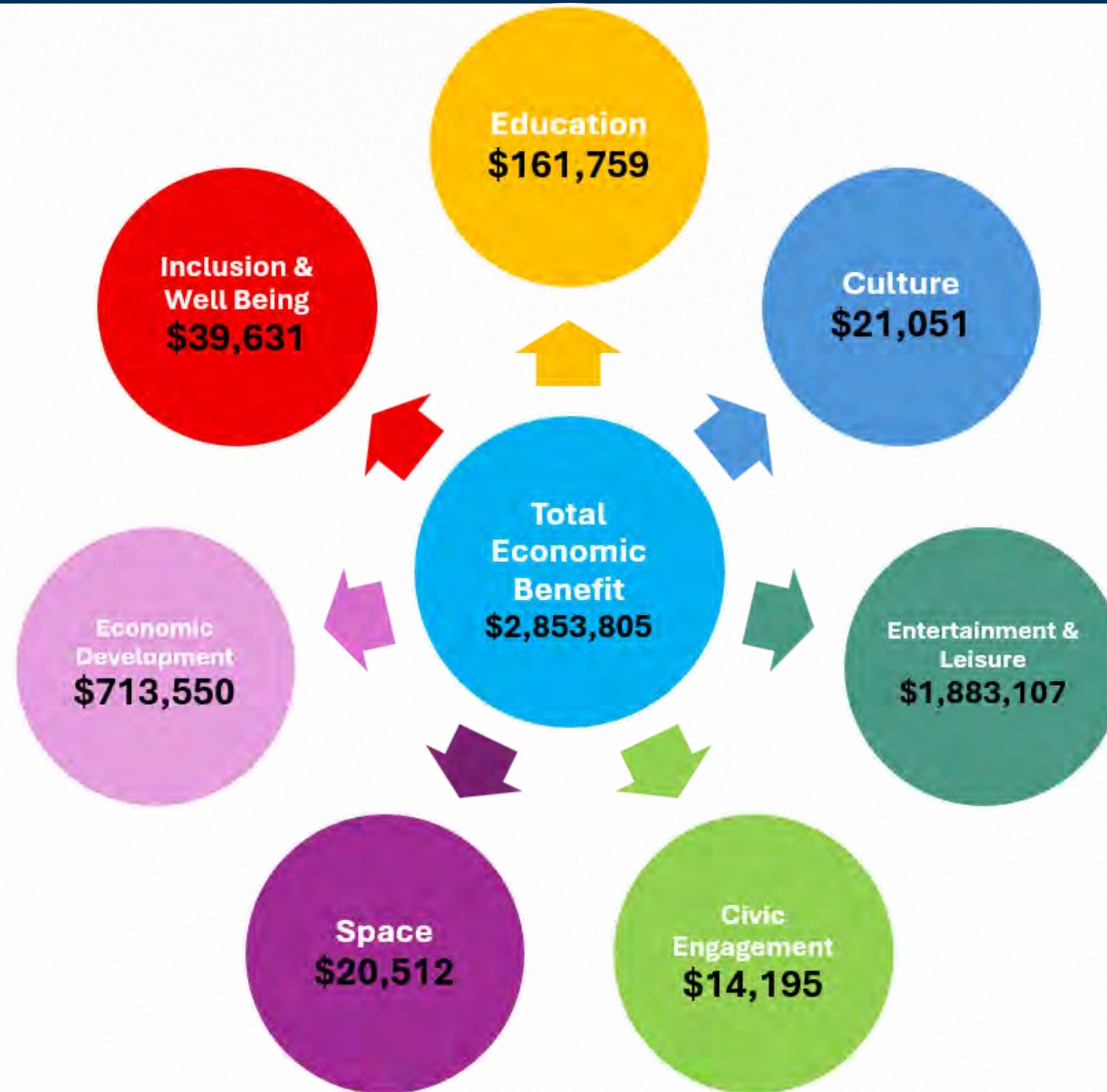
Utilizing our data and private market prices for the same services, it calculates how much economic value a library gives back to its community.



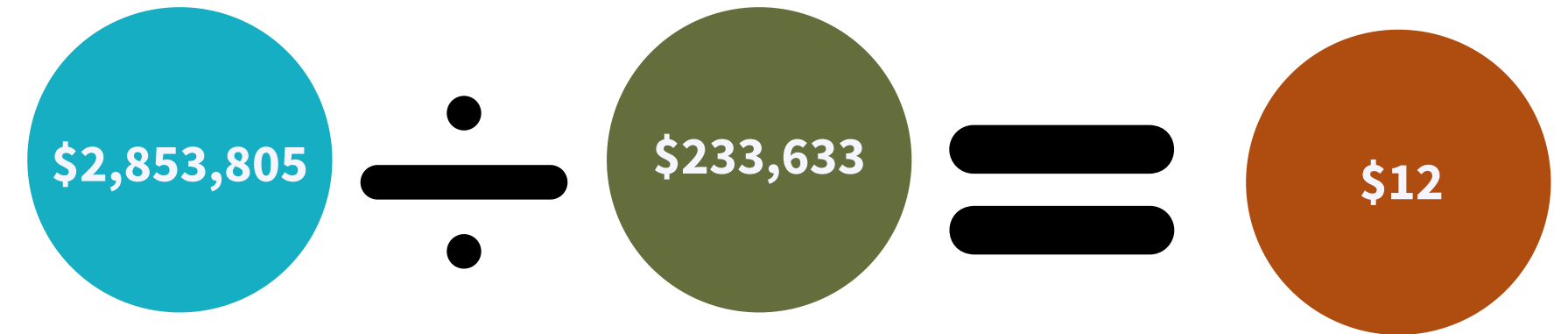
That economic value is calculated across 7 domains culminating in a total Social Return on Investment (SROI)



2025 Economic Benefit = \$2,853,805



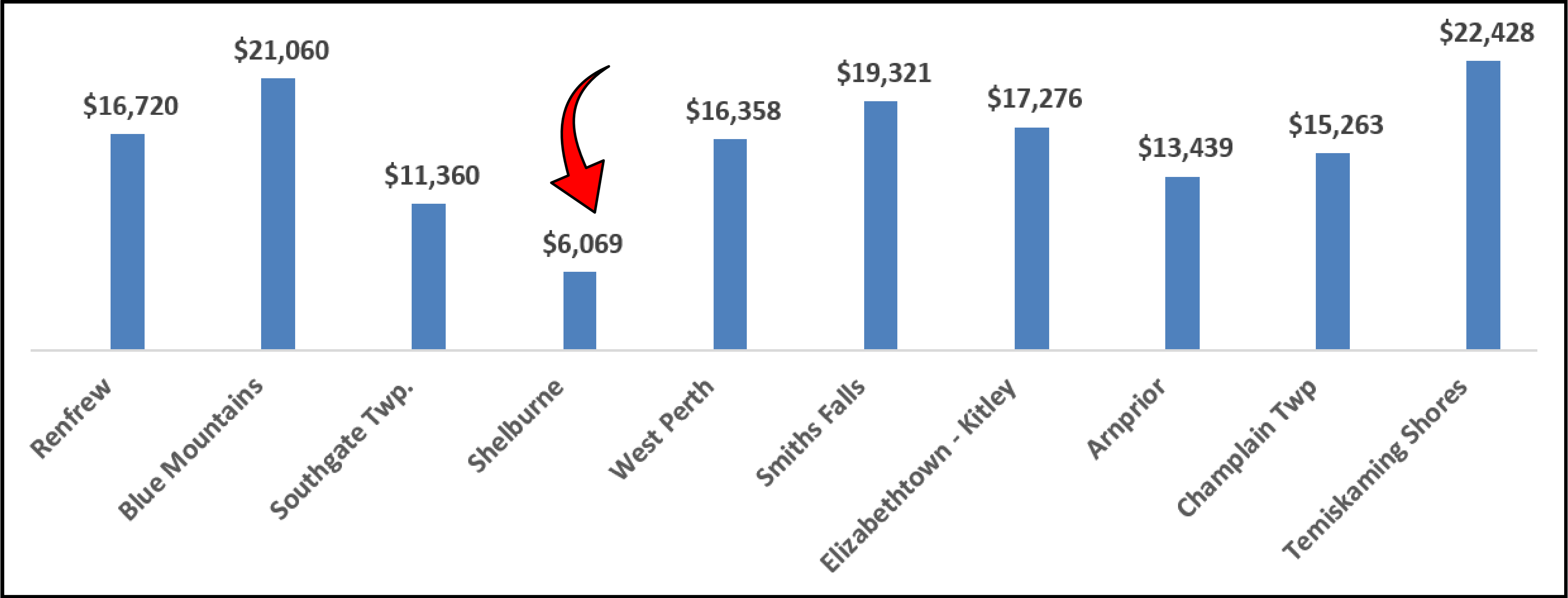
Social Return on Investment (SROI)



For every \$1 invested in the Shelburne Public Library in 2025, \$12 was reinvested back into the community.

