



# AGENDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
Council Chambers  
Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** A Closed Session will commence at the end of the meeting.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
4. **Delegations/Presentations**
  - (a) **Delegations**
    - (i) S. Sgt. LaLonde, Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment re: Annual Report
    - (ii) Blair Ballantyne, President, Kearney Lions Club re: [Request for donation for Lions Christmas Telethon](#)
  - (b) **Presentations**
    - (i) Chris Bevan, Kennedy Insurance Brokers re: 2022 Municipal Insurance
5. **Minutes**
  - (a) **Adoption of Minutes**
    - (i) **Regular Meeting**, [Draft Minutes](#) – October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021; [Public Meeting draft Minutes](#) - October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021; [Special Meeting draft Minutes](#) - November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and [Special Meeting draft Minutes - November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021](#)
  - (b) **Receive Committee Minutes**
    - (i) **Joint Waste Management Committee** re: [Draft Minutes – October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021](#)
    - (ii) **Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee** re: [Minutes – November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021](#).
6. **Committee Resolutions for Consideration** - Nil
7. **Public Meetings (Pursuant to the *Planning Act*)** - Nil
8. **Public Meetings (Pursuant to the *Municipal Act*)** - Nil
9. **Unfinished Business** - Nil
10. **Reports and By-laws**
  - (a) **Building** - Nil
  - (b) **Planning**
    - (i) **Ontario Land Tribunal** re: [Decision Case No. PL190404 - Heise](#)
  - (c) **Operations**
    - (i) **Transfer Station Report** – [for the period October 28, 2021 to November 16, 2021](#)
    - (ii) **Report and Resolution** re: [Hwy 518 snow removal operations](#)
    - (iii) **Report and Resolution** re: [Ahola's Road snow removal operations](#)
    - (iv) **Report and Resolution** re: [Echo Ridge/Lawson/Sunrise Intersection](#)
    - (v) **Discussion and Direction** re: 33 Regent Street

**(d) Administration**

- (i) **Letter and Resolution re:** [Applicants for Kearney & Area Public Library Board](#)
- (ii) **Discussion and Resolution re:** Christmas Lights Contest
- (iii) **Discussion and Resolution re:** A visit from Santa/Christmas Tree Lighting

**(e) Treasury**

- (i) **Report and Resolution re:** [Payment Register](#)

**(f) Fire and Emergency Services**

- (i) **Report re:** [Fire Chief, Fire Department Report for Regular Council Meeting on November 19, 2021](#)
- (ii) **Report and Resolutions re:** New Firefighters

**(g) Facilities and Buildings - Nil**

**(h) Council Presentations**

- (i) **Mayor Ballantyne, discussion and Plan re:** Public Access to Municipal Buildings

**11. Correspondence**

**(a) Action Items**

- (i) **Village of Burk's Falls re:** [Supporting Start Up Cost to Bring Physiotherapy to Almaguin Highlands](#)
- (ii) **CUPE re:** [Concerns with OMERS' investment performance](#)
- (iii) **Town of LaSalle re:** [COVID-19 Testing Requirement at Land Border](#)

**(b) Information Items**

- (i) **Almaguin Highlands Health Council re:** [Draft Minutes – November 5, 2021](#); [Key Areas of Focus & Progress – November 2021](#)
- (ii) **North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit re:** [Public Health Funding for 2022](#)
- (iii) **Kearney Watershed Environmental Foundation re:** [October 2021 Newsletter](#)

**12. Other Business - Nil**

**13. Closed Session**

Council will enter into a Closed Session for discussion regarding:

- (a) *labour relations or employee negotiations (x5)*

**14. Business Arising from Closed Session**

**15. Confirming By-Law**

**By-Law 2021-xx** being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its Special Meeting held on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021; its Special Meeting held on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021; and at its Regular Meeting held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**16. Adjournment**



# Town of Kearney

8 Main Street, P.O. Box 38 Kearney, ON P0A 1M0

Telephone: 705 636-7752

Fax: 705 636-0527

Email: [admin@townofkearney.ca](mailto:admin@townofkearney.ca)

NAME: Blair Ballantyne (President Kearney Lions)

MAILING ADDRESS: 152 Lakeview Ave.  
Kearney

PHONE NO: 705-788-4440

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: Nov. 19, 2021

GENERAL NATURE OF DELEGATION: Town's annual donation  
to the Kearney Lions for our Christmas  
Telethon. I am available for in person  
delegation. If approved cheque to be made to  
Lions Children's Christmas Telethon

### A WRITTEN COPY OF THE PRESENTATION IS REQUIRED WITH ALL DELEGATION REQUESTS

The personal information contained in communications directed to Council and its Advisory Committees is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, and will be used to assist Council and Committee Members in their deliberations. Questions about this collection should be addressed to the Town Clerk at 8 Main Street, Box 38, Kearney, Ontario, P0A 1M0, by telephone 705 636 7752, or by email [brenda.fraser@townofkearney.ca](mailto:brenda.fraser@townofkearney.ca).

Communications addressed to Council and its Advisory Committees will become part of the public record and will be placed on a public agenda and made available electronically through the Town of Kearney internet website. Anonymous communications sent to Council or to its Committees will NOT be accepted.

I acknowledge that personal information contained within my communication(s) may become part of the public record and may be made available to the public through the Council/Committee process.

BB.  
(Initials)

SIGNATURE: B. B. Ballantyne DATE: Nov. 17, 2021

## MINUTES

### **PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING**

*As per The Planning Act*

**Held during the Regular Council Meeting  
on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Regarding: ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT - RZ-03-21 (FRIEDLAND)**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Carol Ballantyne  
Councillors: Cheryl Philip; Mike Rickward and Paul Ziraldo

**Staff Present:** Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk Administrator

**Planning Consultant:** Kent Randall, EcoVue Planning Consultants

#### **7. Public Hearings (Pursuant to the *Planning Act*)**

##### **(a) Report and Resolution re: Amendment to Zoning By-law No. 2002-28, as amended - RZ-03-21 (FRIEDLAND)**

Mayor Ballantyne stated that this was a Public Meeting for a Zoning By-law amendment held by Council under Section 34 of the *Planning Act*. Mayor Ballantyne then declared the Public Meeting open at 1:03 p.m., to consider a proposed rezoning of lands located in Part of Lots 2, 3, 4 and 5, Concession 12, in the Township of Bethune, now in the Town of Kearney from the Residential Waterfront (RWF) Zone to the Residential Waterfront Exception Fifty-seven (RWF-57) Zone.

The Mayor asked our Planner to explain the purpose of the proposed rezoning.

Town Planner Kent Randall stated that the purpose of the proposed amendment is required as a condition of consent for the proposed severed lots to implement a 30m vegetative buffer and to implement regulations for shoreline structures.

The Mayor asked if any written concerns been received.

No written concerns were received.

The Mayor asked if the applicant wished to make any comments.

The applicant was in attendance virtually but did not make any comments.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition of the proposed rezoning. There was no comments in opposition to the proposed rezoning.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favour of the proposed rezoning, to which there was no response.

Mayor Ballantyne asked if Council had any questions. There were no questions from Council.

Mayor Ballantyne stated that this completed the Public Meeting process and declared the Public Meeting for this Zoning Amendment closed at 1:06 p.m.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF KEARNEY**

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Carol Ballantyne, Mayor

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Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk



# The Corporation of the Town of Kearney

8 Main Street Box 38 Kearney ON P0A 1M0

## MINUTES

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Council Chambers

Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1:00 p.m.

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Carol Ballantyne  
Councillors: Cheryl Philip, Mike Rickward and Paul Ziraldo

**Staff Present:** Brenda J. Fraser, CAO|Clerk|Treasurer  
Scott McKay, Public Works Working Foreperson  
Leslie Harvie, Communications and Public Relations Coordinator

**Regrets:** Deputy Mayor Liz Stermsek

1. **Call the Meeting to Order**

Res. No. 1/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo

BE IT RESOLVED that the Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be declared open and called to order at 1:00 p.m. **CARRIED**

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Res. No. 2/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Agenda of the Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED**

3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof – None noted.**

4. **Delegations/Presentations**

(a) Delegations - Nil

(b) Presentations - Nil

5. **Minutes**

(a) **Adoption of Minutes**

Res. No. 5(a)(i)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney approves the Minutes of the Council Meeting(s) as follows:

(i) **Regular Meeting, Draft Minutes – October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021; Draft Minutes – October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021; Draft Minutes October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021** **CARRIED**

(b) **Receive Committee Minutes**

Res. No. 5(b)(i)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receive the following Advisory Committee Minutes:

(i) **Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee re: Minutes – October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021** **CARRIED**

6. **Committee Resolutions for Consideration – Nil**

7. **Public Meetings (Pursuant to the Planning Act)**

(a) **Public Comments re: Zoning By-law Amendment (Friedland) – See Public Meeting Minutes**

8. **Public Meetings (Pursuant to the Municipal Act) – Nil**

9. **Unfinished Business – Nil**

10. **Reports and By-laws**

(a) **Building - Nil**

**(b) Planning**

**(i) Report and Resolution re: Zoning By-law Amendment (Friedland)**

**Res. No. 10(b)(i)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council receive the report dated October 25, 2021, from EcoVue Consulting Services regarding application RZ-03-21 (FRIEDLAND);

**AND FURTHER** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney approves application RZ-03-21 (FRIEDLAND) to rezone the lands located in Part Lots 3, 4, and 5, Concession 12, in the geographic Township of Bethune, now in the Town of Kearney from the Residential Waterfront (RWF) Zone to the Residential Waterfront Exception Fifty-Seven (RWF-57) Zone in order to fulfill conditions of Consent Applications B037/20 and B-038/20. **CARRIED**

**(ii) By-law No. 2021-xx re: Zoning By-law Amendment (Friedland)**

**Res. No. 10(b)(ii)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**By-law No. 2021-41**, Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 2002-28, as amended (FRIEDLAND), be read a first, second and third time and numbered 2021-41 and that the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the By-law Book. **CARRIED**

**(iii) EcoVue Planning Report and Resolution re: Site Plan Control**

**Res. No. 10(b)(iii)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council receive the report dated October 5, 2021 from EcoVue Consulting Services regarding SITE PLAN CONTROL;

**AND FURTHER** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney approve the Site Plan Control By-law proposed by J Kent Randall, Town Planning Consultant. **CARRIED**

**(iv) By-law No. 2021-xx re: Site Plan Control**

**Res. No. 10(b)(iv)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**By-law No. 2021-42**, Being a By-law to establish Site Plan Control within the Town of Kearney and to Designate the entire Town of Kearney as a SITE PLAN CONTROL AREA, be read a first, second and third time and numbered 2021-42 and that the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the By-law Book. **CARRIED**

**(v) EcoVue Planning Report and Resolution re: Short Term Rentals**

**Res. No. 10(b)(v)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council receive the report dated October 5, 2021 from EcoVue Consulting Services regarding **Short Term Accommodations**;

**AND FURTHER** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the preferred approach for managing Short Term Accommodations being:

- Planning Amendment Option 3 (with Licensing)** – Amend the Official Plan and/or Zoning By-law and establish a Licensing By-law to permit STAs, subject to specific regulations and licensing requirements

**Recorded Vote Requested by: Carol Ballantyne**

**PHILIP, Cheryl** Yes

**RICKWARD, Mike** Yes

**STERMSEK, Liz** Absent

**ZIRALDO, Paul** Yes

**BALLANTYNE, Carol, Mayor** Yes **CARRIED**

**(c) Operations**

**(i) Transfer Station Report** – for the period October 8, 2021 to October 26, 2021 – Report only.

**(ii) Report and Resolution re: Back Hoe**

**Res. No. 10(c)(ii)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**WHEREAS** Staff have identified the need for additional equipment;

**AND WHEREAS** this equipment will enhance Staff abilities and address program needs;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney directs Staff to proceed with the purchase of a Backhoe thumb/grapple. **CARRIED**

**(d) Administration**

**(i) By-law No. 2021-xx re: investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Transfer Payment Agreement**

**Res. No. 10(d)(i)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**By-law No. 2021-43**, Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 2002-28, as amended (FRIEDLAND), be read a first, second and third time and numbered 2021-43 and that the said By-law be

signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the By-law Book.

**CARRIED**

(ii) **Resolution re:** Transfer Station Attendant successful candidate

**Res. No. 10(d)(ii)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**WHEREAS** the Town recently advertised an employment opportunity for a Transfer Station Attendant;

**AND WHEREAS** interviews were held by the Selection Team;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, in accordance with the recommendation of the Selection Team, shall hire Joshua Dresser in the position of Transfer Station Attendant, beginning November 10, 2021. **CARRIED**

(iii) **Resolution re:** Equipment Operator successful candidate

**Res. No. 10(d)(iii)(a)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**WHEREAS** the Town recently advertised an employment opportunity for an Equipment Operator;

**AND WHEREAS** interviews were held by the Selection Team;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, in accordance with the recommendation of the Selection Team, shall hire Adam Lundy in the position of Equipment Operator, beginning November 8, 2021. **CARRIED**

**Res. No. 10(d)(iii)(b)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**WHEREAS** the Town recently advertised an employment opportunity for an Equipment Operator;

**AND WHEREAS** interviews were held by the Selection Team;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, in accordance with the recommendation of the Selection Team, shall hire Shane O'Hara in the position of Equipment Operator, beginning November 15, 2021. **CARRIED**

(iv) **Report re:** By-law Enforcement update – **Report only.**

(v) **Report re:** Draft Kearney Community Centre Workplace opening

**Res. No. 10(d)(v)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Council receive the report regarding the Kearney Community Centre Workplace opening policy and procedure;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports:

- Opening the Seniors Room for two days each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, for Seniors events
- Open Municipal Office by appointment only
- Gather information regarding fitness classes.

