

AGENDA

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
Powassan Council Chambers
252 Clark Street, Powassan, ON

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

“We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, under the terms of the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and the Williams Treaties of 1923. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Metis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude towards the Indigenous peoples for their past and present stewardship over these lands, waterways, and resources. May we continue to honour their history, culture, and teachings as we work towards reconciliation.”

3. ROLL CALL

4. DISCLOSURE OF MONETARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

6. DELEGATIONS TO COUNCIL

7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS OPEN SESSION MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

7.1 Regular Council Meeting of February 17, 2026

8. MINUTES AND REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

9. MINUTES AND REPORTS FROM APPOINTED BOARDS

9.1 Powassan & District Union Public Library – Minutes of January 19, 2026

10. STAFF REPORTS

10.1 Protective Services Official, M. Peddle – Draft Bylaw to Regulate Parking

10.2 Clerk, A. Quinn – 2026 Election Information

11. BYLAWS

11.1 Bylaw 2026-04 – To Appoint a Protective Services Official

11.2 Bylaw 2026-05 – To Authorize authority during the “Lame Duck Period” of Council

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.1 Powassan & District Union Public Library – Budget follow up

13. NEW BUSINESS

13.1 To Appoint two representatives to the Powassan & District Union Public Library Board

14. CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 France Gelinias, MPP Nickel Belt – Planned Closure of Lifelabs Laboratory in Greater Sudbury

14.2 Almaguin Pride Network – Donation Request

14.3 Mayor Bradley, City of Sarnia – Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability

15. ADDENDUM

16. NOTICE OF SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL AND BOARD MEETINGS

17. CLOSED SESSION

18. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm
Council Chambers

Present: Peter McIsaac, Mayor
Markus Wand, Deputy Mayor
Randy Hall, Councillor
Leo Patey, Councillor
Dave Britton, Councillor

Staff: Allison Quinn, Clerk
Trevor Keefe, Manager of Operations

Presentations: None.

Disclosure of Monetary Interest and General Nature Thereof: None.

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| 2026-49 | Moved by: R. Hall
That the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting of February 17, 2026, be approved. | Seconded by: L. Patey | Carried |
| 2026-50 | Moved by: D. Britton
That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of February 3, 2026, be adopted. | Seconded by: R. Hall | Carried |
| 2026-51 | Moved by: L. Patey
That the minutes from the Municipal Recreation Committee meeting of November 20, 2025, be received. | Seconded by: D. Britton | Carried |
| 2026-52 | Moved by: D. Britton
That the minutes from the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival Committee meeting of January 21, 2026, be received. | Seconded by: R. Hall | Carried |
| 2026-53 | Moved by: L. Patey
That the minutes from the Powassan Nipissing Callander OPP Detachment Board meeting of December 1, 2025, be received. | Seconded by: R. Hall | Carried |
| 2026-54 | Moved by: R. Hal
That the memo from Manager of Operations, T. Keefe, regarding the Rural Ontario development Funding for the Trout Creek Community Centre Structural Repairs, be received, for information purposes. | Seconded by: L. Patey | Carried |
| 2026-55 | Moved by: L. Patey
That the memo from Manager of Operations, T. Keefe, regarding the Public Works Monthly Report for February 2026, be received for information purposes. | Seconded by: D. Britton | Carried |

2026-56 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: M. Wand
That the memo from Protective Services Official, M. Peddle, regarding Parking Complaints and Issue Areas, be received; and,

FURTHER the updated draft Parking Bylaw be brought back to the next Council meeting for further review. **Carried**

2026-57 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: M. Wand
That the memo from Protective Services Official, M. Peddle, regarding a Public Health, Safety, and Nuisance Bylaw, be received; and,

FURTHER that staff be directed to draft the proposed Bylaw to be presented to Council for review. **Carried**

2026-58 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: R. Hall
That Council now adjourns to closed session at 6:51 p.m. to discuss:

17.1 Adoption of Closed Session Minutes of February 3, 2026

17.2 Identifiable Individuals – Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act and under Section 9(4)(b) of the Procedural Bylaw – matters regarding an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees.

17.3 Identifiable Individuals – Section 239(2)(b) of the Municipal Act and under Section 9(4)(b) of the Procedural Bylaw – matters regarding an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. **Carried**

Mayor McIsaac left the Chair. Deputy Mayor Wand took the Chair.

2026-59 Moved by: D. Britton Seconded by: R. Hall
That Council now reconvenes to regular session at 7:50 p.m. **Carried**

2026-60 Moved by: R. Hall Seconded by: D. Britton
That Council now adjourns at 7:50 p.m. **Carried**

Mayor

Clerk

Powassan & District Union Public Library
Minutes for Monday, January 19, 2026 – 6:15 p.m.
Board Meeting @ Library

In-person: Debbie Piper, Steve Kirkey, Bernadette Kerr, Jennie Leblond, Pat Stephens, Larry Woodward, Marie Rosset

Via Zoom: Valerie Morgan, Randy Hall at 6:26pm

Recording of meeting

Item	Action	Responsibility
1. Call to order	6:16 pm	
2. Respect and Acknowledgement Declaration	Declaration read by CEO We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Peoples, in the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties areas. We wish to acknowledge the long history of First Nations and Métis Peoples in Ontario and show respect to the neighbouring Indigenous communities. We offer our gratitude for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we continue to honour these teachings and recognize their value going forward.	
3. General Consent Motion: Presented the general Consent Motion for January 2026, which includes: a) Approval of the January 19, 2026 Agenda with amendment b) Approval of Minutes from the December 15, 2025 meeting c) Approval of the December 2025 Financial Statements d) Approval of the November and December 2025 Library Reports	<u>Motion: 2026-01</u> That the General Consent Motion for January 2026 be adopted as amended. Moved by: Jenny Leblond Seconded by: Bernadette Kerr Carried.	
4. Disclosure of pecuniary Interest	None	

<p>5. Business</p> <p>a) Update on hiring of new CEO</p> <p>b) Recruitment of New Board members</p> <p>c) Operating Hours</p> <p>d) Security Contacts</p> <p>e) Annual Report</p> <p>f) Grants update</p>	<p>Hiring Committee is having its first meeting tomorrow on January 20th at 4:45pm to start the process of hiring the new CEO. A consultant from OLS will be attending via Zoom to provide their expertise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sue Oshell sent her regrets and will not be joining the Board. - Municipality of Powassan will be contacted to advertise for 2 new board members until the end of this term - Staff and CEO will continue to gauge interest from qualified patrons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After a discussion on current operating hours, CEO recommended that the hours be left as they are until the new CEO is hired and the fall municipal elections are over - the <u>Board agreed.</u> - Board requested that a survey be completed with our newsletter recipients to determine which day they would choose to cut if we had to reduce the library hours. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pat Stephens agreed to be the replacement for Tina Martin as the third contact person for the security company. <p>Document is in progress and will be ready to send along with the approved 2026 Budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applications for the Provincial 2026 Ontario Seniors Community grant and the Federal Canada Summer Job Program have been submitted. - CEO is looking into Capital Grants to subsidize the repairs to the elevator. 	<p>Hiring Committee</p> <p>CEO, staff members</p> <p>CEO, Communication Coordinator</p> <p>Pat Stephens</p> <p>CEO</p> <p>CEO</p>
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g) Library Agreement Renewal Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting is still pending. Next meeting will potentially be scheduled for February 2026. - Powassan Councilor informed the Board that he is looking into the cost and possibility of Powassan leaving the Union and starting their own library at 250 Clark. 	Randy Hall
h) Upcoming Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - January 28, 2026, representative from Service Canada will offer sessions on CPP - Author visit - John Lévesque - Music Meet Up – every third Wed. monthly - Fish Hatchery up and running - Free tech help every Wednesday with appt. - Members suggested that public presentations be scheduled on the following subjects: MAiD, local Hospice Care, Anti-fraud, Financial Planning. 	Randy Hall
6. Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Email from Sue Oshell sending her regrets. 	
7. Committee Reports		
a) Property Committee	<p>Two companies were contacted to get quotes to make the elevator well waterproof.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater City Concrete Works Limited was recommended by the Elevator Repair Fellow and quoted \$6,080.40 +HST - Gateway Construction from North Bay quoted \$4,285 +HST - Working with Underground Solutions to get a third quote. 	CEO
b) Financial Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2026 budget was presented and adopted with the addition of \$4,000 in Maintenance for making the elevator well waterproof. <p><u>Motion: 2026-02</u></p> <p>That the 2026 Budget be adopted as amended with the addition of \$4,000 to maintenance for elevator repairs.</p> <p>Moved by: Steven Kirkey Seconded by: Larry Woodward</p> <p>Carried.</p>	CEO

<p>c) Policy Committee</p> <p>d) Friends of the Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Budget will be sent out to three Municipalities along with the 2025 Annual Report and the letter from the Chairperson. - Audit is scheduled for the week of March 9th to 13th, with final report presented at the April 20, meeting. - RES-04 Health and Safety Policy was reviewed by Board members and approved without recommending any changes. - Board members reviewed the new PDUPL Conduct Response Matrix and made several valid suggestions to improve it. - The Friends did not meet in January, so nothing to report. 	<p>CEO, Brea</p> <p>CEO</p>
<p>8. Adjournment</p>	<p>Motion: 2026-03 That the January 19, 2026, meeting be adjourned at 7:36 pm. Moved by: Pat Stephens</p>	<p>Next meeting: February 23, 2026, at 6:15 pm</p>

Chair:  _____
Debbie Piper

Recorder:  _____
Marie Rosset, CEO

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF POWASSAN

BYLAW NO. 2026-XX

Being a Bylaw to Regulate Parking on Highways in the Municipality of Powassan

Whereas section 9 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers, and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under that Act or any other Act.

