



Township of Brock Council Information Index

March 8 – March 12, 2021

Comm. No.	Received from – Description
332/21	Margaret McCulloch – Puppy Mills
337/21	AMO - Policy Update - Phase II of Vaccinations Plan, Bill 257 - Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act, and Firefighter Training Modernization
348/21	FCM Communique - local leaders salute FCM / Two new webinars / Celebrating International Women's Day and more
349/21	AMO - Policy Update – Policy Update – Municipal Councillor Code of Conduct consultations
354/21	Elexicon Energy - Electrical Safety Authority Flood Safety Information
355/21	Durham Region Economic Development - March 2021 - Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Newsletter - Made in Durham: Marcelle's Gluten Free Kitchen, Grown in Durham: Sargent Family Dairy, Shop Durham Region Online Marketplace Goes Live and more
356/21	Metrolinx - PRESTO contactless payment - UP Express

From: noreply@townshipofbrock.ca on behalf of [Margaret McCullough](#)
To: [Brock General](#)
Subject: Puppy Mills
Date: March 5, 2021 5:39:19 PM

Date:	08/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

Hello Brock council, I am most concerned and disappointed about the lack of protection for companion animals in Canada. The consequences of this are being exacerbated by the huge demand for puppies because of the pandemic. Our laws regarding the conditions animals can be kept in are outdated and need strengthening. These living conditions as proposed by the Humane Society of Canada and the SPCA need to be actually stated in the criminal code. Other countries such as New Zealand, Finland and the UK have recently done this. I would also ask that anyone breeding a companion animal for sale must be registered, (this would be dependent on meeting the stated living standards), advertising animals for sale from unregistered breeders would be illegal and buyers must be able to see where the animals are living. This would help CKC registered breeders who already adhere to strict standards. I have an e petition, sponsored by MP Nathaniel Erskine Smith, and it would be fantastic if you could sign and share it. I have a huge amount of support from citizens across Canada including in your province, and also ask that you consider enacting Animal Welfare legislation similar to that adopted by Beaconsfield council Quebec. Thank you,
 Margaret McCullough 159 Joseph St Victoria BC V8S 3H6
<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2997>

 Origin: <https://www.townshipofbrock.ca/en/municipal-office/mayor-and-council.aspx>

This email was sent to you by Margaret McCullough<margelmccullough@gmail.com> through <https://www.townshipofbrock.ca>.

From: [AMO Communications](#)
To: [Becky Jamieson](#)
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Phase II of Vaccinations Plan, Bill 257 – Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act, Firefighter Training Modernization
Date: March 5, 2021 3:51:51 PM

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)
 Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list

Date:	08/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

AMO Policy Update



March 5, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Phase II of Vaccinations Plan, Bill 257 – *Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act*, and Firefighter Training Modernization

Vaccination Distribution Plan – Phase II

The Province has announced that [Phase Two](#) of Ontario's vaccination distribution plan will begin next month. Phase Two will focus on age and risk to prevent further death, hospitalization, and transmission. [Populations eligible for Phase Two vaccination](#) will be: older adults, between 60-75-79 years of age; individuals with specific health conditions and some primary caregivers; people who live and work in congregate care settings and some primary caregivers; people who live in hot spots with high rates of death, hospitalizations, and transmission; and certain workers who cannot work from home. These groups are expected to be vaccinated from April to July 2021.

Beginning March 15th, the Province will be launching an online booking system and a provincial customer service desk to answer questions and support appointment bookings at mass immunization clinics. In addition to mass vaccination clinics, hospitals, and mobile clinics, the Province is also working with the pharmacy sector and primary care professionals to offer vaccinations in new settings. This phase is expected to vaccinate up to nine million Ontarians.

Bill 257 – *Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act*

Yesterday, [Bill 257, Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act](#), was introduced in the Legislature by the Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure. The purpose of the Act is to reduce costs to broadband providers associated with attaching broadband wirelines to hydro utility poles and would provide timely access to

poles and to municipal rights of way to install broadband on municipal land for “provincially significant” broadband projects. These proposed measures build on the Province’s [Up to Speed: Ontario’s Broadband and Cellular Action Plan](#).

The definition of a “provincially significant project” will be determined through regulation. If this term is scoped to mean **projects in rural and northern areas receiving provincial broadband funding**, this Act could help to ensure projects are delivered faster to the benefit of local communities that are currently unserved or underserved.

Bill 257 also proposes amendments to the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* that could see an impact to the pole attachment process for local distribution companies (LDCs) and to the Ontario Energy Board.

There are also proposed amendments to the *Planning Act* that ministerial zoning orders made under section 47 are not required, and are deemed to never have been required, to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), except in the Greenbelt.

While this amendment, if passed, may clarify some legal matters, it raises questions as to why the Province would not want to abide by the Provincial Policy Statement which articulates provincial interests.

AMO expects to engage with the Ontario Government during the regulatory development process to ensure that the legislation improves broadband coverage to municipal governments without jeopardizing accountability for municipal rights-of-way and local autonomy. AMO has strongly supported expansion of access to broadband connectivity for Ontario communities and will work to ensure the proposed legislation helps communities achieve that while protecting local taxpayers and their investments.

Firefighter Training Modernization

Yesterday the Office of the Fire Marshal published a [Communiqué](#) on the Ontario Fire College Training Modernization. It was issued as a follow up to the January 13, 2021 [announcement](#) regarding the decommissioning of the Ontario Fire College (OFC) and the modernization of fire safety training in Ontario.

