



January 25th, 2023

Minister for Women and Gender Equality
P.O. Box 8097, Station T CSC
Ottawa, ON K1G 3H6

ATTENTION: Honorable Marci Ien

Dear Minister Ien:

RE: Resolution – Violence Against Women

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held January 10th, 2023:

Moved by Reeve McLaren

Seconded by Councillor Summers

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution from the County of Lanark regarding Violence Against Women;

AND THAT, this resolution be circulated to all Ontario Municipalities, local MP's and MPP's, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk

Encls.

c.c. All Ontario Municipalities
Local MP's and MPP's
Association of Municipalities
Ministry of the Attorney General
Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity



All Ontario Municipalities

December 15, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

On Wednesday December 14th, 2022 Lanark County Council passed the following motion:

MOTION #CC-2022-235

MOVED BY: R. Kidd **SECONDED BY:** B. Dowdall

Be it resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the issues of violence in rural communities as serious to the health and wellness of local families; and

Be it further resolved that the Lanark County Council recognizes the rural Renfrew County Coroner's Inquest as important to all rural communities; and

Based on the statistics of 4815 crisis calls and service provision to 527 women and children in our local community, the Lanark County Council declares IPV (intimate partner violence)/VAW (violence against women) an epidemic as per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Coroner's jury recommendations; and

That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

Further background on the Renfrew Inquest Recommendations can be found at this link: https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CKW-Inquest-Verdict-Recommendations-SIGNED_Redacted.pdf

Thank you,

Jasmin Ralph, Clerk

Cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Scott Reid, MP, John Jordan, MPP, Ministries of the Attorney General, Justice, Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women's Issues.

2022 Municipal Partnerships Report



MUNICIPAL
PROPERTY
ASSESSMENT
CORPORATION



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2022: Partnering Today for a New Tomorrow

After two challenging years, we know a lot has changed. Still one thing remains constant - MPAC's commitment, as Ontario's property market experts, to provide property values, insights and services that municipalities and property owners can rely on.

Our [2021-2025 Strategic Plan](#) prioritizes elevating the property owner and municipal experience. With this plan as our guide, we will demonstrate our support for property owners and our commitment to our municipal partners to enhance communities across Ontario.



"On behalf of MPAC, I'd like to congratulate all the new and re-elected officials following the recent municipal elections and thank you for your service. We look forward to the partnerships our MPAC team will continue to build with you and your municipal staff to support your community and local decision-making."

Alan Spacek

Chair, MPAC Board of Directors

Who We Are

We are Ontario's property market experts. Our job is to assess and classify more than 5.5 million properties across Ontario worth a combined value of more than \$3 trillion. Since our last report, Ontario has grown by approximately 100,000 new properties and we have added more than \$37 billion in new assessment from new construction and improvements to existing properties. Every municipality uses our assessments to make informed decisions about their community, including the distribution of property taxes.

We continuously update our property data so that municipal tax records are accurate when local governments are making important tax decisions.

Our work to maintain Ontario's property database includes:

- ✓ Collecting property data in consultation with municipalities and property owners
- ✓ Analyzing and verifying changes to property and property transactions
- ✓ Inspecting properties in response to building permits, sales reviews, neighbourhood reviews and more
- ✓ Monitoring sale trends in property sectors
- ✓ Processing severances and consolidations
- ✓ Addressing Requests for Reconsideration and appeals
- ✓ Responding to vacancy and tax applications from municipalities
- ✓ Tracking school support



"Our work in recent years has advanced our business processes and added more data than ever to ensure the quality and accuracy of our values. Building on these successes, we stand ready to deliver a predictable assessment base, accurate data and insights, and provide quality products and services that municipalities, property owners and other stakeholders can count on."

Nicole McNeill

President and Chief Administrative Officer, MPAC

Capturing New Assessment

Each year, MPAC updates property records to capture changes in properties from additions, improvements or new construction.

In 2022, we worked diligently to capture new assessment that provides additional revenue for municipalities. Throughout the year we assessed more than \$37 billion in new construction, additions and renovations across Ontario.

Our ongoing collaboration with municipalities made this milestone possible. Together, we are modernizing and digitizing building permit collection and exchange to create efficiencies for municipalities and to help us capture new assessment faster, resulting in new municipal revenues up to two months sooner.

“

“As I have recently returned to the municipal sector, I found our local representative and MPAC team have been extremely helpful to explain, answer questions and provide valuable information in a timely manner. MPAC’s continued support confirms they are a valuable partner for our municipality.”

Angela Millar

Treasurer, Township of Drummond/North Elmsley



Connecting With Partners

With the return of in-person conferences, MPAC had the pleasure of reconnecting with municipal representatives at events across the province – from the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) conference to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference, to name just two. Our Municipal and Stakeholder Relations team attended 14 municipal conferences this year, in-person and virtually.

As a speaker, exhibitor and attendee at these events, we shared organizational updates and operational highlights, had the opportunity to discuss municipal priorities and work together on solutions.

Beyond events, our MPAC team engaged with municipal staff and elected officials more than 1,500 times in 2022 and responded to 97.7% of municipal inquiries within the time periods outlined in our [Service Level Agreement with municipalities](#).

We're looking forward to keeping our connections strong as municipal councils begin their new term this fall.



"We are pleased to take part in many sector conferences and events, delivering updates, and receiving feedback during our workshops and one-to-one discussions. Your insights help us to enhance the municipal experience, determine how to best support municipal operations and consider future collaboration opportunities."

Mary Dawson-Cole

Director, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations, MPAC

Property Insights

MPAC is uniquely positioned as the only organization with a complete data set of all building permits in Ontario – we process about 300,000 each year on properties of all types. Our understanding of this data enables us to identify trends in various permit categories across the province.

During 2022, we shared these property insights with municipalities and property owners. Through a targeted media campaign, we provided the latest information on the significant increase in new residential builds and home improvements, decrease in condo sizes, growth of self-storage facilities, continued demand for office space and more.

To learn more, visit [Our Stories-Building Permits](#) on mpac.ca.



“Our relentless focus on maintaining Ontario’s property inventory gives us unique insight into Ontario’s changing property landscape. Much like the census informs us about population, property data can provide municipalities with insights on market changes and growth metrics that can enhance their planning and decision-making. We look forward to sharing more property data insights in 2023.”

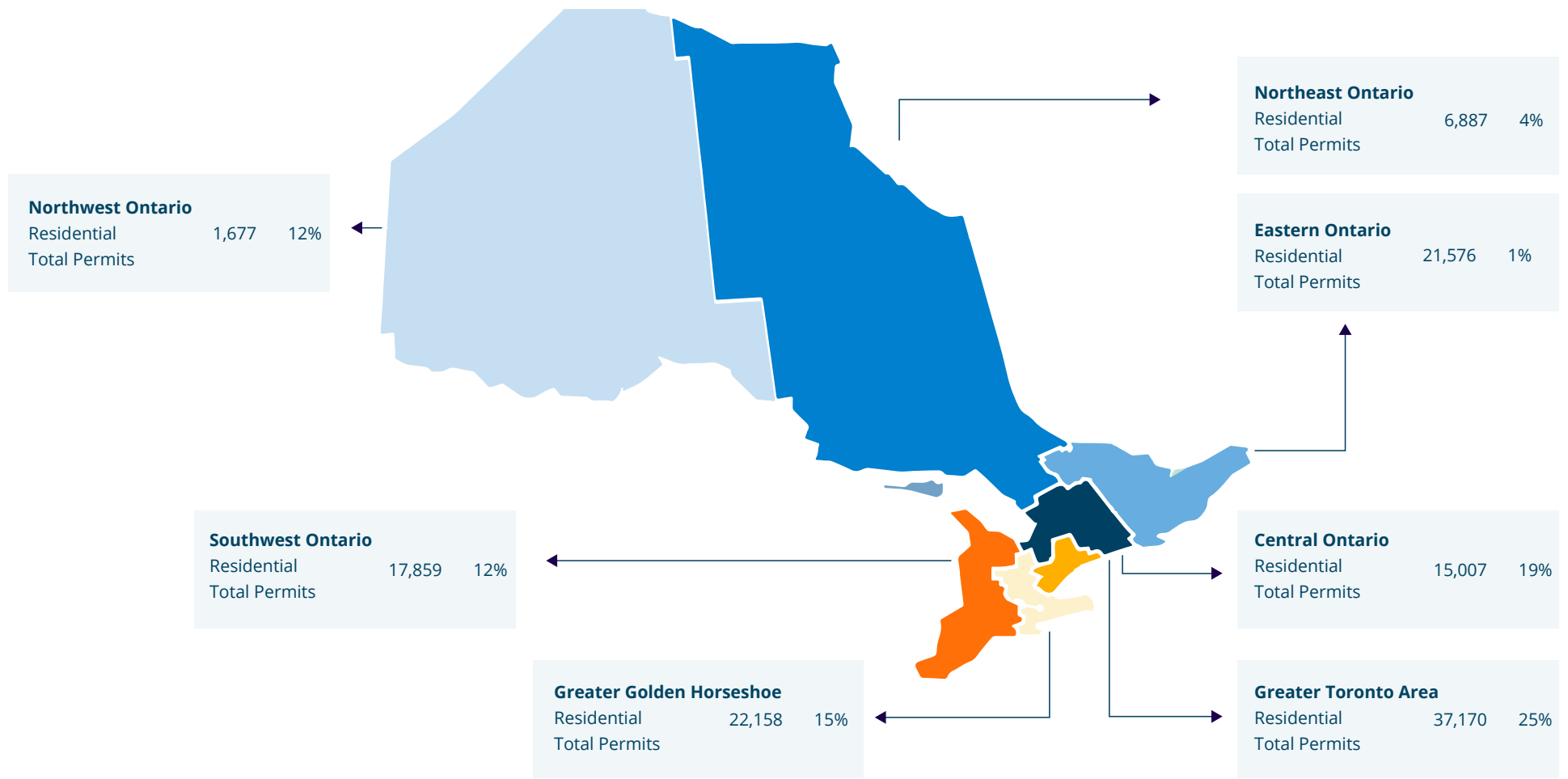
Carmelo Lipsi

Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, MPAC

2021 Residential Home Improvement Building Permits

Total Permits

122,334 15%



Innovative Solutions

Investing in technology and innovative processes continues to be a focus for MPAC, especially when it comes to refining services that impact municipal operations.

This year, we continued our work with municipalities to digitize their permitting process. We are currently working in partnership with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) business arm, LAS, on an e-permitting pilot project to demonstrate the value of digital permitting for Ontario municipalities.

We have created an Application Programming Interface (API), which allows MPAC to electronically retrieve approved building plans prior to construction. This expedites our process for providing new assessment to municipalities and facilitates new revenue opportunities, sooner. We'll share the pilot results with municipalities when the project is completed in 2023.



”

“The Township is excited to be part of a project that evaluates the benefits of digital building permitting solutions, while supporting adoption by municipalities that might not have taken this step on their own. Thanks to AMO, LAS and MPAC for supporting municipalities to help them confidently take a step forward in service delivery modernization.”

Chris Wray

Chief Administrative Officer, Township of Black River-Matheson

Delivering the 2022 Enumeration

MPAC worked closely with municipalities and association partners to promote VoterLookUp.ca to support the delivery of a quality preliminary list of electors (PLE) to every municipality and school board for the October 24 elections.

The campaign included print and digital content, targeted outreach for tenants and students, and **toolkits with information** municipalities could share to encourage voters to confirm their information on VoterLookUp.ca. With more than 215,000 searches leading up to the elections, the campaign's success was a result of the municipalities that helped promote and educate their residents about the tool.

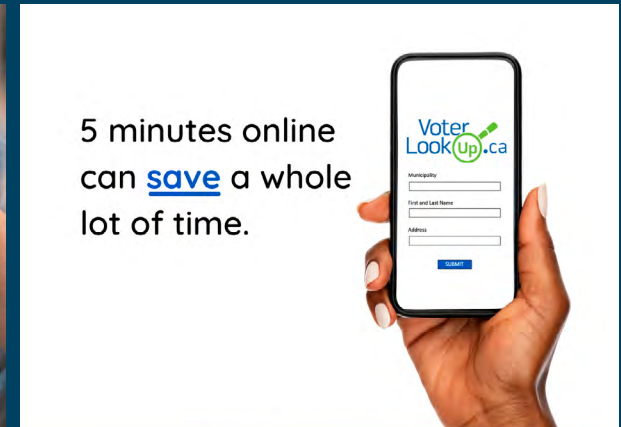
While this is MPAC's last delivery of province-wide PLEs, we will continue to provide the PLE for any by-elections in 2023 and are working to implement legislated changes that will transfer responsibility for enumeration products to Elections Ontario in January 2024.



Don't be missed,
check the list.

2022 Municipal and
School Board Election

VoterLookUp.ca | mpac



5 minutes online
can **save** a whole
lot of time.

2022 Municipal and
School Board Election

VoterLookUp.ca | mpac

“

“Our staff leveraged the resources in MPAC's toolkit to promote VoterLookUp and encourage residents to confirm their information for our 2022 municipal election. MPAC's off-the-shelf information and VoterLookUp made it easy to engage residents.”

Anne Whalen

Municipal Clerk, Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers

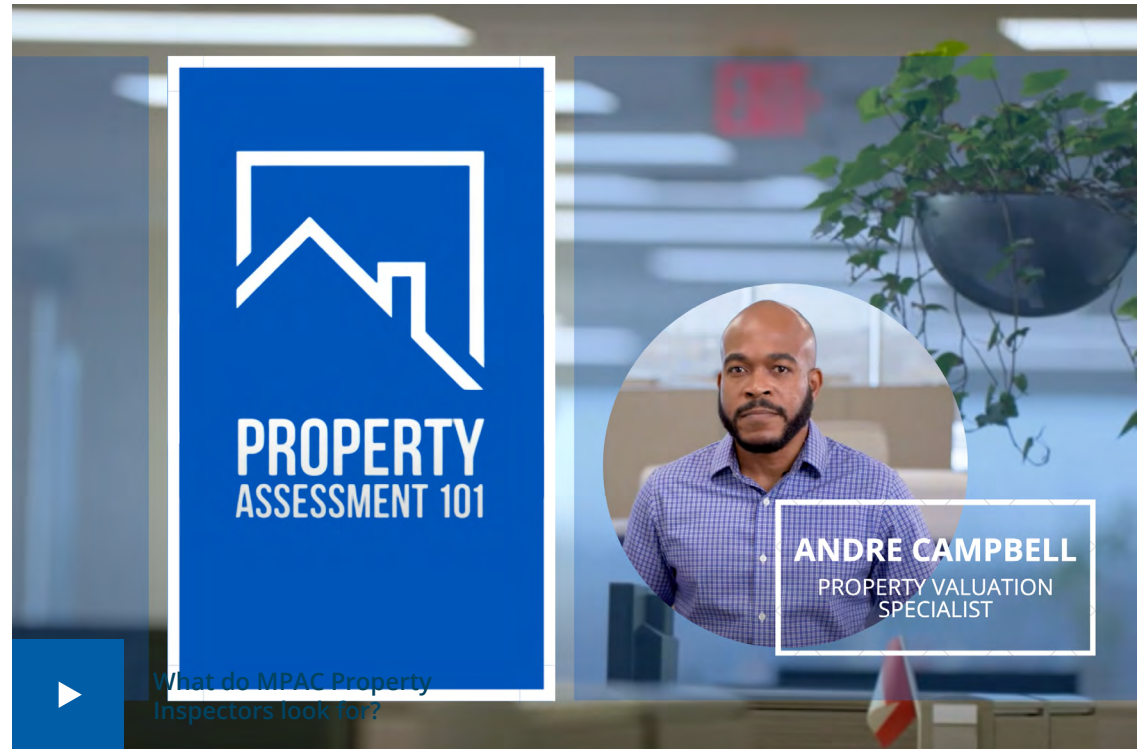
Prioritizing Property Owners

We know there are a lot of questions about the property assessment and taxation process. We are making enhancements to help Ontarians better understand how we determine assessments and how this input is used to calculate property taxes.

The language on our Property Assessment Notices has been simplified to explain why owners are receiving one, and we added a QR code that links directly to more information on mpac.ca.

We have also increased our public education efforts. It's been six years since the last province-wide assessment update, and we understand that property owners may be feeling uncertain about what's to come. Our new public education campaign focuses on MPAC's roles and responsibilities, how assessed values and taxes are calculated and the relationship between the two.

To support our municipal partners, we shared a [toolkit](#) with municipalities that features ready-to-use, easily digestible content to help address anticipated concerns and misunderstandings from property owners as we prepare for the next province-wide assessment update.



”

“Communicating the relationship between property assessment and taxes to the public is a challenge for municipal finance leaders. Enhancing public understanding and trust in the property tax system strengthens municipal sustainability and MPAC’s toolkit is a valuable resource in these efforts. It helps to clarify MPAC’s role in determining property assessments, the role of municipalities in determining revenue requirements, and the relationship between the two.”

Donna Herridge

Executive Director, Municipal Finance Officers’ Association of Ontario

New Products and Services on the Horizon

As MPAC continues the essential work that is preparing us for the next update, we are also exploring innovative solutions that support service delivery and provide further value to our stakeholders.

We recently introduced the Annotated Assessment Act to support municipalities with information to help make informed decisions related to assessment appeals. Available through Municipal Connect, this comprehensive guide explains how the Assessment Review Board (ARB) and Courts have interpreted the *Assessment Act*, Regulations and ARB rules, and includes more than 800 case summaries.

Another area where we are innovating is our real-time values project, leveraging leading-edge data science methods and advanced analytics to produce point-in-time market estimates. We foresee many benefits of this technology and are excited to share our progress with municipalities as the project evolves.

To ensure we deliver on the commitments we make, we are developing a new municipal “Master Agreement” in collaboration with a Municipal Working Group, that will update and consolidate numerous existing municipal agreements. We look forward to sharing more information with municipalities as we roll out the agreement in 2023.



”

“The review of assessment appeals is a complicated process for municipalities. MPAC’s new Annotated Assessment Act resource will help the City to better understand what legislation, regulation, ARB rules, and influential decisions have said about the property assessment environment. This tool will prove to be a valuable starting point for our research and planning as we consider our interest in future assessment appeals.”

Aaron Zamler

Supervisor of Assessment, City of Vaughan

Looking Ahead

MPAC continues its preparations for a future province-wide assessment update.

As we await the Province's direction on the next reassessment, we'll continue to work hard every day to keep Ontario's property inventory up-to-date to ensure that we're ready for a province-wide assessment update whenever it is called. We'll remain focused on capturing new construction, renovations and additions that will deliver critical new assessment to municipal assessment rolls.

In the coming year, we'll continue sharing market insights and analysis that will support municipal decision-making to build thriving communities. And we'll explore innovative ways to optimize the way we work to evolve the services that municipalities rely on while helping Ontarians better understand who we are, what we do and the relationship between property assessment and taxation.



Connect With Us

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January 25, 2023

Hon. Steven Lecce, Minister of Education
MPP Bob Bailey, Sarnia-Lambton
County of Lambton
Municipalities of Lambton County and Ontario

Via email

During the December 12, 2022, regular meeting of council, the following resolution was passed:

Moved: Bill Clark Seconded: Debb Pitel

WHEREAS in the Province of Ontario, municipalities are responsible to conduct the election process on behalf of the school boards; and

WHEREAS an extensive amount of resources, time and management to advertise, co-ordinate and complete these trustee elections is placed on the municipality; and

WHEREAS municipalities do not receive any compensation or re-imbursement for use of orchestration of the school board trustee elections.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia request that staff forward this motion to the Hon. Steven Lecce, Minister of Education, MPP Bob Bailey, Ontario Municipal Councils and the County of Lambton requesting that school boards become responsible for conducting their own trustee elections or at minimum municipalities be compensated by the school boards for overseeing such trustee elections;

Carried

Kind regards,

Original Signed

Mandi Pearson
Clerk/Operations Clerk

Phone: (519)882-2350 • Fax: (519)882-3373 • Theatre: (800)717-7694

411 Greenfield Street, Petrolia, ON, N0N 1R0

www.town.petrolia.on.ca





Regular Meeting of Council

MOVED BY: Councillor Kenny

RESOLUTION: ²⁹⁵~~294~~-2022

SECONDED BY: Deputy Reeve Carroll

DATE: December 20, 2022

That Council support the resolution provided from the County of Lanark regarding Renfrew Inquest Recommendations;

And That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, and the Federal Ministry of Women and Gender Equality.

☒ CARRIED

☐ DEFEATED

REEVE



Regular Meeting of Council

MOVED BY: Councillor Crabtree

RESOLUTION:18-2023

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kenny

DATE: January 17, 2023

That Council support World Thinking Day initiative and request staff to purchase a blue flood light and display on World Thinking Day February 22, 2023 at the Municipal Office;

And that Council approves the Clerk Administrator to circulate the request out to Lanark County and Lanark County Lower Tier municipalities.

☒ CARRIED

☐ DEFEATED


REEVE



PEOPLE | ENGINEERING | ENVIRONMENTS

January 30, 2023
Our File: 220135

Municipality of West Grey
402813 Grey County Road 4
RR2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0

Attention: Lorelie Spencer
Manager of Planning and Development
Via: lspencer@westgrey.com

Re: J.T. Excavating Class "A" Application
for a Pit Above Groundwater
Ref No. 626593
Lot 22, Concession 5
Former Township of Bentinck
Municipality of West Grey

Dear Lorelie:

On behalf of J.T. Excavating Ltd., please find enclosed the supporting documents for an application of a Class "A" Pit Above Groundwater (application reference No. under the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA). The application is for a proposed licenced area of 35.72 ha (88.27 acres) on the 41.16 ha (101.7 acre) property. The supporting documents include:

- Summary Statement,
- Set of Drawings,
- Natural Environment Technical Report – Level I and II,
- Archaeological Assessment – Stages I and II,
- Maximum Predicted Water Table Report and Hydrogeological Study, and
- Notice of Application for Licence and Public Information Session.

The application and public information session notice were published in the Owen Sound Sun Times and Hanover Post on January 26, 2023. A Public Information Session will be held at the Lamlash Hall on February 7, 2023 between 2:00pm and 4:00pm. We have requested comments to be provided by **March 31, 2023**.

Please be advised that the zoning amendment application associated with this proposal will be provided at a separate date and under separate cover.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,
GM BLUEPLAN ENGINEERING LIMITED,
Per:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Corbin Sweet'.

Corbin Sweet, P. Geo.

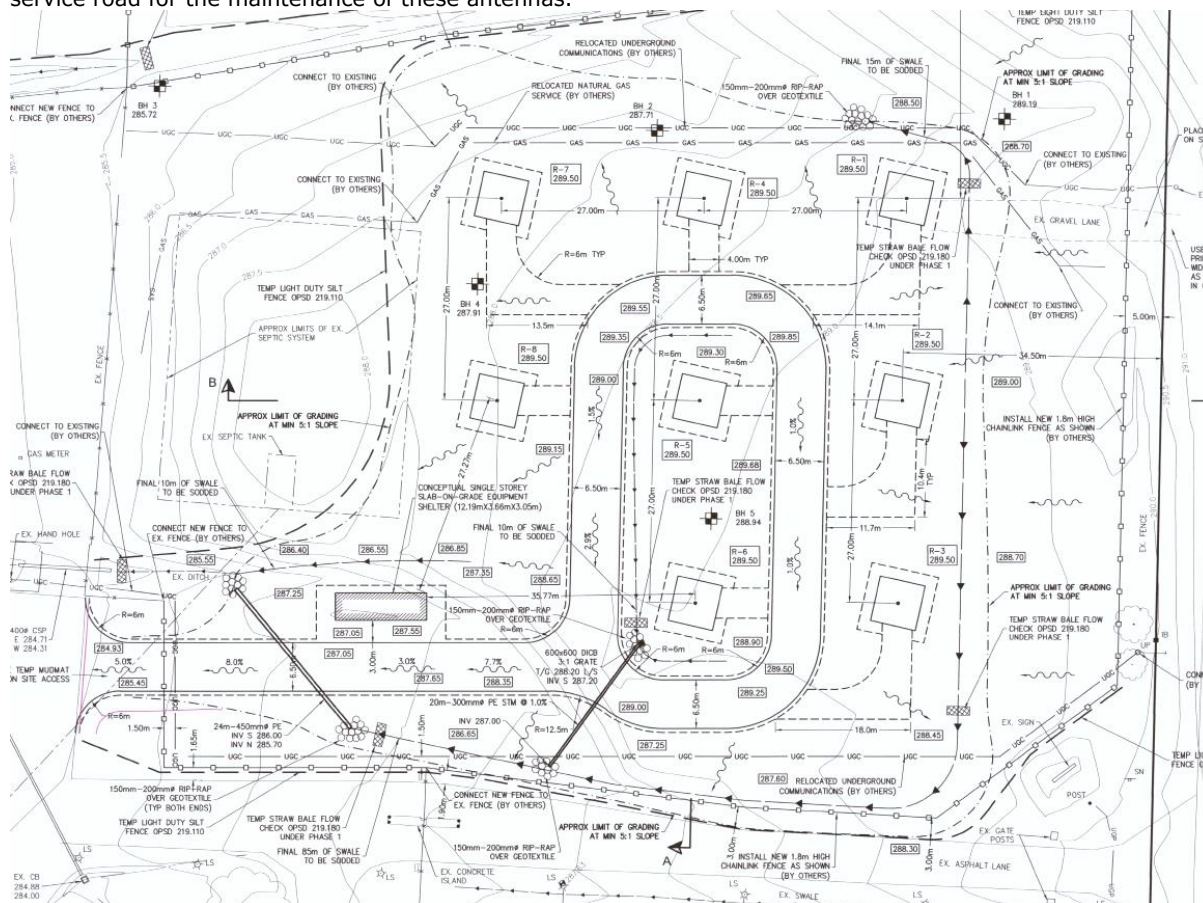
CJS

Encl.

cc: File No. 220135

Telesat Lightspeed Landing Station – Allan Park Ontario.

This antenna farm will consist of eight antennas capable of tracking the LEO satellites as they move across the horizon. Initial construction after grading of the area will be the construction of concrete pads for the antennas and communications shelter and a service road for the maintenance of these antennas.



Thank you.
Telesat Canada.

SVCA Infrastructure in the Municipality of West Grey

Dams in Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority's Jurisdiction

There are hundreds of dams within the SVCA jurisdiction; some are privately owned, while others are owned by agencies such as Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), municipalities, or SVCA. SVCA dams are predominantly operated for flood and erosion control. Private dams could be used for power generation, navigation, or recreational purposes. All dam owners, whether SVCA or private landowners, must receive approvals under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*, under the MNRF, for all dam operations, repairs, alterations, etc.

MNRF has a dam inventory portal for all medium and large sized dams within the Province:

<https://geohub.lio.gov.on.ca/datasets/mnrf::ontario-dam-inventory/explore>

This inventory is one resource that can be used to understand the number of dams which exist and their potential ownership, however, it should be used with caution as the information has not been recently updated.

SVCA Owned Dams

SVCA owns the following dams within our watershed:

- Walkerton Hydro Dam
- Allan Park Dam
- Sulphur Spring Dam
- Varney Dam
- Upper Durham Dam
- Middle Durham Dam (SVCA does not own but operates)
- Lower Durham Dam
- Glenelg Dam

Upper and Lower Durham Dams

SVCA staff have reviewed the transfer of deed documents for both properties encompassing the Upper and Lower Durham Dams.

- SVCA owns the property surrounding the Lower Durham Dam. The deed for this property clearly references the dam and its operation.
- SVCA owns the property surrounding the Upper Durham Dam. SVCA Board of Directors motions dating back to the 1960's (the date of acquiring the property) indicate regular

SVCA maintenance of the dam. SVCA staff are seeking legal counsel to confirm ownership of the dam itself, as the deed not explicitly reference the dam.

Dam Removal vs. Replacement

The function of a dam plays a huge part in the decision to remove or replace it. Dams that are actively being used for hydropower generation, flood mitigation, or ice management for instance, serve a critical purpose and would not likely be considered for removal. Dams that are no longer used are often being removed for numerous reasons, such as:

- Restoration of fish spawning areas
- Improvements to water quality (temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen)
- Improved ability to withstand the impacts of climate change (*i.e.*, restored floodplain and flow conditions)
- Restoration of natural river processes (*i.e.*, movement of sediment, nutrients, etc.)
- Liability associated with operation, public safety, and potential failure
- Long-term maintenance costs (*i.e.*, consulting services, permits, studies, etc.)

Under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*, owners of dam infrastructure are responsible for the safe management of their structures and for ensuring their structures remain in compliance.

Benefits of SVCA Involvement

Flood and erosion control projects (*i.e.*, dams, dykes, slope stability, erosion protection) are expensive to install, construct, and maintain over the long-term. SVCA has a group of field operations staff that undertake routine maintenance on these structures. SVCA staff also lead and coordinate major capital projects from initial RFP stages through to construction and implementation.

SVCA can apply for conservation authority specific funding for capital projects and studies that benefit member municipalities. For instance, MNRF's Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding program is available only to conservation authorities and offers a 50-50 cost share between the province and the benefiting municipality.

SVCA Billing Apportionment

Under Section 21 (1) (h) of the *Conservation Authorities Act (R.S.O. 1990)*, for the purposes of accomplishing its objects, an authority has power to determine the proportion of the total benefit afforded to all the participating municipalities that is afforded to each of them.

Further, applicable sections of the *Conservation Authorities Act* are as follows:

- Section 26 (2) - The portion of the money so required that each participating municipality shall raise shall be in the same proportion as the benefit derived by each

such municipality bears to the total benefit derived by all participating municipalities. R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, s. 26 (2).

- Section 26 (3) - Upon notice in writing of the amount required to be raised, signed by the secretary-treasurer of the authority, each participating municipality shall raise by the issue of debentures or otherwise such money as may be required by the authority for capital expenditure. R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, s. 26 (3); 1996, c. 32, s. 66 (3).
- Section 27 (2) Subject to the regulations made under subsection (16), after determining the approximate maintenance costs for the succeeding year, the authority shall apportion the costs to the participating municipalities according to the benefit derived or to be derived by each municipality, and the amount apportioned to each such municipality shall be levied against the municipality. R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, s. 27 (2); 1996, c. 1, Sched. M, s. 47 (1).

Capital Projects

Where possible, the SVCA applies for grants and external funding to assist with capital projects; however, any remaining expenses related to these projects are wholly funded by the benefitting municipality.

Maintenance Projects at West Grey

In accordance with past SVCA Board Motions, maintenance projects within the Municipality are invoiced as follows:

- 60% of the expense to the Municipality of West Grey
- 40% of the expense from Provincial Grant/General Levy

Invoicing for maintenance projects is done on an annual basis. As Provincial grant funding was decreased by half in 2019. During 2020 budget deliberations, the Board of Directors agreed that the provincial portion of maintenance projects would be shared by all municipalities, rather than deeming one municipality solely as specifically benefitting.