

# City Council Information Items

September 10, 2021

Items for information is a weekly publication for the public and members of City Council. Members of City Council may request that any item appearing on this publication be placed onto the next available Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

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	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1. Information Reports</b>	
<b>1.1. Guelph Master Plans Update - 2021-268</b>	2
<b>2. Intergovernmental Information</b>	
None	
<b>3. Correspondence</b>	
<b>3.1. Municipality of Trent Lakes Resolution: OHIP Eye Care</b>	20
<b>3.2. City of Stratford Resolution: Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants</b>	22
<b>4. Boards and Committees</b>	
Committee of Adjustment - Resignation from David Gundrum	
Accessibility Advisory Committee - Resignation from Sarah Mathison	
Transit Advisory Committee - Resignation from Ran Zhu	

# Information Report

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Service Areas	Corporate Services Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services Public Services
Date	Friday, September 10, 2021
Subject	<b>Planning for our future: Guelph's master plans update</b>

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## Executive Summary

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to summarize the 2021 third quarter (Q3) progress for the City of Guelph master plans.

### Key Findings

Master plans are within budget and scope as well as on schedule unless otherwise stated.

### Financial Implications

If applicable, financial implications will be referenced in each plan's attached progress summary.

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## Report

### Details

City staff continue work on technical studies, modelling and community and stakeholder engagement for most of the master plans underway. A summary of each plan's next steps and progress to date is available in attachments 1 through 11.

### Six Nations coordinated consultation

Through the targeted outreach and coordination of the City's intergovernmental function, an overview of five of the City's master plans in development were presented and discussed with Six Nations representatives in July. This is an important first step that opens the door to future conversations to learn more about Six Nations' interests and preferences on meaningful engagement as the City's four water-related master plans and Transportation Master Plan work moves forward, and more broadly how we can increase awareness of the City's environmental practices and operations. City staff look forward to sharing draft versions of the plans with Six Nations representatives as a next step.

## **Schedule refinements**

Since the last update, the schedule for master plans to go before Council has been refined to reduce the number of plans in the same quarter and on any one given agenda. There is one, well-considered exception—a dedicated special meeting for the three environmental services master plans given their interconnectivity in progressing Guelph’s environmental sustainability. The new Q4, 2021-Q1, 2022 schedule is as follows:

November

- 15th – Economic Development and Tourism Strategy

December

- 13th – Shaping Guelph Local Growth Management Strategy Workshop
- 15th – Environmental Services Master Plans: Solid Waste Management Master Plan; Water Supply Master Plan; and Wastewater Treatment and Biosolids Management Master Plan

January

- 24<sup>th</sup> – Transportation Master Plan

## **More about Shaping Guelph – Growth Management Strategy**

Shaping Guelph - Growth Management Strategy is the City’s ongoing process to confirm Guelph’s land supply to accommodate the forecasts and targets of A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (APTG).

Since Council endorsed the terms of reference for Shaping Guelph in fall 2019, several community and stakeholder conversations have occurred in parallel or prior to the release of background studies in the areas of residential intensification, employment lands, and growth scenarios. Indigenous partners and the Indigenous community in the area known as Guelph have also been engaged specifically on where and how Guelph grows. The Shaping Guelph project team continues to consider input received from the community, stakeholders, Indigenous partners, the Indigenous community, and Council as part of the preparation of a preferred growth scenario together with a land needs assessment to inform the growth management strategy for 2051.

At this time, it is anticipated that the growth management strategy, including the preferred growth scenario, will be presented to Council for their consideration in December.

## **Background**

City staff are planning Guelph’s future, today. This year, more than 10 master plans are underway across a number of City departments. Staff sees this as an opportunity for unprecedented alignment and coordination of strategy and policy development, and for resourcing the needs of our growing city.

A number of the master plan updates support the City in meeting Guelph’s provincially-legislated growth plan requirements, guide service delivery to a growing city and/or will inform policies in Guelph’s Official Plan update.

As part of the City's ongoing coordination efforts, regular updates on these master plans are provided through quarterly information reports. These information reports do not replace staff reports that require Council direction on individual plans.