**AND FURTHER** to allow gymnasium to be open as well on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the times the Seniors Room is open. **CARRIED**

(e) **Treasury**

(i) **Report and Resolution re:** Payment Register

**Res. No. 10(e)(i)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney has received the 'List of Accounts' and has no objections to be noted with regard to Cheques #31051 to #31152 in the total amount of \$592,008.76. **CARRIED**

(f) **Fire and Emergency Services**

(i) **Report re:** Fire Chief, Fire Department Report for Regular Council Meeting on October 29, 2021 – **Report only.**

(g) **Facilities and Buildings** - Nil

(h) **Council Presentations**

(i) **Mayor Ballantyne, discussion re:** Public Access to Town Office

Mayor Ballantyne noted that, the Policy and Plan discussed under Agenda Item 10(d)(v), is the first step in starting to open our municipal facility(s).

(ii) **Councillor Rickward, discussion re:** Snowmobile Trail/Fisher Lake Lane

Clarification was requested with regard to the D-trail route via Fisher Lake Lane. It was noted that D-trail will remain open over Fisher Lake Lane with signage offering an alternative route via Emsdale Lake Road.

- (iii) **Councillor Ziraldo, discussion re: Comprehensive Zoning By-law**  
Discussion reiterated that we are waiting on the Maps to arrive, which will then be posted for a reasonable time for public viewing before Council considers passing the Comprehensive Zoning By-law.

**11. Correspondence**

(a) **Action Items** - Nil

(b) **Information Items**

- (i) **Almaguin Highlands Health Centre re: Key Areas of Focus & Progress – October 2021 – Information only.**
- (ii) **District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board re: Chief Administrative Officer's Report – October 2021; DSSAB Board Member Vacancy- Information only.**

**12. Other Business – Nil**

**13. Closed Session**

**Res. No. 13(a)-(b)/29/10/2021 Paul Ziraldo, Mike Rickward**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 239, (1), (2), (3) and (3.1) of the Municipal Act, c. 25, S.O. 2001, as amended, the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney will convene in Closed Session at 2:37 p.m. for discussion regarding:

- (a) *a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board*
- (b) *labour relations or employee negotiations.*

**CARRIED**

**Res. No. 13(c)/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney reconvene in Open Session and report on matters discussed in Closed Session. Closed Session adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**14. Business Arising from Closed Session**

Mayor Ballantyne reported on matters discussed in Closed Session.

**15. Confirming By-Law**

**Res. No. 15/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**By-law No. 2021-44**, Being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its Special Meeting held on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and at its Regular Meeting held on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, be read a first, second and third time and numbered 2021-44 and that the said By-law be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation, and engrossed in the By-law Book.

**CARRIED**

**16. Adjournment**

**Res. No. 16/29/10/2021 Mike Rickward, Paul Ziraldo**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Regular Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adjourn at 3:47 p.m. to meet again at 2:00 p.m. on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Kearney, Ontario.

**CARRIED**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF KEARNEY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Ballantyne, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk



**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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**Council Members Present:** Mayor Carol Ballantyne  
Councillors: Cheryl Philip (Virtual) and Mike Rickward

**Staff Present:** Brenda J. Fraser, CAO|Clerk|Treasurer  
Scott McKay, Public Works Working Foreperson

**Financial Consultant:** Marjorie Robinson

**Regrets:** Liz Stermsek and Paul Ziraldo

**1. Call the Meeting to Order**

**Res. No. 1/08/11/2021 Mike Rickward, Cheryl Philip**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Special Council meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney on Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be declared open and called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof – None noted.**

**3. Business**

**3.1 Marjorie Robinson, Financial Consultant re: Asset Management Planning**

Discussion regarding our Asset Management Plan Policy focused on Section 3 of our Plan.  
Further conversation to continue at our next Asset Management Plan meeting.

**4. Adjournment**

**Res. No. 4/08/11/2021 Cheryl Philip, Mike Rickward**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Special Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adjourn at 4:56 p.m. to meet again at 1:00 p.m. on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Kearney Ontario.

**CARRIED**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF KEARNEY**

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Carol Ballantyne, Mayor

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Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk



**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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**Council Members Present:** Mayor Carol Ballantyne  
Councillors: Cheryl Philip (Virtual); Mike Rickward; and Liz Stermsek (Virtual)

**Staff Present:** Brenda J. Fraser, CAO|Clerk|Treasurer

**Financial Consultant:** Marjorie Robinson

**Regrets:** Councillor Paul Ziraldo

**1. Call the Meeting to Order**

**Res. No. 1/15/11/2021 Mike Rickward, Cheryl Philip**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Special Council meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be declared open and called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof – None noted.**

**3. Business**

**3.1 Marjorie Robinson, Financial Consultant re: Asset Management Planning**

Discussion regarding our Asset Management Plan Policy focused on Section 3 of our Plan. Further conversation to continue at our next Asset Management Plan meeting.

**4. Adjournment**

**Res. No. 4/15/11/2021 Liz Stermsek, Mike Rickward**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Special Council Meeting of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney adjourn at 3:58 p.m. to meet again at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 19, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Kearney Ontario.

**CARRIED**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF KEARNEY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Ballantyne, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda J. Fraser, Clerk

**JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

Wednesday October 27, 2021  
Electronic Meeting Hosted at  
Perry Township Office

Attendance

Board Members: Gina Newhall, Paul Sowrey, Carol Ballantyne- for Liz Stermsek, Jim Cushman attempted to connect several times but had technical difficulties.

Regrets: Liz Stermsek, Art Murdy, Cheryl Philip

Staff: Kim Seguin, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:08pm by the Chairperson.

Pecuniary Interest: None were declared

The minutes of the August 25, 2021 meeting were reviewed, and it was;

**Moved by: Paul Sowrey**

**Seconded by: Carol Ballantyne**

**Resolution 2021-26:**

***Be it Resolved that the minutes of the August 25, 2021 meeting of the committee be approved as circulated.***

**Carried**

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

N/A

The Bank Reconciliations for August and September 2021 for Kawartha Credit Union and Scotiabank accounts were reviewed, it was;

**Moved by: Gina Newhall**

**Seconded by: Paul Sowrey**

**Resolution 2021-27:**

***Be it Resolved that the Kearney Perry Joint Waste Management Committee have received and reviewed the bank reconciliations for August and September 2021 for the Scotiabank and Kawartha Credit Union accounts.***

**Carried**

The accounts payable list was presented for approval, it was;

**Moved by: Paul Sowrey**

**Seconded by: Carol Ballantyne**

**Resolution 2021-28:**

**Be it Resolved that the Accounts Payable reports as of October 20, 2021, in the amount of \$48,609.56 be approved. Carried**

The Financial Report 2021 year to date as of October 20, 2021 was reviewed, it was

**Moved by: Gina Newhall**

**Seconded by: Paul Sowrey**

**Resolution 2021-29:**

**Be it Resolved that the Kearney Perry Joint Waste Management Committee accept the 2021 Year to Date report as of October 20, 2021 as presented.**

**Carried**

**New Business**

The 2022 draft meeting schedule was reviewed, it was

**Moved by: Carol Ballantyne**

**Seconded by: Gina Newhall**

**Resolution 2021-30:**

**Be it Resolved that the Kearney Perry Joint Waste Management Committee approve the 2022 draft meeting schedule as presented. With the meeting schedule set as the following:**

**Wednesday, February 23, 2022**

**Wednesday August 24, 2022**

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022**

**Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

**Note that the Public Liaison Committee Meeting will precede the Joint Waste Management Committee on the following dates**

**Wednesday, April 27, 2022**

**Wednesday, August 24, 2022**

**All meetings to begin at 6:00pm and will be held electronically until further notice.**

**Carried**

The report from the Secretary Treasurer on Asset Management Planning was reviewed, it was

**Moved by: Paul Sowrey**

**Seconded by: Gina Newhall**

**Resolution 2021-31:**

**Be it Resolved that the Kearney Perry Joint Waste Management Committee does hereby receive the report from the Secretary-Treasurer on Asset Management Planning.**

**Carried**

The secretary provided an update that the Draft 2020 monitoring report will be provided to the committee for review as soon as it is received.

Being that there was no further business, it was;

**Moved by: Carol Ballantyne**  
**Seconded by: Gina Newhall**  
**Resolution 2021-32**

***Be it resolved that the Kearney Perry Joint Waste Management Committee does hereby adjourn at 6:21pm until the next regular meeting or at the call of the Chair.***

**Carried**

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Gina Newhall Chairperson

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Kim Seguin Recording Secretary

*These minutes are not official until reviewed and passed by the Committee.*

DRAFT

# Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee

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## MINUTES

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.

### REMOTE ACCESS

**In Attendance:** Timothy Brown; Mike Rickward; Brian Horsman; Matt Clouthier; Brenda Fraser; Cathy Hare; and Mayor Carol Ballantyne.

**Regrets:** Ross Gattozzi

1. Call to Order

**Resolution No. 1/03/11/2021**

**Moved by:** Tim Brown      **Seconded by:** Carol Ballantyne

BE IT RESOLVED that the Meeting of the Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 be called to Order at 10:00 a.m.      **Carried**

2. Agenda

**Resolution No. 2/03/11/2021**

**Moved by:** Tim Brown      **Seconded by:** Mike Rickward

BE IT RESOLVED that the Agenda of the Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 be adopted as circulated.      **Carried**

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – None noted

4. Delegations

4.1 **Jean Larocque**, Larocque Elder Architects re: Findings to date

Jean Larocque provided our Committee with his findings during his site visit to two Town owned properties identified as possible sites for a Municipal Office Building.

4.2 **Ruth Elder**, Larocque Elder Architects re: KCC kitchen

Ruth Elder discussed the existing challenges affecting the kitchen and presented an initial layout redesign. It was noted that input from the user groups is important resulting in the decision to circulate a questionnaire prior to finalizing a kitchen floor plan redesign.

5. Minutes

**Resolution No. 5/03/11/2021**

**Moved by:** Brian Horsman      **Seconded by:** Cathy Hare

BE IT RESOLVED that the Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee accepts the Minutes of the following Meetings, as circulated.

- Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Carried**

6. Business

6.1 Next Steps

- Update from Larocque Elder Architects
- Recommendation of a new Committee Member

7. Correspondence - None

8. Discussion re: Next Meeting date/time

9. Adjourn

**Resolution No. 9/03/11/2021**

**Moved by:** Carol Ballantyne **Seconded by:** Cathy Hare

BE IT RESOLVED that the Kearney Community Centre Building Advisory Committee adjourns at 12:18 p.m. to meet again at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**Carried**

**Ontario Land Tribunal**  
Tribunal ontarien de l'aménagement  
du territoire



**ISSUE DATE:** October 29, 2021

**CASE NO(S):**

PL190404

**PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER** subsection 34(11) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended

Applicant and Appellant:	Caroline & Owen Heise
Subject:	Application amend Zoning By-law No.2002-28- Refusal of Application by Town of Kearney
Existing Zoning:	Rural (RU)
Proposed Zoning:	Residential Waterfront Exception Fifty-one (RWF- 51)
Purpose:	To permit camper trailer for seasonal recreation purposes
Property Address/Description:	Part Lot 18, Concession 3
Municipality:	Town of Kearney
Municipality File No.:	RZ-07-18
OLT Case No.:	PL190404
OLT File No.:	PL190404
OLT Case Name:	Heise V. Kearney (Town)

**Heard:** September 10, 2021 by video hearing

**APPEARANCES:**

**Parties**

**Counsel\*/Representative**

Caroline & Owen Heise  
(Applicant/Appellant)

Self-Represented

Town of Kearney ("Town")

Edward B. Veldboom\*

Sand Lake Area Property Owners  
Association ("SLAPOA")

Sharon McKenzie

**DECISION DELIVERED BY JATINDER BHULLAR AND ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL**

[1] This hearing was conducted regarding an appeal under s. 34(11) of the *Planning Act* R.S.O 1990 P.13 (the " Act") by Caroline & Owen Heise ("Applicants/Appellants") for the refusal of the Town of Kearney ("Town") to adopt their request for a Zoning By-law Amendment ("ZBA"). The subject lands are an island located in north-east area of Sand Lake in the Town of Kearney, known as Blueberry Island ("Site").

### **BACKGROUND**

[2] The Site is a small island. There are no immediate neighbours but there are many properties at the nearby shoreline with direct line of sight to the Site.

[3] The Applicants/Appellants plan to deploy a trailer based wooden logs structure ("Trailer") for staying at the island for recreational use purposes. In order to accommodate this, the Applicants/Appellants requested an exception to setbacks from required 20 metres ("m") to 12 m from the high water mark area.

[4] The Trailer is planned to have a solar composting toilet. The Applicants/Appellants plan to use solar energy for some of the power needs. Additionally, they propose removal of gray water from the site during their trips when they depart the Site.

### **EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS**

[5] One of the Applicants/Appellants, Owen Heise, provided evidence on his own behalf as a lay witness. Mr. Heise provided details how they have designed the Trailer with best ecological aspects as well to blend in with the Site landscape.

[6] Mr. Heise gave examples regarding their good stewardship in managing other natural properties including participating in the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program. He stated that they have used the latest composting toilets technology and has gray water containment, management and disposal plans. He also emphasized how they don't arrive at the island till after July 1<sup>st</sup> to mitigate against the disturbance of any

possible bird breeding habitat.

[7] During cross examination the Town questioned if the Applicants/Appellants setup has the necessary Class II grey water holding permit. It was stated that that they do not have a grey water system *per se* and thus do not require such a permit.

[8] Mr. Heise summarized that they could use camping gear to enjoy their property, but the trailer provided a better solution. He also submitted that given the height where the trailer is planned to be located, the probability of flooding was minimal.

