

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Monday, May 4, 2026, 4:00 pm
Council Chambers | Civic Centre
341 10th Street
Hanover, ON N4N 1P5

ZOOM MEETING PUBLIC ACCESS WEBSITE
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84757213958>

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18.2	Economic, Tourism & Cultural Development Committee - Wednesday May 20, 2026 9:00am	
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- 18.4 Heritage Subcommittee - Thursday June 18, 2026 | 10:00am
- 18.5 Planning Advisory Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 4:00pm
- 18.6 Hanover Police Service Board - Tuesday May 19, 2026 | 10:00am
- 18.7 Hanover Public Library Board - Wednesday May 20, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 18.8 Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee - Wednesday May 27, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 18.9 Hanover / Walkerton Waste Management Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 9:30am
- 18.10 Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission - Wednesday May 20, 2026 | 1:00pm
- 18.11 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Board - Thursday June 4, 2026 | 10:00am

19. Important Dates and Announcements

- 19.1 Next Regular Council Meeting – Tuesday May 19, 2026 | 4:00pm

20. Closed Meeting

21. Confirmation of Proceedings By-law

- 21.1 By-law No. 3397-26 - Confirm Proceedings of the May 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

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22. Adjournment

HEALTH and SAFETY MESSAGE

Protect Your Eyes This Season

Seasonal environmental factors—including intense UV radiation, high pollen counts, and extreme temperatures—pose significant risks to eye health, causing conditions like allergic conjunctivitis, dry eye syndrome, and increased risks of cataracts. Protecting your eyes involves using UV-protective sunglasses, limiting exposure to allergens and wind, and maintaining humidity

- Protect your eyes year-round by wearing wrap-around style sunglasses that block 100% of UVA and UVB rays and wear a wide-brimmed hat. UV exposure can be high even on cloudy days and when near water or reflective surfaces.
- Wildfire smoke can irritate the eyes, causing redness, dryness, burning, and increased sensitivity to light. During poor air quality events, limit outdoor exposure, keep windows and doors closed, and use air filtration indoors when available.
- Spring and summer allergens such as pollen can trigger itchy, red, watery eyes and eyelid swelling. Avoid rubbing your eyes, as this can worsen inflammation. Wash hands and face after outdoor exposure, keep windows closed during high pollen periods, and seek medical advice if symptoms persist or interfere with daily activities.

Seek care promptly if eye symptoms such as pain, persistent redness, light sensitivity, or changes in vision do not improve.

Hanover's East End Trail Project:

Playing Misinformation Wack-a-Mole, Reality Checks, and Managing Concerns with Data

The Ask:

Reinstate the originally planned East End Community Trail Project along the west and south sides of the Saugeen Cedar Heights West subdivision - with possible modifications to the technical design to address key community concerns.

The Why:

This Trail addition will result in greater benefit for the community at large and adjacent residents than it will cause negative outcomes for the reasons claimed by those in opposition. Possible technical and design issues can be addressed through iterative processes to apply new technologies, and communication with the company chosen to complete the construction; Social concerns can be alleviated through community education and by reinforcing existing initiatives like the Trail Eyes and Ears volunteer group; Fiscal concerns should be understood in the larger context of Hanover's recurring annual spending on other infrastructure and programs which shows this project to be of relatively low cost given the board population segment it would serve.

The reasons given by opposing residents to cancel the project - and shift the completion of the overall East End Trail Loop to sidewalks - can either be appropriately addressed in other ways that do not require cancellation of the trail project, or they are unsubstantiated in reality.

The purpose of this document is to provide context and counter examples to the many and varying claims about the issues of the original East End Trail Project design in advance of the delegation on May 4th, 2026. As the time limit for the delegation is 10 minutes, this document covers many of the details for which there will not be time during that presentation. The author of this document, Alina Rehkopf, has attempted to represent the views of residents (opposed and in support) accurately but welcomes any corrections or additional clarifications. Councillors are also encouraged to prepare questions in advance after reviewing this document in order to facilitate efficient discussion after the delegation.

Thank you for your time and attention. Let's get into it.

Resident Concerns

Environmental Impacts

It's important that we understand the possible environmental impacts of the proposed trail project through green space, as a lot of unsubstantiated claims have been made about how serious these will be. The Town pays for Environmental Impact Assessments (EISs) for a reason, and we should trust that these experts - ecologists and biologists - know far more than any of us non-experts about the interconnected network of relationships that form an ecosystem, how important those relationships are, and how disruptive or damaging these projects can be. After the field studies necessary for an EIS are completed, recommendations are made about the project in order to prevent, minimise, or mitigate environmental damage as much as possible or in some cases, improve the environmental resilience of the site beyond its original state.

The EIS for the Hanover East End Trail (HEET) is over 150 pages long and is *exhaustive* in its scope. I hope Councillors and residents each take the time to read it to get a solid grasp of how much work has been done to make sure this trail project meets a high standard of environmental protection. On a personal note, I did my minor at Waterloo in Environment and Resource Studies because I love this stuff; it helps us learn what wildlife are present around us on a day-to-day and season-to-season basis, which not only helps us protect them better but also gives insight into what we can do to support those populations more than we may be presently.

For example, there are plenty of bird and insect species that *only appear when certain plants exist in an area*. If we want to see more of those insect/bird populations, we need to support their required plant/tree populations. Most people know that Monarchs only lay their eggs on milkweed, but there are also a huge variety of native bees and butterflies that either only eat or lay their eggs on a small few types of plants (an excellent resource for this is [A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee: Creating Habitat for Native Pollinators: Ontario and Great Lakes Edition](#)).

I've summarized the key points of the EIS below.

Reference: Hanover Trail Environmental Impact Study - WSP Canada Inc.

Goal: " Assess potential impacts to Natural Heritage Features and their functions as a result of the proposed trail development and provide recommendations to avoid, minimize and or mitigate identified impacts"

- Regulations considered:
 - **SVCA's Ontario Regulation 169/06** - development adjacent to a channel
 - **Provincial Policy Statement (Ontario, 2020)** - Defines **Natural Heritage Features (NHF)** and protects them, surface water and ground water features are also protected, requires that diversity and connectivity of all NHFs and their long term ecological function be maintained, restored or improved where possible
 - **Regional and municipal Official Plans**
 - **Endangered Species Act (2007)** - defines Species At Risk (SAR), created to prevent fish and wildlife from being extirpated or becoming extinct, provide recovery of extirpated, endangered or threatened species as a result of human activity ***the term SAR will be important to remember below**
 - **Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994** - protect birds from activities that result in harm or capture (ie. nesting disruptions)
 - **Federal Fisheries Act, 1985** - prohibits activity that would result in death of fish or harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat

- Data collected from a wide variety of sources:
 - Natural Resources and Forestry's Natural Heritage Information Center - document of Natural Heritage Features
 - Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (Cadman et al., 2007);
 - On-line database of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, eBird (Sullivan et al., 2009);
 - iNaturalist (2023);
 - Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (Ontario Nature, 2015);
 - Land Information Ontario (LIO; MNRF; 2023);
 - Topographical Maps (Grey County, 2023); and,
 - Aerial Photography (Google Earth, 2023).

Summary of EIS Findings

- Vegetation surveys (done in 2017 and 2020) found:
 - 121 plant species - **75% native, 25% non-native**
 - Black Ash (listed as Endangered Jan 26, 2022 but province suspended protections), in **low abundance within two communities within and near the site, current protection/recovery not confirmed** (province was changing these recommendations)
 - Invasive plants observed in wetlands and treed edges abutting the west and south sides of the previous agricultural field: **certain types of Honeysuckle (Lonicera spp.), Glossy Buckthorn (Frangula alnus), and Purple Loosestrife (Lythrum)**
 - Additional invasive species adjacent to site (east of 24th in wetland area): **Common Reed (Phragmites australis)** this population has since spread to several other small pockets in the localized area
- Wildlife surveys (done in 2017 and 2020) found:
 - Amphibian calling surveys at three evenly spaced stations across the proposed trail site
 - **No observed breeding habitat**
 - One single Gray Treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*) near a station
 - Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*) across 24th in adjacent wetland
 - Wetlands at the site are **“poorly suited for breeding habitat due to quick flow of tributary and absence of ponded water within the wetland”** (pg 10)
 - Birds surveys (done in 2017) with other data from a station adjacent to Saugeen River / 24th St (May 23, 2021) found:
 - 35 species (2017), one rare species detected **more than 280m from the site** (Wood Thrush, *Hylocichla mustelina*), **habitat potential 14m south of trail site will not be impacted by construction**
 - 72 species (2021), 3 SARs identified: Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*, special concern), Bank Swallow (*Riparia ripa*, Threatened), Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) - the trail area contained no nesting structures, steep banks, or tall grasses and therefore **does not provide suitable habitat for these species, they were found by the Saugeen**
 - Pileated Woodpecker - **the site does not contain their preferred habitat**, the forest types in the area are described as **“young, with an absence of large diameter trees”**
 - Bats acoustic surveys done (June 2021) in areas most likely to support roosting habitat found:
 - 2 SAR bats: Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*), and unknown *Myotis* sp. (potential to be Northern long-eared bat)
 - 4 common bat species: Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), Eastern Red Bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), Big Brown Bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) and Silver-haired Bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*)
 - **Believed that the bats detected were foraging and likely to roost in offsite areas due to the greater number of passes adjacent to foraging habitats; low roosting potential due to lack to suitable trees**

- Reptiles (2017)
 - One incidental finding of Garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*)
- Aquatic habitat
 - Channel observed to be “**relatively narrow (less than 2m wide) and shallow (less than 0.5m deep)**”
- Natural Heritage Features (NHF) within 120m of the site
 - Fish habitat: The Saugeen River supports a variety of cool and warm water species (see pg 11)
 - **No Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest were identified within 120m of the site** (areas that have a life science or earth science value related to protection, scientific study or education)
 - Existence and approximate location of recorded occurrences of Endangered or Threatened species in the general area - 2 x 1km² quadrats
 - 3 potential SAR
 - Hungerford’s Crawling Water Beetle (*Brychius hungerford*), Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), Eastern Wood-pewee (*Contopus virens*) **all 1km west of the trail site**
 - **This tributary is unlikely to support these species beyond acting as a transit corridor, which would not be affected by construction of the trail**
 - Significant Wetlands: Wetlands are defined in the Provincial Policy Statement (OMMAH, 2020)
 - **No significant wetlands were identified in or within 120m of the site**
 - By standards from the Town of Hanover and the County of Grey **wetlands of local significance are not known to occur within or adjacent to the trail site** (pg 13)
 - Significant Wildlife Habitat: guidelines and criteria in government documents (pg 13) - described under four main categories investigated by the EIS:
 - Seasonal concentration of animals - **none**
 - Rare vegetation communities or specialized habitats for wildlife - **one seep onsite, two or more adjacent to each other are required to meet the significance threshold**
 - Wildlife movement corridors - likely - **construction of the trail will not negatively impact this**
 - Habitats of species of conservation concern - **Snapping Turule and Eastern Wood-pewee were the only two species identified to have potential habitats in the general area but not confirmed at the trail site (1km away)**
 - Significant Woodlands
 - Treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits such as erosion prevention, water retention, and provision of habitat, recreation, and the substantial harvest of woodland products
 - Town of Hanover identifies a Significant Woodland **approximately 20m outside the northwestern trail site limit**
 - Other non-significant woodlands occur adjacent to the site but no onsite
- NHF Summary Table is on page 14-15

As stated above, the EIS is *exhaustive*.

From a broad conservation standpoint this whole strip of green space is already **highly disturbed and has been for a very long time**. Before the subdivisions on the south and north sides were built this was farm land, and while we may sometimes think of farmlands as natural areas, they are not; disturbed multiple times annually there is little to no opportunity for plant and animal species to become established in any meaningful way. With the building of those two subdivisions, the remnant of that disturbed area is this relatively small green corridor which is now considered “**culturally influenced, as suggested by the substantially high proportion (38%) of introduced species and doesn’t provide unique wildlife habitat**” (pg 18).

These are important qualifiers when we're thinking about how serious the disruptions of putting in a trail would be. Based on the full EIS the potential for environmental harm is very low and can be mitigated well with a variety of strategies like:

- Strategic planning to maintain trees - like **minor curves in the trail to avoid mature or rare trees**
- Areas outside the trail that are disturbed with construction would be **restored to existing or improve conditions**
 - For example, the wetland area is poorly suited for amphibian breeding habitat currently, but creation of small depressions within or adjacent to the creek (as part of the trail construction) would encourage future amphibian breeding and improve its function as a wildlife corridor through to the Saugeen River (pg 19)
 - Replanting of native trees/shrubs/grasses after completion of the project
 - Given that there are also about 25% invasive species in the area, it's possible that having a trail through there would provide better human access to remove these and engage in future restoration activities

The full list of mitigation recommendations for the HEET is 4.5 pages (pg 22-26).

Since there were so many claims related to the potential environmental impacts of this project, they've been summarized below and combined together by theme (some are from the March 16th delegation presentation, some are from community members online, no names have been included). While some of the claims are outright false, others can be addressed with adjustments to the proposed trail design. It is recognized that there was not enough time for the other delegation to review the EIS, however some of these claims are being made online well after this author was able to get a copy from the Town of Hanover via FOI. This is contributing to the spread of misinformation about the proposed project and makes it harder for residents who have less time to look into the details to generate informed opinions. None of these environmental concerns are so seriously unaddressed that it warrants cancellation of the proposed project in favour of a sidewalk option.

Concern / Claim	Reality / Context	Solution?
<p>Wetland destruction</p> <p>“A trail would not preserve this wetland. It would destroy it.”</p> <p>Claims about damage to: the filtering of pollutants, the absorption of flood water, critical habitat for bird, amphibians, pollinators, other wildlife</p> <p>“Sensitive wetland”</p> <p>“Clear evidence that this route poses environmental risk to our wetlands”</p>	<p>As the EIS confirmed, this area is not a sensitive wetland, does not contain Endangered Species, and isn't critical habitat for any animals. It's such a small area that its impact on pollutant filtering is small and adding a trail to the area wouldn't have a significant impact on these functions.</p> <p>That doesn't mean we can be flippant about mitigation efforts. There are invasive species that could be removed, amphibian habitat that could be created, and enforcement of property boundaries to prevent additional human encroachment.</p> <p>A trail can also be a tool to delineate areas and prevent people from going where they shouldn't by presenting a clear boundary.</p>	<p>Follow mitigation measures from the EIS.</p> <p>Educate residents on what they can do to support pollinators, birds, and native plants on their own properties to strengthen the health of what is currently a fairly disturbed, small ecosystem between two human settlement areas.</p>
<p>“Goes against the town's environmental stewardship goals” regarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setbacks from waterways - Disturbance of nesting birds - Introduction of invasive species by foot traffic/dogs - Litter - Soil compaction and erosion <p>Ignores previous environmental recommendations (from the other subdivision EIS)</p>	<p>Nesting birds will not be disturbed. Tree cutting can only happen before spring nesting season or after birds have left in the fall.</p> <p>The EIS for the subdivision is a separate document that looks at different specifics. The relevant EIS covers this HEET project.</p> <p>Under the town of Hanover Official Plan (2016) where an EIS is prepared and concludes that setbacks may be reduced and or where it has been determined by the SVCA that setbacks may be reduced, development may be permitted with coordination of irrelevant agencies, including the MNRF and their natural hazards, technical guidelines, as well as the SVCA permitting regulations, and policies.</p> <p>Section 9.4.6 indicates that <i>trail systems for walking, cycling, and cross-country skiing should be promoted through Hanover, and such trail systems should provide connectivity to commercial, residential, institutional, and other open space uses within the Town.</i></p> <p>The above doesn't specify “nature trail”, but this project was conceived to replace the naturalized trail section that was removed, if at all possible that original intent should be maintained.</p>	<p>How the Town decides to check the boxes for their environmental stewardship goals should incorporate a diversity of options.</p> <p>We should seek to emulate the standards of organizations like Ontario Park's. Their mission statement is:</p> <p>“To protect provincially significant elements of Ontario's natural and cultural landscape and maintain biodiversity while offering opportunities for inspiration, education, health, and recreational enjoyment; this is with the intention that these areas are/be managed to maintain their ecological integrity and preserved for future generations.”</p> <p>This includes considerations for Protection, Recreation, Education, and Science (read more about it here)</p>
<p>Flooding</p> <p>“Floods every spring”</p>	<p>Flooding is an annual feature of our trail system with varying degrees of severity. It is inaccurate to use water levels from this year as an indication of what is typical. According to a Saugeen Conservation post:</p>	<p>Review the engineering plans to make sure they are robust enough to withstand the flooding as other parts of our trail currently do. Depending on these</p>

<p>“The proposed trail system would essentially be ‘under water’ & be inaccessible”</p> <p>“Regular flooding and erosion” - see pictures of bank erosion</p> <p>“Foreign materials entering the water”</p> <p>“Dangerously close to moving water”</p> <p>“This is a risk to children running or on bikes, seniors with mobility issues”</p> <p>“Very fast moving water at times”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snowpack content was 159% of normal heading into spring - March rainfall was 298% the historical average - April rainfall (by the 19th) was 183% of normal - Saugeen water levels hit a once in 9.5 year high (the last time we had a melt like this was 2018) <p>Other parts of our trail also get flooded over and are “under water” for brief periods of time. It is important to know for how long and how much damage is done. This is what design iterations with the engineers the Town has paid to create the design plan are for.</p> <p>Calling the HEET dangerously close to moving water is a bit of a stretch when this creek is very small most of the time and at least on a walkthrough (April 24th) the area was more in the “lovely babbling brook” category.</p> <p>The Saugeen River floods up to the banks of our trail and well into the park by the dam annually. Yet we seem to manage those safety concerns fairly well with regular education from the SVCA and Hanover Police.</p> <p>The pictures and video taken show how much runoff is coming from the cleared land in the area that is under construction (it’s full of sediment). The hill on the east side of the subdivision and the lot at the corner of 14th St / 24th Ave have both been cleared of vegetation creating a large, temporary increase in runoff. Once those two areas are finished lot grading will redirect much of that water, while landscaping will lessen or prevent soil runoff.</p> <p>Pictures of bank erosion on properties adjacent to the creek show a lack of plantings that would stabilize the bank. This points more to a problem unfortunately created by those homeowners: Turf grasses have shallow root systems and are not suitable for stabilizing a bank, and mowing right to that edge turns those surfaces into something close to pavement when there is heavy rain. Water easily runs off the surface and wears away the bank edges quickly.</p>	<p>adjustments this could potentially create protection for some of the adjacent back yards that did get a lot of flooding this year.</p> <p>Safety is a practice, not a state. We have other areas of the Trail and a park where flooding poses a far greater safety risk and we manage those fairly well. Maintain public outreach and education around the dangers of spring melt and flooding.</p> <p>To prevent erosion homeowners should be encouraged to plant bushes, trees, and native grasses on their properties adjacent to the creek. Those who are mowing grass very close to this edge are worsening this problem and could be encouraged to alter their yard maintenance approaches.</p> <p>Making sure homeowners are respecting property boundaries and not modifying vegetation outside of their properties would also help prevent future erosion.</p>
<p>Tree loss</p> <p>“Why in the world would you cut down all the trees to put in a nature trail”</p> <p>...”new homes waiting to be built along this proposed trail system that literally have no room for anything to be</p>	<p>The trail will take up a 500m x 3m area, some of which has already had the trees cleared from it.</p> <p>The EIS outlines the requirements for replanting disrupted areas and avoiding damage to or removal of mature trees unnecessarily. It is also important to note that the forest types in the area are described as “young, with an absence of large diameter trees”. Development of any kind requires some degree of tree removal,</p>	<p>Plant new trees on adjacent properties, or in other nearby areas like the non-recreation portions of the soccer fields to compensate - introduce varieties of Endangered species, since there are few/none in the proposed trail area.</p> <p>Implement other tree planting strategies</p>

<p>constructed without taking down mature trees”</p>	<p>what we should look to as a broad Town practice is planting as many as possible to mitigate those that are removed.</p> <p>Much of Hanover has less than 10% tree canopy coverage, and while that is a separate issue that needs attention, it is important to note that the south subdivision has some of the least in town outside of those subdivisions currently under construction. Maps regarding tree coverage data can be found here.</p>	<p>across all of Hanover, especially in new subdivisions and those that have the least trees. Those residents who are most concerned about tree coverage can set a leading example by addressing this on their properties first.</p>
<p>“True nature trails already exist nearby at Allan Park and Sulphur Springs”</p> <p>“Lots of other green spaces available that would be more suitable & cost effective”</p>	<p>This first statement ignores:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People without cars - Children playing independently - Those who don’t have time or capacity to drive out there <p>This author chooses not to own a vehicle, instead opting to move around town by biking most of the time or walking. Assuming that everyone can just go elsewhere for access to naturalised areas ignores the needs of some groups of people. We should also remember that not everyone has the privilege of having a backyard or direct access to green space. Spaces like the proposed trail area are there to create as many options as possible for those without that privilege.</p>	<p>All types of green spaces are valuable.</p> <p>Having many options spread around town is more equitable for all residents.</p> <p>What other green spaces are “more suitable and more cost effective”? This statement is vague and doesn’t actually offer a real solution. The proposed trail area IS cost effective compared with other Town projects (more on that below).</p>
<p>Sidewalks are more "environmentally friendly" (than a trail)</p>	<p>Sidewalks are impermeable surfaces that also require artificial construction. Further comparisons between trails and sidewalks will be in the delegation presentation.</p>	<p>This statement is inaccurate.</p>
<p>Damage to aquatic populations caused by limestone trail surface</p> <p>“a crushed limestone trail could be extremely harmful to wildlife and the environment”</p>	<p>A lot of time was spent trying to find evidence for this claim, since large portions of the rest of our trail are also topped with limestone and it is a standard material for trails throughout Ontario. Studies about limestone environmental impacts are related to large limestone mines that are several orders of magnitude larger than the amounts used for trails.</p> <p>Katie Thomas the Manager of Water Resources for the SVCA was contacted and she has not heard of this being an issue.</p> <p>Via an acquaintance contacts who have professional experience in this area (works in Quebec):</p> <p>“Limestone is used all the time for pathways (even near water sources), so best bet is to reach out to the authorities and see what is needed. Distance from water, compaction on the pathway, so many other things to consider. Most likely won't be an issue if done accordingly. Limestone is not a bad material it's just most want to</p>	<p>This claim appears to be demonstrably false.</p>

ensure parameters are met. I'd be surprised if they weren't allowed to move forward after submitting the plan.”

A quote from geologist Jeffrey Poulsen, PG LEED-AP (jeffrey.poulsen@parsons.com 716.432.7685) was also received:

“Limestone is a generic name for calcium carbonate. There are different types of limestone with different chemical characteristics.

Water flowing through limestone can result in a change in pH through the leaching process, however, unless the pH of the infiltrating water is acidic, the change is minimal. The limestone is generally insoluble in neutral pH water.

Limestone can increase pH slightly as well as increasing alkalinity which buffers against acidity. This is generally considered a good thing and helpful for vegetation. The pH of soils and water is an important component of nutrient solubility and availability for plants.

The use of limestone screening is standard and recommended practice in southern Ontario. Considering that most of southern Ontario has limestone bedrock, almost all of our groundwater flows to through limestone with no ill effects

A good google search provides lots of documentation as to the effects. I think that a question would be are they against the trail or the use of limestone. I would think that limestone is the least hazardous surface possible. Certainly, better than black top or other types of crushed stone such as granite which can release heavy metals and lower pH.”

Again, a variety of claims have been made about how expensive the proposed trail section would be. They are summarized below.

Concern / Claim	Reality / Context	Solution?
<p>High cost</p> <p>“financially & exorbitantly expensive to develop a trail system that would only be accessible...at best...6 months of the year”</p> <p>“Expensive unnecessary infrastructure like steep grading and tree removal”</p> <p>[town funds should be] “focused on high-impact, year round amenities that serve our community and not just a few fair weather walkers”</p> <p>“intrusive, high cost trails”</p> <p>“Moving the trail to sidewalks.... Is a win for the budget”</p> <p>“Future financial burden”</p> <p>“Unnecessary fiscal liabilities”</p>	<p>Total Projected Cost \$159,500... EXCEPT:</p> <p>Taxes \$ 60,000 - This is the total we would have actually paid from our tax dollars for this new trail to be built.</p> <p>Grant \$ 47,800 - This cancellation/delay has put this grant in jeopardy. Staff are doing what they can to try and keep it, but grant money is given on the completion of a project with pre-determined criteria. How will the Town justify the last minute decision to cancel the trail in favour of sidewalks if this grant is completely lost?</p> <p>Misc Other Revenue \$ 27,700 - The developer contribution as part of the subdivision agreement.</p> <p>Reserve Fund \$ 24,000 - This is for other trail maintenance and costs related to the acquisition of the switchback portion of the trail, NOT for the construction of the east end section.</p> <p>Additionally, by what metric are we calling it expensive? The Town funds a variety of infrastructure and services for residents with taxpayer money. The aquatic center and ice rink, the baseball diamonds, various parks with play equipment, the trail etc. all cost different amounts of money to run/maintain. We’ve decided (either collectively or by proxy via Council) that all of these are worthwhile spends.</p> <p>To compare the HEET to the most recently finished community infrastructure project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Splash Pad is an estimated \$55,000 per year to run (outside of the loan payments) and is able to operate for about 3 months of the year - The annual maintenance cost for <i>the entire trail</i> is currently \$5000-\$7000 and is able to be used in varying degrees all year round <p>This author personally will never use the Splash Pad but is happy to support that amount of money being spent on it annually because it adds to the diversity of recreation options Hanover residents get to enjoy. It is challenging to understand how a \$60,000 construction price tag + <\$10,000 annual spending on maintenance is fiscally irresponsible, because that’s about 10x less expensive annually.</p> <p>Now, obviously that does not account for unexpected repairs/maintenance outside of the annual norm, but for the sake of argument even if something happened that required a new \$25,000 spend to fix, that’s still HALF the annual cost for a filled out</p>	<p>If we want a clear comparison of how much this trail project would cost compared to other things we pay for, staff could create a full list of all the Town funded projects with estimates of how much they cost to run or maintain annually, and how many people use them. Then we could come up with a cost per user per year.</p> <p>Without these data, we’re all making either moderately or significantly unsupported claims about the cost.</p> <p>However, this is also a cold economic calculation that ignores all of the other soft benefits provided by having a diversity of recreational activities available to residents, spread across the distance of Hanover.</p> <p>Other local municipal staff could be contacted for their input and experience regarding the cost of the HEET.</p>

trail network that serves a broader segment of our population than the Splash Pad.

“Taxpayer’s dollars towards projects... that will be used more widely, year round and would have far greater impacts than a small section of a walking trail”

A diversity of options to serve as many people as possible is arguably a better end goal.

What is the best use of funds is highly debatable.

“only be accessible...at best...6 months of the year”

The claims about limited annual accessibility are perplexing. People walk, ski, and shoeshoe on the trail in the winter, and are out there en masse walking, running, cycling, scooting and more as soon as temperatures are just barely warm enough. Trails are one of the lowest barrier to entry recreational opportunities we can provide to residents of all ages to use whenever they like.

It’s frustrating to see the trail project go through all of the steps that others have to get approvals via Council over several years, get all the necessary studies done, plan out the budget, and be literally one day away from construction only to have it vetoed at the last minute.

“a trail that lacks lighting and winter maintenance is effectively useless for a majority of the year”

It is technically true we could re-direct the funds to other projects (depending on what Staff come back with as the estimated cost for the sidewalk option), but some of these are dramatically more expensive. For example, the rebuild for the pavilion/bathrooms at the baseball diamond is estimated around 1 million dollars, as is the bathroom/change room facility that our soccer fields so desperately need. Again, for a \$60,000 price tag and original completion date of next fall, it is accurate to say this project was financially well thought out.

It has made some residents question what the point is of going through all of that work (and spending \$14,000) to do it, if this kind of thing can happen even right up to the very moments before construction.

