

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
March 20, 2024



Regional Council Meeting

Thursday, March 21, 2024 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

11.2 Asylum Claimant Sustainable Response Model (Recommendation)

Summary:

- The report provides an update on Regional advocacy efforts and development of a sustainable, person-centred model to better support asylum claimants, featuring a Regional Reception Centre for intake and assessment, coordinated exits to other municipalities, alongside dedicated shelter facilities for targeted support.

Staff Comments:

- The City supports the Region in the ongoing efforts related to advocacy and need for adequate resources to provide the necessary supports for asylum seekers arriving in Peel.
- The City works with newcomer agencies to support a smoother transition of individuals into the community.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

11.4 Strategic Housing and Homelessness Committee (SHHC) (Recommendation)

Summary:

- The SHHC was created in 2018, with the mandate to advise and provide strategic recommendations regarding the implementation of the five strategies of the Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan. In 2022, Regional Council approved the disbandment of the SHHC.
- The report recommends that the SHHC not be reinstated, as several reports with significant policy and financial implications are brought directly to Regional Council as opposed to the SHHC. In addition, the housing crisis is a priority for all levels of government, which requires the awareness and involvement of all members of Regional Council.

Staff Comments (Planning, Government Relations):

- City staff agree with the Regional staff recommendation and support collaborative engagement by the Regional Council on housing and homelessness initiatives and advocacy.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

15.2 2023 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses (For Information)

Summary:

- The Region of Peel 2023 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses is a statutory report which lists the remuneration and expenditures paid to or on behalf of current and former Members of Council and their appointees during the 2023 calendar year.
- The term allowance for business expenses in the amount of \$26,660 will increase to \$27,560 in 2024 for each Member of Council for the four-year period.

Staff Comments (Corporate Services):

- The Statement of Remuneration and Expenses is a statutory report, a requirement as per Section 284(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.
- The City of Brampton 2023 Statement of Remuneration and Expenses will be shared with Committee of Council on March 20, 2024.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

17.5 Water and Wastewater Housing Enabling Infrastructure Procurement Strategies to Support Bill 23 (Recommendation)

Summary:

- The report provides an update on ongoing efforts, challenges, and proposed strategies for infrastructure planning.
- The adoption of Bill 23 and housing pledges have expedited infrastructure demands, prompting swift actions, as evidenced by significant increases in the 2024 Water and Wastewater Capital budget to meet growth projections.
- Implementation of the first phase of the Program Management alternative delivery model is in progress, necessitating new procurement and policy changes, with the new Master Plan's completion aimed for 2025 to fully address Bill 23's infrastructure requirements.

Staff Comments (Planning, Government Relations):

- The City continues to work and advocate with the province for adequate funding to support and enable the implementation of Bill 23 and to meet the necessary infrastructure needs related to Brampton's housing pledge.

Staff Recommendation:

- Support the recommendation.

20.1 Motion Regarding Collaborative Approach to Address Speeding, Traffic Calming, and Street Racing on Regional and Local Roads

- (Introduced by Councillor Santos)
- Motion calls for advocacy with the Province for changes to the Highway Traffic Act which would allow municipalities to install Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Cameras outside of Community Safety Zones and School Zones, with legislative changes to include doubled speeding fines, and introduction of escalating sanctions for repeat offenders.

20.2 Motion Regarding Region of Peel Encampment Policy Protocols

- (Introduced by Councillor Santos)
- Motion calls on Peel to join the advocacy efforts by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)) to the federal government to deliver a housing and homelessness plan in consultation with municipalities and that the Region advocate to the Federal government to provide allocation-based funding attached to each asylum seeker arriving in Peel.

February 27, 2024

Provincial Support for Local Non-Profit Community Services

Ontario Trillium Foundation



- The province announced more than **\$26M** in grant funding to support **251** local projects at non-profit organizations across the province through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) *Resilient Communities Fund*.
- The *Resilient Communities Fund* was created in August 2020 to help Ontario's non-profit organizations address pandemic-related challenges so they could continue to provide local services.
- To date, the fund has provided **3,299** projects with **\$294M** in support. This includes various local organizations in Brampton including:
 - Down Syndrome Association of Peel (DSAP)
 - Mental and Emotional Health Awareness Renaissance (MEHAR)
 - Roots Community Services Inc.
 - Help A Girl Out
 - Brampton Ontario Speed Skaters (BOSS)

March 1, 2024

Expansion of the Ontario Electricity Support Program



- The province is expanding the income eligibility for the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) by up to **35%** to support **100,000** additional families across the province.
 - Households eligible for the OESP can receive credits of **\$35 to \$75** through the program, depending on household size.
 - Higher monthly credits between **\$52 to \$113** are available to customers who are Indigenous, living with Indigenous family members, using electric heating, or using certain electricity-intensive medical devices.
- In addition to the OESP, the Ontario Electricity Rebate (OER) keeps electricity bills for families and small business affordable.
 - Last fall, the on-bill OER was increased from **11.7% to 19.3%** – reducing a typical household's electricity bill by a total of **\$26** each month – or **\$312** a year.

March 4, 2024

Provincial Support for Wetlands in Brampton



- The province is investing over **\$2.5M** in a project led by the City of Brampton to enhance key wetland areas in the Etobicoke Creek watershed through the MECP Wetlands Conservation Partner Program.
- This project is in partnership with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), which will take place in four locations including Loafer's Lake and Park and Conservation Drive Park.
 - Through this project, Brampton will plant over 6,500 native trees and other vegetation, manage invasive species and enhance wetland habitat.
 - When complete, new features at Loafers Lake will include improved shoreline habitat, viewing platforms, interpretive signage, a bio-swale and trail realignment to support flooding protection.

2024 Provincial Budget

- The Ontario government will present Budget 2024 on **Tuesday March 26, 2024**.
- The City provided the government with a formal pre-budget submission that focused on:
 - Critical infrastructure
 - Transit
 - Housing
 - Health care
- Members of Council met with Brampton Members of Provincial Parliament to discuss the City's priorities.



March 11, 2024

Canada and Ontario Commit to Collaboration on Shared Nature Conservation Goals



- The federal government announced an investment of nearly **\$10M** over three years to support the expansion of protected areas in the province. The agreement will see the addition of new — or expansion of existing — protected areas, including provincial parks and conservation reserves across Ontario.
- This funding will allow the province to expedite protection of forests, wetlands, and other ecologically sensitive areas including the protection of acquired land in central and southern Ontario.

2024 Federal Budget

- The federal government will present Budget 2024 on **Tuesday April 16, 2024**.
- The City provided the government with a formal pre-budget submission that focused on:
 - Critical infrastructure
 - Transit
 - Housing
 - Climate action
- Members of Council met with Brampton Members of Parliament to discuss the City's priorities.



March 7, 2024

Roshel Invests \$65M in Brampton

- Roshel Inc., one of North America's largest manufacturers of smart armoured vehicles for commercial and government organizations, is investing more than **\$65M** in a new global headquarters and production facility in Brampton bringing an additional **500 advanced manufacturing jobs** to the City.
- The 140,000 square-foot facility will house painting, welding and mechanical work as well as the company's research and development division.





THANK YOU!