[9] The Town called Chris Jones to provide expert opinion evidence in the area of land use planning. Mr. Jones reviewed the Provincial Policy Statement 2020 (the "PPS"). Mr. Jones referring to set of policies in s. 1.1.5 and opined that whereas this policy encourages recreational uses it equally links these to the availability of rural service levels, and appropriateness with respect to infrastructure which is planned or available. Mr. Jones opined that the Site is surrounded by fish habitat and the Applicants/Appellants have not demonstrated how the planned use will be suitable to locate dock and other accesses to ensure natural habitat as set in policy 2.1 of the PPS.

[10] Mr. Jones in review of the Applicants'/Appellants' material in support of their application notes that it is missing a proper survey to establish high water mark as well as details of placement of the Trailer on the Site. Mr. Jones opined that as a result the Applicants/Appellants does not demonstrate consistency with policy 3.1 with respect to beach and erosion hazards.

[11] Mr. Jones in summary opined that as a result of the identified deficiencies, the proposal is not consistent with the PPS.

[12] Mr. Jones reviewed applicable sections in the Town of Kearney Official Plan (the "OP"). He highlighted policies 3.1 which sets the goal to protect the integrity of the natural environment with highlighted attributes of maintaining enjoyment of shoreline areas, preserving the aesthetic qualities and scenic features of shoreline areas. He

referred to the large number of objections provided by the shoreline residential community against the proposal as one measure of the violation of these policies and principles. Mr. Jones, referring to policy 3.3.1, opined that the lot simply was too small and was further unsuitable due to terrain of the Site to provide for the necessary qualities required of a lot requirement under this policy.

[13] Mr. Jones emphasized that the OP follows from the PPS policies as in policy 3.3.6 for shoreline buffer, policy 3.3.7 dealing with landings and accesses which he reiterated are not met by the proposal as not having been established through appropriate studies or surveys.

[14] Mr. Jones reviewed fish habitat policies in the OP and opined that the appropriate and necessary rigour or consideration has not been given to establish required conformity with these aspects of the OP. He referenced policy 6.4.4.1 to show that necessary environ impact studies have not been carried out as stipulated to establish conformity with this policy. He further opined that whereas the Applicants/Appellants propose to use composting toilets, the proper consideration to establish possible setbacks for sewage systems is not established, particularly should the application be allowed, it will allow any and all future users to modify temporary arrangements.

[15] Mr. Jones opined that s. 7.2.3.3 has specific requirements to address “Sand Lake – Flood Proofing” and that the Applicants/Appellants has failed to establish conformity with this policy in the OP.

[16] Mr. Jones in summary opined that policy 11.4.1 of the OP requires conformity of any rezoning applications to conform with the OP. He added that the application does not conform with the OP.

[17] SLAPOA concurred with Mr. Jones analysis and further submitted that a Trailer is a dwelling and hence the force and effect of the policies is of utmost consideration. SLOPOA agreed that whereas camping will be acceptable use a Trailer or dwelling is

not.

[18] The Tribunal has considered oral testimony, Affidavit on file, participant statements and the material that was before the Town Council when they made their decision. The Tribunal has no difficulty in recognizing the good stewardship, sensitivity to natural preservation and like mindset that the Applicants/Appellants possesses and maintains. However, the Tribunal is guided by overwhelming expert opinion evidence of Mr. Jones that remained untarnished. The Tribunal finds that the proposal is not consistent with the PPS and does not conform with the OP.

**ORDER**

[19] The Appeal is dismissed.

*“Jatinder Bhullar”*

JATINDER BHULLAR  
MEMBER

**Ontario Land Tribunal**

Website: [olt.gov.on.ca](http://olt.gov.on.ca) Telephone: 416-212-6349 Toll Free: 1-866-448-2248

The Conservation Review Board, the Environmental Review Tribunal, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal and the Mining and Lands Tribunal are amalgamated and continued as the Ontario Land Tribunal (“Tribunal”). Any reference to the preceding tribunals or the former Ontario Municipal Board is deemed to be a reference to the Tribunal.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KEARNEY

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Council  
FROM: Scott McKay, Public Works Working Foreman  
SUBJECT: Hwy 518 Snow Removal Operation  
DATE: November 19, 2021

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**Recommendation:**

WHEREAS during past snow removal seasons, the local contractor clearing Hwy 518 has also cleared that portion of Hwy 518 within Kearney's boundaries;

AND WHEREAS the opportunity to negotiate this service has arisen;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs Staff to speak with the Contractor to determine cost/feasibility

**Background**

The Town of Kearney maintains Highway 518 East from our most westerly boundary to the end of the highway (from the Town boundary at Mullings/Ferguson's east), save and except for a portion of 518 which extends from Bevan's Road to Cherry Hill Road. This means MTO/Contractor has their plows/sanders stop plowing/sanding at the westerly border of Town limits, travel to Bevan's Road and begin again for the ½ km stretch to Cherry Hill Road, and then turn around.

**Considerations**

Besides being mildly inconvenient for the MTO Contractor, having the MTO vehicle travelling through the Town area can create ice build-up at the stop sign (salt/slush falling off the MTO Contractor vehicle), icy patches at the beginning/end of the MTO Contractor boundaries (salt stopping) and general issues which may be avoided. Additionally, having the MTO Contractor complete this section of highway allows the Town's route drivers to concentrate on Hwy 518 and Main Street sections without interruption.

With Council's approval, we could approach the area Contractor to determine if it is economically feasible to have them perform this service again.

Respectfully submitted by: *Scott McKay*, Public Works Working Foreman

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KEARNEY

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Council  
FROM: Scott McKay, Public Works Working Foreman  
SUBJECT: Winter Maintenance of Ahola's Road  
DATE: October 29, 2021

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**Recommendation:**

WHEREAS Staff have identified the lack of use of a portion of Ahola's Road

AND WHEREAS the plowing of this portion of road accounts for extra time, sand and wear and tear on the vehicle;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs Staff to cease the winter maintenance of Ahola's Road beyond a suitable turnaround at #593 Ahola's Road

**Background**

The Public Works staff maintain 250 kilometres of lanes/roadway within the Town of Kearney. Each portion of roadway is considered important and must be maintained to a minimum standard as set out by the Province, based on the usage, traffic and road type.

**Considerations**

Ahola's Road is a gravel road with 4 physical addresses (buildings) accessed. In accordance with our 2020 Roads Needs Study, Ahola's Road is identified as a Class 6 road (as per O.Reg. 239/02), and contains 4 substandard sections of curves as well as 3 substandard sections of grade. The road is currently maintained from the westerly intersection of Ahola's Road and Rain Lake Road to # 294. Two of the substandard curves and 1 of the substandard grades are located beyond #294, however, there are still 2 of the substandard grades and 2 of the substandard curves before #294. By eliminating the plowing/sanding of the road beyond #593, we eliminate 3 km of road maintenance and enhance the safety of our workers. It appears that there are no actual residences beyond #593 as the road travels west, and this portion is largely used by snowmobiles and atvs. While the Town is seeing exponential growth in a number of areas, this portion of road has not seen that growth/expansion as it is largely an area of vacant bush traditionally used as a hunting/logging area.

In an effort to increase the efficiency of the Public Works team, Staff proposes to decrease the winter maintenance of Ahola's Road beyond #593 to better recognize the actual use of this portion of roadway.

Respectfully submitted by: *Scott McKay*, Public Works Working Foreman



**Kearney & Area Public Library**

P.O. Box 220  
Kearney, ON  
POA 1M0

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November 9, 2021

Brenda Fraser  
Town of Kearney  
8 Main Street  
Kearney, ON  
POA 1M0

**RE: New Applications to Kearney & Area Public Library Board**

Dear Brenda,

Please find attached three new applicants that would like to come on the Kearney & Area Public Library Board.

As Librarian of the Kearney & Area Public Library I am recommending to you that the town council approve the following applicants Iris Ferguson, Shawn Armstrong-Quenneville, and Anne Dault as Kearney & Area Public Library Board members at your next regular council meeting.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Brandi Nolan  
Librarian, C.E.O

Town of Kearney

List of Accounts for Approval

As of 2021-11-17

Batch: 2021-00048 to 2021-00051

Report Date  
2021-11-17 5:39 PM

Payment #	Date	Vendor Name	Reference	Payment Amount
<b>Bank Code: AP - GENERAL AP</b>				
Computer Cheques:				
31153	2021-11-08	CRA - Receiver General	Oct. Payroll Remittance	20,787.29
31154	2021-11-08	Cupe Local 1813	September & October 2021 Dues	1,044.10
31155	2021-11-08	OMERS	October 2021 Remittance	12,631.26
31156	2021-11-09	Mac Lang Sundridge Ltd	P/W Purchase 2021 Dodge Ram	53,179.00
31157	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31158	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31159	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31160	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31161	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31162	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31163	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31164	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31165	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31166	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31167	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31168	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31169	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31170	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31171	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31172	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31173	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31174	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31175	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31176	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31177	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31178	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31179	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31180	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31181	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31182	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31183	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31184	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31185	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31186	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31187	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31188	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31189	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31190	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31191	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31192	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31193	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31194	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31195	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31196	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31197	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00
31198	2021-11-17	Spoiled During Printing		0.00

Report Date  
2021-11-17 5:39 PM

Town of Kearney  
List of Accounts for Approval  
As of 2021-11-17  
Batch: 2021-00048 to 2021-00051

Page 2

Payment #	Date	Vendor Name	Reference	Payment Amount
31199	2021-11-17	ACI-Accelerated Connections	November 2021 Internet	381.21
31200	2021-11-17	Annex Pub. & Printing Inc	F/D Books	587.24
31201	2021-11-17	Bateman's Fit Testing	F/D Quantitative Fit Test	197.75
31202	2021-11-17	Bedard's Towing	By-law Removal of Trailer	904.00
31203	2021-11-17	Bell Canada	Install New Internet Admin	135.55
31204	2021-11-17	Bowman Fuels Ltd.	Diesel - November 3/21 P/W	1,517.80
31205	2021-11-17	Matthew Clouthier	KM's to Hospital re: Injury	404.84
31206	2021-11-17	Currie Truck Centre	P/W Reflective Tape	624.30
31207	2021-11-17	Ecovue Consulting Services Inc	Consulting RE Gaskell ZBA	6,972.15
31208	2021-11-17	Fetterley's Gas & Convenience	B/D Vehicle Fuel	2,131.26
31209	2021-11-17	Fire Marshal's Public	Fire Prevention Week Kit F/D	216.96
31210	2021-11-17	Fisher's Regalia	F/D Uniform Shirts	90.94
31211	2021-11-17	Glen Martin Ltd.	KCC Cleaning Supplies	399.34
31212	2021-11-17	Hicks Morley	Shared Services	463.30
31213	2021-11-17	Voided by the print process		0.00
31214	2021-11-17	Hydro One Networks Inc.	Interest Charges for Oct	2,109.87
31215	2021-11-17	Benjamin Koenig	Koenig SRA Refund - Final	21.75
31216	2021-11-17	Lake Country Office Solutions	B/D New Scanner/Printert	10,164.35
31217	2021-11-17	LAS-Local Authority Services	B/D Office Supplies	675.55
31218	2021-11-17	LEA-Larocque Elder Architects	Community Improvement Plan	7,849.48
31219	2021-11-17	Kathryn Lepp	Reimburse Tax Overpayment	684.00
31220	2021-11-17	Min Of Fin-Ontario	OPF Serv. Realignment	25,587.00
31221	2021-11-17	Moore Propane Ltd.	F/D Propane Tank Rental	67.80
31222	2021-11-17	Munisoft	Leslie H.Acts Pay Webinar	123.17
31223	2021-11-17	Near North Dist. School Board	Printer Sept. 26 - Oct 25 Fees	206.27
31224	2021-11-17	North Bay/Parry Sound District	NBPSD Monthly Installment	4,154.70
31225	2021-11-17	Northern Nerds	F/D Internet Issues	4,570.85
31226	2021-11-17	Novexco Inc	Admin Office Supplies	64.84
31227	2021-11-17	Leonard Peacock	Kallio T/S Signs	100.00
31228	2021-11-17	Township Of Perry	Fire Prev. Week Supplies F/D	195.38
31229	2021-11-17	PROFleetCare	F/D Truck Maintenance	983.10
31230	2021-11-17	R&S Mobile	P/W Vehicle Emissions Tst	209.05
31231	2021-11-17	Reeder Web Design	Computer Maintenance Nov Dog Skel	126.96
31232	2021-11-17	Marjorie Robinson	General Accounting	26,384.64
31233	2021-11-17	Roto-Mill Inc.	Chetwynd Pulverize Hldbck	3,732.40
31234	2021-11-17	Russell Christie LLP	Friedland Consent Agrmnt	873.91
31235	2021-11-17	Silver Screen Printing	M.Mckay Hoodies KCC	1,087.63
31236	2021-11-17	SmileMakers	Kids Christmas Bag Toys	367.86
31237	2021-11-17	Spectrum Telecom Group Ltd.	Tower Rental Fees Nov/21 F/D	315.78
31238	2021-11-17	Sunbelt Rentals	Echo Ridge Construction	1,517.12
31239	2021-11-17	Telequip Systems Limited	Radio Air Time Use Nv/21 P/W	169.50
31240	2021-11-17	Telizon Inc	F/D Long Distance Nov/21	7.50
Total for AP:				195,018.75

Report Date  
2021-11-17 5:39 PM

Town of Kearney  
List of Accounts for Approval  
As of 2021-11-17  
Batch: 2021-00048 to 2021-00051

Payment #	Date	Vendor Name	Reference	Payment Amount
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Moved by:

Seconded by:

Be it resolved that Council has received and have no objections to be noted for  
Cheque #31153 to Cheque #31240 in the amount of \$ ~~107,377.19~~ 195,018.75

Mayor

Clerk/CAO/Treasurer

## CHIEFS REPORT

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### Training

Our training is ongoing following all COVID protocols. We had two pump relay practice, involving a live burn plus a truck check practice.

Firefighters are kept up to date on any changes to COVID19 protocols.

### Fire Prevention

We are keeping our Facebook page as current as possible.