And whereas section 10(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a single-tier municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

And whereas section 10(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a single-tier municipality may pass bylaws respecting: in paragraph 5, social and environmental well-being of the municipality; in paragraph 6, health, safety and well-being of persons; in paragraph 7, services and things that the municipality is authorized to provide under section 10(1); in paragraph 8, protection of persons and property; and in paragraph 10, structures, including signs;

And whereas Section 7.1(1)(c) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, allows a Council of a Municipality to pass bylaws designating private roads as Fire Routes where parking is prohibited and provide for the removal and impounding of any motor vehicle parked on a Fire Route;

And whereas it is deemed expedient to regulate or prohibit certain parking on highways within the limits of the Municipality of Powassan;

Now therefore the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan hereby enacts as follows:

Short Title

1. This Bylaw may be cited as the “Parking Bylaw”.

Application

2. This Bylaw applies to all highways in the Municipality which are under jurisdiction of the Municipality and/or maintained by the Municipality.

Schedules

3. The Schedules referred to in this Bylaw form an integral part of it. Each entry in a column of a Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the entry or entries across from it.

Severability

4. If any provision or part of a provision of this Bylaw is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or inoperative in whole or in part, or inoperative in particular

circumstances, such provision or part of the provision shall be deemed to be severable, and the balance of the Bylaw, or its application in other circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Definitions

5. For the purposes of this Bylaw:

“Accessible Parking Permit” means an Accessible Parking Permit issued pursuant to Part 3 under the Highway Traffic Act.

“Authorized Sign” means any sign, device, or barricade placed or erected by the Municipality on a highway for the purpose of regulating, warning, guiding or prohibiting parking. Authorized sign includes any official sign placed or erected by the Municipality on a highway.

“Boulevard” means an area between:

- (1) the outer edge of the shoulder of a roadway and the sidewalk or property line; or
- (2) where there is a curb along the roadway between the curb and the sidewalk or property line.

“Bylaw Officer” means the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer of the Municipality, or their delegate.

“Bus” means a motor vehicle designed for carrying ten (10) or more passengers for hire and used for the transportation of persons.

“Commercial Motor Vehicle” means a motor vehicle having permanently attached thereto a truck or delivery body and includes ambulances, hearses, casket wagons, fire apparatus, buses and tractors used for hauling purposes on the highways.

“Construction Equipment” includes front-end loader, back-hoe, bulldozer and any other vehicle used primarily for construction purposes.

“Corner” means the point of intersection of the improved limit of the intersecting roadways.

“Council” means the municipal council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan.

“Crosswalk” means:

- (1) that part of a highway at an intersection which is included within the connection of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway, or
- (2) any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by signs or by lines or other markings on the surface.

“Curb” means the raised edge at the outer limits of the travelled portion of a highway.

“Designated parking space” means a parking space designated under this by-law for the exclusive use of a vehicle displaying a permit in accordance with the requirements of the Highway Traffic Act and the regulations thereunder and this by-law:

“Emergency Vehicle” means vehicles of the police and fire departments, ambulances, civil defence and public utilities emergency vehicles.

“Heavy Vehicle” means a commercial motor vehicle for which the gross vehicle weight as shown on the registration permit issued under the Highway Traffic Act, RSO 1990, c. H.8 exceeds 3,000 kilograms.

“Highway” includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle designed and intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof. Highway also includes parking lots on properties owned or operated by the Municipality of Powassan as well as any privately owned roads or parking lots designated as Fire Routes by the municipality.

“Holiday” means a holiday as defined in the Legislation Act, 2006, SO 2006, c. 21, as amended, and any successor law thereto.

“Intersection” means the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines or, if none, then of the lateral boundary lines of two or more highways that join one another at an angle, whether or not one highway crosses another.

“Loading Zone” means a designated portion of a highway adjacent to the curb reserved for the exclusive use of commercial motor vehicles and taxis during loading and unloading.

“Motor Vehicle” includes an automobile, a motorcycle, a motor-assisted bicycle unless otherwise indicated in this by-law, and any other vehicle propelled or driven otherwise than by muscular power, but does not include a street car or other motor vehicle running only upon rails, a power-assisted bicycle, a motorized snow vehicle, a traction engine, a farm tractor, a self-propelled implement of husbandry or a road-building machine.

“Municipality” means The Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan.

“Park” or “Parking” means the stopping or standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, with or without the engine activated.

“Parking Supervisor” means the person appointed by the Municipality from time to time to oversee Municipality Parking operations, or his or her delegate.

“Pedestrian” means a person afoot or in a wheelchair or a child in a carriage.

“Police Officer” means a sworn member of a police service having jurisdiction within the Municipality.

“Public Works Foreman” means the Public Works Foreman for The Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan or their delegate.

“Recreational Vehicle” includes a motor home, travel trailer, tent trailer, snowmobile, boat, all-terrain vehicle, and trailer designed or used for hauling a recreational vehicle.

“Road” means a highway as defined in this bylaw.

“Roadway” means the part of the highway that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, but does not include the shoulder, the boulevard or the sidewalk and, where a highway includes two or more separate roadways, the term “roadway” refers to any one roadway separately and not to all the roadways collectively.

“Schedule” means a Schedule attached to and forming part of this bylaw, unless otherwise indicated.

“School Bus” means a bus that,

- (1) is painted chrome yellow; and
- (2) displays on the front and rear thereof the words “school bus” and on the rear thereof the words “do not pass when signals flashing”.

“Sidewalk” means that portion of a highway between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway and the adjacent property lines, improved by paving, concrete or other means for the use of pedestrians.

“Stand” or “Standing” means the halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except for the purpose of and while actively engaged in receiving or discharging passengers.

“Stop” or “Stopping”, when prohibited, means the complete cessation of movement of a vehicle, even momentarily, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or of a traffic control sign or signal.

“Street” means a highway as defined in this bylaw.

“Traffic” includes pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, and other conveyances either singly or together while using any highway for the purpose of travel.

“Trailer” means a vehicle so designed that it may be attached to or drawn by a motor vehicle; and intended to transport property or persons, but does not include machinery or equipment used in the construction or maintenance of highways;

“Vehicle” includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, roadbuilding machine, bicycle and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle.

General Parking Regulations

6. No person shall park a vehicle on any highway, other than a highway where angle parking is permitted, unless:

- (1) on the right-hand side of the highway having regard for the direction in which the vehicle has been proceeding;

- (2) the right front and right rear wheels of the vehicle are parallel to and not more than 50 centimetres from the curb or edge of the roadway; and
- (3) on uncurbed highways or in winter, the vehicle is parked parallel, and as close as circumstances and weather conditions permit, to the edge of the boulevard or sidewalk, as the case may be.

7. Where a parking space is designated by painted lines on a highway, no person shall park vehicle other than within the painted limits of the parking space.

8. No person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway.

9. No person shall interfere with an authorized sign or other sign or barricade erected or lawfully placed pursuant to the provisions of this bylaw.

10. No person shall park a vehicle on a highway in any place where authorized signs prohibiting parking are on display and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this subsection encompasses offences committed under sections 34, 35, 36, 39, and 41 of this by-law and proceedings for offences committed under those sections may be commenced under this section of the bylaw.

11. No person shall park a vehicle on any sidewalk.

12. No person shall park a vehicle upon any boulevard unless permitted by the posting of authorized signs.

13. No person shall park a vehicle on a crosswalk, or in such a way as to obstruct a crosswalk.

14. No person shall park a vehicle in an intersection or in such a way as to obstruct an intersection.

15. No person shall park a vehicle within three metres of any corner.

16. No person shall park a vehicle in front of a public or private entrance/driveway.

17. No person shall park a vehicle within three metres of a fire hydrant.

18. No person shall park a vehicle within 90 metres of the scene of a fire in progress.

19. No person shall park a vehicle on any bridge or within 10 metres of the entrance or exit thereof.

20. No person shall park a vehicle on the approach to any fire station, police station, or other place where emergency vehicles require regular access.

21. No person shall park a vehicle on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of the highway.

22. No person shall park a vehicle in such a position as will prevent the removal of any other vehicle previously parked.

23. No person shall park a vehicle on any highway for more than 72 hours.

24. No person shall park a vehicle on any highway while advertising the vehicle for sale by way of a sign in or on the vehicle.

25. No person shall park a vehicle on any highway for the purpose of washing, greasing, or repairing such vehicle, except for immediate repair due to an emergency.

26. In this section, “permit” means a permit issued under Subsection 7 (7) of The Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, consisting, except when the permit is an IRP cab card, of a vehicle portion and a plate portion.

(1) No person shall park a vehicle or trailer on a highway unless:

- (a) there exists a currently validated permit for the vehicle;
- (b) there are displayed on the vehicle, in the prescribed manner, number plates issued in accordance with the regulations showing the number of the permit issued for the vehicle;
- (c) evidence of the current validation of the permit is affixed, in the prescribed manner, to one of the number plates mentioned in paragraph (b) displayed on the vehicle.