“Municipalities around us are upgrading their baseball diamonds and soccer fields, adding additional ice rinks, building community centres with access to fitness centres, gymnasiums, indoor pickleball courts”

We have several of these amenities things already (do people know there is an indoor pickleball court beside New Heights Fitness?) and while plenty would benefit from upgrades we have to make choices about cost vs. impact that fits within Hanover’s budget.

Perhaps there is a policy solution to prevent this kind of thing in the future (unclear).

“Residents are leaving our town to find to find year round ice rinks, gymnasium, and indoor pickleball courts”

Residents are also leaving town (ie. on day trips) to take their families to towns like Southampton and Port Elgin that have longer connected trail networks that put them away from vehicle traffic (and not on sidewalks, or as least a little as possible) because they find the experience more pleasant. They then spend the day there shopping and eating (tourism dollars). What makes a trail system good is having long connected sections. Some parents prefer trails over sidewalks because they feel safer letting their kids run/bike around without the uncertainty that drivers represent (like being distracted on cellphones or having vehicles so large that they have a hard time seeing children).

“...steep grading that would require the construction of a large metal rail system. Such infrastructure will negatively impact the aesthetics of our neighbourhood and be costly to build and maintain.”

The ramps meet the requirements in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. Specifically the requirements in [Section 80.13 which can be found here](#).

Confusing/conflicting claims? Not sure how to handle this one honestly.

Again, this claim perplexing because what other standards should we then be following?

As for the aesthetics, there are lots of bush/wildflower options that could be used to hide the railings (I’ve got some wild bergamot in germination that grows 4 feet high with lovely purple blooms

Additionally, to bring up accessibility concerns (of the elderly or those with mobility devices) multiple times and then to *also* call the very provisions *to make the trail accessible to those groups* a problem seems... like the issue isn’t actually accessibility.

<p>“Narrow passages” - fails to meet a standard?</p>	<p>The trail width would be maintained at 2m for the entire 500m length. It's not “narrow”?</p>	<p>that I'd be happy to donate to the cause).</p>
<p>“...permanently alter the character of our neighbourhood and diminish property values.”</p> <p>“legitimate concerns that this development will negatively impact our property values”</p>	<p>There was no evidence presented to support this claim, despite a wide variety of studies being available that explore the effect of urban parks and green spaces on property values.</p> <p>One meta-analysis from 2022, Review of the impact of urban parks and green spaces on residence prices in the environmental health context found that across a wide variety of studies, the general finding was that proximity to urban parks and green spaces increased property values. In the studies that showed a negative impact on property values, the reasons were related to unkempt or abandoned amenities, intrusive noise and lights, and parking issues.</p>	<p>Green spaces and trails increase property values when maintained appropriately. This claim is inaccurate.</p>

Concern	Reality	Solution?
<p>“This small section of trail is insignificant to the larger community and only promises to unnecessarily create new problems like complaints to council and calls to police and bylaw officers that will continue for years to come.”</p> <p>“raises legitimate concerns about trespassing, theft, vandalism, and general safety”</p>	<p>Trails are best when they are continuous, connected, and protected from vehicular traffic.</p> <p>Hanover Police numbers for trail incidents are available (unfortunately not in time for this submission) and were presented to some of the Councillors already. The understanding is that these concerns are currently well-handled and do not represent a strong likelihood that they will occur in this new section.</p>	<p>Residents, especially those in the area of the proposed trail section can be encouraged to volunteer for the Trail Eyes and Ears group and become part of the solution (they’ve already acquired 2 new members who live near the site and wanted to show their support for this trail project by joining)</p>
<p>“substantial loss of privacy”</p> <p>“Living alongside one [a trail] is a liability”</p> <p>“Permantey loss of residential privacy”</p>	<p>This is highly variable depending on the exact point along the trail site we’re talking about and how deep the lots are. It is less of an issue for those in the south subdivision.</p> <p>It could be argued that some of the high balconies on those homes (in the north side subdivision) eliminate the privacy of anyone in the adjacent backyards. When you’re well above the ground like that it’s easy to see everything. So which is worse? All of the neighbours being able to see everything in a back yard from their balcony or people going by on a trail with a potentially tall/dense hedge or other privacy planting blocking the view.</p> <p>There are also unanswered questions about why residents in the north side subdivision would be opposed to the trail when the developer knew it was going to be constructed and should have communicated that with potential homebuyers. If that was not communicated, that is between the homeowner and the developer.</p> <p>If it was, it’s extremely confusing that a new homeowner who knew there were plans to put a trail in would pick a lot along that side of the subdivision (where the trail was planned to be) and then try to have it cancelled because they don’t like its proximity. This project is for the betterment of the whole community. Those who wish to have more privacy than what can be provided by the privacy plantings (and these can be tall like those along the properties by the dam) shouldn’t be picking lots there in the first place.</p>	<p>Work closely with homeowners to organize privacy plantings. There are at least 4 people, this author included, who will volunteer our time to help with this. Whether that’s selecting the appropriate plants to meet homeowner needs, or doing the physical labour to get them in the ground. We want to help!</p> <p>Some of this comes out of NIMBY types attitudes and is difficult to combat when residents simply do not want any kind of change or feel entitled to exclusive access to the benefits of the trail site.</p> <p>See NIMBYism in Ontario for more information</p>

	<p>To be a bit cheeky: perhaps there is some information that has yet to come to light, but that's like going to East Side Marios, then being upset that they only serve pasta and then trying to get them to change the menu.</p> <p>For a few of the houses close to 22nd Ave the trail would make no difference to the privacy they have in their backyards; those backyards can be seen in their entirety from a block away by walking just by on the road. Additionally, people walking on the sidewalk along 22nd Ave are closer to some of the backyards than the trail would be.</p>	
"Diminishes quality of life for the residents living beside it"	<p>This is dependent on a variety of factors; privacy plantings have already been mentioned and rehabilitation efforts along the creek could be undertaken to densify the vegetation.</p> <p>Right now, those residents get to walk either on the road or sidewalks that have little to no protection from blowing wind in the winter and are hot and unshaded in the summer. It could be argued that their quality of life would be improved by giving them very close access to a tree protected walking trail.</p>	<p>A matter of opinion.</p> <p>See Trail Effects on Neighborhoods: Home Value, Safety, Quality of Life</p> <p>See Trails and Economic Development</p>

Final Thoughts:

There are a few other concerns that have not been addressed here as they will be covered in the delegation presentation.

On the whole, this author does not think any of the concerns raised represent insurmountable obstacles that warrant the cancellation of this proposed trail section in favour of a sidewalk alternative. While some concerns are based on misinformation that we can continue to combat via communication with the public, others (like the integrity and robustness of the physical trail surface) can be resolved well through technical adjustments.

We know from the rest of Hanover's Community Trail that keeping up with the challenges of seasonal environmental damages is an iterative process. Some things, like where washouts were going to happen on the section by the switchbacks, are difficult to predict and can only be dealt with after the fact. This doesn't mean that we should abandon this new section because it might not be perfect. There is still a lot of change to come to that entire side of Hanover; new challenges and new opportunities are sure to present themselves.

This author, along with all of the residents who have signed the included petition, sent letters, and spoken to you directly, would like to see the East End Trail Project along the creek reinstated. We now have almost a whole year to further refine the design, help residents prepare for construction, and to educate the community on all of the benefits that having this final piece of trail completed in green space will provide. We hope that Council can see that there is far more support for keeping this trail along the creek and in a green corridor than they may have realized when the decision to cancel it was made on March 16th.

Thanks for taking the time to read through this document. Please come prepared with questions on May 4th, as there is a great deal to cover in only 10 minutes and the presentation will be keeping to some of the larger, more significant points.

Thanks for your hard work.

Other Supporting / Relevant Documentation:

- Study: [Review of the impact of urban parks and green spaces on residence prices in the environmental health context](#)
- Study: [The value of green and blue space: Walkability and house prices](#)
- Document: [Ontario Trails Strategy](#)
- Article: [Trail Effects on Neighborhoods: Home Value, Safety, Quality of Life](#)
- Document: [Trails and Economic Development](#)
- Article: [NIMBY: The Clash Between Personal Ownership and Community Needs](#)
- Websites: [Hike Ontario](#)

Name	City	Postal Code	Date	Comment
Alina Rehkopf	Toronto	M6C 3M2	2026-04-17	"There are no compelling reasons to cancel this trail project as all of the concerns raised can be addressed well via other means. Reverse the decision and get this trail built!"
Theresa Seim	Hanover	N4n 2s9	2026-04-18	"What a disgusting flip flop on a forgone decision. The desires of a few do not supersede the needs of many. You purchased your properties knowing a trail went by it. Live with the desire of the majority's decision."
Susan Harrison	Hanover	N4N	2026-04-19	"So many of us assumed when we went to the information night about this trail that it was a done deal. So much time and funds have been wasted if it is cancelled and by the voices of only a few residents. All lovers of the wonderful trails in Hanover must insist that the trail is completed as planned. Sidewalks are not trails."
Gordon Jarvis	Hanover	N4N 3R1	2026-04-25	"The entire community of Hanover deserves an equal or better replacement trail to justify the east end section forever lost to a few very expensive residential homes. There is an opportunity to make this section the most beautiful walk along a natural trail for young and old to explore and be proud of. It sucks having to navigate the street to rejoin the trail."

Name	City	Province	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
Danica Metcalfe	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-15
Alina Rehkopf	Hanover		N4N0C8	Canada	2026-04-17
Larry Rehkopf	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-17
Michelle Jacobs	Hanover		N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-17
Rick Polkiewicz	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Gaetan Vir	Ottawa		K1L 5H8	Canada	2026-04-18
Ross Davis	Peterborough		K9j1l3	Canada	2026-04-18
Frieda Saedi	Montreal		H4b2z6	Canada	2026-04-18
Lea Smadello	Maple Ridge		V2X	Canada	2026-04-18
Robert Rowe	Hamilton		L8E 3V6	Canada	2026-04-18
Mary-Anne Markle	Wingham		N0G	Canada	2026-04-18
Kim Duquette	Hanover		N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-18
Pamela Gold	Hanover		N4N 3H4	Canada	2026-04-18
Glenn Monk	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Amy Dow	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Tara Turnbull	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Kim Schaefers	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Jim Turnbull	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Nicole Gillies	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
James Bender	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Abbas Abs	Guelph		N1K	Canada	2026-04-18
Tim Dietz	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Angelika Veens	Fordwich		N2Z	Canada	2026-04-18
Matthew Bender	Hanover		N4N 2K4	Canada	2026-04-18
Bushra Qureshi	Montreal		H3W 2H2	Canada	2026-04-18
Randy Cornelisse	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Kathy Wells	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Eric Snyder	Walkerton		N0H	Canada	2026-04-18
Gisell Pazmino	Hanover		N4N3K8	Canada	2026-04-18
Jennifer Heerema	Hanover		N4N 1P1	Canada	2026-04-18
Marie Bezeau	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Tim Heerema	Hanover		N4N 3B8	Canada	2026-04-18
Grego Dow	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Karen Mortimer	Hanover		N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-18
Kira Mortimer-Skinn	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Kristi McCracken	Hanover		N4N 3T9	Canada	2026-04-18
Annabelle Holley	Hanover		N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Linda Bolton	Hanover		N4N 3B8	Canada	2026-04-18
maria scales	Hanover		N2M	Canada	2026-04-18
Elyse Seim	Hanover		N4N 1Y6	Canada	2026-04-18
Susan Seifert	Hanover		N4N 2V3	Canada	2026-04-18
Darlene Wilston	Hanover		N4N3S7	Canada	2026-04-18
Jasmine Waechter	Mildmay		N0G 2J0	Canada	2026-04-18

Bradley Schmidt	Elmwood	N0G1S0	Canada	2026-04-18
Marylou Kormann	Hanover	N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-18
Deanna Hartman	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Elizabeth Fraser	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Bernie Lantz	Hanover	N4N 3T9	Canada	2026-04-18
Ashley Collingridge	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Londry Cathy	Hanover	n4k2e1	Canada	2026-04-18
Emily Mader	Hanover	N4N 1A5	Canada	2026-04-18
Tanya Fish	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Joey Faircloth	Toronto	M4V	Canada	2026-04-18
Michelle Scime	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Tom-Sylvia Harvey	Hanover	N4N1Z2	Canada	2026-04-18
Brook Leask	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Alana Sim	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Beverlee Parker Gateman	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
shari fraser	Walkerton	N0G	Canada	2026-04-18
Howard Turnbull	Hanover	N4N 3L3	Canada	2026-04-18
LeeAnn McCulloch	Hanover	N4N 2e9	Canada	2026-04-18
Nicole boyd	Hanover	N4n	Canada	2026-04-18
Karen Ruetz	Hanover	N4N 3R8	Canada	2026-04-18
Vanessa Haack	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Theresa Seim	Hanover	N4N 2S9	Canada	2026-04-18
Daniel Fetherston	West Grey	N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-18
Ethan Seim	Hanover	N4n1v1	Canada	2026-04-18
Bette Ellis	Grimsby	L3M	Canada	2026-04-18
Emily Edington	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Linda Beckberger	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Melissa Kraft	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-18
Tammy Aitken	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Jason Burrows	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Christina Duguay	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Logan Daly-Doersam	Hanover	N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-19
Karen Karn	Hanover	N4N3S7	Canada	2026-04-19
Laura Dugusy Duguay	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Leanne Hampton	Chesley	N0G 1L0	Canada	2026-04-19
Lieselot Nusselder-Sauer	Durham	N0G	Canada	2026-04-19
Mike Bender	Hanover	N4N1M9	Canada	2026-04-19
Dante Medori	Jenkintown	Pennsylvan	19046 United Stat	2026-04-19
Bridgette Knapp	Hanover	N4n	Canada	2026-04-19
Sue Blackburn	Hanover	N4N3P7	Canada	2026-04-19
Amanda Butchart	Hanover	N1M	Canada	2026-04-19
Sandra Hopkins	Port Elgin	N4n	Canada	2026-04-19
Steve Johnston	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Kathy Becker	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19

Margaret Peter-Nielsen	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Carl Eastman	Hanover	N4N 1P1	Canada	2026-04-19
Nolan Hopkins	Hanover	N4N3S9	Canada	2026-04-19
Dave Ermel	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Kyle Ermel	Hanover	N4N3s1	Canada	2026-04-19
Ava Yule	Hanover	N4N 2P2	Canada	2026-04-19
Helen Locking	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Susan Mulkern	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Danielle Zettler	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Kathy Limebeer	Hanover	N4N 3W7	Canada	2026-04-19
Donna Russwurm	Hanover	N0H	Canada	2026-04-19
Mona Duffy	Hanover N4 N 2 B3	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Joanna Oosthoek	Hanover	N4N 3W7	Canada	2026-04-19
Tim and	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-19
Jackie Shields	Hanover	N4N 3H8	Canada	2026-04-19
Marilyn Williams	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Kathy Johnston	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Scott Armstrong	Hanover	N4N3R2	Canada	2026-04-20
Trish Armstrong	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Brian Seim	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Lisa Fedy	Hanover	N0H	Canada	2026-04-20
Zak Armstrong	Hanover	N4N1J7	Canada	2026-04-20
Joanne Verstege	Hanover, Ontario	N4N 3B9	Canada	2026-04-20
Darren Scheifele	Hanover	M6N	Canada	2026-04-20
Michelle Downey	Durham	N0G	Canada	2026-04-20
Crystal Wheeler	Durham	N0G	Canada	2026-04-20
Pauline Diemert	Ayton	N0G 1C0	Canada	2026-04-20
Alisha Wilson	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Patti Adlington	Collingwood	L9Y	Canada	2026-04-20
Calene Noble	Hanover	N0G 2V0	Canada	2026-04-20
Alicia McKeeman	Walkerton	N0G	Canada	2026-04-20
Luke Bellamy	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Marissa Heuving	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Heather Saumer	Neustadt	N0G2M0	Canada	2026-04-20
Ashlee Burke	Hanover	N4N0B5	Canada	2026-04-20
Brittany Mawhinney	Walkerton	N0G	Canada	2026-04-20
Cortney Webster	Hanover	N4N3c8	Canada	2026-04-20
Khail Schnurr	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Geena Pegelo	Walkerton	N0G2V0	Canada	2026-04-20
Josh Hannah	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Jeremy Harbinson	Hanover	N4N3B9	Canada	2026-04-20
Nicole hopkins	Neustadt	N0G	Canada	2026-04-20
len moore	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-20
Tamara Campbell	Wingham	N0G 2W0	Canada	2026-04-21

Theresa Collingridge	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Cassy Ellis	Mildmay	N0G	Canada	2026-04-21
Chantel Rehkopf	Pembroke	K8A	Canada	2026-04-21
Pamela Biswas	Katy	Texas	77450 United Stat	2026-04-21
Leila Nasirzadeh	Toronto	M5R	Canada	2026-04-21
Hannah Morden	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Matthew Klages	Hanover	L6Y	Canada	2026-04-21
Jennifer Procknow	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Lynn Boyd	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Jessica Marron	Walkerton	N0g 2v0	Canada	2026-04-21
Diana Feather	Hanover	N4N 3H2	Canada	2026-04-21
Caroline Diaco	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Angela Kierstead	Hanover, ON	N4N	Canada	2026-04-21
Amy Weber	Stratford	N5A	Canada	2026-04-21
Suzan Plumstead	Hanover On	N4N2K4	Canada	2026-04-22
John Skinn	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-22
Gordon Walmsley	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-22
Steph Walmsley	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-22
Natasha Hope	Palmerston	N0G	Canada	2026-04-22
Lilianna Feather	Ottawa	K1S	Canada	2026-04-22
Christina Schnell	Hanover	N4N 3R2	Canada	2026-04-22
Claudia Switzer	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-22
Ken Batten	Durham	N0G	Canada	2026-04-22
Larry Laughlin	Hanover	N4N2C9	Canada	2026-04-23
Bill Switzer	Hanover	N4N 3W7	Canada	2026-04-23
Cheryl White	Elmwood	N0G1S0	Canada	2026-04-23
Christine Teeple	Hanover	N0H	Canada	2026-04-23
Alex Underbakke	Guelph	N1H 8B4	Canada	2026-04-23
Candi Jarvis	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-23
Paula Bell	Owen Sound	N4K	Canada	2026-04-23
Courtney A.	Lions Head	N0H1W0	Canada	2026-04-23
Jennifer Walker	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-23
Atty Schipper	Walkerton	N0G	Canada	2026-04-23
Evan Grant	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Sada Bryant	Neustadt	N0G 2M0	Canada	2026-04-25
Gordon Jarvis	Hanover	N4N 3R1	Canada	2026-04-25
Kelly Sue fetherston	Port Elgin	N0H	Canada	2026-04-25
Oscar Siwec	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Ruby McCracken	Hanover	N4N 3V1	Canada	2026-04-25
Anne mccutcheon	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Jeff Smith	Walkerton	N0G	Canada	2026-04-25
James Schmidt	Listowel	N4W	Canada	2026-04-25
Paula Luce	Meaford	N4L0A7	Canada	2026-04-25
Joanne Bryant	Sydney	2290	Australia	2026-04-25

Sara Mac	Hanover	N4n	Canada	2026-04-25
Blake Somes	waterloo	n2t1e1	Canada	2026-04-25
Lori Legate	Guelph	N1H5T4	Canada	2026-04-25
Cheyenne Rogers	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Tyler Miskie	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Dianne Schafer	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-25
Natalie Morley	Hanover	N4N3B8	Canada	2026-04-26
Justin Milne	Hanover	N4N 1W1	Canada	2026-04-26
Heather Karl	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Carolyn Milne	Hanover, Ontario	N4N3T8	Canada	2026-04-26
Erin Milne	Hanover	N4N 1W1	Canada	2026-04-26
Val Wettlaufer	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Joan Secord	Hanover	N4n2w6	Canada	2026-04-26
Shawn pierik	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Noah Kraemer	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Laurie Jarvis	Hanover	N4N3R1	Canada	2026-04-26
Natasha Rennie	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Sean Bryant	Neustadt	N0G2M0	Canada	2026-04-26
Stephanie Aldersley	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Darren Mc Gurgin	Ayton	N0G 1C0	Canada	2026-04-26
Eden Kontrimas	Stratford	N5A 3G8	Canada	2026-04-26
Megan kontrimas	Calgary	T2X	Canada	2026-04-26
Diane Meunier	Gatineau	j8z 1t9	Canada	2026-04-26
Patrick Flannery	London	N6H	Canada	2026-04-26
Paul Scott	Bobcaygeon	K0M	Canada	2026-04-26
Carol Ahrens	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26
Pete McIntyre	Toronto	M6N	Canada	2026-04-26
Jason williams	Hanover	N4N	Canada	2026-04-26



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2026, 4:00 pm
 Council Chambers | Civic Centre
 341 10th Street
 Hanover, ON N4N 1P5

MEMBERS PRESENT Mayor Sue Paterson
 Deputy Mayor Warren Dickert
 Councillor Carol Hudson
 Councillor Brandon Koebel (virtual until arrival in Chambers at 4:42pm)
 Councillor Susan Sakal

MEMBERS ABSENT Councillor Harold Fleet
 Councillor Dave Hocking

STAFF PRESENT Jeff Dentinger, Fire Chief (departed at 5:23pm)
 Vicki McDonald, Clerk
 Tanya Patterson, Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk
 Sherri Walden, CAO
 Jordan Whitmore, Development Services Supervisor/Deputy CBO (departed at 5:02pm)
 Carolyn Caskenette, Library CEO (departed at 4:55pm)

ALSO PRESENT Chris White, President & CEO – ERTH Power
 Walter Malcolm, President & CEO – Westario Power Inc.

1. National Anthem

2. Call to Order

Mayor Paterson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

3. Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge the Traditional Territory of the Anishinabek Nation: The People of the Three Fires known as Ojibway, Odawa, and Pottawatomie Nations. And further give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen, and the Chippewas of Nawash, now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, as the traditional keepers of this land.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

5. Agenda Additions or Deletions

None

6. Delegations

6.1 Chris White, President and CEO - Erth Power

ERTH Power provided an overview of its services, solutions, and strategic objectives. The presentation outlined the benefits of partnering with ERTH Power, including customer rate stability, economies of scale, and opportunities for modernization and automation. The company also highlighted its strong record of community involvement and support.

Council was also informed that time-of-use rates are provincially mandated and EARTH's distribution rates are similar to Westario's, with any impacts limited to the harmonization period through 2034.

The delegation was thanked for their presentation.

6.2 Carolyn Caskanette, CEO - Hanover Public Library

Hanover Public Library CEO Carolyn Caskanette presented a space needs report for the library site. The original report, completed in 2015, was updated in 2025 and identified that the current library is approximately half the size recommended by provincial standards for the population it serves (15,000 as stated in the space needs report). The report outlines options for exploring expanded or alternative library space.

In response to a question regarding why Hanover has the highest per-capita cost for library services in Grey County, Council was advised that Hanover operates as a stand-alone library, unlike other municipalities that participate in shared service partnerships. It was noted that Hanover offers higher service levels and standards compared to neighbouring libraries, which contributes to the increased per-capita cost.

The Hanover Public Library Board is requesting that council strike a Library Investigation Ad Hoc Committee to explore the options for a new or renovated library space.

Resolution Number: 95-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

That council direct staff to provide a follow-up report with respect to the proposed creation of a Library Investigation Committee to explore the options for a new or renovated library space.

CARRIED

7. Council Minutes

7.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2026

Resolution Number: 96-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

That the minutes of the April 7, 2026 regular council meeting be adopted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED

8. Business Arising From the Minutes

None

9. Consent Agenda

9.1 Report ED-08-26 - Clean Energy Frontier (CEF) Communities Rooted in Resilience – Community Resiliency Strategy

9.2 Report ED-09-26 - Rural Changemakers Program

9.3 Report FI-03-26 - Community Risk Assessment Update

- 9.5 Hanover Downtown Improvement Area Minutes - February 19, 2026
- 9.6 OGRA Conference 2026 Report Deputy Mayor Dickert
- 9.7 Grey Bruce Labour Council National Day of Mourning Ceremony Information
- 9.8 Correspondence from the Drinking Water Source Protection Committee advocating for watershed based source protection planning at the local level.

Resolution Number: 97-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the items listed on the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Item 9.4 - Committee of Adjustment Minutes of April 2, 2026, be received for information.

CARRIED

- 9.4 Committee of Adjustment Meeting Minutes - April 02, 2026

Resolution Number: 98-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That Item 9.4 - Committee of Adjustment Minutes of April 2, 2026 be received for information.

CARRIED

10. Staff Reports Requiring Action

- 10.1 Report PB-09-26 - Recognize May as a Building Safety Month

Resolution Number: 99-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That Report PB-09-26 be received; and

That council proclaim the month of May as Building Safety Month in the Town of Hanover.

CARRIED

- 10.2 Report FI-02-26 - Update by-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department in the Town of Hanover

Resolution Number: 100-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That Report FI-02-26 Update By-law to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department in the Town of Hanover be received; and

That council adopt By-law 3392-26 to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department in the Town of Hanover.

CARRIED

- 10.3 Report FI-04-26 - Capital Project #2100C009 Rescue Pumper Replacement Update

Resolution Number: 101-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

That Report FI-04-26 be received; and

That council approve an increase to the project budget of \$60,000 to be financed through reserves until external financing is secured.

CARRIED

- 10.4 Report FI-05-26 - Agreement between the Town of Hanover and Owen Sound Police Service for the Dispatch of Hanover Fire Department

Resolution Number: 102-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

The Report FI-05-26 Agreement between the Town of Hanover and Owen Sound Police Service for the Dispatch of Hanover Fire Department be received; and

That council authorize the Clerk and CAO to execute the agreement between The Town of Hanover and The Owen Sound Police Service for the provision of Hanover Fire Department dispatch services.

CARRIED

11. Committees of Council Minutes

- 11.1 Hanover Police Service Building Committee Minutes - March 31, 2026

Resolution Number: 103-26

Moved by DEPUTY MAYOR DICKERT

Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the minutes of the Hanover Police Service Building Committee of March 31, 2026 be received and the recommendations contained therein be hereby approved.

CARRIED

12. By-Laws

- 12.1 By-law No. 3392-26 to Establish and Regulate a Fire Department
12.2 By-law No. 3393-26 - Authorize Execution of Fire Dispatch Agreement

Resolution Number: 104-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

That By-law No. 3392-26 and 3393-26 be introduced; and

That they be taken as read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and inserted in the By-law book.

CARRIED

13. Correspondence Requiring Action

None

14. Notice of Motion

None

15. Good News and Celebrations

16. Upcoming Committee Meetings

- 16.1 Age Friendly Committee - Monday June 15, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.2 Economic, Tourism & Cultural Development Committee - Wednesday May 20, 2026 | 9:00am
- 16.3 Cultural Roundtable Subcommittee - Wednesday June 3, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.4 Heritage Subcommittee - Thursday April 23, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.5 Planning Advisory Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 4:00pm
- 16.6 Hanover Police Service Board - Tuesday May 19, 2026 | 10:00am
- 16.7 Hanover Public Library Board - Wednesday May 20, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 16.8 Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee - Wednesday May 27, 2026 | 6:00pm
- 16.9 Hanover / Walkerton Waste Management Committee - Tuesday May 12, 2026 | 9:30am
- 16.10 Saugeen Municipal Airport Commission - Wednesday May 20, 2026 | 1:00pm
- 16.11 Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Board - Thursday June 4, 2026 | 10:00am

It was noted that a Special Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee Meeting is being held Tuesday April 21, 2026 at 5:45pm at the P&H Centre.

The Finance Committee meeting will be held as scheduled on April 27, 2026 at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers.

17. Important Dates and Announcements

- 17.1 Next Regular Council Meeting – Monday May 4, 2026 | 4:00pm
- 17.2 Earth Day in Hanover - Wednesday April 22, 2026
- 17.3 Candidate Information Session (2026 Municipal & School Board Election) - Wednesday April 22, 2026 | 6:00pm to 9:00pm | Grey County Council Chambers or Virtual
- 17.4 National Day of Mourning - Tuesday April 28, 2026 | 11:00am | Heritage Square
- 17.5 Community Connects - Wednesday April 29, 2026 | 5:30pm | Saugeen Room, Civic Centre

18. Closed Meeting

None

19. Confirmation of Proceedings By-law

19.1 By-Law No. 3394-26 - Confirm Proceedings of the April 20, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

Resolution Number: 105-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR HUDSON

Seconded by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

That By-law No. 3394-26 be introduced; and

That it be taken as read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation, and inserted in the By-law book.