### Equipment

All our equipment is running well and in service. All vehicles have been rust undercoated, tires for the tanker have been ordered and will be replaced the second week of December.

We are still having our monthly Chiefs meetings and as required.

We have had four medical calls, and four fire calls.

Expired Naloxone kits have been replaced.

The water system has been on bypass for months, not sure who to contact for repairs.

The pumper tender is due November 18th.

The second round of firefighter/officer certification has been completed.

Promotional officer practical testing has been scheduled Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The dump has been scheduled to burn on November 18<sup>th</sup>, I have asked to ensure there is only clean wood and brush in the pile.

I am working on the SIR reports as time permits.

We are having Internet issues and I am trying to get the provider in to check.

I have interviewed three ne recruits two junior and one firefighter, as well a firefighter wishing to return after a leave. These reports are on your agenda package.

I can be reached on my cell at 705 571 3761 or at the Firehall or via email.

Stay Safe

Sincerely;

Paul Schaefer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Schaefer', written over the printed name.

Fire Chief, Town of Kearney

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KEARNEY

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Council  
FROM: Scott McKay, Public Works Working Foreman  
SUBJECT: Echo Ridge/Lawson/Sunrise Intersection  
DATE: November 19, 2021

---

**Recommendation:**

WHEREAS a concerned citizen has requested consideration of traffic control at the intersection of Echo Ridge Road, Lawson Drive and Sunrise Drive;  
AND WHEREAS Council has sought the guidance of Staff  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney hereby directs staff \_\_\_\_\_

**Background**

Council recently received correspondence regarding the intersection of Echo Ridge Road, Lawson Drive and Sunrise Drive. The concerned citizen has witnessed a number of vehicles speedily passing through this intersection and is concerned that a serious accident is imminent.

**Considerations**

While this portion of road is busy, there are a few extenuating factors which result in the Town not quickly able to install a new "STOP" sign.

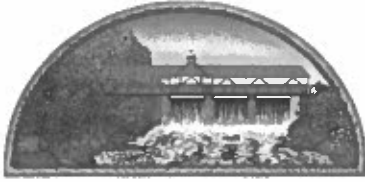
- Echo Ridge Road is a "through road". It does not stop at this corner, but continues on to the left as you are travelling towards Scarborough Board of Education
- There is a STOP sign at Lawson Drive onto Echo Ridge
- There is a STOP sign at Sunrise Drive onto Lawson Drive
- To have a STOP sign erected, the Town would need to consult with our Engineer of Record to determine the implications and impact (i.e. changes needed to the road).

As Staff is working towards completing a review of the By-law which regulates traffic, this is an opportune time to consider this sort of change. In this review, Staff may consider:

- The reduction of speed on Echo Ridge Road (currently 80km up to and including this intersection)
- The potential installation of a STOP sign at this intersection
- A review with the Engineer of this intersection

In the interim, Staff suggests a YIELD sign may be a potential option.

Respectfully submitted by: *Scott McKay* Public Works Working Foreman



The Municipality of the  
**VILLAGE OF BURK'S FALLS**

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172 Ontario Street • PO Box 160 • Burk's Falls ON P0A 1C0  
P 705-382-3138 • F 705-382-2273 • [www.burksfalls.net](http://www.burksfalls.net)

Mayor Carol Ballantyne and Council  
8 Main St. P.O. Box 38  
Kearney, ON  
P0A 1M0

October 5, 2021

Regarding: Supporting Start Up Cost to Bring Physiotherapy to Almaguin Highlands

Dear Mayor Ballantyne;

As a member municipality of the Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council (AHHC), you will know that attaining healthcare services in Almaguin is a key priority.

Recently the Village of Burk's Falls was approached by a physiotherapist interested in opening a practice in the newly vacated space in the Medical Building. Being a new clinic Dr. Palocaren has determined that it will take approximately 6 months for his practice to become fully operational. Initially volume will be low due to the clinic being new to the area with volumes anticipated to increase over the summer months and into 2023. Considering this and other related startup expenses, he asked for support to offset or waive the rental fees for the unit for the first 6 months of business to assist with the startup of this practice.

This is an exciting opportunity for Almaguin Highlands as currently there is a lack of physiotherapy offered in the area. Burk's Falls is fortunate to have physiotherapy for post-surgery. This new practice will be for all patient services filling the gap in service from Huntsville to Powassan.

The Village of Burk's Falls is seeking the support of the 10 member municipalities to help cover the costs as requested,

Cost breakdown:

- Rent for the space for the first 6 months of practice (January 2022- June 2022)- \$6, 070.00
- Total rent divided by the 10 member municipalities- **\$606.81 per member municipality**

The Village of Burk's Falls hopes you will support this request as we work together to bring additional healthcare services to Almaguin Highlands.

Regards,

Cathy Still  
Mayor  
CC; Almaguin Highlands Health Centre Council Member municipalities



80 Commerce Valley Drive E, Suite 1  
Markham, ON L3T 0B2  
Phone: 905-739-9739 • Fax: 905-739-9740  
Web: cupe.on.ca E-mail: info@cupe.on.ca

Dear Town of Kearney Council:

On behalf of CUPE Ontario's nearly 125,000 active members of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS), I am writing today to express our serious concerns with OMERS' investment performance.

In 2020, OMERS posted a net loss 2.7%, representing three billion dollars in losses. This was during a year that comparable defined benefit pension plans and funds in Canada posted substantial investment gains. CUPE Ontario investigated further and tracked investment returns at OMERS for ten years. We found that OMERS has underperformed relative to other large pension plans and funds, as well as relative to its own benchmarks. We also found that OMERS no longer shares this critical information in their annual reporting, making it difficult for plan members to hold their investment managers accountable.

Attached you will find a report detailing OMERS investment underperformance. Also attached, you will find the analysis of a third-party actuary (PBI Actuarial consultants) who confirmed that our reasoning and conclusions were sound.

CUPE Ontario believes plan members and employers have the right to know why OMERS' investments have, over a ten-year period, underperformed other large defined benefit pension plans and funds. If OMERS had performed in line with the average large Canadian public pension plan, it would have a substantial, multi-billion-dollar surplus, versus the deficit it currently faces.

Considering the significant impact such underperformance could have on plan members and on all sponsors who hold the liabilities of the plan, **we are calling on OMERS to cooperate fully with an independent and transparent third-party review of its investment performance** transparent and accountable to plan members, sponsors like CUPE Ontario, other unions, and employers like the Town of Kearney.

We are hoping that the Town of Kearney Council will join our call for an independent expert review of OMERS. **We are asking you, and other municipal councils across the province, to debate the following motion or to pass a similar motion calling for a third-party expert review of OMERS.** The terms of such a review would need to be agreed upon by sponsors and they could explore whether reasonable costs could be funded from the plan.

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Fred Hahn  
President

PUBLIC SERVICES SAVE LIVES

Candace Rennick  
Secretary-Treasurer

We simply cannot afford another decade of investment returns so far below other pension plans and funds. We know that ensuring strong investment returns is a goal shared by employers like the Town of Kearney and by unions like CUPE.

CUPE Ontario staff person Liam Bedard is available to answer any questions you may have. He can be reached at [lbedard@cupe.on.ca](mailto:lbedard@cupe.on.ca).

All materials are available in French at [cupe.on.ca/francaisomers](http://cupe.on.ca/francaisomers).

It's time for all of us to work together to #FixOMERS.

Thank you,



Fred Hahn  
President of CUPE Ontario

## **Proposed Motion – Independent Review of OMERS’ Investment Performance**

1. The Town of Kearney Council is calling for an immediate, comprehensive and independent third-party expert review of OMERS’ investment performance and practices over the past ten years, conducted by the OMERS Pension Plan’s sponsors and stakeholders.
2. Such a review would, at a minimum:
  - a. Compare OMERS plan-level, and asset class-level performance to other comparable defined benefit pension plans and funds, OMERS internal benchmarks, and market-based benchmarks.
  - b. Examine OMERS decision-making processes around the timing of various investment decisions.
  - c. Assess the risk management policies and protocols that were in place and determine if they were followed and/or if they were sufficient to protect the plan from undue risk.
  - d. Assess whether the disclosures provided to the OMERS Administrative and Sponsorship Boards were sufficient evidence to allow the Boards to respond appropriately and in a timely manner.
  - e. Examine executive compensation, investment fees and investment costs at OMERS in comparison to other major defined benefit pension plans and funds.
  - f. Examine other relevant issues identified by the third-party expert review.
  - g. Make recommendations for changes at OMERS to ensure stronger returns moving forward.
  - h. Issue their final report and recommendations in a timely manner.
  - i. Publicly release its full report and recommendations to ensure that it is available to OMERS sponsors, stakeholders, and plan members.
3. The Town of Kearney Council further calls on the OMERS Administrative Corporation to:
  - a. Provide all requested data, documentation and information required of the review panel to fulfill its mandate.
  - b. Establish a step-by-step plan, with OMERS sponsors and stakeholders, to implement any recommendations set out in the review report.





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**PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd.**  
Suite 1070, One Bentall Centre, 505 Burrard Street, Box 42, Vancouver, BC V7X 1M5  
pbi@pbiactuarial.ca T. 604-687-8056 F. 604-687-8074

April 27, 2021

To: Fred Hahn, President CUPE Ontario  
CUPE Ontario

From: Bradley Hough

Subject: **OMERS Performance Review**

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### **Scope of review**

CUPE has asked PBI to review "CUPE Ontario Concerns With OMERS Investment Returns". PBI has reviewed the performance data, methods, and comparisons of OMERS with peer pension plans and funds in CUPE's report.

The intention of our review is to determine:

- a) if comparisons made between the pension plans and funds and their respective benchmarks are reasonable; and
- b) if the analysis completed by CUPE supports the conclusions of their report.

We have reviewed the performance comparisons in CUPE's report by reviewing public information provided by the plans and funds referenced. Statements of investment policies and procedures, actuarial valuation reports, annual reports and other governance documents were reviewed to add as much context around plan performance as possible with the public information available.

### **Summary**

We conclude that the comparisons made by CUPE are reasonable and show that there is a significant gap in performance between OMERS and other comparable public pension plans and funds. In our opinion, public information is unable to fully explain the performance gap. More information is required to truly understand why performance is so different between OMERS and comparable public pension plans and funds.

In our opinion, the comparisons and analysis in the report support CUPE's request for further review of performance.

### **Review**

#### **Is the choice of peer universe reasonable?**

CUPE has chosen a universe of large public sector defined benefit plans ("plans"), or public sector investment managers managing assets ("funds") including, but not exclusively, defined benefit pension plans. Scale gives public plans and funds a different opportunity set versus smaller private sector plans as a result of the size of assets and also investment opportunities. We therefore believe that CUPE's approach of focusing on a limited universe of public sector peers rather than a broader pension plan universe is reasonable and fair.

Of the universe supplied, HOOPP, OTPP, BCMPP and LAPP are easier to directly compare given they are pension plans rather than funds; however, the public sector investment managers referenced by CUPE are still useful



points of reference when looking at comparable performance. Performance of funds such as PSP, CDPQ, BCI and AIMCO suggests that client defined benefit plans are likely to have higher absolute returns than OMERS for 2020.

LAPP and AIMCO have not published full performance information for 2020.

**Would conclusions change if the universe of plans was expanded?**

Defined benefit plans have different benefits, contributions, funding policies, and member demographics. Making comparisons across universes of defined benefit plans requires caution and it is difficult to draw firm conclusions. However, it is worth noting that OMERS performance is significantly below not only public peers, but wider universes of defined benefit plans.

RBC's universe of pension plans shows a median return of 9.2% for 2020<sup>1</sup>. PBI has access to the Northern Trust universe of Canadian defined benefit pension plans<sup>2</sup> and note that the median return is similar to RBC (full year 2020 median return is 9.9%). The lowest return in the Northern Trust Universe is 5% for 2020. We are not aware of an absolute return for PBI clients below 5%.

**Could 'context' such as different asset mixes driven by Plan demographics or situation explain OMERS performance?**

**a. Asset Mix**

We compared asset mixes with HOOPP, BCMPP and OTPP. HOOPP has a liability driven investment strategy and has a higher fixed income allocation. BCMPP and OTPP are return focused like OMERS. OMERS has a higher proportion in real assets and credit than these plans and lower fixed income assets. OTPP has a specific inflation management strategy. However, at a high level, asset allocations between OMERS, BCMPP and OTPP make use of similar asset classes and are comparable.

Asset Class	OMERS	BCMPP	OTPP	HOOPP
Public Equity	31%	33%	19%	23%
Fixed Income	6%	21%	16%	86%
Private Equity	14%	10%	19%	13%
Real Assets	34%	27%	21%	15%
Credit/Mortgages	17%	6%	8%	0%
Inflation Sensitive	0%	0%	17%	0%
Innovation	0%	0%	2%	0%
Absolute Return Strategies	0%	0%	6%	0%
Money Market	-2%	2%	-8%	-37%

Source: annual reports as of December 31, 2020, except for BCMPP, which is as of December 31, 2019.

<sup>1</sup> The RBC pension plan universe is published by RBC Investor and Treasury Services. "All Plan Universe" currently tracks the performance and asset allocation of a cross-section of assets under management across Canadian defined benefit pension plans.

<sup>2</sup> The Northern Trust universe of defined benefit plans is provided to PBI by Northern Trust. It consists of 34 defined benefit plans ranging from \$16.4M to \$8.7B in size. Average plan assets are \$1.9B, median plan assets are \$627M as of December 31, 2020.



As the differences in performance are so large between OMERS and two plans with comparable asset mixes (albeit with some differences), more information on specific strategies within each asset class, such as style of equity manager, exposure to office, retail, and industrial real estate within real assets, use of leverage/overlay strategies and derivatives, currency hedging, and approach to liquidity management would be required to explain differences in performance.