The decommissioning of the OFC campus is set for March 31, 2021. Available options for OFC training are set out in the Communiqué, as is who to contact should municipalities have any questions.

AMO’s [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

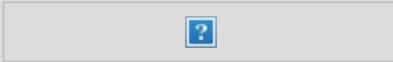
*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)



From: [FCM Communiqué](#)
To: [Brock General](#)
Subject: New video: local leaders salute FCM | Two new webinars | Celebrating International Women's Day | more
Date: March 8, 2021 5:43:37 PM

Date:	09/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null View email in browser
Notes:	CII <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Copies to:	

logo NEWS | March 18, 2021



New video: local leaders salute FCM

Since day one of this pandemic, FCM has been there to support our members. Convening frontline expertise. Bringing local realities to Canada's COVID-19 response. Securing vital investments for cities and communities of all sizes.

Municipal leaders from across the country have come together in a compelling new video to share what FCM's efforts have meant to them—and what local leaders can achieve when they work together.

This video is a must-watch.

FCM gets results because we bring together thousands of municipal leaders from coast-to-coast-to-coast. With our strong and united national voice, we will continue to support municipalities of all sizes through this pandemic—and position them at the heart of tomorrow's nationwide recovery.

WATCH THE VIDEO NOW



How to create a home energy upgrade financing program

Ready to improve home energy efficiency in your community? We have new funding available to help. Don't miss our free info session on Wednesday, March 24 at 1 p.m. ET to learn about this offer from FCM's Green Municipal Fund. Discover how efficiency financing programs can help achieve your community's sustainability objectives and help your residents improve the performance, comfort, and

affordability of their homes.

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

Advancing circular economy in Canadian municipalities

Is your community looking for more information on how to transition to a circular economy? Participants in the new [Circular Cities & Regions Initiative \(CCRI\)](#), a one-year pilot, will:

- receive one-on-one support while transitioning to a circular economy,
- connect with peers across the country, and
- hear from leading experts in the sector.

Register for [CCRI's kickoff webinar and information session](#) on Thursday, March 18, 2021, to learn more.



Celebrating International Women's Day

Today, we are celebrating women leaders in local government, both in Canada and around the world. We need women in leadership roles in order to achieve gender equality and open doors for women across all diversities. Together with local, national and international partners, we're developing strategies and tools to ensure that municipal councils are representative of the communities they serve.

[LEARN MORE](#)

National Day of Observance for COVID-19

The Government of Canada has announced that it is designating Thursday, March 11 as a National Day of Observance to commemorate the people who lost their lives and the significant impacts we have all felt because of COVID-19. Staying home and away from loved ones, and losing more than 22,000 Canadians to this virus, has made this a difficult year like no other in recent memory. FCM will be sharing social media posts across our channels on Thursday, thanking front-line workers, municipal staff, elected officials and volunteers.

[WATCH FOR OUR POSTS](#)

Celebrating six successful years in Ukraine

Last month, the Partnership for Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG) project in Ukraine held its final conference, Changing Cities: Achievements and Prospects. The online event highlighted the achievements of 16 Ukrainian partner cities in the areas of democratic governance, SME development and intergovernmental dialogue. FCM CEO Carole Saab addressed the conference and commended Ukrainian and Canadian partners for promoting principles of good governance, particularly the political and economic empowerment of women leaders.

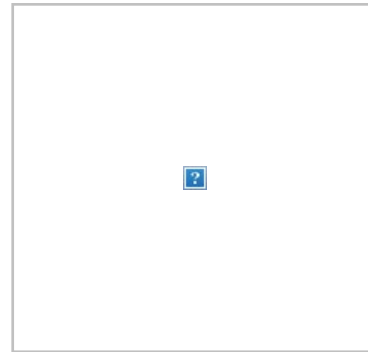
[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FCM'S WORK IN UKRAINE](#)



Telesat and Govt. of Canada partner to bridge Digital Divide

Affordable Internet connectivity has never been more important as all aspects of life – from Healthcare, Education and work to

connecting with family and friends – have become virtual. Telesat and the Canadian Government have partnered to affordably bridge the Digital Divide using Telesat’s next-generation Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite network, Telesat Lightspeed. This partnership dedicates affordable Internet connectivity to rural, Northern and Indigenous communities across Canada.



LEARN HOW TO GET YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTED



As part of FCM’s collaboration with Statistics Canada to improve access to local data and help build member capacity to use data on a regular basis, each week we will share updates and opportunities for you to learn more about relevant data and tools, including tailored webinars on important products.

Upcoming webinars

A series of webinars will be available to members over the coming year about key products and capabilities that support local, evidence-based policy decisions. The next webinar on Census 2021 will provide an overview of this critical product for municipalities, including new content to address emerging trends and issues. There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the webinar, so feel free to come prepared with questions. The session will be recorded except for the question and answer period, in case you are unable to join.

