THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

COUNCIL WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION

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Friday, November 13, 2026

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Niagara Region

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON L2V 4T7
905-980-6000 Toll-free: 1-800-263-7215

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-248

Subject: Government of Canada 2026 Budget Analysis

Date: Friday, November 13, 2026

To: Niagara Regional Council

From: Ron Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer

On November 5, 2026, the Government of Canada released its 2026 Budget, Masters of Our Destiny (https://budget.canada.ca/2026/report-rapport/toc-tdm-en.html).

This memo summarizes notable announcements, program investments and provides an analysis of potential impacts for Niagara Region.

Notable Announcements

- On November 30, 2026, Canada and international partners will sign the Articles of Agreement to establish the Defense, Security and Resilience Bank (DSRB). The international institution will unlock financing to expand defense industrial capacity and support procurement. Its headquarters will be located within Canada, with a sister hub in Luxembourg.
- A Major Projects Management entity will be launched through a $187.4 million investment over five years, beginning in 2026-27, with $24.2 million dedicated for future years. The entity will support large-scale initiatives in alignment with the Government of Canada's Major Projects Office, which was established in 2025.
- Budget 2026 introduced the Canada Growth Incentive that will support high-potential businesses in attracting investment and growth through two measures:
    - A new tax exemption for Canadian builders of up to $15 million in capital gains earned from successful investments in Canadian companies.
    - Enhancing the small business rollover to increase the deferral of taxes on capital gains when proceeds are reinvested in a small Canadian business.

Notable Program Investments

Enhancing Canada's Housing Strategy

- Budget 2026 proposed a $45 billion cash investment to support previously announced initiatives within Canada's Housing Strategy. Funding will support ending homelessness within 10 years, expanding the construction of affordable and non-market housing and creating a housing market that works for all.
- Funding will be allocated to three pillars of the Strategy.

  Pillar One: Ending Homelessness in 10 years

  - $1.8 billion over four years, starting in 2027-28, and $3.2 billion in future years to establish an Integrated Supports Fund that will be delivered through Build Canada Homes (BCH). The fund will support projects that bring housing together with health, mental health, addictions and social supports. The Fund will also develop new transitional and supportive housing.
  - $3.6 billion over four years, starting in 2027-28, and $6.4 billion in future years through BCH to build new supportive and transitional housing through capital investment. Provincial governments will be expected to fund operations and wraparound services.
  - $2 billion over two years, starting in 2027-28, for the Health Infrastructure Fund to support community mental health and addiction facilities in addressing mental health and substance use challenges that contribute to homelessness.
  - $2.1 billion over three years, starting in 2028-29, and $4.4 billion in future years to the Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada to renew the Reaching Home and Veterans Homelessness programs for an additional 10 years.

  Pillar Two: Expand Non-Market Housing

  - $13 billion over ten years to provide additional capital to BCH to supercharge investment in non-market housing.

  Pillar Three: Building a Housing Market that Works for All

  - $100 million over three years, starting in 2027-28, toward a partnership with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to support municipal e-permitting and the adoption of artificial intelligence to enable more efficient housing permit approvals.

Emergency Treatment Fund

- $100 million over two years, starting in 2027-28, to renew Health Canada's program, which supports locally driven responses to urgent substance use and overdose needs. This includes mobile outreach, naloxone distribution and land-based healing programs delivered within municipalities.

Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program

- $587 million over five years, starting in 2027-28, to Environment and Climate Change Canada to support the installation of over 55,000 new EV chargers.

Wine Sector Support Program

- $176.9 million over three years, starting in 2027-28, to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to renew the program to support licensed Canadian wineries in remaining competitive and adaptive.

Background

General remarks on Canada's economic health include the following:

- 6.2 per cent is the projected average unemployment rate for 2027, with a gradual decline to 5.8 per cent in 2030.
- GDP inflation is expected to average 4.6 per cent in 2026 and 1.9 per cent in 2027.
- Consumer Price Index inflation is expected to average 2.8 per cent in 2026 and 2.2 per cent in 2027.
- A deficit of $62.3 billion is expected for 2026-27.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

_____

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Niagara Region

Corporate Services
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Memorandum

CWCD 2026-249

Subject: Summary of Active Bid Solicitations

Date: Friday, November 13, 2026

To: Regional Council

From: Bart Menage, Director, Procurement Services

Please be advised that the Bid Solicitations included in Appendix 1 are currently active.