Amendment 1 to the provincial growth plan that was adopted in August, 2020 continues to influence adjustments to the scope, timing and activities of the master plans as staff better understand the impacts of an extended planning horizon to 2051 and new population and employment forecasts. The plans underway fall within two general categories—those that inform the City's ability to plan for the required growth plan forecasts and those that respond to where the growth is planned to occur with the infrastructure required—as detailed in the [Guelph's Master Plans Update Q4, 2020 - 20210-242](#). Work on Shaping Guelph and the master plans continue in parallel as these projects are iterative and rely on one another for information at different stages. Key considerations from the growth scenario portion of Shaping Guelph are needed to inform the master plans, which are working towards a deadline of July, 2022 to conform to the provincial growth plan.

The impacts of COVID-19 also continue to influence master planning development activities and may necessitate changes in project scope, budget, the way the City engages stakeholders and timelines.

### **Financial Implications**

If applicable, financial implications to the approved budgets will be referenced in each plan's attached progress summary.

### **Consultations**

Each master plan has an associated community engagement plan and a communications plan which are being updated as needed to accommodate COVID-19 realities. Where possible, engagement and communications tactics are being coordinated to maximize community participation in master plan engagement activities, reduce engagement fatigue, and increase awareness of the interconnected nature of the City's master plans.

### **Strategic Plan Alignment**

Regular public updates on the progress of the City's master plans is a tactic designed to improve communication, which directly supports the working together for our future priority of the City's Strategic Plan.

Several master plan leads meet monthly, as a community of practice, to look for opportunities to work together in new ways for greater coordination and continuous improvement.

### **Attachments**

Attachment-1 Digital and Technology Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-2 Economic Development and Tourism Strategy progress summary

Attachment-3 Guelph Trail Master Plan update progress summary

Attachment-4 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update progress summary

Attachment-5 Solid Waste Management Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-6 Stormwater Management Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-7 Transportation Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-8 Urban Forest Management Plan progress summary

Attachment-9 Wastewater Treatment and Biosolids Management Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-10 Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan progress summary

Attachment-11 Water Supply Master Plan progress summary

### **Departmental Approval**

The following staff contributed to the report information or the attached master plan progress summaries.

- Christine Chapman, Manager, Economic Development
- Colleen Gammie, Infrastructure Planning Engineer
- Dave Belanger, Water Supply Program Manager, Water Services
- Jennifer Juste, Manager, Transportation Planning
- Luke Jefferson, Manager, Open Space Planning
- Natalie Goss, Senior Policy Planner
- Phil Jensen, Project Specialist, Solid Waste Resources
- Sasha Einwechter, General Manager, Information and Technology
- Tim Robertson, Division Manager, Wastewater Services
- Timea Filer, Urban Forestry Field Technologist, Parks and Recreation

### **Report Author**

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### **Approved and Recommended By**

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## **2020-268 Attachment-1 Digital and Technology progress summary**

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### **Digital and Technology Master Plan**

**2020-2023, 51% complete of 2021 actions and 46% overall complete**

#### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- Upgrade City phone system while reducing unnecessary desk phones.
- Upgrade audio/visual technology in City meeting rooms to facilitate hybrid work for City staff.
- Expansion of active mobile technology use by field workers.

#### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Increase number of services available online to reduce in-person interactions, increase process efficiency and comply with social distancing measures.
- Through the installation of fibre optic cables, known as the fibre build, opportunity to become less depended on third-party internet service providers.

#### **Next steps**

- Implement expense management software for staff
- Implement collaboration software for staff
- Provide City of Guelph email to all staff
- Update IT policies including IT Governance, Information Security, Acceptable Usage and Data Classification

# **2020-268 Attachment-2 Economic Development and Tourism Strategy progress summary**

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## **Economic Development and Tourism Strategy**

**Q2, 2021-Q4, 2021; 50% complete**

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- Draft benchmarking analysis that compares Guelph's performance across six categories to 14 peer competitor communities. Presented to Tourism Advisory Committee and Economic Development Advisory Committee.
- Draft Industry Cluster Analysis summarizing the City's industry clusters (strengths, both emerging and retracting). Presented to staff and community partners.
- Draft strategy vision, values, and guiding principles.

### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- The COVID-19 pandemic provides challenges, an unknown post-recovery economic state, and currently impacts the ability to perform additional business engagement. Given these challenges, updates will be completed in 2023 and 2025 to provide recommendations on any changes due to pandemic recovery or other economic factors not currently known.
- Current economic performance data is not available until the 2021 census is completed. A data refresh once the 2021 census data has been released will occur to validate any data assumptions.
- This project includes aggressive timelines to ensure strategy is in place for 2022.

### **Next steps**

- September 7 – Presentation of draft Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Implementation Plan to Tourism Advisory Committee and Economic Development Advisory Committee
- October 22 - Final Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Implementation Plan



## **2020-268 Attachment-3 Guelph Trail Master Plan progress summary**

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### **Guelph Trail Master Plan**

**2017/2019-Q2, 2021; 100% complete**

#### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- The Guelph Trail Master Plan (GTMP) was approved by Council at the June 28th, 2021 Council Meeting.
- Staff launched a [webpage](#) for the public to read the final GTMP and for staff to provide updates on master plan progress.

#### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Staff have initiated regular meetings with stakeholder group representatives with the intention of determining the mandate, function, roles, and responsibilities of a future trail committee.

#### **Next steps**

- Staff are currently working on Council's recommendation to report back on the progress of Project 12 on potential for short-term actionable trail connectivity solutions.

## **2020-268 Attachment-4 Parks and Recreation Master Plan progress summary**

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### **Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP)**

**2019-2022; 75% complete**

#### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- [Parks and Recreation Master Plan information report](#) was included in the May 7, 2021 information items. The report includes some project background and draft vision, values and goals
- Progress is ongoing for:
  - Draft action plans and draft master plan
  - Community engagement plan for final engagement opportunity

#### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Staff are currently partnering with the Local Immigration Partnership to better understand barriers to participation for immigrants. Niva Shrestha, the author of the research paper [Understanding Challenges of Nepali Immigrants to Enroll their Children in Recreational Activities in Guelph, Ontario](#), plans to expand her research to include other immigrant nationalities. Findings of her research will help inform both the PRMP and future work plans.

#### **Next steps**

- The project is proceeding with a schedule adjustment; where a new timeline is to be determined. This adjustment is required to assess impacts of COVID-19 on the Parks, and Culture and Recreation department's service deliveries and operations. This will also provide staff with the opportunity to ensure proper intersection with other corporate master plans as well as official plan needs. Staff will update Council on this timing accordingly.
- Further community engagement on the PRMP will occur in 2022. At this time, community and other stakeholders will have the opportunity to review a draft master plan and help validate goals and action plans for the 10-year plan.
- Staff will suggest focus meetings with Council to hear input on the draft plan. More information including scheduling is forthcoming.

# **2020-268 Attachment-5 Solid Waste Management Master Plan progress summary**

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## **Solid Waste Management Master Plan**

**Q2, 2019 - Q4, 2021; 85% complete**

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- Public Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Number 8 and 9 were held via Webex on May 27 and July 26, 2021, respectively. Presentations and discussions included a review of the evaluations of the 21 potential initiatives generated as program enhancements. Public feedback was reviewed regarding those initiatives and other technical report plan elements, along with an update of the status of producer responsibility legislation in Ontario and potential impacts on the City.
- Public consultation is now complete and included 10 engagement calls, three workshops (covering Single Use Plastics; Industrial, Commercial and Institutional service levels and funding models; and support for community organizations) and a public opinion survey through Have Your Say Guelph regarding potential City-led initiatives and actions.

### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- The Transition Strategy development is underway along with an assessment framework to assist the City in making decisions about a preferred approach to the Blue Box transition. The framework will assess impacts on numerous system elements including capital assets and operating and service impacts to the City's integrated waste system. The Blue Box Regulation was officially enacted in June and producer responsibility organizations, which will operationalize the legislated system for producers, are being formed. System rules and operating conditions are in the early stages of development.

### **Next steps**

- Technical Advisory Committee workshops are scheduled in August to update staff on the work completed to date and share what we have heard from the public as well as the anticipated recommendations.
- An implementation workshop will be held in October to generate a schedule and resource plan for the initiatives.
- A final PAC meeting is expected in mid-October.
- The final Solid Waste Management Master Plan report and recommendations will be presented at Council December 15, 2021.