CLICK THE LINKS BELOW TO REGISTER

French: March 17 at 11:00 a.m. (ET) - [Registration link](#)

English: March 17 at 1:30 p.m. (ET) - [Registration link](#)

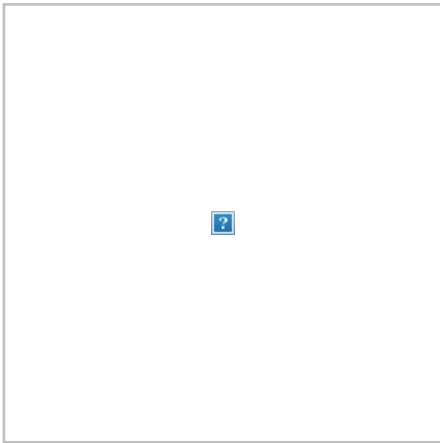


Mar 4: Cities and communities are all in this together. Hear from municipal leaders from across Canada, talking about the impact of FCM’s efforts throughout the #COVID19 pandemic—and about why it’s so important for #cdnmuni to remain united. Full video: <https://bit.ly/3ciWxrl> #cdnpoli

Mar 8: THREAD: It’s #IWD2021, and FCM salutes all of the women who work hard to make communities work: councillors, staff members, community workers, volunteers. You #ChooseToChallenge inequality and we are right here with you.

Mar 4: Great news. Low and zero emission public transit is a win-win for the economy and the environment. Investments in #publictransit keep Canadians moving + reduce GHGs. This is building better lives in communities. #cdnmuni #cdnpoli @cathmckenna @FP_Champagne

MORE



This newsletter was sent to
brock@townshipofbrock.ca.
To opt-out, follow this link: [Unsubscribe](#)

24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1N
5P3

T. 613-241-5221
F. 613-241-7440

[Privacy Policy](#)
[View email in your browser](#)



fcm.ca

From: [AMO Communications](#)
To: [Becky Jamieson](#)
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Municipal Councillor Code of Conduct Consultations
Date: March 8, 2021 3:11:35 PM

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)
 Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list

Date:	09/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

AMO Policy Update



March 8, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Municipal Councillor Code of Conduct Consultations

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, announced late Friday afternoon, March 5th, that the Province would [launch a consultation](#) on municipal Codes of Conduct for council members. The consultation will be led Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, Jill Dunlop, and will consider input from municipal councillors, staff, and associations.

AMO recognizes that enforcing behavioural standards for council members can be a challenging matter for many members to find consensus on. However, stronger standards and compliance are in the public interest. To frame the considerations from a municipal government perspective, AMO was asked to provide input to the Minister earlier this year. With the launch of the consultations, AMO is now providing its input to members today to help them consider options to strengthen Codes of Conduct.

The [AMO Board of Directors' recommendations](#) aim to strengthen existing tools for compliance with Codes of Conduct as well as provide some new tools for municipal governments to use in defined circumstances. In providing their input, AMO's Board expressed confidence in Codes of Conduct and the office of Municipal Integrity Commissioners as local tools to help councils maintain public accountability and agreed to by all council members upon assuming office.

The Board's recommendations are:

- amending the Municipal Act to allow for **Administrative Monetary Penalties** in Municipal Code of Conduct breaches to incentivize compliance – subject to regulation and a municipal by-law setting out appropriate penalty thresholds for the municipality;
- **suspension** of a council member for a certain period of time in defined circumstances that could negatively impact public health and safety;
- **removal from office** by a member of the Judiciary on the recommendation of an Integrity Commissioner where a report has found serious and/or repeated

breaches of Codes of Conduct; and

- better **training and standards for Integrity Commissioners** to improve capacity and consistency of decision-making across the province.

To provide context for AMO Board's recommendations, here is the background to this work. In December, Minister Clark requested that AMO consider providing advice to the Government on this subject. After conducting research and several robust discussions, AMO's Board of Directors adopted recommendations at its meeting in late January. Since that time, AMO staff has been working with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to provide input on next steps. With the public launch of this consultation AMO is providing members with the Board's advice to the Province.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



Please consider the environment
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)





Date:	12/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

When water makes contact with electrical systems, there is a risk of fire or electric shock that could seriously injure or kill you.

These safety steps could save your life, or the lives of first responders and utility people working in the area.

Stay safe during flooding season.

Who is the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA)?

The ESA is mandated by the Government of Ontario to enhance public electrical safety in the province.

We are driven by our belief that Ontario should be a province where people can live safe from electrical harm.



Learn more about ESA at
esasafe.com



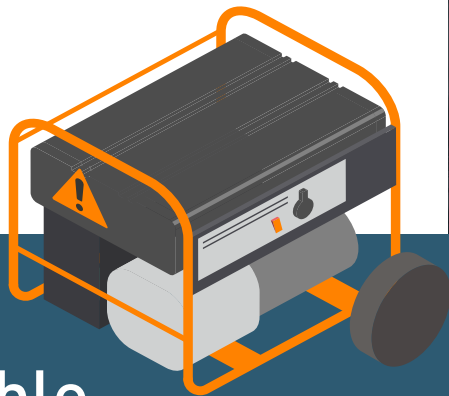
Water & Electricity Don't Mix

Tips to prepare and reduce the risk of electrical fire & shock during flooding.

esasafe.com/floodsafety

Evacuating ahead of flooding

- Unplug and move electrical appliances and devices out of your home or to an area above the expected level of flood water. Do not reuse products if they have been in contact with flood water;
- Prepare the outside of your home by unplugging and storing extension cords indoors above the potential flood line; and
- Watch out for downed powerlines in flood-affected areas. If you see one, stay back at least the length of a school bus or 10 metres and call 9-1-1 and your local electric utility to report it.



