



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

COUNCIL WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION

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Friday, April 24, 2026

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If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisor at 905-980-6000 ext. 3252 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or accessibility@niagararegion.ca (email).

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-78

Subject: Summary of Active Bid Solicitations

Date: Friday, April 24, 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-22	6271 Glengate St., Branscombe Child Care, Interior/Exterior Renovation for Service Expansion	April 23, 2026
2025-T-243	Landfill Manhole Safety Gratings	April 27, 2026
2025-T-233	Supply & Delivery of Bus Shelter Replacements	April 28, 2026
2026-RFP-27	Supply, Delivery, Maintenance and Commissioning of Dual-View Inductively Coupled Plasma-Optical Emission Spectrometer (ICP-OES) for the Niagara Region Environmental Laboratory (NREL)	April 28, 2026
2026-T-45	Annual Inspection, Lubrication, Cleaning and Maintenance of Biogas Trains at Wastewater Locations	April 30, 2026
2025-RFP-217	Provision for Security Consulting Services on Video Surveillance	May 01, 2026
2026-T-47	Real Estate Listing Services for Niagara Region Owned Property – 401A Lakeshore Road, St. Catharines	May 01, 2026
2025-T-213	Regional Road 38 (Martindale Rd) – Replacement of J.R. Stork Bridge (Structure 038205) Over Richardson's Creek in the City of St. Catharines	May 04, 2026
2026-T-29	Supply and Delivery of Sodium Chloride Solution (Brine) & Magnesium Chloride Solution	May 04, 2026
2026-T-19	Niagara Falls Water Treatment Plant Roof Replacement	May 06, 2026
2026-T-40	NRPS HQ/D2 Visual Fire Alarm Upgrades	May 06, 2026
2026-RFP-15	Niagara Region Roadway Asset Operational Review	May 07, 2026
2026-RFP-42	Schedule "B" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Intersection Improvements to Thorold Stone Road (Regional Road 57) and Dorchester Road, in the City of Niagara Falls	May 08, 2026
2026-T-28	Supply and Delivery of Bulk Sodium Chloride (Highway Coarse Rock Salt) and Treated Sodium Chloride	May 08, 2026

Bid Number	Name	Closing Date
2026-RFP-44	Secure Towing and Impound Services for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS)	May 11, 2026
2026-T-69	Core Services Review	May 12, 2026
2026-T-30	Supply and Delivery of Sand and Premixed Sand, Including Stockpiling and Mixing Services	May 13, 2026
2026-T-53	Contract Administration and Inspection Services. Capacity Improvements of Regional Road 55 (Niagara Stone Road) Niagara-on-the-Lake	May 14, 2026
2026-T-51	Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hypochlorite 12% Bulk	May 15, 2026
2026-T-60	Supply and Delivery of Ammunition for the Niagara Regional Police Service	May 15, 2026
2026-RFP-68	Baker Road WWTP EA Outfall Geophysical Survey	May 18, 2026
2026-RFP-61	Niagara-on-the-Lake Water System Modelling	May 20, 2026
2025-T-43	Proposed Thorold West Flume	May 21, 2026
2026-T-37	Domestic Hot Water Boilers and Hydronic Boilers - Replacement and Upgrades- Niagara Region Long Term Care	May 22, 2026
2026-RFP-32	Project: Vision Zero Road Safety Strategic Plan- Education Campaign	May 27, 2026
2026-T-20	Stevensville-Douglastown Lagoon System Upgrades – Water Service	May 29, 2026

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-79**Subject:** Notification to System Owner of Spill**Date:** Friday, April 24, 2026**To:** Regional Council**From:** Dawn MacArthur, Manager, Wastewater Quality and Compliance

Purpose

This memorandum is being provided to ensure timely communication to Regional Council regarding a spill in connection with the collection/treatment of wastewater in Niagara Region.

Two occurrences of spills occurred in March 2026. The impacted system/municipality, date, location and material of each spill are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Table listing spills that occurred in March 2026 from a Niagara Region wastewater system.

