

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
October 1, 2025



Region of Peel

Regional Committees



Health System Integration Committee

Thursday, 2 October 2025 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available here.

Emergency Management Program Committee

Thursday, 2 October 2025 @ 11:00 AM | Meeting agenda is available here.

Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thursday, 2 October 2025 @ 1:30 PM | Meeting agenda is available here.

5.4 Strengthening Peel's Community Connection through the Community Response Table (For Information)

Summary:

- The report outlines the role and contributions of Peel's Community Response Table (CRT) in advancing community partnerships and regional preparedness.
- Building on the pandemic experience, the CRT continues to evolve into a proactive, system-focused collective. Informed by evaluation findings and feedback from members, the CRT supports identification of emerging issues early, fosters collaboration, and supports coordinated responses to changing community needs.

City Staff Comments (Community Services):

- Staff have participated at Peel's Community Response Table since its inception during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Staff continue to remain engaged for an increased awareness and understanding of systems challenges and community needs.

City Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report

September 26, 2025

Ontario 2024-25 Public Accounts

Ontario released the 2024-25 Public Accounts, which provide the final audited financial results of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025.

Highlights:

- \$1.1 billion deficit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025 (Budget 2024 forecasted deficit of \$9.8 billion)
- \$212.1 billion spent across all programs - an 8.7 per cent (or \$16.9 billion) increase in program spending year-over-year
- \$226.2 billion in total revenue - \$17.2 billion or 8.2 per cent higher than the previous fiscal year.
- Infrastructure expenditures also increased nearly 24 per cent, continuing the trend of over 20 per cent increases year-over-year



The government has announced that the Fall Economic Statement (FES) will be tabled on November 15, 2025. The FES will provide further insight into government's spending priorities and upcoming policy initiatives.

September 26, 2025

Ontario Implementing Hiring Freeze for Provincial Agencies

The province is implementing a hiring freeze across Ontario’s provincial agencies, boards and commission public bodies.

The freeze reflects a similar policy that has been in place in the OPS since 2018.

As part of the announcement the government indicated that since 2018, as part of provincial efforts to increase efficiency and support effective government services, Ontario has reduced the number of provincial agencies from 191 to 143.

The province will work with its agencies, boards and commission public bodies to ensure their human resource strategies align with this direction



The Fall Economic Statement (FES) may provide further insight into government’s spending priorities and upcoming policy initiatives.

September 25, 2025

Banning Municipal Speed Cameras

- The Ontario government intends to introduce legislation next month that will ban the use of municipal automated speed enforcement cameras across the province.
- If passed, this legislation will prevent the use of municipal speed cameras in Ontario immediately upon Royal Assent.
- The province will also introduce requirements for municipalities with existing speed cameras in school zones to install large new signs to slow down drivers by mid-November 2025, with permanent, large signs with flashing lights to be in place by September 2026.
- The province will establish a new provincial fund to help affected municipalities implement alternative safety measures, including proactive traffic-calming initiatives like speed bumps, roundabouts, raised crosswalks and curb extensions, as well as public education and improved signage, to slow down drivers.



City staff are engaged with the provincial government and Association of Municipalities of Ontario actively advocating for the viability of the ASE program.

September 26, 2025

Regulatory Proposals under the Proposed Geologic Carbon Storage Act

Regulatory Proposals under the Proposed Geologic Carbon Storage Act

We are seeking feedback on the development of proposed regulations that the ministry is considering introducing under the proposed Geologic Carbon Storage Act, 2025, if passed by the Legislature.

Ontario 
Ontario Regulatory Registry

On May 27, 2025, Ontario reintroduced the proposed Geologic Carbon Storage Act (GCSA) as part of Bill 27, Resource Management and Safety Act, 2025. Consultation on the proposed GCSA took place between November 2024 and January 2025 (ERO #019-9299).

If passed, the proposed GCSA would create a legislative framework to enable the safe, responsible, and permanent storage of carbon dioxide at a commercial scale while protecting public safety, the environment and other land and resource uses.