Portable generator safety

If flooding has occurred

- Do not enter your basement if the water is above electrical outlets, baseboard heaters, hot water tanks or furnace, or is near your electrical panel;
- Call your local electric utility immediately if the water has reached the level of the electrical outlets, baseboard heaters or your furnace, or is near the electrical panel. Arrange for them to disconnect power; and
- Ensure you have a Licensed Electrical Contractor make an assessment of your electrical system and repair or replace electrical outlets, wiring or devices that have been submerged by water. Ask your Contractor for the Certificate from ESA.



Never use a generator indoors; use it in a dry area outdoors and away from open doors, windows and vents; and

Returning home after a flood

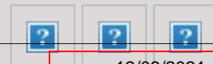
- Do not enter your basement if water has reached the level of the electrical outlets, baseboard heaters, furnace or electrical panel. Wait until your local electric utility disconnects the power;
- Do not go near any flooded outdoor appliances such as hot tubs and air conditioners; and
- If you need to make repairs to your home's electrical system, hire a Licensed Electrical Contractor. The contractor will confirm the system is safe to operate and advise ESA so that power can be safely restored to your home. Find a Licensed Electrical Contractor at [esasafe.com](https://www.esasafe.com).



Never connect portable generators to electrical appliances or wiring components that have been affected by flood water.

From: [Regional Municipality of Durham](#)
To: [Deby Jameson](#)
Subject: March 2021 - Agriculture & Rural Economic Development Newsletter
Date: March 10, 2021 9:01:23 AM

[If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.](#)



Date:	12/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	



Agriculture & Rural Economic Development Newsletter

March 2021 | Volume 10, Issue 2

In This Issue:

Made in Durham: Marcelle's Gluten-Free Kitchen

- Grown in Durham: Sargent Family Dairy
- Shop Durham Region Online Marketplace Goes Live
 - Farm 911 Project
 - Durham Farm Receives Prestigious Award
 - Canadian Agriculture Safety Week
 - All About Specialty Crops Workshop Series
 - Guide to Starting a Home-Based Food Business
 - Regional Council Continues to Push Forward with Broadband Strategy
 - Durham Region's Information Website for Temporary Foreign Worker Employers
 - Ontario's Commodity Loan Guarantee Program Sees Improvements
 - Meat and Poultry Ontario Study to Increase Processing Capacity and Efficiency
 - Ontario Launches Consultation for Greenbelt Expansion
 - Provide Your Comments as the Region Updates the Official Plan
 - Central Counties 2021 Business Support Program
 - Ontario Small Business Support Grant
 - Ontario's Main Street Relief Grant: PPE Support
 - Property Tax and Energy Cost Rebates
 - Greenbelt Funding Program
 - Upcoming Events

Made in Durham: Marcelle's Gluten-Free Kitchen

John Redman and his wife, Marcelle, always dreamt of using their Scugog farmland to feed others, but they wanted to do it their own way. In 2002, this dream became a reality when Marcelle's Gluten-Free Kitchen opened on land that has been in John's family since 1854.

The bakery has grown into a must-try spot for anybody with a love for baked goods. Specializing in gluten-free, vegan, keto and diabetic friendly products, Marcelle's Gluten-Free Kitchen has something for everyone. While pandemic induced restrictions have



taken an inevitable toll on the bakery, they were prepared as they have been selling online for more than six years.

Looking to mix it up in the kitchen this spring? Marcelle's Gluten-Free Kitchen in Port Perry offers more than 50 DIY baked good, dessert and flour mixes through their online store. Free shipping is available from coast-to-coast on all orders over \$50 and curbside pick-up is available for local customers. Want to leave the mixing to the professionals? Marcelle's also ships freshly made bread and muffins to southern Ontario customers.

To learn more, check out their [website](#).

Grown in Durham: Sargent Family Dairy

"Article submitted by the Sargent Family"

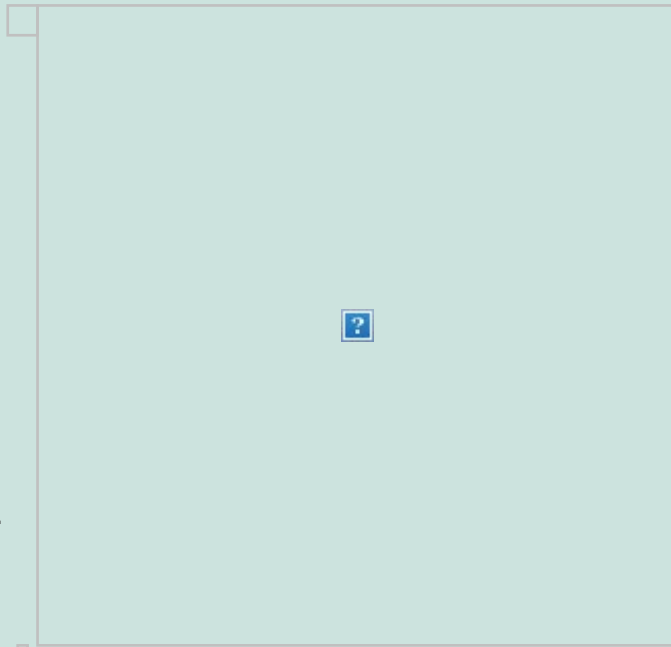
"Sargent Family Dairy, located in Enniskillen is founded on four generations of tradition; working with our cows, the land and mother nature to create great milk. We are excited to be opening our brand new on farm dairy processing facility in March. Soon our family will offer farm fresh bottled milk, pasture butter and an

assortment of cheese and curds from our Single Farm Reserve. All made with quality and taste in mind.