CARRIED

20. Adjournment

Resolution Number: 106-26

Moved by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

Seconded by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL

THAT this meeting of Hanover Council now be adjourned at 5:30pm.

CARRIED

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk

April 21, 2026

Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of the PRC Advisory Committee, I am writing to provide input regarding Council's recent decision to explore the construction of sidewalks in place of the planned stone dust trail segment of the East End Trail Loop in the Saugeen Cedar Heights West subdivision. This letter is intended to support Staff Report PRC-02-26 and to ensure Council is aware of the Committee's perspective, experience, and concerns related to the proposed redirection of this project.

The Committee is disappointed that this decision was made without consultation, given our Council approved mandate is to provide input on both annual and long-term capital planning related to parks, recreation, and culture. We were not provided the opportunity to comment or provide feedback prior to Council's decision. As a Committee established to represent resident interests and advise on capital development priorities, we believe our perspective should have been sought before a decision of this significance was made.

While staff provided a rebuttal within the report, it is important to note that support for this project extends well beyond staff. The committee has consistently supported the trail as a valuable recreational asset and was encouraged to see it progressing after many years of planning.

As outlined in the staff report, the East End Trail project has a well-documented history, supported by extensive multi-year planning supported by the Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan and the Town of Hanover Strategic Action Plan. Public engagement, design development, environmental review, and coordination with external stakeholders have all been completed. The project had received SVCA approval and was Council reviewed and adopted in the 2026 budget, with secured grant funding in place. Given the advanced stage of the project, the decision to cancel is difficult to understand.

The Committee recognizes that the project generated both concerns and positive feedback within the community. We are aware of strong support from residents who value the trail, its connection to nature, and its role in completing the East End Loop. In our view, this broader community support was not fully considered in Council's decision-making process. The Committee is concerned that the decision to halt or redirect the project reflects a limited range of input rather than a balanced consideration of the wider community and the municipality's long-term recreational goals.

The community trail has faced ongoing challenges, including prolonged closures due to bridge reconstruction and the temporary loss of continuity to 24th Avenue following

east-end residential expansion, resulting in a dead end. Completing the proposed section would restore the intended loop and improve overall connectivity.

The proposed trail segment would have provided a unique nature-based experience along publicly owned lands, offering a form of recreation that sidewalks along existing roadways cannot replicate. It represents a meaningful addition to the community's parks and trail network.

For these reasons, the PRC Advisory Committee respectfully requests that Council re-evaluate its decision. We believe a plan can be developed through compromise to provide a connective trail system with lasting benefits for the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Hopkins
PRC Advisory Committee Chair

Monday April 27, 2026

ATTENTION: HANOVER MAYOR SUE PATERSON AND TOWN COUNCIL

341 10TH STREET
HANOVER, ON
N4N 1P5

Re: Reconsideration of the East End Trail Development Project

I am writing to formally request that Council **reconsider** the recent, abrupt decision to halt the wetland portion of the East End Trail. While I appreciate the environmental passion expressed by the March 16th delegation, I believe the arguments presented were environmentally inconsistent and technically incomplete. The long-term management needs of this corridor require the completion of the trail as originally envisioned over a decade ago. If the March 16 delegation seeks a pristine, untouched natural ecosystem, those are available at nearby Sulphur Springs or Allan Park. Because this ecosystem is within an urban environment, it is evident that for the wetland to remain healthy, we require active Town management—not abandonment.

My perspective is informed by a professional understanding of land use; my father was a Civil Engineer and land developer. I was raised to understand how water moves and how infrastructure is designed. Upon walking this corridor recently, it became clear that this wetland is now the primary recipient of significant urban runoff from the new development. This creek bed is therefore an urban environment that requires active management, so I encourage Council to seriously consider trails on **both** sides of the creek, effectively turning this corridor into a managed drainage and recreation asset that protects the Town's interests on both banks.

1. The "Environmental" Argument - The delegation's concern for the wetland comes far too late. The adjacent subdivision is over three times the size of the wetland area; its construction involved the removal of thousands of cedar trees and the massive grading of natural absorbing soils. Where was the concern for wetland disruption during the subdivision's approval phase? To argue that a low-impact boardwalk—which **could be constructed on helical piles with near-zero hydraulic impact**—will damage the ecosystem, while ignoring the massive footprint of the million-dollar riverfront lots replacing the cedar forest, is a **selective** application of **environmentalism**. The ecological "weight" of a single house far exceeds that of an entire permeable trail system.

2. Protecting the Financial Investment - Beyond the environmental benefits, there is a significant fiscal cost to this delay. It is my understanding that the Town has secured nearly **\$48,000 in grant funding** through the Trans Canada Trail for this project. By halting progress and missing the seasonal window for site preparation, we risk forfeiting this non-taxpayer investment. This sets a poor precedent for future grant applications and turns a funded community asset into a direct taxpayer liability.

Staff have spent years planning this loop and this last expense is to make it accessible to all. Abandoning this proposed "gem" portion of the East-end trail loop now would be a waste of the \$15,000 already invested and a surrender of public property to the convenience of a few. Our task is to ensure accessibility for all residents, including those with mobility issues, rather than succumbing to the lobbying of those who wish to maintain an able-bodied exclusive, private-feeling buffer at the public's expense.

3. The Need for Asset Monitoring - With the increased hydrological pressure on this creek bed, the Town requires permanent, safe access for staff to monitor bank stability and environmental health. My recent site visit confirmed ongoing failures of silt retention fences (**Image 1**), which have led to significant sediment build-up in the creek (**Image 4**). Notably, the March 16th delegation also observed this erosion; however, their solution of abandonment will only allow this degradation to accelerate. A managed trail provides a clear corridor for Town oversight, ensuring that we are not relying on guesswork or reactive measures to maintain our natural infrastructure. The current status quo is not "untouched nature"; it is an unmonitored site of active environmental degradation.

4. Public Land We must be clear: this land belongs to the people of Hanover, not the adjacent property owners. Currently, several private properties backing onto the creek have illegally encroached onto Town land with sheds and fences. I can attest to at least three unauthorized private bridges visible, ranging from a 2x10 board to a decorative metal bridge (**Images 2 & 3**). **Image 2** specifically shows an unattended structure that creates an immediate liability and safety concern for the Town. A defined trail system on both banks establishes a firm boundary for public land, reduces the Town's liability risks, and ensures the corridor is used responsibly. If current residents recognize the value of this property enough to build upon it, Council must recognize its value enough to manage it for all residents. It is inconsistent to allow private infrastructure in a sensitive area while blocking a low-impact public trail intended to protect that same area.

5. Addressing Safety and "NIMBY" Concerns - The fearmongering regarding safety is not supported by facts. Our Chief of Police has noted that marginalized populations seek privacy, not active public trails. With our "Eyes and Ears" volunteers, bylaw officers, and police presence, managed trails are significantly safer than untended, dense brush. If residents desire more privacy, they have the right to plant hedgerows on their own property, but they do not have the right to dictate the closure of a public park, nor halt your staff's progress.

We have seen these 'NIMBY' concerns before, specifically during the development of the trail section by the Hanover Dam. Those properties also back directly onto the trail, yet that section has become a celebrated part of our community without the catastrophic safety issues predicted at the time. We should be looking to our past successes rather than being paralyzed by the same unfounded fears.

6. Alignment with the Official Plan (Schedule D) According to the Town's own Official Plan **Schedule 'D' - Trail Network** (Revised 2016), the East End creek corridor is explicitly designated as a "**Future Primary Trail**". It was never planned as a secondary connecting link or a simple sidewalk. Relegating this path to the street level would be a direct departure from the Town's established long-term planning goals and would strip the East End of the primary natural asset promised to the community for over a decade.

7. Truth and Reconciliation - Finally, we must address the Land Acknowledgment we have been reciting since 2022. If we truly honour the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON), we must move beyond words. While attempts have been made to contact the First Nations, the March 16th delegation has created a window to follow up properly with the resulting delay. This is an opportunity to turn a setback into a leading-edge partnership. By engaging the Saugeen Environment Office now, the Town can ensure the trail is a site of cultural restoration, which may open doors to specific federal reconciliation funding to offset the potential \$48,000 grant loss caused by the recent halt.

Conclusion

As illustrated in the bird's-eye view (**Image 5**), the scale of the new East End subdivision creates a level of urban pressure that this narrow wetland corridor cannot manage on its own. Relying on the status quo is an abdication of our responsibility to this environment. We must transform this space into a managed asset that serves both the community's recreational needs and its environmental obligations.

I strongly encourage the Hanover Town Council to be brave and support your staff. I encourage you to transform this wetland into a trail on both sides of the bank, making it a site of ecological restoration and cultural representation, rather than a dangerous liability and private buffer for a select few. I encourage Council to seriously consider trails on **both** sides of the creek, effectively turning this corridor into a managed drainage and recreation asset that protects the Town's interests on both banks. The proposed 15m setback and native species restoration are excellent compromises that protect the environment better than the current status quo. Please do not let "Not In My Backyard" politics derail a quarter-century of Hanover's planning. Do the right thing for the whole town and complete the loop as planned.

SINCERELY,

SCOTT ARMSTRONG

Image 1 – Pollution: This is one of several documented failures of silt retention fences within the corridor. These failures allow sediment to flow directly into the stream, creating an ongoing pollution issue. As occupancy increases in this development, the potential for residential runoff and leaching will only grow, necessitating a managed Town asset to provide oversight and protection.



Image 2 – Unmonitored Encroachment: This is one example of a private structure built onto Town land. It appears unattended and represents a significant liability risk for the municipality. If private residents clearly recognize the intrinsic value of the land on both banks of the creek, there is no reason Council should not also claim and manage that same value for the benefit of the entire public.

Image 3 - A precarious board crossing: while it may seem innocent, a wrong step on the wet board causing the waterfall may be a severe accident. Please take care of this space by allowing your staff to manage it with the high level of diligence and care they provide to our community.



April 1, 2026

To: Mayor Patterson and ALL Town Council members:

We are writing to express disappointment with the recent decision regarding the change in plans for Hanovers' East end trails.

It is deeply concerning that such an impactful choice appears to have been influenced by a relatively small percentage of residents who opposed the plan, rather than reflecting the broader interests and long-term benefits for the community as a whole.

Nature trails are more than just recreational amenities-they contribute to public health, environmental stewardship, tourism, and overall quality of life. Many residents value opportunities to connect with nature, and initiatives like this often serve future generations as much as current ones. Decisions of this magnitude deserve to be guided by comprehensive community engagement and a balanced consideration of all perspectives, not disproportionately swayed by a limited segment of opposition.


In our effort to stand out and draw people to our town, we should remember that sidewalks are common and everywhere – ordinary and expected- while nature trails are far more unique. They not only set us apart, but also offer something genuinely exciting for our community to enjoy and take pride in.

While we fully respect the importance of hearing all voices, we believe it is equally important to weigh them in proper context. A small but vocal group should not over-ride the potential benefits that such a project could bring to the majority of residents.

We urge council to revisit this matter with a more inclusive and data-driven approach. Whether through broader consultation, surveys, or public forums, it is essential to ensure that decisions truly reflect the will and best interests of the entire community.

Thank you for your time, consideration and review of this matter.

Sincerely,



Dale Cousins

106 11th Avenue
Hanover, Ontario
N4N 3T9



Cathy Cousins

106 11th Avenue
Hanover, Ontario
N4N 3T9



April 6, 2026

Mayor Patterson & Hanover Town Council,

I am addressing this letter to you in regards to the proposed cancellation of the completion of the east end trail extension loop. My name is Doug Karn and my wife and I are life long residents of the Town of Hanover. I have been involved with the Hanover Trails Eyes & Ears as a volunteer since its' conception. I have been involved in the development of the secondary trails as well as clean up, maintenance and reporting issues. This is why I am voicing my concern. I am very passionate about our trails. Walking and biking our trails I encounter trail lovers from all walks of life enjoying the natural beauty of the Saugeen River.

In 1992, my wife and I built our home which backs onto the Hanover Trail. One of the main reasons for building our home here was for the direct access to the Rail Trail and the Saugeen River. This beautiful natural town property has been enjoyed by my family and grandchildren since then. I feel the trails that run from the south line to behind Walmart is a natural treasure for our Town. These trails bring countless hours of pleasure to both visitors and residents. Thus, making "Hanover the place to be".

When the Town approved the Saugeen Cedar Heights West Subdivision, the original trail was dead ended. At that time, I was told that the proposed trail replacement would follow the most natural available Town owned land along the creek area, out to Grey Road 28 where a small parking lot would be installed.

It is my understanding that the subdivision developer, Saugeen Valley Conservation and the Town Planning board along with Parks and Recreation, have been working tirelessly on this extension plan for the replacement trail for years. Ensuring the best possible route with the least amount of environmental impact. With permits and approval grant in place, this project was scheduled to begin before the end of March. However, a very small group of Homeowners (less than 1% of the towns population) opposed this extension, stating privacy, safety and environmental issues. Since being at my residence since 1992 I have not had a reportable incident on my property, so I feel these concerns are not valid. You as

the Council, then decided to cancel the trail and propose to replace it with a sidewalk through Saugeen Cedar Heights West Subdivision which may take an additional 3-5 years to develop. I would like to emphasize that our trails are used by walkers, bikers, bird watchers, mobility impaired users, snowshoers, cross country skiers etc. In a nature environment these activities require a trail not a sidewalk.

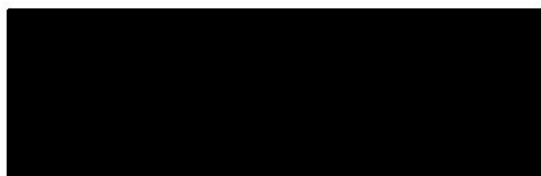
In closing, this letter is addressed to the entire council to ask that they re-visit this important matter which ultimately shapes our town. This is an election year, so as you go door to door campaigning, please make sure the town residents have all the information.

Thank you for your time on this very important matter and I look forward to any and all comments in this regard.

Hanover will always be my place to be.

Sincerely,

Douglas Karn



From: Barbara Hicks
Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 1:25 PM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@hanover.ca>
Subject: East End Trail Extension Project

Dear Mayor and Council - I was disappointed to learn that Council recently made the decision to pause the construction of the east end trail extension, directing staff to investigate the cost of extending the trail using sidewalks instead. This is extremely frustrating and disappointing. I want to express my support for the east end trail extension, as it was designed years ago, not using a series of sidewalks. The trail extension has long been anticipated by members of the community, like me and my family, who use it for outdoor recreation. Using a sidewalk is simply not the same as using a nature trail. The cost of the project has already been included in the Town's budget and the developer has made the necessary financial commitment to it. SVCA approval has been obtained. As I understand it, the grant funding (\$47,800) now has to be forfeited. The timeline is now derailed as this project was supposed to be underway this season. The Town engaged with stakeholders about this over the years, who gave overwhelming support for further investment and planning around our trails. Now those voices are being disregarded. I hope that Council will reconsider its decision, and proceed with the project as intended.

Regards,

Barbara Hicks
Hanover resident

To the Mayor and Town Councillors of Hanover

April 13, 2026

I am writing to let you know I do not agree with your decision made at the March 16, 2026 meeting to change the plans for the east end trail construction.

The delegation that was in attendance at that meeting to voice their concerns about the perceived negative impacts on their neighbourhood did not represent the views, I'm sure, of most trail users. I counted only 82 signatures on the petition, representing 53 addresses. That is approximately 1% of Hanover's population and residential properties.

The delegation's main argument seemed to be about the increased risk of trespassing, theft, vandalism, and general safety. I am a regular trail user all year round, enjoying walking, cycling, running, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and hiking on the side trails. I have always felt safe. Chief Knoll said there has never been acts of violence reported to the Hanover Police Service on the trails, and in fact they have been able to reduce some of the time they patrol the trails and divert their resources to other areas of town that need it more. If the trails were actually unsafe the police would be there more often.

Other arguments they had was having less privacy, no one else would want a trail going along the back of their property, and it would decrease their property value. I, as well as many people, would love to have easy access to a public trail near me, and that might even add value to a property. It's my understanding only a few more trees would have to be cut down, so trail users going by wouldn't have a wide open view to someone's back yard anyway.

The delegation also pointed out there would be extra costs for things like a railing, ongoing maintenance, and policing, but I don't think that would be a significant issue.

The comment in their letter mentioning that trail section as originally proposed would have a negative impact on community character offends me. My impression, reading between the lines, is that they think there's going to be a bunch of homeless people in their neighbourhood. I have been a Hanover Trails Eyes and Ears volunteer since it was first formed. I, as well as my fellow volunteers, are devoted, active members that report incidents that need attention to the town staff and of course to emergency services whenever it is needed. In fact, in 2025, 33 out of the 35 items that needed attention by town staff (graffiti, trees down, litter, etc.) were reported by the Eyes and Ears volunteers. Almost every time I'm on the trails I meet nice people and families that came here from surrounding communities just to use our trails. I've met people that don't live near Hanover at all, and have stopped around Karl Wilken Park to get out of their cars for a break and check out the trails. It is an important asset to our taxpayers and guests.

I would like to see the decision to have the section of trail that is of concern to the residents around 17th Street and Saugeen Cedar Heights West Subdivision, reversed, and go back to the original proposed design of the trail.

In closing, I would also like to add I have always thought highly of the current Mayor and town council members, and the positive and productive decisions they have made on behalf of the Town of Hanover. I feel though, this decision may not have been thought out as well as it could have been. I trust you will give more consideration to this decision that affects many more people than the group the delegation represented.

Thank you,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Brian McMann

218 5th Avenue

Hanover

A black rectangular redaction box covering a line of the address.A black rectangular redaction box covering a line of the address.

From: Mia Arsenault [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2026 11:12 PM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@hanover.ca>
Subject: East end of the Hanover trail

Hi there,

I would like this email included in the May 4th council meeting, please.

I just found out that the east section of the Hanover trail has had the plans for a naturalized trail rebuilt in its place halted.

As someone who thoroughly enjoyed that section of trail before it was demolished, I'm shocked to hear that instead of that naturalized trail rebuild, there's a possibility of a sidewalk instead.

There are countless studies on the benefits both mental and physical of walking in nature, under trees; and yes, on earth instead of concrete (our knees thank us every time we steer clear of such hard surfaces).

Walking on hot concrete in the blazing sun is a sure way to keep people from using a trail.

And for those worried about this in an economical sense, trees and nature always adds value to properties.

Please reconsider the original naturalized trail plan, even if it requires a couple of changes. It benefits us all immensely to have beautiful natural trails to walk/bike/run on, whether for pleasure or to just get around town.

Thank you,
Melissa Arsenault

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Freiburger

Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 7:08pm

To: Inquiry inquiry@hanover.ca

Subject: East end trails

Please forward to all councillors and the Mayor –

Just writing today to voice our concerns for the east end trail for the upcoming May 4, 2026 council meeting. We love the trail system in Hanover and our family uses it often. We were looking forward to the east trail being completed and are hoping that you will reconsider and construct the trail as previously planned.

Our town trails are a great way to connect with nature and stay healthy both mind and body.

Having a proper trail system also brings people to the community that enjoy the outdoors for walking, biking, skiing etc., while here they often support some of our local businesses. We feel it would be an asset to Hanover to have them run further and give more of an opportunity for the residents and visitors to stay active.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nicole and Kevin Freiburger and Family.



Staff Report To Council

From: Jelena Savic, Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer
Date: May 4, 2026
Report: DCS-06-26
Subject **2026 Donations to Organizations**

Recommendation

That Report DCS-06-26 Donations to Organizations be received for information.

Background

The Town of Hanover provides financial contributions to external organizations in accordance with Policy FIN- 005 – Financial Contributions to Organizations and the associated procedures. The purpose of the policy is to establish a fair, transparent, and consistent process for considering requests for financial assistance from eligible community organizations that provide a clear benefit to the residents of Hanover.

Under FIN- 005, grants may be provided for seed funding, special events or projects, or emergency assistance, subject to eligibility criteria and funding limits. Requests are reviewed for completeness by the Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer and are considered by council either through the annual budget process or, where permitted, during the year, provided sufficient funds are available. The procedures further outline funding guidelines based on the organization's location and the extent to which the proposed activity benefits the Town of Hanover and its residents.

The approved annual budget establishes the maximum amount available for financial contributions in a given year, and all grants are subject to that approved funding envelope.

Discussion

The adopted 2026 Mayoral Budget includes \$10,000 for financial contributions to external organizations. As of the date of this report, the following grants have been approved and/or distributed in accordance with Policy FIN-005:

- Hanover Community Players – \$1,000
Support for local theatre operations and community programming.
- Bruce Grey Mentorship Program – \$3,000
Support for youth mentorship programming serving Hanover and the surrounding area.
- Horticultural Society – \$3,000
Planting and maintenance of bridge flower boxes and community flower beds.

- Hanover Lawn Bowling Club – \$1,000
Support related to hosting the Provincial Championship.
- Youth for Christ (YFC) – \$1,000
Support for youth drop-in programming in Hanover.

These contributions reflect council's ongoing support for community organizations that enhance quality of life, provide social, cultural, and recreational benefits, and align with the eligibility requirements and funding guidelines set out in FIN-005.

Based on the review and aggregation of council- approved organizational grants under Policy FIN- 005 from 2020 through 2026, the Town has provided \$62,850 in grant funding to external organizations during this period, an average of almost \$9,000 per year.

This total reflects recurring and approved grants to eligible organizations (such as Bruce Grey Mentorship, the Horticultural Society, YFC, Hanover Community Players, and others) and excludes cancelled or returned grants, as well as one- time individual or event- specific sponsorships that are tracked separately from ongoing organizational funding. The figure accurately represents the Town's sustained financial support to community organizations that deliver ongoing programs and services benefiting Hanover residents.

Table 1 summarizes the cumulative grant funding provided since 2020 to organizations that have received recurring financial support from the Town. Totals were aggregated by organization to identify cumulative funding over the period, with cancelled or returned grants excluded and one-time individual sponsorships considered separately from ongoing organizational funding.

Table 1: Total Grant Funding Provided Since 2020 (by Organization)

Organization	Total Funding (2020 - 2026)
Horticultural Society	\$18,100
Bruce Grey Mentorship Program	\$18,000
Youth for Christ	\$7,000
Hanover Community Players	\$6,000
Hanover Lawn Bowling Club	\$6,000
South Grey-Bruce Youth Literacy Council	\$4,000
Women's House Serving Bruce & Grey	\$1,000
Ontario Music Festival	\$750
Other	\$2,000
Total Funding Provided	\$62,850

Since 2020, the Town's grant funding has been increasingly focused on a small number of local organizations that provide ongoing, measurable benefits to the community. The majority of funding during this period has been directed toward organizations delivering youth development, mentorship, community wellbeing, and placemaking services. This reflects a shift away from large external or one- time commitments and toward stable, predictable support for organizations with a demonstrated and sustained impact on Hanover residents. Overall, the distribution of grants since 2020 demonstrates a more

targeted and policy-driven approach, aligning council's financial contributions with FIN-005 eligibility criteria, annual budget limits, and broader community priorities.

Financial Implications

Based on allocations made to date, \$9,000 has been committed, leaving an unallocated balance of \$1,000 remaining in the adopted 2026 grant budget.

Any further requests for funding in 2026 would need to be evaluated in accordance with Policy FIN-005 and are limited to the remaining available balance.

Link to Strategic Plan

This report supports the indicated Strategic Goals and Action Plans of the Town of Hanover.

Goal 1: Safe and Reliable Infrastructure

Build, maintain and continuously improve our municipally owned properties, buildings, and equipment.

Goal 2: Healthy and Welcoming Community

Care for our natural environment and provide an enviable quality of life for everyone who calls Hanover "home".

Goal 3: Strong and Vibrant Economy

Refresh downtown Hanover and retain and attract local economic investment and jobs.

Goal 4: Balanced Growth

Work together to create a community we can all be proud of.

Goal 5: Open and Responsible Government

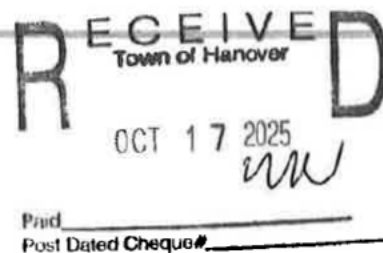
Deliver services in a friendly, efficient and effective manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

Jelena Savic
Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer

Sherri Walden
CAO



Mayor Susan Paterson,
Hanover Town Council

October 17, 2025.

Dear Mayor and Council:

The Hanover Community Players are grateful for the town's support of our non-profit, volunteer group and we once again ask for your assistance. We would like to apply for the \$1,000 community grant for the upcoming year.

This past December 2024, HCP proudly produced *The Sound of Music* for large receptive audiences. Many shows were sold out. Spring 2025 saw us produce the comedy *Bare, Bear Bones*, which was very well attended.

Our second Drama Camp in July was quite positive with participants and parents and we plan another in August 2026.

We are busily working on the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, *The School of Rock* for our fall show which opens Fri. Nov. 28th at 7:00 p.m. We have a fantastic group of young people as well as some 'oldsters' and they are all making it happen.

Our spring show will be *Clue, on Stage*, a murder mystery based on the well-known family board game. I wonder who will play Miss Scarlet. It will open Fri. April 24th, 2026.

An exciting event will be happening in Hanover commencing Thurs. May 14th and continuing until Sun. May 17th, 2026; we are hosting the **Western Ontario Drama League Festival** in the Civic Theatre. WODL covers an area from Burlington west to Sarnia and Welland and north to Tobermory; it has over two dozen member groups. Festival plays will be adjudicated by a professional who will announce the winning entry on Sun. May 17th at the Best Western Hotel in Walkerton. Various other acting, directing, and staging awards will be presented.

We are very hopeful that the Town of Hanover will be of assistance to us in this endeavour as many people attend the theatre festival. It will help to put our town on the map visually and economically

Hanover Community Players, over the past years, has given the area youth, teens, adults and seniors the opportunity to appear or assist in numerous productions. In 2026 we will celebrate 20 years! We would like to continue to offer our town and area quality amateur theatre and we kindly ask for your continued support.

If you have any questions or need more information, I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Marg Este,

Hanover Community Players.

December 10, 2025

Rec'd
Dec 16/2025

Town of Hanover

10th Street,

Hanover, ON.

Attention: Sue Paterson and Hanover Town Council

Request for funding:



This year the Hanover Lawn Bowling Club has once again been selected to host the Senior Provincial Championships in June of 2026.

Bowlers from across Ontario will be in Hanover for three days, with the winners going on to the Nationals.

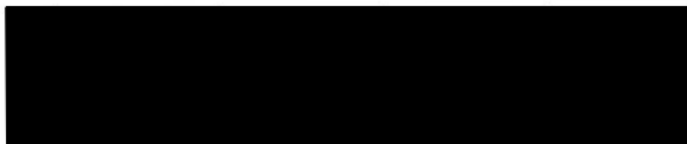
To help offset the cost of the Championship, the Club is again asking the Town to consider funding us in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barb Lawrence



Director of Sponsorship



Received 14/01/2026
Missing financial statement
E-mailed Barbara 14/01/2026

Financial Contributions to Organizations Application Form

GENERAL INFORMATION: (Please Print Clearly)

Organization Name: Hanover and District Horticultural Society

Mailing Address: 148 Old Bridge Rd N Hanover Postal Code: N4N 3B8

Contact Person: Barbara Fleming Position: Co-president

Phone: (day)  (evening) 


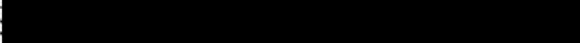
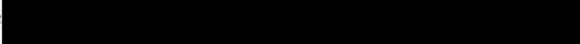
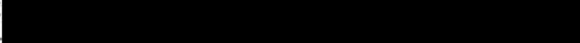
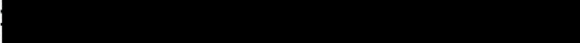
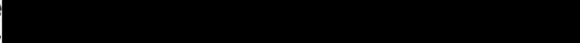
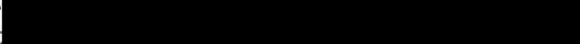
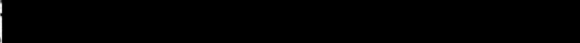
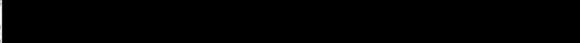
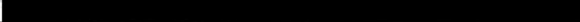


Brief Description of Services Offered by Your Organization:

Volunteer members plan, plant and maintain flower beds at the Legion, Cometary, Heritage Square, P+H marquis, Burns memorial.
Education of a horticultural + Eco nature.
2 plant sales annually
Provide + maintain bridge box planters on north + West bridges in cooperation with Town Assist Library Fundraising CTC hanging basket sale.