As per the Procurement By-law 2025-57, section 19. Reporting, item 19.1 The Director, Procurement Services shall:

> (a) report to Council on a weekly basis via Councillor Weekly Correspondence Distribution:
>
> > (i) a summary of active Bid Solicitations.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

_____

Bart Menage
Director, Procurement Services

Appendices

Appendix 1 Summary of Active Bid Solicitations

Bid Number	Name	Closing Date
2026-T-135	200 Division St SAEO Amalgamation Renovation Project	November 13, 2026
2026-Q-179	Pelham Water System Upgrades Air and Noise Study	November 17, 2026
2026-RFP-169	Feasibility Study to Redirect Flow from Port Weller WWTP to Port Dalhousie WWTP	November 17, 2026
2026-T-177	Havis Mounts & Accessories for NRPS	November 18, 2026
2026-RFP-144	Delivery of an All Inclusive Ware Wash Program and Housekeeping Chemicals/Supplies for Seven (7) Long Term Care Homes	November 19, 2026
2026-T-152	Replacement of Lakeshore Road Culvert (087320) in the City of St. Catharines	November 19, 2026
2026-T-181	Geotechnical Investigations for Intersection Improvements at Regional Road 20 and Balfour Street in the Town of Pelham	November 19, 2026
2026-RFSQ-167	Roster for Construction Contractors for NPPC	November 20, 2026
2026-T-149	Supply & Place Poured Concrete Maintenance Hole Adjustments	November 20, 2026
2026-RFP-160	Water-Wastewater (W-WW) Electrical Maintenance Services and Supply (Industrial)	November 23, 2026
2026-RFP-166	2026 Water Treatment PLC Lifecycle Replacements	November 23, 2026
2026-RFP-124	Louth Street Niagara Region Transit HVAC Upgrades	November 24, 2026
2026-RFP-39	Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Consultancy Services for the Glenridge Avenue CNR Bridge Replacement Project	November 24, 2026
2026-T-175	Two New Illumination Plants on Glenridge Avenue from Lockhart Drive to Glendale Avenue and from Glendale Avenue to Glen Morris Drive, in the City of St Catharines	November 25, 2026
2026-T-123	139 Ontario Street EMS HVAC Upgrades	November 26, 2026

Bid Number	Name	Closing Date
2026-T-176	Traffic Signal Rebuild on Regional Road 50 (Glenridge Avenue) at Glen Morris Drive, in the City of St Catharines	November 26, 2026
2026-T-187	Support Renewal for Extreme Network Switches for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS)	November 26, 2026
2026-T-188	Thales HSE Support Renewal & Replacement Encryptors for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS)	November 27, 2026
2026-T-183	Supply and Delivery of Traffic Signal Cable	December 01, 2026
2026-T-185	Supply and Delivery of Five (5) Cargo Vans	December 03, 2026
2026-EOI-190	Niagara EMS Hub Development	December 16, 2026

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TBDHU.COM

November 5, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
7th Floor, 438 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8
MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Parsa:

Re: Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) Program

The HBHC Program is a vital provincial program that addresses the needs of individuals and families for healthy child growth and development.

Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) faces an ongoing challenge with a growing gap between the cost of implementing the program, and the funding available to implement the program. As currently funded, the HBHC program delivered by TBDHU is not sustainable. Service reductions will be required in the next fiscal year without an increase in base funding.

A sustainable HBHC funding model is needed to provide sufficient and predictable annual growth, accounting for unavoidable compensation increases and the inflationary cost of delivering services. TBDHU requires an increase to maintain the capacity required to meet provincial expectations for HBHC program delivery and respond to local community need.

On October 21, 2026, at a regular meeting of the Board of Health (the Board) for the TBDHU, the Board considered a resolution regarding the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program.

The following resolution 89-2026 was passed:

> **"THAT with respect to Report No. 35-2026 (Healthy Babies Healthy Children), we recommend that a letter be sent to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services requesting that the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) undertake a review of base-funding needs for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program to ensure this essential program is sufficiently resourced to meet the needs of families and assist children to have a healthy start in life;**

…/2

AND THAT MCCSS develop a sustainable funding approach that includes predictable annual increases that appropriately account for program requirements, increasing complexity of need, inflationary and salary pressures, and the geographic realities of service delivery in Thunder Bay and District."

We value the partnership and support of MCCSS and are committed to working collaboratively to achieve a sustainable solution. We welcome the opportunity to continue working together toward achieving this outcome.

Sincerely,

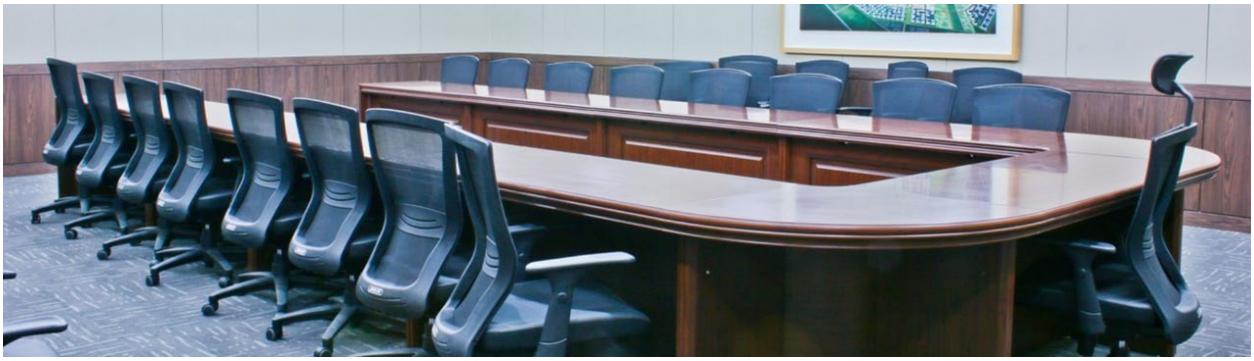


James McPherson
Chair, Board of Health
Thunder Bay District Health Unit

Cc: Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa)
Ontario Boards of Health