27. No person shall park a vehicle that is a bus, school bus, commercial motor vehicle with a capacity greater than one tonne, heavy vehicle, construction equipment, trailer designed or used for commercial purposes, or recreational vehicle, on any highway within or abutting a residential zone.

28. No person shall park a trailer on a highway unless the trailer is attached to a vehicle by which it may be drawn.

29. No person shall park a vehicle on a highway if:

- (1) the vehicle is on a jack or a similar device; and
- (2) one or more wheels have been removed from the vehicle or part of the vehicle is raised.

Emergency Access

30. When authorized signs are on display, no person shall park a vehicle on a highway in any location identified as a fire route, an emergency access route one or otherwise being for the use of emergency vehicles.

Accessible Parking

31. No person or organization shall park a vehicle in a designated accessible parking space unless;

- (1) a currently valid accessible parking permit has been issued to that person, organization or to a passenger being picked up or transported in the vehicle, and
- (2) such accessible parking permit is displayed on or in the vehicle in accordance with the requirement of the Highway Traffic Act, the regulation made thereunder and this bylaw.

32. No persons with an accessible parking permit shall park a vehicle for more than two (2) hours in a designated parking space as described in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this Bylaw.

Winter Months

33. No person shall park a vehicle on any highway between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. commencing on November 1 and ending on March 31, inclusive.

34. When a snow removal sign is posted on a highway:

(1) no person shall park a vehicle on that highway; and,

(2) any person who has already parked a vehicle on the highway prior to the sign being posted shall remove the vehicle within 12 hours of the sign being posted.

35. No person shall park a vehicle on a highway at any time during a snowfall or within the 24-hour period following a snowfall, during the period commencing on November 1 and ending on March 31, inclusive.

Intersections, Parks, Narrow Highways

36. Where authorized signs are on display, no person shall park, stand or stop a vehicle on a highway:

(1) within 3 metres of any corner or intersection;

(2) on other than one side of any highway, the roadway of which is less than 7.5 metres in width.

Bus Zones

37. When authorized signs are on display, no person shall stand or park a vehicle other than a bus on a portion of a highway designated as a bus stop.

Angle Parking

38. (1) Where authorized signs are on display so indicating, angle parking is permitted on the highways set out in column 1 of Schedule 3 of this bylaw, within the limits set out in columns 2, 3, and 4.

(2) Where angle parking is permitted, no person shall park a vehicle except at the angle indicated by the authorized signs and so that the front end of the vehicle is nearest the edge of the highway.

No Parking Areas – Any Time

39. Where authorized signs are on display, no person shall park a vehicle on any highway at the side of and between the limits of the highway as set out in Schedule A of this bylaw.

Extent of Signed No Parking Areas

40. The extent of a No Parking area designated by official signs or authorized signs terminates:

- (1) at an intersection with a highway; or,
- (2) at another official sign or authorized sign, which designates a different type of no parking area, or which authorizes and regulates parking in that area.

Loading Zones

41. No person shall park a vehicle on a highway in any location identified as a passenger or commercial loading zone for a period of time longer than that permitted.

Authorizations

42. The Public Works Foreman, or their delegate, is hereby authorized to:

- (1) erect or place and maintain such signs as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this bylaw, or as required to regulate parking for the safety or convenience of the public, including, but not limited to, official signs and traffic control devices;
- (2) erect or place and maintain temporary parking restriction signs for the purpose of regulating or prohibiting parking:
 - (a) where there is highway construction, repair, or painting underway;
 - (b) to allow for snow plowing and snow removal, depending on snowfall in any particular year;
 - (c) for the purpose of a community event; or,
 - (d) in the event of an emergency;
- (3) remove or cause to be removed without notice any sign, device, or barricade found on a highway which resembles an official sign or authorized sign, but which is not an official sign or authorized sign.

Exemptions

43. The provisions of this by-law prohibiting and regulating parking shall not apply to:

- (1) police vehicles, Municipality of Powassan Fire Department vehicles, and ambulances;
- (2) Municipality bylaw enforcement vehicles;

(3) vehicles of or used by the Municipality in use in connection with public works being done on or near a highway;

(4) a vehicle, the crew of which is engaged in making emergency repairs to a public utility or service; and,

(5) Canada Post Corporation vehicles.

Enforcement

44. (1) Any Police Officer or Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, employed by or under contract with the Municipality to enforce this bylaw may enforce the provisions of this bylaw.

(2) The Chief, a Deputy Chief, or a Captain of the Municipality of Powassan Fire Department may enforce the provisions of sections 20 and 29.

45. No person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, any Provincial Offences Officer who is exercising a power or performing a duty under this bylaw.

Offences and Penalties

46. Every person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine as provided for by the *Provincial Offences Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.33, as amended.

Owner Liability

47. Where a vehicle has been parked in contravention of this bylaw, the owner of the vehicle is guilty of an offence, even if the owner was not the driver of the vehicle at the time of the contravention and, upon conviction, is subject to a fine as provided in the Provincial Offences Act unless, at the time of the offence, the vehicle was in the possession of another person without the owner's consent.

Order Prohibiting Continuation

48. Where any person contravenes any of the provisions of this bylaw and a conviction is entered, in addition to any other remedy and to any penalty imposed by this by-law, the court in which the conviction has been entered and any court of competent jurisdiction thereafter may make an Order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

49. Any person who contravenes an Order Prohibiting Continuation or Repetition made under this bylaw is guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is subject to a fine as provided in the Provincial Offences Act.

Vehicle Towing

50. (1) Where any vehicle is parked in contravention of this bylaw and the vehicle is interfering with the movement of traffic or with snow clearing or removal operations, the vehicle may be towed, removed, and impounded at the direction of a police officer, provincial offences officer, bylaw enforcement officer, Chief Fire Official, or the Public Works Foreman or their authorized delegate, at the sole risk and expense of the owner.

(2) Where authorized signs are on display, any vehicle parked in contravention of this bylaw may be towed, removed and impounded at the direction of a police officer, provincial offences officer, bylaw enforcement officer, or the Public Works Foreman or their authorized delegate, at the sole risk and expense of the owner.

Coming Into Force

51. (1) This Bylaw No. 2026-XX shall not come into force and effect until the date that Orders made by the Regional Senior Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice pursuant to the Provincial Offences Act, and the Courts of Justice Act, RSO 1990, c. C.43, and regulations thereunder take effect, approving set fines for offences under this bylaw.

(2) Upon the coming into force Bylaw No. 2001-23 and Bylaw 2009-54 and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time on _____ 2026 and READ a THIRD and FINAL time and passed as such in open Council this _____ 2026.

Mayor

Clerk

SCHEDULE "A"

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

No Parking Any Time When Authorized Signs Are Posted

HIGHWAY	SIDE	FROM	TO
Main Street	West	Chisholm Street	Northern boundary of Plan 43, Block 2, Lot 5, also known as 555 Main Street
Main Street	East	Southern boundary of Plan 44, Block A, Lot 2, also known as 440 Main Street	Valley View Drive
Main Street	East and West	Valley View Drive East	Valley View Drive West (northern intersection of Main Street and Valley View Drive W)
Spetz Avenue	West	Valley View Drive East	Southern terminus of Spetz Avenue
Memorial Park Drive W	North	Main Street	Edward Street
Memorial Park Drive E	North and South	Bridge Street	Queens Ave
Oakwood Road	West	Northern boundary of lot at Concession 16, Part Lots 14 and 16, parcel 17479; also known as 430 Oakwood Road	Southern boundary of lot at Concession 16, Part Lots 14 and 16, parcel 17479; also known as 430 Oakwood Road

30 Minute Loading Zones

HIGHWAY	SIDE	FROM	TO
Edward Street	West	Chisholm Street	King Street

SCHEDULE “B

ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPOTS

Parking only permitted for vehicles with valid Accessible Parking Permit

1. Main Street

HIGHWAY	SIDE	FROM	TO
Main Street (in front of 473 Main Street)	West	A point 20 metres north of Memorial Park Dive	A point 25 metres north of Memorial Park Dive
Main Street (in front of 497 Main Street)	West	A point 3.96 metres north of King Street	A point 9 metres north of King Street
Main Street (in front of 495 Main Street)	West	A point 30 metres north of King Street	A point 36 metres north of King Street
Main Street (in front of 507 Main Street)	West	A point 22 metres south of King Street	A point 27 metres south of King Street
Main Street (in front of 519 Main Street)	West	A point 70 metres south of King Street	A point 76 metres south of King Street.

2. Powassan and District Union Library – 324 Clark Street, Powassan

- a. Two parking stalls along the eastern facing wall, running from the southeast corner of the building, north for a combined width of 5 metres.

3. Trout Creek Community Centre - 181 Main Street West, Trout Creek

- a. From the east entrance into the parking lot of Trout Creek Community Centre, an area the extends 16metres to the west along the fence that borders the north boundary of the parking lot, having a depth of 6metres extending south from the fence

4. Municipality of Powassan – 250 Clark Street, Powassan

- a. On the south face of the building, the first parking stall located directly to the east of the main entrance.
- b. On the north (rear) face of the building, the first parking stall to the east of the northwest corner of the building.