Outline how the Hanover community benefits from your organization's activities and / or who makes use of your services.

Community beautification, education, volunteer opportunities
Physical activity for members who are willing and able. Socialization.
Purchasing locally Plants sale of locally grown, hardy plants.

Officers for Current Year:

Position	Name	Phone
<u>Co-President</u>	<u>Barbara Fleming</u>	(home):  (business):  (email): 
<u>Co-President</u>	<u>Joey Denstedt</u>	(home):  (business):  (email): 
<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Cathy Londry</u>	(home):  (business):  (email): 
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Annabelle Holley</u>	(home):  (business):  (email): 

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION REQUESTS OVER \$1,000.00

6. Financial Outline: Proposed based on the year or specific project for which funds are requested. Check here if proposed financial outline is attached.
 (Note: If attaching financial outline, you do not need to complete chart below)

Revenue / Income:		Expenditures: (Please specify where appropriate)	
Membership / Program Fees	\$ 600	Equipment: plants, mulch	\$ 5500
Fundraising	\$ 1200		\$
Donations	\$ 3500		\$
Other – Please Specify:	\$		\$
Share the Wealth	\$ 100	Supplies:	\$
Fish dinner	\$ 1650		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$	Staff Costs	\$
	\$		\$
	\$	Administration Expenses - Fees	\$ 1200
	\$	+ Insurance to OHA	\$
	\$	Operating	\$ 500
	\$		\$
	\$	Facility Rental	\$ 450
	\$		\$
	\$	Publicity / Promotion	\$
	\$		\$
	\$	Other: Speakers	\$ 700
	\$	Miscellaneous	\$ 2000
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
Total Revenue	\$ 7050	Total Expenses	\$ 10 350

NOTE THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM YOUR ORGANIZATION.

Level of Funding Requested	Additional Information Required
\$1,000.00 or less	No additional information required.
\$1,001.00 to \$5,000.00	1. Financial statement for the year immediately preceding the year funds are requested. 2. Proposed budget for the year funds are requested.
Over \$5,000.00	1. Most recent audited financial statement. 2. Financial statement for the year immediately preceding the year funds are requested. 3. Proposed budget for the year funds are requested. 4. Ten minute presentation to Council highlighting your organization's structure, services and reasons funding requested is needed.

Hanover & District Horticultural Society
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
For the Year Ending November 30, 2025

<u>Income:</u> Share the Wealth	115.60
Plant sales/Flower Show	1,260.10
Memberships	570.00
Misc.	1,087.00
Grants/Donations	4,100.00
Fish Dinner	5,952.09
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>13,084.79</u>

<u>Expenses:</u> Flower Show	662.39
Civic Improvements	1,552.65
Guest Speakers	550.00
Church Rent	412.00
Operating Expenses	653.07
OHA Fees	1,122.00
Misc. Expenses	331.97
Fish Dinner	4,300.00
Bus Trip	983.10
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>10,567.18</u>

HANOVER AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY BUDGET 2026

Closing balance 2025 \$19,133.88 (includes GIC of 4,986.10)

<u>Proposed Income 2025</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed 2026</u>
Flower and plant sales 1650	1260.10	1200
Share the wealth 75	115.60	100
Fish Dinner 2500	5952.09	1652
Membership 600	570	600
Grants/donations <u>3500</u>	<u>4100</u>	<u>3500</u>
totals 8325	13084.79	7025

<u>Predicted expenses 2025</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>2026 prediction</u>
Civic Improvement 5200	1552.65	5500
Flower Show 750	662.39	400
Speakers 500	550	700
Rent 400	412	450
Operating 400	653.07	500
Fund Raiser 1250	4300	covered by ticket sales
Membership fees 600	1122	1200
Miscellaneous 3500	331.97	2000
Bus Trip _____	<u>983.10</u>	_____
9600	10567.18	10750



341 10th St. Hanover ON N4N 1P5

t 519.364.2780 | t 1.888.HANOVER | f 519.364.6456 | hanover.ca

Financial Contributions to Organizations Application Form

GENERAL INFORMATION: (Please Print Clearly)

Organization Name: Bruce Grey Mentorship

Mailing Address: 517 11th Ave, Hanover, ON Postal Code: N4N 2S3

Contact Person: Greg Dow Position: Executive Director

Phone: (day) 519-506-5065 (email) info@brucegreymentorship.ca

Brief Description of Services Offered by Your Organization:

We provide positive mentoring opportunities for children and youth in need of support and encouragement as they grow, to reach their potential. We run 3 weekly group programs (Kid's Club –ages 7-11, Tween Zone-ages 12-14, and Teen Group – ages 15-17). In addition, we provide various special interest activities throughout the year that provide social and life skill building and the development of self esteem and confidence. We seek to support young people's positive mental health through our village of Mentors and social mentoring. We provide a safe space for at-risk youth to gather and engage in positive activities.

Outline how the Hanover community benefits from your organization's activities and / or who makes use of your services.

Through our programs, we guide young people to make positive choices, change their behaviours and become positive contributing members of their homes, schools and communities. A 2013 study of the affects of mentoring showed that mentored children and less likely to engage in risky behaviours such as drinking, violence and illicit drug use, and are more likely to do well in school and achieve higher life and education goals. Mentoring can help young people stay out of trouble, break cycles of generational poverty and mental health issues.

Officers for Current Year:

Position	Name	Phone
President	Jenna Elvidge	(home): [REDACTED] (business): [REDACTED] (email): [REDACTED]
Secretary	Kaylee Pletsch	(home): [REDACTED] (business): [REDACTED] (email): [REDACTED]
Treasurer	Chandra Protomanni	(home): [REDACTED] (business): [REDACTED] (email): [REDACTED]

FUNDING REQUEST:

1. Amount of Funding Being Requested: \$ 5000

2. Type of Funding Requested: Seed _____ Project _____ Operating _____ Emergency _____
 (See Clause C – Funding Available – i – iv)

3. Explain how requested funds will be utilized.

Bruce Grey Mentorship is a free community service for the families we serve. As such, we depend on our community and various sources of funding to cover our operational expenses each year. We strive to provide quality programs and safe spaces for the young people to gather and receive support from our Mentors. Funding supports the facilitation of our weekly programs, special events and summer outings. But it goes further than that. Due to food insecurity for some of our clientele, we provide snacks during each activity and group we run. Each December, we host a turkey dinner for the families, and are able to provide further supports such as pantry items, warm clothes, socks and personal care items for the young people and their families. This funding helps us sustain our services and continue to make an impact on the lives of our Mentees.

4. Outline why the requested funds are needed to support your organization's endeavours outlined in #3 above.

It is our mandate to offer all our programs free of charge to our clients. Typically, a majority of our client families are low income homes, consisting of single parent families or children living with elderly grandparents. We are fully dependant on our communities generosity, various grants and foundations to meet our yearly budget needs. Without programs like ours, these young people would continue to struggle in their schools and at home. At risk young people, have a higher likelihood of turning to drugs or other negative behaviours to cope with social isolation, mental health issues and anxiety or depression. Without support, children who act out, have a higher risk of becoming adults who engage in negative behaviour patterns. Positive mentoring is linked to improved academics, child abuse prevention, violence prevention and developing positive members of a community.

5. Please list all other sources of revenue your organization realizes on an annual basis. Examples include membership fees, donations, fundraising activities, other grants, etc.

- Navada Ticket revenue
- Grants and Foundations
- 4 yearly fundraisers
- Corporate and individual sponsors

Please provide any additional comments you feel are pertinent to your request.

Social mentoring involves engaging with young people in fun activities and programs to build rapport and develop positive relationships with Mentors. Through these opportunities, the young people develop stronger social skills, learn various life skills and have a safe place to learn how to make and keep friends. When kids feel supported and encouraged, they build confidence. And confident kids improve in many areas of their lives. Confident kids are less likely to be bullied, they are more likely to improve their academic performance and have an increased likelihood of attending post secondary education versus their unmentored peers.

Every kid in our program has a unique circumstance for accessing our services. Some have a diagnosis, many have been bullied, most have limited friends, many have screen addictions, anxiety and depression. No matter the reason they come here, they always find an accepting group and a safe space to learn with their peers and access safe, and positive adult role models.

Over the past 5 years, we have increased our capacity to 30 children and youth facilitated through 3 programs. Our Mentors typically dedicate themselves to a specific age group where they feel they can be most effective and relatable to the young people. At the end of 2024, we had the pleasure of individually matching 3 young people who will be able to spend time one on one with a Mentor outside our program.

Making a Difference in 2025

As part of our Adventure Club, we had an opportunity to take a group of youth on a high ropes course. The challenges were exciting but also pushed them out of their comfort zones to develop problem solving skills, communication and personal growth. Each youth was so proud of their accomplishments and the challenges they took on.

A youth in our Tween program was very shy when she started our group, but by the summer, she was feeling confident to speak up, share her thoughts and be part of the conversations. Her change was so significant that her Grandma was shocked with how much she was chatting at home and school when she barely said a word prior to our program.

A youth in our teen group was getting bullied at school from another youth. After sharing this concern with the group, 2 of the youth in our program took the initiative to speak with the other youth at school and convince them to leave him alone. And he did back off. Through this group, our young people are finding not just Mentor supports, but also peer supports.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
Application Received:	Approved / Denied:	Amount:
Comments:		Date:

BRUCE GREY MENTORSHIP - Draft Budget 2026

Income	<u>2026 Draft</u>
40100 · Donations	25500
42300 · Foundation Grants	20000
42350 · Grant Income	10623
45100 · Interest Income	40
45200 · Investment Income	700
54100 · Nevada Port Elgin Income	8000
54300 · Nevada Hanover Income	4000
54400 · Nevada Walkerton Income	2000
58100 · Internal Fundraiser Revenue	28000
58150 · Internal Fundraiser Sponsors	20500
58200 · 3rd Party Fundraiser Revenue	500
Total Income	119,863.00
Expense	
60200 · Payroll Expense	63000
60400 · Employers CPP Expense	3750
60500 · Employers EI Expense	1500
70100 · Nevada Port Elgin Expense	4500
70300 · Nevada Hanover Expense	1500
70400 · Nevada Walkerton Expense	1500
73250 · Mileage Expense	1000
73500 · Police Check Expense	25
75200 · Bank Service Charges	300
75400 · Professional Fees-IndContractor	3000
81200 · Transportation Expense	0
81300 · Telephone Expense	1500
81500 · Website Expense	650
82000 · Rent Expense	13560
82350 · Fundraising Event Expense	6000
82400 · Program Event Expense	4000
82450 · Special Programming Exp	25000 *100 Women
82500 · Misc Expenses	100
85200 · Office Expense	1700
85210 · Building Expense	1000
85215 · Utilities	1500
85250 · Promotion Expense	250
85260 · Advertising / Media	100
85300 · Insurance Exp-General Liability	7000
License Fee Expense - Port Elgin	0
License Fee Expense - Hanover	1278
85985 · License Fee Expense-Walkerton	800
Total Expense	144,513.00
Net Income	-24,650.00
Difference without 100 W expense	350.00



BRUCE GREY MENTORSHIP

Financial statement, 2025

Prepared by:

J.E.T. Bookkeeping Solutions

Cory Beseau

January 20, 2026

	<u>31 Dec 25</u>	<u>31 Dec 24</u>	<u>% Change</u>
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Chequing/Savings			
#0 - General Chequing BLUE			
#0.1 - Restricted Funds	0.00	14,740.27	-100.0%
#0 - General Chequing BLUE - Other	34,882.55	738.28	4,624.84%
Total #0 - General Chequing BLUE	<u>34,882.55</u>	<u>15,478.55</u>	<u>125.36%</u>
#1 - Cash Calendar Trust RED	18.20	9.42	93.21%
#2 - Port Elgin Nevada GREEN	4,176.00	5,502.78	-24.11%
#5 - Hanover Nevada	3,624.74	982.49	268.93%
#6 - Walkerton Nevada	1,669.47	1,680.27	-0.64%
10800 - Petty Cash	203.40	203.40	0.0%
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>44,574.36</u>	<u>23,856.91</u>	<u>86.84%</u>
Other Current Assets			
11001 - Accrued Receivables	594.81	594.81	0.0%
11012 - HST Recoverable	1,237.98	0.00	100.0%
18500 - GIC Investment-MeridianCC	1,256.55	1,289.34	-2.54%
19500 - GB Community Foundation - Endow	14,877.68	14,877.68	0.0%
Total Other Current Assets	<u>17,967.02</u>	<u>16,761.83</u>	<u>7.19%</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>62,541.38</u>	<u>40,618.74</u>	<u>53.97%</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>62,541.38</u>	<u>40,618.74</u>	<u>53.97%</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
20000 - Accounts Payable	2,080.26	2,059.67	1.0%
Total Accounts Payable	<u>2,080.26</u>	<u>2,059.67</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
Credit Cards			
21100 - Meridian VISA	597.78	0.00	100.0%
Total Credit Cards	<u>597.78</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Other Current Liabilities			
21600 - Employee CPP Payable	-10.68	0.00	-100.0%
21700 - Employee EI Payable	-53.07	0.00	-100.0%
21800 - Federal Tax Payable	0.00	2.00	-100.0%
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>-63.75</u>	<u>2.00</u>	<u>-3,287.5%</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>2,614.29</u>	<u>2,061.67</u>	<u>26.8%</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,614.29</u>	<u>2,061.67</u>	<u>26.8%</u>
Equity			
30000 - Opening Balance Equity	17,466.53	17,466.53	0.0%
31000 - RetEarningUnrestrictedNetAssets	6,206.54	-5,697.14	208.94%
32100 - Net Assets - Endowment Fund	14,884.00	14,884.00	0.0%
Net Income	<u>21,370.02</u>	<u>11,903.68</u>	<u>79.52%</u>
Total Equity	<u>59,927.09</u>	<u>38,557.07</u>	<u>55.42%</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>62,541.38</u>	<u>40,618.74</u>	<u>53.97%</u>

Approved by:

Approved on:

	<u>Jan - Dec 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income			
40100 · Donations	61,006.21	25,500.00	239.24%
42300 · Foundation Grants	10,000.00	20,000.00	50.0%
42350 · Grant Income	5,000.00	7,000.00	71.43%
45100 · Interest Income	38.46	100.00	38.46%
45200 · Investment Income	700.00	800.00	87.5%
54100 · Nevada Port Elgin Income	3,946.64	12,000.00	32.89%
54300 · Nevada Hanover Income	4,247.80	2,000.00	212.39%
54400 · Nevada Walkerton Income	0.00	4,000.00	0.0%
58100 · Internal Fundraiser Revenue	20,708.38	28,000.00	73.96%
58150 · Internal Fundraiser Sponsors	17,100.00	20,000.00	85.5%
58200 · 3rd Party Fundraiser Revenue	618.15	500.00	123.63%
Total Income	123,365.64	119,900.00	102.89%
Expense			
60200 · Payroll Expense	51,638.26	63,500.00	81.32%
60400 · Employers CPP Expense	2,915.71	3,500.00	83.31%
60500 · Employers EI Expense	1,194.70	1,500.00	79.65%
70100 · Nevada Port Elgin Expense	4,107.51	4,500.00	91.28%
70300 · Nevada Hanover Expense	1,466.75	1,900.00	77.2%
70400 · Nevada Walkerton Expense	0.00	1,500.00	0.0%
73250 · Mileage Expense	861.62	800.00	107.7%
73500 · Police Check Expense	25.00	25.00	100.0%
75200 · Bank Service Charges	294.38	250.00	117.75%
75400 · Professional Fees-IndContractor	2,009.89	1,000.00	200.99%
81200 · Transportation Expense	0.00	500.00	0.0%
81300 · Telephone Expense	1,439.58	1,500.00	95.97%
81500 · Website Expense	633.66	400.00	158.42%
82000 · Rent Expense	13,560.00	13,560.00	100.0%
82350 · Fundraising Event Expense	5,402.40	6,000.00	90.04%
82400 · Program Event Expense	3,961.56	3,500.00	113.19%
82450 · Special Programming Exp	1,001.12	500.00	200.22%
82500 · Misc Expenses	114.33	100.00	114.33%
85200 · Office Expense	1,626.76	1,200.00	135.56%
85210 · Building Expense	1,289.58	1,000.00	128.96%
85215 · Utilities	1,278.70	1,500.00	85.25%
85250 · Promotion Expense	195.14	500.00	39.03%
85260 · Advertising / Media	0.00	500.00	0.0%
85300 · Insurance Exp-General Liability	6,978.97	7,200.00	96.93%
85900 · License Fee Expense-Port Elgin	0.00	1,300.00	0.0%
85975 · License Fee Expense-Hanover	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
85985 · License Fee Expense-Walkerton	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
Total Expense	101,995.62	119,735.00	85.18%
Net Income	21,370.02	165.00	12,951.53%

Approved By:

Approved on:

February 2026

ATT Jelena Savic
To Hanover Town Council:

341 10th St.
Hanover, Ontario
N4N 1P5



YOUTH UNLIMITED YFC HANOVER has been working to serve youth in Hanover and surrounding areas for 25 years. We strive to ensure youth have the opportunity to be contacted, befriended and supported, to help them through the emotional and physical struggles in their adolescent years. We see the hope and potential in every young person, from all walks of life, regardless of race creed or gender.

The staff at Youth Unlimited YFC Hanover are trained in the skills necessary to engage and help these youth. Their training is active and ongoing in suicide intervention, first aid, and overdose response (Naloxone), along with ongoing, in-house training on current youth issues and trends.

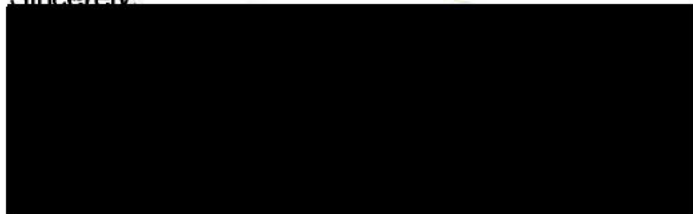
We connect with youth through summer camps, weekend retreats and day programs. Our primary operation is "The Deck" at 742 7th Avenue. This is a drop-in center that provides a safe and supervised space for all youth. At The Deck, youth play sports, visit with friends, play games, share in activities, or find a listening ear.

We thank the town of Hanover for your support and generosity over the past years! We would ask if you could help us continue to serve the town and its youth in this year. We are asking the Town of Hanover to contribute \$1000 to our Youth Drop-in program. This program runs on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. It is open free of charge, to all youth ages 9 to 18.

We believe our trained staff, along with these programs go a long way in counteracting the high rates of teen depression, anxiety and suicide we see in the Grey Bruce area. I am so grateful for the opportunity of working with the youth of Hanover. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Paul Neuman
Satellite Director, Youth Unlimited YFC Hanover, 519-369-7545, paul.n@yfchanover.com
The Deck 742 7th Ave N4N 2K1, www.yfchanover.com



Youth Unlimited/YFC Hanover
742 - 7th Ave., Hanover, ON N4N 2K1
(519) 364-0423
info@yfchanover.com
www.yfchanover.com

a division of Southwestern Ontario Youth for Christ

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit
Financial Statements
December 31, 2025

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Contents

For the year ended December 31, 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, change in net debt, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Hanover, Ontario

April 10, 2026

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Licensed Public Accountants

Saugen Mobility and Regional Transit Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
Financial assets		
Cash	28,201	44,059
Accounts receivable <i>(Note 2)</i>	109,420	98,483
Grants receivable	36,625	41,300
	174,246	183,842
Liabilities		
Bank indebtedness <i>(Note 4)</i>	105,401	141,590
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	131,174	140,895
Deferred revenue	50,000	-
	286,575	282,485
Net debt	(112,329)	(98,643)
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets <i>(Note 3)</i>	1,536,726	757,456
Prepaid expenses	112,329	98,642
	1,649,055	856,098
Accumulated surplus <i>(Note 5)</i>	1,536,726	757,455

Approved on behalf of the Board

Director

Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	<i>2024 Actual</i>
Revenue			
Federal Special Funding	-	1,130,505	-
Provincial Dedicated Gas Tax Funds			
Capital grant	-	52,553	378,587
Operating grant	-	622,023	635,145
Municipal contributions (Note 6)	791,525	791,525	731,543
User fees	443,000	484,237	456,216
Donations	10,000	3,455	20,133
Other	6,000	1,849	2,884
	1,250,525	3,086,147	2,224,508
Expenses			
Amortization	-	403,789	239,004
Bad debt expense (recovery)	900	(568)	3,146
Bank charges and interest	500	266	59
Insurance	10,000	9,919	9,489
Membership fees	3,500	2,913	3,274
Office	81,500	96,697	84,259
Professional fees	48,000	44,330	42,822
Rent	16,500	16,477	16,073
Telephone	18,000	22,248	12,407
Vehicle fuel	210,000	165,267	220,098
Vehicle other	239,200	264,990	235,378
Wages and benefits	1,287,937	1,280,548	1,218,917
	1,916,037	2,306,876	2,084,926
Annual surplus (deficit)	(665,512)	779,271	139,582
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	757,455	757,455	617,873
Accumulated surplus (deficit), end of year	91,943	1,536,726	757,455

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Statement of Change in Net Debt

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	<i>2025 Budget</i>	<i>2025 Actual</i>	<i>2024 Actual</i>
Annual surplus	(665,512)	779,271	139,582
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(1,183,059)	(378,587)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	403,789	239,004
	-	(779,270)	(139,583)
Change in prepaid expenses	-	(13,687)	(10,419)
Change in net debt	(665,512)	(13,686)	(10,420)
Net debt, beginning of year	(98,642)	(98,643)	(88,223)
Net debt, end of year	(764,154)	(112,329)	(98,643)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	2025	2024
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Operating activities		
Annual surplus (deficit)	779,271	139,582
Non-cash items		
Amortization	403,789	239,004
	1,183,060	378,586
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	(11,521)	(22,266)
Prepaid expenses	(18,734)	(10,419)
Grants receivable	10,302	139,241
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(9,717)	(11,406)
Deferred revenue	50,000	-
	1,203,390	473,736
Capital activities		
Purchases of tangible capital assets	(1,183,059)	(378,587)
Increase (decrease) in cash during the year	20,331	95,149
Cash deficiency, beginning of year	(97,531)	(192,680)
Cash deficiency, end of year	(77,200)	(97,531)
Cash deficiency are composed of:		
Cash	28,201	44,059
Bank indebtedness	(105,401)	(141,590)
	(77,200)	(97,531)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the basis of accounting described below and include the following significant accounting policies:

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of CPA Canada.

Nature and Purpose of Organization

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit (S.M.A.R.T.) is a government partnership incorporated without share capital under the laws of the Province of Ontario. The organization provides transportation services to the physically disabled.

The organization is a registered charity and, as such, is exempt from income tax and may issue income tax receipts to donors.

The organization is dependant on funding received from area municipalities through a service agreement with Town of Hanover, Municipality of Brockton, Municipality of West Grey, Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Kincardine, Municipality of Grey Highlands, Township of Southgate, Town of Saugeen Shores, Township of Chatsworth and Township of Huron Kinloss. The participating municipalities make up the majority of the board of directors.

Management Responsibility

The financial statements of the Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit are the representations of management.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty and actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future. The use of estimates is primarily related to the useful lives of tangible capital assets.

Revenue recognition

User fee revenue is recognized when earned, as services are rendered to customers, providing the amount is fixed or determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured.

Government Transfers

Government transfers are recognized as revenue in the financial statements when the transfer is authorized and any eligibility criteria are met, except to the extent that transfer stipulations give rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Transfers are recognized as deferred revenue when transfer stipulations give rise to a liability. Transfer revenue is recognized in the statement of operations as the stipulation liabilities are settled.

Contributed Materials and Services

Contributed materials and services which are used in the normal course of the organization's operations and would otherwise have been purchased at their fair value at the date of contribution if fair value can be reasonably estimated.

Financial instruments

Cash is measured at fair value. Accounts receivable, accounts payable, and long-term debt are measured at cost or amortized cost. The carrying amount of each of these financial instruments is presented on the statement of financial position.

All financial assets are tested annually for impairment. When financial assets are impaired, impairment losses are recorded in the statement of operations.

Transaction costs are added to the carrying value for financial instruments measured using cost or amortized cost. Transaction costs are expensed for financial instruments measured at fair value.

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Significant accounting policies *(Continued from previous page)*

Tangible capital assets

Purchased tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at fair market value at the date of contribution. Where fair market value cannot be reasonably determined, contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at a nominal amount. Amortization is based on the estimated useful life of the asset and is calculated as follows:

Amortization

	<i>Method</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Automotive equipment	declining balance	30 %
Furniture and fixtures	declining balance	30 %

2. Accounts receivable

	2025	2024
Trade	98,396	90,636
HST rebate	30,951	29,490
Other	1,829	681
	131,176	120,807
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	21,756	22,324
	109,420	98,483

3. Tangible capital assets

	Cost	Additions	Disposals	Accumulated amortization	2025 Net book value
Automotive equipment	2,208,018	1,183,059	-	1,863,918	1,527,159
Office furniture and equipment	160,654	-	-	151,087	9,567
	2,368,672	1,183,059	-	2,015,005	1,536,726
					2024
	Cost	Additions	Disposals	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Automotive equipment	1,829,431	378,587	-	1,464,231	743,787
Office furniture and equipment	160,654	-	-	146,985	13,669
	1,990,085	378,587	-	1,611,216	757,456

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

4. Bank indebtedness

	2025	2024
Credit union operating loan	105,401	141,590

The credit union operating loan is due on demand and bears interest at the credit union's prime rate less 0.50%, calculated and payable monthly. The maximum available to the organization is \$350,000. The loan is secured by a general security agreement covering the assets of the corporation.

5. Accumulated Surplus

The accumulated surplus reported on the statement of financial position is comprised of the following:

	2025	2024
General surplus	-	-
Invested in tangible capital assets	1,536,726	757,456
Accumulated surplus	1,536,726	757,456

6. Municipal Contributions

Municipal contributions reported in the Statement of Operations are received from the municipalities in which the organization provides services from the following sources:

	2025 <i>Budget</i>	2025 <i>Actual</i>	2025 <i>Allocation %</i>	2024 <i>Actual</i>
Town of Hanover	150,525	150,525	19	137,465
Municipality of Brockton	94,883	94,883	12	86,651
Town of Saugeen Shores	143,449	143,449	18	131,003
Municipality of West Grey	114,311	114,311	14	104,394
Municipality of Kincardine	94,120	94,120	12	85,955
Municipality of Arran-Elderslie	78,984	78,984	10	72,132
Township of Southgate	29,735	29,735	4	27,155
Township of Huron Kinloss	44,860	44,860	6	40,968
Township of Chatsworth	15,000	15,000	2	22,388
Municipality of Grey Highlands	25,658	25,658	3	23,432
	791,525	791,525	100	731,543

The Provincial Dedicated Gas Tax Funds are flowed through the Town of Hanover who act as the administrator, and are reported separately on the statement of operations.

7. Contractual Commitments

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit has entered into a three year tenancy agreement starting January 1, 2026 with the Municipality of Brockton. The total of the commitment is \$16,338 plus HST per year, totalling approximately \$55,000 for all three years, ending December 2028.

