

Government Relations Matters

City Council
September 25, 2024



Region of Peel

Regional Council



Regional Council

Thursday, September 26, 2024 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

September 19, 2024

Ontario Releases 2023-24 Public Accounts

The release indicates that the Province is continuing to invest in infrastructure, health care and education.



- The Ontario government released the 2023-24 Public Accounts, which provide the final audited financial results of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.
- Public Accounts show that annual revenues increased by \$13 billion from the previous year and total investments of \$195.2 billion across all programs.
- Infrastructure investments increased by 22.9 percent, to a total of \$23.6 billion, to build more roads, highways, public transit, hospitals, schools, and other community infrastructure.
- Health sector program spending increased by 8.9 percent to \$85.5 billion, continuing to connect people to the care they need closer to home.

The Ontario government recorded a **\$0.6 billion** deficit for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024, compared to a forecasted deficit of **\$1.3 billion** in the 2023 Budget.

September 19, 2024

Ontario Investing in Indigenous Businesses and Entrepreneurs

New funding advancing economic growth through increased support for employment and training opportunities.

- The Ontario government is providing \$9.2 million in grants and funding to Indigenous entrepreneurs, businesses, communities, and organizations to support lasting economic prosperity.
- The Indigenous Economic Development Fund (IEDF) and the Indigenous Community Capital Grants Program (ICCGP) are annual funds that support recipients across the province to develop infrastructure, create growth plans and provide employment services to help strengthen Indigenous communities and local economies.



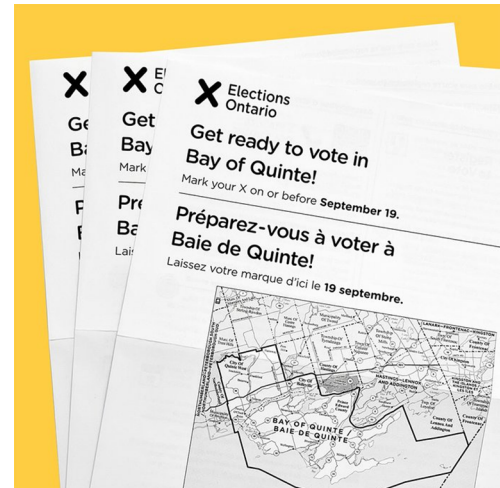
The **IEDF** provides grants and financing, through the Economic Diversification and Regional Partnership grant streams, to Indigenous entrepreneurs, businesses, communities, and organizations for projects that diversify Indigenous economies and provide access to training opportunities. The **ICCGP** funds the development of community capital projects that contribute to a sustainable social base and support economic participation in Indigenous communities, both on and off reserve.

Updates

September 19, 2024

By-election for Bay of Quinte

- A provincial by-election has been called for electoral district of Bay of Quinte.
- Voting day was Thursday September 19, 2024.



Unofficial Results:				
Candidate	Political Party	Number of votes	% of votes	Margin
ALLSOPP, TYLER	PC Party of Ontario	14,430	38.69%	2,002
KELLY, SEAN	Ontario Liberal Party	12,428	33.32%	
ROBERTSON, AMANDA	Ontario NDP/NPD	8,607	23.08%	

A provincial by-election has been called following resignation of Todd Smith, former Minister of Education and Member of Provincial Parliament for Bay of Quinte.

September 19, 2024

Federal Government Announces Mini Cabinet Shuffle

- Pablo Rodriguez stepped down as transport Minister and the government's Quebec political lieutenant to run for the provincial Liberal Party's leadership.
- Treasury Board President Anita Anand got promoted to dual roles in the Prime Minister's cabinet.



The Cabinet Shuffle did not result in any change to Brampton or Peel Region representation at the Federal Cabinet table.

September 18, 2024

Further Changes to Temporary Residence Programs

- The federal government announced additional measures to manage the volume of temporary resident arrivals. This includes:
 - In 2025, new international student study permits will be reduced by 10% from the 2024 target of 485,000. That will mean 437,000 permits issued next year, with that same target continuing into 2026.
 - Updating the Post-Graduation Work Permit Program this fall to better align with immigration goals and labour market needs.
 - Limiting work permit eligibility, later this year, to spouses of master's degree students to only those whose program is at least 16 months in duration.
 - Limiting work permit eligibility, later this year, to spouses of foreign workers in management or professional occupations or in sectors with labour shortages — under Canada's work permit programs (TFWP and IMP).



Staff remain engaged with stakeholders to monitor impacts on affected groups, including international students. The City remains committed to advocacy work towards enhancing housing and support for International Students in Brampton.

September 18, 2024

Federal Government Announces Next Steps to Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program

- The federal government announced next steps to the TFW Program effective September 26, 2024:
 - The 10% employer cap on temporary foreign workers under the Low-wage Stream of the TFW Program will apply across Canada. An exception will be made for employers seeking to fill labour shortages in the healthcare, construction, and food processing sectors, which will be permitted to keep a 20% cap.
 - All Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs) approved for Low-wage Stream positions will be limited to a work duration of a maximum of one year, except for occupations under the Primary Agriculture Stream.
 - The Refusal to Process (RTP) policy will apply to all Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) with an unemployment rate of over 6%. An exception will be made for employers seeking to fill labour shortages in the healthcare, construction, and food processing sectors.



A reduction in TFWs may impact the existing labour shortages and impact cost of labour. Brampton's Economic Development Office continues to work closely with companies and businesses to better understand any potential impacts from this change.

September 22, 2024

Federal Government Announces Next Steps to Address Homelessness

- The federal government announced that they will negotiate agreements and invest in any province or territory who will cost-match the federal government's funding to support communities facing the most pressure.
- The government is allocating **\$250M**, as outlined in Budget 2024, to address the urgent issue of encampments and unsheltered homelessness.
- This funding is intended to be cost-matched by provinces and territories, leveraging up to **\$500M** to provide more shelter spaces, transitional homes, and services to help those in encampments find housing.



The Government of Canada will negotiate agreements with provincial and territorial governments on the roll-out of this funding, including the selection of communities.

The City of Brampton continues to advocate to the federal and provincial governments for equitable funding that will address the rise in encampments and addressing the homelessness crisis. The City has been actively participating in advocacy efforts by sector associations including the FCM, AMO and OBCM.

THANK YOU!