5. Powassan Sportsplex Community Centre – 433 Main Street

- a. Along the front (east) wall, a 2.6-metre-wide parking space extending south from southern edge of the main entrance.
- b. Along the front (east) wall, a 2.6-metre-wide parking space extending south from the northeast corner of the building.

SCHEDULE “C”

**FIRE ROUTES/EMERGENCY ACCESS ROUTES
Parking Prohibited When Authorized Signs Posted**

1. Municipality of Powassan – 250 Clark Street, Powassan

Location	SIDE	FROM	TO
East Driveway that runs along the east boundary of the lot	West and east	Clark Street	Northern boundary of the property

2. Fire Station 1/Council Chambers – 252 Clark Street, Powassan

a.

Location	SIDE	FROM	TO
Driveway that runs along the western boundary of the lot located at 250 Clark Street to the northern boundary of 252 Clark Street	West and east	Clark Street	Northern boundary of the property

- b. West side of building, an access route 20 metres wide running from the northwest corner of the building to the southwest corner of the building.
- c. East side of building, an access route 20 metres wide running from the northeast corner of the building to the southeast corner of the building.

3. Powassan Sportsplex Community Centre – 433 Main Street

- a. Running west from Main Street to the eastern facing wall of the building, an access route with a width of 6 metres starting on the southern edge of the parking lot.

4. Trout Creek Community Centre - 181 Main Street West, Trout Creek

a. A 9-metre-wide access route running from north to south along the western wall of the Trout Creek Community Centre, from the Main Street West property line to the southern end of the community centre.

5. Fire Station 2 – 130 Main Street West, Trout Creek

HIGHWAY	SIDE	FROM	TO
Main Street West	North	Eastern boundary of property located at 130 Main Street West (Plan M5, Lots 12 and 13)	Western boundary of property located at 130 Main Street West (Plan M5, Lots 12 and 13)

6. Eastholme Home for the Aged – 62 Big Bend Avenue

- a. On the front (north) side of the building, a six-metre-wide access route from Big Bend Avenue, along the north face of the building, and extending out to Cathrine Street.
- b. On the south side of the north wing, a six-metre access route extending from Big Bend Avenue, along the length of the building.
- c. On the east side of the south wing, a six-metre-wide access route along the building extending from the central entrance door to the southern edge of the building.

7. The Pines Senior Apartments – 325 Catherine Street

- a. Along the front (west) side of the building, a six-metre-wide access route, extending from Catherine Street to the south edge of the parking lot.

8. The Meadow View – 175 Big Bend Avenue

- a. Along the front (west) side of the building, a six-metre-wide access route, extending from Big Bend Avenue to the south edge of the parking lot.

SCHEDULE "D"

PART II PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT Set Fines

ITEM	COLUMN 1 Short Form Wording	COLUMN 2 Provision creating or defining the offence	COLUMN 3 Set Fine (\$)
1.	Fail to park on the right hand side of highway.	6(1)	50
2.	Fail to park within 50cm of curb/edge of roadway.	6(2)	50
3.	Fail to park within painted lines in designated parking space.	7	50
4.	Park/stop/stand vehicle in manner that interferes with movement of traffic/clearing of snow.	8	50
5.	Park where prohibited by authorized sign.	10	50
6.	Park vehicle on sidewalk.	11	50
7.	Park vehicle on boulevard.	12	50
8.	Park vehicle on crosswalk.	13	50
9.	Park vehicle in intersection/obstruct intersection.	14	50
10.	Park vehicle within 3 metres of corner.	15	50
11.	Park vehicle in front of public/private entrance/driveway.	16	50
12.	Park vehicle within 3 metres of hydrant.	17	50
13.	Park vehicle within 90 metres of fire scene in progress.	18	100
14.	Park vehicle on/within 10 metres of a bridge.	19	50
15.	Park vehicle on approach to fire station/police station/ambulance station.	20	250
16.	Park vehicle on roadway side of vehicle parked at edge of highway.	21	50
17.	Park vehicle in manner that will prevent removal of	22	50

	previously parked vehicle.		
19.	Park vehicle on highway for more than 72 consecutive hours.	23	50
20.	Park vehicle on highway while advertising for sale by way of sign.	24	50
21.	Park vehicle on highway without currently valid permit.	26(1)(a)	50
22.	Park vehicle on highway without issued number plates properly affixed.	26(1)(b)	50
23.	Park vehicle on highway without evidence of current permit validation affixed to number plate	26(1)(c)	50
24.	Park bus/commercial motor vehicle/heavy vehicle/recreational vehicle/construction equipment on highway within residential zone	27	50
25.	Park unattached trailer on highway	28	50
26.	Park vehicle on highway if vehicle on jack/similar device	29(1)	50
27.	Park vehicle on highway when one or more wheels have been removed	29(2)	50
28.	Park vehicle on a highway in a fire route/emergency access route	30	250
30.	Park vehicle on highway in designated accessible parking space without valid permit	31(1)	300
31.	Park vehicle on highway in designated accessible parking space if permit not displayed as required	31(2)	300
32.	Park vehicle on highway in designated accessible parking space for more than 2 hours	32	50
33.	Park vehicle on any highway between 11:00pm and 7:00am between November 1 and March 31	33.	50
34.	Park vehicle on highway when snow removal sign posted	34(1)	50
35.	Fail to remove vehicle parked on highway within 12 hours of snow removal sign being posted	34(2)	50
36.	Park vehicle on highway during snowfall or within e 24-hour period following a snowfall	35	50
37.	Park vehicle on highway within 3 metres of any corner when sign on display	36(1)	50
38.	Park vehicle on highway other than on one side when roadway is less than 7.5m wide when signs on display	36(2)	50
39.	Park vehicle on highway other than bus at designated bus stop when sign on display	37	50
40.	Park vehicle on highway where angle parking permitted not at angle indicated by authorized sign	38(2)	50
41.	Park vehicle on highway where prohibited by authorized sign	39	50
42.	Park vehicle on highway in area identified as loading zone for longer than time specified by authorized sign	41	50

Note: The general penalty provision for the offences listed above is Section 46 of Bylaw 2026-XX, a certified copy of which has been filed.

DRAFT



STAFF REPORT

To: Council
From: Clerk, A. Quinn
Re: 2026 Municipal Election

RECOMMENDATION:

That the staff report be received for information purposes.

Election preparations are underway for the 2026 Election. Due diligence dictates that a review of current election bylaws, policies and procedures begins now and continues as we move towards the election date, of October 26, 2026. Any proposed changes or amendments resulting from this review and any significant legislative changes to the Municipal Elections Act (MEA) that may have changed from the 2022 Election will be brought to Council.

The Clerk of a local municipality is responsible for conducting elections pursuant to the Municipal Elections Act. As the Returning Officer, the Clerk is responsible for preparing for the election, preparing for and conducting a recount in the election, maintaining peace and order in connection with the election; and preparing a plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the plan available to the public before voting day in a regular election.

We are working with the municipalities of Callander and East Ferris and the Townships of Bonfield, Chisholm and Nipissing to form a Joint Audit Committee.

We will continue with paper ballots again this year and add additional Advanced Polls to encourage more residents to vote. The Elections section of the website will be updated shortly with all relevant information.

The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has provided a Municipal Elections Calendar for the upcoming 2026 Election noting key dates/deadlines (with MEA legislative references) for various aspects of preparation for the Election, including:

- Thursday, April 30, 2026: Last day in a regular election year for municipalities and local boards to establish rules and procedures regarding the use of municipal and board resources during the campaign period.
- Friday, May 1, 2026: First possible day of the candidate nomination period.
 - First day that Third-Party Advertiser registration begins and this period ends on October 23, 2026.
 - Last day in a regular election year to pass a bylaw with respect to circumstances in which the clerk shall hold a recount.
 - Last day to pass a bylaw authorizing use of voting and vote counting equipment and/or authorizing use of an alternate voting method.

- Monday, June 1, 2026: Last day to establish procedures and forms for the use of voting and vote counting equipment authorized by Bylaw.
- Friday August 21, 2026: Nomination Day – Last day for candidates’ nominations to be filed by 2:00 pm. Further, last day to revoke a by-law to submit a question to the electors.
- Saturday, September 26, 2026: First possible day to hold an advance vote in the 30-day period before Voting Day.
- Monday, October 26, 2026: Voting Day

People are encouraged to contact the Municipal office with any questions regarding the Election.

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF POWASSAN

BYLAW NO. 2026-04

Being a Bylaw to appoint a Protective Services Official

WHEREAS pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, the Council of a municipality may appoint municipal employees to govern its affairs.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan enacts as follows:

1. That Matthew Peddle be appointed as Protective Services Official for the Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan, and that this position is inclusive of the titles of Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, Property Standards Officer, Fire Prevention Officer, Fence Viewer, Livestock Valuer, and Weed Inspector.
2. That Bylaw 2024-24, be rescinded.

READ a **FIRST** and **SECOND** 3rd day of March 2026 and to be **READ** a **THIRD** and **FINAL** time and considered passed as such in open Council on the 17th day of March 2026.