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

8. Financial Instruments

The organization is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, and interest rate risk from its financial instruments. This note describes the organization's objectives, policies and processes for managing those risks and the methods used to measure them. Further qualitative and quantitative information in respect of these risks is presented below and throughout these financial statements.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The organization is exposed to credit risk through its cash and accounts receivable.

The organization manages its credit risk by ensuring the client is in good financial standing, and follow up is done regularly on accounts.

The organization measures its exposure to credit risk based on analyzing the accounts outstanding, and determining their collectibility.

The organization's maximum exposure to credit risk at the financial statement date is the carrying value of its cash and accounts receivable as presented on the statement of financial position.

There have not been any changes from the prior year in the organization's exposure to credit risk or the policies, procedures and methods it uses to manage and measure the risk.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the organization will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The organization is exposed to liquidity risk through its accounts payable and bank indebtedness.

The organization manages its liquidity risk by monitoring cash activities and expected outflows through budgeting. The organization measures its exposure to liquidity risk based on monthly analytical procedures of comparing budget figures to actual.

There have not been any changes from the prior year in the organization's exposure to liquidity risk or the policies, procedures and methods it uses to manage and measure the risk.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The organization is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The organization is exposed to interest rate risk through its bank indebtedness.

The organization manages its interest rate risk by trying to stay out of overdraft position throughout the year. The organization measures its exposure to interest rate risk based on analysis of the bank balance and expected cash inflow and outflow.

There have not been any changes from the prior year in the organization's exposure to interest rate risk or the policies, procedures and methods it uses to manage and measure the risk.



Building our strength **at home.**

2025 Nuclear Innovation Institute Annual Report

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Message from Board Chair

Expanding our reach

Over the past year, the Nuclear Innovation Institute (NII) has continued to strengthen its role within Canada's nuclear sector—undertaking sector-leading transformation projects that start with process improvements that make the industry's operations safer and its workers' lives better.

With laser focus, the team advanced these initiatives designed to solve today's operational challenges and boost the industry's long-term competitiveness, resilience and readiness. Strengthening the industry from the inside out, these efforts are helping position Canada's nuclear sector for sustained success in an increasingly complex global energy landscape.

Deepening partnerships and expanding its reach well beyond the Clean Energy Frontier region of Bruce, Grey and Huron counties, NII solidified its role as a trusted connector and collaborator through national and international engagement. The NII team brought together industry leaders, all levels of government and communities to address shared challenges and opportunities on a wide range of topics.

Building the conversation on clean energy policy, large-project readiness, AI and data centres, energy security, resilient communities, all while supporting collaboration between diverse groups—

NII demonstrated the value of having a strong, coordinated voice for the sector.

This year also marked a period of meaningful progress for the Green Ribbon Panel, a coalition of leaders from business, labour, not-for-profit and the energy sector. As Chair of the Panel, I have seen firsthand the impact of NII's leadership as Secretariat—convening leaders in Washington, D.C. on tariff response and launching a 100-day action plan for Canada's energy policy. NII helped position the Panel as a credible, solutions-focused voice advancing a clean energy economy.

NII's work this year showed what is possible when expertise, trust and leadership come together, positioning nuclear as a central pillar of Canada's clean energy future.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to our Founding Members and partners for your continued engagement and leadership. NII is well situated in 2026 to build on this momentum of a strong, innovative and connected nuclear sector.



James Scongack
NII Board Chair

Message from President & CEO

Building our clean energy path

“...to build our strength at home, and to act together.
That is Canada’s path. We choose it openly and confidently.”

—The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada

This year at NII, our work took shape with unified purpose—each project, each partnership, each conversation adding strength to a growing, pan-Canadian network of clean energy leadership.

Here in the Clean Energy Frontier region, we’ve built this strong story. But in 2025, the reach of our work extended farther than ever before.

Sector transformation projects improving processes and operational efficiency. National conversations about AI and nuclear, tariffs and energy policy. Community resiliency research. Unique STEM opportunities. Signature events. This year was proof that local efforts can shape national outcomes.

We also sharpened our focus. With the approval of our 2026–2028 business plan, NII is stepping confidently into the future with clear goals, strong governance and a commitment to deliver meaningful, measurable value for our members. This plan reflects the evolving needs of a sector that is growing in impact and

complexity. It positions us to be proactive partners—supportive, strategic and ready to help drive the next generation of clean energy innovation.

Across every pillar of our work, collaboration was the common link. Whether we were helping streamline industry processes, producing research that shaped federal conversations, or hosting events that brought hundreds of partners together, the strongest outcomes happened when we worked as one.

Thank you for your trust, your insight and your partnership. Together, we are building something that reaches far beyond our region—something that will help shape Canada’s path.



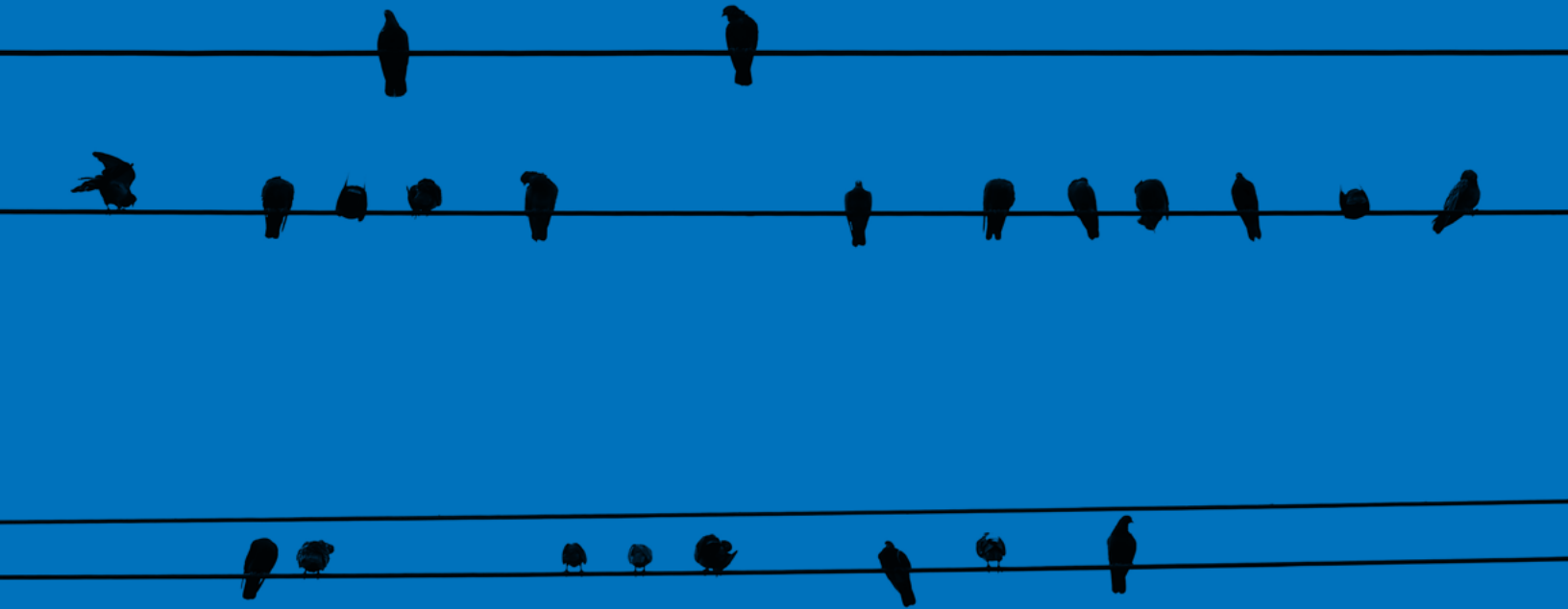
Jessica Linthorne
President & Chief Executive Officer



NII Founding Members

Board of Directors

The Nuclear Innovation Institute is supported by its Founding Members: engaged, forward-looking organizations working towards a clean energy future while also creating lasting local impact in the communities of Bruce, Grey and Huron counties.



- James Scongack, Chair | Bruce Power
- Jim Phillips, Vice Chair & Member at Large, Good Governance
- Lisa Aitken | Cameco
- Andrew Clunis | Power Workers' Union
- Patrick Dalzell | Bruce Power
- Spencer Fox | E.S. Fox
- David Harris | Kinectrics
- Chad MacLean | Bruce Power
- John MacQuarrie | BWXT Canada
- Gary Newman | Bruce Power
- Gary Rose | Candu Energy, an AtkinsRéalis company
- Luke Charbonneau, Member at Large, Municipal Sector | Town of Saugeen Shores
- Karin Stephenson, Member at Large | McMaster University



NII overview

Our strength at home

Established in 2019, the Nuclear Innovation Institute is Canada's premier research institute for the clean energy sector. A member-based not-for-profit located in the heart of rural Ontario, NII's focus is on advancing the nuclear industry's innovative capacity, operational excellence and skill development—leading projects that enhance safety, quality and workers' daily lives.

NII is located on the territory of the Anishinaabe Nation: the People of the Three Fires known as Ojibway/Chippewas, Odawa and Potawatomi Nations, now homeland of the Chippewas of Saugeen and the Chippewas of Nawash, the keepers of the land. We also recognize the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation.



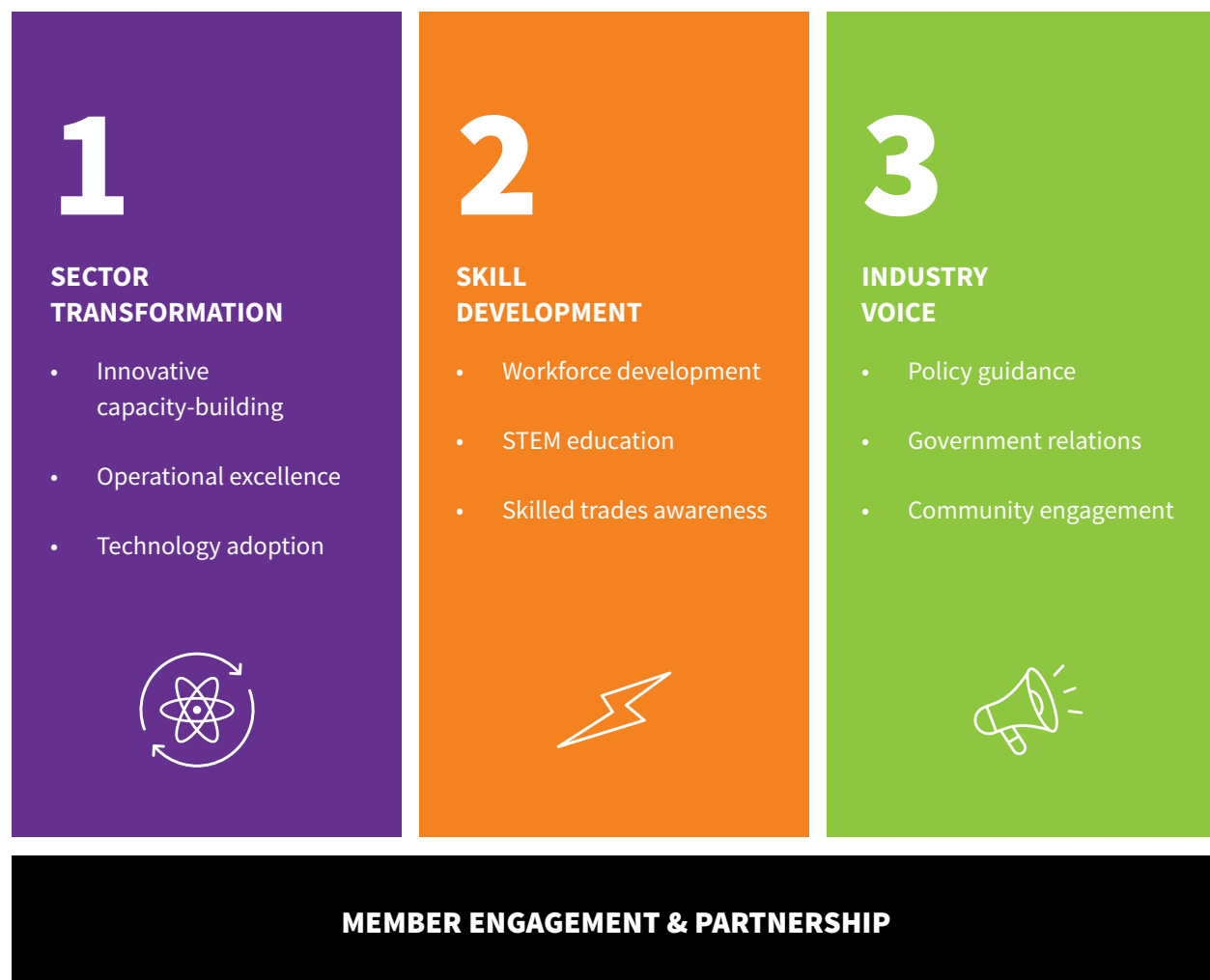
VISION

A Canadian landscape that celebrates an innovative nuclear industry as an integral part of the clean energy future.

MISSION

To drive sector transformation, skill development and an innovative nuclear voice to support members and encourage collaborative engagement with communities, industries and governments.

This mission is built on work that happens under three pillars:



Securing the future

CLEAN ENERGY FRONTIER CONFERENCE

The 2025 Clean Energy Frontier Conference brought more than 150 delegates together for one of the industry's most dynamic clean energy events.

Panels, workshops and presentations explored economic development, innovation and the role of rural regions in building Canada's energy future. Founding Members were featured throughout the program and the event drew significant media attention across southern Ontario.

“Today, in this room, we have over 150 professionals from the nuclear industry, elected officials, community leaders, academic and service partners, vendors and entrepreneurs. I cannot think of another sector conference that welcomes this diverse of an audience.”

—Jessica Linthorne, NII President and CEO



“That’s how you
secure the future.
So, my question to
you is: Are you ready?”

—Eric Chassard, President & CEO, Bruce Power



2025 by the numbers

These numbers only tell part of the story—but together, they show a growing national network tied together by the strengths of the Clean Energy Frontier region.

150+

attendees at the Clean Energy
Frontier Conference with 84
organizations represented
across sectors

350+

students participating
in the Built to Lead
skilled trades event

7K

students taking part in
STEM and energy-related
education events

430K

impressions on NII's
social media channels and
200 media mentions

28

organizations engaged in
the Community Resiliency
Strategy consultations

39

organizations represented
at NII Connects: Community
conversations on mental health

Sector transformation

A critical part of Ontario's innovation ecosystem, NII's sector transformation projects include process improvement activities that increase operational excellence through projects that boost safety, enhance quality and make life better for workers.



Process improvement: strengthening the system from the inside out

KAIZEN FOR NUCLEAR

In 2025, the team focused on sector-changing Kaizen projects that brought teams together to share expertise and strengthen practices that keep this industry moving.

TIMESHEET & INVOICING



Improved data integrity, reduced administrative burden and created new standards for timelier invoice approvals.

MEETING COLLABORATION



Early results showed clearer expectations, better engagement and shared practices across two major industry players.

ACCRUAL REPORTING



Significant labour savings and a model of excellence for future adoption across the sector.

HISTORY DOCKETS



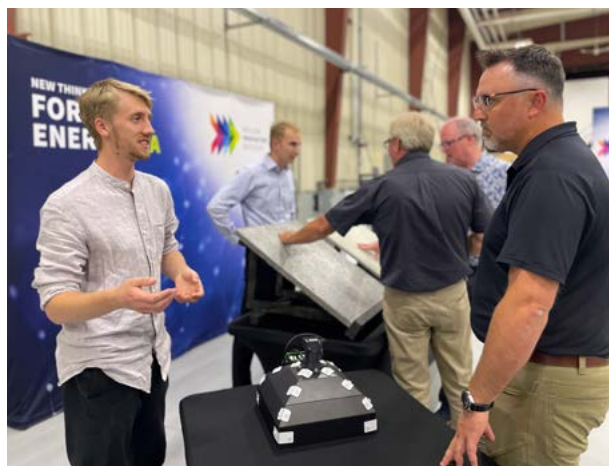
Built a future-state workflow to reduce rework, increase efficiency and improve the timely delivery of nuclear-grade components.

Cutting-edge tech showcases

INNOVATION DAY

Innovation Day events offer exclusive access to Founding Members and partners to learn about emerging technologies and leading-edge work happening in the nuclear sector, connecting Members with academic research and technology developers to discuss potential applications.

In September, NII brought together industry, municipal partners and academic experts for a showcase of new technology that could transform the way critical infrastructure is inspected and maintained using advanced lighting techniques and AI to improve the accuracy and efficiency of concrete inspections.



Skill development

NII has developed a unique set of STEM education programs, resources and events targeting children and youth that help support our communities. Through ongoing engagement with local school boards, NII's work is aligned with the Ontario curriculum and advanced education opportunities.



Inspiring the province's future tradespeople

BUILT TO LEAD

This year's Built to Lead event welcomed more than 350 students from Grades 7–12 for hands-on engagement with the skilled trades. The event gave young women across the region a direct look at real career pathways in the trades: by hearing from women already working in these roles and connecting with unions and employers, students left with excitement, confidence and new opportunities ahead of them.

ENERGY CO-OP

NII ran the Energy Co-op program, which immersed 12 students from Kincardine District Senior School and 12 students from Saugeen Ojibway Nation in the world of power generation. Through the willingness of our nuclear industry partners, students gained 17 weeks of hands-on training to introduce them to the industry.





STEM education & outreach

NII provided content for or hosted 81 events with the local school boards, from classroom activities for Grade 6 electricity classes and Grade 7 environmental classes to large event programming like the NII Science Olympics and the new NII Model UN program, providing rural students with the same opportunities as their urban counterparts.

Some new developments this year came through our teacher professional development programs where NII hosted all of the secondary teachers from the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board for sessions on the nuclear industry, providing them with career messaging for students. In addition, NII met with students and guidance counselors from across the Bluewater District School Board to speak about future workforce issues.

NII also continues to advance Indigenous engagement opportunities in the local Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) communities by leading dynamic outreach programs and by attending community-hosted events and gatherings raising awareness about employment opportunities and promoting youth education.

This year NII participated in the Assembly of First Nations National Natural Resources Forum and the New Brunswick Assembly of First Nations, speaking on the role of nuclear power in the clean energy economy. NII's Explore program also took part in meaningful youth activities throughout the year with SON, including the annual two weeks of Summer STEM camp for 40 students each week, STEM-themed PD Day programs, job fairs and cultural events like Sconefest and Orange Shirt Day.



Industry voice

As an industry voice with deep connections across government, industry and communities, NII advances clean energy leadership by engaging diverse audiences, building broader awareness of Canadian nuclear innovation, and reinforcing public confidence in the role that nuclear energy plays in powering a resilient, clean and competitive economy.



Charting the national path forward

GREEN RIBBON PANEL

As Secretariat for the Green Ribbon Panel, NII helped redefine the Panel's mission and expand its membership, while coordinating major events in Washington and Toronto. The year delivered:

- A Canada-US statement on energy cooperation
- A 100-day action plan with four federal recommendations
- A response to the federal budget highlighting key progress

Together, these efforts helped cement the Panel's position as a national voice on clean energy policy and economic resilience.



COMMUNITY READINESS PROJECT

Through research and a regional workshop, NII helped local leaders understand the impacts of large-scale infrastructure projects and identify strategies to proactively prepare communities. This work is already influencing discussions across municipal councils and community groups.





COMMUNITY RESILIENCY STRATEGY

This work explored how rural communities can strengthen support systems in the face of mental health challenges, housing pressures, substance use and more. Identifying key opportunities to build impactful connections and to support the incredible work already underway in this region, the strategy helped ensure a coordinated path for the energy sector to work alongside community partners towards a stronger and more resilient future.



CLEAN ENERGY FRONTIER AWARDS

Presented at the Canadian Nuclear Association Conference, the awards recognized outstanding leadership in innovation, community building and economic growth—showcasing the region’s strength and momentum.





ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR NEW NUCLEAR

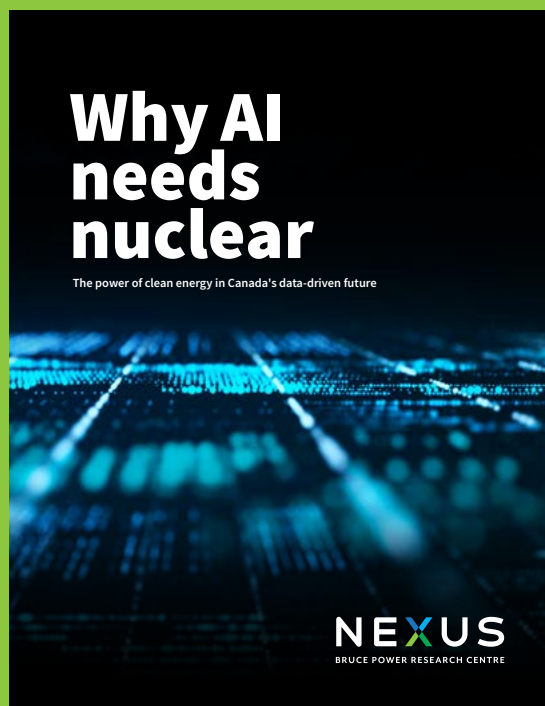
In partnership with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, NII advanced critical research to support the proposed Bruce C project. Early findings were shared with delegates at the Clean Energy Frontier Conference and will continue to inform government and public discussions into 2026 and beyond.

Thought leadership for a cleaner future

BRUCE POWER NEXUS RESEARCH CENTRE

Amplifying the Bruce Power Nexus Research Centre's role as an industry voice, this year's research explored big questions facing Canada's clean energy economy:

- **Why AI needs nuclear:** A national conversation sparked by a timely report connecting data centre growth with clean, reliable nuclear energy. The report reached federal leaders, industry partners and international audiences.
- **Energy and land use mapping:** Research showing what our region would look like if nuclear generation were replaced with alternative energy sources.





Isotope ecosystem development

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO ISOTOPE COALITION

The Southwestern Ontario Isotope Coalition released its Review of regional opportunities, offering 12 grounded recommendations for supporting isotope innovation and investment in the region. The report launched alongside national nuclear leaders and is guiding the next phase of isotope development in southwestern Ontario.

NII also supported the isotope student track program at the Canadian Radiotheranostics Leaders' Summit held by the Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council (CNIC), which brought post-secondary students face-to-face with employers and industry leaders, helping inspire the next generation of nuclear medicine and energy professionals.

Conclusion

Building what comes next

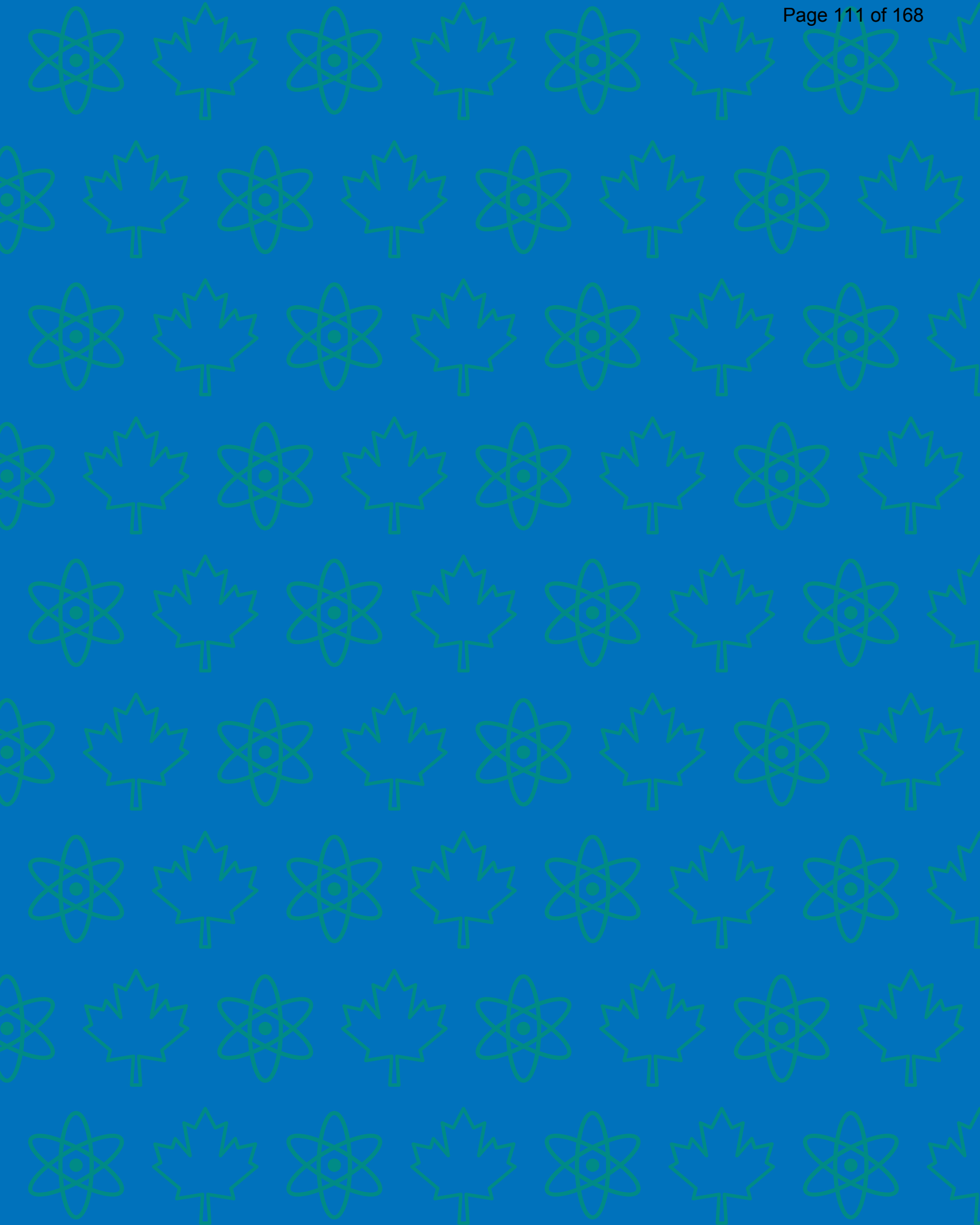


In every corner of NII's work this year, the theme was connection— from shop floors to classrooms to boardrooms to the national stage. What starts here in the Clean Energy Frontier region reaches far across the country, shaping Canada's clean energy future and driving a stronger, more resilient industry.

Together, our Founding Members, partners and communities created something meaningful in 2025. And together, we're ready for what comes next.

Already in 2026, NII is pushing further into the work that matters most: deepening our sector transformation work as a driver of real, employee-led operational change; expanding skill development pathways that connect the region's next generation of energy workers to meaningful careers; and advancing the collaborative projects that only happen when industry, government, education and community partners move together.

Stay in touch and join us in our work building a clean energy future!





PCF



PERMANENT

The Nuclear Innovation Institute is committed to doing our part in helping protect our local environment and the resources we use in all our work.

Special care and consideration went into the paper selection for this report.

Cover: Rolland Enviro® Print, 100 lb. Interior: Rolland Enviro® Print, 80 lb Text.

This paper is FSC® certified, contains 100% post-consumer fibre and is manufactured using renewable energy—Biogas and chlorine free.



Hanover Downtown Improvement Area

MINUTES 2026

8:00am | Thursday March 12, 2026

214 – 10th Street Boardroom

Guests: April Marshall, Hanover's EDM Sherri Walden, CAO J.D. Lyons, Budget/Previous Board Member
Monthly Meeting to follow.

Board Members Present: Jennifer Heerema, Krista LeSauvage, Jenn Olivero, Susan Sakal, Will Shannon, Ryan Enright

Not in attendance: Occasional Committee Member: Linda Fidler | Board: 7 max | Quorum: 4

Convener: Jennifer convened and brought the meeting to order. Still cheering for Harold to return.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: none noted

Downtown Plan: Lengthy discussions were held, following the March 10th meeting, with unease, assumptions, disappointment, and input not being heard, and the board was thanked by Sherri for expressing concerns. Noted this was a directive from the BR&E, with next steps, feedback, and action plans. The board is urged not to compare to the '15 study.