Date of Spill	Impacted Wastewater System/Municipality	Location of Spill	Material Spilled
March 23, 2026	Welland Wastewater System/ City of Welland	Canal Bank Street near Westbridge Road	Wastewater
March 26, 2026	Niagara Falls Wastewater System/ City of Niagara Falls	Bender Hill Sewage Pumping Station	Wastewater

The details of each spill are included below. All spills are reported to regulatory authorities.

Dain City Sewage Pumping Station Forcemain Air Release Valve Failure – Spill of Wastewater – March 23, 2026**Situation**

On March 23, 2026, Niagara Region was notified of a possible sewage spill from an access chamber and forcemain vent on Canal Bank Street, near Westbridge Avenue. Niagara Region staff attended the site and confirmed that a small amount of sewage was spilling onto a grassy area. The leak was coming from an air release valve (ARV) located in an underground chamber and its connected vent stack. An ARV typically stays closed during regular operation but is designed to open periodically to release trapped air from the forcemain. On this occasion, the ARV did not return to the closed position after venting air. This allowed a small amount of sewage to escape each time the Dain City sewage station pumps were operating.

Corrective Actions

The Niagara Region vacuum truck was used to empty the underground chamber. After it was drained, the damaged valve was isolated to prevent further leakage. The spilled material was contained within the grassy area, with no indication the spill reached any nearby waterbodies. The affected area was cleaned and the ARV was replaced.

Bender Hill Sewage Pumping Station Loss of Power – Spill of Wastewater – March 26, 2026**Situation**

Bender Hill SPS is equipped with four (4) sewage pumps. During heavy rainfall, three (3) pumps must operate at the same time to meet the station capacity and handle the increased flows due to the additional rain water entering the local sanitary collection system. Even with three pumps running, wet weather events often lead to overflows at this station.

On March 26, 2026, Niagara Falls experienced heavy rainfall, which led to high flows in the wastewater collection system. During this event, three (3) of four (4) pumps at the Bender Hill SPS became inoperable due to a power supply issue. With only one pump working, the station could not keep up with incoming flow. As a result, combined sewage was discharged through the station overflow to the Niagara River. This is considered a spill as the station was not operating with three (3) pumps as expected.

Corrective Actions

Electrical and maintenance staff were dispatched to identify and fix the issue. The root cause was confirmed to be a loss of one phase of the utility power supply to the station. Once the power issue was resolved, the pumping station returned to normal operation and no further issues were experienced.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Dawn MacArthur, B.Sc., C. Chem.
Manager, Wastewater Quality and Compliance

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-80

Subject: Garbage Tag Price Change – Reminder and FAQs (Effective May 1, 2026)

Date: April 24, 2026

To: Council

From: Lucy McGovern, Waste Diversion, Program Manager

This memorandum is a follow-up to the February 27, 2026 Council Weekly Correspondence regarding the approved increase to the garbage tag price from \$2.85 to \$3.30 per tag, effective May 1, 2026.

As the implementation date approaches, this memo serves as a reminder of the upcoming change and provides an updated FAQ document to support Council in responding to potential inquiries from residents.

Residents may continue to use previously purchased \$2.85 garbage tags after May 1, 2026, until their supply is exhausted.

Updated Letters of Understanding have been issued to participating retailers, and broader communications are now underway. As a result, Council members may begin to receive questions related to the price change, tag availability, and transition timing.

The attached FAQ document includes key information for both residents and retailers, including:

- New pricing and effective date
- Continued use of existing tags
- Retailer transition timelines and requirements
- General program information

Council members are encouraged to reference the attached FAQs when responding to inquiries.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Lucy McGovern
Waste Diversion Program Manager

Appendices

Appendix 1 Garbage Tag Price Change FAQs

Garbage Tag Price Change FAQ

These FAQs are intended to help you answer questions from residents (pg. 1) and retailers (pg. 2 & 3) regarding Niagara Region's updated garbage tag program.