We note that on page 43 of the OMERS 2020 Annual Report, losses were incurred on foreign currency hedging positions due to actions taken to protect liquidity. This contributed \$2.2B to the overall loss. Again, this indicates that a review, significantly beyond simple asset mix comparisons, is required to truly understand performance differentials.

Finally, understanding the role of the 'Total Portfolio Management' approach in determining asset allocations and strategies would be helpful to putting context around the asset mix choices and investment strategies.

#### **b. Membership Demographics**

We note that BCMPP and HOOPP have broadly similar membership demographics to OMERS. OTPP is more mature with a greater proportion of retirees. PBI does not believe plan demographics are different enough to render comparisons between the plans invalid.

#### **Comments on CUPE's five principal findings:**

- 1) **OMERS 10-year annualized performance was below peer group as of December 31, 2019.** PBI believes the comparisons made are reasonable and agree with the conclusion.
- 2) **OMERS performance in 2020 was significantly below peers.** PBI agrees with this conclusion and notes that expanding the peer group adds weight to this conclusion.
- 3) **OMERS does not report comparisons of its annualized long-term returns to its own benchmarks**  
Page 143 of the 2020 report has a comparison of calendar year returns vs benchmarks to 2011. We could not find a comparison of annualized long term performance vs benchmarks for OMERS.

We understand benchmarks are set annually by OMERS and approved by the Administration Corporation Board. From the information made public by OMERS, we would need more detail on the methodology used to derive the absolute return benchmark to interpret performance.

#### **4) 5 to 10-year returns versus 5 to 10-year benchmarks.**

PBI verified the calendar year returns shown by CUPE. We were unable independently to verify the 5 and 10-year performance versus the benchmark as this was provided verbally to CUPE by OMERS and is not published. The peer group of public plans and funds all take different approaches to benchmarking. Some use composites of public market indices/asset class benchmarks according to their target allocations. PSP uses a reference portfolio approach and HOOPP may use a liability focused benchmark. We note that comparisons of relative performance vs stated benchmarks across peer group plans are challenging because of the differences in methodology.

However, in our opinion the analysis is sufficient to show that OMERS is the only Plan underperforming their internal benchmark over a 10-year horizon. Understanding why requires a deeper understanding



of performance and benchmarking methodology beyond the information made public. In our opinion this adds weight to CUPE's request for a review of performance.

- 5) **OMERS 20-year return is not above its 20-year benchmark.** We were unable to independently verify this point as the performance versus the benchmark was provided verbally to CUPE by OMERS and is not publicly available.

### Conclusions

The comparisons made by CUPE are high level and broad by the nature of information made public. However, we believe the comparisons are reasonable and that CUPE has chosen similar public plans and funds as practically possible. Overall, we believe the analysis is sufficient to conclude that OMERS investment performance in 2020 and longer term is significantly lower than other comparable plans.

PBI would require considerably more information than made public on OMERS' total portfolio management approach, investment strategies, third party managers, asset mix policies, liquidity management approach and derivative positions to interpret performance.

In our opinion, the comparisons made demonstrate that the longer-term performance gap between comparable peers is significant and supports CUPE's request for a further, more detailed review of performance beyond the information made public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley Hough", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bradley Hough, FIA, ACIA, CAIA

BH:jh

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# NOT JUST ONE "TOUGH YEAR": THE NEED FOR A REVIEW OF OMERS INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

May 2021



# Executive Summary

CUPE Ontario represents nearly half of the 289,000 active members of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) – the province's Defined Benefit (DB) pension plan for municipal, school board and certain other public sector workers.

While most pension plans had strong returns in 2020, OMERS recently reported billions of dollars of losses over the year. This has prompted CUPE Ontario to examine how OMERS investments have performed compared to other large pension plans and funds. We have also looked at how OMERS has performed against its own internal benchmarks.

We find that OMERS underperformance is not a new or a short-term problem. Specifically, we find that:

- 1) OMERS longer-term performance has significantly lagged behind other large pension funds and plans, in periods both before and after 2020 results were in.
- 2) OMERS has now fallen behind even some of its own internal longer-term return benchmarks – a troubling fact that, contrary to industry standards, is not disclosed in OMERS Annual Report.

Since investment returns fund the vast majority of pensions paid from the plan, returns are incredibly important to DB plan members. Lower investment returns may lead to members being asked to pay more into the plan, or could result in additional pressure for more benefit cuts.

Despite requests, OMERS has not committed to an independent, transparent review of its investment decisions.

CUPE Ontario feels these issues are so serious that a fully transparent expert review of OMERS investment strategies, returns, and internal performance assessment is urgently needed. This review should be conducted by the plan sponsors and stakeholders themselves (the risk-bearing parties to OMERS) and should be fully independent of OMERS staff, who have a clear conflict of interest in conducting a review of their own performance. We invite the other sponsors of OMERS, including our employer counterparts and the broader community of the plan's organizational stakeholders, to support this proposal and to work with us to conduct this review.



# Introduction

CUPE Ontario represents 125,000 plan members of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS). We are the largest sponsor in this defined benefit (DB) pension plan that is – at least in theory – jointly-controlled by plan sponsors like CUPE Ontario and other unions and employers.



**WE CONTINUE TO STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT DB PLANS ARE A MODEL WORTH NOT ONLY DEFENDING, BUT EXTENDING TO ALL WORKERS.**

CUPE Ontario strongly believes that DB pension plans are the best way to provide a decent and secure retirement for our hard-working members. Large public sector DB plans like OMERS allow for an efficient pooling and sharing of costs and risks between employers and plan members. DB plans allow members to know what their pensions will be in retirement. This security is incredibly important for plan members. However, it is not only retirees who benefit from good, secure pension benefits. DB pension plans have been shown to have positive macroeconomic effects on the economy as a whole.<sup>1</sup> The concerns we raise in this report are not concerns with the DB model itself; we continue to strongly believe that DB plans are a model worth not only defending, but extending to all workers.

For a number of years, we have been concerned with the lower level of OMERS pension fund investment returns in comparison to those of other similar plans. OMERS recently reported that the plan had a very bad year in 2020. This has led CUPE Ontario to perform a more in-depth examination of publicly-available annual reporting documents to determine how, in our view, OMERS is performing compared to the seven other large (\$50 billion+) pension plans and funds in Canada.<sup>2</sup> OMERS themselves refer to this club of large plans and funds as the “eight leading Canadian pension plan investment managers,” and occasionally takes coordinated activity with them.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Conference Board of Canada, “Economic Impact of British Columbia’s Public Sector Pension Plans,” October 2013; Boston Consulting Group, “Measuring Impact of Canadian Pension Funds,” October 2015; Ontario Teachers Pension Plan News Release, “New analysis confirms that defined benefit pensions provide significant benefits to Canadian economy,” October 22, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise specified, the data in this document has been compiled from publicly-available annual reporting of the respective plans. With the exception of CDPQ, returns are as reported in these documents, and are net. CDPQ results were reported gross of some expenses, and have been reduced by 0.2% to best approximate a net return. Longer-term periods are annualized, and are as reported by the respective plans.

<sup>3</sup> OMERS News Release, “CEOs of Eight Leading Canadian Pension Plan Investment Managers Call on Companies and Investors to Help Drive Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Growth,” November 25, 2020.



**AS BAD AS  
OMERS  
PERFORMANCE  
WAS IN 2020,  
THIS IS NOT A  
NEW OR A SHORT-  
TERM PROBLEM**

Due to their scale, these large pension plans and funds are able to invest in asset classes that are typically not available to smaller investors or individuals. At the same time, we acknowledge that these eight plans are not completely similar: they have their own governance structures, asset mixes, risk appetites, and reporting periods, all of which are described in the public documents of the respective plans. However, we also acknowledge that many of these differences are the result of specific investment decisions made by the respective plans and funds. We therefore believe that there is value in comparing the performance of this small set of large funds, particularly over longer-term periods.

Acronym	Name	Assets Under Management (\$ Billion)	Funded Status in Most Recent Annual Report	Most Recent Annual Reporting Date
<b>CPPIB</b>	Canada Pension Plan Investment Board	410	N/A	March 31, 2020
<b>CDPQ</b>	Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec	366	108% (RREGOP)	Dec 31, 2020
<b>OTPP</b>	Ontario Teachers Pension Plan	221	103%	Dec 31, 2020
<b>PSP</b>	Public Sector Pension Investment Board	170	111% (Public Service Plan)	March 31, 2020
<b>OMERS</b>	Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System	105	97%	Dec 31, 2020
<b>HOOPP</b>	Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan	104	119%	Dec 31, 2020
<b>BC MPP</b>	BC Municipal Pension Plan (investments managed by BCI, the BC Investment Management Corporation)	59 (MPP) 171 (BCI)	105%	Dec 31, 2019 (MPP) March 31, 2020 (BCI)
<b>LAPP</b>	Alberta Local Authorities Pension Plan (investments managed by Alberta Investment Management Corporation)	50 (LAPP) 119 (AIMCO)	119%	Dec 31, 2019

In some cases, the pension funds above manage the investments of several pension plans (CDPQ, PSP, BCI, AIMCO are all such cases). In those cases, we look most closely at the returns at an individual plan level for the respective client plan that most closely compares to OMERS.

We have also looked at how OMERS has performed against its own internal benchmarks.

This review has resulted in some very troubling findings which suggest that, as bad as OMERS performance was in 2020, this is not a new or a short-term problem. We found evidence that OMERS longer-term return performance has significantly lagged behind



**HIGHER INVESTMENT RETURNS WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR OMERS PLAN MEMBERS, AND FOR OMERS EMPLOYERS.**

other large pension funds and plans. We also found that OMERS has now fallen behind even some of its own internal longer-term return benchmarks – a troubling fact that, contrary to industry standards, is not disclosed in OMERS Annual Report.

Investment results are incredibly important to DB plan members because compounded returns typically fund the vast majority of the pensions that are eventually paid. OMERS indicates that investment returns are expected to fund approximately 70% of the pensions paid by the plan.<sup>4</sup> When investment returns are insufficient, it can put upward pressure on required contribution rates for both members and employers. Most other plans have now returned to pension surpluses since the global financial crisis more than a decade ago, but OMERS continues its long climb out of deficit. Contribution levels were a central talking point from OMERS when plan decision-makers removed guaranteed indexation in 2020. And we expect that, in the months to come, OMERS will once again be looking to plan members to bear the burden of plan funding issues that are, in part, a result of these investment returns. Meanwhile other pension plans, who have had better returns, are currently holding significant surpluses, many have lower contribution rates and some are even improving pension benefits.<sup>5</sup> Higher investment returns would have been better for OMERS plan members, and for OMERS employers.

Despite requests<sup>6</sup>, OMERS has not committed to an independent, transparent review of its investment decisions. Any reviews that have taken place have been behind closed doors at OMERS and have not been shared with sponsors or described in any detail. While OMERS has outlined several investment policy changes it plans to make, its overriding message remains: “the fundamentals of our long-term strategy remain sound, and we will continue to advance that strategy.”<sup>7</sup>



**A FULLY TRANSPARENT EXPERT REVIEW OF OMERS INVESTMENT STRATEGIES, RETURNS, AND INTERNAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT IS URGENTLY NEEDED.**

**CUPE Ontario feels these issues are so serious that a fully transparent expert review of OMERS investment strategies, returns, and internal performance assessment is urgently needed. This review should be conducted by the plan sponsors and stakeholders themselves (the risk-bearing parties to OMERS) and should be fully independent of OMERS staff, who have a clear conflict of interest in conducting a review of their own performance. We invite the other sponsors of OMERS, including our employer counterparts and the broader community of the plan’s organizational stakeholders, to support this proposal and to work with us to conduct this review.**

<sup>4</sup> OMERS 2020 Annual Report, p. 2.

<sup>5</sup> HOOPP News Release, “HOOPP posts 11.42% return in 2020, surpasses \$100 billion in assets,” March 31, 2021.

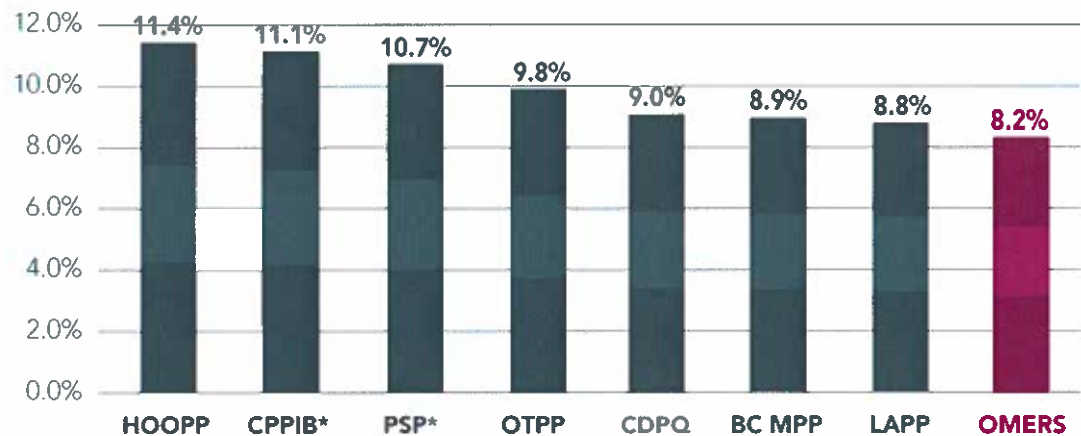
<sup>6</sup> CUPE Ontario Press Release, “We won’t pay for the mistakes of OMERS executives,” February 25, 2021.

<sup>7</sup> OMERS 2020 Annual Report, p. 23.

