



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

COUNCIL WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION

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Memorandum

CWCD 2026-10

Subject: 2025 Wastewater By-Law Reconciliation

Date: January 19, 2026

To: Regional Council & Local Area Municipalities

From: Lucia Chen, Manager Revenue, Planning and Strategy

The 2025 Regional wastewater requisition by-law period is now complete, and the final reconciliation based on actual wastewater flows has been calculated. The reconciliation amounts for each municipality are attached as Appendix 1 to this memo and the reconciliation has been distributed to Area Municipal Treasurers. The 2025 reconciliation amounts will be adjusted to the 2027 requisition to the local area municipalities. Staff have also provided additional historical information on flows and reconciliation amounts, see Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 respectively.

In 2015 Regional Council re-confirmed the use of the existing wastewater requisition methodology wherein the net budget requirement will first be apportioned between the local municipalities based on their estimated proportional share (a distribution based on average wastewater flows of their previous three years), with a subsequent adjustment and reconciliation to re-distribute the same total budgeted cost using actual flows over the by-law period (i.e. each local municipality is paying for its proportional share of the total fixed requisition based on the actual flows).¹

If you have any questions about the above information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

¹ Current WW requisition methodology was established in 2011 (By-Law 119-2011) and reconfirmed in 2015 (Report CSD 61-2015) which outlined that WW requisition is 100% fixed; WW budget is based on 3-year average flows to September; and the reconciliation and adjustment for actual flows is based on 1-year actual to December.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Lucia Chen, MAcc, CPA, CMA
Manager Revenue, Planning and Strategy

Appendices

Appendix 1 – 2025 Wastewater Fixed Component Reconciliation

Appendix 2 – 2016-2025 Wastewater Actual Flows by Municipality

Appendix 3 – 2016-2025 Wastewater Reconciliation History by Municipality

Appendix 1: 2025 Wastewater Fixed Component Reconciliation

Table 1: Wastewater Flows (Mega Litres)

Municipality	2025 By-law Estimate¹	2025 By-law Period Actual Flows²	Difference
Fort Erie	7,243	6,313	930
Grimsby	4,088	3,942	147
Lincoln	2,912	2,683	229
Niagara Falls	14,885	13,254	1,631
Niagara-on-the-Lake	3,246	3,507	-261
Pelham	1,554	1,412	142
Port Colborne	3,904	3,243	661
St. Catharines	19,815	18,346	1,469
Thorold	4,776	4,428	348
Welland	11,106	9,690	1,416
West Lincoln	1,257	1,144	112
Total	74,786	67,963	6,823

Table 2: Wastewater Fixed Allocation Percentages

Municipality	2025 By-law Estimate¹	2025 By-law Period Actual Flows²	Difference
Fort Erie	9.68%	9.29%	-0.39%
Grimsby	5.47%	5.80%	0.33%
Lincoln	3.89%	3.95%	0.06%
Niagara Falls	19.90%	19.50%	-0.40%
Niagara-on-the-Lake	4.34%	5.16%	0.82%
Pelham	2.08%	2.08%	0.00%
Port Colborne	5.22%	4.77%	-0.45%
St. Catharines	26.50%	26.99%	0.49%
Thorold	6.39%	6.52%	0.13%
Welland	14.85%	14.26%	-0.59%
West Lincoln	1.68%	1.68%	0.00%
Total	100%	100%	0.00%

Table 3: Wastewater Fixed Allocation Charge (\$000)

Municipality	2025 By-law Charges (2024-75)³	Charges Based on 2025 Actual Flows	Underpayment/ (Overpayment)⁴
Fort Erie	\$11,281	\$10,821	-\$460
Grimsby	\$6,367	\$6,756	\$389
Lincoln	\$4,535	\$4,601	\$66
Niagara Falls	\$23,183	\$22,713	-\$470
Niagara-on-the-Lake	\$5,056	\$6,010	\$954
Pelham	\$2,421	\$2,423	\$2
Port Colborne	\$6,081	\$5,556	-\$525
St. Catharines	\$30,861	\$31,437	\$576
Thorold	\$7,439	\$7,594	\$155
Welland	\$17,297	\$16,610	-\$687
West Lincoln	\$1,957	\$1,957	\$0
Total	\$116,477	\$116,477	\$0
Sum of Over Payments	-	-	-\$2,143
Percentage of Requisition:	-	-	-1.84%

Notes:

- 1- The 2025 budgeted net wastewater operating budget was apportioned to the lower-tier municipalities based on their proportionate share of the Region's total three-year average (Q4 2021 to Q3 2024 actual flows) historical wastewater flows.
- 2- 2025 By-law consists of the 12-month period from January 2025 to December 2025.
- 3- Charges paid excludes payments made/rebates received for 2023 reconciliation.
- 4- Underpayments/(Overpayments) based on comparing 2 different allocation methodologies (3 yr avg vs. actual flows during by-law period).
- 5- Minor variances may occur in Table 1-3 due to rounding.