Please use this document as a quick reference to provide clear, consistent responses. If the FAQs do not address a question, or if an inquiry requires further clarification, please direct to: Lucy McGovern, Waste Diversion Program Manager, 905-980-6000 ext-3558, lucy.mcgovern@niagararegion.ca.

Resident FAQ: Garbage Bag Tags

1. Why is the price of the garbage bag tag changing?

The fee change was formally approved by Regional Council on January 29, 2026. This fee change supports full cost recovery for garbage collection and encourages greater waste diversion.

Recent waste audits show that approximately two-thirds of what is currently placed in garbage bags could instead go in the Green Bin or recycling box, both of which are collected weekly. Increasing the tag price supports diversion efforts and helps ensure the program is financially sustainable.

2. What is the new price?

The new price of a garbage bag tag will be \$3.30, an increase of \$0.45 from the current price of \$2.85 per tag.

3. When does the new price take effect?

The new price takes effect on Friday, May 1, 2026.

4. What if I still have \$2.85 tags after May 1, 2026?

Residents may continue to use their remaining \$2.85 tags after May 1, 2026, until their supply is depleted.

5. Are garbage tags subject to HST?

No. Garbage tags are exempt from HST.

6. Where can I buy garbage tags?

Garbage tags can be purchased online at [Garbage, Recycling and Organics - Niagara Region, Ontario](https://niagararegion.ca/waste) (niagararegion.ca/waste) and at participating retail locations across Niagara. Participating retailer locations are listed on the Region's website.

Retailer FAQ: Garbage Bag Tags

1. Why is the price of the garbage bag tag changing?

The fee change was formally approved by Regional Council on January 29, 2026. This fee change supports full cost recovery for garbage collection and encourages greater waste diversion.

Recent waste audits show that approximately two-thirds of what is currently placed in garbage bags could instead go in the Green Bin or recycling box, both of which are collected weekly. Increasing the tag price supports diversion efforts and helps ensure the program is financially sustainable.

2. What is the price increase?

Retailer purchase price:

Increasing by \$0.45, from \$2.60 to \$3.05 per tag

Customer sale price:

Increasing by \$0.45, from \$2.85 to \$3.30 per tag

The retailer commission remains unchanged at \$0.25 per tag.

3. When does the price change take effect?

The new pricing takes effect on Friday, May 1, 2026.

4. How long can stores purchase \$2.85 tags?

Retailers were asked to estimate their inventory needs and place final orders for \$2.85 tags by March 31, 2026, to cover sales through April 30, 2026.

After March 31, 2026, only limited quantities of \$2.85 tags will be available to help retailers avoid excess inventory after the price change.

5. How long can stores sell \$2.85 tags?

Retailers may continue selling their remaining \$2.85 tags at the price of \$2.85 per tag until their supply is depleted or until September 1, 2026, whichever comes first. After September 1, 2026, \$2.85 tags may no longer be sold.

Retailers may request a refund for any remaining \$2.85 tags after September 1, 2026 by contacting melanie.tedesco@niagararegion.ca.

Please note: Niagara Region will not exchange \$2.85 tags for \$3.30 tags.

6. When will the new \$3.30 tags be available to order, and do existing retailers need to sign a new Letter of Understanding?

Retailers may begin ordering \$3.30 tags on May 1, 2026 by visiting:

www.niagararegion.ca/waste.

All existing participating retailers must return a signed updated Letter of Understanding before purchasing tags at the new price. Updated Letters of Understanding will be emailed to all participating retailers on March 2, 2026. Effective May 1, 2026, retailer Customer IDs will only be activated for ordering once the signed Letter of Understanding is received and processed.

Payment by credit card is required at the time of ordering and orders will be delivered by courier within a few days.

7. Are garbage tags taxable?

No. Garbage tags are exempt from HST.

8. How can retailers inform customers about the price increase?

Window and countertop signage will be delivered to participating retailers during the two weeks prior to May 1, 2026. Retailers may display the signage beginning May 1, 2026.