We want to revive the food lover's passion for traditional dairy flavours and quality. Pulling from tradition, we will be offering a variety of milks including 2%, 3.25% and chocolate in returnable glass bottles.

Customers will return their bottle for a deposit, which will help us reduce our regions usage of plastic. Local food production is a staple of the Durham economy and we cannot wait to join the community and support it in any way we can. Please email

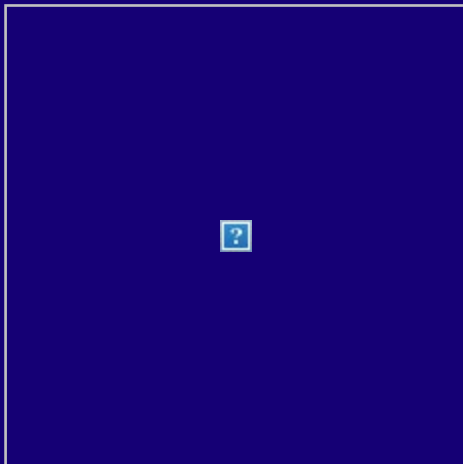
bruce@SargentFamilyDairy.ca for more information and retail opportunities."



-The Sargent Family

View their [website](#).

Shop Durham Region Online Marketplace Goes Live



The Region of Durham recently announced that the Shop Durham Region online marketplace is live. The multi-vendor e-store allows shoppers to purchase products from multiple Durham-based businesses in a single transaction from the safety of their own home.

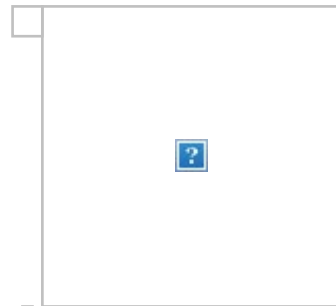
Shopping local has never been more important. Every purchase from a small business makes a big impact on

local families and local communities. Through this new online marketplace, residents can safely explore more than 600 local products in a single shopping experience and collect purchases through contactless pick-up—making it easy to support local and stay safe. More than 200 local businesses have joined Shop Durham Region thus far and continue to add products for sale on the site.

To start shopping or to join the marketplace as a vendor, visit ShopDurhamRegion.ca. Enhanced marketplace features will be rolled out in the coming weeks and months, including the ability to shop by vendor.

Farm 911 Project

The Farm 911 project, also known as the Emily Project, is launching across Durham Region. This program is providing secondary farm entrances, field entrances and vacant rural properties with 911 number signs. The goal of this project is to make it easier for emergency services to locate the site of an accident. Call your local municipal office for more information on how to get signs or visit farm911.ca



for more information.

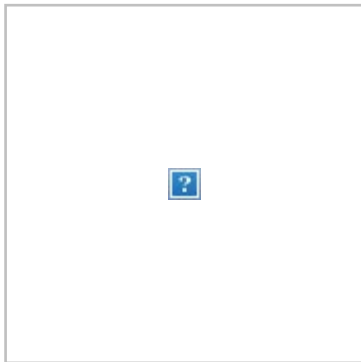
Durham Farm Receives Prestigious Award



Congratulations to the Barkey/Puterbough Family (Altona Lea Farms) who recently received their fourth Master Breeder Shield from Holstein Canada. This is truly an amazing accomplishment as they are recognized for having among the best ratios in the country for breeding cows, including production, confirmation, longevity, reproduction and health. They are one of only three farms in the country to be four-time recipients of the award. We are proud to say that of these three farms, two are located in the Region of Durham–Altona Lea and High Point Farm.

Congratulations Altona Lea Farms!

Canadian Agriculture Safety Week



Farming can be high-risk and dangerous—help to raise awareness for the importance of farm safety during Canadian Agriculture Safety week taking place from March 14 to 20. Let's do our part and help our farmers and families have a smooth and safe 2021. Visit the [Canadian Agricultural Safety Association](#) for resources, programs, training and more.

All About Specialty Crops Workshop Series

Throughout the month of January and early February, an All About Specialty Crops Workshop Series was offered virtually in partnership with Durham Farm Fresh, York Region, York Farm Fresh and the

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs. Thank you to all partners and participants. If you missed out and are interested in learning more about specialty crop production, hops, cannabis, hemp, specialty fruit and nuts, specialty herbs and or specialty vegetables, recordings are available online:

- [Overview of Specialty Crop Production](#)
- [Lavender, Hops, Cannabis and Industrial Hemp](#)
- [Specialty Fruit and Nuts](#)
- [Specialty Vegetables](#)

Guide to Starting a Home-Based Food Business



The Ontario Ministry of Health has assembled a guide for those interested in starting a small home-based food business. This guide outlines the low-risk food items that can be made and sold from home, and the requirements of public health. [Learn more.](#)

Regional Council Continues to Push Forward with Broadband Strategy

Durham Regional Council has approved the Regional Broadband Network report, outlining two applications for funding from the Province of Ontario and Federal Government of Canada. The Region's goal is to implement a

high-speed fibre network that will span 700 kilometres and connect all of Durham's hamlets.

The Region—in partnership with Oshawa Power Utilities Corporation (OPUC)—has developed a transformative project that will serve our rural and underserved communities; leveraging the existing fibre infrastructure of the Region and OPUC to extend broadband access across Durham.

The phased implementation of the network will be dependent on funding—expected to be announced in **April 2021**. If funding is allocated, residents can expect this phase of the project to begin this summer and be completed by 2024.

[Learn more.](#)

Durham Region's Information Website for Temporary Foreign Worker Employers



Durham Health has created a new webpage outlining information for temporary foreign worker and seasonal agriculture worker employers. Information on inspections, housing requirements, Spanish resources and more can be found [here](#).

Ontario's Commodity Loan Guarantee Program Sees Improvements

The Ontario Government is extending the repayment deadlines and

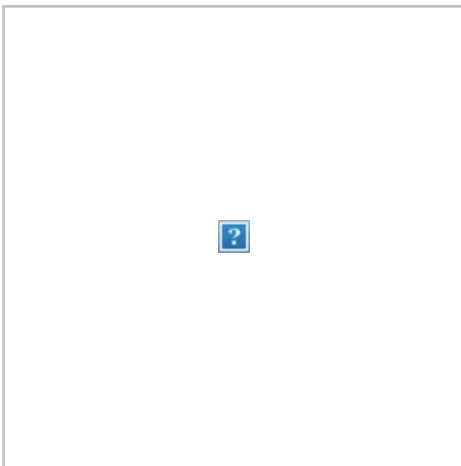
increasing the lending capacity of the Commodity Local Guarantee Program (CLGP). The loan repayment deadline extension is from February 28 to September 30. The extension aims to reduce the paperwork burden and resulting costs to farmers who would need to access other financing to transfer loans, and to better align with the growing season. The program guaranteed loan limit is increasing from \$120 to \$200 million.



CLGP gives farmers access to short-term operating loans to support the purchase of crop input supplies. Qualifying farmers can borrow up to \$750,000 under the program.

[Learn more](#) about the CLGP.

Meat and Poultry Ontario Study to Increase Processing Capacity and Efficiency



Meat and Poultry Ontario is conducting a study to reveal opportunities to increase meat processing capabilities. It is very clear that there is a huge demand for meat processing in the province that cannot currently be fulfilled. This study is looking into options which integrates skills development and technology to increase processing capacity. The provincial and federal governments have committed funding to support this project. Recently the Province of Ontario committed \$127,000 to support the research for the study.

Visit [Meat and Poultry Ontario](#) for more information.

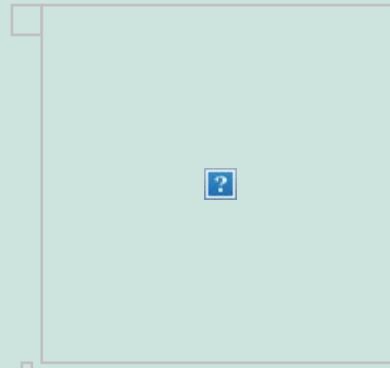
Ontario Launches Consultation for Greenbelt

Expansion

Ontario has opened a 60-day consultation period to receive comments on potentially expanding the Greenbelt. The government is looking for feedback on how to best increase the greenbelt size and quality. Areas under review include the Duffins Creeks and surrounding land in Ajax and Pickering.

Comments are accepted until April 19, 2021 by email to

GreenbeltConsultation@ontario.ca or through the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#). View the [press release](#).



Provide Your Comments as the Region Updates the Official Plan



The Durham Region Planning Department is currently reviewing and updating the Regional Official Plan, Envision Durham. Many key areas are being reviewed, including how to protect our land and resources, how and where our towns and cities grow, what housing and job opportunities are needed, and how people are moving across the region and beyond.

One of the six policy discussion papers being reviewed in the Official Plan is the Rural System. The planning department is looking for your feedback to inform the policy direction for this system. Feedback can be provided through an online survey until June 30.

Visit durham.ca/EnvisionDurham for more information.

Central Counties 2021 Business Support Program

[Central Counties Tourism \(CCT\)](#) is here to help tourism businesses in Durham Region through the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the Central Counties Tourism Business Support Program,



eligible businesses can apply to receive a 50 per cent reimbursement (to a maximum of \$15,000) for reasonable and necessary expenses that have allowed them to remain engaged with their customers. These include, but are not limited to:

- Implementation of health and safety protocols;
- Alterations to accommodate for social distancing (including expansion of patios);
- Purchase of PPE and cleaning supplies;
- Marketing and communications costs; and,
- Acquisition and implementation of digital tools.

[Apply now.](#)

Ontario's Small Business Support Grant

Small businesses required to close or significantly restrict services under the Provincewide Shutdown effective December 26, 2020 are highly encouraged to apply for the Ontario Small Business Support Grant. Small businesses who meet eligibility requirements will be entitled to a \$10,000 to \$20,000 grant to help cover decreased revenue. Eligibility requirements include:

- Forced to close or restrict services subject to the Provincewide Shutdown effective December 26, 2020;
- Have fewer than 100 employees at the enterprise level; and,
- Have experienced a minimum of 20% revenue decline comparing April 2020 to April 2019 (**Note:** New businesses established after April 2019 are also eligible provided they meet other eligibility requirements)

[Learn more.](#)

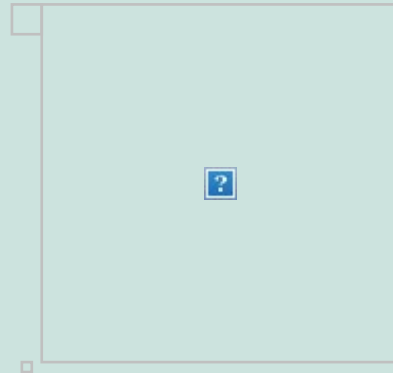
Ontario's Main Street Relief Grant: PPE Support

Small businesses with two to 19 employees and within one of the sectors identified below are eligible to receive a one-time grant of \$1,000 from the provincial government to help cover the unexpected costs of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Eligible sectors include:

- Retail
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Repair and Maintenance
- Personal and Laundry Services
- Gyms and Yoga Studios
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

[Learn more.](#)



Property Tax and Energy Cost Rebates

Small businesses that were required to close or significantly restrict services as a result of being under Control, Lockdown, Provincewide Shutdown or modified stage two restrictions may be eligible for property tax and energy cost rebates from the provincial government. Eligible businesses could get rebates for municipal and education property taxes, as well as energy costs in the form of grants. Funding

will cover the entire length of time that public health restrictions were in place for the applying business.