AMO Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Watchfile

November 12, 2026



Join the AMO Board of Directors

AMO is seeking applications from Council members to fill 10 vacancies on its Board of Directors. This is an opportunity to help shape AMO's strategic direction, advance municipal advocacy priorities, and represent the interests of municipalities across Ontario.

Eligible applicants must be an elected official in an AMO member municipality. Applications must include a completed application form, cover letter and résumé or CV.

Deadline to apply: Friday, December 11, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. ET.

For position details, eligibility requirements and application materials, click the link below.

Apply Here





Ontario appoints Heads of Council in Upper-Tier Municipalities

Earlier this week, the provincial government appointed eight new Heads of Council for Durham, Halton, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo and York regions, Muskoka District and Simcoe County. AMO looks forward to working with the new regional chairs in their roles as part of Ontario's municipal leadership. We represent 444 municipalities across the province, and our priority is to work constructively with all municipal leaders to advance the interests of Ontario communities.

Learn More

Take OCC's 2026 Business Confidence Survey

As part of our MOU with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC), AMO is encouraging municipalities and economic development leaders to participate in their annual Business Confidence Survey. The findings will help identify business challenges, opportunities and priorities across the province, informing the OCC's advocacy and its 2027 Ontario Economic Report.

Please share it with your economic development teams and local businesses. Deadline November 30, 2026.

Take the Survey

Key Updates

Now accepting applications for 2027 AMO Youth Fellowship Program

AMO is seeking applicants for its 2027 Youth Fellowship Program. Share this opportunity with students and youth interested in local government, governance, and the health of our democracy. Through this Fellowship, participants learn about municipal governance and policy while gaining exposure to realtime issues facing Ontario's municipalities. Applications are due November 27th.

Events and Education

New Council Program Begins

AMO's Local Leadership Foundations launched this week with a leadership workshop on integrity, civility and public engagement for London's council. Virtual sessions also start Nov 12. Join us for this innovative learning program on council's role and good governance. Click here to learn more and register your community.

ROMA Conference Early Bird Pricing Ends Soon

Register by November 18 to take advantage of early registration at the 2027 ROMA Conference. Be part of the conversations, connections, and ideas that will help move rural Ontario forward.

See the Full Event Calendar

LAS AMO Business Services

Participate in an LAS Program? Check Your Inbox

Municipal contacts actively participating in LAS programs may have received our first annual LAS Partnership Effectiveness Survey between November 5 and 9. If you received one, please share your feedback before November 30. Your input will help LAS understand the value and outcomes of its programs and where we can continue to improve.

LAS to Launch New Toolkit for Municipalities

December 3 is International Day of Persons with Disabilities. It also marks the launch of LAS' newest program designed to help municipalities comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Join our webinar December 3 at 11am to learn all about this new Toolkit. Register here to attend.

Federal Matters

National Housing Catalogue Information Session

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is hosting webinars about how municipalities can use the national Housing Design Catalogue to advance housing outcomes. Register to attend in in English or French.

Provincial Matters

Webinar on MCM Heritage Framework Transformation

The Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) is hosting an information session about proposed changes to Ontario's archaeology heritage framework. Join the session on Friday, November 13 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

Call for applications: Justice of the Peace positions

The province is seeking applicants for Justice of the Peace appointments across Ontario. There are currently 30 vacancies advertised throughout the province, and the application deadline is January 5, 2027.

Best Practices for Source Water Protection Program

Municipalities not covered by the province's source protection planning framework can apply for funding to develop local source water protection action plans. Apply by November 27.

Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund

Applications are now open until December 22 for the next round of the $500 million Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund.

MUNICIPAL PARTNERS*

AdvantAge Long-Term Care Forum and Online Program

Elected officials play a key role in supporting strong governance, whether through decisions made at council or more direct oversight of a municipal long-term care home. AdvantAge Ontario offers a self-paced online LTC Governance and Leadership

Program and is hosting the Seniors' Housing and Community Services Forum 2026, to explore innovative approaches and help elected officials make informed decisions.

Careers

Senior Marketing Advisor - Association of Municipalities of Ontario. Closing Date: November 23, 2026

Supervisor, Asset Operations Systems - Town of Halton Hills. Closing Date: November 16, 2026

Director of Facilities & Capital Infrastructure - County of Hastings. Closing Date: November 25, 2026.

See AMO's Job Board

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