9. How do I become an approved retail vendor?

To become an approved vendor email melanie.tedesco@niagararegion.ca to request a Letter of Understanding.

Return the signed Letter of Understanding along with a copy of your Vendor Permit or Business License.

A unique Customer ID will be issued to you (required for online ordering).

Orders must be paid by credit card at the time of purchase and will be delivered by courier within a few days.

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-81

Subject: Tow Rotation List Update

Date: Friday, April 24, 2026

To: Regional Council

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

This update is being provided to Council further to previous information and delegations received regarding the management of the tow rotation list following the Province's assumption of responsibility for truck licencing in January 2024.

On April 23, 2026, the Niagara Regional Police Services Board received the attached report providing an update on the tow truck rotation list. The tow rotation list is for vehicles involved in collisions or that have broken down etc. where tow truck services are required to be called on behalf of a third party vehicle owner. This excludes police tows (such as NRPS vehicles or vehicles seized by NRPS for evidence), which are currently managed by a sole contractor retained by NRPS through a NRPS procurement award until May 31, 2026. A new Request for Proposal (RFP) specifically for police tows based on their requirements has been issued and is currently in progress. Through our partnership with NRPS, the Region issues procurement documents on behalf of NRPS but the contents of those procurements (for example pricing, requirements, scope of work, evaluation criteria) are at the sole discretion of NRPS based on their needs and requirements.

The NRPS and Niagara Region have been collaborating on a path forward for the tow rotation list for non-police tows and an Request for Supplier Qualification (RFSQ) will be issued in the coming weeks. Once awarded, this RFSQ would form the basis for the tow rotation list with NRPS Communications Unit dispatching tow trucks based on the list. NRPS and Niagara Region will continue to work closely on the management, administration, compliance, and implementation of the tow truck list.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE Police Services Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Tow Truck Rotation List – Update

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board

Report Date: 2026-04-14

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Services Board (Board) receive this report as an update on the status of the Niagara Region Tow Truck Rotation List and interim steps to be taken by the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) to dispatch the Tow Truck Rotation List maintained by the Niagara Region.

Key Facts

- In May 2019, the Niagara Region officially assumed responsibility for all aspects of Business Licensing, including the management of the Tow Truck Rotation List. Prior to this change, these responsibilities had been managed by the NRPS through a fully staffed Licensing and By Law Unit.
- In January 2024, legislative changes saw the province/Ministry of Transportation (MTO) assuming responsibility for the licencing of tow trucks.
- The Tow Truck Rotation List addressed in this report is for vehicles involved in collisions, broken down vehicles, etc. and excludes police tows (e.g. seized vehicles for evidence, NRPS vehicles), which are managed by a sole contractor, Parkway Towing, being the company awarded the contract through a 2022 RFP process.
- Information on the concerns with the Tow Truck Rotation List being managed by a third party, the potential conflicts of interest, and NRPS recommendations have been provided to the Board in two separate reports in April and July of 2025.
- The NRPS and Niagara Region have been collaborating on a path forward with the tow truck industry and the Tow Truck Rotation List.
- The parties have identified an interim step to alleviate the need for the third-party entity to manage and dispatch the Tow Rotation List.

Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations related to the recommendation in this report.

It is important to note that this report does not include the separate and outstanding recommendation from the July 2025 Board Report that the NRPS take over the Tow

Truck Rotation List in its entirety, which would have financial considerations as outlined in that report.

Analysis

NRPS involvement in towing falls into two categories:

- The NRPS has a contract with Parkway Towing (Niagara Falls) for the towing of vehicles for specific criteria, including vehicles held for examination, certain statutory impounds, vehicles requiring further investigation and for Service vehicles (NRPS Contractor Tows). Parkway Towing was awarded the contract in 2022 through an RFP process supported by the Niagara Region Procurement and valid until May 31, 2026. A new RFP will be issued in late April 2026 for NRPS Contractor Tows.
- All other vehicle tows, being largely owner/operator requested tows, including collisions and broken-down vehicles (where no preference of a tow truck company is given by the driver) are handled by the Tow Truck Rotation List that is being addressed through the below interim step.