Mayor

Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF POWASSAN

BYLAW 2026-05

Being a Bylaw to authorize delegated authority during the
“Lame Duck Period” of Council

WHEREAS Section 275 of the Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25 as amended, restricts acts that a Council can take after Nomination Day (August 21, 2026) and after Voting Day (October 26, 2026), if the Council is in a Lame Duck position;

AND WHEREAS Section 275(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25 restricts Council from taking action on the following:

- a) The appointment or removal from office of any officer of the municipality;
- b) The hiring or dismissal of any employee of the municipality;
- c) The disposition of any real or personal property of the municipality, which has a value exceeding \$50,000 at the time of disposal; and
- d) Making any expenditures or incurring any other liability which exceeds \$50,000;

AND WHEREAS Section 275 (6) of the Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25 states that nothing in this section prevents any person or body exercising authority of a Municipality that is delegated to the person or body prior to Nomination Day for the election of the new Council;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it expedient to delegate authority to the Municipal Clerk to take action, where necessary, on certain acts during the "Lame Duck" period;

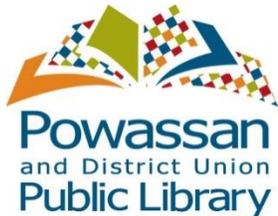
NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Powassan hereby enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the Municipal Clerk be delegated the authority to take action, where necessary, on certain restrictions listed in Section 275(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 between Nomination Day and the commencement of the Council Term.
2. **THAT** the Municipal Clerk will report to Council on any actions taken under the restrictions listed in Section 275(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001, between Nomination Day and the Commencement of the council Term.
3. **THAT** this Bylaw is in effect for the 2026 Municipal Election and will come into force after August 21, 2026, only if a “Lame Duck” period is required, according to the provisions of Section 275 of the Municipal Act, 2001.
4. **THAT** this Bylaw shall come into force and effect upon its final passage.
5. **THAT** this Bylaw may be cited as the “Lame Duck Delegation of Powers Bylaw”.

READ a **FIRST** and **SECOND** 3rd day of March 2026 and to be **READ** a **THIRD** and **FINAL** time and considered passed as such in open Council on the 17th day of March 2026.

Mayor

Clerk



February 19, 2026

Mayor Peter Mclsaac
Municipality of Powassan
250 Clark Street
Powassan ON P0H 1Z0

Re: Library Budget 2026

Mayor Mclsaac and Member of Council,

As mentioned in our previous letter, in 2026, the Library requires **\$232,133.96 from the three union municipalities** to operate for the full twelve months. This represents an increase of **\$25,393.18** over last year's municipal funding. Included in this amount is **\$4,000** earmarked for necessary elevator repairs. We are applying for a OTF Capital Grant through the Township of Nipissing and if we are successful, it should cover any update and repairs to the elevator. However, there are no guarantees and the repair to remove the water from the well of the elevator needs to be done this year, which is why we included that cost in the budget.

Also, every year for the past 14 years the Pay Equity Grant of \$7,601.00 the library receives has been included in general revenue. This money needs to be used on guaranteeing that the Library employees receive wages that are comparable to wages from other local libraries or similar sized libraries in Ontario. We decided to use the median salary from the surveyed Ontario libraries in 2023, which is below the wages from those of the other comparable three local libraries. The 6-Year pay Parity Plan we provided demonstrates the progressive increases we are implementing.

Having extracted \$7,601.00 from general revenue means it has to be made up by municipal funding, as well as the regular increase for our staff. Not directing the \$7,601 to staffing wages could result in an investigation by the Pay Equity Board (PEB), which is what the Library Board wants to avoid at all costs. Taking 6 years to get to the median wages of all Ontario libraries serving a population of 5,000 to 10,000 allows us to increase wages at a reasonable rate.

These wage increases add a little over \$20,000 to the overall budget.

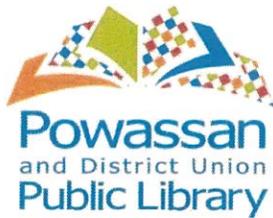
The remainder increase can be attributed to general inflation in every sector of the economy.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marie Rosset'.

Marie Rosset, CEO
Powassan and District Union Public Library

Attachment: 6-year Pay Parity Plan



January 28, 2026

Mayor Peter McIsaac
Municipality of Powassan
250 Clark Street
Powassan ON P0H 1Z0

Re: Library Budget 2026

Mayor McIsaac and Member of Council,

On behalf of the Library Board, we are pleased to submit the Library's 2026 operating budget for your consideration.

After careful review and with full awareness of the financial pressures currently facing the municipality, the Board believes this proposed budget represents a fair and reasonable request that balances fiscal responsibility with the continued delivery of essential library services.

For 2026, the Library requires **\$232,133.96 from the three union municipalities** to operate for the full twelve months. This represents an increase of **\$26,393.18** over last year's municipal funding. Included in this amount is **\$4,000** earmarked for necessary elevator repairs. This increase reflects rising inflationary costs and the ongoing need to close the funding gap required to maintain safe, accessible, and reliable library services.

The distribution of this total request among the participating municipalities will be determined through the final Library Agreement currently under negotiation. We respectfully request that monthly payments continue at last year's rate until the agreement is finalized, at which point payments can be adjusted accordingly.

We recognize and sincerely appreciate that **almost 70% of the Library's operating funding is provided by our municipal partners**. The remaining 30% is supplied through **provincial grants, donations, and fundraising efforts**. Please note that the **provincial operating grant amount has remained unchanged for more than 25 years**. While the nominal provincial contribution has stayed the same, its real value has declined significantly due to inflation and population growth, resulting in municipalities carrying an increasing share of the responsibility for sustaining local library services. The Library operates in full compliance with the **Ontario Public Libraries Act** and is governed under the authority of the **Ministry of Heritage, Arts and Culture**, ensuring accountability, transparency, and adherence to legislated service standards.



Despite these challenges, our Library continues to operate as a well-run, welcoming, and highly utilized community hub that makes a meaningful contribution to the **overall quality of life in our community**. Beyond its traditional role, the Library supports **lifelong learning, digital access, workforce readiness, and social connection**, all of which are key factors in **attracting and retaining residents, families, and businesses**.

*"A library outranks any one thing a community can do to benefit its people.
It is a never-failing spring in the desert."*

— Andrew Carnegie (1835–1919)

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debbie Piper', with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

Debbie Piper, Chair
Library Board
Powassan and District Union Public Library

Attachments:

Detailed 2026 Budget (3 pages)
2025 Annual Report

**Powassan & District Union Public Library
2026 Budget - Final**

		2025 Levy	206,740.78	Diff.	25,393.18
		2026 Levy	232,133.96	% inc.	
	Dec	2025	Budget	YE vs	Budget
	2025	Year End	2025	2025	2026
	YTD			Budget	
				% Diff	
1	REVENUE				
2	Operating Grants				
3	Provincial - Operating Grant	14,500.00	14,500.00	14,500.00	0.00
4	Provincial Pay Equity Grant	7,601.00	7,601.00	7,601.00	0.00
4.5	Municipal Contribution				232,133.96
5	Municipal - Powassan	129,815.96	141,617.43	141,617.43	-8.33
6	Municipal - Chisholm	23,568.45	23,568.45	23,568.45	0.00
7	Municipal - Nipissing	41,754.92	41,554.90	41,554.90	0.48
8	Municipal - Restoule	4,854.36	4,854.36	5,083.94	-4.52
9	Total Operating Grants	222,094.69	233,696.14	233,925.72	-5.06
11	Project Grants				
12	OTF Resilience Grant - Technology	2,200.00	2,200.00	0.00	0.00
13	OTF Capital Grant - 2024	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
14	Prov. Senior Community Grant 2024	1,034.34	1,034.34	0.00	0.00
15	Internet Connectivity Grant	2,040.00	2,040.00	2,760.00	-26.09
16	Total Project Grants	10,274.34	10,274.34	2,760.00	272.26
18	Student Grants				
19	Federal Grant Student	9,095.00	9,095.00	4,928.00	84.56
20	Total Student Grant	9,095.00	9,095.00	4,928.00	84.56
22	Other Revenue				
23	Room Rental Fees	2,712.23	2,712.23	2,200.00	23.28
24	Service Fees	865.79	865.79	600.00	44.30
25	Program Fees	30.00	30.00	100.00	-70.00
26	Interest Earned	192.02	2,611.38	350.00	-45.14
27	Copier Revenue	4,545.59	4,545.59	4,500.00	1.01
28	OLS Interloan Revenue	0.00	450.00	550.00	-100.00
29	Coffee Revenues	50.40	50.40	100.00	-49.60
30	Life Labs Room Rental	10,450.00	10,450.00	10,477.00	-0.26
31	Art Gallery Revenue	383.00	383.00	250.00	53.20
32	Misc. Fundraising	4,920.81	4,920.81	0.00	0.00
33	Total Other Revenues	24,149.84	27,019.20	19,127.00	26.26
35	Donations				
36	Used Book Sales	2,267.34	2,267.34	3,000.00	-24.42
37	Cash	12,921.04	12,921.04	8,000.00	61.51
38	Friends of the Library	2,138.25	2,138.25	4,000.00	-46.54
39	Total Donations	17,326.63	17,326.63	15,000.00	15.51
41	TOTAL REVENUE	282,940.50	297,411.31	275,740.72	2.61