It was asked what could be done that we are not already doing? The BR&E showed direction for more business engagement, businesses offering their services, communication and connection. Other ways to engage, and make the Downtown a draw for ages 8-80 and families.

An in-depth discussion moved to the MOU and why the D.I.A. signed.

It was noted most of our businesses have few employees, finding it difficult to even join a sidewalk sale, or an open late event. Projects underway, from graphics to the podcast were questioned. Suggested this will take time, hoping for fresh eyes – next will be to set a Sub-Committee, to review and reflect.

Other issues such as the business recycling issues, and lack of parking spots with little by-law enforcement, make progressive thinking difficult. The new apartment building, when filled, will no doubt cause additional parking issues. Suggesting we look for the ultimate result. Downtown is now mostly service, banks do longer have the weekly client in-person draw as in the past. D.I.A. dollars are spent on garbage pickup several times a week in good weather, keeping a tidy downtown. Our Budget goes a long way. Discussion on benches, but no one wants them by their door, on green spaces, lighting, and signage, which we have. Volunteers to run events we do not have. BR&E input – who made the suggestions? We have a well travelled Downtown, with lots of traffic, which is needed, with only a few vacancies, and businesses choose where to set up shop. Promotions used to be a 'pay to participate', now N/C and still hard to get busy businesses to participate.

Is there something we are not doing, what is unique ... input will be assessed, noting if it is not the right fit, we will move to something else. Noted the uptake of the façade improvement plan has refreshed and updated buildings nicely, as a nod from landlords they value their properties and businesses, in turn increasing the tax base. What we have is great, now how to enhance it.

Participation is low, people are busy and tired at the end of the day. The Board noted several attempts to encourage business interaction last year, to be showcased to new audiences, but little or no response.

As a team we will continue the endeavour in hopes for new, doable and inspiring ideas from the consultants. April, Sherri and J.D. were thanked for attending, as well as offering input. The board will remain hopeful.

9:30am

Minutes: Board members received a draft copy of the D.I.A. Board Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2026 for their reference and review.

[emailed to Board, hard copies at the table]

MOTION by Jenn to approve the D.I.A. Board Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2026 as presented, seconded by Ryan, all in favour, ... carried.

[approved copy to Town for Council Packages]

Accounts for Payment 2025:

D.I.A. Codes [21-8300-____]

MOTION by Will to approve the D.I.A. Invoices for Payment, Seconded by Ryan, all in favour, ... carried.

Revenue Codes | 0518 Contra Spon/Donation | 0578 Promo/Market
Expense Codes | 3223 Promo | 3233 Market Fall | 3143 Office | 4126 Admin-C | 3627 CIP top-up/Downtown Plan | 3439 Flowers

**** NO NEW PAYMENT REQUEST****[brought forward for tracking purposes]****CIP 2025 Downtown Revitalization: D.I.A. Top Up \$15% with max \$2,000 per business 2025 Budget 3,000**

“Façade / Building / Signage + Accessibility Improvement”. Town approves app’s, we top-up D.I.A. businesses. Details from April Marshall upon project completion.
DIA Incentive Grant Track **2025: \$3,000** - \$540. = \$2,460. / '24: Ashanti \$210.; LMLR Faç \$900., Brutons Sign \$1,895.40= -\$5.40

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Downtown Plan (MOU)** – Jenn, Jennifer, Harold/Susan (full details in May 2025 Minutes)
Discussions noted above, along with a recap.
- **Council Report** – Susan for Harold Susan reported on the ‘launch’ of Elephant Thoughts, and their plans and involvement with youth, including the on-site kitchen. A flag to acknowledge Parkinson was noted. The town has added two new positions. Harold is tracking down corn stalks for the fall!
- **E.T.C.D.A.C. Report** – Jenn No recent meeting. At the BR&E Breakfast, live surveys with QR codes gathered more information, noting all varieties of businesses present were on the same page. Concerns expressed for the workforce, land locked, housing, looking to expand but the market is too unpredictable, but a 90% retention rate. Input from 61 businesses contributed to the BR&E. Recaps with speakers from S.E.D.C., Chamber of Commerce, and Grey County including free access to the Business Enterprise Centre for advice and consultations. The meeting was followed by a tour of this amazing new facility.
- **Market Committee occasionally** – Linda No update this meeting.
- **Downtown Promotions** – see below

Other Business:

1. **Social Media:** Mackenzie Leeson took over in March 2026. Shamrock Promo + Woman’s Day posts. She landed on a title ~ “D.I.A. Communications & Marketing Coordinator”.
2. **Shamrock Hunt:** 5th SM promo, \$100 D.I.A. \$’s to be presented (funds in the safe). Discussion to entice inside retail locations, but have services participate. Promo A – poster inviting people inside, to find the Leprechaun, Promo B – poster from the sidewalk. Pics = bonus entries, with like/comment/share. We have asked businesses to provide an outside photo, to collage and post. (2 so far) As of email time, we have a total of **27:** 12 A | 15 B noting there are several more windows downtown. Shout out to Holst Office Pro for providing free colour posters!
3. **Town’s Parking Reserve Fund:** wondering if there was a payment in lieu of parking spaces, regarding 223-10th Street; current balance request remains in the queue.
4. **Parking:** we will continue sharing Ken’s contact details regarding misuse by employers, employees, and residential tenants.
5. **Springtime Shop & Win 6th:** suggesting run times from Mon. April 20th to Sat. May 16th [promo to gather names Mar. 23 to Apr. 3, print April 7-8, packages ready for handout by April 16 meeting day]
6. **Windows In Time:** Originally launched for the 2014 Homecoming, we advised Laura we will happily await notice that the posters will be distributed. This is a glimpse into the past, with photos and a chronological listing of businesses existing in the building. We will include the website link to view all posters, plus businesses may ask for an electronic copy for their files.
7. **Board Member:** open for one more rep, our max is 7, including a Council Rep.
8. **Next Meeting date:** Thursday April 16th 8am 214 Boardroom (* Nov.’s on 12th | usually 3rd Thursday)

MOTION to Adjourn: Jenn and Will

(9:45 am)

Grey County Council and Committee of the Whole Highlights

Grey County Council met on April 9, 2026, in the Grey County Council Chamber and virtually on Zoom. The meeting was immediately followed by a session of Committee of the Whole. A recording of the meeting can be found on the [Grey County YouTube Channel](#).

County Council

- Council accepted the minutes of the March 26 County Council and Committee of the Whole Meeting. [Council](#) [Committee](#)

Committee of the Whole

- Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village Vice President, Al Leach, presented to Council, thanking them for support of the village. Grey County is providing the village with annual funding to support education about safety at home, on farms, and out in the community. More than 12,000 children have attended the village since 2021. [Presentation Website](#)
- Council passed the Election Protocol Policy. Every municipality is required to have a policy in place for municipal elections which happen every four years. The policy regulates potential situations of conflicts of interest, use of County resources, and other member conduct. The 2026 municipal election is on October 26. [Report](#)
- Council supported the 2026 Tax Policy Report, which will set the tax ratio for the year. The tax ratio determines how the County tax burden is split between property tax classes and subclasses (industrial, residential, multi-residential, commercial, agricultural etc.). As part of the update, the multi-residential property tax ratio will be reduced to 1.0 to align with single detached residential. This adjustment will be the final year of a four-year phase-in plan to align with the residential rate. Council also received a tax policy presentation from tax policy consultant Peter Frise. [Report Presentation](#)
- Council received a progress report on the Grey County Strategic Plan. The plan serves as a guiding framework for staff when developing annual workplans. The priorities of the plan directly connect to departmental projects supporting the long-term objectives set by County Council. Substantial progress has been made on the plan since its adoption in 2024. [Report](#)
- Council supported a motion to permit councillors Boddy and McQueen to attend the annual Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference in Alberta. The cost of attending the conference is comparable to attending the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference in Ottawa later this year and will have no impact on the 2026 budget. Participation in conferences out of the Province requires a vote of Council.

Grey County Council and Committee of the Whole Highlights

Grey County Council met on April 23, 2026, in the Grey County Council Chamber and virtually on Zoom. The meeting was immediately followed by a session of Committee of the Whole. A recording of the meeting can be found on the Grey County YouTube Channel.

County Council

- Council adopted the minutes of the April 9 Grey County Council and Committee of the Whole meetings. [Council Committee](#)
- Council passed By-laws [5278-26](#), [5279-26](#), and [5280-26](#), including authorization for land transfer in Grey Highlands for the new Markdale Hospital, establishment of tax policy and levy for 2026, and confirmation of all actions and proceedings of Council.
- Council acknowledged volunteer week and the incredible impact of volunteers around Grey County.

Committee of the Whole

- Council heard a delegation from Kate Burns Gallagher about the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus (WOWC) update on priorities and achievements. Council voted to support a letter from the WOWC expressing concerns with the proposed *Bill 100 Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*. [Presentation](#)
- Council adopted the Joint Municipal Services Committee meeting minutes dated April 16, 2026, and approved the purchase of the Social Point digital engagement platform in-year for 2026. The platform will enhance current engagement practices by creating more inclusive opportunities for residents to share feedback on projects and topics that are important to them, in a way that is accessible and convenient. Grey County will work with local municipalities to explore the possibility of developing a central public engagement hub that connects engagement opportunities at both the county and municipal level in one central platform. [Minutes](#)
- Council received the University of Guelph student project report titled "Best Practices in Rural Event Venues." The report will be a resource to help inform future planning policy recommendations and will be shared with member municipalities across Grey County. [Staff Report](#) [Student Report](#)
- Council approved the 2025 Year-End Transfers report and authorized an unbudgeted transfer of \$4,144,174 from the One Time Funding Reserve to fund remaining unfunded capital costs for the administration building renovation, Chatsworth paramedic base, and Grey Gables roof. [Report](#)
- Council received a report regarding *Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026*. The report highlights concerns about the ability to monitor the efficacy of recently announced changes. Council directed

staff to forward comments to the province and endorsed correspondence from the Municipal Engineers Association about the impact of the changes. [Report Comments](#)

- Council approved the single source purchase of hosted infrastructure services from Stage 2 Data. The cloud-based service will replace the current data centre managed on-premises which is due for replacement. [Report](#)
- Council supported correspondence from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, The Township of Oro-Medonte, and East Zorra Tavistock requesting provincial legislation amendments to improve the health and safety of municipal workers. Council directed staff to send a letter of support to AMO for advocacy. [Letter](#)
- Council received the Board of Health Appointments report and appointed Councillors Barbara Dobreen, Scott Greig, Shirley Keaveney, and Dane Neilson to the Board of Health for the remainder of the 2022-2026 Council term. Councillors were evaluated and appointed using the newly supported [skills-based matrix](#). Grey and Bruce Counties continue to work closely with the Province, the Special Advisors to the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the staff at Grey Bruce Public Health. Both Wardens and the CAOs will continue to serve in their roles, representing the counties as partners with the province in supporting a renewed and strengthened Health Unit. [Report](#)

Vicki McDonald

From: Derek Ashton [REDACTED]
Sent: April 9, 2026 5:09 PM
To: Vicki McDonald; Inquiry
Subject: Hanover trail system

Please forward this to the mayor, and all members of town council. Copy has been forwarded to the Town Clerk. Please request that this letter be reviewed and presented to the next town council meeting.

My wife and I are residents of Hanover. I have been a proud member of the Trail Eyes and Ears for many years. I have spoken with many trail users, from inside and outside Hanover.

The consistent message is that we have a wonderful resource, well maintained and available to all.

Several years ago, since the town was running out of places to grow, we could understand why the choices at the east end of the system were made and supported the original proposal.

We were disappointed by council's recent decision and surprised that such a small group of people were able to influence this decision that affects us all. We strongly recommend that all residents be offered the opportunity to understand the issues and have a voice in the trail decision going forward.

Yours truly

Derek and Cheryl Ashton

Letter



Tim Norwood [REDACTED]
To ● Vicki McDonald
Cc ● Sherri Walden

Subject: Trail Cancellation

Mayor Sue, Deputy Mayor Warren Hanover Councillors, Staff and committee volunteers,

I usually don't get too involved in decisions that council makes as I know it's a hard job, and for the most part the citizens of Hanover are served well by the decisions made.

However the cancellation of the trail going through due to the small contingent of people opposed to it is very troubling. As the chair person of our Planning Advisory Committee we were always told that the approval of the lots to the east of the trail would in no way affect the eventual joining of the trail although a new route would be looked at. We approved these based on these assurances many years ago. We have promised our citizens a connecting trail regardless of these lots being sold for housing. Now we learn some of the homeowners don't want the trail near them? They knew before purchasing the properties that the trail was going to be rerouted and if they didn't know they should have done their due diligence as it has been widely discussed for many years.

I for one am embarrassed to say unknowingly, that I have lied to the citizens of Hanover. If I would have known the cancellation of this trail joining to the other trail was even a remote possibility, I never would have voted for the outcome we did. The voice of a few should never be the voice that is heard. The voice that should be always heard is the voice that is the best for the majority of the community whether they speak up or not. In this case sadly, that has not been the case. As I have said many times it is easy, to take the easy way out, but it takes courage to do the right thing in the face of adversity.

I sincerely hope that this decision is not a final one and that the citizenry of the community will be listened to and not just a few vocal opponents that have a self interest in its cancellation.

We (meaning our CAO, Rec Dept, and Mayor, Planning Advisory and Committee of Adjustments) have always said the trail will be completed and it will be rerouted, and it will be once again an end to end completion worthy of a community who values recreation and outdoor activities as a valued part of our lifestyle.

Please let's make sure we all look to the future when we make this decision and not to the short term noise we hear from a small segment of our citizens. If we had listened to this noise in the past, we never would have been able to develop the areas we have to date. Our past decisions have been done in a forward thinking manner and it has led Hanover to be a place where people want to settle.

Thanks for listening to my side of the issue, and for what it is worth, sometimes the silent majority should not have to become vocal to ensure the right thing is being done. We have elections, that we put capable and hard working people in positions that should know what the right thing to do for the entire community is. Let's see if this is one of those times.

Yours respectfully,

Tim Norwood

From: [Inquiry](#)
To: [Vicki McDonald](#)
Subject: FW: To Hanover Mayor and All Councillors, And Include in May 4 Meeting
Date: April 27, 2026 8:37:09 AM

Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2026 5:23 PM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@hanover.ca>
Subject: Fwd: To Hanover Mayor and All Councillors, And Include in May 4 Meeting

From: Rc Ahrens
Date: April 26, 2026 at 5:13:31 PM EDT
To: inquiry@hanover.ca
Subject: Hanover Mayor and Councillors

My name is Ron Ahrens and I have lived at 240 2nd ave for 24 years. My wife and I chose to build a house there because of the environment it offered with nature in our backyard and of course the trail. Over the years spring, summer, fall and yes even winter we have shared this environment with our fellow Trail Users Year Round - some coming from other communities while they are doing their shopping.

I would hope you might see the value to continue the unique resource the trail system provides our community that others envy and enjoy to bring them here by holding to your commitment of the East End Trail So my neighbours on the east end can enjoy it as much as we do. Sincerely
Ron Ahrens

From: [Inquiry](#)
To: [Vicki McDonald](#)
Subject: FW: East End Tail May 4th meeting
Date: April 27, 2026 1:16:45 PM

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 12:18 PM
To: Inquiry <inquiry@hanover.ca>
Subject: East End Tail May 4th meeting

I regret to say we won't be available for the May 4th meeting, but we would like our voices to be heard regarding the east end trail development. Please share this email with all councillors & our Mayor and please include it in the record.

I am writing to say that we are trail users in this communities and other communities around Bruce/West Grey Counties.

Trials build healthy communities! We use our trail to walk 4 seasons & bike the entire route regularly. I am so grateful for the trail system we have and if there is opportunity to build upon what we have we should. We enjoy the wooded area behind the soccer field regularly. It is better for elevation, and we find that area more stimulating to walk or bike. If we could maintain a longer route and develop more tails in this community it becomes a draw the community.

We bike and walk in a lot of other communities that go along residential properties. In general, I find trail users very respectful to stay on trails and not infringe in people's

privacy. It is normally a friendly save space for all to enjoy.

If one wants to take issue with ‘sketchy’ people hanging around or worse setting up camp; that is a separate issue that needs to be addressed in our community.

I’d like to make a couple points short form so that our voice can be heard in this conversation:

- **Living with a trail in your backyard only promotes community! Getting out and using it, sharing it, taking pride in it is something we should aspire to do.**
- Provide garbage cans that the community can use to help keep up the trails and river area is essential. Users can help keep it up.
- Promote a parking area so rural people can come in and enjoy our trail & community
- Trails help you meet like-minded people in your community, brings young and old together to share nature in our backyard, wherever that may be.
- Promotes healthy, happy dogs in the community. On leash walking needs to be enforced on the trails and helps socialize and stimulate our dogs

Thank you for the work our town puts into the trails we have. I would like to take this opportunity to add that we would value groomed trails in the winter. It is something that Walkerton does well, and we find we regularly enjoy going over there because we don’t have anywhere to walk in the winter in Hanover.

Thank you, Heidi & Kevin Schaus

126 10th St.

Hanover, ON N4N 1N3



Staff Report To Council

From: Laura Christen, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Date: May 4, 2026
Report: PRC-03-26
Subject **P&H Centre Wading Pool Filter Replacement Project**

Recommendation

That Report PRC-03-26 P&H Centre Wading Pool Filter Replacement Project be received; and

That the project be contracted to Acapulco Pools (Kitchener, ON) to complete the Sand Filter Replacement Project at a cost of \$34,912.00 + HST with funding to be provided through reserves.

Background

The Town's wading pool operates with a sand filtration system that is critical to maintaining safe and reliable water quality. The existing sand filter is an essential component of the aquatic circulation system and is required for daily operation of the wading pool.

The expected lifecycle of this type of equipment is approximately 20 years. Despite efforts to locate records confirming the installation date of the current filter, its exact age is unknown. However, records confirm that the internal sand and laterals were replaced in 2017 and 2022 which will have extended the unit's service life.

Discussion

Staff have been receiving reports of sand accumulating on the pool bottom following backwash cycles. Investigation has determined that the sand is entering the pool through the return jets. While this condition does not pose a direct safety risk to patrons, it is an indication that the filter's internal components are failing and that the unit is approaching the end of its service life. In addition, the filter has developed a minor water leak. These issues were not anticipated and replacement was not included in the adopted 2026 Capital Budget.

The Town's aquatic contractor, Acapulco Pools, inspected the filter during their most recent visit and has formally recommended replacement of the unit. Unfortunately, they are unable to reliably predict how much longer the existing filter will remain operational.

The best- case scenario is that the filter continues to function until the 2027 budget is approved. However, there is a significant risk that the unit could fail prior to that time. Should a failure occur, the wading pool could be out of service for approximately 6 to 8

weeks primarily due to equipment lead times, as this filter is a specialized component that is not typically kept in stock.

From an operational standpoint, replacing the filter during our annual September shutdown would be the least disruptive approach. To reduce the risk of extended downtime, Acapulco has recommended placing the order now secured with a 30% deposit, allowing the replacement filter to be ordered and held until our scheduled shutdown in September. This approach reduces service disruption risk by ensuring:

- If the existing filter lasts until the planned 2-week September shutdown, the replacement can be completed during the planned closure.
- If the filter fails earlier, the replacement unit would already be on hand, reducing downtime to approximately 1 week instead of 6 to 8 weeks.

Financial Implications

Based on the contractor's recommendation, the risk to service continuity, and the potential impact to the pool operations, staff support proceeding with this replacement as a 2026 unplanned repair to ensure continuity of service and minimize potential downtime.

The replacement has a quoted cost of \$34,912.00 + HST. Deferring the work to the 2027 budget deliberations would increase the risk of prolonged service disruption to the community. Given the timing, staff recommend funding the repair through facility reserves, which would result in an estimated remaining reserve balance of \$64,000.

Link to Strategic Plan

This report supports the indicated Strategic Goals and Action Plans of the Town of Hanover.

Goal 1: Safe and Reliable Infrastructure

Build, maintain and continuously improve our municipally owned properties, buildings, and equipment.

Goal 2: Healthy and Welcoming Community

Care for our natural environment and provide an enviable quality of life for everyone who calls Hanover "home".

Goal 3: Strong and Vibrant Economy

Refresh downtown Hanover and retain and attract local economic investment and jobs.

Goal 4: Balanced Growth

Work together to create a community we can all be proud of.

Goal 5: Open and Responsible Government

Deliver services in a friendly, efficient and effective manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Christen
Director Parks, Recreation & Culture

Concurrence,

Sherri Walden
CAO



Staff Report To Council

From: Melissa Hilgendorff, Human Resources Manager
Sherri Walden, CAO

Date: May 4, 2026

Report: HR-04-26

Subject **CAO Recruitment Update**

Recommendation

That Report HR-04-26 CAO Recruitment Update be received for information; and

That council approve the allocation of up to \$25,000 from general reserves to support the CAO recruitment process.

Background

On February 24, 2026, CAO Sherri Walden provided written notice of retirement effective December 31, 2026. At the March 16, 2026, meeting, council received report CAO-06-26 CAO Recruitment outlining recruitment pathway options. Council approved engaging the services of an external recruitment firm and confirmed appointments to the CAO Ad Hoc Recruitment Committee (Recruitment Committee).

The Recruitment Committee held their initial meeting on March 25, 2026, where they confirmed scope of work details to source external recruitment services through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

Discussion

RFP 2026-01-HR – CAO Recruitment was issued on April 2, 2026, on the Town's website and www.biddingo.com. The Recruitment Committee reviewed 13 eligible RFP submissions received by the April 17, 2026 deadline. At their April 21, 2026, meeting, the committee selected Waterhouse Executive Search (Waterhouse) as the successful proponent.

Following receipt of positive references, staff subsequently confirmed a contract for service with Waterhouse and a project kickoff meeting was held on April 29, 2026. The Recruitment Committee and Waterhouse will work closely and collaboratively to advance recruitment efforts according to an established timeline, with the goal to appoint a new CAO by the August 10, 2026, council meeting and prior to the potential lame duck period.

Financial Implications

Through direction provided for report CAO-06-26 CAO Recruitment, council approved a cost of services estimated to be approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000 depending on the project scope. Waterhouse provided an upset limit of \$21,500 including disbursements, which falls under the estimated cost range, though there is the potential for some added

miscellaneous and/or legal fees. As this expenditure is not currently included in the 2026 adopted Mayoral Budget and in consultation with our Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, administration recommends allocating up to \$25,000 from general reserves to cover the costs related to CAO recruitment.

Link to Strategic Plan

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Goal 5: Open and Responsible Government

Deliver services in a friendly, efficient and effective manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

Melissa Hilgendorff
Human Resources Manager

Sherri Walden
CAO

Staff Report To Council

From: Vicki McDonald, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Date: May 4, 2026
Report: Report CL-04-26
Subject **Election Sign By-law**

Recommendation

That Report CL-04-26 Election Sign By-law be received; and

That council approve the adoption of Election Sign By-law 3395-26 to regulate the placement, timing, display and removal of election signs.

Background

Municipal councils are authorized under subsection 11(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to pass by-laws respecting signs, including the regulation of election-related signage. Any election sign by-law must be content-neutral and comply with protections for freedom of expression under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, while allowing municipalities to impose reasonable limits for legitimate municipal objectives.

This principle was reinforced in the recent Ontario Superior Court of Justice decision *Charles Frederick Armstrong v The Township of Russell* (2025 ONSC 3790) which found that overly restrictive time limitations on election signs constituted an unjustified infringement on freedom of expression.

At present, the Town of Hanover does not have a standalone mechanism to regulate the placement, timing, size, or display of election signs associated with municipal, provincial or federal elections. While the Town recently updated its general sign by-law governing the erection and maintenance of signs, awnings, advertising devices, and marquees (by-law 3334-25), section 4.7(d) explicitly states that the by-law does not apply to signs permitted by an *Elections Act* or to municipal election signs. Consequently, the Town lacks comprehensive provisions addressing the administration of election signs which can result in uncertainty for candidates, challenges for enforcement staff, and inconsistency during election periods.

Discussion

The proposed Election Sign By-law would establish clear regulations governing where election signs may be placed, permitted sign types, size and height limitations, installation and safety standards, and defined time frames for the placement and removal of election signs.

The key objectives of the proposed Election Sign By-law are to:

- Promote public safety by restricting sign placement near roadways, intersections, sidewalks, and traffic control devices;
- Maintain clear sightlines for pedestrians and motorists;
- Protect municipal infrastructure and public rights-of-way;
- Clarify responsibilities related to the installation and removal of election signs;
- Establish a transparent and enforceable framework that ensures equitable treatment for all candidates and third-party advertisers; and
- Support the democratic right of candidates to communicate with voters.

In previous municipal elections, election signs were permitted once a candidate filed a nomination paper. As the nomination period opens in early May during an election year, this approach allowed election signs to be erected as early as May and remain in place until voting day in October, resulting in an extended display period.

To promote fairness among candidates and avoid an overly prolonged and restrictive election sign period, staff recommend that the placement of election signs not be permitted prior to Certification Day (August 21, 2026), which is the final date for the Clerk to certify nominations. This approach ensures that all candidates are officially confirmed before signage is displayed, provides equal opportunity to all candidates, and establishes a reasonable and balanced timeframe for election sign placement.

Overall, the proposed Election Sign By-law provides a clear, fair, and consistent approach to regulating election signage in the Town of Hanover. Adoption of this by-law will improve clarity, support effective enforcement, and align the Town's practices with those of other municipalities.

Financial Implications

The implementation and enforcement of the proposed by-law are anticipated to result in minimal financial impact, as related activities can be managed within existing operating budgets.

Link to Strategic Plan

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Deliver services in a friendly, efficient and effective manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

Vicki McDonald
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

Sherri Walden
CAO

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER

BY-LAW NO. 3395-26

BEING a By-law to manage and regulate the Election Signs in the Town of Hanover

WHEREAS Section 8 of *the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended*, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Section 11 (3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, states that a lower-tier municipality may pass By-laws, respecting matters within certain spheres of jurisdiction, including structures, fences, and signs;

AND WHEREAS Section 63 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, provides that a municipality, if it passes a bylaw for prohibiting or regulating the placing of an object on or near a highway, may provide for the removal and impounding of such object placed on or near a highway in contravention of that bylaw; and

AND WHEREAS Section 425 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, establishes that any person who contravenes any bylaw of the municipality, passed under the Act, is guilty of an offence; and

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover seeks to protect traffic and pedestrian safety, avoid damage to public assets, and maintain accessible public spaces, while facilitating fair and effective democratic participation;

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Hanover hereby enacts as follows:

1. Short Title

1.1. This bylaw may be referred to as the "Election Sign By-law".

2. Purpose

2.1. This bylaw by-law (for consistency) has been enacted to regulate the placement of election signs for the purpose of preventing hazards to vehicles and pedestrians and further to regulate the erection and removal of election signs.

3. Scope

3.1. This bylaw shall apply to:

- a) All regular municipal, provincial, federal, and school board elections, including any by-elections; and
- b) Candidates, third party advertisers, and all other persons erecting election signs.

3.2. This bylaw shall not apply to:

- a) signs erected by the Town or the provincial or federal governments to provide information concerning an election or by-election or any part of an election or by-election process; or
- b) non-election related signs as regulated by the Town's Sign By-law.

3.3. If any provision of this bylaw conflicts with any provision of any other Town bylaw, the provision of this bylaw shall take precedence.

3.4. If any provision of this bylaw conflicts with provincial or federal law, the provision of the latter shall prevail to the extent of the conflict.