Our five principal findings are as follows:

- CUPE Ontario's concerns go beyond one "difficult" year in 2020. OMERS 10-year annualized returns trailed those of the other major funds and plans before the COVID crisis hit.**

### 10-Year Annualized Returns at 2019



\*To March 31, 2019, otherwise to Dec 31, 2019

Source: Respective Annual Reports



**THIS WAS  
A HISTORIC  
ANNUAL  
UNDER-  
PERFORMANCE  
COMPARED TO  
BENCHMARKS.**

- OMERS 2020 investment performance was especially poor**

OMERS 2020 annual return (-2.7%) fell far short of the plan's own benchmark for the year of +6.9%. This was a historic annual underperformance compared to benchmarks.

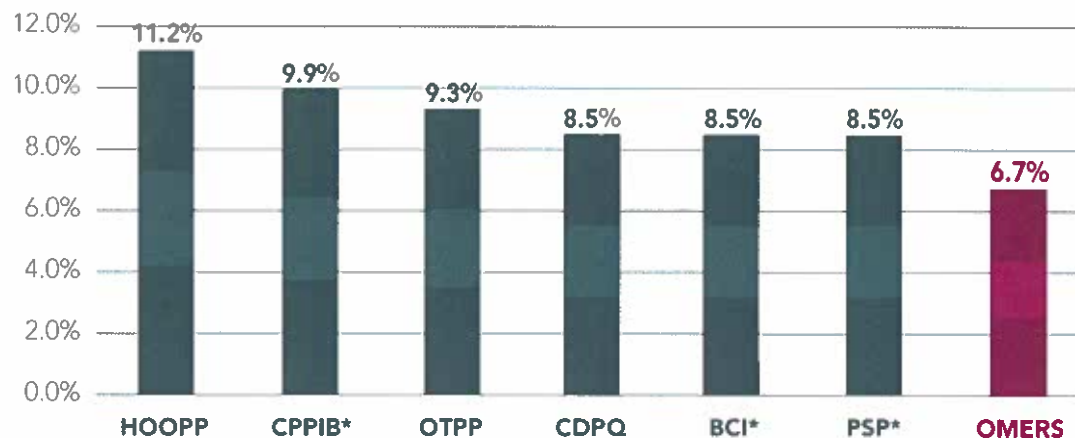
Other plans, however, have reported very strong annual returns for calendar year 2020:

2020 ANNUAL RETURNS	
HOOPP	+ 11.4%
RBC Pension Plan Universe <sup>8</sup>	+ 9.2%
OTPP	+ 8.6%
CDPQ	+ 7.5%
OMERS	- 2.7%

<sup>8</sup> RBC Investor & Treasury Services, "Canadian DB pensions post near-double-digit returns despite historic, turbulent year," January 29, 2021.

This negative result led OMERS 10-year annualized return to fall from 8.2% to 6.7%.

### 10-Year Annualized Returns at 2020



\*To March 31, 2020 otherwise to Dec 31, 2020

The chart above reports the most recent available return information for the respective funds and plans as disclosed in their annual reports. LAPP and BC MPP have yet to report their December 31, 2020 results. AIMCO has also not fully reported its 2020 results. However, BCI (the investment agent for BC MPP and other BC public sector plans) has reported its March 31, 2020 results and has been included here. The chart can be updated as more plans report their 2020 investment returns.



**OMERS  
DOES NOT  
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COMPARISONS OF  
THE PLAN'S LONG-  
TERM ANNUALIZED  
RETURNS TO ITS  
CORRESPONDING  
LONG-TERM  
BENCHMARKS.**

### 3. OMERS does not report comparisons of its annualized long-term returns to its own benchmarks.

Benchmarking is a common practice where an investment *standard or goal* is set, against which *actual plan returns* are compared for ongoing assessment of investment performance. OMERS itself describes a benchmark as “a point of reference against which the performance of an investment is measured.”<sup>9</sup> Comparisons of returns vs. benchmarks are typically done on a 1-year basis, but it is very common for long-term annualized comparisons to also be disclosed. Reporting these benchmarks is standard practice for pension plans and third-party investment managers. Even individual investment vehicles like mutual funds and ETFs typically provide details on how their performance compares to both annual and long-term benchmarks.

The OMERS Administration Corporation (AC) sets OMERS benchmarks each year, as described in the “Performance Management” section of the OMERS investment policy document.<sup>10</sup> OMERS Annual Reports describe how these benchmarks are constructed for each asset class. For many years, these reports stated that “Our goal is to earn stable returns that meet or exceed our benchmarks.” OMERS Annual Reports compare OMERS single-year returns to the plan’s single-year benchmarks. However, in sections describing investment performance, **OMERS does not report clear comparisons of the plan’s long-term annualized returns to its corresponding long-term benchmarks.** While the Annual Report does compare performance to the plan’s discount rate and a long-term return expectation set by the AC Board, it omits comparisons of the plan’s long-term performance against their own long-term benchmarks.

<sup>9</sup> OMERS 2015 Annual Report, p. 131.

<sup>10</sup> OMERS “Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures – Primary Plan,” January 1, 2021.



**IN THE ABSENCE OF LONGER-TERM COMPARATIVE DATA, STAKEHOLDERS FACE SERIOUS OBSTACLES IN EVALUATING PERFORMANCE**

OMERS believes that “paying pensions over decades means a long-term approach.”<sup>11</sup> But in the absence of longer-term comparative data, stakeholders face serious obstacles in evaluating performance. A review of historical Annual Reports shows that OMERS had a longstanding practice of reporting these long-term comparisons, but OMERS stopped this reporting, without explanation, in 2013. **This is dramatically out of step with other pension plans and is, in our view, a serious lack of transparency from OMERS.**

	HOOPP	CPPIB	PSP	OTPP	CDPO	BC MPP	LAPP	OMERS
<b>Does annual report compare annualized longer-term returns to corresponding benchmarks?</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO

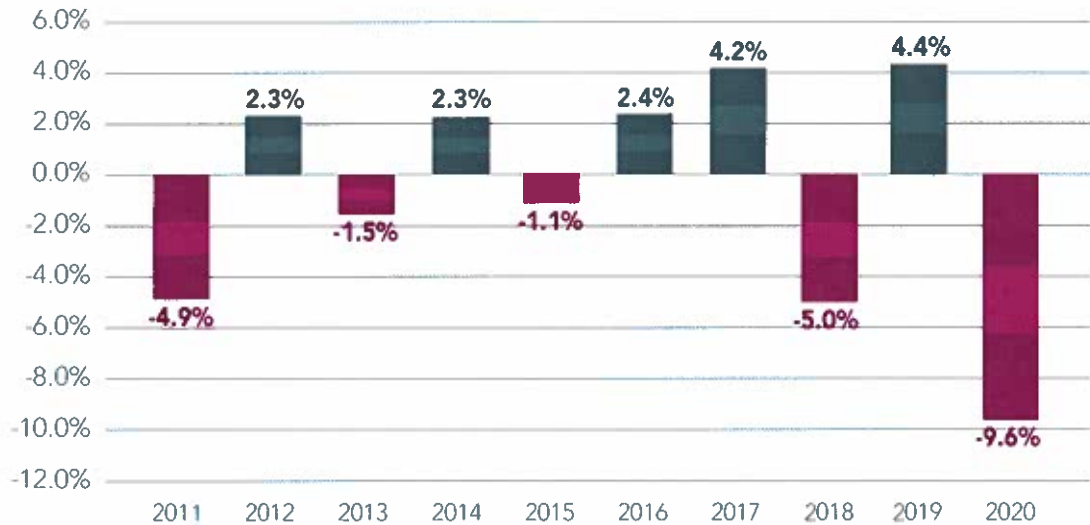


**THIS IS DRAMATICALLY OUT OF STEP WITH OTHER PENSION PLANS AND IS, IN OUR VIEW, A SERIOUS LACK OF TRANSPARENCY FROM OMERS.**

The OMERS Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures states that “performance reporting is consistent with industry recognized practices.”<sup>12</sup> The OMERS Statement of Investment Beliefs says that “articulating our investment goals and performance measures helps ensure clear accountability.”<sup>13</sup> We do not believe OMERS is meeting these standards of reporting and accountability on this point.

**4. OMERS 5 and 10-Year Returns are now below OMERS own benchmarks for these periods.**

**OMERS Annual Returns vs OMERS Annual Benchmark**



Source: OMERS 2020 Annual Report, Ten-Year Financial Review, p. 142.

<sup>11</sup> OMERS News Release, “OMERS Reports 2020 Financial Results: paying pensions over decades means a long-term approach,” February 25, 2021.

<sup>12</sup> OMERS “Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures,” January 1, 2021. [www.omers.com/governance-manual-policies-and-guidelines](http://www.omers.com/governance-manual-policies-and-guidelines)

<sup>13</sup> OMERS “Statement of Investment Beliefs,” January 1, 2020. [www.omers.com/governance-manual-policies-and-guidelines](http://www.omers.com/governance-manual-policies-and-guidelines)

	OMERS Return	OMERS Benchmark	Difference
5-Year Annualized	6.5%	7.4%	-0.9%
10-Year Annualized	6.7%	7.3%	-0.6%

Source: Returns from OMERS 2020 Annual Report  
 Annualized Long-Term benchmarks not referenced in Annual Report and were reported verbally to CUPE by OMERS on our request.

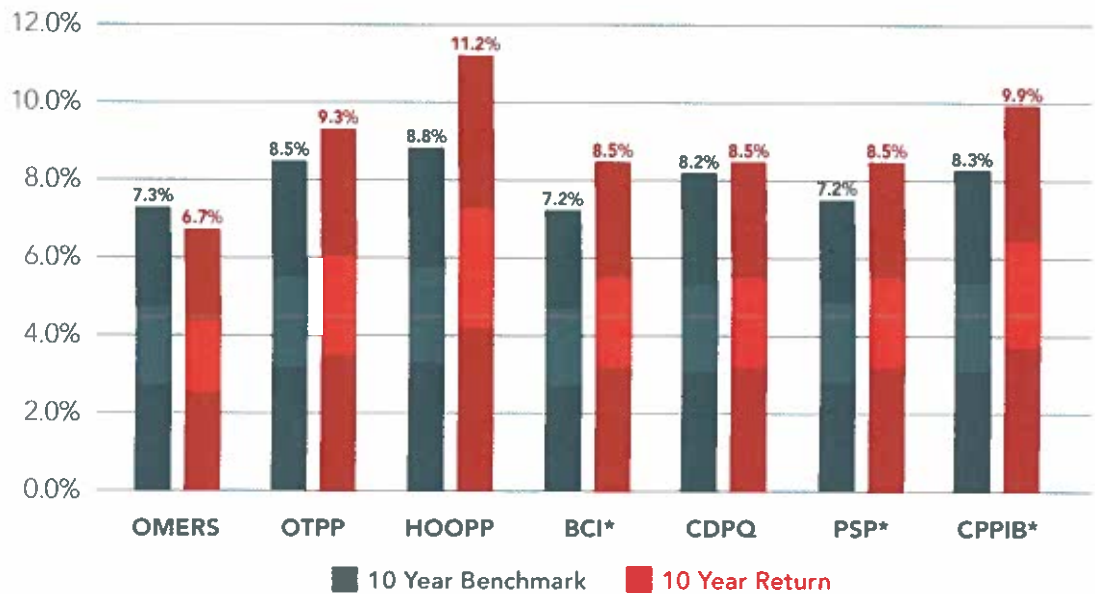
The 5 and 10-year annualized benchmark figures above were not disclosed in the OMERS 2020 Annual Report. OMERS provided these numbers verbally to CUPE Ontario upon our request. Previous OMERS Annual Reports normally included a statement that “Our goal is to earn stable returns that meet or exceed our benchmarks.”<sup>14</sup> This statement appears to have been struck from the 2020 Annual Report.

We also note that, OMERS benchmarks are comparatively low over this period when examined alongside other plans. We believe this is due to a different benchmarking methodology for certain investments at OMERS compared to industry standards. The other major plans and funds that have reported 2020 results, however, are all ahead of their 10-year benchmarks as of their most recent annual reports.



THE OTHER MAJOR PLANS AND FUNDS THAT HAVE REPORTED 2020 RESULTS, HOWEVER, ARE ALL AHEAD OF THEIR 10-YEAR BENCHMARKS AS OF THEIR MOST RECENT ANNUAL REPORTS.

### 10-Year Returns vs 10 Year Benchmarks to 2020



\*To March 31, 2020 otherwise to Dec 31, 2020

<sup>14</sup> 2010 Annual Report p. 27; 2011 Annual Report p. 25; 2012 Annual Report p. 23; 2013 Annual Report p. 22; 2014 Annual Report p. 12; 2015 Annual Report p. 9; 2016 Annual Report p. 33; 2017 Annual Report p. 33; 2018 Annual Report p. 33; 2019 Annual Report p. 42; 2020 Annual Report N/A.



**HAD OMERS  
ACHIEVED  
THESE BETTER  
RESULTS,  
THE PLAN  
WOULD NOW  
HOLD A VERY  
SUBSTANTIAL  
SURPLUS.**

The impact on OMERS of these longer-term below-benchmark returns has been significant. The difference of 0.6% between OMERS actual annualized 10-year investment returns of 6.7% and its benchmark of 7.3% has meant an absolute return outcome that would have been roughly 6% higher after these 10 years (all other factors being equal). Even achieving just this benchmark return on an annualized 10 year basis would have resulted in an asset base of roughly \$6 billion higher current plan assets.<sup>15</sup> This better result would have brought OMERS reported funding level into surplus.

This difference is even greater if we were to compare the impact of OMERS investment performance to that of any of these other large plans. For example, had OMERS achieved the actual 10-year annualized returns of the OTPP of 9.3% (just below the average of the other six plans listed above), the OMERS asset base would now be (all other factors being equal) approximately 27% higher than OMERS actual asset level. In dollar-value terms, this difference represents roughly \$28 billion more in assets after the 10-year period from 2011 to 2020. Had OMERS achieved these better results, the plan would now hold a very substantial surplus.