	Dec 2025 YTD	2025 Year End	Budget 2025	YE vs 2025 Budget % Diff	Budget 2026
42					
43	EXPENSE				
44					
45	Payroll Expenses				
46	172,983.94	172,983.94	171,119.00	1.09	190,000.00
47	9,945.12	9,945.12	6,028.80	64.96	6,336.00
48	3,100.84	3,100.84	3,969.96	-21.89	4,270.00
49	9,262.09	9,262.09	10,181.58	-9.03	11,144.00
50	486.21	679.64	671.13	-27.55	706.81
51	0.00	1,887.67	1,676.97	-100.00	1,924.09
52	0.00	8,044.56	9,000.00	-100.00	9,000.00
53	12,169.23	12,169.23	13,496.60	-9.83	12,927.00
54	<u>207,947.43</u>	<u>218,073.09</u>	<u>216,144.04</u>	-3.79	<u>236,307.90</u>
55					
56	Circulation Material Expenditures				
57	414.08	414.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
58	3,651.88	3,651.88	3,000.00	21.73	3,500.00
59	712.90	712.90	800.00	-10.89	500.00
60	383.48	383.48	400.00	-4.13	400.00
61	1,450.76	1,450.76	1,500.00	-3.28	1,500.00
62	<u>6,613.10</u>	<u>6,613.10</u>	<u>5,700.00</u>	16.02	<u>5,900.00</u>
63					
64	Miscellaneous Expenses				
65	2,147.64	2,147.64	2,148.00	-0.02	2,160.00
	Furniture	196.91	196.91	0.00	0.00
66	182.31	182.31	0.00	0.00	0.00
67	94.33	94.33	600.00	-69.62	500.00
68	<u>2,621.19</u>	<u>2,621.19</u>	<u>2,748.00</u>	-96.57	<u>2,660.00</u>
69					
70	Facilities & Utilities Expenses				
71	665.05	665.05	555.00	-100.00	550.00
72	4,808.73	5,366.25	5,600.00	-88.12	5,000.00
73	422.35	422.35	700.00	580.90	600.00
74	4,232.84	4,232.84	5,000.00	-91.55	9,500.00
75	6,537.65	6,537.65	6,240.00	-32.17	6,700.00
76	5,330.66	5,330.66	5,700.00	14.70	5,500.00
77	3,476.58	3,476.58	3,003.68	77.47	4,000.00
78	359.50	359.50	1,500.00	131.77	750.00
79	1,944.72	1,944.72	1,000.00	-64.05	1,500.00
80	<u>27,778.08</u>	<u>28,335.60</u>	<u>29,298.68</u>	-93.36	<u>34,100.00</u>

	Dec 2025 YTD	2025 Year End	Budget 2025	YE vs 2025 Budget % Diff	Budget 2026
81					
82	Telecommunications Costs				
83	3,442.81	3,442.81	3,500.00	-100.00	3,500.00
84	84.04	84.04	300.00	1,047.60	200.00
85	41.03	41.03	600.00	-85.99	400.00
86	345.37	345.37	600.00	-93.16	500.00
87	912.13	912.13	1,500.00	-76.98	1,500.00
88	<u>4,825.38</u>	<u>4,825.38</u>	<u>6,500.00</u>	-85.97	<u>6,100.00</u>
89					
90	Other Expenses				
91	1,247.30	1,247.30	1,000.00	-100.00	1,300.00
92	79.17	79.17	150.00	731.53	100.00
93	256.66	256.66	25.00	216.68	0.00
94	3,661.88	3,826.24	3,700.00	-93.06	4,000.00
95	551.02	551.02	375.00	876.50	500.00
96	1,484.28	1,484.28	0.00	0.00	0.00
97	1,563.41	1,563.41	1,700.00	-12.69	1,700.00
98	4,070.40	4,070.40	4,000.00	-60.91	4,500.00
99	762.74	762.74	750.00	442.72	750.00
100	600.39	600.39	270.00	182.50	500.00
101	1,026.64	1,026.64	1,000.00	-39.96	1,000.00
102	2,684.72	2,684.72	1,000.00	2.66	1,000.00
103	0.00	0.00	100.00	2,584.72	100.00
104	0.00	0.00	80.00	-100.00	100.00
105	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	-100.00	1,500.00
106	<u>17,988.61</u>	<u>19,352.97</u>	<u>15,350.00</u>	-100.00	<u>17,050.00</u>
107					
108	Project Expenses				
109	2,052.00	2,052.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
110	9,704.33	9,704.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
111	4,061.02	4,061.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
112	<u>15,817.35</u>	<u>15,817.35</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
113					
114	75,643.71	77,565.59	59,596.68	-100.00	65,810.00
115					
116	<u>283,591.14</u>	<u>295,638.68</u>	<u>275,740.72</u>	-100.00	<u>302,117.90</u>
117					
118	<u>-650.64</u>	<u>1,772.63</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	<u>0.00</u>

Generated On: 08/09/2025



Resolution no. 2026 - _____

Date:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

That the Council for the Municipality of Powassan appoints Dr. Bill Finnis and Mr. Will Armstrong to the Board of the Powassan and District Union Public Library Board, for the remaining term of Council.

Carried

Defeated

Deferred

Lost

Mayor

Recorded Vote: Requested by _____

Name	Yeas	Nays	Name	Yeas	Nays
Councillor Randy Hall			Mayor Peter McIsaac		
Councillor Markus Wand					
Councillor Dave Britton					
Councillor Leo Patey					

France Gélinas

Member of Provincial Parliament / Députée
Nickel Belt



Jamie West

Member of Provincial Parliament / Député
Sudbury

February 19, 2026

Dear Mayor, Deputy Mayor and other representatives,

As you probably already know, *LifeLabs*, an American owned company, has decided to close their Sudbury testing facility this spring.

For years, Sudbury's *LifeLabs* facility has played an important role in ensuring northerners have equitable access to community-based lab services. Closing this facility will cause delays, as blood samples and specimens will now be shipped to Mississauga for analysis. We know you understand the serious threat to patient care that this will cause across all northern municipalities. It will also result in the loss of approximately 40 laboratory technologists and technicians' jobs in Sudbury, placement opportunities for students and so much more.

That is why we are writing to you today – to work together in requesting that the Ministry of Health take immediate action to keep these health services in Northern Ontario. The Ontario Government has a \$600 million contract with *LifeLabs* – they hold a lot of power.

We have already heard from numerous individuals regarding this matter, including patients needing quick lab results, medical professionals as well as the Mayor of Sudbury, who wrote to the Minister of Health. We encourage you, as a leader for your community, to also send a letter to the Minister of Health to show solidarity on this important issue.

This issue is non-partisan. It will greatly impact citizens across our communities. We all want the same thing: to have equitable access to health care services in Northern Ontario. The closure of this medical laboratory facility is unacceptable, directly impacts northerners' health, and we hope you'll make your voice heard against it. **Your letter can be sent to:**

Hon. Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
777 Bay St. 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca

Please CC our offices in your correspondence. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. West'.

Jamie West
MPP/Député Sudbury

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'France Gélinas'.

France Gélinas
MPP/Députée Nickel Belt

February 12, 2026

France Gélinas – MPP Nickel Belt
Hanmer Valley Shopping Centre
Unit 15, 5085 Hwy. 69 N
Hanmer, ON P3P 1P7
gélinas-co@ndp.on.ca

Sent Via Email

Re: Planned Closure of Lifelabs Laboratory in Greater Sudbury

The following resolution was ratified by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on February 10, 2026:

WHEREAS LifeLabs has announced its intention to close its Greater Sudbury laboratory, and the transfer of medical specimen processing from Northern Ontario to laboratories in southern Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Greater Sudbury laboratory provides essential diagnostic services to communities across Northern Ontario, including urban, rural, and remote municipalities, and plays a critical role in ensuring timely and reliable medical testing for Northern residents;

AND WHEREAS patients with chronic illness, newborns, long-term care residents, and individuals on time-sensitive medications depend on predictable laboratory turnaround times to support clinical decision-making;

AND WHEREAS transporting medical specimens long distances to southern Ontario increases the risk of delays, specimen degradation, and retesting, particularly during frequent winter highway closures, potentially jeopardizing patient outcomes;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario is already experiencing shortages of health-care professionals, and the closure of this laboratory further undermines regional workforce stability, training capacity, and recruitment and retention efforts;

AND WHEREAS the City of Greater Sudbury continues to experience sustained population growth, an expanding housing supply, and a strong job market, all factors that collectively increase demand for accessible, reliable, and locally delivered health care services, including timely medical laboratory testing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Greater Sudbury calls on the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Health to take immediate action to ensure that essential medical laboratory services remain accessible within Northern Ontario, including maintaining local laboratory processing capacity in Greater Sudbury;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be urged to ensure reliable, timely, and medically appropriate laboratory turnaround times for Northern Ontario patients, recognizing the unique geographic and climatic challenges of the region;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be requested to protect and support the Northern Ontario health-care workforce, including medical laboratory technologists, by preventing further service centralization that disproportionately impacts Northern communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, the Honourable Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, the Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Growth, the Honourable George Pirie, Member of Provincial Parliament Jamie West and Member of Provincial Parliament France Gélinas, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA).