Details of the proposed regulations currently under consolidation (25-MNRF006), include:

- Where carbon storage activities and research and evaluation activities could occur.
- Qualifications for responsible operators.
- How rights to pore space could be obtained.
- The processes for applying for and obtaining licences and permits
- Operational and other requirements throughout the carbon storage projects' lifecycle, including amending or transferring a permit, insurance and financial assurance requirements, applicable operational standards, compliance reviews, monitoring, measurement and verification plans and other plans and programs, as well as record keeping, reporting and closure requirements.
- Fees, including those related to applications, the use of Crown Land and annual payments to a Carbon Storage Stewardship Fund.

City staff are in the process of submitting comments to the Ministry, seeking more clarity and information on environmental risks and more importantly Municipal role in permitting, rights and influence on Official Plans. City is also recommending collaborative workshops or feedback sessions with municipalities/public bodies, before enactment of the legislation. The City's draft submission is attached to the presentation.



September 29, 2025

Canada Lists the Bishnoi Gang as a Terrorist Entity

- The Government of Canada has listed the Bishnoi Gang as a terrorist entity under the Criminal Code.
- As listed entity, the Bishnoi Gang has met the definition of a “terrorist group” under Canada’s Criminal Code. A terrorist listing means anything owned by that group in Canada, property, vehicles, money can be frozen or seized and gives Canadian law enforcement more tools to prosecute terrorist offences, including those related to financing, travel and recruitment.
- The Criminal Code listing can also be used by immigration and border officials to inform decisions on admissibility to Canada under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

In June 2025, the Mayor and Members of Council wrote the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Safety, requesting that the Government of Canada designate the Bishnoi gang as a terrorist entity due to criminal activity, including violence and widespread extortion schemes targeting South Asian business owners in the Region of Peel. Designating the Bishnoi gang as a terrorist entity would empower law enforcement with critical tools to investigate, disrupt, and dismantle their operations.

September 25, 2025

Canada Post National Strike

On September 25th, the federal government has instructed Canada Post to begin transformation.

Transformation is to ensure the survival of Canada Post and protect the services Canadians rely on.

Based on the May 15, 2025, report by the Industrial Inquiry Commission, the federal government announced a series of measures to stabilize the corporation's finances and enable its modernization through:

- Adjusting standards so that non-urgent mail can move by ground instead of air, the corporation will save more than \$20 million per year.
- Authorizing the corporation to convert the remaining 4 million addresses with door-to-door delivery to community mailboxes, generating close to \$400 million in annual savings.
- Developing a plan to modernize and right-size its postal network.

The announced measures are to help place the corporation on a stronger financial footing and provide the flexibility it needs to adapt to a rapidly changing environment.

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) has launched a national strike following the government announcement on Canada Post's transformation.

Mail and parcels will not be processed or delivered for the duration of the national strike, and some post offices will be closed. Service guarantees are suspended for items already in the postal network. No new items will be accepted until the national disruption is over. The City will issue a Service & Information Update to provide public awareness on the service impacts to City mailings.



September 26, 2025

AMO's Response to the Planned Automated Speed Enforcement Ban

- AMO voiced disappointment in the recent provincial announcement of an intention to prohibit the use of municipal speeding cameras, highlighting that ASE cameras have a proven record of increasing road safety, freeing up police to focus on other crimes, and are paid for by speeders, not taxpayers.
- AMO described the decision as a provincial over-reach.
- AMO will advocate against the ban.
- AMO will continue to engage with the Ministry of Transportation, sharing our sector's concerns about a province-wide municipal ban and offering advice on potential program improvements. We will also provide comments to the Bill's Standing Committee.
- AMO's goal is to advocate for working with the province to improve – not ban – the ASE program.

AMO committed to further advocacy against the ban. It will also gather data from municipalities to quantify the ban's financial impact. This data will be used to request that the province fund the costs.



THANK YOU!

 **BRAMPTON**