#### **5. OMERS 20-year return is not above its 20-year benchmark.**

Upon request from CUPE Ontario, OMERS also verbally disclosed that its 20-year return is equal to its 20-year benchmark of 6%. In our view, it is troubling that the plan has not outperformed its benchmark over this long period, and that this comparison is also not disclosed in OMERS annual reporting.

<sup>15</sup> The alternative scenarios for investment performance results outlined in this section are necessarily approximate as they are based on data that is made publicly available by OMERS, and were generated using the reported OMERS asset base as at December 31, 2010 of \$53.3 billion.



# Conclusion

CUPE Ontario has serious concerns with OMERS investment performance, and with what we believe is a troubling lack of transparency about these issues. In our view, these issues cannot be dismissed as a one-year problem.



**THESE ISSUES CANNOT BE DISMISSED AS A ONE-YEAR PROBLEM.**

We anticipate that these long-term, below-benchmark investment returns are very likely to lead directly to yet another round of proposals to reduce pension benefits payable to current actives and future retirees. OMERS has already eliminated the guarantee of indexation of pension benefits for service after 2022, and OMERS management has indicated it will be examining further changes in plan design. OMERS has recently stated in writing to CUPE that “the OMERS pension plan has been facing sustainability issues for some time now and the investment results of 2020 have amplified the need to address those issues.” At the recent 2021 OMERS AGM, OMERS Sponsors Corporation CEO Michael Rolland stated that “There are no guarantees as to what decisions we will have to make based on our performance...it’s a long term performance we need to look at...the results of 2020 did have an impact...and that’s why we’re taking a look at it.”



**WE ANTICIPATE THAT THESE LONG-TERM, BELOW-BENCHMARK INVESTMENT RETURNS ARE VERY LIKELY TO LEAD DIRECTLY TO YET ANOTHER ROUND OF PROPOSALS TO REDUCE PENSION BENEFITS PAYABLE TO CURRENT ACTIVES AND FUTURE RETIREES.**

CUPE Ontario is the largest sponsor representing plan members in OMERS, with over 125,000 active members in the plan. It is true that CUPE Ontario appoints representatives to both the OMERS Administrative Corporation and the OMERS Sponsors Corporation. However, because of restrictive confidentiality rules at both boards, our representatives are unable to keep CUPE Ontario fully-informed about what is really happening at OMERS governing boards, and the decisions that are being made about our members’ hard-earned retirement savings. We do not believe this is how well-governed jointly-sponsored pension plans are supposed to function. The result is that we feel that we are a plan sponsor in name only. Our members are not being well-served by a structure that effectively cuts them out of playing the oversight function they should over their pension plan.



**WE ARE NOT  
CONFIDENT  
THAT OMERS  
MANAGEMENT  
ITSELF HAS TAKEN,  
OR IS PLANNING  
TO TAKE,  
SUFFICIENT STEPS  
TO CRITICALLY  
EXAMINE ITS OWN  
PERFORMANCE.**

These barriers will not stop CUPE Ontario from doing everything we can to ensure these concerns about OMERS investment performance are addressed. Based on their public comments to date, we are not confident that OMERS management itself has taken, or is planning to take, sufficient steps to critically examine its own performance, nor are we confident that plan members or sponsors and organizational stakeholders will receive a transparent reporting of any such review.

**Therefore, CUPE Ontario is calling on other plan sponsors from both sides of the table to work with us to commission a fully transparent and independent expert review of the investment program at OMERS. This review should be conducted in the open by the sponsors and stakeholders themselves, and not behind closed doors at OMERS. Ensuring our pension returns are as strong as they can be is not a partisan issue, nor is it an issue that the member and employer side of the table should have a difference of opinion on. We want to work with other OMERS sponsors and stakeholders to address these issues for the good of all OMERS members.**



**ENSURING OUR  
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OF ALL OMERS  
MEMBERS.**



## Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

5950 Malden Road, LaSalle, Ontario N9H 1S4  
Phone: 519-969-7770 Fax: 519-969-4029 [www.lasalle.ca](http://www.lasalle.ca)

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**November 15, 2021**

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6  
[justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

### **Re: COVID-19 Testing Requirement at Land Border**

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At the November 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council, Town of LaSalle Council gave consideration to correspondence received from a resident, dated November 2, 2021, regarding the COVID-19 testing requirement for travelers crossing the land border into Canada.

The following points were considered:

- The vast majority of the population of Essex County, including the Town of LaSalle, is fully vaccinated against COVID-19;
- Essex County, including the Town of LaSalle, has strong economic and social ties to Metropolitan Detroit and southeast Michigan;
- The United States has opened their land border to fully vaccinated Canadians without COVID-19 testing requirements; and
- The City of Windsor has asked the federal government to remove COVID-19 testing as a requirement for fully vaccinated travelers crossing the land border into Canada.

At the Meeting, the following Resolution was passed:

**698/21**

Moved by: Councillor Renaud

Seconded by: Councillor Carrick

That the Corporation of the Town of LaSalle requests that the Federal Government remove the requirement for Canadian Travelers to be tested for COVID-19 when using a land border crossing into the United States and then returning to Canada after the November 8, 2021 re-opening.



Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Yours Truly,



Jennifer Astrologo  
Director of Council Services/Clerk  
Town of LaSalle  
[jastrologo@lasalle.ca](mailto:jastrologo@lasalle.ca)

cc. The Honourable Doug Ford  
Chris Lewis, MP, Essex  
Taras Natyshak, MPP, Essex  
Gary McNamara, Warden, County of Essex  
All Members of Parliament  
All Members of Provincial Parliament  
All Ontario Municipalities



# AHH Council – Key Areas of Focus & Progress - November 2021

This summary provides the information related to the key areas of Focus and Progress as outlined in June 2019 for the Almaguin Highlands Health Council...



## Ontario Health Team Partnership

## High-Speed Internet Throughout Almaguin Highlands

## Attract & Retain Healthcare Professionals

## Coordinate Healthcare Services to Serve Entire Region

Document and communicate the specific healthcare needs of the entire Almaguin Highlands in order to create our vision of people-centred care within our own community. Establish partnership with OHT (or OHT's) which aligns with and supports our vision.

Ensure that high-speed internet, a key component in the future of healthcare delivery, is available to every resident of the Almaguin Highlands. The goal is to help level the playing field and ensure our residents can access existing and future digital healthcare options.

Ensure excellent healthcare to our region through continuous efforts to both attract new professionals and retain the ones we have. The goal is to build an exceptional team of healthcare professionals, working together across the region.

Advocate for new and expanded healthcare services and help influence decisions which protect our region. Continually partner with our healthcare providers in support of the specific healthcare needs of our community.

**Progress: Items in red and bolded below are new this month...**

- **AHHC participation in MAOHT Digital Working Group underway**
- AHHC participation in MAOHT Collaboration Steering Committee continues
- **Participating in provincial "lessons learned" exercise to assist other provincial OHTs (Patient / Family / Caregiver)**
- AHHC continued participation in North East OHT meetings / activities

- Investigating various options for "community-based access points" for internet / wi-fi – in progress
- High-speed fibre build-out by Lakelands is in progress for Emsdale to South River Highway 11 corridor
- Public wi-fi access point to be added to Katrine Community Centre

- Funding requests to assist with renovations for BFFHT sent to several municipalities
- **Funding requests to provide rental relief for new Physiotherapist sent to all 10 municipalities**

- Sundridge Medical Team working with MAOHT on share technology platform
- **Created Almaguin Highlands Health Council Terms of Reference**



705-382-2900  
www.almaguin-health.org

**Minutes:** November 5, 2021, 11:00am via zoom and in person in the AHHC boardroom

Present: In person- Rod Ward, Delynne Patterson, Carol Ballantyne, Brad Kneller, Tom Bryson, Norm Hofstetter

Zoom- Dennis Banka, Marianne Stickland, Barbara Belrose

Regrets: Cathy Still

Guests: In person- Kevin MacLeod

Secretary- In person- Camille Barr

Called to order at 11:00 am by Chair R. Ward

Welcome Delynne Patterson to the AHH Council

1. 2021-053 Moved by T. Bryson and Seconded by B. Kneller  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adopt the minutes from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, as circulated. Carried.
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OF INTEREST:** None at this time
3. **DELEGATIONS:** None at this time
4. **RESOLUTIONS PASSED:** None at this time
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
  - a) **Revisit of the Terms of Reference for the Almaguin Highlands Health Council**

R. Ward reviewed the draft Terms of Reference with Council. Council is asked to further review and bring any changes or recommendations to R. Ward by next meeting. Council wishes to have the terms finalized prior to entering a new election year to provide a foundation for the group. Draft terms will be reviewed by C. Still and N. Kunkel prior to finalizing as the Village of Burk's Falls maintains ownership of the facility.

Discussion occurred concerning a letter that was sent to councils in 2017 asking for approval to utilize OTN reserves for other items, should it be needed. R. Ward asked all to go back through their files to see if their councils have this resolution archived.

C. Ballantyne shared concern that Kearney remains not included in the BFFHT mandated catchment. Also noted was McMurrich/Monteith as not included. Discussion occurred and AHH Council will advocate to the ministry through letters of support to the municipal councils, to have Kearney and McMurrich/Monteith included. R. Ward will also discuss with Norm Miller. C. Barr and R. Ward will work together to prepare a draft letter of support for next meeting.

**b) Sign for the AHH Council Boardroom**

C. Barr has connected with a sign provider who was able to create a mock up sign on wood with vinyl overlay. Council looking for a sign that is engraved wood. C. Barr will continue to obtain mockups for the Bruce Campbell boardroom sign to bring to AHH Council.

**c) BFFHT Renovation Costs**

Five municipal councils were asked to contribute to the renovation costs for the Family Health Team. The reason five were asked is due to these five being within the mandated catchment to be served by the BFFHT however there are ten who sit on the Council. Four have responded and as such the project is \$5000.00 short of what will be needed. B. Kneller will go back to Council in Magnetawan to explain the five being asked vs ten. K. MacLeod shared he may reach out the various service groups and other municipalities for support. R. Ward to clarify with N. Kunkel and C. Still the draft terms of reference and how funds in account for AHH Council can be spent.

**d) Update on Resolutions to Support Rent Assistance for Physiotherapist**

C. Barr shared that to date Burk's Falls has heard from Armour, Burk's Falls, McMurrich/Monteith, Perry, Strong, and Ryerson. C. Ballantyne noted Kearney did not receive the letter to support rent assistance. C. Barr to send to Kearney. B. Belrose requested that Sundridge receives a letter indicating that the physio services will be available to all of Almaguin. C. Barr to connect with Physiotherapist to obtain this letter.

Additionally, C. Barr confirmed that the physiotherapist is comfortable with signage on the practice door indicating the municipalities that sponsored the rent support. He wanted to also ensure the group was aware that services were not covered under OHIP (similar to chiropractic and massage). He also clarified his credentials are Registered Physiotherapist vs. doctor.

**e) Other business**

K. MacLeod updated on the BFFHT renovations which are moving forward, working with the Village of Burk's Falls. Dr. Salmon is building her practice and currently sharing space with the other doctors. BFFHT is close to having someone in place to fill the role of OTN Telemedicine Nurse. The BFFHT will be host to some medical students next year beginning in July 2022. Additionally, they will also support a nurse practitioner student.

An application was submitted through CMHA to fund a rapid access addiction clinic. Addiction has been on the increase since the pandemic. K. MacLeod also shared they are looking to expand mental health services due to an increase in waitlists.

K. MacLeod shared that the Board for the BFFHT decided not to pursue becoming a part of the OHT at this time. They will continue to do what they can to integrate services within their abilities.

R.Ward let Council know that Armour may host a flu and Covid-19 vaccination clinic at the Katrine Community Centre. R. Ward will share date when it is secured. He also shared he continues to attend the OHT meetings now once a month. He is a part of the digital working group that also meets monthly. R. Ward has brought forward that tech in rural areas can be a barrier. He will continue to provide updates from the meetings to this group.

**2021-054** Moved by Barbara Belrose and Seconded by Carol Ballantyne  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adjourn at 12:25pm to meet again on December 3rd at 11:00am. Carried.  
Location will be AHHC boardroom or via zoom.

DRAFT

November 1, 2021

The Honourable Christine Elliott  
Minister of Health  
Ministry of Health  
777 Bay Street  
College Park 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:

**RE: Public Health Funding for 2022**

The Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Board) commends the government's financial commitment to public health throughout the pandemic. This trust has enabled public health programs and services, critical to the pandemic response, to continue. There is still much to be accomplished as the pandemic evolves. Vital to achieving future successes is the ability to strategically plan for 2022.

Pursuant to the Health Unit's correspondence of June 24, 2021, the Board is again respectfully requesting the Ministry to urgently establish funding expectations for 2022. This is critical for planning purposes for both the Health Unit and the municipalities we serve.

The Board is urging the Ministry of Health to commit in writing to:

1. Extend COVID-19 funding in 2022 for:
  - a. COVID-19 Extraordinary Costs; and
  - b. COVID-19 Vaccination Extraordinary Costs
2. Establish funding in 2022 for public health recovery efforts
3. Increase provincial funding for public health base budgets with the proportional municipal levy increase needed in 2022 to maintain public health unit capacity

Health units have had only one base funding increase in the past five years; however, wage and benefit increases and general increases to operating costs due to inflation continue. In addition, two public health union contracts are to be negotiated in 2022 with workforces experiencing recruitment and retention issues. A zero percent increase in base funding for 2022 is untenable if health units are to fulfill the requirements for programs, services, and accountability as delineated in the Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability (Standards).

As per the Standards:

.../2

*"Boards of health are responsible for programs and services in all core function areas, demonstrating accountability to the ministry, and monitoring and measuring the effectiveness, impact and success of their programs and services."*

Requisite to realizing Ministry expectations to deliver mandated public health programs is a highly skilled and experienced workforce. They are essential to ensuring the future success of entrusted programs such as healthy growth and development, school health, chronic disease prevention and well-being, substance misuse and injury prevention, healthy environments, food safety, infectious and communicable diseases prevention and control, and immunization.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us that an able-bodied, prepared public health system is more important than ever. Without a base funding increase, public health's capacity will be diminished, with even harder choices having to be made regarding where we can assist in pandemic recovery and building healthier and sustainable communities. A base funding increase for 2022 is necessary to maintain public health services at status quo.