Yours truly,



Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

c. Members of City Council

Date: March 3, 2026

Moved by:

Seconded by:

WHEREAS LifeLabs has announced its intention to close its Greater Sudbury laboratory, and the transfer of medical specimen processing from Northern Ontario to laboratories in southern Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Greater Sudbury laboratory provides essential diagnostic services to communities across Northern Ontario, including urban, rural, and remote municipalities, and

AND WHEREAS transporting medical specimens long distances to southern Ontario increases the risk of delays, specimen degradation, and retesting, particularly during frequent winter highway closures, potentially jeopardizing patient outcomes;

AND WHEREAS Northern Ontario is already experiencing shortages of health-care professionals, and the closure of this laboratory further undermines regional workforce stability, training capacity, and recruitment and retention efforts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Powassan calls on the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Health to take immediate action to ensure that essential medical laboratory services remain accessible within Northern Ontario, including maintaining local laboratory processing capacity in Greater Sudbury;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be urged to ensure reliable, timely, and medically appropriate laboratory turnaround times for Northern Ontario patients, recognizing the unique geographic and climatic challenges of the region;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province be requested to protect and support the Northern Ontario health-care workforce, including medical laboratory technologists, by preventing further service centralization that disproportionately impacts Northern communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association.

 Carried

 Defeated

 Deferred

 Lost

 Mayor

Recorded Vote: Requested by _____

Name	Yeas	Nays	Name	Yeas	Nays
Councillor Randy Hall			Mayor Peter McIsaac		
Councillor Markus Wand					
Councillor Dave Britton					
Councillor Leo Patey					



Council of the Municipality of Powassan
250 Clark Street
P.O. Box 250
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0

February 15, 2026

Dear Powassan Council Members,

I'm writing to you today on behalf of the Almaguin Pride Network. Thank you so much for your support for our mandate.

As you know the Almaguin Pride Network serves the Almaguin region to support the representation, de-stigmatization and growth of community between LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies. Promoting through events, projects and campaigns, the respect, celebration and beauty of the community.

We're happy to report that in 2025 we presented two very well attended events; Steers & Queers at the Northridge Inn and of course our 3rd Annual Pride Party at the Magnetawan Community Centre. We also created a strategic plan - which you can view [here](#), as well as developed an outreach wing of the organization and a more robust volunteer recruitment strategy.

Almaguin Pride is requesting a one-time annual donation of \$500 towards our event budget for 2026. We will host three seasonal events over the course of 2026. These events include:

- Grease Girl Workshop in March 2026
- 4th Annual Pride Party in June 2026
- Karaoke Night in October 2026

Benefits to the ratepayers of Powassan: All of our events have a pay-what-you-can entry fee. We aim to consistently provide no/low barrier entertainment and gathering opportunities for municipal residents. Additionally, encouraging pride and celebration of our LGBTQ+ community members leads to a sense of happiness, well being and adjustment - having the potential to decrease isolation, depression and anxiety among participants.

These kinds of events spread joy and self love to individuals, of course, but it also has a trickle-down effect on family, co-workers and friends. It would mean so much to those attending to know that the Municipality of Powassan stands behind the LGBTQ+ community.

Almaguin Pride is committed to funding our 2026 programming through grants, donations and sponsorships so that we can continue to offer low/no barrier entry to all community members. A Go Fund Me Campaign for this purpose has been started and is circulating through our networks. We will be applying for funding from Fierté Canada's Rural & Remote Projects stream for our 2026 programming. We will also apply to the community streams of the Ontario and Canada Arts Councils to fund arts and entertainment at our future events.

Supporting an organization like Almaguin Pride is a service to the municipality as a whole. Pride events are about human rights. They empower LGBTQ+ individuals while fighting shame and social stigma. Almaguin Pride provides a valuable service to community members and their immediate social networks - we help forge confidence and a sense of happiness in what could otherwise be an isolating existence.

We very much appreciate you considering our request for funding.

Thank you very much,

Karen Hoffman
Almaguin Pride Network
www.almaguinpride.com

DONATION REQUEST APPLICATION

Group/Organization Applying: Almaguin Pride Network

Address: 2491 Hwy 518 West, Sprucedale, ON POA 170

Contact Person(s): Karen Hoffman

Position(s): Volunteer in charge of operations

Telephone or Email: almaguinpride@gmail.com

What type of donation is being requested?

Monetary Donation

"In-Kind" Donation

Donation value being requested: \$500

How Will Funds Be Used? Towards our Event budget. We are holding 3 events in 2026: Grease Grrrl Workshop in March; 4th Annual Pride Party in June; Karaoke Night in October.

Is Your Group Based in the Municipality of Powassan?

Yes No

If no, how does your group support the residents of the Municipality of Powassan?

We serve the entire Almaguin region to support representation, de-stigmatization and growth of community between LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies.

Is Your Group Not-For-Profit organization?

Yes

No

How Many Years Has Your Group/Organization Been in Operation? 4

What other sources of funding are used by your organization to provide its services?

We have submitted requests to other municipalities and townships in Almaguin. All of our events are pay what you can, but we accept donations, as well as exploring grant opportunities.

If successful, describe how the Municipality of Powassan will be given recognition for this donation:

Your generosity will be included on our webpage + socials as well as signage at our events. We will also send a formal thank-you.

Any additional information which you consider necessary for Council to make an informed decision?

Supporting us is a service to the community as a whole. Pride events are about human rights and empower LGBTQ+ individuals, helping to forge confidence and happiness while fighting isolation.

Applicant Name (Print): Karen Hoffman

Applicant Signature: Karen Hoff

Date of Application: Feb. 15 / 26

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY:

Date application received by the Municipality: _____

Does this application meet all criteria as outline in Donation Policy? Yes No

If successful, has the Municipality received written letter after the event: Yes No

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

February 19, 2026

Re: Mayoral Authority and Municipal Police Budget Sustainability

Dear Premier Ford,

I am writing to express concern regarding the province's current position that limits a mayor and council's ability to meaningfully reduce or amend police service budget proposals once they have advanced through local police governance structures.

Municipal leaders across Ontario are operating within an increasingly constrained fiscal environment. Escalating administrative costs, combined with sustained growth in police budgets, are placing significant pressure on municipal finances. Without the tools to influence or moderate these expenditures, municipalities are left financially vulnerable, undermining long-term stability and responsible budget planning.

Mayors and members of council are accountable to residents for overall municipal fiscal health. However, under the province's current interpretation, they lack sufficient authority to address one of the fastest-growing areas of local spending. This creates a clear imbalance in accountability, where elected leadership bears responsibility for budget outcomes without the ability to manage risk, respond to local conditions, or ensure alignment with broader municipal priorities.

You have recently noted that education costs have become unsustainable, and the Minister of Finance has expressed similar concerns regarding health care expenditures. Policing costs present the same challenge, with the added constraint that mayors are now unable to intervene. This limits a municipality's capacity to balance competing service demands, invest in preventative and social supports, and respond flexibly to emerging community priorities, including housing. Over time, this approach risks crowding out essential services and capital projects while placing increased pressure on taxpayers.

In Sarnia, veto authority was used for the first time, and only with respect to capital funding. The operational police budget, which has increased by 40% over the past four years, was left untouched. The mayoral veto removed a proposed \$5 million capital item that would have committed the municipality to a long-term financial obligation estimated to reach \$120 million. Allowing such exposure without intervention would have been fiscally irresponsible and inconsistent with the principles of responsible municipal governance. The existing building was reported to be suitable for upgrades and maintenance at a cost of approximately \$5 million; however, the Sarnia Police Board and Chief have insisted that the Cadillac of all buildings is required. Proceeding with this option would saddle the taxpayers with substantial long-term debt and sustained tax increases for decades to come.

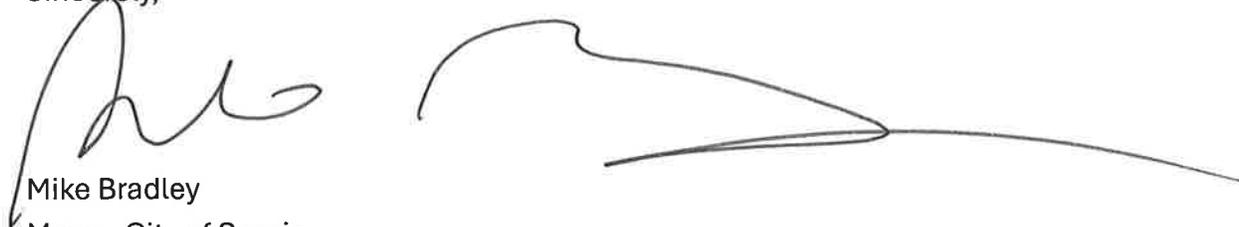
After 21 years of carrying municipal debt, the City of Sarnia has just recently achieved the distinction of being one of the few debt-free cities in Ontario. Under the current framework, renewed debt will become unavoidable, with financial impacts extending to future generations.

While this issue may not yet have arisen in every municipality responsible for funding and overseeing its own police service, the experience in Sarnia illustrates a challenge that other mayors may reasonably face in future budget years. As policing and capital costs continue to escalate, circumstances will emerge where elected municipal leaders are required to intervene to protect long-term fiscal sustainability. This is a critical issue that warrants careful reconsideration. I have therefore copied Heads of Council for municipalities across Ontario to unite in encouraging an approach that better aligns accountability with decision-making and supports more sustainable municipal governance across Ontario.