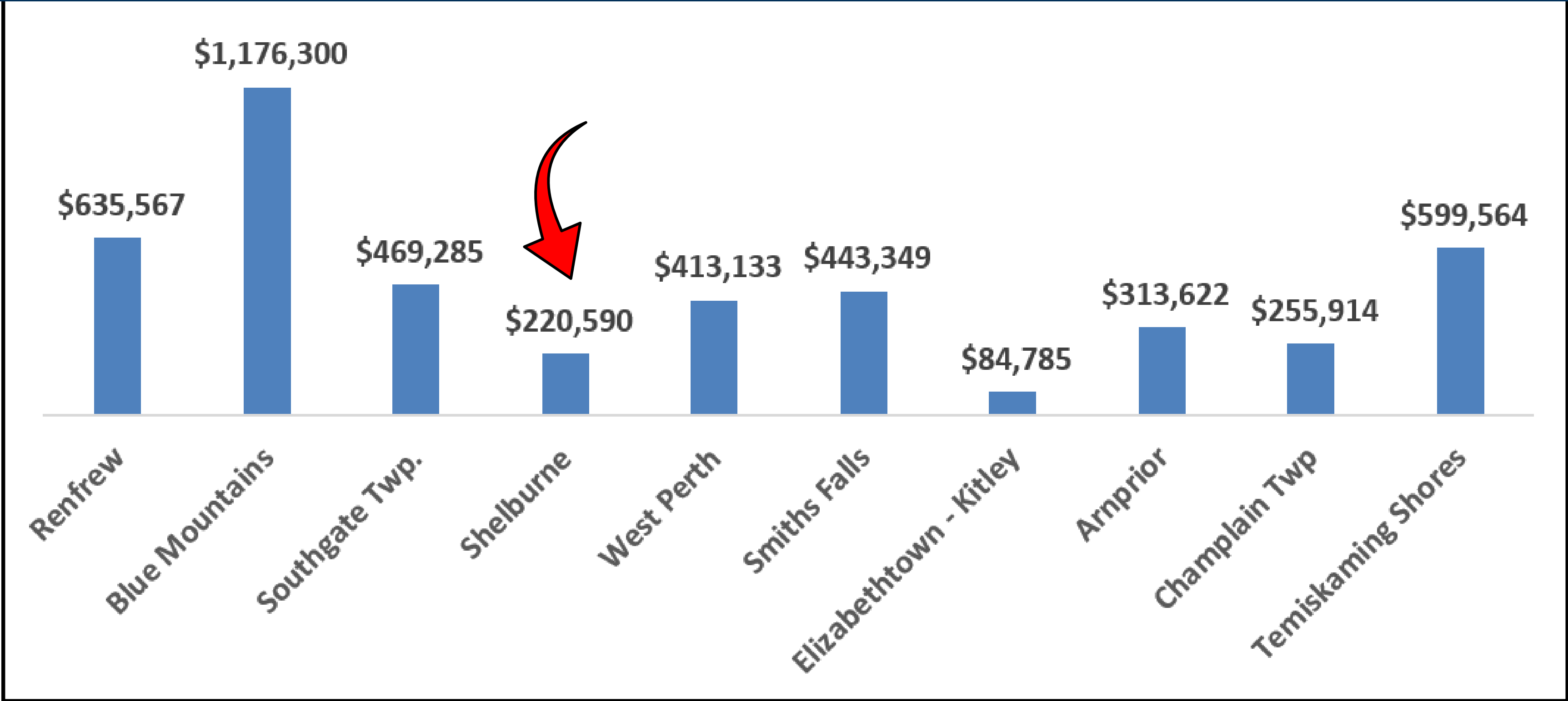
2024 - Provincial Funding

for Ontario Public Libraries that serve populations of between 8-10,000 people



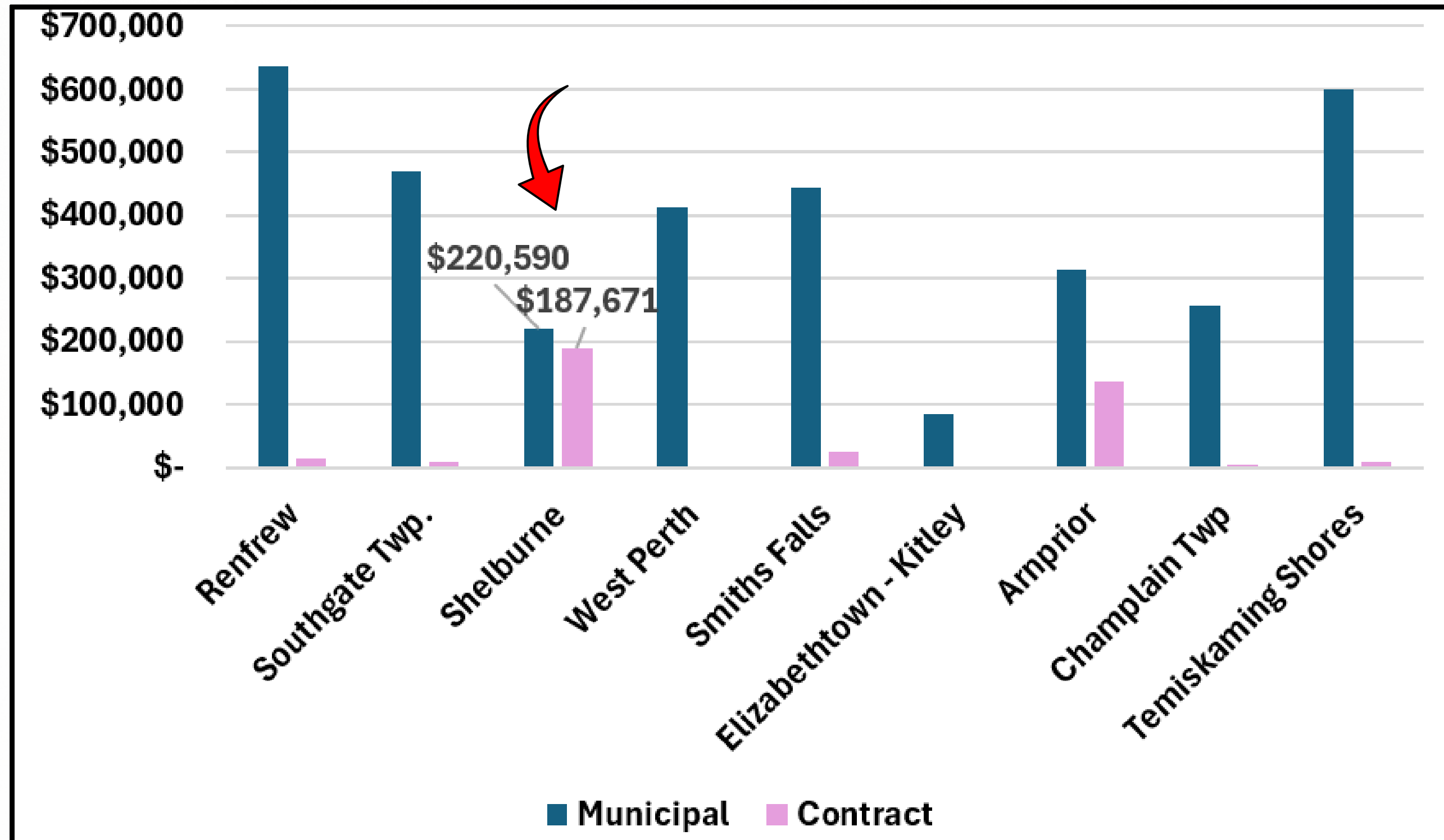
2024 - Municipal Funding

for Ontario Public Libraries that serve populations of between 8-10,000 people



2024 - Municipal & Contract Revenue

for Ontario Public Libraries that serve populations of between 8-10,000 people



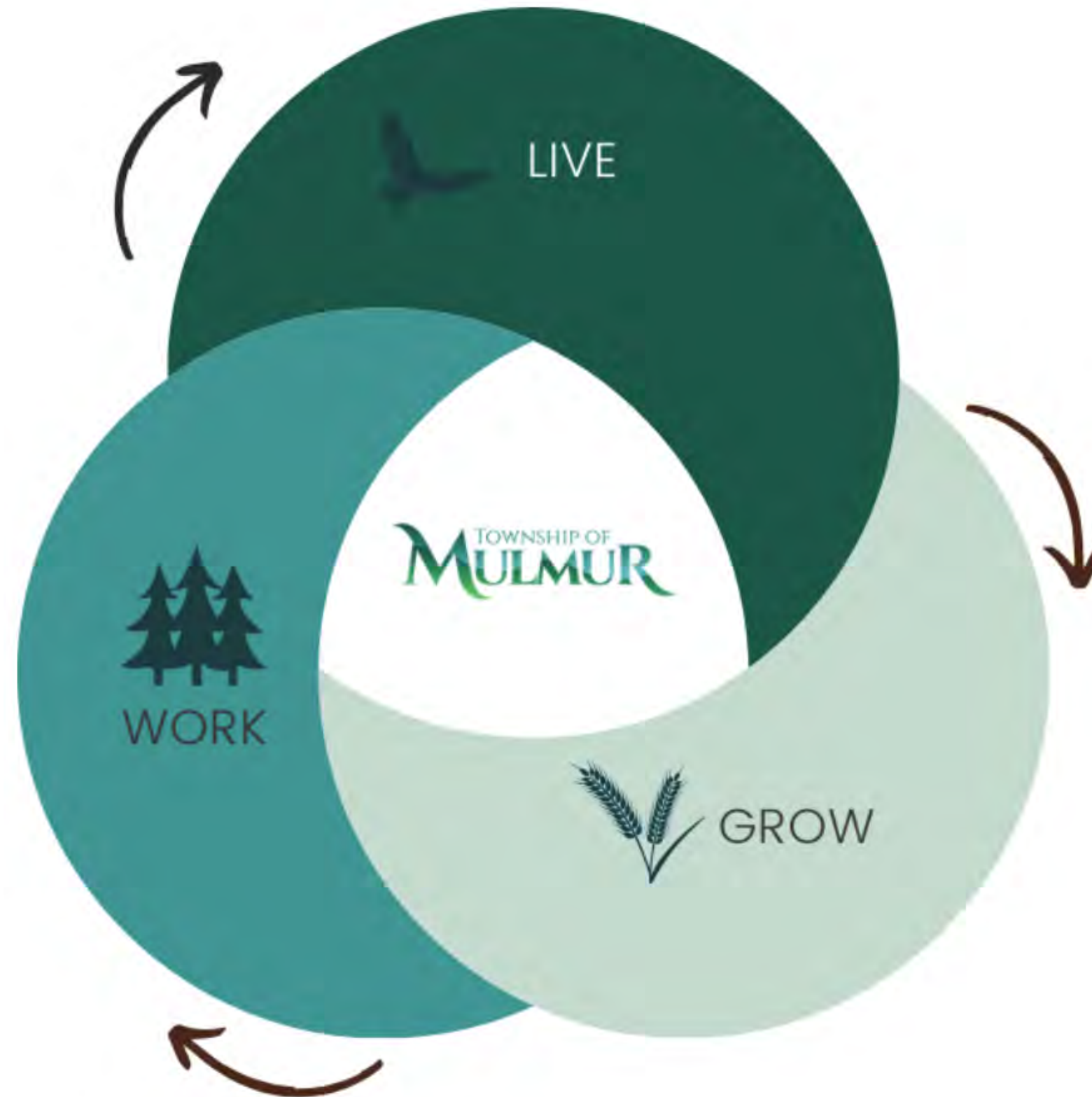
Mulmur: Where we live, work, and grow together

LIVE

- BOOST CONNECTION
- GATHER TOGETHER
- PARTNER WITH OTHERS
- INVEST IN RECREATION

WORK

- SUPPORT BUSINESS
- LOCATE IN MULMUR
- CULTIVATE A WISE INVESTOR MINDSET



GROW

- DEVELOP RESPONSIBLY
- GROW A GARDEN TOWNSHIP
- GROW AWARENESS
- REDUCE OUR FOOTPRINT
- BE PREPARED



Chief Executive Officer Shannon McGrady



519-925-2168



smcgrady@shelburnelibrary.ca



shelburnelibrary.ca



Follow Shelburne Public Library on Social Media



TOWNSHIP OF MULMUR

DELEGATION REQUEST

Any written submissions and background information for consideration by Committee or Council must be submitted to the Clerk's office at least 7 (seven) days prior to the set meeting date.

PLEASE PRINT

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE: Council

DATE: September 2, 2026 Council Meeting

SUBJECT: Multi-Use Sport Court – Township Office Property

NAME: Graham P. Jones

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF GROUP OR PERSON(S) BEING REPRESENTED: (if applicable)

Self and spouse, abutting property owners

BRIEF STATEMENT OF ISSUE OR PURPOSE OF DEPUTATION:

We wish to address Council regarding the multi-use sport court under construction on the Township office property at 758070 2nd Line E, which directly abuts our residential property. Our concerns relate to: (1) the siting decision itself; (2) the adequacy of consultation with abutting owners prior to tender — owners have to date been shown only a sketch, and the design drawings issued to bidders (site plan, grading and drainage plan, lighting plan, and landscape plan) have not been provided despite request; and (3) the long-term operational impacts on adjacent residential properties, including noise, lighting, hours of use, parking, and drainage. We will ask Council to: (a) direct staff to provide abutting owners with the design drawings as issued to bidders; (b) establish written conditions of operation for the facility, including hours of use, lighting curfews, and noise standards; and (c) commit the buffering and tree-planting plan for abutting properties to writing before project completion.

Personal information on this form will be used for the purposes of sending correspondence relating to matters before Council. Your name, address, comments, and any other personal information, is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public in a hard copy format and on the internet in an electronic format pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.M.56, as amended.

Submission of this form does not automatically guarantee a deputation. Questions about this collection should be directed to clerk@mulmur.ca



Staff Report

To: Council
From: Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure
Meeting Date: September 2, 2026
Subject: Bridge weight restriction removal

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to amend Township of Mulmur Traffic By-law 43-2005 to remove the existing 15-tonne weight restriction associated with the bridge located on Centre Road following the completion of the bridge replacement project in 2024.

Background and Analysis:

Traffic By-law 43-2005 establishes various traffic regulations throughout the Township, including load restrictions on designated roads and bridge structures.

A 15-tonne gross vehicle weight restriction was previously imposed on Bridge 12, the bridge located on Centre Road, due to the structural limitations and condition of the former bridge. The restriction was implemented to protect the integrity of the structure and ensure public safety while extending the service life of the bridge.

In 2024, the Township completed the replacement of the bridge as part of its capital infrastructure program. The new bridge was designed and constructed in accordance with current engineering standards and can carry legal loading limits prescribed by provincial legislation. The 2024 Ontario Structure Inspection Manual (OSIM) inspections also confirmed that the new bridge had no recommended weight restriction. As a result, the weight restriction is no longer necessary.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

It's in our Nature: Live - We commit to providing a balanced community and providing quality services. We will encourage increased community building and respectful social interactions to enrich the lives of Mulmur residents. We will provide a range of communications and facilities to promote play, growth, connection, active living and recognize the changing demographics of Mulmur.

It's in our Nature: Work - We commit to fostering a prosperous local economy that serves Mulmur's community and provides for local employment. We will proactively attract new investment opportunities, and work with Mulmur businesses, industries and institutions to retain, expand and enable local opportunities.

Financial Impacts:

There is no significant financial impact associated with the proposed amendment. Minor costs associated with the removal of existing weight restriction signage can be accommodated within the Public Works operating budget.

Environmental Impacts:

There are no environmental impacts associated with this activity.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Traffic By-law Amendment for the removal of the 15-tonne gross vehicle weight restriction on Bridge 12.

Submitted by: Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-Law No. XX – 2026

Being A By-Law to Amend By-Law No. 43-2005, As Amended, Being the Traffic By-Law for the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

Whereas on December 6, 2005 the Council of the Township of Mulmur passed By-law #43-2005 being a by-law to regulate traffic on roads under the jurisdiction of the Township of Mulmur (Traffic By-law);

And whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur deems it desirable to amend By-law 43-2005 to include changes to the no parking areas on roads within the Township of Mulmur;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur enacts as follows:

1. That Schedule J (Bridge Weight Restrictions) is further amended by striking:

Bridge 12	Centre Road	15 tonne
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2. That this By-law shall come into force and effect upon the removal and/or erection of applicable signage.

Read a first, second and third time, and finally passed this 2nd day of September, 2026.

.....

Janet Horner, Mayor

.....

Roseann Knechtel, Clerk



Staff Report

To: Council
From: Roseann Knechtel, Clerk
Meeting Date: September 2, 2026
Subject: Open Air Fire Bylaw

Purpose:

To seek Council approval to pass a bylaw regulating Open-Air Fire in the Township of Mulmur.

Background and Analysis:

Dufferin County Fire Chiefs have been working together to create consistency in the fire by-laws and regulations across Dufferin County municipalities. The proposed Open-Air Fire By-law introduces consistent sizes and setbacks for Outdoor Fire Containers, Brush Fires, and Agricultural Fires and introduces requirements for Special Events and Controlled Fires.

Consistency in the Open-Air Burn By-law will allow for easier education, communication, messaging and enforcement in multi-jurisdiction departments that provide fire services for more than one municipality.

In addition to consistency in size and setback requirements, individual municipalities are able to ensure specific requirements continue to meet the needs of their community. For example, urban municipalities do not require regulations on agricultural fires.

For Mulmur specifically, the following regulations remain unchanged and specific to Mulmur Township:

1. Fireworks prohibition during periods of fire ban.
2. Fire permits are only required for social events and controlled fires (new).
3. Fines and penalties remain at a cost per hour, per truck and through POA Fines.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

It's in our Nature: Live - We commit to providing a balanced community and providing quality services. We will encourage increased community building and respectful social interactions to enrich the lives of Mulmur residents. We will provide a range of communications and facilities to promote play, growth, connection, active living and recognize the changing demographics of Mulmur.

Financial Impacts:

None.

Environmental Impacts:

Environmental impacts will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Open-Air Fire By-law.

Submitted by: Roseann Knechtel, Clerk

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-Law No. XX - 2026

Being a by-law regulating the setting of open-air fires and establishing the times during which open-air fires may be set.