Niagara Region will be issuing a Request for Supplier Qualifications (RFSQ) that will also be published in late April 2026, to develop a new list of qualified tow companies. This will align with the issuance of the upcoming NRPS Contractor RFP. Once this RFSQ and RFP are awarded, the parties will be able to revisit the recommendations regarding the management and dispatch on a more permanent basis.

As an interim step, the opportunity for the NRPS to dispatch the Tow Truck Rotation List and remove the need for a third-party entity to manage same was identified. This would result in the Niagara Region managing the Tow Truck Rotation List and the NRPS Communications Unit dispatching the list as provided. The original Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software that was available when the NRPS dispatched tow trucks until 2019, is still functional and can be reinitiated to support this function with no financial impact on the NRPS.

This change in dispatch function does not create additional NRPS workload given the existing software. Further, it does not materially change the current process officers undertake as they currently call the NRPS Communications Unit for the next company on the Tow Truck Rotation List, which they would continue to do. The step that would be eliminated is the one involving the third-party entity and their associated dispatcher, as the current process involves NRPS dispatchers calling this third-party for the next on the list. This interim step would remove this in favour of the NRPS Communications Unit having the list as provided by the Niagara Region available in the CAD software.

There is no additional workload/cost to the NRPS at this time. This interim step also eliminates the perceived conflict of interest that exists. Niagara Region and NRPS have worked collaboratively to address concerns regarding Tow Truck Rotation List.

Currently, the Tow Truck Rotation List is in a status quo position and being managed and overseen by a third-party entity. The establishment of the new Tow Rotation List will occur in the next two months as outlined. NRPS and Niagara Region will continue to work closely on the management, administration, compliance, and dispatching of the new Tow Rotation List.

Alternatives Reviewed

To not receive the report

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

Not applicable.

Relevant Policy Considerations

Not applicable.

Other Pertinent Reports

8.4 - 04.24.2025 – Tow Truck Rotation List – Letter from Niagara Region

9.1 – 04.24.25 – Tow Truck Rotation List — Police Tow Rotation List –

9.1 -07.24.25– Tow Truck Rotation List for the Niagara Region – Options and Recommendations –

This report was prepared by Inspector Nilan Davé in consultation with Vita Gauley, General Counsel, and Ron Tripp, CAO Niagara Region.



Submitted by:

Bill Fordy, O.O.M. #9615
Chief of Police

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-82

Subject: Planned Procurements with a Budget Exceeding \$10,000,000

Date: Friday, April 24, 2026

To: Regional Council

From: Bart Menage, Director, Procurement Services

Please be advised that the following Planned Procurements have a budget exceeding \$10,000,000 (excluding value added taxes (VAT)):

- 2026-T-70 Reconstruction of Regional Road 10 (Casablanca Boulevard) Phase 1 between North Service Road and Livingston Avenue

As per section 19.1 of the Procurement By-law 2025-57:

The Director, Procurement Services shall: (a) report to Council on a weekly basis via Councillor Weekly Correspondence Distribution: (ii) all Planned Procurements having a budget exceeding \$10,000,000 (excluding VAT).

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Bart Menage
Director, Procurement Services

Memorandum

CWCD 2026-83

Subject: Overview of Bill 100, Better Regional Governance Act, 2026

Date: Friday, April 24, 2026

To: Regional Council

From: Alexandria Tikky, Senior Project Manager

On April 2, 2026, the Province introduced Bill 100, the *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*, which proposes amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, and related regulations, intended to streamline municipal public services and align regional decision-making with shared Provincial priorities.

This memorandum provides Regional Council with a general summary of Bill 100. Details regarding the full range of measures can be found through the [Provincial Legislative Assembly website](https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-44/session-1/bill-100) (<https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-44/session-1/bill-100>) or summarized as part of the [Province's News Release](https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1007252/ontario-introducing-legislation-to-strengthen-regional-governance) (<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1007252/ontario-introducing-legislation-to-strengthen-regional-governance>).