Given the practical implications for municipal budget deliberations and fiscal planning, I believe this matter should be addressed in advance of the next municipal council taking office. I respectfully urge the province to engage with municipalities on this issue and to explore legislative or policy adjustments that would provide local elected leaders with the tools necessary to manage fiscal pressures responsibly, transparently, and in the best interests of their communities.

I appreciate your attention to this issue and look forward to the province's consideration of next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Bradley', is written over a horizontal line that extends across the width of the page.

Mike Bradley
Mayor, City of Sarnia

Cc: The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Heads of council for municipalities across Ontario
Bob Bailey, MPP for Sarnia-Lambton
Sarnia City Council

Encl.: [CBC News February 18, 2026 - Province tells Ontario mayors they can't use 'strong powers' on police budgets | CBC News](#)

[CTV News February 18, 2026 - Sarnia Police Board weighing options in efforts to build new headquarters](#)

London

Province tells Ontario mayors they can't use 'strong powers' on police budgets

Finance expert says province needs to review fiscal relationship with municipalities to keep up with costs

Isha Bhargava · CBC News · Posted: Feb 18, 2026 5:00 AM EST | Last Updated: February 18



Listen to this article 

Estimated 5 minutes



A file photo of a police officer walking in downtown Hamilton, Ont. (Bobby Hristova/CBC)

The Ontario government is reminding municipal leaders that they cannot use their provincially granted "strong mayor powers" to challenge or limit police budgets.

This comes two months after Sarnia's mayor vetoed his city's police budget request of \$5 million for a new police headquarters, in what's led to an ongoing battle over the city's police funding.

In a letter sent to mayors and police board chairs in January, the province reiterated that municipalities are required to provide police boards with "sufficient funding" to comply with the Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA).

"The Head of Council's strong mayor budget powers do not include the power to limit police service board budget increases or veto estimates submitted by police service boards," Solicitor General Michael Kerzner and Municipal Affairs Minister Rob Flack wrote in their Jan. 12 letter.

"Although municipalities are not required to adopt the board's estimates as submitted, they cannot approve or reject specific line items within the estimates."

- **Less than half of 'strong mayors' were using powers before Ontario expanded system: reports**

Municipal budgets include estimates of amounts required during the year and includes various boards, the letter explains. A police service board must submit their operating and capital costs to municipalities, which then establish the service's overall budget.

Premier Doug Ford's government created the strong mayor system in 2022 and it now applies to 216 mayors. The powers give the leaders control over appointments, the ability to hire and fire most city staff, vetoes over some council votes and the ability to pass some bylaws with support of only a third of council support.

'We can't chop public safety' says Premier

When asked by CBC about the issue of strong mayor powers relating to police budgets on Tuesday, Ford said investments in public safety need to be a top priority.

"We can't chop safety and protecting communities," Ford told reporters. "We need to make sure our priority is keeping our community safe because right now people don't feel safe. So we have to continue investing in our police, give them the tools they need to keep our community safe."

Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley disagrees arguing the legislation prevents municipalities from balancing the needs of police and taxpayers. He said Sarnia police has received a 45 per cent operational increase over the last four years, and he only vetoed one capital spending item which the city cannot afford this year.



Sarnia's Mayor Mike Bradley says police budget increases in recent years have led to spending cuts in other city projects. (Facebook)

"The province has just wiped out our ability to control spending in our own communities. In most cases [police budgets] run from 30 to 40 per cent of the

municipal budget, so what the Ford government is saying is that councils and mayors cannot touch it," he said.

"So the message is, police boards who are unaccountable, can now just set the budget and the taxpayers have to pay. That's a pretty shocking statement from Queens Park."

Bradley argues he has supported increasing police budgets for frontline services, which have been substantial over the years and have led the city to cut back on spending for other projects.

In its letter, the province clarifies that there are dispute resolution mechanisms under the CPSA, namely arbitration, when a council disagrees with a police board's budget request.

Municipalities limited in challenging police budgets

However, proving a case against the police can be difficult for municipal councils who don't often have the capacity or technical knowledge to offer a challenge, said Nigel Bellchamber, a London, Ont., consultant specializing in municipal finances.

"It's a high bar that the municipality has to meet in order to succeed in an arbitration," he said, noting that municipalities are tasked with funding a variety of services whose costs outpace inflation.

"As a result, there are some significant challenges and tough decisions being made as to prioritizing capital expenditures in municipal budgets. So councils and municipal staff, whether you're in a strong mayor situation or not, they're all caught in a very difficult situation."



Nigel Bellchamber is a consultant in London, Ont., who specializes in municipal finances (Nigel Bellchamber/LinkedIn)

Bellchamber said the provincial and municipal fiscal relationship hasn't been properly reviewed in about 25 years and it needs to be revisited to respond to changing economic demands.

London's Mayor Josh Morgan agrees. His council approved a historic \$672-million investment in police spending during the last four-year budget, and while he's satisfied with the results of crime trending lower in the city, ballooning police budgets are a concern for municipalities, he said.

"Obviously when the largest portion of your budget is increasing by a fair amount, that's concerning in multiple ways," said Morgan.

"It's difficult for a municipality to shoulder all of the necessary investments in public safety that we need to make with all of the other things that we're obligated to do, and with the revenue streams we have available to us."

Morgan said it's important for municipalities to partner with provincial and federal governments to seek "broad-based, stable multi-year support for public safety funding."

In London's case, Morgan notes the police returned more than \$2.3 million to city coffers in the budget's first two years.

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Questions of 'strong mayor' veto powers remain after province attempts to clarify police budgets

By [Bryan Bicknell](#)

Published: February 18, 2026 at 5:14PM EST



The provincial government says municipalities can't use strong mayor powers to limit police budgets. CTV's Bryan Bicknell with local reactions.

The chair of the Sarnia Police Service Board says the board is still weighing options in its bid to build a new police headquarters.

The comments follow a letter from Ontario's Solicitor General to municipalities that mayors cannot use so-called strong mayor powers to challenge police budgets.

"We sent the letter to council requesting that the veto to be vetoed, basically, and that the five million [dollars] be added back into the budget," explained Board Chair Kelly Ash. "We are re-evaluating, looking to see what we can get accomplished with the funds that we do have, while still hoping that council does deliberate over the \$5 million so that we can get started."



Sarnia Police Board Chair Kelly Ash speaks to CTV News via Zoom on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

Late last year Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley vetoed the city's police budget request of \$5 million to begin work on a new police headquarters. Bradley insists he's not about to re-open the city budget.

"This idea that police boards now, without any accountability, they're not elected and they don't report to the public and you can't remove them, will now be able to say to any town, 'This is how much money we want each year, and govern yourself accordingly. You're going to have to find money or kill other projects that are really important to your community because we're number one,'" he said.

In London, the police budget has also been a sensitive item.



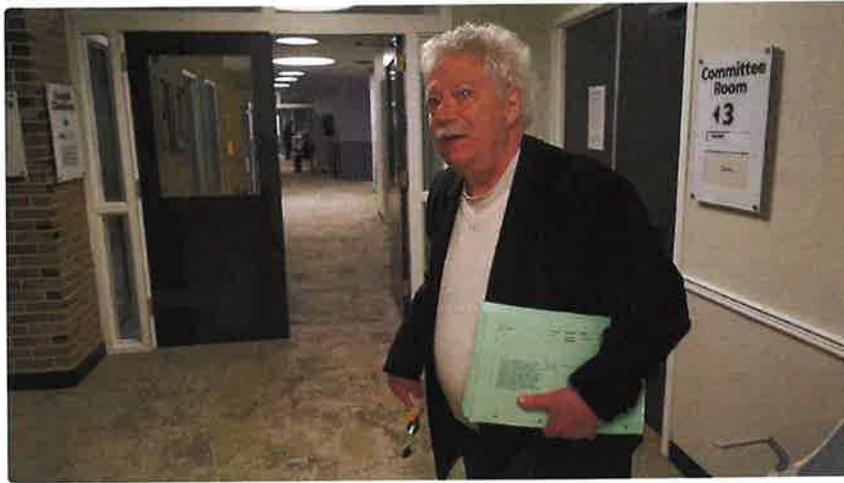
London, Ont. Mayor Josh Morgan speaks to CTV News on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

The most recent police budget passed two years ago in the city's four-year budget cycle increased police spending by \$672 million.

The London Police Service has since returned \$2.3 million in a bid to keep municipal property taxes at bay, explains London Mayor Josh Morgan.

"It's a pretty high bar to set for a municipality to not supply the budget, which is why my approach has been to work closely with the police board as a member of the board. And this board has returned dollars for the past two years," Morgan said.

Introduced in 2022 for Ontario's largest urban centres, strong mayor powers were expanded last year to include all 216 Ontario mayors. At least one legal opinion suggests this was when questions of interpretation began to arise.



London, Ont. Coun. Sam Trosow speaks to CTV News on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

London Coun. Sam Trosow is a retired Western University law professor. He believes the strong mayor legislation was rushed.

"I think if it was the intention of the legislature to categorically exempt police services matters from the act they would have or they should have said so. And they probably rushed this through so quickly, maybe they didn't even bother to think about it," he explained.

"But I think that the mayor of Sarnia is within his rights to challenge this part of the budget," Trosow said.



Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley speaks to CTV News via Zoom on Feb. 18, 2026. (Bryan Bicknell/CTV News London)

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