Whereas pursuant to section 9 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001 S.O. 2001, chapter 25 a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers, and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

And whereas section 128 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001 S.O. 2001, chapter 25 provides that a municipality may prohibit and regulate with respect to public nuisances, including matters that, in the opinion of Council are or could become public nuisances;

And whereas sections 425, 426 and 429 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001 S.O. 2001, chapter 25, states a municipality may pass by-laws providing that a person who contravenes a by-law of the municipality passed under this Act is guilty of an offence, no person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, any person who is exercising a power or performing a duty under this Act or under a by-law passed under this Act and a municipality may establish a system of fines for offences under a by-law of the municipality passed under this Act;

And whereas pursuant to section 7.1 (1) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, c.4, as amended states that a Council of a municipality may pass by-laws regulating fire prevention, including the prevention of the spreading of fires and to regulate the setting of open-air fires, including establishing the times during which open-air fires may be set;

And whereas section 7.1(3) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 4, as amended, provides that a by-law under this section may deal with different areas of the municipality differently;

And whereas section 7.1(4) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 4, as amended, provides that a municipality may appoint an officer to enter upon land and into structures at any reasonable time to inspect the land and structures to determine whether by-laws enacted in accordance with Section 7.1 are being complied with;

And whereas section 19(2) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c. 4, provides an inspector may, without a warrant, enter and inspect land and premises for the purposes of assessing fire safety, and

And whereas article 2.4.4.4. of the *Ontario Fire Code O. Reg. 213/07*, as amended, provides that open-air fires shall not be permitted unless approved, or unless such burning consists of a small, confined fire supervised at all times, and used to cook food on a grill, barbeque or spit, or such burning takes place in an appliance that is in conformance with the *Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000*, S.O. 2000, c.16, is for outdoor use, and is assembled and/or installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;

And whereas section 391 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, provides that a municipality and a local board may pass by-laws imposing fees or charges for services or activities provided or done by or on behalf of it, or for costs payable by it for services or activities provided or done by or on behalf of any other municipality or local board;

And whereas section 425 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, provides by-laws may be passed by all municipalities for providing that any person who contravenes any by-law of the municipality, passed under this Act, is guilty of an offence;

And whereas section 446 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, provides that where the municipality has the authority by any Act or under a by-law to direct or require a person to do a matter or thing, the municipality may also provide that, in default or it being done by the person directed or required to do it, the matter or thing shall be done at the person's expense, and the municipality may recover the costs of doing the matter or thing from the person required to do it by action or by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes;

And whereas Council now deems it expedient to enact a by-law for regulating the setting of open-air fires, including establishing the times during which open-air fires may be set;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur hereby enacts as follows:

1. Definitions

1.1 In this By-law:

- (a) **Approved** means approved by the Chief Fire Official.

- (b) **Barrel/Drum** means a metal barrel/drum with a capacity not greater than 55 gallons (205 liters). This type of container is permitted under Section 5 "Brush Fires" and issued in accordance with this By-law.
- (c) **Brush** means branches, limbs, stumps or any part thereof.
- (d) **Building** means any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.
- (e) **Campfire** means a small fire for cooking, warmth or entertainment at a campsite or residential property that meets the requirements of this by-law.
- (f) **Campground** means an area of land zoned to permit campsites for the purpose of providing overnight accommodation for tents and trailers.
- (g) **Chief Fire Official** means the Chief Fire Official or designate as defined in the Ontario Fire Code (O. Reg. 213/07).
- (h) **Council** means the Council of the Township of Mulmur.
- (i) **Dangerous Conditions** means:
 - i. A lack of precipitation which increases the risk of the spread of fire;
 - ii. Wind speeds which, in the opinion of the Chief Fire Official, increase the spread of fire; or
 - iii. Any other condition declared by the Chief Fire Official to be a dangerous condition, from time to time, which increases the risk of the spread of fire.
- (j) **Equipment and Resources** means sufficient personnel and equipment such as rakes, shovels, backhoes, bulldozers, front-end loaders, and/or water on-site required to control a fire.
- (k) **Fire** means any fire set in the open air by any person within the boundaries of the Township.
- (l) **Fire Ban** means a partial or total ban against any open-air fire as declared by the Chief Fire Official.
- (m) **Fire Department** means an established fire department servicing the whole or a part of the Township of Mulmur including but not limited to the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department, Rosemont &

District Fire Department and the Shelburne & District Fire Department.

- (n) **Fire Risk Rating** means a scale used to inform the public of the risk of fire. Fire risk rating is based on the Fire Weather Index along with fuel type and fuel load. The fire risk ratings include:
 - i. Low: means fires may start easily and spread quickly but there will be minimal involvement of deeper fuel layers or larger fuels;
 - ii. Moderate: means forest and wildland fuels are drying and there is an increased risk of surface fires starting. Carry out any forest activities with caution;
 - iii. High: means forest and wildland fuels are very dry and the fire risk is serious. New fires may start easily, burn vigorously, and challenge fire suppression efforts. Extreme caution must be used in any forest activities. Open burning and industrial activities may be restricted; and
 - iv. Fire Ban: means extremely dry forest and wildland fuels, the fire risk is very serious. New fires will start easily, spread rapidly, and challenge fire suppression efforts.
- (o) **Fireworks** means any device used for producing a striking display by the combustion of explosive or flammable compositions and includes but is not limited to display, consumer and special effect pyrotechnics.
- (p) **Fully Extinguished** means the fire has no more visible flame, smoke or other signs of combustion and is cold to the touch.
- (q) **Highway** includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof.
- (r) **Inspection** means a physical examination to determine that the proposed fire location and/or device or system will meet the requirements of this by-law.
- (s) **Ontario Fire Code** means O. Reg. 213/07 made under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act 1997, S.O. 1997.c.4, as amended.
- (t) **Officer** means a municipal by-law enforcement officer, provincial offences officer, police officer or a person designated by the Township for the enforcement of open-air fires.

- (u) **Open-Air Fire** means any fire or burning practice, including fireworks and a fire in a smouldering state that is conducted outdoors;
- (v) **Outdoor Fire Container** means a small non-combustible container used to contain a small fire and includes, but is not limited to, chimineas, metal tubs, stone surround fire pits and outdoor brick fireplaces.
- (w) **Permit** means the permit issued by the Chief Fire Official signifying permission to set a fire and establishing the conditions under which the permit is granted;
- (x) **Person** means any individual, association, firm, partnership, agent or trustee and their heirs, executors, or other legal representation of a person.
- (y) **Property** means a parcel of land which is capable of being legally conveyed.
- (z) **Prohibited Materials** means materials that are, but not limited to, automobile and truck bodies, tires, oil, grease, paint, rags, plastics, wire, asphalt, shingles, rubber, construction materials, insulation, household garbage, pressure treated, or creosote treated wood, flammable or combustible liquids or accelerants, or any other material designated as hazardous in any legislation enacted by the Provincial or Federal government.
- (aa) **Responsible Person** means the person or persons who starts the fire, directs the fire to be set, authorizes fire to be set, controls or oversees the fire.
- (bb) **Sacred Fire** is a fire lit and maintained for indigenous ceremonial, spiritual, cultural or community purposes, typically under specific cultural procedures.
- (cc) **Special Air Quality Statement, Smog and Air Health Advisory and Air Quality Health Index** (AQHI greater than 7) are public health warnings issued through the media by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks during periods of deteriorated air quality.
- (dd) **Township** means the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur and all lands within the geographical boundaries of the Township.

2. General Provisions

- 2.1 Every *person* setting, permitting to be set, maintaining or permitting to be maintained, a fire authorized under any section of this by-law shall comply with all conditions set out herein.
- 2.2 An owner shall be deemed to have permitted an *open-air fire*, and the owner assumes all responsibility and liability where a fire has been set or permitted to burn.
- 2.3 Every *person* setting, permitting to be set, maintaining, or permitting to be maintained, an *open-air fire* authorized under this part shall have legal title to the *property* to which the *open-air fire* is to occur, or the *person*, or *Permit* holder, shall obtain the prior written consent of the *person* having legal title to the *property*.
- 2.4 Every *person* setting, permitting to be set, maintaining, or permitting to be maintained, an *open-air fire* authorized under this part shall allow, at reasonable times, *Fire Department* staff to inspect the location or proposed location of the *open-air fire*.
- 2.5 Notwithstanding any provisions herein, no *person* shall cause or permit a fire to be set:
- (a) in contravention of the *Ontario Fire Code*, the Environmental Protection Act, or any other statutory requirements of the Province of Ontario or the Government of Canada;
 - (b) on any *highway*, or other public *property* within the *Township*;
 - (c) in any park owned or operated by the *Township* without the written permission of the *Township*;
 - (d) in the front or side yard of the business park gateway or *highway* commercial zones.
 - (e) where the consumption of material will exceed the limit set by the *Chief Fire Official*;
 - (f) unless adequate *equipment and resources* are always available at the fire site during the fire;
 - (g) with the aid of flammable or combustible liquids or accelerants of any kind;
 - (h) unless the *person* is at least eighteen (18) years of age, and attends the fire in the capacity of the *responsible person* and in a supervisory capacity at all times until such time the fire has been completely extinguished;
 - (i) during active construction of building and subdivision sites;
 - (j) that includes *prohibited materials*; and

- (k) that includes material that is normally collected under the *Township's* waste or recycling programs.
- 2.6 No *person* shall cause or permit a fire to cause a *dangerous condition* or increase the likelihood of any of the following:
 - (a) smoke or fire damage to *property*;
 - (b) a decrease in visibility on any *highway*;
 - (c) odour or smoke to cause discomfort to people, hazards to health, or loss of enjoyment of normal use of *property* in the immediate area; and
 - (d) a spread of fire through grass or *brush* area beyond its unintended limits.
- 2.7 All people conducting *open-air fires* shall ensure that all fires are *fully extinguished* before the site is vacated.
- 2.8 No *person* shall set, maintain or permit open-air burning when the wind is in such direction or of such intensity so as to reduce the visibility on any *highway* or structure or cause an adverse effect or risk the fire spread.
- 2.9 No *person* shall set, maintain or permit open-air burning when the *Township* is under a *Special Air Quality Statement* or *Smog and Air Health Advisory* or the *Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)* is 7 or higher.
- 2.10 No *person* shall cause or permit a fire to be set at times when a *fire ban* has been issued by the *Chief Fire Official* as per the *fire risk rating*.

3. Exemptions

- 3.1 The *Fire Department* shall be exempt from the provisions of this by-law with respect to *open-air fires* for training, educating individuals in fire safety or for research purposes.
- 3.2 The *Township* shall be exempt from the provisions of this by-law with respect to *open-air fires* related to municipal works.
- 3.3 Professional fire prevention trainers shall be exempt from the provisions of this by-law with respect to *open-air fires* set for fire safety training purposes pursuant to the *Ontario Fire Code*.
- 3.4 The burning consists of a small, confined fire always supervised and used to cook food on a grille or barbeque.
- 3.4 A *sacred fire*.

- 3.5 Commercially produced gas-fired appliances conforming to the applicable Canadian Standards Association (CSA) codes and standards.
- 3.6 An incinerator operated in accordance with the Certificate of Approval issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act, R. S.O. 1990, c. E. 19 and regulations thereunder.
- 3.7 Properties lawfully zoned to permit a *campground*.
- 3.8 All other provisions of this by-law shall apply.

4. Outdoor Fire Containers

- 4.1 A *person* conducting an *open-air fire* in an *outdoor fire container* shall comply with the following conditions:
 - (a) shall only conduct the *open-air fire* between sunrise and midnight;
 - (b) shall only use an *outdoor fire container* that is constructed of non-combustible materials;
 - (c) shall not burn or attempt to burn a volume of combustible materials greater than 2 feet (61 cm) in length by 2 feet (61 cm) in width by 2 feet (61 cm) in height;
 - (d) shall contain the fire within the *outdoor fire container* at all times, burning only dry firewood;
 - (e) shall locate the *outdoor fire container* at least 5 meters (16.4 feet) from any *building*, structure, property line, hedge, fence, *highway*, overhead wire or other combustible article; and
 - (f) shall locate the *outdoor fire container* on a non-combustible surface extending beyond the unit in all directions a minimum of 1 foot (30 cm).
- 4.2 *Open-air fires* within *outdoor fire containers* shall be attended, controlled and always supervised and shall be completely extinguished before the burn site is vacated.

5. Brush Fires

- 5.1 A *person* conducting an open-air *brush* fire shall comply with the following conditions:
 - (a) the material to be burned in an open-air *brush* fire shall be no more than 1.2 meters (4 feet) or less in length, width and height or located within a burning *barrel/drum*;

- (b) shall locate the open-air *brush* fire at a distance of 15 meters (50 feet) from any *building*, structure, property line, hedge, fence, *highway*, overhead wire or other combustible article; and
 - (c) shall ignite and extinguish the fire between sunrise and sunset of the same day.
- 5.2 *Brush* fires shall be attended, controlled and always supervised and shall be completely extinguished before the burn site is vacated.

6. Agricultural Land Fires

- 6.1 A *person* may conduct an *open-air fire* if they are part of a normal farm practice carried on as part of an agricultural operation, as those defined in the Farming and Food Production Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.1, on lands zoned to permit agricultural use, and subject to the conditions set out in this part.
- 6.2 A *person* conducting an *open-air fire* in an open field shall comply with the following conditions for *open-air fires* on agricultural lands;
 - (a) the material to be burned in an open-fire shall be no more than 3 meters (10 feet) or less in length, width and height;
 - (b) shall locate the *open-air fire* at least 30 meters (100 feet) away from any *building*, structure, property line, hedge, fence, *highway*, overhead wire or combustible article; and
 - (c) shall ignite and extinguish the fire between sunrise and sunset of the same day.
- 6.3 Agricultural land fires shall be attended, controlled and always supervised and shall be completely extinguished before the burn site is vacated.