Overview of Changes

Bill 100 proposes a number of changes to the way regional governments function in various regions across Ontario, including Niagara. If passed, the changes would come into effect for the new term of Council on November 15, 2026.

The scope of the proposal is summarized below, with a focus on those changes most anticipated to impact the interests and/or assets of the Niagara Region:

Regional Chair Appointments and Powers

- Under previous legislation, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (“Minister”) had the authority to appoint the head of council for the Regions of Niagara, Peel and York for the 2022-2026 Council term.
- The changes proposed under Bill 100 would permit the Minister to appoint the head of council for the Regions of Durham, Halton, Muskoka, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo and York, as well as the warden of Simcoe County following the regular election in 2026

and for every subsequent regular election. It would also allow the Minister to remove a head of council under certain circumstances.

- The Minister would also be authorized to grant the heads of council, including the chair for Niagara Regional Council, with additional powers and duties that mirror those of “strong mayors” powers. These powers may include the ability to appoint or dismiss senior staff, veto by-laws, and/or propose the annual budget.

Elected Officials in Regional Councils

- If passed, Bill 100 would reduce the size of Niagara Regional Council from 32 members to 13 members beginning with the term of office following the regular election in 2026.
 - The new Niagara Regional Council would include the mayors of each of the 12 local area municipalities plus the Regional Chair.
- Under current legislation, all regional municipalities are required to review the number of members of its council that represent the lower-tier municipality. Proposed changes would exempt the Niagara Region from this requirement for the regular election in 2026, while requiring regular reviews to recommence following the 2034 municipal election.
- The Province has also indicated that they will be working with local municipal leadership in the Niagara Region to develop a weighted voting framework, similar to that already in force in Simcoe County.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Alexandria Tikky, MCIP, RPP
Senior Project Manager



April 23, 2026

In This Issue:

- Call for Nominations to the 2026-2028 AMO Board of Directors.
- AMO's first-of-its-kind municipal candidate resource catalogue!
- Webinar - Addressing Local Housing Needs.
- The Importance of Professional Development and Education: AMO's Leading with Respect Handguide.
- MMAH 2026 Election Guides.
- Now Open: Delegation meeting requests at AMO 2026.
- Apply for the 2026 PJ Marshall Awards before May 22.
- Learn about best practices in Opportunities for Local Reconciliation at OSUM 2026 next week.
- New Dates - AMO Candidate Support Workshops.
- Preventing Escalated Behaviours Workshop: Practical Strategies for Safer Municipal Workplaces.
- Make smooth your rough roads.
- Bring your building permit process and planning applications online.
- Streamline Your Document Signing Process.
- One more week to submit applications for the All Risk Municipal Grant.
- OGA26: Turning the Shift into Results - May 20, 2026.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Nominations are now open for the 2026-2028 AMO Board of Directors Election. If you're considering running or want to encourage someone else to step forward, [visit the AMO Elections Webpage](#) for more information on offices open for election, eligibility requirements, and nomination requirements. The nomination ends Monday, June 22, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. (ET). Email questions to amoelections@amo.on.ca.

Through its [Healthy Democracy Project](#), AMO has launched a candidate attraction and voter turnout campaign: If You Believe. They Believe. In the Get Started section of the website you can view a first-of-its-kind catalogue of candidate resources for every phase of the campaign journey. [Please explore the resources and share with your networks!](#)

[Register for two upcoming webinars](#) from AMO's CCBF team to learn how to leverage existing data to support housing growth and affordability.

Through its Healthy Democracy and Workforce Development Projects, AMO has developed practical tools to help councils and staff manage conflict and foster a culture of civility. Our [Leading with Respect Handguides](#) offer resources over a series of seven key municipal areas of leadership. This week, we are profiling the [Professional Development and Education Handguide](#), which highlights professional development and education as key strategies to ensure good governance and organizational stability.