[Learn more.](#)



Greenbelt Funding Program

The Greenbelt Foundation is currently accepting applications for their Prosperous Greenbelt and Resilient Greenbelt streams. Projects of interest would address the impacts of the pandemic, urban



development pressures, climate change, natural systems and/or support local agriculture. For more details on eligibility and the application process, visit their [website](#).



Follow us on Twitter!



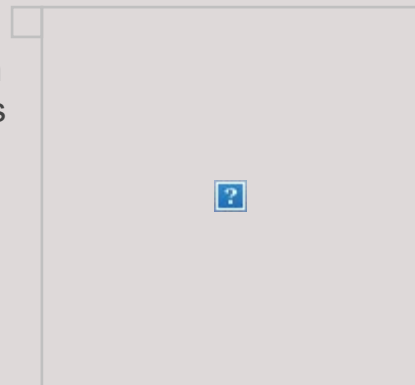
For more frequent updates on Durham Region success stories, resources, local news, fun facts and more, follow [@DurhamAgRural](#) on Twitter. #DurhamAg #NorthDurham

Upcoming Events

For a full listing of events and webinars, visit [InvestDurham/calendar](#).

North and Eastern Ontario Local Food Virtual Conference

Learn about the growing opportunities for local food systems at the North and Eastern Ontario Local Food Virtual Conference! This conference features four weekly virtual sessions discussing what we have learned from the global pandemic with regard to local food, agritourism challenges, solutions and opportunities, the resilience of local food throughout the value chain, and innovative local food systems. [Register](#) for this free conference.

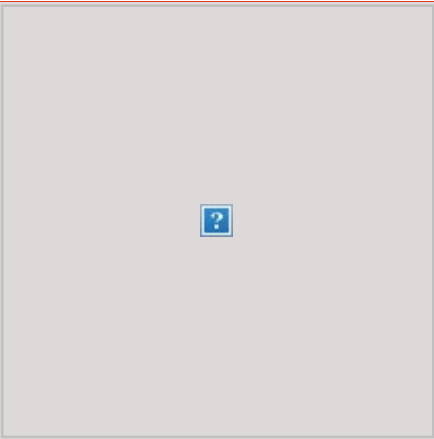


Agriculture Employer Summit

The Durham Workforce



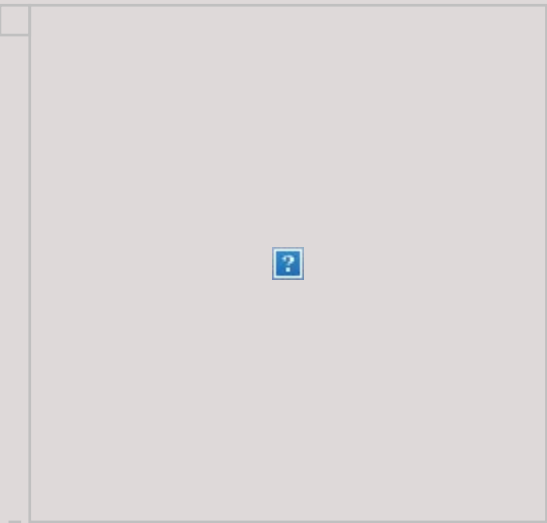
Authority (DWA) and Clarington Board of Trade are looking for Agricultural Employers from across the region to participate in their Agriculture Employer Summit on March 11 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. on Zoom. This summit will help inform DWA of the community's concerns related to the agriculture workforce including recruitment, retention, training, technology and more. This information will be used to support upcoming DWA agriculture labour projects.



To participate or if you wish to receive more information, please contact [Bonnie Wrightman](#).

Facebook Live Tours with Durham Region Farmers

Durham Region farmers will offer behind-the-scenes virtual farm tours throughout 2021. Each tour will be hosted by a farmer and will share a beyond-the-farm-gate view of many different types of farms. The Facebook Live tours will be broadcast live from the organizations Facebook page @DurhamFarmConnections and will be available for on-demand viewing after the broadcast for a period of one week.



Tours have been confirmed on many different types of farms including beef cattle, maple syrup, egg, greenhouse, field crop, dairy, apple orchard, sheep, peas and strawberries, hay, herb (specialty tea), wheat, apple cider, field vegetable and fruit, and a flower farm. More than 15 tours will be offered starting on March 18 at 3:30 p.m. and will continue until the end of 2021.

“Previously, Durham Farm Connections hosted a school program and open house each year welcoming 1,200 students and 1,000 visitors to Whitby’s Vipond Memorial Arena each April,” says Sandra Jibb, a

volunteer with the organization. “This virtual approach allows us to offer a new platform for engagement between farmers and those interested in speaking with a farmer.”