7. Special Events or Controlled Fires

- 7.1 All people seeking permission to hold a special event or controlled fire involving an oversized *open-air fire* that is not governed within Sections 4, 5 and 6 shall apply in writing to the *Chief Fire Official*. A “burn plan” which contains an assessment of the risks and safety precautions that will be taken shall be included with the request.
- 7.2 Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may make written application for an *open-air fire permit* prior to the proposed date of the first *open-air fire*.
- 7.3 The application shall include:

- (a) the name, address and phone number of the applicant;
 - (b) the owner's written consent to the *open-air fire*, if the applicant is not the owner of the *property*;
 - (c) the municipal address of the location of the proposed *open-air fire* if it differs from the address of the applicant;
 - (d) the municipal address number posted; and
 - (e) the applicable *permit* fee as set out in the Fire Tariff of Fees By-law, as amended from time to time.
- 7.4 A *permit* issued under this section is only valid for the dates specified on the *permit*.
- 7.5 The *Chief Fire Official* may revoke a *permit* if, in the opinion of the *Chief Fire Official*, a *dangerous condition* exists in or near the site of the *open-air fire*.
- 7.6 The *Chief Fire Official* may revoke a *permit* if the permit holder fails to comply with the requirements of the *permit* and any other provisions of this by-law.
- 7.7 *Permits* that have been revoked by the *Chief Fire Official* for failure to comply with the requirements of the *permit* and any other provisions of this by-law will be subject to an *inspection* of the site at the owner's expense before the *permit* can be reinstated.

8. Enforcement

- 8.1 Every *person* who contravenes any provision of this By-law, including failing to comply with a Permit, Order, Notice, direction or requirement issued under this By-law, and every director or *officer* of a corporation who knowingly concurs in the contravention by the corporation, is guilty of an offence.
- 8.2 Every *person* who is convicted of an offence under this By-law is liable to pay a fine as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, as amended.
- 8.3 No *person* shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, the *Chief Fire Official*, *Officer*, or any *person* acting under authority of this By-law in the lawful exercise of power or performance of a duty under this By-law.
- 8.4 Where a contravention of this By-law continues for more than one day, each day that the contravention continues shall constitute a separate offence.

- 8.5 The *Chief Fire Official* or *Officer* may order a fire to be extinguished immediately if the fire is:
- (a) not set in compliance with this by-law; or
 - (b) determined upon *inspection* by the *Chief Fire Official* or *Officer* to constitute a safety hazard or concern.
- 8.6 Should the *Fire Department* determine that a fire has been started/set that does not conform to the provisions of this By-law, and/or could pose a safety hazard or concern, the Owner shall be responsible for the costs of response as outlined in the Fire Tarriff of Fees By-law.
- 8.7 Costs associated with enforcement may be collected by adding the costs to the tax roll and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes.

9. Administration

- 9.1 This bylaw shall be administered by the *Chief Fire Official* and shall be enforced by the *Chief Fire Official*, *Officers*, Assistants to the Fire Marshall, or such other persons as *Council* may designate.
- 9.2 Where, in the opinion of the *Chief Fire Official*, a potential fire danger exists, the *Chief Fire Official* may suspend, refuse or rescind any *permit* or order any *person* to extinguish a fire.
- 9.3 The provisions of this by-law shall apply to all lands and properties within the *Township*.

10. Indemnification

- 10.1 Every *person* setting, permitting to be set, maintaining or permitting to be maintained, a fire authorized under any section of this by-law shall indemnify and save harmless the *Township* from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, loss, costs or damages that the *Township* may suffer, incur or be liable for resulting from the performance of the applicant as set out in this by-law, whether with or without negligence on the part of the applicant, the applicant's employees, directors, contractors and agents.

11. Severability

- 11.1 If a court or any tribunal of competent jurisdiction declares any section or part of this by-law invalid, the remainder of this by-law shall continue in force unless the court or tribunal makes an order to the contrary.

12. Short Title

12.1 This by-law shall be known as the Open-Air Fire By-law.

13. REPEALS

13.1 That By-law No. 18-2023, being a by-law to regulate the setting of open-air fires is hereby repealed.

14. EFFECT

14.1 This by-law shall come into force and effect on the passing thereof.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 2nd day of September, 2026.

.....

Janet Horner, Mayor

.....

Roseann Knechtel, Clerk



Staff Report

To: Council
From: Tracey Atkinson, CAO
Date: September 2 2026
Subject: Data Centres

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to receive direction from Council regarding regulating Data Centres in Mulmur and broader cross-jurisdictional impacts.

Background

The Town of Orangeville passed a motion on August 10, 2026 which included the following excerpt:

“...That Council request that the County of Dufferin, in its regional planning role, undertake a comprehensive and balanced review of the potential advantages and disadvantages of new data centre development proposals within Dufferin County, including economic development, employment, assessment growth, electricity demand and capacity, digital infrastructure, data sovereignty and cybersecurity, groundwater resources, municipal servicing, land-use planning, regional infrastructure and cross-boundary impacts, to inform future planning decisions...”

The Province has proposed a “Data Centre Playbook” being a framework for data centres to guide decisions on new data centres. Environmental Registry posting 026-0853 is open for comments until September 12, 2026, where the Ontario government is seeking input on how to responsibly support data centres. The Province is also considering a rate class for large new data centres to ensure that existing customers are not subsidizing costs and a regulation to increase Provincial authority for connection to the electricity grid. The connections would be evaluated based on the economic development, protecting sensitive and critical data locally and local investment.

The Playbook sets out an assessment based on three priorities:

- Economic Development: Creating high-quality jobs, attracting investments, creating new tax revenue, and supporting domestic supply chains
- Digital Sovereignty: Protecting Canadian data and security, and prioritizing Canadian companies
- Community Investment: Delivering significant benefits to host communities and earning public trust, and minimizing impacts on host communities

The Association of Municipalities has shared the following regulatory frameworks and best practices that could provide useful insight for Ontario:

- Clean Energy Council's Powering the Digital Economy
- Climate Cabinet Education's Taming Data Centre Turmoil
- Electric Power Research Institute's DCFlex Initiative
- Regulatory Assistance Project's Data Centres and the Next Era of Energy Regulation
- Southwest Power Pool's High Impact Large Load Interconnection Solutions
- Urban Climate Leadership's Hot Servers, Cool Communities

Analysis:

A data centre use of land does not align with the Township's vision to be a Garden Township. While it is recognized that such uses are required, and that the protection of highly sensitive data should be stored within the Province/County, there are opportunities to choose locations with less sensitive environmental features and functions, water resources, world biosphere protection and away from populations. There are also opportunities to seek out willing host communities, similar to the approach that Nuclear Waste Management Organization utilizes.

The Township supports the Province in continuing its work to create a framework and strengthen the assessment process for data centre siting. Mulmur Staff do not believe that a local study is required, but rather a prohibition to be the appropriate.

Oakville enacted a one year moratorium on data centres to determine if its regulations need to be update to address noise, vibration and emissions as well as broader land-use considerations. Mississauga appears to be preparing to undertake a similar approach, directing staff to draft an Interim Control By-law and undertaking a comprehensive study. For comparison, the upper tier Region of Waterloo has directed that staff bring back a report Q1, 2027.

The County of Dufferin had a regional planning role. However, the Planning Act and County Official Plan specifically provides the authority to local municipalities for interim control by-laws.

Interim control by-law

38 (1) Where the council of a local municipality has, by by-law or resolution, directed that a review or study be undertaken in respect of land use planning policies in the municipality or in any defined area or areas thereof, the council of the municipality may pass a by-law (hereinafter referred to as an interim control by-law) to be in effect for a period of time specified in the by-law, which period shall not exceed one year from the date of the passing thereof, prohibiting the use of land, buildings or structures within the municipality or within the defined area or

areas thereof for, or except for, such purposes as are set out in the by-law. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 38 (1).

Mulmur Township has sufficient information regarding data centres and strategic priorities and high-level Official Plan policies to introduce the prohibition through zoning without further study and the use of an interim control by-law.

Financial Impacts

The cost of providing comments are minimal. The cost of prohibiting data centres through Zoning are minimal and can be included in a larger housekeeping by-law. The cost of defending the by-law are yet to be determined.

Environmental Considerations

There are local environmental benefits to not permitting data centres in Mulmur. It is noted that the increased use of data centres globally has worldwide environmental impacts. Data centers consume immense amounts of energy, land, strain local freshwater resources for cooling, and generate substantial electronic and chemical waste.

Recommendations:

Whereas The Township of Mulmur's Official Plan and Strategic priorities include the protection of its environment, water resources and rural character,

And whereas Mulmur is at the Head of the headwaters and is traversed by the Niagara Escarpment, being a World Biosphere, and will consider development that is of a compatible scale and servicing level and contribute positively to the community;

Whereas Mulmur Township does not have full municipally serviced industrial lands;

Now therefore be it resolved, that

Mulmur Council receives the Town of Orangeville resolution regarding Regional Water Resources and Infrastructure;

And that Mulmur Council direct Mulmur staff to bring forward a by-law to prohibit data centres on all lands within the Township of Mulmur as part of the next housekeeping by-law;

And that Mulmur Council does not object to the County **staff** undertaking a Regional Water Resource and Infrastructure study, which may be collectively used to support interim control by-laws by the local municipalities or prohibitions;

And that this resolution be circulated to the County of Dufferin, all local municipalities within Dufferin County and the Member of Provincial Parliament, the County of Simcoe,

Clearview Township and Adjala-Tosorontio Township and the Niagara Escarpment Commission.

Submitted by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO

Schedule A - Motions from Dufferin County and Town of Orangeville

August 28, 2026

Town of Orangeville
87 Broadway
Orangeville ON L9W 1K1

At its regular meeting on August 27, 2026, Dufferin County reviewed the attached Town of Orangeville resolution and passed the following motion in response:

THAT Council support the Town of Orangeville's request for the County of Dufferin to undertake a comprehensive review of the advantages and disadvantages of data centre development proposals within Dufferin County;

AND THAT Planning staff to prepare a Terms of Reference for this review, to be brought forward for Council's consideration and approval prior to proceeding.

Yours truly,

Michelle Dunne

Michelle Dunne
Clerk, Dufferin County

CC Local Municipal Clerks

Resolution Number 2026-093
Title: Councillor Prendergast; Re: Regional Water Resources and Infrastructure
Date: August 10, 2026

Moved by Councillor Prendergast

Seconded by Councillor Andrews

Whereas emerging forms of critical infrastructure, including data centres, may have implications for groundwater resources, electricity demand, municipal servicing, land-use planning and regional infrastructure; and

Whereas data centres may also provide economic investment, employment, assessment growth, energy-sector opportunities, enhanced digital infrastructure, data sovereignty and cybersecurity benefits; and

Whereas the Town of Orangeville relies entirely on groundwater for its municipal drinking-water supply; and

Whereas planning decisions made within neighbouring municipalities may have cross-boundary impacts on drinking-water resources, infrastructure and municipal services; and

Whereas the County of Dufferin has an important role in coordinating regional planning matters that extend beyond municipal boundaries and affect more than one municipality;

Now therefore be it resolved:

That Council request that the County of Dufferin, in its regional planning role, undertake a comprehensive and balanced review of the potential advantages and disadvantages of new data centre development proposals within Dufferin County, including economic development, employment, assessment growth, electricity demand and capacity, digital infrastructure, data sovereignty and cybersecurity, groundwater resources, municipal servicing, land-use planning, regional infrastructure and cross-boundary impacts, to inform future planning decisions; and

That the County of Dufferin be requested to share the findings of the regional review with its local municipalities; and

That this resolution be circulated to the County of Dufferin, all local municipalities within Dufferin County and the Member of Provincial Parliament for Dufferin—Caledon for their information and consideration.

Carried



Economic Development Committee Minutes August 6, 2026 – 9:30 AM

Present: Daryl Stansfield, Chair
Lisa Thomson
Savannah Rogers
Diana Morris
Kim Lyon
Leticia Garay, Staff
Roseann Knechtel, Secretary

1.0 Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Morris and Seconded by Rogers

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

3.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Rogers and Seconded by Morris

That the minutes of June 29, 2026 are approved.

Carried.

4.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests - None

5.0 Administration

5.1 Mulmur 175

Members discussed the upcoming Mulmur 175 Celebration BBQ and provided the following directions:

- New Location Confirmed: Thomson Trail Park
- Washrooms: order a 2nd porta potty and hand-washing station
- Town Crier: removed. Use budget to hire face painter/balloons
- O Canada: If Primrose Elementary School is unable to sing, ask Streams Hub (Savannah)
- Donaldson Donation Recognition: removed.

- Grand opening of Fitness Equipment and Maple Grove: added. Ribbon and Scissors to be provided by DBOT (Diana)
- Food: Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Chips, Cake, Pop/Water, Ice Cream Truck, and Popcorn Machine.
- Portable Speakers and Microphones (Lisa and Diana)

6.0 Items for Future Meetings

7.0 Adjournment

Moved by Stansfield and Seconded by Lyon

That the Economic Development Committee adjourns the meeting at 10:09 a.m. to meet again on September 11, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in person at the Thomson Trail Park, or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 9, 2026, 6:00 pm

Dufferin County Administration Office, Sutton Room

55 Zina Street, 2nd Floor

Orangeville ON L9W 1E5

Councillors Present: Warden Lisa Post (Orangeville)
 Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
 Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
 Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
 Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
 Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
 Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
 Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)
 Councillor Wade Mills (Shelburne)
 Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
 Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
 Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Councillors Absent: Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)

Staff Present: Antonietta Minichillo, Chief Administrative Officer
 Michelle Dunne, Clerk
 Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
 Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
 Melissa Kovacs-Reid, Manager of Waste Services
 Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
 Rajbir Sian, Director of Development and Tourism
 Gary Staples, Chief Paramedic
 Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Post called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Warden Post announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast. The recording of this meeting will also be available on our website in the future.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Warden Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. ROLL CALL

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of the Councillors in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Warden Post advised agenda item 10.6 - Health and Human Services Update 3 will be discussed immediately following the delegation from the Hills of Headwaters Ontario Health Team and the Dufferin Area Family Health Team.

Moved by: Councillor Gardhouse

Seconded by: Councillor Creelman

THAT the agenda and any addendum distributed for the July 9, 2026 meeting of Council, as amended, be approved.

CARRIED

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley) joined the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Horner
Seconded by: Councillor Gerrits

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of Council on June 11, 2026 and the special meeting of Council on June 25, 2026, be adopted.

CARRIED

7. PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Proposed Amendments to the Clean Water Act, 2006

Behnam Doulatyari, Senior Manager, Watershed Plans and Source Water Protection, and Hailey Ashworth, Technical Lead, Credit Valley Source Protection Authority, presented information regarding the amendment to Section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

7.1.1 Proposed Amendments under s. 34 of the Clean Water Act, 2006

A report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, dated July 9, 2026, to seek approval to endorse amendments to source protection plans and assessment reports.

Moved by: Councillor Nix
Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT the report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, Report No. PD-2026-019, Proposed Amendments under s.34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT pursuant to the requirements under s.34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, outlined in the Credit Valley Source Protection Authority's correspondence of May 25, 2026, the Council of the County of Dufferin endorse amendments to source protection plans and assessment reports listed in this report, to incorporate the recent technical work completed for Orangeville-Mono water budget update and addition of New

Municipal Supply Well 13 to the Orangeville drinking water system;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be provided to the Credit Valley, Grand River and Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Authorities by July 15, 2026;

AND THAT pursuant to the requirements under s.40 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, the County ensure the updated risk assessment and mapping results inform the upcoming Municipal Comprehensive Review and Growth Management Strategy in 2027.

CARRIED

7.2 Team-Based Care

Dave Pearson, Executive Director, Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team, and Lianne Barbour, Executive Director, Dufferin Area Family Health Team, delegated to Council to provide an update on the expansion of team-based care and the local approach to attaching Dufferin residents to physicians and teams.

7.2.1 Health and Human Services Hub - Update 3

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated July 9, 2026, to seek approval to advance construction of the Edelbrock Centre Health and Human Services Hub.

Moved by: Councillor Horner

Seconded by: Councillor Gerrits

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-026, Health and Human Services Hub – Update 3, dated July 9, 2026 be received;

AND THAT Council approve the County funding the upfront capital costs associated with approved renovations;

AND THAT Council direct staff to recover applicable capital costs, if required, through lease agreements with Hub partners over time.

CARRIED

7.3 Long Term Waste Management Study Update Report

Lori Andrews, Project Manager, Dillon Consulting Ltd, presented the final Long Term Waste Management Study Update Report.

7.3.1 Long-Term Waste Management Strategy Update – Draft Strategy

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated July 9, 2026, to seek approval of the draft Long Term Waste Management Study Update.

Moved by: Councillor Nix

Seconded by: Councillor Mills

THAT the report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, Report No. PW-2026-018, Long-Term Waste Management Strategy Update – Draft Strategy, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT the draft Long Term Waste Management Strategy Update, June 2026, be approved;

AND THAT implementation of any recommendations with financial implications be subject to future budget deliberations and budget approval.

CARRIED

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Chris McCoy, an Orangeville resident, wanted to ensure Council was aware of the Ministry of the Environment investigation at the Glad and Clorox factory regarding the potential release of Febreeze into the air and the Credit River

watershed. She noted concern for the drinking water and ground water over time due to the particulates getting into the aquifer. The Ministry of Environment will be visiting the plant on July 10, 2026.

9. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

The following agenda items were requested to be moved to Section 11 for discussion:

- Item 10.3 - Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Program Updates 2026-27
- Item 10.5 - Homelessness Prevention Program Update 2026-27
- Item 10.8 - Shelter Operations Update 3
- Item 10.9 - Annual Asset Management Progress Report

10. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT Items 10.1 to 10.4 be received, and any recommendations set out below, be approved.

CARRIED

10.1 Official Plan Amendment No. 5 Update

A report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, dated July 9, 2026, to provide an update on the progress of Official Plan Amendment No. 5.

THAT the report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, Report No. PD-2026-021, Official Plan Amendment No. 5 Update, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

THAT the letter included as an attachment to this report be supported and circulated to all lower-tier municipal Councils.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.2 Protecting Ontario's Streets and Communities Act, 2026

A report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, dated July 9, 2026, to provide information on Bill 119: the *Protecting Ontario's Streets and Communities Act, 2026*.

THAT the report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, Report No. PD-2026-020, Protecting Ontario's Streets and Communities Act, 2026, dated July 9, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.3 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan 2025 Update

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated July 9, 2026, to provide an annual report on the 2025-2028 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-028, Community Safety and Well-Being Plan 2025 Update, dated July 9, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.4 Dufferin Oaks Rooftop Unit Replacement Tender

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated July 9, 2026, to seek approval to award the tender for the Dufferin Oaks rooftop unit replacement.

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-031, Dufferin Oaks Rooftop Replacement Tender Report, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT the tender be awarded to the lowest compliant bidder and that the additional costs associated with the Dufferin Oaks rooftop

replacement project be funded from the Dufferin Oaks Capital Asset Fund.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

11. DISCUSSION OF REPORTS SEPARATED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

11.1 Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Program Updates 2026-27

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated July 9, 2026, to share the allocation of the COCHI (Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative) and OPHI (Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative) funding for 2026-27.

Moved by: Councillor Gardhouse

Seconded by: Councillor McLean

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-026, Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Program Update 2026-27, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council approves the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative and Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative Investment Plan for 2026-27.

CARRIED

11.2 Homelessness Prevention Program Update 2026-27

Moved by: Councillor Horner

Seconded by: Councillor Mills

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-029, Homelessness Prevention Program Update 2026-27, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council approves the Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan for 2026-27.

CARRIED

11.3 Shelter Operations Update 3

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated July 9, 2026, to seek approval to to work with Service Providers to align shelter operations with identified system needs and County-established shelter standards.

Moved by: Councillor Nix

Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-025, Shelter Operations Update 3, dated July 9, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council endorse the development and implementation of a Dufferin County Shelter Operations Manual establishing minimum service standards for all County-funded shelter providers;

AND THAT staff continue to work with Service Providers to align shelter operations with identified system needs and County-established shelter standards.

CARRIED

11.4 Annual Asset Management Progress Report

A report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated July 9, 2026, to provide an annual update on the County's progress in implementing its Asset Management Plan under O. Reg. 588/17.

Moved by: Councillor Nix

Seconded by: Councillor Gerrits

THAT the report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, Report No. CS-2026-160, Annual Asset Management Progress Report, dated July 9, 2026, be received.

CARRIED

12. CORRESPONDENCE

13. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

13.1 Justice Centres

Councillor Creelman requested that the notice of motion be considered at this meeting as it is time sensitive.

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Gardhouse

THAT leave be granted to consider the notice of motion as per Section 19.3 of the Procedural By-Law 2025-20.

CARRIED

Moved by: Councillor Creelman

Seconded by: Councillor Nix

WHEREAS the Province has created 'Justice Centres' in various court locations including Toronto, Kenora and London to move justice out of the traditional courtroom and into more of a community setting engaging community, health and social services;

AND WHEREAS Dufferin County already embraces a wholistic approach to the delivery of social services through its HART Hub initiative and a Justice Centre designation would strongly complement those efforts;

AND WHEREAS the Justice Centre model has been enthusiastically supported by the judiciary including Chief Justice Sharon Nicklas in her last Opening of the Courts address;

AND WHEREAS three new members of the judiciary (one Justice and two Justices of the Peace) have recently been assigned to Orangeville in recognition of a growing caseload;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dufferin County requests the Attorney General designate Orangeville courts and our community as a Justice Centre to compliment the work being done at the HART Hub and in recognition of the rapidly increasing workload and space pressures faced by local courts, the judiciary as well as supporting services such as:

**Legal Aid Ontario
Victim Services
Probation Services
John Howard Society
Elizabeth Fry Society
Canadian Mental Health Association
OPP Court Services
Family Responsibility Office
Provincial Offence Administration
Crown Law Offices
Ministry of the Attorney General Support Services;**

AND THAT copies of this motion be sent to the following:

**Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey
MPP and Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones
Her Honour Sharon Nicklas, Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice
His Honour Anthony Leitch, Regional Senior Judge
His Honour James Chaffe, Local Administrative Judge
Her Worship Samantha Burton, Regional Senior Justice of the Peace
Her Worship Andrea Jones, Local Administrative Justice of the Peace.**

CARRIED

14. MOTIONS

14.1 Majority Vote

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Horner

WHEREAS the County of Dufferin Procedural By-Law defines "Majority Vote" in Council as "an affirmative vote of more than one-half of the votes cast by those present, as determined pursuant to Section 4(1) of the County of Dufferin Act, S.O. 1994, C. Pr. 13;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT effective immediately Council of the County of Dufferin change the definition of "Majority Vote" in By-Law 2025-20 and By-Law 2026-39 as follows:

Majority Vote in Council means an affirmative vote of more than one half of the votes cast by those present, as determined pursuant to Section 4(1) of the County of Dufferin Act, S.O. 1994, C. Pr. 13 and with at least four area municipalities casting at least one vote in the affirmative.

WITHDRAWN

Moved by: Warden Post

Seconded by: Councillor Mills

THAT Council direct staff to undertake a comprehensive governance review of Council processes and practices;

AND THAT a Governance Review Task Force be established, with Terms of Reference, as set out in Section 24.10 of Procedural By-law 2025-20, for the purpose of developing the scope and framework, identifying key governance matters to be examined, and providing recommendations on the review process;

AND THAT following the Task Force's recommendations, staff prepare a report outlining the proposed governance review, including resource and budget implications, and implementation considerations.

CARRIED

15. CLOSED SESSION

16. BY-LAWS

Moved by: Councillor White

Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT By-Law 2026-50 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

16.1 2026-50 Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada (Service Agreement for Assisted Living Services in Orangeville – Hub & Spoke Model)

A by-law to ratify the actions of the Warden and the Clerk for executing an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Dufferin and the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada.

Authority: Council - July 9, 2026

17. OTHER BUSINESS

18. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2026-51 Confirmatory By-Law - July 9, 2026

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on July 9, 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Nix

THAT By-Law 2026-51 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

19. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 6 pm in the Sutton Room at 55 Zina St, Orangeville.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Gardhouse
Seconded by: Councillor Creelman

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

Warden

Clerk



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL - SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

August 13, 2026, 6:00 pm

Dufferin County Administration Office, Sutton Room

55 Zina Street, 2nd Floor

Orangeville ON L9W 1E5

Councillors Present: Warden Lisa Post (Orangeville)
 Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
 Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
 Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
 Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)
 Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
 Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
 Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
 Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)
 Councillor Wade Mills (Shelburne)
 Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
 Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
 Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Staff Present: Antonietta Minichillo, Chief Administrative Officer
 Michelle Dunne, Clerk
 Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
 Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
 Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
 Rajbir Sian, Director of Development and Tourism
 Gary Staples, Chief Paramedic
 Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
 Brenda Wagner, Director of Health and Human Services

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Warden Post called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Warden Post announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast. The recording of this meeting will also be available on our website in the future.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT**

Warden Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. **ROLL CALL**

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of the Councillors in attendance.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by: Councillor Little

Seconded by: Councillor Nix

THAT the Agenda and any Addendum distributed for the August 13, 2026 meeting of Council, be approved.

CARRIED

5. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

6. **PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATIONS OF REPORTS**

6.1 Program Review: Path Forward

A report and presentation from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated August 13, 2026, regarding the Municipal Program Review.

Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley) joined the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Taylor

Seconded by: Councillor McLean

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer, Report No. CAO-2026-016, Municipal Program Review: Path Forward, dated August 13, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council acknowledges the completion of this Municipal Program Review;

AND THAT Council approve the implementation timelines as identified in Appendix B - Implementation Direction, as attached;

AND THAT Council approve the recommendations of the Chief Administrative Officer, as identified in Appendix C - CAO Recommendations, as amended, as attached;

AND THAT the lessons learned through the Municipal Program Review be incorporated into future budget planning, service level planning, Strategic Plan development, Council onboarding, and continuous improvement initiatives;

AND THAT staff report to Council on approved Municipal Program Review recommendations, outstanding items, and create a structured approach through planning, budget, and reporting processes.

CARRIED

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Warden Post thanked staff for their time and effort put into the Municipal Program Review reports.

Warden Post noted this is Rohan Thompson's, Director of People and Equity, last Council meeting. She thanked him for all his work at Dufferin County and noted he has made a significant difference in the organization.

8. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2026-52 Confirmatory By-Law

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on August 13, 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Horner

Seconded by: Councillor Gardhouse

THAT By-Law 2026-52 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Council will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 9 am in the Sutton Room at 55 Zina St, Orangeville.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Gardhouse

Seconded by: Councillor Horner

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

Warden

Clerk



Council Highlights

County of Dufferin
55 Zina Street, Orangeville, Ontario

For Immediate Release: August 20, 2026

Dufferin County Council met on Thursday, August 13, 2026, for a Special Council meeting. For the full Council meeting agenda and minutes, please see the County's [Meeting Agendas and Minutes page](#).

Here are the highlights of the August 13 meeting:

- **County Council acknowledged the completion of the Municipal Program Review and approved the Chief Administrative Officer's recommendations and identified implementation timelines**

County Council acknowledged the completion of the Municipal Program Review and approved the Chief Administrative Officer's recommendations and identified implementation timelines

Dufferin County Council received the Chief Administrative Officer's report "[Municipal Program Review: Path Forward](#)" and acknowledged the completion of the Municipal Program Review.

The Municipal Program Review looked at County programs, services, staffing, costs, and ways to improve how work is done. It generated important discussions about service levels, staffing, risk, modernization, organizational capacity, and Council priorities. It also identified opportunities to strengthen planning, budgeting, performance measurement, resource allocation, and decision-making.

At the meeting, County Council approved 12 additional items that were under review and approved all implementation timelines identified by the CAO.

The County will now incorporate lessons learned through the Municipal Program Review into future budget planning, service level planning, Strategic Plan development, Council onboarding, and continuous improvement initiatives. Staff will regularly report to Council on approved Review recommendations and all outstanding items.

About Dufferin County Council

Dufferin County Council consists of 15 members representing each of the eight municipalities in Dufferin. Council meeting processes are set out in the County's Procedural By-Law.

Dufferin County Council and Committee meetings can be watched live on the [County's website](#).

-30-

MEDIA CONTACT:

Megan Ball, Manager of Communications
mball@dufferincounty.ca

Roseann Knechtel

Subject: FW: NVCA summer update

From: Jonathan Scott <JScott@townofbwg.com>

Sent: Saturday, 15 August 2026 08:01:27

Subject: NVCA summer update

Dear colleagues,

With the long gap between our June and September Board meetings, Jennifer and I wanted to share a summer update on the work underway at NVCA and some of the progress we have made at the halfway point of the year.

Overall, NVCA is in a strong position, both financially and with respect to our 2026 Business Plan. More than 75% of Business Plan activities are either on track or complete. Expenditures are tracking slightly below budget at 45.1% at mid-year (we love to see it), while revenues are almost exactly on track at 50%. We continue to anticipate a neutral year-end position, with the possibility of a modest surplus.

Our public engagement, education and stewardship work has also been particularly busy this summer. In July, NVCA hosted the Fort Willow Garrison Reenactment Weekend, bringing visitors to the site to experience War of 1812-era military life through living-history encampments and demonstrations. Tiffin Summer Camp has also been running throughout July and August and is the largest summer camp program in NVCA's history.

Across the watershed, staff and volunteers have continued to be visible in our communities. NVCA participated in the Alliston Potato Festival from August 7 to 9 and held volunteer days at both the Tiffin Centre and in Collingwood on August 14 to remove invasive phragmites from wetlands. On August 15, volunteers worked with the South Simcoe Streams Network to restore streambanks using recycled Christmas trees, while NVCA also participated in the Creemore Farmers' Market. I myself spent a mucky Saturday tree planting with scouts and our stewardship teams in Bond Head, and we celebrated the milestone of planting 4.5 million trees over the life of our forestry outstanding.

That work continues over the coming weeks, including restoration work on the Nottawasaga River with the South Simcoe Streams Network on August 18 and streambank stabilization volunteer events in Adjala-Tosorontio on August 21 and 29. Looking into the fall, NVCA will also be participating in Innisfil Music in the Park, the Orangeville Fair, Bruce Trail Day and the Mono Green Fair.

There has also been encouraging progress in Development Planning and Permits. Permitting applications got off to a slower start this year, with approximately 180 applications received from January through May. In June and July alone, however, we received more than 150 applications. While summer typically brings an increase in requests for projects such as decks, pools and fences, this increase is larger than usual and may indicate renewed development interest across the watershed. We will be monitoring that trend into the fall.

Specifically, Development Planning & Permits department has also achieved a significant financial turnaround in the first half of 2026, increasing net revenues by 154% year-over-year and moving from a \$56,000 deficit at June 2025 to a \$365,000 surplus at June 2026. The improvement reflects increased activity across planning and development review services, consistent application of fees

and improved workflow practices. We hope to see that positive trend continue through year-end. When we were working to clear the planning and permitting backlog, we always said we wanted the system to be fit for purpose once development activity picked up, and I can say it's a "so far, so good" situation today.

We are also welcoming three new members of the NVCA team this month: Neal Unsworth as Manager of Lands, Programs & Partnerships, Elyssa Pompa as Planner and Charlotte Scott as Planner 1. At the same time, we wish Davin Metheral well as he moves to a new planning role with the Town of Collingwood and thank Mariella Kaczmarczyk for her contributions to NVCA.

Of course, a significant focus continues to be the transition arising from the Province's changes to Ontario's conservation authority system. We are very pleased to welcome Don Goodyear as Project Executive supporting the transition process. Don brings more than 20 years of experience in watershed management, environmental services and organizational transformation, including senior leadership roles at the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and York Region.

I have also had the opportunity to work collaboratively with Don over the years, particularly on road salt and through my work to protect the Lake Simcoe watershed. I have always found him to be a thoughtful, conscientious and deeply committed public servant, with a strong understanding of both watershed management and the municipal context in which conservation authorities operate. I am very pleased that he will be bringing that experience and perspective to this important work.

We have now held two pre-transition committee meetings, including hosting the transition team at the Tiffin Centre in June, with the inaugural LHRCA Transition Committee meeting scheduled for September 3 at Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority. With that foundational work behind us, we are now moving into the more intensive phase of the transition.

We are also closely following the Province's proposed regulatory changes under ERO 026-0740 concerning appointments to Regional Conservation Authority boards and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency Board.

Finally, work is already underway on the draft 2027 Budget and Business Plan. Jennifer will be presenting to the Town of The Blue Mountains Council on August 24. If there are other member municipalities where a presentation would be helpful, please let Kerry know.

On a more informal note, I'll be at AMO on Sunday and Monday. Let's try to connect if you're around.

There is a great deal happening even while the Board is not formally meeting, and Jennifer and I want to thank our senior leadership team and all NVCA staff for keeping the organization moving forward through a very busy summer. We are in a strong position at mid-year, with important work ahead of us this fall.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in September.

Best,

Jonathan Scott LLM MBA ICD.D
Councillor, Ward 2
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
647-998-8461
www.townofbwg.com

July 30, 2026

Dear Conservation Authority CAOs, General Managers, Board Chairs, Mayors and Heads of Council:

I am writing to announce the members of the transition committees that will support the implementation of regional conservation authority consolidation.

As you may recall, transition committees will provide advice and operational expertise to support transition activities, including the development of transition plans for each new regional conservation authority.

Committee membership includes the current CAO or General Manager and one board member from each existing conservation authority participating in a regional consolidation.

Each committee will be chaired by a dedicated project executive who will oversee transition activities and provide continuity by serving as the first Chief Administrative Officer of the new regional conservation authority for up to two years. Project executives were recently appointed.

Following a brief orientation period, project executives will convene their transition committees and begin transition planning activities in the coming weeks.

Please find below the membership of the transition committees for each of the eight new regional conservation authorities.

Thank you for your continued leadership and partnership as we work together to establish strong, effective regional conservation authorities.

Sincerely,



Hassaan Basit
CEO
Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency

Regional Conservation Authority	Transition Committee Members
Central Lake Ontario Project Executive: Robert Baldwin	Dave Barton, Toronto and Region Conservation John MacKenzie, Toronto and Region Conservation Bob Chapman, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority
Eastern Lake Ontario Project Executive: Alison McDonald	Brad McNevin, Quinte Conservation Kathryn Brown, Quinte Conservation Rhonda Bateman, Lower Trent Conservation Authority Sherry Hamilton, Lower Trent Conservation Authority Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Vicki Mink, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha Conservation Authority Pat Warren, Acting, Kawartha Conservation Authority David Ellingwood, Cataraqui Conservation Authority Paul Proderick, Cataraqui Conservation Authority Janette Loveys Smith, Otonabee Region, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority Conservation Authority, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority Michael Metcalf, Otonabee Region Conservation Authority, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority
Western Lake Ontario Project Executive: Jacqueline Johnson	Lisa Burnside, Hamilton Conservation Authority Brad Clark, Hamilton Conservation Authority Leilani Lee-Yates, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Robert Foster, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Chandra Sharma, Conservation Halton Gerry Smallegange, Conservation Halton Terri LeRoux, Credit Valley Conservation Authority Michael Palleschi, Credit Valley Conservation Authority
Lake Huron	Jonathan Scott, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Project Executive: Don Goodyear	Jennifer Vincent, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Raymond Chartrand, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Nathan Schoelier, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Erik Downing, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Tom Hutchinson, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Phil Beard, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Ed McGugan, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Mark Critch, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Clare Riepma, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Tim Lanthier, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Jennifer Shaw, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
St. Lawrence River Project Executive: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson	Sally McIntyre, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Roy Huet, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Glen McDonald, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Gary Waterfield, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Lisa Van de Ligit, Raisin Region Conservation Authority Andrew Guindon, Raisin Region Conservation Authority Carl Bickerdike, South Nation River Conservation Authority Isabelle Skalski, South Nation River Conservation Authority
Eastern Lake Erie Project Executive: Samantha Lawson	Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region Conservation Authority Doug Brunton, Long Point Region Conservation Authority Elizabeth VanHooren, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority Sharron McMillan, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority John Challinor II, Grand River Conservation Authority Karen Armstrong, Grand River Conservation Authority

	Dusty Underhill, Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Morgaine Griffin, Catfish Creek Conservation Authority
Western Lake Erie Project Executive: Davin Heinbuck	Tim Byrne, Essex Region Conservation Authority Molly Allaire, Essex Region Conservation Authority Tracy Annett, Upper Thames Conservation Authority Brian Petrie, Upper Thames Conservation Authority Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Conservation Authority Sarah Bod, Lower Thames Conservation Authority Ken Philllips, St Clair Region Conservation Authority Greg Grimes, St Clair Region Conservation Authority
Northeastern Project Executive: Tim Commisso	Mark Signoretti, Nickel District Conservation Authority Carl Jorgensen, Nickel District Conservation Authority Liza Vandermer, North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority Lana Mitchell, North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority Corrina Barrett, Sault Ste. Marie Conservation Authority Sandra Hollingsworth, Sault Ste. Marie Conservation Authority David Vallier, Mattagami Region Conservation Authority Andrew Marks, Mattagami Region Conservation Authority

Consultation on Proposed Contents of Regulations under the Municipal Accountability Act, 2026

Summary of Proposal

The Municipal Accountability Act, 2026 received Royal Assent on June 2, 2026. If brought into effect, the Act would strengthen the municipal code of conduct framework and enable Minister's and Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) regulations to:

- I. Establish a single, standardized municipal code of conduct that would apply to all members of council and of certain local boards.
- II. Create standardized processes to be followed by municipal integrity commissioners.
- III. Establish roles and requirements related to education and training for the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario (ICO), municipal integrity commissioners, and members of councils and certain local boards.

It is proposed that regulations would be in effect on November 15, 2026 – the start of the new municipal council term.

The government is seeking public input on the contents to include in these regulations.

Note: the reference to local boards throughout the document is as defined in s. 223.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and s. 156 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006

I. Proposal for a Regulation to Establish a Standardized Municipal Code of Conduct

If brought into effect, the *Municipal Accountability Act, 2026* would strengthen the municipal code of conduct framework and enable, among other matters, regulations by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) to establish a single, standardized municipal code of conduct that would apply to all members of council and of certain local boards (as defined in s. 223.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and s. 156 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*) in all municipalities across Ontario.

The government is seeking input on the content of the standardized municipal code of conduct. The proposed contents of this regulation are as follows:

1. Core Principles
 2. Definitions
 3. Application
 4. Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality
 5. Use of Influence
 6. Use of Municipal Property and Resources
 7. Confidential Information
 8. Respectful Conduct
 9. Harassment, Discrimination and Violence
 10. Respect for the Code of Conduct
-
1. Core principles to guide members' conduct and interpretation of the code. Proposed principles include requiring that every member, while performing their duties and in representing the municipality in matters that materially affect municipal business, is expected to:
 - Serve and be seen to serve their functions in a conscientious and diligent manner
 - Act with integrity, accountability, and transparency

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- Avoid misuse of their influence as a public office holder and conflicts of interest, both apparent and real
- Promote respect for the municipality, other members, municipal staff, and municipal policies
- Promote a safe, effective and respectful workplace free of harassment, discrimination, and violence

2. Definitions of key terms including:

- Gifts or Benefits
 - o Meaning anything of value including but not limited to things like cash, objects of value, services, meals, accommodations or entertainment.
- Municipal Property
 - o Includes land, facilities, equipment, supplies, services, staffing resources or other resources including materials, websites and transportation services of the municipality.
- Confidential Information
 - o Information in the possession of the municipality that this municipality is prohibited from disclosing, required to refuse to disclose, or has exercised its discretion to refuse to disclose under law.
 - o Information concerning matters that are considered in a meeting closed to the public under section 239 (2 and 3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 or Section 190 (2 and 3) of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.
- Employee

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- o Includes all employees, dependent contractors and volunteers of the municipality and employees, dependent contractors and volunteers engaged to support members' offices.
- Parent
 - o Means a person who has demonstrated a settled intention to treat a child as a member of his or her family
- Spouse
 - o Means a person to whom the person is married or with whom the person is living in a conjugal relationship outside marriage
- Child
 - o Means a child born within or outside marriage and includes an adopted child and a person whom a parent has demonstrated a settled intention to treat as a child of his or her family.