# **2021-268 Attachment-6 Stormwater Management Master Plan (SWMMP) progress summary**

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## **Stormwater Management Master Plan (SWMMP)**

**Q1, 2020–Q2, 2022; 60% complete**

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- First Nations consultation meeting in July 2021
- Hydraulic model development and drainage assessment underway, model calibration based on rainfall data
- Initial assessment of ponds and priority erosion sites
- Initial assessment of potential new pond/subsurface facility locations
- Initial infiltration policy and design criteria recommendations

### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Pending - Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Low Impact Development Stormwater Management Guidance Manual, which was expected in 2020 and has yet to be made available
- Pending - MECP Consolidated Linear ECA process, which is currently being implemented across Ontario, has requirements to qualify for the streamlined stormwater ECA that may impact design criteria and policy

### **Next steps**

- Stormwater Community Working Group Meeting November 2021
- Finalize existing conditions hydraulic model and establish scenarios for analysis
- City staff workshop on Criteria and Infiltration
- City staff workshop on Hydraulic Model

## **2021-268 Attachment-7 Transportation Master Plan progress summary**

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### **Transportation Master Plan (TMP)**

**Q1, 2019 – Q4, 2021; 90% complete**

#### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- Following Council's approval of the preferred solution in May, the consulting team has assembled draft policies, program charters and capital plan for initial staff review.
- Launched the final phase of community engagement as a series of Community Conversations with the public and targeted equity-deserving and rights-asserting groups, as well as stakeholder workshops.
- Completed a COVID-19 strategic assessment.

#### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- The financial analysis will consider available funding sources and suggest new opportunities to explore to help deliver an affordable plan.

#### **Next steps**

- [StoryMaps](#) will be updated in Q4, 2021 prior to the final report to Council

# **2021-268 Attachment-8 Urban Forest Management Plan progress summary**

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## **Urban Forest Management Plan**

### **Q1, 2013 – Q4, 2032; Plan 100% complete, implementation ongoing**

Guelph's Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) is a 20-year renewable roadmap for understanding and improving the management of Guelph's urban forest. The plan is currently in the second phase of implementation (2019 – 2023) and is aligned with the Sustaining our Future pillar of the Strategic Plan.

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- Completed spring planting of 470 street and park trees; 330 trees to be planted this fall.
- Completed spring and summer planting of 5,000 native trees and shrubs (saplings and seedlings); 1,800 native grass and pollinator wildflowers at 20 naturalization sites across the city (7.4ha total area approx.); and more than 500 plants to be added this fall at seven sites.
- Provided 700 native wildflowers for planting in/around community gardens to attract pollinators and improve pollinator habitat. All seeds for native wildflowers and grasses were collected within city limits in fall 2020 and grown in the greenhouse at Riverside Park.
- Engaged the Guelph District Home Builders' Association at a meeting organized by Building Services on taking care of trees during development and construction.
- Continued forest health monitoring and integrated pest management; ongoing Emerald Ash Borer plan, buckthorn and other invasives and first year of European Gypsy moth monitoring and control.
- 28ha (approx.) invasive plant species control including 14.5ha of European Buckthorn (12.5ha chemical treatment, 2ha mechanical treatment, Dog Strangling Vine 5ha mechanical seed pod removal and chemical treatment, Giant Hogweed 1.5ha mechanical treatment, Japanese Knotweed 7ha to be chemically treated in August and September.
- Completed hazard risk assessments of ash and hazard trees in ash dominated natural wooded areas.
- Completed fire risk assessments of ash and hazard trees in ash dominated natural wooded areas where ash/tree removals have occurred for the purpose of hazard risk mitigation.

### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Increasing encroachments into natural areas and open spaces and City boulevards resulting in ecological impacts or operational challenges (e.g., maintenance issues, sightline obstructions).

- Engineered green infrastructure in hardscapes (e.g., tree soil cells, tree pits) have not been successful; suspected cause is non-functioning infrastructure (irrigation) and poor contractor maintenance.

### **Next steps**

- Initiate a tree planting strategy: growing Guelph's urban forest canopy.
- Deliver Tree Technical Manual workshops for internal and external stakeholders.
- Initiate restoration, regeneration and recovery phase of EAB plan in natural areas.
- Collaborate with Building Services to incorporate proactive protection measures for City-owned and boundary (shared) trees into permitting processes.
- Develop/formalize an Adopt-A-Space program for citizen/neighbourhood stewardship of naturalized spaces in parks.