4. Definitions

"**Billboard sign**" means a sign upon which the space is sold or rented to a person who does not occupy the premises where the sign is located;

"**Campaign office**" means a building or structure, or part of a building or structure, used by a candidate or an agent of a candidate or by a third party advertiser or an agent of a third party advertiser as part of an election campaign and where a candidate's or third party advertiser's campaign staff is normally present and the public may enter to obtain information regarding the candidate or third party advertiser;

"**Campaign office election sign**" means any sign erected on a campaign office which only displays the name of a Candidate in a municipal election, or the name of a Candidate and/or the name and/or logo of a political party in a federal or provincial election, or the name of a third party advertiser in a municipal election, and the location of a candidate's or registered third party's campaign office, and contains no other message;

"**Canada Elections Act**" means the *Canada Elections Act, S.C. 2000, c.9*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Candidate**" means a person who has been nominated or registered under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"**Clerk**" means the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk of the Town of Hanover, or their designate;

"**Election Act**" means the *Election Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.6*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Election centre**" means a place designated by the clerk where an elector can receive election services, including but not limited to amending the voters' list, asking questions about the election, and accessing the internet to vote and shall include the entire building and the property associated with it and, when such election centre is located within a private premises, it shall additionally include all of the common elements/spaces;

"**Election sign**" means any sign promoting, supporting, opposing or taking a position with respect to:

- i. A question, law or bylaw submitted to the electors under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, or any other legislation;
- ii. An issue associated with a person or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996; or
- iii. A candidate or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"**Highway**" includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place and includes any bridge, trestle, viaduct or other structure forming part of the highway and includes the Boulevards and any area between the lateral property lines of the highway;

"**Intersection pedestrian signal**" means traffic control signals and/or a stop sign;

"**Municipal Act, 2001**" means the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Municipal Elections Act, 1996**" means the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.32*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Officer**" means a person employed by the Town of Hanover to enforce municipal bylaws and also includes an officer of the Hanover Police Service and a bylaw enforcement officer;

"**Owner**" means the person who places or permits the placing of an election sign or any person described on the election sign, whose name, address or telephone number is on the election sign or who benefits from the message on the election sign and for the purposes of this bylaw there may be more than one owner of an election sign;

"**Place**" means attach, affix, install, erect, build, construct, reconstruct, move or display;

"**Private property**" means real property that is not a Highway or Public Property;

"**Public property**" means real property owned or under the control of the Town of Hanover, the County of Grey, Provincial Government, Federal Government or any of their respective agencies, boards or commissions but, for the purposes of this bylaw, does not include a Highway or real property where one or more persons reside. Property owned by the Town and leased to another person or entity shall not be deemed to be public property;

"**Road allowance**" means the allowance for a public road and includes the travelled and untravelled portions of the road allowance, the road shoulders, ditches, boulevards and sidewalks;

"**Roadway**" means that part of a Highway that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic including reserved lanes, shoulders and curbs and gutters;

"**Sidewalk**" means that part of a Highway with a surface that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for the use of pedestrians or bicycles and includes a multi-use path;

"**Sight triangle**" means a triangular area free of buildings or structures or other visual obstructions and formed within a corner lot by the intersection of street lines, or the projections thereof, and a straight line connecting them 5.0 metres from their point of intersection. A corner lot is a lot situated at the intersection of and abutting two streets, or parts of the same street, the adjacent sides of which street or streets (or in the case of a curved corner, the tangents of which) contain an angle of not more than 135 degrees;

"**Sign**" means any sign, surface or structure and any component or appurtenant parts, used or capable of being used as a visual medium to attract attention to a specific subject matter or to create a design or convey a message, and includes a banner, awning, canopy, marquee, menu board, poster and billboard;

"**Sign area**" means the area of one side of a sign where copy can be placed;

"**Sign height**" means the vertical height of a sign from the finished grade to the highest part of the sign;

"**Third party**" means any person or entity, including but not limited to a corporation or trade union, who is not a registered candidate, political party, or constituency association, who incurs expenses with respect to:

- i. A question, law or bylaw submitted to the electors under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or any other legislation;
- ii. An issue associated with a person or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996; or
- iii. A candidate or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"**Town**" means the Town of Hanover, and a reference to the Town is a reference to the geographical area of the Town of Hanover or to the Corporation of the Town of Hanover as the context requires;

"**Voting period**" means the period of time in which citizens are able to cast ballots;

"**Voting place**" means a place where electors cast their ballots and:

- i. When a voting place is located on public property, includes all of the area enclosed by the lot lines of the public property and any Highway abutting; or
- ii. When a voting place is located on private property, includes all of the common elements of the private property and any Highway immediately abutting;

“**Zone**” means an area designated for a particular land use or uses as established by the Town’s zoning bylaw, as amended from time to time or any successor bylaw.

5. General Requirements

- 5.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign outdoors within the geographic limits of the Town except in accordance with this bylaw and all relevant County of Grey bylaws.
- 5.2. Every owner shall ensure compliance with the bylaw.
- 5.3. Every owner shall ensure compliance with all relevant County of Grey bylaws
- 5.4. Election signs are permitted on public and private property, subject to safety, accessibility, and maintenance requirements in this bylaw.
- 5.5. Regulations herein are designed to be minimally impairing and proportionate to the Town's objectives of safety and asset protection.

6. Mandatory Physical Characteristics of Election Signs

- 6.1. With the exception of a billboard sign and an election sign on vehicles, no owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign that:
 - a. Is illuminated;
 - b. Has a sign area of more than 1.5 square metres;
 - c. Incorporates moving parts or visible mechanical movement of any description;
 - d. Has a sign height, including the mounts, more than 2 metres; or
 - e. Interferes with the safe operation of vehicular traffic or the safety and accessibility of pedestrians.
- 6.2. No election sign shall be in a state of disrepair, and every owner shall ensure that the owner's election signs remain in a state of repair.
- 6.3. Damaged or derelict signs must be repaired or removed within 24 hours of notice by the Town.

7. Contents of Election Signs

- 7.1. Each election sign shall identify who is responsible for the messaging.
- 7.2. Each third party sign shall identify the name of the registered third party, the municipality where the third party is registered and a telephone number, mailing address or email address at which the registered third party may be contacted.
- 7.3. No owner shall display the Town's logo or the Town's election logo, in whole or in part, on any election sign.

8. Timing of Placement

- 8.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a federal or provincial election or by-election earlier than the issuance of the Writ of Election or By-Election.

- 8.2. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a municipal election earlier than the date nominations are certified by the clerk.
- 8.3. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a municipal election on a campaign office or private property earlier than the day that the candidate or third party has filed their nomination or registration with the clerk.

9. Locations in General

- 9.1. Election signs are permitted in any zone.
- 9.2. No election sign shall be located where it will interfere with the safe movement or visibility of any vehicle or pedestrian traffic or where it is a general hazard to public safety.
- 9.3. No election sign shall be located so as to obstruct or impede any fire escape, fire exit, door, window, scuttle, skylight, flue, air intake or air exhaust, nor so as to prevent or impede the free access of emergency personnel to any part of a building, including any emergency water connection or fire hydrant.
- 9.4. No election sign shall be affixed to or upon anything located on a road allowance including but not limited to a tree, pipe, utility pole, light pole, utility box, planters, benches, waste receptacles, mailboxes or other similar fixtures and structures.

10. Election Signs on Private Property

- 10.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on private property without the property owner's or an occupant's consent.
- 10.2. Only one single-sided or double-sided election sign per candidate will be allowed per private property unless the private property consists of multiple residential properties, then one single-sided or double-sided election sign per candidate per unit will be allowed, provided that the signs are a minimum of 1 metre apart.
- 10.3. Only one election sign per candidate per 200 metres of frontage is allowed for commercial/industrial properties.

11. Election Signs on Public Property

- 11.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed any election sign on property within the Town for a candidate who is not eligible to be voted for by electors of the Town, the applicable provincial electoral district, or the applicable federal electoral district that includes the Town.
- 11.2. No owner shall place or permit to be placed any election sign within the sight triangle, nor in locations that obstruct visibility for drivers, cyclists, or pedestrians.
- 11.3. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on a highway so that the election sign:
- a. Is on a roadway;
 - b. Impedes or obstructs the passage of pedestrians where they are reasonably expected to walk;
 - c. Is within 1 metre of a curb or pavement edge;
 - d. Is within 0.5 metres of a sidewalk;
 - e. Is within 5 metres of a driveway on a town road
 - f. Is on a median or island located on or within a roadway;
 - g. Is less than 3 metres from a school crossing;

- h. Is less than 10 metres from an intersection pedestrian signal;
- i. If on a highway within a residential zone, is less than 10 metres from another election sign for the same candidate or third party; or
- j. If on a highway within a commercial and/or industrial zone, is less than 30 metres from another election sign for the same candidate or third party.

11.4. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on a highway structure or facility.

11.5. No owner shall affix or permit to be affixed an election sign to a permanent or official sign.

11.6. No owner shall dig, drill or drive into asphalt, concrete, brick or any other hard improved surface on a Highway when placing an election sign.

11.7. No owner shall drill or drive into a wooden, metal, concrete or other highway structure when placing an election sign.

12. Voting Places and Election Centres

12.1. No owner shall at any time during the voting period, including voting day and those days when advance voting is held, erect, cause or permit to be erected an election sign at a voting place or election centre.

13. Removal/Damage to Election Signs

13.1. Every owner shall ensure that all election signs placed by or on behalf of the owner are completely removed from all locations no later than 72 hours following the conclusion of the election day.

13.2. No person shall deface, remove or wilfully cause damage to a lawfully erected election sign.

13.3. When an officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that an election sign has been erected, caused or permitted to be erected, in a manner that contravenes any provision of this bylaw, the officer may cause the election sign to be removed without prior notice or compensation.

13.4. Election signs that, in the opinion of an officer, pose a risk to the health and safety of pedestrians, cyclists or motorists shall be removed by an officer without prior notice or compensation.

13.5. The Town may destroy any election sign that has been removed and is not claimed and retrieved within 5 days of notice to the sign owner, without compensation to the sign owner

14. Campaign Office Exemptions

14.1. Despite the foregoing provisions regarding the timing of placing election signs, election signs may be erected on a candidate's campaign office once the candidate has filed their nomination with the clerk.

14.2. Further, a campaign office located within a non-residential zone shall be exempt from Sections 10 and 13 of the Election Sign By-law.

15. Liability for Damages

15.1. The Town shall not be liable for any damage or loss of an election sign that was displayed in accordance with this bylaw or that was removed by an officer of the Town.

15.2. The provisions of this bylaw shall not be construed as relieving or limiting the responsibility or liability of any person erecting or owning an election sign for personal injury or property damage resulting from the erecting of such election sign, or resulting from the negligence or willful acts of such person, or their agents or employees, in the construction, erection, maintenance, repair or removal of such election sign.

16. Enforcement

16.1. Any officer is hereby vested with the authority of enforcing the provisions of this bylaw.

17. Severability

17.1. If, for any reason, any section, clause or provision of this bylaw is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this bylaw as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.

18. Offence and Penalty

18.1. Every owner who contravenes any provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine pursuant to the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended.

18.2. No person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, an officer who is exercising a power or performing a duty under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, or under a bylaw passed under the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

19. Enactment

19.1. This bylaw shall come into full force and effect on the date it is passed at which time all bylaws, policies, and resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this bylaw are hereby repealed insofar as it is necessary to give effect to the provisions of this bylaw.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of May, 2026.

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 3395-26

PART 1, PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT

BEING a by-law to regulate election signs, in the Town of Hanover.

ITEM	COLUMN 1 Short Form Wording	COLUMN 2 Provision creating or defining offence	COLUMN 3 Set Fine
1	Place or permit election sign that is illuminated or has moving parts	6.1 (a)	\$150.00
2	Place or permit election sign that has an area greater than 1.5 square meters	6.1 (b)	\$150.00
4	Place or permit election sign that is more than 2 m in height	6.1 (d)	\$150.00
5	Place or permit election sign that interferes with vehicular or pedestrian traffic	6.1 (e)	\$150.00
6	Place or permit election sign that interferes with the vehicular or pedestrian safety	6.1 (e)	\$300.00
7	Fail to remove damaged or derelict election sign with 24 hours of notice	6.2	\$150.00
8	Place or permit election sign before nomination day	8.2	\$150.00
9	Place or permit election sign to be placed before nomination filed with clerk	8.3	\$150.00
10	Place or permit election sign to be placed that poses a hazard to public safety.	9.2	\$300.00
11	Place or permit an election sign to be placed that obstructs openings required for light, ventilation, ingress, egress, fire emergencies or medical emergencies	9.3	\$300.00

12	Place or permit an elections sign to be placed or upon any pole, structure or thing on a road allowance.	9.4	\$150.00
13	Erect election sign on private property without consent	10	\$150.00
14	Erect election sign for an ineligible candidate	11.1	\$150.00
15	Place or permit an election sign to be placed in a sight triangle	11.2	\$150.00
16	Place or permit election sign to be placed on a roadway	11.3 (a)	\$150.00
17	Place or permit election sign to be placed within 1m of edge of street	11.3 (c)	\$150.00
18	Place or permit election sign to be placed with 0.5m of a sidewalk	11.3 (d)	\$150.00
19	Place or permit election sign to be placed within 5 m of a driveway	11.3 (e)	\$150.00
20	Place or permit election sign to be placed on a median or island	11.3 (f)	\$150.00
21	Place or permit election sign to be placed less than 3m from a school crossing	11.3 (g)	\$150.00
22	Place or permit election sign to be placed less than 10m from an intersection pedestrian signal	11.3 (h)	\$150.00
23	Place or permit election sign at a voting place or election centre	12.1	\$150.00
24	Fail to remove election sign within 72 hours after election	13.1	\$150.00
25	Remove, deface or damage an election sign	13.2	\$150.00
26	Interfere or obstruct an officer	18.2	\$400.00

Note: The penalty provision for the offences indicated above is section of By-law 3395-26, a certified copy of which has been filed.



Staff Report To Council

From: Vicki McDonald, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Date: May 4, 2026
Report: Report CL-05-26
Subject **Discharge of Firearms By-law Amendment**

Recommendation

That Report CL-05-26 Discharge of Firearms By-law Amendment be received; and

That council approve the adoption of By-law 3396-26, to amend By-law 3256-23 to regulate the discharge of firearms in the Town of Hanover.

Background

At the February 7, 2023 regular meeting, council approved the adoption of By-law 3256-23 to regulate the discharge of firearms in the Town of Hanover.

On May 1, 2026 an Order issued by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing came into effect transferring certain lands from the Municipality of West Grey to the Town of Hanover.

Discussion

As a result of the boundary adjustment Order, staff have initiated a review of existing municipal by-laws to ensure they reflect the characteristics and use of properties within the adjustment area and to minimize disruption to established activities and routines.

As part of this review, the By-law regulating the discharge of firearms within the Town of Hanover has been examined. Recommended additions are noted in red font in the updated by-law attached.

Financial Implications

It is anticipated that there will be no significant financial implications associated with this report, and that any related administrative and enforcement costs can be accommodated within the existing budget.

Link to Strategic Plan

This report supports the indicated Strategic Goals and Action Plans of the Town of Hanover.

Goal 1: Safe and Reliable Infrastructure

Build, maintain and continuously improve our municipally owned properties, buildings, and equipment.

Goal 2: Healthy and Welcoming Community

Care for our natural environment and provide an enviable quality of life for everyone who calls Hanover “home”.

Goal 3: Strong and Vibrant Economy

Refresh downtown Hanover and retain and attract local economic investment and jobs.

Goal 4: Balanced Growth

Work together to create a community we can all be proud of.

Goal 5: Open and Responsible Government

Deliver services in a friendly, efficient and effective manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

Vicki McDonald
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

Sherri Walden
CAO

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER

BY-LAW NO. 3256-23

BEING A BYLAW TO REGULATE THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

WHEREAS Section 8 (1) of the *Municipal Act S.O, 2001, c.25*, provides that the powers of a municipality under this or any other Act shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Section 9 of the *Municipal Act S.O, 2001, c.25*, states the municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

WHEREAS Paragraph 11(2) 6 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, as amended, enables a municipality to pass a bylaw to protect the health, safety and well-being of its residents;

AND WHEREAS subsection 23.1 (1) of the *Municipal Act S.O, 2001, c.25*, a municipality is authorized to delegate its powers and duties under the Act, subject to certain restrictions;

AND WHEREAS Section 119 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, states a municipality is authorized to prohibit or regulate the discharge of guns or other firearms, air-guns, spring guns, cross-bows, long-bows or any other weapon for the purpose of safety;

AND WHEREAS Section 425 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, a municipality is authorized to pass bylaws providing a person who contravenes a bylaw of the Municipality passed under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, is guilty of an offence;

AND WHEREAS Section 429 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, a municipality may establish a system of fines for offences under a bylaw of the Municipality passed under the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*;

AND WHEREAS Section 436 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, a Municipality may pass a bylaw providing that the municipality may enter on land at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to determine whether or not there is compliance with a bylaw, direction, order or condition of a license passed or made under the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*;

AND WHEREAS Section 444 and 445 of the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, provides that if a municipality is satisfied that a contravention of a bylaw passed under the *Municipal Act, S.O, 2001, c.25*, has occurred, that the municipality may make an order requiring the person who contravened the bylaw or caused or permitted the contravention or the owner or occupier of the land to discontinue the contravention or do the work to correct the contravention of the bylaw;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it advisable to the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors to regulate the discharge of firearms within the Town of Hanover;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1.0 - DEFINITIONS

1. For the purpose of this Bylaw:

"**Bow**" means

i) a curved or re-curved, stave of a resilient material strung taut from end to end and used to launch an arrow, a bolt, a quarrel, or any similar projectile;

ii) a bow that uses a levering system, usually of cables and pulleys, to bend the limbs;

iii) a bow that is tall, roughly equal to the height of a person which allows a fairly long draw, with limbs that are relatively narrow so referred to as a long bow;

"**Cross-bow**" means a bow fixed across a stock with a groove for the arrow or bolt, and a mechanism for holding and releasing the string; '

"**Conservation Officer**" means a Conservation Officer or Deputy Conservation Officer appointed pursuant to the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*;

"**Council**" means the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Hanover;

"**Firearm**" means a pellet gun, paint ball gun, shotgun, muzzle loader, bow, cross bow, or rifle with a maximum calibre of .275, any type of gun or similar barreled device from which any shot, bullet or other projectile that can be discharged and that is capable of causing bodily injury or death and includes a Prohibited and/or Restricted Firearm.

"**Highway or Street**" includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, public lane, parkway, alley, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, and any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof

"**Municipality**" means the Corporation of the Town of Hanover;

"**Municipally Owned Lands**" shall mean the property owned or maintained by the Corporation of the Town of Hanover shown on the last revised assessment roll and shall include all municipal road allowances and rights of way.

"**Officer**" shall mean a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, Police Officer or other Person appointed by by-law to enforce the provisions of this by-law.

"**Person**" - Means any human being, association, firm, partnership, incorporated company, corporation, agent or trustee, and their heirs, executors, or other legal representatives of a person to whom the context can apply according to law.

"**Prohibited Firearm**" means a firearm that has a prohibited use under the Criminal Code of Canada.

"**Restricted Firearm**" means a means a firearm that has a restricted use under the Criminal Code of Canada.

"**Rural Area**" means the portion of the Town that is outside the urban area designated in the attached schedule;

"**Town**" means the Corporation of the Town of Hanover;

"**Urban Area**" means the portion of the Town that is within the urban area designated in the attached schedule.

2.0 SHORT TITLE

The short title of this bylaw is the "Discharge of Firearms Bylaw"

3.0 SCOPE

The regulations established by this By-law law applies to the discharge of firearms on all lands and waters within the boundaries of the Town of Hanover pursuant to the provisions of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c. 25*

4.0 APPLICATION

4.1 Urban Area

No person shall discharge, cause to be discharged or allow to be discharged a Firearm at any time, within the limits of the Town of Hanover.

4.2 Rural Area

No person shall discharge a firearm in the rural area of the Town of Hanover;

- 4.2.1 on any property owned or occupied by the Town of Hanover;
- 4.2.2 on or within 300 metres of any property used for the purposes of a school, place of worship, day nursery, community recreation centre, or Park;
- 4.2.3 within 300 metres of any conservation area;
- 4.2.4 within 300 metres of any dwelling, other than a dwelling owned or lawfully occupied by the person discharging the firearm, or with the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property;
- 4.2.5 on, across or within 8 metres of any highway, private road or recreational trail;

No person shall discharge a firearm on any property on which the discharge of firearms is permitted unless they are:

- 4.2.6 the owner or lawful occupier of the property, or
- 4.2.7 has the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property in accordance with the provisions of the (Ontario) *Trespass to Property Act*.

5.0 EXEMPTIONS

Despite the provisions of section 4.1 of this bylaw, nothing in this by-law shall serve to prohibit the discharge of a firearm by;

- 5.1 a member of the Hanover Police Service, or any other police officer during the performance of his/her duties as a police officer;
- 5.2 an animal control officer during the performance of his/her duties as an animal control officer;
- 5.3 a conservation officer during the performance of his or her duties as a conservation officer;
- 5.4 a person appointed as a municipal law enforcement officer or as an agent for the Municipality or for a provincial or federal government agency for the purpose of destroying sick, injured or vicious animals in the performance of this stated duty;

Despite the provisions of section 4.1 and 4.2 of this by-law; nothing in this by-law shall serve to prohibit the discharge of a firearm by:

- 5.5 a person, in a rural area, who believes on reasonable grounds that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage the person's property as described under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*;
- 5.6 a farmer, or any member of a farmer's family who resides with the farmer, or an agent of the farmer, in a rural area as prescribed under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*, or any successor legislation. thereto, for the purpose of protecting the farmer's property;
- 5.7 a hunter engaged in legal hunting activities in a rural area, following all provincial rules and regulations, on property owned or lawfully occupied by the person discharging the firearm, or with the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property;

6.0 ENTRY AND INSPECTION

- 6.1 An officer may enter upon land at any reasonable time for the purpose of enforcing this by-law or carrying out an inspection to determine whether or not the by-law is being complied with.

- 6.2 Every owner shall permit an Officer to inspect any land for the purposes of determining compliance with this By-law.

7.0 OBSTRUCTION

- 7.1 No person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, any Officer exercising a power or performing a duty under this By-law.
- 7.2 Every person who has been alleged to have contravened any of the provisions of this by-law, shall identify themselves to the Officer upon request, failure to do so shall be deemed to have hindered or obstructed the Officer under section 7.1 of this by-law.

8.0 ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

- 8.1 Police Officers employed by the Hanover Police Service and, where appropriate, the Town's Municipal Law Enforcement Officer appointed by the municipality, are responsible for enforcing the provisions of this by-law.
- 8.2 Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence, and upon conviction is liable to a fine in accordance with Schedule "B" attached to this By-law, as provided for by the *Provincial Offences Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.33*, as amended.

9.0 PROHIBITION ORDER

- 9.1 When a person has been convicted of an offence under this by-law:
- (a) the Ontario Court of Justice, or
 - (b) upon a conviction being entered, the court in which the conviction was entered, and any court of competent jurisdiction thereafter may, in addition to any other remedy and to any penalty imposed in this Bylaw, make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the person convicted.

10.0 SEVERABILITY

- 10.1 If a court of competent jurisdiction should declare any section or part of a section of this by-law to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the by-law as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.
- 10.2 This Bylaw shall be superseded by all Provincial and Federal statutes, regulations and laws relating to the handling and discharge of firearms.

11.0 REPEAL

That By-law No. 950 be repealed in its entirety.

12.0 EFFECTIVE DATE

This By-law shall come into force and take full effect on the date of passing thereof.

BY-LAW read a first, second and third time and finally passed and enacted this 21st day of February, 2023.

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDon , Clerk

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW NO. 3256-23

PART 1, PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT

BEING a by-law respecting the discharge of firearms within the Town of Hanover.

Set Fine Schedule

Item	Column 1. Short Form Wording	Column 2. Provision Creating or Defining Offence	Column 3. Set Fine
1.	Cause, allow, or discharge a firearm within the Town of Hanover	4.0	\$500.00
2.	Obstruct, hinder or otherwise interfere with an Officer	7.1	\$500.00

NOTE: *The general penalty provision for the offences listed above is Section 8.2 of the By-law 3256-23, a certified copy of which has been filed.*

DRAFT





CAO AD-HOC RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
 Tuesday, April 21, 2026 | 9:00am
 Winkler Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Paterson | Warren Dickert | Carol Hudson

OTHERS PRESENT: Sherri Walden

REGRETS: Melissa Hilgendorff

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – March 25, 2026

Moved by W. Dickert; Seconded by C. Hudson

That the March 31, 2026 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

2. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

- 2.1. Recruitment Firm Selection – Committee members provided their evaluation input. Following good discussion, the committee's consensus is to proceed with the identified firm to work towards confirming a contract for services, following completion of reference checks.
- 2.2. Preliminary Recruitment Timeline – The preliminary recruitment timeline was reviewed. Committee noted the following date revisions:
 Monday, April 27, 2026 | 6 pm or 6:30 pm and
 Thursday, May 28, 2026 | 4 pm in place of Fri. May 29, 2026 due to a County commitment for council and staff members
ACTION: Staff to provide a meeting hold for the above dates.
- 2.3. CAO Job Posting Review – The CAO job posting was reviewed and no further updates were noted by the committee. The posting will be pending further insight from external recruitment services.
- 2.4. Review of Suggested Job Posting Locations – Suggested posting locations were confirmed, pending further insight from external recruitment services. Committee consensus is support for \$2,500 to \$3,000 upset advertising limit for job posting advertisements.
- 2.5. Other
 - 2.5.1. Draft community profile/recruitment brief is in process and staff anticipate sharing with committee members by April 24th.

3. NEXT MEETINGS

- 3.1. April 27, 2026 | Consultant Kickoff Meeting | Time 6 or 6:30 pm and location to be determined

- 3.2. May 28, 2026 | Interview Planning | 4 pm proposed
- 3.3. June 8, 2026 | Round 1 Interviews
- 3.4. June 9, 2026 | Round 1 Interviews
- 3.5. June 16, 2026 | Special Meeting of Council | Round 2 Interviews

4. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 9:53 am

CAO AD-HOC RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 | 8:00am

 Virtual via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Paterson | Warren Dickert | Carol Hudson (departed 8:53am)

OTHERS PRESENT: Sherri Walden | Melissa Hilgendorff | Jon Stungevicius

REGRETS:

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – April 21, 2026
Moved by W. Dickert; Seconded by C. Hudson

That the April 21, 2026 minutes be approved as circulated. CARRIED

2. WATERHOUSE EXECUTIVE SEARCH | KICK-OFF PRESENTATION

Jon Stungevicius of Waterhouse Executive Search (Waterhouse) completed a CAO recruitment project presentation to the committee.

The committee confirmed use of a stakeholder survey for key parties, and job advertisement avenues. Stakeholder survey results will be reviewed at the May 28, 2026 meeting.

The committee confirmed S. Walden and M. Hilgendorff as staff resources and key points of contact for Waterhouse.

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

- 3.1. CAO Job Posting Review – The CAO job posting as developed by Waterhouse was reviewed. The posting was confirmed following minor housekeeping revisions.
- 3.2. Job Posting Locations – This item was discussed during the Waterhouse Kick-Off Presentation as noted above.
- 3.3. Recruitment Timeline – The updated recruitment timeline was reviewed by the committee.
- 3.4. Other
 - 3.4.1. The committee reviewed an email information package that Waterhouse will share with prospective candidates.

4. NEXT MEETINGS

- 4.1. May 28, 2026 | Interview Planning | 4 pm proposed
- 4.2. June 8, 2026 | Round 1 Interviews (Backup date if needed) | 4 pm proposed
- 4.3. June 9, 2026 | Round 1 Interviews | 9 am
- 4.4. June 16, 2026 | Special Meeting of Council | Round 2 Interviews | 4 pm

5. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 9:37am

 AGE-FRIENDLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date & Time: April 13, 2026 | 10:00 am

Location: Council Chambers and Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT Loretta Dunn | Cassandra Dillman | Kaela Sales | Karen Otterbein | Warren Dickert (Council Rep) | Pat Butler | Susanne Kunkel | Sandra Hong | Laura-Lee Ribey

OTHERS PRESENT Brandon Dobson | Lyndsay Regier | Susan Sakal

REGRETS Harold Fleet

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil.

