

City Council Information Items

May 8, 2020

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.

		Pages
1.	Information Reports	
	None	
2.	Intergovernmental Consultations	
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	None	

Provincial and Federal Consultation Alert



Proposed regulatory changes under the Aggregate Resources Act

Ministry

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Consultation Deadline

Originally March 30, 2020; extended to May 15, 2020

Summary

The Province is proposing changes to the way extraction of aggregate resources is regulated in Ontario. This includes proposed changes for new pits and quarries, including how site plans are created and implemented; for existing pits and quarries, including operating and reporting requirements; and allowing minor extraction for personal or farm use.

Proposed Form of Input

Submit comment to the [Environmental Registry posting](#) and participate in technical briefing as invited by the Ministry.

Rationale

Aggregate extraction operations could potentially affect Guelph's drinking water supply. Guelph is one of the largest cities in Canada to rely almost exclusively on groundwater for its drinking water.

Lead

Water Services

Link to Ministry Website

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1303>

Contact Information

Intergovernmental Services

Chief Administrative Office

City Hall, 1 Carden Street, Guelph ON N1H 3A1

519-37-5602

TTY: 519-826-9771



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk
160 Livingston Avenue, P.O. Box 159, Grimsby, ON L3M 4G3
Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2015 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010
Email: skim@grimsby.ca

May 6, 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Honourable William Francis Morneau
Minister of Finance
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G5

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

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau, Minister of Finance Morneau and Premier Ford:

Re: Support for Commercial Rent Assistance Program

At its meeting of May 4, 2020, the Town of Grimsby Council passed the following resolution:

*Moved by Councillor Ritchie; Seconded by Councillor Vaine;
Whereas these are unprecedented times that have not been seen in generations;
and,
Whereas on April 16, 2020 the Canadian Federal Government announced a new
program called the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance; and,
Whereas this program is to be developed in unison with the Provincial and
Territorial counterparts; and,*



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*Whereas this program is to provide relief to small business (in Grimsby and throughout Canada) with their rent for the months of April, May, and June; and,
Whereas many Provincial programs have been announced to date but have generally aimed at the residential, rather than the commercial, rent markets; and,
Whereas many small businesses in the Town of Grimsby have been affected financially due to COVID-19, thus making rent payments difficult;*

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Grimsby endorse this program whole heartedly, and request the Federal Government of Canada to work with its Provincial and Territorial Partners to expedite this program and offer this program as soon as possible; and,

Be it further resolved that the Town of Grimsby ask the Federal Government, and Provincial and Territorial Partners look at the possibility of extending this program if the impacts of COVID-19 continue past the month of June; and,

Be it further resolved that the Town of Grimsby ask the Federal Government and its Provincial, and Territorial Partners to make this program 100 percent forgiving to the small businesses effected; and,

Be it further resolved that this motion be distributed to the Right Honourable Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Minister of Finance, the Honourable Premier of Ontario, and all municipalities in Ontario

Regards,

Sarah Kim
Town Clerk

SK/dk

Cc: Ontario Municipalities



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April 27th, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau via email
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2

Re: Federal Assistance for Municipalities

Dear Prime Minister:

Municipalities across Canada are working hard to respond to the ongoing international crisis. On a day-to-day level, Canadians depend on municipal services including fire and emergency services, essential road maintenance, garbage and recycling, bylaw enforcement, and building permits. However, municipalities need help from our federal partners to deliver these services while also supporting their residents.

At the Regular Meeting of April 21st, 2020, the Council of the Township of Montague passed the following motion:

MOVED BY: J. Carroll
SECONDED BY: I. Streight

RESOLUTION NO: 88-2020
DATE: April 21, 2020

That the Township of Montague supports the proposal in principle from the Town of Midland, for the federal government to provide grant funding municipalities to forgive tax payments.

And that the motion be sent to all municipalities across Ontario; local MPs and MPPs and AMO

CARRIED

Please find the attached letter from the Town of Midland detailing a potential funding arrangement. The Township of Montague supports this, or the proposed funding arrangement recommended by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities through the Gas Tax Fund, also attached.

Thank you,

Jasmin Ralph
Clerk Administrator

Cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Cc: All Ontario Municipalities



March 23, 2020

By Fax to: 613.941.6900 & Twitter @CanadianPM, @JustinTrudeau

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block,
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Direct Payment of Federal Funds to Municipalities to Waive Property Taxes for the Year 2020 - Financial help to alleviate the suffering from COVID-19 Pandemic

It is trite to repeat the human and financial toll of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Similarly, the commitment of the federal, provincial and municipal governments toward alleviating the suffering of Canadians does not require repeating.

We, at the Town of Midland, in the Province of Ontario, are proposing what we believe to be a simple but effective solution to facilitate the delivery of our common and shared commitment to the financial and psychological well-being of all Canadians.

Proposal:

1. Residential Properties (primary residence only)

- a. Waive 100% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed at or below \$ 500,000.00 by each governing provincial property assessment body; and
- b. Waive 50% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed below \$ 1,000,000.00; and
- c. Waive 25% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed above \$1,000,000.00.

2. Industrial, Commercial and Farm Properties

- a. Waive 100% of the 2020 property taxes for all; industrial, commercial and farm properties currently assessed at under \$ 10,000,000.00; and
- b. Waive 50% of the property taxes for the year 2020 for all industrial, commercial and farm properties currently assessed between \$10,000,000.00 and \$ 50,000,000.00; and
- c. Waive 25% of the property taxes for the year 2020 for all industrial, commercial and farm properties assessed above \$50,000,000.00.

3. Federal Transfer Payment to Canadian Municipalities

- a. In lieu of the annual municipal property taxes, the Federal Government transfers funds to municipalities across Canada, as a one-time grant.

Advantages of the Proposal:

1. Quick and timely relief;
2. Direct relief to all Canadian homeowners and the business community;
3. Directly protects Canadians who although may be solvent, are unable to easily meet the financial pressures beyond their personal capacity due to COVID-19;
4. No additional resources required to assess individual need and delivery of the relief;
5. Negligible overhead costs for the disbursement of the relief. In fact, it may cut-down on some of the work for municipal staff; and
6. The financial stimulus received from the federal government will come into circulation immediately and will stay in the community.

There are a multitude of other direct and indirect financial and non-financial benefits that will result from the implementation of this proposal. The biggest non-financial impact is that Canadians will see an immediate financial relief respecting the pressures to make their property tax payments and be better positioned to address other essential needs. In turn, removing this added stress will provide some relief to the already strained financial and health systems.

As you are aware, Canadians are entering this time of crisis with a very high amount of house-hold debt and a great deal of financial fragility. Taking this simple step should alleviate some of those pressures. At the same time, it will keep your municipal governments, and school boards primed for continued productivity and forward momentum to address the fallout from COVID-19.

Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable response.

Sincerely,

The Corporation of the Town of Midland



Stewart Strathearn,
Mayor
ssrathearn@midland.ca



Amanpreet Singh Sidhu,
Chief Administrative Officer
asidhu@midland.ca

- c: Town of Midland Council
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Province of Ontario