

CALL TO SHARE PART OF GST, LAND TRANSFER TAX WITH MUNICIPALITIES

The Town of Whitby council on December 16, has endorsed a motion calling for the provincial government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities.

It also asked the federal government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities.

The motion noted that current courses of municipal revenue such as property taxes and user fees are insufficient to meet increasing infrastructure needs including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services.

Redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities "would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers" the motion says.

The town said copies of the resolution will be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPs, and MPPs. Copies will also be sent to local municipalities in Durham Region, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for endorsement and advocacy.

NDP: HOME CARE PATIENTS ARE STILL PAYING THE PRICE FOR ANOTHER BAD DEAL BY FORD

HANMER, ON – MPP France Gélinas (Nickel Belt) released the following statement in response to the ongoing supply issues facing home care providers and their patients.

"Home care patients should be able to count on the basic necessities of care – yet for over three months they have faced delayed, incomplete, and poor-quality supply shipments. This government has failed to deliver the fundamental care that Ontarians should be able to count on."

Vulnerable patients are still struggling to access critical medical supplies, such as catheters and bandages, after a sudden change of suppliers that came with no notice in September.

"This process was rigged from the start, with a Request for Proposal that benefited a few large companies that put profit ahead of care. They have replaced a system that worked for decades, cutting corners and leaving home care patients without the basic care they need and deserve to be able to leave the hospital and go back home."

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CULTURE COUNTS AWARDS NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED IN JANUARY 2025

The City of Oshawa is calling for nominations of artists, collectives and organizations that have made a meaningful impact in the community.

Nominations for the Oshawa Culture Counts Awards will be accepted beginning Monday, January 6. The deadline for nominations is 11:59 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 2025. Oshawa City Council will present recipients with their awards at a Council meeting in spring 2025.

Culture Counts Awards

Oshawa's Culture Counts Awards celebrate and honour the creative and cultural achievements of the community. Individuals, groups and/or organizations can be nominated or apply in three categories: Oshawa Culture Counts Professional Artist Award, which recognizes an established artist of any arts discipline who has demonstrated creativity, originality, professional maturity and artistic leadership in the community.

Oshawa Culture Counts Emerging Artist Award, which recognizes an emerging artist who is in the early stages of their career. The award encompasses all art disciplines and recognizes an artist who inspires and enriches the lives of fellow citizens.

The Innovation and Creation Champion Award, which honours an individual, collective and/or organization in the creative and cultural industries that has created or enhanced an event, product, program or partnership in the past year. This award recognizes work that is unique, transformative, and positive in its impact on arts, culture, and heritage in Oshawa.

CLARINGTON OFFERS \$5,000 GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Clarington has announced that its Community Funding Program is now open, offering grants of up to \$5,000 to support local projects.

This program offers up to \$5,000 in financial support to organizations that align with Clarington's strategic priorities. The municipality encourages all eligible organizations to apply online through Service Clarington. Applications are open until January 31. See if your organization is eligible at www.clarington.net/Funding.

To help guide applicants through the new application process, the municipality said they'll be holding information sessions in January. Join to learn more about how to apply through the Service Clarington portal. The sessions will be held virtually and in-person at the Municipal Administrative Centre (Meeting Room 1A) located at 40 Temperance St in Bowmanville on the following dates: January 9 from noon to 1 pm
January 14 from 7 to 8 pm To RSVP to either session, fill out the Community Funding Program Information Session Registration Form. Registration is required.

Kick off 2025 at the Mayor's Levee and Outdoor Skating Rink Official Opening on January 12!

On Sunday, January 12, lace up your skates and glide into the new year at the 2025 Mayor's Levee and Outdoor Skating Rink Official Opening.

Join us for this free community event at the Courtice Community Complex from noon to 3 p.m. Meet the Mayor and Council and take part in fun family-friendly activities all afternoon long.

Try Clarington's new outdoor refrigerated skating rink – a perfect place to get active, make memories and fall in love with the sport.

Mayor's Levee and Outdoor Skating Rink Official Opening. January 12 12 to 3 p.m. Courtice Community Complex Celebrate the new year with your community and enjoy swimming, skating, stories, crafts and more.

Date: ?Sunday, January 12, ?2025

Time: ?Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: ?Courtice Community Complex, 2950 Courtice Road North, Courtice

Free activities

- A meet and greet with Mayor Foster and members of Council
- Bowmanville Skating Club mini-show
- Character visits from Bluey and Bingo
- Craft and colouring stations
- Delicious hot chocolate and cookies
- Face painting and henna art
- Live entertainment
- Magician
- Public Swim
- Sensory room

Skating on the new outdoor rink (Wristbands required due to rink capacity) Storytime sessions with Clarington Library, Museum and Archives
Planning to try the new outdoor skating rink?

C.S.A.-approved hockey helmets are strongly recommended for all skaters.

Children under six must wear a C.S.A.-approved hockey helmet. Strollers are not allowed on the ice.

Wheelchairs may be used on the ice and must be accompanied by a responsible person wearing skates.

Only Municipality of Clarington skating aids are permitted on the ice. Children under eight must be supervised by someone 14 or older. Maximum number of skaters: 45