## **2021-268 Attachment-9 Wastewater Treatment and Biosolids Management Master Plan progress summary**

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### **Wastewater Treatment and Biosolids Management Master Plan Q1, 2020-Q4, 2021; 69% complete**

#### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- A detailed evaluation of preferred solutions for expanding Guelph's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) capacity and biosolids processing was completed and documented in Technical Memorandum #3.
- A second presentation to the Community Liaison Group provided an evaluation of alternatives and preferred alternative solutions for the WWTP capacity and biosolids processing.
- Updates and responses to the public feedback received through the second virtual open house were completed as well as a summary draft report of the open house.
- A meeting with the Solid Waste Resources Management Master Plan team was held and a technical memorandum to assess the feasibility to treat a portion of the City's source separated organics with the WWTP sludge via co-digestion was developed.
- Engaged with representatives of Six Nations and provided an update on this master plan progress.
- Information sharing meetings with other master plan teams to ensure alignment were completed.

#### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- Public feedback through the engagement efforts of the second virtual open house have been helpful to verify public understanding and support of the alternatives.
- Receiving and evaluating feedback on the preferred future wastewater treatment and biosolids management technology alternatives from the Community Liaison Group helped in assessing the general acceptance of the preferred direction.

#### **Next steps**

- Development of technical memo #4 that will focus on the recommended projects and implementation plan.
- Share the master plan for comment with Six Nations prior to Council presentation
- Master plan to be shared with Council on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Prepare for the third Community Liaison Group meeting to share the recommended projects and implementation plan.



# **2021-268 Attachment-10 Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan progress summary**

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## **Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan**

**Q1, 2020–Q3, 2022; 50% complete**

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

- First Nations consultation meeting in July 2021.
- Model development and calibration completed.
- Preliminary analysis on existing system and existing constraints completed and shared with Planning Services to help inform Shaping Guelph.

### **New opportunities or relevant challenges of public interest**

- New growth plan amendment with 2051 population projections will impact water and wastewater servicing strategy and project schedule; anticipated receipt of information by September, 2021.

### **Next steps**

- Assess existing and future system conditions and identify servicing shortfalls, prepare options to meet current and future level of service and output a series of projects for implementation.

# **2021-268 Attachment-11 Water Supply Master Plan progress summary**

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## **Water Supply Master Plan**

**Q4, 2019 – Q3, 2021; 70% complete**

### **Recent progress/achievements to date**

The project's scope of work was revised to address increased population and employment forecasts to 2051 (previous study term ending in 2041) from the Province's revised Places to Grow (P2G) Proposal.

The groundwater modelling of sustainability assessment is complete and a technical memorandum has been prepared. The assessment shows that groundwater supplies are currently sustainable but limited in quantity for future looking long-term demands and subject to additional field testing (such as adaptive management source studies) to better understand the thresholds of these future water supply alternatives.

High priority supply alternatives such Ironwood and Steffler Test Wells, near to the Dolime Quarry and a Guelph South Test Well in the Hanlon Creek Business Park, have been evaluated through predictive modeling to confirm feasibility as supply sources. Impacts to Hanlon Creek are considered to be the main constraint in advancing these potential new water sources. In addition, as part of the evaluation of the Ironwood/Steffler Wells, investigations around the Dolime Quarry are in progress.

Further, a Water Loss Management Strategy for the City's water distribution network has been completed to inform water efficiency recommendations as part of the final Master Plan and future update to the City's Water Efficiency Strategy.

Itemized below is the status by task of the Water Supply Master Plan project for reference:

- Task 1 - Phase 1 Consultation Report has been completed. Six Nations meeting completed on July 12. Community Liaison Group Meeting #2 completed on July 27.
- Task 2 – Population and Water Supply Demand Forecasts have been completed using the population and employment forecasts to 2051.
- Task 3 – Water Supply Capacity Assessment has been completed.
- Task 3 – P2G Sustainability Assessment modelling has been completed.
- Task 4 – Water Supply Alternatives using predictive modelling is in progress.