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing have released their [guidance materials for the 2026 municipal elections](#) including the Voter's Guide, Candidate's Guide and Third-Party Advertiser's Guide.

Education Opportunities

Want to request a 1:1 with The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)? The [Municipal Delegation Request Form](#) for this year's AMO Conference is now available! Note that the deadline to submit your request is May 21 at 5 pm EST, and you must be registered for the [AMO 2026 Conference](#) to participate in your delegation meeting. Questions about the process? Email delegations@ontario.ca.

The PJ Marshall Awards recognize Ontario municipalities that have found smarter, creative or more cost-effective ways to deliver public services with tangible results. Applications are due by Friday, May 22, 2026 and the awards will be announced at the AMO 2026 Conference, held August 16 -19, 2026, in the City of Ottawa. For [more information and to apply, click here](#).

Learn how [AMO's Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan](#) provides a framework for local reconciliation, and hear directly from First Nations and municipal leaders about a best-practice case study on how they built trust, achieved significant wins, and established a roadmap for collaboration at the [OSUM 2026 Conference April 29 – May 1](#).

Through its [Healthy Democracy Project](#), AMO is offering a dynamic lineup of information sessions to support aspiring candidates and current elected officials in their journey toward municipal office. Whether you're planning your first campaign, seeking re-election, representing an underrepresented community, or stepping forward as a young candidate, these programs are designed to meet you where you are—and help you move forward with confidence. [Register for one of these free workshops today](#).

In partnership with the Public Services Health & Safety Association, AMO is pleased to offer its members an interactive workshop focused on Preventing Escalated Behaviours. This session introduces practical, person-centred strategies to help recognize early signs of escalation, strengthen communication, and confidently and professionally respond to difficult situations. [Register for the two-part May 7 and May 28 workshop now.](#)

LAS

The winter has been long and cold, and your roads show the effects. The LAS [Road & Sidewalk Assessment Service](#) and [Work Order Software](#) are just to the ticket to get you back in shape. [Contact Tanner](#) for more info.

Build your community faster with an online permitting process for both staff and the construction community. Learn how to accept, review, and issue building permits online with easy communication through the [Electronic Permitting Service](#).

Streamline your document signing process with secure and authentic online digital signatures through the [Electronic Signature service](#) offered by program partner, Notarius. Learn more.

The All Risk Municipal Grant – Investing in Municipal Risk Resiliency recognizes and supports innovative risk management practices within Ontario municipalities. [Submit your ideas by May 1](#) for a chance to receive \$10,000 towards your project.

Municipal Wire*

Ontario's premier geothermal conference featuring expert insights, emerging technologies, and collaborative networking. Learn best practices, connect with industry leaders, and find what drives results. [AMO members save 20% off registration.](#)

Careers

[Program Specialist, Employment Service System - Region of Durham](#). Closing Date: April 27, 2026.

[Project Management Coordinator / Coordonnateur de la gestion des projets; coordonnatrice de la gestion des projets - Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming / Ministère du Tourisme, de la Culture et des Jeux](#). Closing Date: May 6, 2026.

[Bilingual \(French/English\) Court Clerk/Monitor-Transcriber - Region of Durham](#). Closing Date: May 16, 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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**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**DEIAC 1-2026
Tuesday, March 24, 2026
Meeting held by electronic participation**

Committee Members Present: Councillor Ip (Committee Chair); L. Hay (Committee Vice-Chair), R. Hill, D. Ita, E. Ivri, K. Misek, A. Pitaeankwat, A. Shabbar

Absent/Regrets: A. Ingabire, C. Wulff

Staff Members Present: P. Abeysekara, Integrated Planning & Policy Advisor, Y. Al-Harazi, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist, A. Jabbari, Homelessness Action Plan Project Manager, K. Lotimer, Deputy Regional Clerk, S. Madder, Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, C. Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Indigenous Relations

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Ip called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Committee Chair Ip read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Niagara Region Homelessness and Housing Action Plan Engagement