Durham Farm Connections is a sub-committee of the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture, an organization representing over 1100 farmers. Durham Farm Connections connects consumers, farmers and decision makers with opportunities to enhance knowledge, understanding, and to appreciate agriculture and food in Durham Region. Durham Farm Connections provides collaborative, innovative approaches to agricultural education.

For more information visit: DurhamFarmConnections.ca, email info@DurhamFarmConnections.ca or follow facebook.com/DurhamFarmConnections.

Contact Tracing Webinar with CANATRACE

Join Durham Farm Fresh on Thursday March 18 at 7:30 p.m. for a free webinar with CANATRACE!

CANATRACE (by GroundLevel Insights) is a Durham based company who provides a 100% free contact tracing platform for health screening. This platform can be used for employee and guest health screening with no app required. Users simply need to scan a QR code using the camera on their phone and are directed to a screening questionnaire.

Other features include:

- Trilingual options (French and Spanish)
- Custom logo and branding can be added to the questionnaire
- Health screening is automatically updated based on provincial guidelines and regional colour zone/restrictions
- Data can be exported to a spreadsheet
- Data is secure

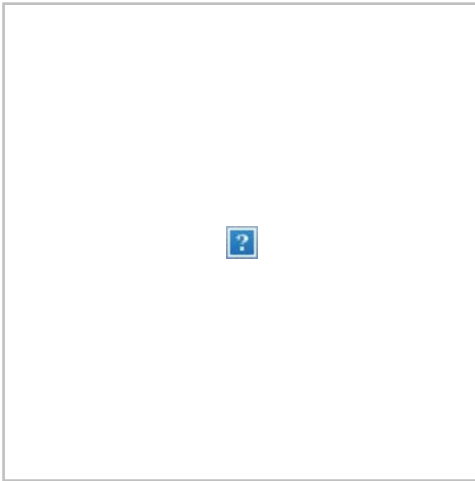
During the webinar you will learn more about this free platform and its applications, see first hand how the platform works and have the opportunity to ask questions directly to CANATRACE.

To register for this webinar, please contact Allison Brown, Allison.brown@durham.ca 905-439-1441. Visit their website [here](#).



Contact Us
Toll-free: 1-800-706-9857

Online: www.investdurham.ca



As a contact of the Region of Durham's Planning and Economic Development Department, you have been added to our mailing list. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please use the unsubscribe link located at the bottom of

this e-newsletter.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at 905-668-7711 ext. 2609 (toll-free at 1-800-706-9857).

Regional Municipality of Durham | 605 Rossland Road East, P.O.Box 623, Whitby, Ontario L1N 6A3
Canada

[Unsubscribe bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca](mailto:bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca)

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by agriculture@durham.ca

From: [CEO \(Metrolinx\)](#)
To: [Theresa Tran](#)
Subject: PRESTO contactless payment - UP Express
Date: March 10, 2021 12:01:54 PM

Date:	12/03/2021
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	cil
Copies to:	

Good afternoon,

I am writing today to share an important update on PRESTO contactless payment, which we are very excited about.

PRESTO contactless payment will bring another option to transit riders, offering more choice, ease and convenience. Customers will have the option of continuing to use their PRESTO card or they can choose to use their credit card, debit card or mobile wallet on their phone or watch to tap and go.

The first phase of implementation begins on March 11 with the launch of a PRESTO contactless payment pilot for credit on UP Express. Customers will be able to tap their credit card or use their mobile wallet and receive PRESTO's best adult fare pricing. The added offering of debit card functionality will arrive for UP Express customers later this spring. Both credit and debit options will be tested with customers to further enhance the payment experience and to inform the rollout across the region.

For a preview of what's to come, I encourage you to watch [this video](#) showcasing what the contactless payment experience will look like on UP Express.

This is a significant customer milestone, and we look forward to bringing this experience to your region as we work together to deliver modernized PRESTO fare payment services.

Contactless payment isn't the only great advancement coming to PRESTO. We've taken advantage of the last year to work closely with our transit agency partners to enhance the PRESTO experience in a way that reflects their needs and the needs of their customers. As a result of this collaboration, we're prioritizing the delivery of new and contactless payment options and enhancements, with ridership recovery at the forefront.

In the last year Metrolinx has:

- Worked together with our partners to **introduce new PRESTO payment devices** across 905 transit agencies, GO Transit and UP Express, **setting the stage for PRESTO contactless payment** which will give our customers more freedom by providing a seamless, easy and convenient way to pay their fare and travel around the region.
- **Accelerated the E-Tickets App** with integrated journey planning on Durham Region Transit and Hamilton Street Railway - nearly a year ahead of schedule! E-Tickets give customers a convenient and contactless way to pay using their mobile devices.
- **Delivered significant PRESTO customer enhancements** including the removal of the 25 cent overdraft fee, immediate balance protection for registered PRESTO users, reduction of the minimum card load on the PRESTO website and App from \$10 to 5 cents, faster more streamlined PRESTO account registration, and full instant load capabilities on the PRESTO app – all helping to boost PRESTO customer satisfaction to 81%.

We are all looking forward to the return of our customers to transit, and we're eager to deliver an improved PRESTO experience.

We look forward to continuing to work together to connect transportation throughout the Greater Golden Horseshoe. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Theresa Tran at theresa.tran@metrolinx.com.

Keep Well,

Phil Verster
President & CEO

This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete all copies of the e-mail together with any attachments.