3. Application

The code of conduct would apply to all members of council and of certain local boards (as defined in section 223.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and section 156 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006).

The code would not replace the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, and members of council must continue to comply with other legislation, policies and by-laws governing conduct including the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

4. Rules pertaining to gifts, benefits, and hospitality prohibiting their acceptance by members of council or their parent, spouse, or child except under the following circumstances:

- Political contributions otherwise reported by law
- Authorized compensation

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- Services provided without compensation by persons volunteering their time
- A gift that is received as part of protocol, custom or social obligation
- A memento of a function honouring the member
- Admission to a widely attended event (i.e. a convention, conference, etc.) if invited by the organizing entity and attending in official capacity to participate as a speaker, perform a ceremonial function or if attendance is appropriate in their official capacity and is unsolicited by the member
- Admission to an event hosted by a charity or a non-profit community organization, unsolicited by the member, provided that the invitation and admission are extended directly by the host entity and are not provided by a third-party
- Admission to training or educational programming related to the members duties and in the interest of the municipality
- Food, lodging, transportation and entertainment provided by a federal, provincial, municipal or foreign government where the member is attending in an official capacity
- Food and beverages consumed at an event where the member's attendance serves a municipal purpose, the person extending the invite or their representative is in attendance, the value is reasonable and the invitation is infrequent
- Communications to the member such as subscriptions to newspapers

In municipalities with a by-law providing for a system of registration of persons who lobby public office holders, a member shall not accept a gift or benefit from a person who lobbies public office holders, except a political contribution authorized by law.

If gifts are accepted under one of these exceptions, and the value of the gift or of multiple gifts from one source exceeds \$200 in a calendar year the member must report these gifts to the Clerk of the municipality within 30 days, by filing a disclosure statement.

A disclosure statement should include the nature of the gift, its source, the date it was received, the circumstance in which the gift was given or received, the estimated value, and what the member intends to do with the gift.

All statements of disclosure that are filed should be made available to the public.

5. Rules regarding improper use of influence are proposed to prohibit member from:

- Using their office or influence for any purpose other than their official duties.
- Using their office or influence for preferential treatment beyond activities in which members normally engage, including on behalf of their constituents, as part of their official duties.

6. Rules prohibiting use of municipal property for purposes outside of members' duties of office unless:

- The property is made available to the member in the capacity of their office and is used in duties associated with their office.
- The property is available generally to the public and the member is not receiving preferential use.

7. Rules prohibiting the disclosure or misuse of confidential information including that a member:

- Shall not disclose or release confidential information to any unauthorized person, including a member of the public, acquired by virtue of their role except as authorized by the council of the municipality or where required by law
- Shall not use or disclose confidential information for any reason other than fulfilling their duties

- Shall not disclose or release confidential information to any member of the public discussed or deliberated at a closed council meeting unless authorized by council of the municipality or by law
 - Shall not access or attempt to access confidential information unless necessary for performing their duties and not prohibited by-law or policy of the municipality
8. Rules for respectful conduct that set standards for member behaviour in the exercise of their public office or where their conduct materially affects the municipal business, including at meetings, in interactions with municipal staff and lobbyists, and in official public communications, including on social media, but not personal or political activities unrelated to municipal responsibilities. Requirements may include that members:
- Conduct themselves with decorum at all times, including at council and committee meetings in accordance with procedure by-laws
 - Respect the role of municipal employees and officers and show respect for their professional capacities, including their role to provide advice based on political neutrality and without undue influence from any member
 - A member must not:
 - o Maliciously or falsely damage the reputation of municipal employees or officers
 - o Compel municipal employees or officers to engage in partisan activity or subject them to threats or discrimination for refusing to participate in partisan activity
 - o Use or attempt to use their authority or influence to intimidate, threaten, coerce, command or influence municipal employees or officers with the intent to interfere with their duties, including the duty to disclose improper activity

9. Rules prohibiting actions that constitute workplace harassment, discrimination, and violence. Requirements may include that the member shall, both in person, on social media or any other means:

- Not engage with members of the public, municipal employees or other member in an abusive bullying, intimidating or derogatory manner
- Help ensure that their work environment is safe and free from discrimination, harassment and violence

10. Rules for respect of the code of conduct such that:

- Members shall not obstruct an integrity commissioner (i.e., municipal integrity commissioner or the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario) in carrying out their responsibilities
- A member must not take reprisal or threaten reprisal against anyone who has complained to the integrity commissioner or who has provided relevant information to the integrity commissioner
- A member shall not destroy any document and relevant evidence or erase electronic communications or refuse to respond to the integrity commissioner where a complaint has been initiated in respect of the code of conduct.

II. Proposal for a Regulation to Establish Municipal Integrity Commissioner Processes

If brought into effect, the *Municipal Accountability Act, 2026* would strengthen the municipal code of conduct framework and enable Minister's regulations to create standardized processes to be followed by municipal integrity commissioners. The government is seeking public input on the contents to include in these regulations.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The Ministry aims to propose a Minister's regulation establishing standardized processes to be followed by municipal integrity commissioners (Commissioners).

1. A standard complaint process and form to be used for all complaints to the municipal integrity commissioner. This complaint process would include:
 - A request for an inquiry referred to in section 223.4 of the Act about whether a member of council or of a local board has contravened the code of conduct applicable to the member shall be made in writing on a form including:
 - o The full name, address, telephone number and email address (if any) of the person making the request;
 - o The name of the member of council or of a local board who is the subject of the request;
 - o A description of the actions or conduct claimed to be in contravention of the code of conduct, with reasonable certainty and detail, including the date, place and nature of the occurrences on which the request is based;
 - o The provisions of the code of conduct that may have been contravened, if known;
 - o Copies of any documents that support the request;
 - o The names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of any persons who might reasonably be expected to have knowledge of the matters that are the basis of the request, if available; and
 - o If the request is being made more than six weeks after the actions or conduct described, a statement of when and how the requestor became aware of the actions or conduct.

- A request shall be delivered to the Commissioner or the Clerk, who shall promptly deliver it to the Commissioner.
 - A request may only be made within six weeks after the requestor became aware of the alleged contravention.
 - o A request may be made more than six weeks after the requestor became aware of the alleged contravention if the alleged contravention is of a serious nature involving harassment, bullying, discrimination or violence.
 - o A request may be made more than six weeks after the requestor became aware of the alleged contravention if both of the following are satisfied:
 - The requestor became aware of the alleged contravention within the period of time starting six weeks before nomination day for a regular election, as set out in section 31 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, and ending on voting day in a regular election, as set out in section 5 of that Act.
 - The requestor makes a request to the Commissioner under subsection 2 within six weeks after the day after voting day in a regular election, as set out in section 5 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.
 - A request may only be made within 4 years of the last date of the actions or conduct claimed to be in contravention of the code of conduct.
2. Standardized protocols for the municipal integrity commissioner to follow upon receipt of a complaint. These include screening for frivolous/vexatious complaints or complaints beyond jurisdictional scope of the integrity commissioner (including the complaint not being related to the exercise of member's duties of public office), as follows:

- Within 10 days after receiving a request, the Commissioner shall review the request to determine whether the circumstances under which the Commissioner may conduct or continue an inquiry described below apply to the request and notify the requestor of their determination.
 - o If the request does not contain the information required or the request is otherwise insufficient to make the determination required, the Commissioner may provide an opportunity to the requestor to remedy any deficiencies before making the determination required by and the time period set out does not apply.
- The Commissioner shall not conduct or continue an inquiry if the Commissioner is of the opinion that:
 - o The request was not made within the time period allowed;
 - o The request for an inquiry is frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith;
 - o That there are no grounds or insufficient grounds for an inquiry;
 - o There is no reasonable prospect of a finding that the conduct described in the request contravenes the code of conduct applicable to the member; or
 - o The request is outside the jurisdiction of the Integrity Commissioner
- The Commissioner shall refuse a request made during the period of time starting on nomination day for a regular election, as set out in section 31 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, and ending on voting day in a regular election.
- Within 5 days of commencing an inquiry, the Commissioner shall notify the member who is the subject of the inquiry.

- If the Commissioner suspends an inquiry under section 223.8 of the Act, the Commissioner shall promptly:
 - o Notify the municipality or local board, and the member who is the subject of the inquiry of the suspension; and,
 - o Notify the requestor of the suspension and advise the requestor of the circumstances under which the inquiry will be resumed by the Commissioner and whether the requestor is required to take any steps before the Commissioner will resume the inquiry.
- Regardless of whether any steps required of the requestor have been fulfilled, the Commissioner may exercise their discretion to resume an inquiry that was suspended under section 223.8.
 - o If the Commissioner resumes an inquiry that was suspended under section 223.8 of the Act, the Commissioner shall promptly notify the requestor, the municipality or local board, and the member who is the subject of the inquiry.
 - o If Commissioner decides not to resume an inquiry that was suspended under section 223.8 of the Act, the Commissioner shall notify the municipality or local board, the requestor, and the member who is the subject of the inquiry.
- If Commissioner terminates an inquiry under subsection 223.4(7) of the Act, the Commissioner shall promptly,
 - o notify the member who is the subject of the inquiry of the termination; and,
 - o notify the requestor of the termination and advise the requestor of the requirement set out in subsection 223.4(8) of the Act.
- The Commissioner may combine an inquiry pursuant to section 223.4 of the Act with an inquiry pursuant to section 223.4.1 of the Act as long as any procedural requirements specific to each type of inquiry are met.

- The Commissioner may attempt to settle any matter at any time.
3. Standardized inquiry timelines requiring that inquiries be completed within a specific timeframe after a complaint is received. Including:
- The Commissioner shall complete the inquiry within 120 days after receiving a complete request.
 - The time needed to complete an inquiry may be extended by up to 60 days if both of the following conditions are met:
 - o If the alleged contravention is of a serious nature or involving harassment, bullying, discrimination or violence, and
 - o The Commissioner provides notice and reason for the extension to the requestor, subject of the inquiry and municipality or local board.
 - The period of time for completion of an inquiry does not run during the period of time an inquiry is suspended under section 223.8 of the Act.
 - After terminating an inquiry under subsection 223.4(7) of the Act, the period of time for completion of an inquiry established starts again if another inquiry is commenced under subsection 223.4(8) of the Act.
4. Standardized reporting and recommendations process for outcomes of investigations, including:
- Within the 120 days to complete the inquiry and possible 60 days extension, before issuing a report finding a contravention of the code of conduct, the Commissioner must provide notice to the member who is the subject of the inquiry the basis for the proposed finding and any recommended penalty or remedial action, and an opportunity to comment on the proposed findings and any recommended sanction or remedial action.

- Upon completion of the inquiry, if the Commissioner is of the opinion that the member has not contravened the code of conduct, the Commissioner shall notify the requestor and the member who is the subject of the inquiry about the outcome of the inquiry, and may provide written reasons for their determination to the requestor and the member who is the subject of the inquiry, and may provide a report to the municipality or local board.
- Upon completion of the inquiry, if the Commissioner is of the opinion that the member has contravened the code of conduct, the Commissioner shall report to the municipality or local board within 30 days unless the Commissioner intends to make a recommendation to the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario pursuant to section 223.4.0.1 of the Act.
- Upon completion of the inquiry, if the Commissioner is of the opinion that all of the criteria listed in subsection 223.4.0.1(1) of the Act are met, and the Commissioner recommends that the seat of the member be declared vacant, the Commissioner shall so notify the municipality or local board, the requestor, and the member who is the subject of the inquiry.
- If a matter is referred back to the Commissioner under paragraph 1 of subsection 223.4.0.2 (4) of the Act, the Commissioner shall report to the municipality or local board within 30 days.
- A report to the municipality or local board by the Commissioner shall address whether the Commissioner is of the opinion that the member has contravened the code of conduct, and if so, whether either of the penalties described in subsection 223.4 (5) should be imposed on the member.
- The Commissioner shall provide a copy of any report made to the municipality or local board to the requestor and the member who is the subject of the inquiry.

III. Proposal for Regulations to Establish Education and Training Requirements for Municipal Integrity Commissioners and for Members of Councils and Certain Local Boards

If brought into effect, the *Municipal Accountability Act, 2026* would strengthen the municipal code of conduct framework and enable Minister's and Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) regulations to establish roles and requirements related to education and training for:

- The Integrity Commissioner of Ontario (ICO),
- Municipal integrity commissioners, and
- Members of councils and certain local boards as defined in s. 223.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and s. 156 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.

The government is seeking public input on the content of these regulations under the Municipal Act, 2001 and City of Toronto Act, 2006 as follows:

1. Requirements with respect to the ICO and municipal integrity commissioners:

Education and training the ICO would be required to provide municipal integrity commissioners that would include, but not be limited to, the following subject matters:

- The application of the code of conduct and the obligations of a member under the code of conduct; and,
- The application of any procedures, rules and processes for:
 - o Making a complaint under the code of conduct;
 - o Conducting an inquiry with respect to the code of conduct; and
 - o Reporting the result of an inquiry with respect to the code of conduct.

Municipal integrity commissioners would be required to complete training provided by the ICO within three months of the regulation coming into force, or within three months of becoming a municipal integrity commissioner, whichever occurs later.

The information that municipal integrity commissioners have taken the training would be made available to the public.