2. DELEGATION – Nil.

3. ADOPTION OF THE March 16, 2026 MINUTES

Moved by P. Butler | Seconded by S. Kunkel

THAT the minutes of March 16, 2026 meeting be approved as circulated. **CARRIED.**

4. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Included in the Age-Friendly package emailed on April 8, 2026 and copies were available to committee members.

4.1. Article in Post | Active Aging Expo Recap

4.2. Ontario Age-Friendly Communities | Aging Resources

4.3. Grey County Age-Friendly

4.3.1. Grey County Newsletter | Subscribe at <https://www.grey.ca/newsletter>

4.3.2. Grey County - Age-Friendly Business

4.3.3. Grey County Progress Snapshot 2026 | <https://www.grey.ca/government/strategic-planning-and-studies/age-friendly-communities>

4.4. Grey-Bruce Geriatric Education Cooperative | May 20, 2026

4.5. Healthy Communities Partnership Conference | April 27 & 28, 2026 – Registration is open until April 20th.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

5.1. Committee Appointment | Chairperson Appointment

B. Dobson opened nominations for chairperson.

Moved by C. Dillman

THAT Kaela Sales be nominated for chairperson. Kaela Sales accepted the nomination.

With only one candidate, no voting was required. Kaela Sales was appointed the position as chairperson. Loretta Dunn will continue on as vice chairperson.

6. Active Aging Expo – Seniors Community Grant

6.1. Wrap Up - Committee members discussed the Active Aging Expo successes and improvements for future expos.

7. HANOVER AGE-FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

7.1. Discussion | May Content – Committee members discussed content for the May newsletter and future newsletters.

8. SPRING CLASSIC & SENIOR GAMES

8.1. Hanover Senior's Spring Classic – The local senior games changed the name from 'Local Senior Games' to 'Hanover Senior Spring Classic Games' to possibly reduce the confusion between the local senior games and the district senior games. Local senior games will begin on Tuesday, April 14th with bid euchre at the P & H Centre.

8.2. OSGA 55+ District Games – Registration is open now for OSGA games. Registration forms are available at the P & H Centre since registration is required in person. Payment by cheque or cash. Registration open until April 24th.

9. Other Business

9.1. Committee member shared the Walk for Alzheimer's is Saturday, May 30th at Sulphur Springs Conservation Area. Registration available online at <https://alzheimer.ca/en/ways-give/fundraise-participate/walk-alzheimers>

9.2. Committee member shared that on Tuesday, April 14th at the St. Matthew's Church from 2-3pm Sandra Hong will be doing a presentation on Memory and Aging with Alzheimer's.

9.3. Committee member shared upcoming Library programs for adults & seniors. For an up to date list of programs go to <https://hanoverlibrary.ca/calendar/> or contact the library.

9.4. Committee member shared that the Library will be having a Poetry Open Mic Night on April 17th in honour of Poetry month.

9.5. Earth Day is on April 22nd. There will be a community garbage pickup on April 22nd at 6:00pm. Meet at the P & H Centre to pick up your map with locations for garbage pickup. Hallman's will be bringing a truck to fill with garbage bags. There will be pizza available for those who participate.

10. NEXT MEETING – Monday June 15, 2026 | 10:00am

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by P. Butler | Seconded by W. Dickert
THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:00am.



 PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 21, 2026 | 5:45pm
P & H Centre | Boardroom

MEMBERS PRESENT Carol Hudson | Matt Bender | Danica Metcalfe | Brandon Koebel | Marion Massaloup | David Ford | Keith Hopkins

OTHERS PRESENT Laura Christen | Lyndsay Regier | Rob McIntosh

REGRETS Neil Simpson

1. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** – Nil.

2. **DELEGATION** – Nil.

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** – Nil.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE March 25, 2026 PRC ADVISORY MINUTES** – Deferred.

5. **ITEMS FOR DIRECTION | DISCUSSION**

5.1 East End Trail Project

5.1.1. Committee provided input for draft letter to Mayor and Council

MOVED by M. Bender | Seconded by M. Massaloup

That the PRC Advisory Committee endorses the presented letter regarding the East End Trail Loop project and supports that the letter be forwarded to the Mayor and Council via the Clerk for inclusion on an upcoming council agenda. **CARRIED.**

6. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ROUNDTABLE**

7. **NEXT MEETING** – May 27, 2026 at 6pm (Next regular meeting). To be rescheduled.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by M. Bender | Seconded by D. Metcalfe.

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:05pm. **CARRIED.**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER

BY-LAW NO. 3395-26

BEING a By-law to manage and regulate the Election Signs in the Town of Hanover

WHEREAS Section 8 of *the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended*, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Section 11 (3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, states that a lower-tier municipality may pass By-laws, respecting matters within certain spheres of jurisdiction, including structures, fences, and signs;

AND WHEREAS Section 63 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, provides that a municipality, if it passes a bylaw for prohibiting or regulating the placing of an object on or near a highway, may provide for the removal and impounding of such object placed on or near a highway in contravention of that bylaw; and

AND WHEREAS Section 425 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, establishes that any person who contravenes any bylaw of the municipality, passed under the Act, is guilty of an offence; and

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover seeks to protect traffic and pedestrian safety, avoid damage to public assets, and maintain accessible public spaces, while facilitating fair and effective democratic participation;

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Hanover hereby enacts as follows:

1. Short Title

1.1. This bylaw may be referred to as the "Election Sign By-law".

2. Purpose

2.1. This bylaw by-law (for consistency) has been enacted to regulate the placement of election signs for the purpose of preventing hazards to vehicles and pedestrians and further to regulate the erection and removal of election signs.

3. Scope

3.1. This bylaw shall apply to:

- a) All regular municipal, provincial, federal, and school board elections, including any by-elections; and
- b) Candidates, third party advertisers, and all other persons erecting election signs.

3.2. This bylaw shall not apply to:

- a) signs erected by the Town or the provincial or federal governments to provide information concerning an election or by-election or any part of an election or by-election process; or
- b) non-election related signs as regulated by the Town's Sign By-law.

3.3. If any provision of this bylaw conflicts with any provision of any other Town bylaw, the provision of this bylaw shall take precedence.

3.4. If any provision of this bylaw conflicts with provincial or federal law, the provision of the latter shall prevail to the extent of the conflict.

4. Definitions

"**Billboard sign**" means a sign upon which the space is sold or rented to a person who does not occupy the premises where the sign is located;

"**Campaign office**" means a building or structure, or part of a building or structure, used by a candidate or an agent of a candidate or by a third party advertiser or an agent of a third party advertiser as part of an election campaign and where a candidate's or third party advertiser's campaign staff is normally present and the public may enter to obtain information regarding the candidate or third party advertiser;

"**Campaign office election sign**" means any sign erected on a campaign office which only displays the name of a Candidate in a municipal election, or the name of a Candidate and/or the name and/or logo of a political party in a federal or provincial election, or the name of a third party advertiser in a municipal election, and the location of a candidate's or registered third party's campaign office, and contains no other message;

"**Canada Elections Act**" means the *Canada Elections Act, S.C. 2000, c.9*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Candidate**" means a person who has been nominated or registered under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"**Clerk**" means the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk of the Town of Hanover, or their designate;

"**Election Act**" means the *Election Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.6*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Election centre**" means a place designated by the clerk where an elector can receive election services, including but not limited to amending the voters' list, asking questions about the election, and accessing the internet to vote and shall include the entire building and the property associated with it and, when such election centre is located within a private premises, it shall additionally include all of the common elements/spaces;

"**Election sign**" means any sign promoting, supporting, opposing or taking a position with respect to:

- i. A question, law or bylaw submitted to the electors under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, or any other legislation;
- ii. An issue associated with a person or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996; or
- iii. A candidate or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"**Highway**" includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place and includes any bridge, trestle, viaduct or other structure forming part of the highway and includes the Boulevards and any area between the lateral property lines of the highway;

"**Intersection pedestrian signal**" means traffic control signals and/or a stop sign;

"**Municipal Act, 2001**" means the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Municipal Elections Act, 1996**" means the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.32*, as amended and any successor legislation;

"**Officer**" means a person employed by the Town of Hanover to enforce municipal bylaws and also includes an officer of the Hanover Police Service and a bylaw enforcement officer;

"Owner" means the person who places or permits the placing of an election sign or any person described on the election sign, whose name, address or telephone number is on the election sign or who benefits from the message on the election sign and for the purposes of this bylaw there may be more than one owner of an election sign;

"Place" means attach, affix, install, erect, build, construct, reconstruct, move or display;

"Private property" means real property that is not a Highway or Public Property;

"Public property" means real property owned or under the control of the Town of Hanover, the County of Grey, Provincial Government, Federal Government or any of their respective agencies, boards or commissions but, for the purposes of this bylaw, does not include a Highway or real property where one or more persons reside. Property owned by the Town and leased to another person or entity shall not be deemed to be public property;

"Road allowance" means the allowance for a public road and includes the travelled and untravelled portions of the road allowance, the road shoulders, ditches, boulevards and sidewalks;

"Roadway" means that part of a Highway that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic including reserved lanes, shoulders and curbs and gutters;

"Sidewalk" means that part of a Highway with a surface that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for the use of pedestrians or bicycles and includes a multi-use path;

"Sight triangle" means a triangular area free of buildings or structures or other visual obstructions and formed within a corner lot by the intersection of street lines, or the projections thereof, and a straight line connecting them 5.0 metres from their point of intersection. A corner lot is a lot situated at the intersection of and abutting two streets, or parts of the same street, the adjacent sides of which street or streets (or in the case of a curved corner, the tangents of which) contain an angle of not more than 135 degrees;

"Sign" means any sign, surface or structure and any component or appurtenant parts, used or capable of being used as a visual medium to attract attention to a specific subject matter or to create a design or convey a message, and includes a banner, awning, canopy, marquee, menu board, poster and billboard;

"Sign area" means the area of one side of a sign where copy can be placed;

"Sign height" means the vertical height of a sign from the finished grade to the highest part of the sign;

"Third party" means any person or entity, including but not limited to a corporation or trade union, who is not a registered candidate, political party, or constituency association, who incurs expenses with respect to:

- i. A question, law or bylaw submitted to the electors under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act, Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or any other legislation;
- ii. An issue associated with a person or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996; or
- iii. A candidate or political party participating in an election under the Canada Elections Act, the Election Act or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;

"Town" means the Town of Hanover, and a reference to the Town is a reference to the geographical area of the Town of Hanover or to the Corporation of the Town of Hanover as the context requires;

"Voting period" means the period of time in which citizens are able to cast ballots;

"Voting place" means a place where electors cast their ballots and:

- i. When a voting place is located on public property, includes all of the area enclosed by the lot lines of the public property and any Highway abutting; or
- ii. When a voting place is located on private property, includes all of the common elements of the private property and any Highway immediately abutting;

“Zone” means an area designated for a particular land use or uses as established by the Town’s zoning bylaw, as amended from time to time or any successor bylaw.

5. General Requirements

- 5.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign outdoors within the geographic limits of the Town except in accordance with this bylaw and all relevant County of Grey bylaws.
- 5.2. Every owner shall ensure compliance with the bylaw.
- 5.3. Every owner shall ensure compliance with all relevant County of Grey bylaws
- 5.4. Election signs are permitted on public and private property, subject to safety, accessibility, and maintenance requirements in this bylaw.
- 5.5. Regulations herein are designed to be minimally impairing and proportionate to the Town's objectives of safety and asset protection.

6. Mandatory Physical Characteristics of Election Signs

- 6.1. With the exception of a billboard sign and an election sign on vehicles, no owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign that:
 - a. Is illuminated;
 - b. Has a sign area of more than 1.5 square metres;
 - c. Incorporates moving parts or visible mechanical movement of any description;
 - d. Has a sign height, including the mounts, more than 2 metres; or
 - e. Interferes with the safe operation of vehicular traffic or the safety and accessibility of pedestrians.
- 6.2. No election sign shall be in a state of disrepair, and every owner shall ensure that the owner's election signs remain in a state of repair.
- 6.3. Damaged or derelict signs must be repaired or removed within 24 hours of notice by the Town.

7. Contents of Election Signs

- 7.1. Each election sign shall identify who is responsible for the messaging.
- 7.2. Each third party sign shall identify the name of the registered third party, the municipality where the third party is registered and a telephone number, mailing address or email address at which the registered third party may be contacted.
- 7.3. No owner shall display the Town's logo or the Town's election logo, in whole or in part, on any election sign.

8. Timing of Placement

- 8.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a federal or provincial election or by-election earlier than the issuance of the Writ of Election or By-Election.

- 8.2. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a municipal election earlier than the date nominations are certified by the clerk.
- 8.3. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a municipal election on a campaign office or private property earlier than the day that the candidate or third party has filed their nomination or registration with the clerk.

9. Locations in General

- 9.1. Election signs are permitted in any zone.
- 9.2. No election sign shall be located where it will interfere with the safe movement or visibility of any vehicle or pedestrian traffic or where it is a general hazard to public safety.
- 9.3. No election sign shall be located so as to obstruct or impede any fire escape, fire exit, door, window, scuttle, skylight, flue, air intake or air exhaust, nor so as to prevent or impede the free access of emergency personnel to any part of a building, including any emergency water connection or fire hydrant.
- 9.4. No election sign shall be affixed to or upon anything located on a road allowance including but not limited to a tree, pipe, utility pole, light pole, utility box, planters, benches, waste receptacles, mailboxes or other similar fixtures and structures.

10. Election Signs on Private Property

- 10.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on private property without the property owner's or an occupant's consent.
- 10.2. Only one single-sided or doubled-sided election sign per candidate will be allowed per private property unless the private property consists of multiple residential properties, then one single-sided or double-sided election sign per candidate per unit will be allowed, provided that the signs are a minimum of 1 metre apart.
- 10.3. Only one election sign per candidate per 200 metres of frontage is allowed for commercial/industrial properties.

11. Election Signs on Public Property

- 11.1. No owner shall place or permit to be placed any election sign on property within the Town for a candidate who is not eligible to be voted for by electors of the Town, the applicable provincial electoral district, or the applicable federal electoral district that includes the Town.
- 11.2. No owner shall place or permit to be placed any election sign within the sight triangle, nor in locations that obstruct visibility for drivers, cyclists, or pedestrians.
- 11.3. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on a highway so that the election sign:
- a. Is on a roadway;
 - b. Impedes or obstructs the passage of pedestrians where they are reasonably expected to walk;
 - c. Is within 1 metre of a curb or pavement edge;
 - d. Is within 0.5 metres of a sidewalk;
 - e. Is within 5 metres of a driveway on a town road
 - f. Is on a median or island located on or within a roadway;
 - g. Is less than 3 metres from a school crossing;

- h. Is less than 10 metres from an intersection pedestrian signal;
 - i. If on a highway within a residential zone, is less than 10 metres from another election sign for the same candidate or third party; or
 - j. If on a highway within a commercial and/or industrial zone, is less than 30 metres from another election sign for the same candidate or third party.
- 11.4. No owner shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on a highway structure or facility.
- 11.5. No owner shall affix or permit to be affixed an election sign to a permanent or official sign.
- 11.6. No owner shall dig, drill or drive into asphalt, concrete, brick or any other hard improved surface on a Highway when placing an election sign.
- 11.7. No owner shall drill or drive into a wooden, metal, concrete or other highway structure when placing an election sign.

12. Voting Places and Election Centres

- 12.1. No owner shall at any time during the voting period, including voting day and those days when advance voting is held, erect, cause or permit to be erected an election sign at a voting place or election centre.

13. Removal/Damage to Election Signs

- 13.1. Every owner shall ensure that all election signs placed by or on behalf of the owner are completely removed from all locations no later than 72 hours following the conclusion of the election day.
- 13.2. No person shall deface, remove or wilfully cause damage to a lawfully erected election sign.
- 13.3. When an officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that an election sign has been erected, caused or permitted to be erected, in a manner that contravenes any provision of this bylaw, the officer may cause the election sign to be removed without prior notice or compensation.
- 13.4. Election signs that, in the opinion of an officer, pose a risk to the health and safety of pedestrians, cyclists or motorists shall be removed by an officer without prior notice or compensation.
- 13.5. The Town may destroy any election sign that has been removed and is not claimed and retrieved within 5 days of notice to the sign owner, without compensation to the sign owner

14. Campaign Office Exemptions

- 14.1. Despite the foregoing provisions regarding the timing of placing election signs, election signs may be erected on a candidate's campaign office once the candidate has filed their nomination with the clerk.
- 14.2. Further, a campaign office located within a non-residential zone shall be exempt from Sections 10 and 13 of the Election Sign By-law.

15. Liability for Damages

- 15.1. The Town shall not be liable for any damage or loss of an election sign that was displayed in accordance with this bylaw or that was removed by an officer of the Town.

15.2. The provisions of this bylaw shall not be construed as relieving or limiting the responsibility or liability of any person erecting or owning an election sign for personal injury or property damage resulting from the erecting of such election sign, or resulting from the negligence or willful acts of such person, or their agents or employees, in the construction, erection, maintenance, repair or removal of such election sign.

16. Enforcement

16.1. Any officer is hereby vested with the authority of enforcing the provisions of this bylaw.

17. Severability

17.1. If, for any reason, any section, clause or provision of this bylaw is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this bylaw as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.

18. Offence and Penalty

18.1. Every owner who contravenes any provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine pursuant to the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended.

18.2. No person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, an officer who is exercising a power or performing a duty under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, or under a bylaw passed under the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

19. Enactment

19.1. This bylaw shall come into full force and effect on the date it is passed at which time all bylaws, policies, and resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this bylaw are hereby repealed insofar as it is necessary to give effect to the provisions of this bylaw.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of May, 2026.

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 3395-26

PART 1, PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT

BEING a by-law to regulate election signs, in the Town of Hanover.

ITEM	COLUMN 1 Short Form Wording	COLUMN 2 Provision creating or defining offence	COLUMN 3 Set Fine
1	Place or permit election sign that is illuminated or has moving parts	6.1 (a)	\$150.00
2	Place or permit election sign that has an area greater than 1.5 square meters	6.1 (b)	\$150.00
4	Place or permit election sign that is more than 2 m in height	6.1 (d)	\$150.00
5	Place or permit election sign that interferes with vehicular or pedestrian traffic	6.1 (e)	\$150.00
6	Place or permit election sign that interferes with the vehicular or pedestrian safety	6.1 (e)	\$300.00
7	Fail to remove damaged or derelict election sign with 24 hours of notice	6.2	\$150.00
8	Place or permit election sign before nomination day	8.2	\$150.00
9	Place or permit election sign to be placed before nomination filed with clerk	8.3	\$150.00
10	Place or permit election sign to be placed that poses a hazard to public safety.	9.2	\$300.00
11	Place or permit an election sign to be placed that obstructs openings required for light, ventilation, ingress, egress, fire emergencies or medical emergencies	9.3	\$300.00

12	Place or permit an elections sign to be placed or upon any pole, structure or thing on a road allowance.	9.4	\$150.00
13	Erect election sign on private property without consent	10	\$150.00
14	Erect election sign for an ineligible candidate	11.1	\$150.00
15	Place or permit an election sign to be placed in a sight triangle	11.2	\$150.00
16	Place or permit election sign to be placed on a roadway	11.3 (a)	\$150.00
17	Place or permit election sign to be placed within 1m of edge of street	11.3 (c)	\$150.00
18	Place or permit election sign to be placed with 0.5m of a sidewalk	11.3 (d)	\$150.00
19	Place or permit election sign to be placed within 5 m of a driveway	11.3 (e)	\$150.00
20	Place or permit election sign to be placed on a median or island	11.3 (f)	\$150.00
21	Place or permit election sign to be placed less than 3m from a school crossing	11.3 (g)	\$150.00
22	Place or permit election sign to be placed less than 10m from an intersection pedestrian signal	11.3 (h)	\$150.00
23	Place or permit election sign at a voting place or election centre	12.1	\$150.00
24	Fail to remove election sign within 72 hours after election	13.1	\$150.00
25	Remove, deface or damage an election sign	13.2	\$150.00
26	Interfere or obstruct an officer	18.2	\$400.00

Note: The penalty provision for the offences indicated above is section of By-law 3395-26, a certified copy of which has been filed.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER

BY-LAW NO. 3396-26

A by-law to amend By-law 3256-23, a by-law to Regulate the Discharge of Firearms within the Town of Hanover.

WHEREAS section 119 of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, provides that a municipality is authorized to prohibit or regulate the discharge of guns or other firearms, air-guns, spring-guns, cross-bows, long-bows or any other weapon for the purpose of public safety;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Hanover wishes to amend By-law 3256-23, being a by-law to Regulate the Discharge of Firearms within the Town of Hanover'

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover hereby enacts as follows:

1. THAT Section 1.0 DEFINITIONS be amended to include the following definitions:

“Rural Area” means the portion of the Town that is within the rural area designated in the attached schedule;

“Urban Area” means the portion of the Town that is outside of rural area designated on the attached schedule.

2. THAT Section 4.0 APPLICATION be amended by the addition of the following:

4.1 URBAN AREA

No person shall discharge, cause to be discharged or allow to be discharged a Firearm at any time, within the limits of the Town of Hanover.

4.2 RURAL AREA

No person shall discharge a firearm in the rural area of the Town:

4.2.1 on any property owned or occupied by the Town of Hanover;

4.2.2 on or within 300 metres of any property used for the purposes of a school, place of worship, day nursery, community recreation centre, or park;

4.2.3 within 300 metres of any conservation area;

4.2.4 within 300 metres of any dwelling, other than a dwelling owned or lawfully occupied by the person discharging the firearm, or with the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property;

4.2.5 on, across or within 8 metres of any highway, private road or recreational trail;

No person shall discharge a firearm on any property on which the discharge of firearms is permitted unless they are:

4.2.6 the owner or lawful occupier of the property, or

4.2.7 has the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property in accordance with the provisions of the (Ontario) Trespass to Property Act.

3. THAT Section 5.0 EXEMPTIONS be hereby amended be replacing the first paragraph with the following:

“Despite the provisions of section 4.1 of this bylaw, nothing in this by-law shall serve to prohibit the discharge of a firearm by;”

4. THAT Section 5.0 EXEMPTIONS be amended with the addition of the following:

Despite the provisions of section 4.1 and 4.2 of this by-law, nothing in this by-law shall serve to prohibit the discharge of a firearm by:

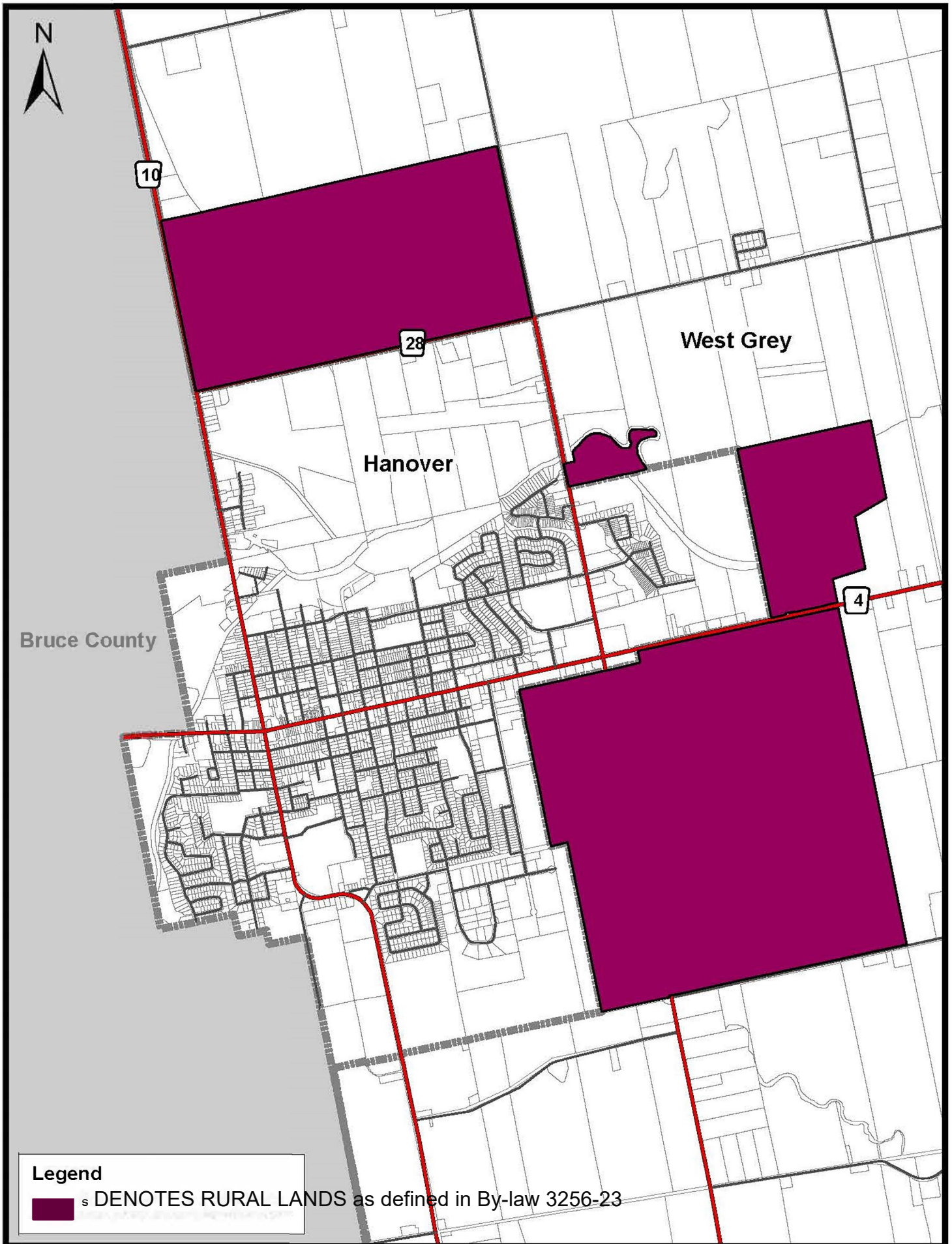
- 5.5 a person, in a rural area, who believes on reasonable grounds that wildlife is damaging or is about to damage the person's property as described under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act;
- 5.6 a farmer, or any member of a farmer's family who resides with the farmer, in a rural area, or an agent of the farmer as prescribed under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*, or any successor legislation. thereto, for the purpose of protecting the farmer's property;
- 5.7 a hunter engaged in legal hunting activities in a rural area, following all provincial rules and regulations, on property owned or lawfully occupied by the person discharging the firearm, or with the express written permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the property;

5. THAT all other provisions of By-law No. 3256-23, shall remain in full force and effect.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of May, 2026.

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HANOVER

BY-LAW NO. 3397-26

A By-law of the Town of Hanover to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover at its regular meeting held on May 4, 2026

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, Section 5 and amendments thereto, provides that the powers of a municipal corporation shall be exercised by its Council;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, Section 5 and Section 9, and amendments thereto, provides that except where otherwise provided, the powers of any Council shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS in many cases action which is taken or authorized to be taken by Council does not lend itself to the passage of an individual by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Hanover hereby enacts as follows:

1. THAT the actions of the Council at its regular meeting held on May 4, 2026 in respect of each motion, resolution and other action taken by the Council, and its Committees, at its said meetings are, except where the prior approval of the Ontario Municipal Board or other authority is by law required, hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed as if all such proceedings were expressly embodied in this By-law.
2. THAT where no individual by-law has been or is passed with respect to the taking of any action authorized in or by the above mentioned Minutes or with respect to the exercise of any powers by the Council in the above mentioned Minutes, then this by-law shall be deemed for all purposes to be the by-law required for approving and authorizing and taking of any action authorized therein or thereby, or required for the exercise of any powers therein by the Council.
3. AND THAT the Mayor and the proper officers of The Corporation of the Town of Hanover are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action of the Council or to obtain approvals where required and, except where otherwise provided, the Mayor, the Clerk and the Treasurer are hereby directed to execute all documents necessary on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover and to affix thereto the corporate seal of the Corporation of the Town of Hanover.

READ a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of May, 2026.

Susan Paterson, Mayor

Vicki McDonald, Clerk