

MUNICIPAL INTERNET POSTINGS DO NOT WORK

In an age of misinformation and shrinking newsrooms, your support for credible journalism has never mattered more.

According to the 2024 Digital News Reports by the Reuters Institute, 52% of Canadians say they're willing to pay for trusted news - yet only 15% actually do.

This gap threatens... the sustainability of local news organizations like ours who work every day to report with integrity, accountability, and a deep connection to our community.

Other countries are stepping up:
Norway: 40% pay for news
Sweden: 31% pay for news
Australia: 21% pay for news
Finland: 20% pay for news
Even United States out performs Canada's support of journalism, with 22% of readers who pay for news.
Canada shouldn't fall behind
Local journalism keeps communities informed, connected, united and empowered. It shines a light on the issues that matter most - your schools, your streets, your stories.

By subscribing, you're not just getting access to trusted local news - you're helping preserve a vital public service.

**CHOOSE TRUTH
CHOOSE FACTS
CHOOSE LOCAL JOURNALISM**

Municipalities have opted for online posting with catastrophic failure. Every week you are missing out on important local information that affect your daily life.

Municipalities are forcing taxpayers to go on line. Taxpayers are not responding due to a series of realities:
Cost of Internet
Cost of purchasing computer/cell phone.
Lack of knowledge on use of technology.
Complex web pages full of pop-ups.
Lack of time to sit in front of a computer.
Internet is infested with all kinds of algorithms that track you.
Internet is very specific and not broad enough for public.

By supporting your local newspaper you are uniting the community around a trusted local news source.
Your support, supports local businesses and creates an atmosphere of community. Your support sends a real message to your municipality that you demand arms length accountability.

Your local newspaper is written and published by journalist that live and work in the community. Community members that you can trust.
Today, even major network news sources have fallen to bias reporting due to political interests.
Your local community newspaper is different. Your local journalist bring you articles that matter to you and your family.
Demand that your municipality publish in your local paper.

WITHOUT SUPPORT TRUTH HAS NO PLATFORM
Subscribe Today!!!

Ontario Investing \$19.5 Million to Establish the Centre for Fusion Energy



PICKERING — The Ontario government is strengthening the province's energy sector by investing \$19.5 million to help establish the new Centre for Fusion Energy. The Centre will further cement Ontario as a global leader in energy research and commercialization, attracting more investment and good-paying jobs while protecting the province in the face of economic uncertainty.

"Ontario's world-renowned researchers are driving the energy sector into a new era of clean energy," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "Through this investment, our government is leveraging our province's position as a nuclear powerhouse to fuel fusion energy discoveries that will advance our industries, build our energy workforce and protect Ontario."

With the creation of the Centre for Fusion Energy, Ontario will accelerate innovation in the growing fusion energy sector, ensuring Ontario stays at the forefront of research. The Centre will also facilitate new academic and industry partnerships, create new hands-on educational opportunities and stimulate economic and research activity across the province.

Ontario is an advanced nuclear operator that embraces the first mover advantage, starting with leveraging Canadian CANDU technology over 50 years ago to building the G7's first Small Modular Reactor today," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "As

fusion energy represents the next frontier in clean 24/7 power, Ontario is again leading the way with Ontario Power Generation delivering the Centre for Fusion Energy. Ontario is doubling down on our nuclear advantage by investing in the development of fusion nuclear power — an almost inexhaustible source of emission-free energy for future generations."

The Centre is being developed in partnership with the federal government, the Stellarex Group Limited, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), and Ontario Power Generation (OPG). The federal government, through AECL, is investing \$33 million and Stellarex intends to contribute up to \$39 million to the Centre. Ontario entered into a memorandum of understanding with the OPG, who will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project on behalf of the province.

"Through a new Centre for Fusion Energy, Canada and Ontario are taking another step forward to strengthen our nuclear energy sector," said Tim Hodgson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. "Our new government is proud to work with the province to support Canadian investments that will broaden our clean energy research and grow our fusion energy sector."

This investment supports Energy for Generations, the government's integrated energy plan to ensure Ontario has clean, reliable and affordable energy that will power new homes and drive the strongest economy in the G7. With a clear path forward, the plan is not only meeting the demands of today, but it is protecting jobs, supporting workers and powering economic growth for generations to come.

This initiative builds on an MOU that was signed between OPG, Stellarex, AECL and Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), to explore establishing a Centre for Fusion Energy in Ontario and continue nurtur-

ing a globally competitive domestic fusion ecosystem.

Ontario is home to over 75,000 workers in the nuclear supply chain, providing a strong workforce for fusion energy development.

If a fusion energy plant is constructed in Ontario, it will result in up to 63,000 new jobs by 2050.

Ontario has almost all of the world's commercial tritium—a by-product of OPG's CANDU reactors—which serves as the key fusion fuel for nearly all fusion reactor designs.