Your assistance and attention to this pressing matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



James Chirico, H.BSc., M.D., F.R.C.P. (C), MPH  
Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer



Nancy Jacko  
Chairperson, Board of Health

/sb

Copy to: Premier Doug Ford  
Hon. Helen Angus, Deputy Minister of Health  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Elizabeth Walker, Director, Public Health Accountability and Liaison Branch  
Collen Kiel, Director, Public Health Strategy and Planning Branch  
Vic Fedeli, MPP, Nipissing  
Norm Miller, MPP, Parry Sound-Muskoka  
John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming-Cochrane  
Ontario Boards of Health  
Member Municipalities (31)  
Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA)  
Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)  
Andrea Horwath, New Democratic Party of Ontario, Leader, Official Opposition  
Steven Del Duca, Ontario Liberal Party  
Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario  
Jim Karahalios, New Blue Party of Ontario



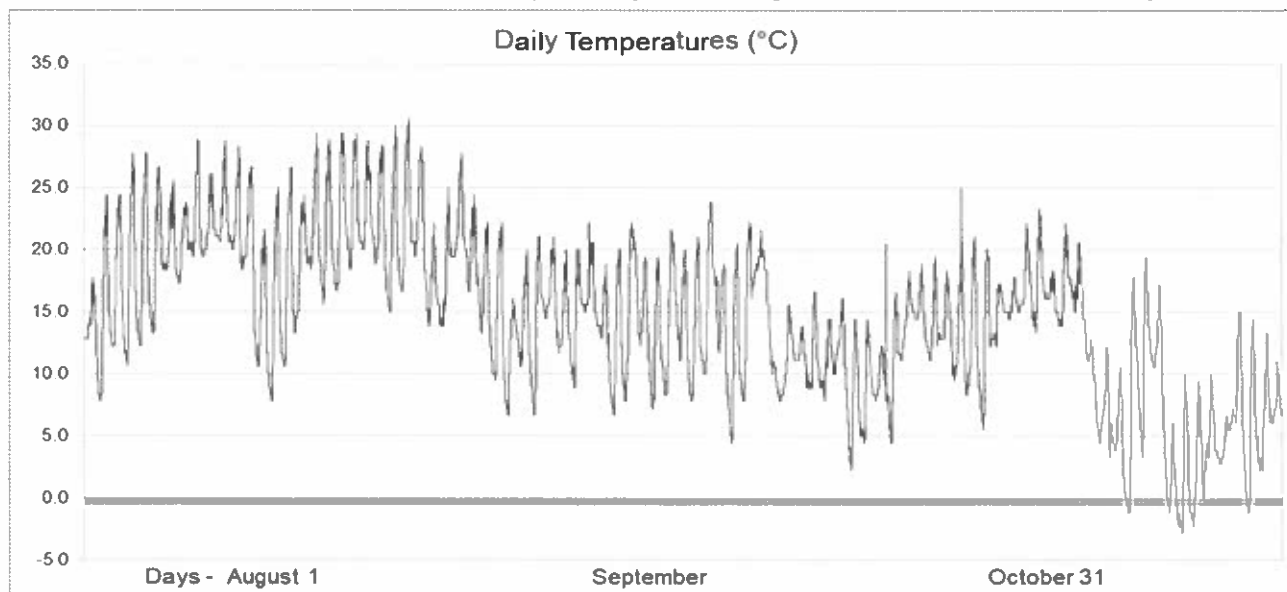
## Welcome to our October 2021 Newsletter

- **Great Fall Weather - an update**
- **Lake Turnover**
- **Almaquin Lake and Watershed Associations meetings**
- **Preventing & Handling Spills**
- **Request for Feedback on our Newsletter**

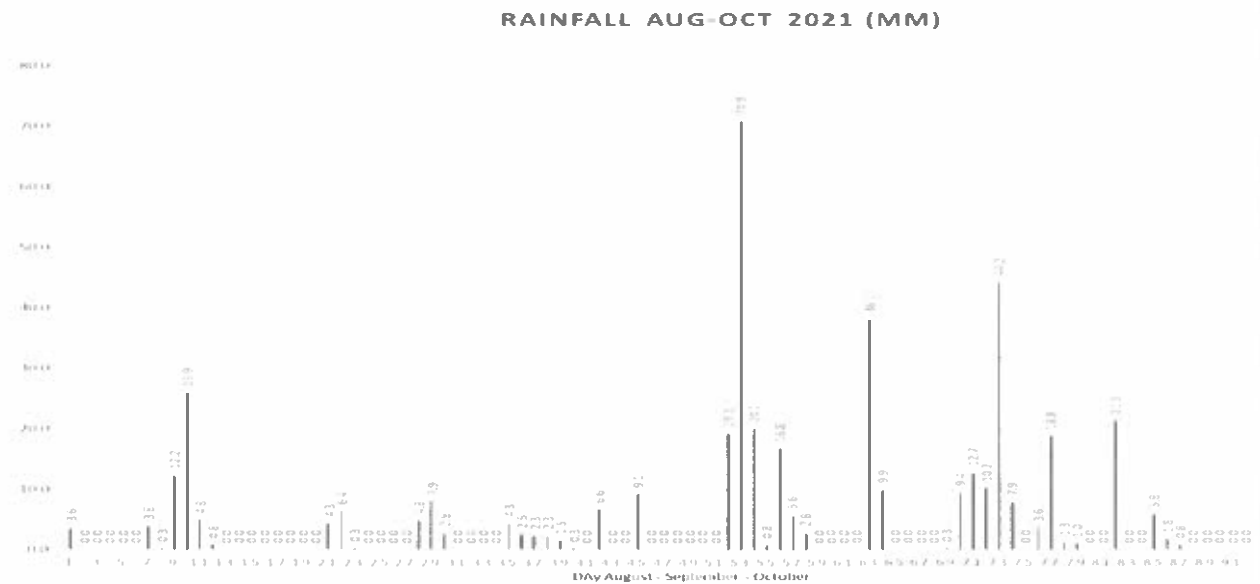
### Great Fall Weather

While yesterday's snow was a reminder that winter is just around the corner, we have actually had great weather this fall. Despite the rainy days, the warm weather has provided us with ample opportunity to get all those fall chores done.

Below is the temperature chart for the last 3 months. The average temperature for August was 67.7 F ( 19.8 C ), for September 56.1 F (13.4 C) and for October 51.2 F 10.7 C). While we had a frost advisory for the night of September 28th it didn't materialize. It wasn't until October 19th that the temperature back here on Big Clam dipped below freezing. The first real hard frost happened on October 22-23 when it dropped to 27 F ( - 2.8 C) .We also got a light dusting of snow which didn't stay.



We did get a considerable amount of rain this fall. August was 3.1 “ ( 77.7 mm) whereas September gave us 6.5” (165.1 mm) and October 7.4 “ (187.9 mm) which brought our lake up to levels usually seen in the spring. Also included below is a bar chart of precipitation levels for August, September and October 2021.



### **Fall lake "Turnover"**

I wanted to use our new DO (Dissolved Oxygen) & temperature sensor instrument to actually look at the process called Fall “turnover” in the water column initially in one lake and eventually on several lakes. Since I wasn’t sure when and how quickly this would happen, I decided to try and capture the event on our local lake - Big Clam. The process is dependent on cooler weather and the amount of wind energy.

For those of you who missed the September article on the relationship between lake water, stratification and temperature here is a brief summary. During the summer the water column in our deeper lakes will usually stratify into an upper layer called the epilimnion where the temperature and dissolved oxygen content is quite uniform and a bottom layer called the hypolimnion that is often considerably colder and where the DO content is usually much lower. The middle section between the upper & lower layers is called the metalimnion and has the most rapidly changing temperature gradient. The top edge of the metalimnion is called the upper thermocline and is defined as the depth where the temperature decreases at a rate greater than 1 degree per meter.

On August 27 the upper thermocline was firmly in place around 3-3.5 meters and the water temperature in the epilimnion was 25.4 C , DO was 7.98 mg/L. When I next checked on September 30, the water temperature was 15.4 C, DO was 8.97 mg/L and the thermocline was deeper at 6.5 meters but the metalimnion and hypolimnion were still intact. On October 28 the thermocline and metalimnion had disappeared – water temperature at the surface was 11.5 C dropping slowly to 10.8 C around 8.5 - 9 meters. DO was 8.75 at the surface dropping to 8.13 at 8.5 m. Depth in this area of the lake was about 10 m so the complete water column was very uniform at this point. We have a small deep hole on big Clam that is close to 20m deep so I will try to check it before “freeze up” to see what temperatures and DO look like in the hole this time of year. I would also like to look at the DO several times over the winter once there is ice on the lake. Really quite interesting and I look forward to tracking this in other lakes as well.

### **Almaquin Lake & Watershed Associations**

The creation of this group was spearheaded by the Near North Environmental Education Center (NNEEC) in Sundridge. The meetings have been chaired by Bob Attwell, a long standing member of the Lake Bernard Property Owners Association who is also on the board of NNEEC. The goal of the initial meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 was to bring together the various lake, property owner and environmental associations in the Almaquin area to discuss issues of environmental concern and priority that could be supported by NNEEC. We had 4 zoom meetings this summer – the initial Introduction Session, an excellent seminar on Phragmites in May, another seminar on recent studies on Cyanobacteria Blooms (BGA) in June and a wrap up session where we discussed areas of concern and possible solutions. Reps from Eagle, Cecebe, Bernard, Deer, Clam, Sand , Grass & Loon, Lynx (M383) and Horn Lakes as well as KWEF and the MWLT were invited to the initial meeting. Any associations in the area that weren't on their “radar” and thus were overlooked are encouraged to send a rep to future meetings. KWEF will try to attend all the meetings and provide updates to everyone that gets our newsletter. At our last meeting in October we discussed how best to educate the recent influx of new cottagers & visitors on environmental best practices, the need to reach out to children & the younger generation to become involved and the work being done to combat the spread of phragmites. There is a considerable amount of knowledge & experience within the group that can be shared and we were encouraged to reach out to each other. Most areas are experiencing increased pressure for development often with attempts to bypass environmental best practices. Everyone thought the group could be beneficial and we agreed to continue meeting in 2022.

## **Preventing & Managing Spills**

Last fall we encountered small patches of oil sheen along the edge of the lake among the lily pads & reeds. The wind and waves had spread it around so that it was impossible to tell where it originated. This pollution and the report of a leak from some construction equipment on another lake was the motivation for this particular article.

The most common cause of an oil spill or sheen on the water is a fuel spill while refueling. Other causes are defective seals on drive units, and poorly maintained engines - especially 2 stroke engines which can leave up to 25% of their oil/gas mixture unburned to be exhausted into the water and air. Even a spill as small as a cup of fuel on the water can spread over an area up to 1000 square meters. You are required to report any spill you can't handle to the MECP Spills Action Centre (1-800-268-6060). They will ask for details on the spill, materials, location and size .

## **Fueling Tips**

- When possible fill portable and engine mounted fuel tanks on shore away from the water.
- Know the capacity of your tank and monitor the fuel gauge if available while filling. Avoid topping up the tank or overfilling. Fill the tank slowly listening to the change in tone as the tank is just about full. Avoid excess fuel escaping through the vent hole or line.
- Be prepared for spills - Wrap a fuel absorbent cloth around the nozzle before starting to fill the tank to catch any gas that might spill from the nozzle . Put an absorbent pad in the scupper beneath the filler pipe of onboard built in tanks to catch any fuel splashes or drips so that it can't run into the water. Put an absorbent pad or rag around the fuel vent to catch any overflow.

## **Boats & Motors**

- Consider upgrading your small outboard motor to a direct fuel injection two stroke engine or a modern four stroke that meets current emission standards.
- Perform regular engine maintenance to prevent leaks from seals, gaskets & hoses and have regular engine tune ups performed.
- Bilges can contain engine oil , fuel and other engine fluids - especially if your boat has an inboard engine. Turn off automatic bilge pumps and only use them

when you are sure bilge water is uncontaminated. Consider installing an inline filter on your discharge line.

### **Cleaning Boats and ATVs**

- When washing boats and ATV's do it well away from lakes & streams on a permeable surface where the runoff will not flow into surface water or storm drains. A power washer is an excellent tool for this type of job. Use detergents only when absolutely necessary and then use ones that are phosphate free and non-petroleum based.

### **Construction and Repair Projects Near Lakes & Rivers**

- Make sure equipment is in good working order. Check it often to avoid leaks of fuel, oil etc. which could contaminate the ground and surface water .Use latex instead of oil based paints when feasible. Always paint or stain items away from lakes & streams and use drop cloths and tarps to catch drops or spills. It is good practice to have a cleanup bin stocked with extra rags, paper towels and some absorbent material like kitty litter or sawdust close by.

Even a small spill can immediately impact waterfowl and fish populations and longer term it will impact aquatic plants and animals including amphibians and invertebrates.

It is easier and less expensive to prevent rather than cleanup a pollution problem !

### **We Need Feedback Please !**

We started the KWEF Newsletter in September 2018. Our goal was to try to educate & encourage Kearney residents & visitors to care for our beautiful area, its lakes & streams and all of its inhabitants. Do you read it ? Do you find it informative and interesting ? Do you forward it to others or have you encouraged them to subscribe ? Is it too long or short? Any suggestions for different content ? It's time for us to evaluate it's future. We need to hear at least a "yes" or "no" from each of you – additional comments on content, number & size of articles etc. is most welcome - just hit reply & type away.

Thanks from all of us at KWEF