It remains notable that the mid-project receipt of the 2051 Provincial growth targets resulted in schedule delays and required some completed tasks to be revised to reflect the more recent planning population data.

### **Next steps**

- Task 1 – Community Engagement/Consultation:

- Community Liaison Group Meeting #2 – complete
  - Public Meeting #2, Agency Meeting #2, CLG Meeting #3 – Sept/21
  - PIC Meeting newsletter/web postings – Sept/21
- Task 2 – Population Water Supply Demand Forecasts – complete with 2051 forecasts
- Task 3 – Water Supply Capacity – complete
- P2G Sustainability Assessment – Technical Memo complete
- Task 4 – Water Supply Alternatives
  - Task 4 – Draft Technical Memo on Water Supply Alternatives - in progress
- Task 5 – Water Supply Master Plan Update Report
  - Draft Report (internal review) – Sept/21
  - Draft Final Report – Oct/21
  - Council Report – Dec/21



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September 9, 2021

**Via email only**

To: Premier Doug Ford – [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)  
Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliott – [christine.elliott@pc.ola.org](mailto:christine.elliott@pc.ola.org)  
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Ontario Association of Optometrists – [oaoinfo@optom.on.ca](mailto:oaoinfo@optom.on.ca)

**Re: OHIP Eye Care Resolution R2021-593**

Please be advised that during their Regular Council meeting held September 7, 2021, Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. **R2021-425**

Moved by Councillor Lambshead  
Seconded by Councillor Franzen

**Whereas** routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life; and

**Whereas** conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crosses eyes), Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease; and

**Whereas** payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies); and

**Whereas** the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease; and

**Whereas** the Provincial government's refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 Million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians; and

**Whereas** the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting

September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery; and

**Whereas** this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children, who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision and to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision-threatening ocular diseases;

**Now Therefore**, be it resolved that the Municipality of Trent Lakes requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it; and further

**That** the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place; and further

**That** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPP Dave Smith, MPP David Piccini, MPP Laurie Scott, to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, and to all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Sincerely,



Jessie Clark, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities



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July 23, 2021

Honourable Premier Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1


[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution to Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants

At their June 28, 2021 Regular Council meeting, Stratford City Council adopted a resolution petitioning the provincial government to immediately take steps to replace gas powered electrical generation with non-carbon-based sustainable alternatives.

A copy of the resolution is attached for your consideration. We kindly request your support and endorsement.

Sincerely,  
  
Tatiana Dafoe  
Clerk

Encl.  
/ja

cc: MPP Randy Pettapiece  
MP John Nater  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
All Ontario municipalities



## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD

### Resolution: Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants

**WHEREAS** the Earth is on course toward a climate crisis, unless timely actions are taken to minimize the greenhouse effect;

**AND WHEREAS** the use of fossil fuels is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect because of the increasing amount of heat trapping Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere;

**AND WHEREAS** Stratford, along with other municipalities has declared a "Climate Emergency" and is considering a Carbon Net Zero goal to be achieved by 2050;

**AND WHEREAS** the 2050 Carbon Net Zero goal has been, and is being adopted by countries and governments at all levels, as well as by industries, social and economic institutions;

**AND WHEREAS** the most effective way of achieving that goal is through initiatives in reducing carbon footprint, and greening;

**AND WHEREAS** in the Province of Ontario, Electricity generation fueled by Natural gas contributes substantially to the province's carbon footprint and provides an opportunity for rapid reduction of carbon dioxide emissions through the elimination of this form of generation;

**AND WHEREAS** in the interest of environmental and economic wellbeing for the province of Ontario, immediate action to replace the gas generators by sustainable zero carbon alternatives should be undertaken;

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** that the City of Stratford strongly appeal to the Government of Ontario to immediately take steps to replace gas powered electrical generation with non-carbon based sustainable alternatives;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be circulated to Ontario municipalities and their organizations including AMO and OSUM for their consideration of support.

-----  
Adopted by City Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford on June 28, 2021

The Corporation of the City of Stratford, P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1  
Attention: City Clerk, 519-271-0250 ext 5329, [clerks@stratford.ca](mailto:clerks@stratford.ca)