

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
January 31, 2024



Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2024 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

The next Regional Council meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, February 8, 2024**.

January 24, 2024

Connecting Children and Youth to Mental Health Care Close to Home



- The Ontario government is investing an additional **\$44.6M** to boost pediatric mental health services across the province, as part of a larger **\$330M** yearly increase in pediatric health services.
- The funding is aimed at expanding community-based intensive-care services, innovative virtual counseling, transition programs, and training for clinicians, aiming to enhance access and reduce wait times.
 - Over 100 high-priority initiatives are being quickly implemented across Ontario to ensure children and youth in every corner of the province can connect to emergency care, surgeries, ambulatory services, diagnostic imaging, and mental health services.

January 25, 2024

Expansion of Brampton's A. Grenville and William Davis Courthouse

- The Ontario government is completing the expansion of the Brampton courthouse by investing **\$117M**, which includes:
 - Six additional floors with 18 additional hearing rooms: 13 courtrooms, three settlement conference spaces and two pre-trial rooms for the Superior Court of Justice and Ontario Court of Justice.
 - Upgraded security features, including courtrooms built for trials involving multiple accused persons and remote testimony spaces.
 - Improved accessibility spaces such as barrier-free witness stands and specialized seating for jury members.



January 26, 2024

Taking Action to Improve Integrity of Postsecondary Education

- The Provincial government is introducing measures to protect students and improve the integrity of Ontario's postsecondary education. This includes:
 - Measures for Colleges and Universities
 - Institute a review of programs that have a sizeable amount of international students to ensure that program quality protects Ontario's reputation as a world leader in education and meets labour market demands.
 - Ensure that programs being offered are meeting the needs of the labour market.
 - Introduce a moratorium on new public college-private partnerships while further work is done to strengthen oversight mechanisms.
 - Implement measures to improve the response rate to student outcome surveys that will help ensure the best academic outcomes are being achieved.
 - **Require all colleges and universities to have a guarantee that housing options are available for incoming international students.**



January 26, 2024

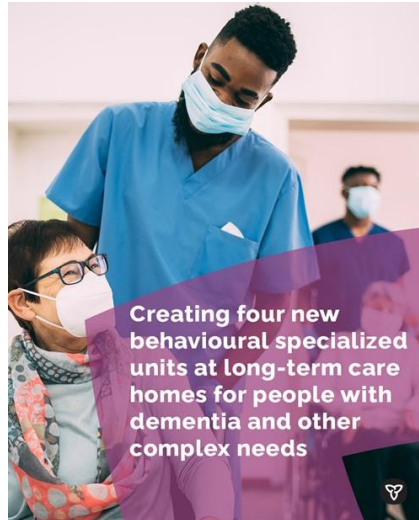
Taking Action to Improve Integrity of Postsecondary Education (Cont'd)



- The Provincial government will introduce measures to protect students and improve the integrity of Ontario's postsecondary education. This includes:
 - Measures for Career Colleges:
 - Better integrate enforcement efforts across Ministries to strengthen oversight of career colleges, including enhanced data management, documentation processes, and the efficacy of compliance investigations, ensuring timely responses to concerns and complaints.
- The Provincial government will also work with sector partners and the Federal government to explore ways to further crack down on bad-actor recruiters who take advantage of international students.

January 29, 2024

Three New Specialized Units for People with Dementia and Other Complex Needs



- The Ontario government is investing **\$5.5M** to create three new Behavioural Specialized Units (BSUs) at long-term care homes in Brampton, Etobicoke, and Timmins, as well as increasing funding to all 21 specialized units across the Province.
- The new BSU investments includes **\$1,027,200 for a 26-bed BSU at Peel Manor in Brampton.**
- These units within long-term care homes specialize in care for individuals with complex behaviours as a result of cognitive conditions like dementia by providing increased staffing, a tailored environment, focused behavioural assessment and enhanced care planning.

January 24, 2024

Funding for Research Projects to Strengthen Infrastructure and Housing

- The federal government announced an investment of nearly **\$6M** for twelve projects under the Research and Knowledge Initiative's first call for proposals.
- Through this initiative, the federal government is providing funding to eligible applicants for research projects that tackle housing and infrastructure challenges.
- The initiative provides funding to support all orders of government and communities across Canada to mobilize new ideas and practices, and to take practical actions.



Update

February 13, 2024

FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show 2024



- FCM's 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show and Canada's largest pan-Canadian gathering of elected officials will be taking place from June 6 – 9, 2024 in Calgary, Alberta.
- This year's theme will be ***Redefining our Future***. AC 2024 will explore how we can prepare for a future that empowers municipalities to provide the essential quality of life and services that Canadians depend on.
- Registration for the conference will be opening on February 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

January 22, 2024

Councillor Palleschi Appointed as Chair of the Credit Valley Conservation Board of Directors

- Regional Councillor Michael Palleschi was acclaimed as Chair of Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) at the inaugural 2024 board meeting held on Friday, January 19.
- He has been a member of CVC's Board of Directors since 2015 and this marks his first term as Chair.
- The CVC board consists of 12 municipal representatives from member municipalities within the Credit River Watershed.



THANK YOU!