Appendix 2: 2016-2025 Wastewater Actual Flows (Mega Litres) by Municipality

Municipality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Fort Erie	6,748	8,225	7,737	7,931	7,319	7,051	7,223	7,142	6,501	6,313
Grimsby	2,841	3,818	3,571	3,345	2,596	2,308	3,095*	4,395	4,105	3,942
Lincoln	2,416	3,027	2,885	3,013	2,731	2,763	3,436*	2,963	2,754	2,683
Niagara Falls	12,706	15,933	14,770	14,624	12,162	12,297	14,027	15,285	14,780	13,254
Niagara-on-the-Lake	2,378	3,235	3,076	3,286	2,713	2,571	3,087	3,377	3,232	3,507
Pelham	1,247	1,381	1,349	1,404	1,347	1,349	1,460	1,598	1,537	1,412
Port Colborne	3,330	4,389	4,547	4,846	4,125	3,698	3,702	4,130	3,468	3,243
St. Catharines	18,614	20,810	22,246	23,260	20,591	19,051	19,052	19,806	19,098	18,346
Thorold	2,987	3,679	3,870	4,333	4,056	4,544	4,725	4,806	4,542	4,428
Welland	9,134	11,004	10,835	11,602	10,273	10,253	10,502	11,881	10,006	9,690
West Lincoln	1,006	1,214	1,254	1,348	1,300	1,226	1,118	1,339	1,225	1,144
Total	63,407	76,715	76,140	78,992	69,213	67,111	71,427	76,722	71,248	67,963

*To be corrected – adjustments are being processed.

Appendix 3: 2016-2025 Wastewater Reconciliation History (Dollars) by Municipality

Municipality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Fort Erie	698	328	(190)	(299)	101	200	(218)	(788)	(1,019)	(460)	(1,647)
Grimsby	(294)	165	73	(246)	(851)	(756)	275*	1,712	1,604	389	2,071
Lincoln	204	231	23	(65)	91	214	786*	(379)	(635)	66	536
Niagara Falls	342	805	(711)	(1,272)	(1,579)	(301)	1,193	1,429	1,678	(470)	1,114
Niagara-on-the-Lake	76	338	115	63	(166)	(177)	343	329	374	954	2,249
Pelham	85	(65)	(84)	(62)	120	140	137	97	131	2	501
Port Colborne	(544)	(181)	160	382	47	(466)	(602)	(92)	(548)	(525)	(2,369)
St. Catharines	(117)	(1,428)	448	660	994	(640)	(2,223)	(2,789)	(411)	576	(4,930)
Thorold	142	179	301	451	614	1,158	643	(68)	(163)	155	3,412
Welland	(666)	(404)	(192)	311	420	554	(151)	603	(1,025)	(687)	(1,237)
West Lincoln	74	32	57	77	209	74	(183)	(54)	14	-	300
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*To be corrected – adjustments are being processed.



January 22, 2026

In This Issue:

- Healthy Democracy Tools and Resources for 2026.
- Don't forget to submit your municipal *Impact Stories!*
- Municipal Information & Data Analysis System (MIDAS) - Important Notice.
- Free Information session for Youth Considering running for Municipal Office.
- Addressing Needs for Dynamic Populations Workshop.
- AMO Regional and Single-Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up: 2026.
- New year, new skills: Navigating Conflict Relationships.
- Lead Where You Live - A Guide to Running for Municipal Council.
- More Dates! Free workshop series for those seeking re-election & first-time candidates.
- Free Workshop: Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate.
- Webinar: Demystifying Job Order Contracting.
- Blog: Privacy Impact Assessments: A Strategic Imperative for Ontario Municipalities.
- It's 2026! Time to post your Notice of Participation.
- Webinar: Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later report update.
- Applications are open: AMCTO-Mitacs MIIP.
- Municipal Student Survey.
- IESO Webinar on Long Lead Time (LLT) Procurement.
- Upcoming Webinar: Low-Carbon Energy Framework.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Resolve to foster healthier municipal democracy in 2026 with help from AMO. With the next municipal election just around the corner take a look at [AMO Healthy Democracy tools and resources launched](#) to help you strengthen participation in Ontario's local governments.