Anahita Jabbari, Homelessness Action Plan Project Manager, provide information respecting Niagara Region Homelessness and Housing Action Plan Engagement. Topics of the presentation included:

- Project Timeline
- Assessment of Housing Need
- Plan Overview
- Increase Housing Opportunities
- Help People Retain Housing
- House People Who Don't Have A Home
- Increase System Effectiveness

After the presentation, Committee members expressed that they were not familiar enough with the Niagara Region Homelessness and Housing Action Plan to be able to provide feedback. Ms. Jabbari advised that she would send the plan to Committee members after the meeting to review and invited them to send any feedback directly to her.

4.2 Niagara Region Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan (2023-2027) - 2026 Priorities

Yusuf Al-Harazi, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist, provided information respecting Niagara Region Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan (2023-2027) - 2026 Priorities. Topics of the presentation included:

- Overall Plan Progress
- Focus Area A: Inclusive Workplace Culture, Leadership & Accountability
- Focus Area B: Understanding and Humility Through Learning
- Focus Area C: Diverse Workforce Reflective of Niagara's Community
- Focus Area D: Programs & Services Meet Everyone's Need
- Focus Area E: Addressing Discrimination
- Focus Area F: Inclusive Communication
- Summary of Priorities

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 DEIAC-C 1-2026
2026 Flag Ceremonies

Moved by R. Hill
Seconded by L. Hay

That Memorandum DEIAC-C 1-2026, dated March 24, 2026, respecting 2026 Flag Ceremonies, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

5.2 DEIAC 4-2025

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes -
October 14, 2025

Moved by L. Hay

Seconded by D. Ita

That Minutes DEIAC 4-2025, being the minutes of the Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, **BE
RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6. **OTHER BUSINESS**

6.1 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee - Meeting Date

Cassie Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Indigenous
Relations, advised Committee members that the next meeting of the
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee would be held on Tuesday,
June 16, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., and that it would be the final meeting of the
Committee for this term of Council due to the upcoming municipal election.

7. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Councillor Ip
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Deputy Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**WAC 2-2026
Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Meeting held by electronic participation**

Committee: Councillors Ganann, Morocco (Committee Chair); V. Brown, S. Corcoran, M. Holm, D. Katsmar, L. Littleton, R. Unrau (Committee Vice-Chair)

Absent/Regrets: S. Stemplowski, E. Zimmermann

Staff: S. Dupuis, Associate Director, Community Strategic Priorities, A. Jabbari, Housing and Homelessness Action Plan Project Manager, K. Lotimer, Deputy Clerk, S. Madder, Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives, C. Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Indigenous Relations

Others Present: Councillor Craitor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Morocco called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Cassie Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Relations, read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Niagara's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2026-2036

Anahita Jabbari, Housing and Homelessness Action Plan Project Manager, provided information respecting Niagara's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2026-2036. Topics of the presentation included:

- What is the Housing and Homeless Action Plan?
- What Does the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan Do?
- Development Process
- Plan Overview
- Gender Considerations

4.2 Women's Advisory Committee Term Summary (2023-2026)

Cassie Ogunniyi, Manager, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Indigenous Relations, provided information respecting Women's Advisory Committee Term Summary (2023-2026). Topics of the presentation included:

- Mandate
- Goals
- Overview
- Presentation Topics - External/Internal
- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence 2025
- Upcoming Flag Raising Ceremonies

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 WAC 1-2026

Women's Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - January 17, 2026

Moved by D. Katsmar

Seconded by L. Littleton

That Minutes WAC 1-2026, being the minutes of the Women's Advisory Committee meeting held on January 27, 2026, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Equal Voice Niagara Workshop Updates

Ruth Unrau, Committee Vice-Chair, provided an overview of Equal Voice Niagara events including webinars held in January and February, the March for International Women's Day, the one-year anniversary celebration of Equal Voice Niagara, and the campaign school being held on June 20, 2026, for women interested in running in the municipal election.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is to be determined.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Councillor Morocco
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Deputy Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk