

## Ontario Introduces the Efficient Local Government Act

The Ontario's Government for the People brought back Ontario's Legislature and tabled the Efficient Local Government Act. If passed, the Act would invoke Section 33 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and ensure the City of Toronto's wards and number of councillors are aligned to 25 prior to the municipal election on October 22. "We were elected on a commitment to make government work more effectively and efficiently for the people," said Premier Doug Ford. "Today, we introduced new legislation to help us do just that for the

people of Toronto. We have brought back the Legislature to ensure there will be an election on October 22 in the City of Toronto, for 25 city councillors." Aligning the City of Toronto's municipal ward boundaries with provincial and federal electoral districts would save city taxpayers at least \$25 million over four years. A smaller, more efficient council would end political gridlock at City Hall and make sure quick action is taken to get transit, infrastructure and housing built. The Government is taking action to provide certainty to

Toronto voters ahead of October 22, while it continues with an appeal. "A streamlined city council will reduce the cost of government for Toronto taxpayers and speed up decision-making," said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. "We're acting once again to make sure Toronto council is ready to put the needs of everyday people first."

**QUICK FACTS**

Ontario is appealing the Superior Court's decision striking down the Better Local Government Act. The province's position is that the

Act is a valid exercise of the province's jurisdiction over municipal institutions.

To provide certainty to City of Toronto voters, with an October 22 election date, Ontario is introducing this new bill to preserve all aspects of the Better Local Government Act, which was originally passed by Ontario's democratically elected legislature.

The nomination deadline for Toronto council candidates and school board trustees would be extended to two days after the new bill receives Royal Assent.



## The Sky Is The Limit Oshawa's Municipal Airport Paradigm

Oshawa Municipal Airport has to be one of Southern Ontario's best kept secrets. I say this because administration after administration has missed seeing the true potential of our airport. In part the failure to bring the airport to it's full potential was political fear mongering and lack of long term vision by Mayors.

First thing is first. Before we go making plans. We need to listen to residents needs, concerns and fears of loss of quality of life, property values, safety, environmental impacts. To assure them that developing the airport is key to Oshawa's success. There are various ways to achieve this. Our people are our success. Fear mongering as in the past will stop. Those of concern over development will be included in the process of any such development.

The airport hosts a relatively new terminal with a tenant that is not aviation related. We need to change that. We have a new tower. We have a recently repaired runway. All assets that will play a key role in the success of any plan.

Durham Region has the privilege of hosting Durham College and OUIT. Two pillars in post secondary institutions. Under my plan. I would encourage these two facilities to introduce avionics, flight training (advanced/novice) and related sciences. I would work with these two institutions and any other of interest to turn our airport into a non-flight world class training center. This bringing in students from all over the world to learn all aspects of the industries related to flight. Imagine the revenue generated from foreign students...

The terminal at our airport needs to be extended... Dr. Paul-Andre Larose, Ph.D. in Physics introduced back in 2014 a proposal that would see a safe, affordable extension of the runway to the north. The proposal at that time had funding pending from various government agencies and was awaiting airport officials approval. It was never brought forth. Dr. Larose will be published at a later time for public consultation.

The revival of the airport is estimated to generate thousands of new jobs in direct and indirect related industry. It will possibly bring millions of dollars in additional student related income. Not to mention millions of tourist dollars.

**You don't believe me...**

Look at the fine work that exceptional work that a visionary like Jeremy Neal Blowers, Executive Director "THE ONTARIO REGIMENT RCAC MUSEUM". Is doing by bringing to life the museum inventory through 'TANK WEEK-ENDS'. Huge success. His efforts alone are a testament that new visionaries can make things happen. Congratulations Jeremy, keep up the exceptional good work.

You are making Oshawa PROUD.

The sky is the limit at the airport. The airport needs an overhaul. From the way it dispenses fuel to the way tenants are treated. The success of the airport is those that occupy it and those of interest. This includes it's image/marketing/public relations/promotions.

Together we will make Oshawa Municipal Airport a great success. In order to achieve this I need your help. Would you help?

**THANK YOU**  
*Joe Ingino*

## DURHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL PASSES 2017 ACCESSIBILITY REPORT

Whitby, Ontario – Durham Regional Council has approved The Regional Municipality of Durham's 2017 Accessibility Report. This document outlines the actions taken to improve accessibility and further eliminate barriers across Regional operations.

"The Region of Durham strives to be an accessible and inclusive community where every person has the opportunity to participate

fully," said Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer. "We are committed to continuous improvement and we are always challenging ourselves to look for new ways to innovate."

Since the Region's first Accessibility Plan was implemented in 2003, the Region of Durham has been reporting on accessibility and the identification, removal and prevention of barriers throughout its departments and services.

Employees continue to work towards creating a more accessible environment, by examining facilities, programs, services, policies and by-laws through the lens of accessibility. This includes: identifying, removing and preventing barriers related to attitudes; information and communication; policies and procedures; customer service; employment; programs and services; transportation; and the design of public spaces. In 2017, several projects were completed, meeting the needs of our growing population and diverse community:

- The new mobile friendly durham.ca website was launched after extensive community consultation and development, and features accessibility improvements such as clear print, clear writing and accessible design standards.
  - The development and launch of the Age-Friendly Durham Strategy and Action Plan, which will better support residents as they grow older.
  - The new Income Support Office location, at 200 John Street, was designed and built with accessibility in mind.
  - Eighteen (18) traffic control signal locations were retrofitted to include Accessible Pedestrian Signals, sidewalk improvements, better crosswalk alignment and the installation of tactile plates.
  - Continued accessibility improvements in renovations to the Durham Region Local Housing Corporation portfolio.
- Under provincial legislation, the Region is required to prepare an annual status report, detailing the progress of measures taken to implement an accessibility strategy. The organization must also have a multi-year accessibility plan outlining what the Region will do to improve accessibility and meet AODA requirements.

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