AMO is developing a public affairs campaign to showcase the people and impact behind municipal work across Ontario – and we want to feature your career profile. From frontline roles to leadership, we want to show what it takes, and who it is, that keeps municipalities running. If you are interested in participating, this is the last call to

complete the [Impact Story Submission Guide](#) and email your submission to workforce@amo.on.ca.

The MMAH FIR system and all associated applications - reporting etc. including the MIDAS data feeds, will be down for a necessary system upgrade beginning on January 30, 2026. The maximum outage period is January 30, to March 1, 2026, inclusive. [MIDAS](#) will be operational, however no new FIR data will be uploaded during this time.

Education Opportunities

Facilitated by current municipal leaders, these sessions will provide insights and strategies to build your understanding and confidence around how to become a candidate and running a campaign. View [full workshop details and register here](#).

The CCBF team at AMO addressed changing populations at the [2025 ROMA conference](#). A [workshop](#) identified new strategies to balance existing infrastructure needs and growth needs.

You can now register for the AMO Regional and Single Tier Caucus Virtual Meet-Up meet. Scheduled for Monday, February 23 from 10am-12noon. We would love to hear from you on questions you have for Caucus Chair Riley Brockington. Send your questions to events@amo.on.ca. This is an important event to gain insight and share your thoughts. [Register here](#).

Gain skills in building collaborative relationships and negotiating difficult ones. This 2 part, interactive workshop will explore the constructs, traps and pitfalls of conflict relationships, and how to approach, plan and execute relationships successfully. [Register here to save your spot](#).

The [Lead Where You Live Resource](#) provides key information for anyone running in the 2026 municipal election. This guide will introduce you to some of the key steps in that process. It will also give you a sense of what life is like as an elected member of a municipal council.

If you missed AMO's *Healthy Democracy Leadership Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* workshop registration, we are offering more dates to register. It's designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. It's offered at no charge in two streams: first time candidates, and those considering re-election in 2026. [Full details and registration information here](#).

AMO's [Running for Municipal Office - Everything You Need to Know as an Underrepresented Candidate](#) 90 minute free workshop provides useful insights and strategies to support you in getting your name on the ballot. While this workshop

focuses on individuals from underrepresented communities, all are welcome to participate.

LAS

Job Order Contracting (JOC) is a new method of construction project delivery in Canada. Join the Canoe Procurement Group on February 12 at 2PM EST to learn how and why JOC works. [For more information and to register, click here.](#)

Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) are no longer a theoretical best practice; they are a practical, strategic necessity for municipal leaders. LAS' Freedom of Information and Privacy Program Management service partner, Vayle, contributes [a blog explaining the importance of PIAs](#) and how to start implementing them.

It's that time of year again – ensure you comply with the [Canadian Free Trade Agreement](#). If your municipality plans on using one or more LAS [programs and services](#) this year, be sure to post your [Notice of Participation](#) on your procurement website.

Municipal Wire*

HelpSeeker Technologies is hosting a webinar for policymakers, public servants, and sector leaders on January 27th at 12:00PM to discuss the newly released Municipalities Under Pressure report. [Click here to register.](#)

Applications are now open for the next intake of the AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program. This program offers municipalities a cost-effective way to identify, advance, and address innovation or research challenges by partnering with a post-secondary student interested in a career in local government. To learn more or to submit an application, [Click Here](#).

AMO is partnering with the University of Waterloo's Work-Learn Institute to better understand how municipalities can more effectively attract and retain the next generation. If you've supervised a student – or know someone who has – please forward them this short, [anonymous survey](#) to share their experiences. If you have any questions, please contact WGardiner@amo.on.ca.

The IESO is [hosting a webinar](#) on January 29 to discuss the design of the upcoming LLT procurement including community engagement requirements, and timelines for municipal support confirmations. You can also register for a [municipal breakout session](#) following the main session.

Pollution Probe and QUEST Canada are hosting a webinar on January 27 at 11:00 to explore a new framework for benefiting from low-carbon energy innovation in Ontario rural, remote and Indigenous communities. [Register here.](#)

Careers

[Planner I - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: February 6, 2026.

[Director, Planning Services – City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: February 13, 2026.

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

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