2. Requirements with respect to Municipal Integrity Commissioners and members of council and certain local boards:

Education and training that municipal integrity commissioners would be required to provide to members of council and of certain local boards that would include, but not be limited to, the following subject matters:

- The application of the code of conduct, and
- A member's obligations under the code of conduct;
- The application of any procedures, rules and processes for:
 - o making a complaint under the code of conduct;
 - o municipal integrity commissioner conducting an inquiry with respect to the code of conduct and interaction with council;
 - o receiving an integrity commissioner's report with the result of an inquiry with respect to the code of conduct.

Members would be required to take the education and training within five months of beginning their term of office and every year after that during their term of office. Information on the status of training taken by each member of council and certain local board would be made available to the public by the municipality.

**Niagara Escarpment
Commission**
232 Guelph Street
Georgetown, ON L7G 4B1
Tel. No.: 905-877-5191

1450 7th Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2Z1
Tel. No. (519) 371-1001

nec@ontario.ca
<https://escarpment.org>

**Commission de l'escarpement du
Niagara**
232, rue Guelph
Georgetown ON L7G 4B1
No de tel. 905-877-5191

1450 7^e avenue Est
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2Z1
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<https://escarpment.org>



Date: 08/21/2026

Request for Comments

Under the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act

To:

All Escarpment municipalities
Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Bruce Trail Conservancy
Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

FROM:

Suzanne Robinson
Senior Strategic Advisor, Niagara Escarpment Commission

Re: Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment PS 229 25 – Walker Duntroon Quarry

Location:

9861 & 9828 County Road 91
Lot 24& 25 Concession 12, Township of Clearview, Simcoe County

Proposal:

An application to amend Part 1.9.3.18 of the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP) has been submitted by Walker Aggregates Incorporated for a property located at 9861 Clearview Township Rd 91, Duntroon, Lot 24, Concession 12, Township of Clearview, Simcoe County, Duntroon. The amendment proposes to remove language from the site-specific permissions provided by Part 1.9.3.18 that requires relocation of the processing facilities to an adjacent quarry on Lot 25, Concession 12.

The Niagara Escarpment Commission, at its meeting of March 26, 2026, decided to initiate and circulate for comments, the proposed amendment noted above.

Pursuant to Sections 7 and 10 (1) of the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, the Commission invites your comments on this proposed Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment. The Initial Staff Report and Amendment documents can be found on the NEC website at: <https://escarpment.org/planning/niagara-escarpment-plan-active-plan-amendments/>. Please submit comments to the Niagara Escarpment Commission **nec@ontario.ca** by **October 20, 2026**. Should comments not be received by this date, the Commission will assume that you have no objection or comments on the proposed amendment.

If you wish to receive further notice of the status of this application, you must submit a written request to the Commission.

Yours truly,



Suzanne Robinson
Senior Strategic Advisor

Roseann Knechtel

Subject: FW: Shelburne Library Board Motion - Town of Shelburne

From: Jennifer E. Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>
Sent: August 27, 2026 2:45 PM
Subject: Shelburne Library Board Motion - Town of Shelburne

Good Afternoon

Forwarding along the motion below that was passed at Monday night's Council meeting. A copy of the report can be found on our website at the following link - <https://pub-shelburne.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=6434>

The motion has been forwarded to Shannon for review by the Library Board.

Moved: Councillor Sample
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Hall

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Report CAO2026-04 for information;

AND THAT Option 2 whereby residents of the municipalities receiving and financially supporting services from the Shelburne Public Library by agreement or contract be eligible to be appointed to the Shelburne Public Library Board be approved;

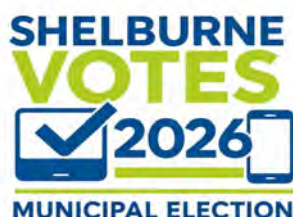
AND THAT all representatives serving on the Shelburne Public Library for the next term of Shelburne Public Library Board commencing around January 1, 2027 be directly appointed by the Town of Shelburne Council under the Town of Shelburne's committee and board appointment process;

AND THAT an Establishing By-Law for the Shelburne Public Library Board of the Shelburne Public Library be prepared by Town staff for the consideration and approval of Council by the end of September 2026.

CARRIED, W. Mills

Thank You

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Phone: 519-925-2600 ext 223 | Fax: 519-925-6134 | jwilloughby@shelburne.ca
Town of Shelburne | 203 Main Street East, Shelburne ON L9V 3K7
www.shelburne.ca





A People Place, A Change of Pace
SHELBURNE
ONTARIO, CANADA

Meeting Date: Monday, August 24, 2026

To: Members of Council

From: Denyse Morrissey, CAO and
Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative
Services/Clerk

Report: CAO 2026-04

Subject: Shelburne Library Board Structure and
Governance

Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Report CAO2026-04 for information;

AND THAT Option 2 whereby residents of the municipalities receiving and financially supporting services from the Shelburne Public Library by agreement or contract be eligible to be appointed to the Shelburne Public Library Board be approved;

AND THAT all representatives serving on the Shelburne Public Library for the next term of Shelburne Public Library Board commencing around January 1, 2027 be directly appointed by the Town of Shelburne Council under the Town of Shelburne's committee and board appointment process.

AND THAT an Establishing By-Law for the Shelburne Public Library Board of the Shelburne Public Library be prepared by Town staff for the consideration and approval of Council by the end of September 2026.

Background

The purpose of this report is to provide follow-up to the April 13, 2026, direction of Council related to staff report [CAO 2026-02 Library Board Structure and Governance](#).

That Staff be directed to provide recommendations to Council, by the end of June 2026, regarding and not limited to a Library Board Establishing By-law by the Town of Shelburne to formally constitute the Shelburne Public Library as a Public Library Board, board representation and structure, and the appointing authority of the Town of Shelburne Council for all representatives on the Board.

Under the *Public Libraries Act*, a municipal public library board is established as a corporation once it is formally created by municipal council through an establishing by-law. This by-law provides the legal foundation for the board's existence, including its governance structure and authority to manage and control the library.

Based on the review completed by staff in 2025 and 2026 the Town was not able to locate or confirm the existence of a formal establishing Town of Shelburne by-law or governance agreement constituting the current Library Board structure in accordance with the *Public Libraries Act*. It is the opinion of staff that one does not exist.

From a governance and legislative compliance perspective, the lack of a formalized structure may present several risks, including:

- Administrative continuity risk, particularly during Council transitions, if board composition and appointment processes are not formally constituted
- Legal and legislative risk, where the municipality may not be able to demonstrate full compliance with the requirements of the *Public Libraries Act*
- Governance risk, as the roles and responsibilities between Council and the Library Board may not be clearly defined
- Financial accountability risk, where oversight of public funds and budget approval processes may lack clearly documented authority

Shelburne Public Library Board Composition

The Shelburne Public Library Board* representation, with each having one vote, is comprised of:

Municipality	Number of Representatives	Board Representation Details
Shelburne	5**	One representative is a member of council
Amaranth	1	Member of Council
Melancthon	1	Member of Council
Mono	1	Member of Council
Mulmur	1	Member of Council

*The representatives appointed by other municipalities are chosen directly by that municipality. Town of Shelburne Council is not involved in that process or approves those appointments.

** currently one vacancy

Links to past staff reports are:

Staff report CAO 2026-01: <https://pub-shelburne.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=6154>

Staff report CAO 2025-03 : <https://pub-shelburne.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=5808>

Shelburne Public Library 2026 Operating Budget - Funding Percentages

The Shelburne Public Library 2026 contribution to the operating budget by municipality:

Municipality	Contribution (\$)	Percentage of Budget
Shelburne	\$264,349	56%
Amaranth	\$43,673	9%
Melancthon	\$66,571	14%
Mono	\$32,152	7%
Mulmur	\$65,391	14%
Total	\$472,136	100%

Analysis

In the absence of a formal Town of Shelburne establishing by-law or documented governance agreement, the current board structure would not be properly formalized.

While the library continues to operate and provide services, formalizing the board structure through a Town of Shelburne establishing by-law and governance agreement is needed. It would ensure clarity of authority, legislative compliance, and transparency in the relationship between Town of Shelburne Council and the Library Board. It is staff's opinion, that based on the review completed, that while the Shelburne Public Library due to the board structure has some of the governance elements of a Union Public Library, it is not, nor was it intended to be a Union Public Library.

The Library Act says Council shall appoint at least 5 members of the board and Council shall not appoint more of its own members to a board than one less than a majority of the board.

Many municipalities do not have a library in their municipality. Their residents then need to access the library services of another municipality, and this is generally based on a cost via contract or agreement. For example, the Town of Orangeville provides library services via agreement to a number of municipalities. Their Library Board representation is limited to residents and elected officials with the Town of Orangeville. In the Town of New Tecumseth their library board structure provides eligibility for a resident of a municipality that has an agreement or contract with the Library to be appointed to the Library Board.

Shelburne Public Library Board Composition – Three Options

1. Option 1 – No change

The Shelburne Public Library Board* representation, with each having one vote, is comprised of:

Municipality	Number of Representatives	Board Representation Details
Shelburne	5	One representative is a member of council
Amaranth	1	Member of Council
Melancthon	1	Member of Council
Mono	1	Member of Council
Mulmur	1	Member of Council

*The representatives appointed by other municipalities are chosen directly by that municipality. Town of Shelburne Council is not involved in that process or approves those appointments.

2. Option 2 – Representation Eligibility and Appointing Authority Revised

The Shelburne Public Library Board eligible* representation as of January 1, 2027 with representative appointed by the Town of Shelburne Council base on each representative having one vote, is comprised of:

Municipality	Eligible Representation
Shelburne	3 Resident Representatives 2 Members of Council
Amaranth	1 Resident representative
Melancthon	1 Resident representative
Mono	1 Resident representative
Mulmur	1 Resident representative

*all applicants must apply through the Town of Shelburne’s appointment to boards process. Where no application from another municipality that is allocated representation is received or where an applicant is not approved by Town of Shelburne that representation may be allocated by Council to a Shelburne resident.

Option 2 is recommended.

3. Option 3 – Representation limited to Shelburne Residents and Elected Officials

The Shelburne Public Library Board representation as of January 1, 2027 is limited to Town of Shelburne residents and up to two members of Town Council:

Municipality	Representation
Shelburne	Up to 5 resident representatives; Up to 2 members of Council

Financial Impact

The Town of Shelburne owns the library building and lands. In 2026 most capital costs for the Shelburne Public Library, under a new Memorandum of Understanding, became the exclusive costs of only the Town of Shelburne. The Town of Shelburne also established a new capital library reserve, and is making annual contributions to this reserve, starting in 2026.

The recommendation and Option 2 regarding Library Board structure and representation is based on a municipality which is receiving Library services continuing to financially support the operating costs for library services from the Shelburne Public Library to be eligible to be appointed to the Shelburne Public Library Board by Town of Shelburne Council.

Should a municipality not continue to contribute proportionally to the annual operating budget for library services or provide operating funding via a new agreement or contract with the Shelburne Public Library, that municipality would default, as of around January 1, 2027, to having the non-resident fees apply to all users from that municipality.

Based on the 2026 Library operating budget the combined funding from the other four municipalities is \$207,7876 or 44%. Where and if applicable, non-resident fees would be expected to offset the increased operating costs being absorbed by the Town.

The 2026 Shelburne Public Library non-resident fees are listed:

Membership	Limitations	Rate
Resident	N/A	No fee
Non-resident	Per household (annually) Not eligible to borrow parks passes, museum passes, or the Mansfield Outdoor Centre passes.	\$120
Temporary resident	Up to 3 months. Not eligible to borrow parks passes, museum passes, or the Mansfield Outdoor Centre passes.	\$40
Short term	Situation specific (i.e. no fixed address, shelter, or group home). Limited to five items checked out at a time. Not eligible to borrow parks passes, museum passes, or the Mansfield Outdoor Centre passes.	No fee
Institutional	For community organizations within the library's jurisdiction.	No fee
Replacement card	For lost or damaged library cards.	\$2

Included in the Shelburne Public Library Policy number OP-12, last revised May 2026 under item 3. is "Individuals who reside outside the library's jurisdiction, but who own property, operate a business, work, or attend school in these areas shall be considered residents and therefore eligible for library membership at no cost".

Examples of annual non-resident fees in other municipalities:

Municipality	Non-Resident Fee	Fee Basis
Barrie	\$75	Per person
Caledon	\$50	Per person
Clearview	\$45	Per family
Collingwood	\$120	Per household
Essa	\$50	Per person
New Tecumseth	\$30	Per person
Orangeville	\$210	Per household
Owen Sound	\$500	Per household
Southgate	\$75	Per person
Springwater	\$80	Per person
Wasaga Beach	\$150	Per household

Policies & Implications (if any) Affecting Proposal

N/A

Consultation and Communications

Other Ontario municipalities library board structure and non-resident fees

Council Priorities

Council's Priorities has three Pillars - Sustainable, Engaged and Livable. There are a total of 14 Priorities with the three Pillars.

This report aligns with the Engaged and Sustainable Pillars within the Priorities of:

EP1 Promote effective partnership

SP5 Build responsive organizational capacity

Supporting Documentation

Respectfully Submitted:

Denyse Morrissey, CAO

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-law No. - 2026

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur for September 2, 2026

Whereas Section 5 (1) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by Council;

And whereas Section 5 (3) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, as amended, provides that municipal powers shall be exercised by by-law;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur hereby enacts as follows:

1. All actions of the Council and Committees of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur for the aforementioned date in respect to every report, motion, by-law or other action passed and taken by Council or Committees of Council, including the exercise of natural person powers, are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed by its separate by-law.
2. The Mayor of the Township and the proper officers of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action, to obtain approvals where required and except where otherwise provided, to execute all documents necessary in that behalf.

Passed on this 2nd day of September 2026.

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Janet Horner, Mayor

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Roseann Knechtel, Clerk