If nuclear fusion energy is commercialized, it is estimated that economic benefits to Canada could be worth up to \$523 billion by the year 2100.

In September 2025, the Ontario government signed an MOU with the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) Group for OPG to work toward supplying tritium to the UKAEA – a critical fuel for nuclear fusion.

In September 2025, the Ontario government invested \$18 million to expand capacity at the McMaster Nuclear Reactor — Canada's largest nuclear research facility and one of the world's top suppliers of life-saving medical isotopes.

Since 2018, the Ontario government has invested over \$2 billion into the research sector, including support for over 1,600 research projects that drive ground-breaking discoveries and create jobs across key sectors, such as life sciences, agriculture, auto manufacturing, and information technology.

"This \$19.5 million investment is about strengthening Ontario as a global leader in energy research and commercialization. This investment in fusion energy research will pave the way for more jobs, investments, and education opportunities in our community for decades to come."

- Peter Bethlenfalvy
Member of Provincial Parliament for Pickering-Uxbridge

"OPG has a long history of leadership in Canada's nuclear industry, and we

recognize the role fusion may play in meeting Ontario's — and the world's — future clean energy needs. As this technology moves toward commercial implementation, OPG — through the Centre — will work to develop a domestic fusion ecosystem that positions Ontario and Canada as leaders in this rapidly-developing technology."

- Kim Lauritsen
Senior Vice President, Enterprise Strategy and Growth, OPG

"Ontario's nuclear expertise and its unique global competitive advantages make Canada an ideal place to accelerate fusion energy development. With our provincial and federal government partners, Stellarex will strengthen Canada's fusion energy know-how, build a fusion energy prototype, and prepare the fusion-ready workforce needed to deliver fusion power to the grid."

- Spencer Pitcher
Chief Executive Officer-designate, Stellarex

"Fusion is a critical, long-term, global scientific challenge, and Canada has developed a number of unique capabilities that will allow us to play an important role in its future. Working together, across levels of government, and between public, private, and academic institutions is essential for realizing our collective potential."

- Fred Dermarcar
President and CEO, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

"This agreement marks an exciting moment for fusion energy here in Canada. It speaks to the spirit of exploration, innovation, and collaboration. This new Centre better connects CNL's deep experience and globally unique capabilities in tritium and materials research with the industrial partners seeking to move this promising clean energy technology towards deployment."

- Dr. Stephen Bushby
Vice-President, Science and Technology, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

Whitby Council Adopts 2026 Budget

WHITBY - At a Special Council meeting, Town Council collaboratively updated Whitby's 2026 Proposed Budget through several amendments, wrapping up this year's budget process. Mayor Roy confirmed that she will [town-hall/mayor-and-council/mayoral-decisions-under-the-municipal-act/]not exercise the power provided under the Municipal Act, to veto the Council-approved amendments. Whitby's 2026 Budget, as amended, is now considered final and adopted by Council. The final budget will result in a 3.44 per cent tax increase to the Town's budget or an estimated 1.2 per cent increase on the total residential bill for Town services for 2026. This represents an increase of just over

21 cents* per day, per average household for the delivery of important services residents rely on, like waste collection, snow clearing, and parks maintenance. This budget also focuses on delivering on the key action items of Whitby's Community Strategic Plan, investing in Council-approved initiatives like the Whitby Sports Complex and a new fire hall and firefighters to support growth. The Town's \$198 million operating budget will support the continued delivery of the Town's programs and services including fire services, waste collection, parks and trails, maintenance of roads and community facilities, recreation, libraries, and many other important services. The budget also includes

\$62 million in capital investments like: continued construction on the Whitby Sports Complex, Mid-Block Arterial Roadway, and Columbus Road; - construction of a new Fire Hall in West Whitby, as well as full funding for 20 new firefighters to staff it; -community events like the Home Sweet Home Festival; -playground equipment replacement & accessibility improvements at Divine and Folkstone Parks; -waterfront improvements, including around the Shirley Scott Park; -new traffic safety and calming measures, including pedestrian crossings and traffic signal replacements/signage; and, road maintenance, resurfac-

ing, and reconstruction. "Thank you to everyone who took the time share feedback during Whitby's 2026 Budget process, whether through my Talk Budget with Mayor Roy events, delegations to Council, emails, phone calls, or feedback shared on Connect Whitby. I also want to thank Members of Council for the thoughtful amendments they brought forward. Their work helped make this a collaborative document that reflects the needs and priorities of our whole community. This has been a challenging budget year for Whitby - and for communities across Ontario - with pressures from inflation, population growth, tariffs, and continued provincial download-

ing. We worked hard to mitigate these impacts by making reductions across all departments for a savings of \$2 million, pausing new staff hires for 2026, and introducing new revenue sources such as the Municipal Accommodation Tax on hotels and motels. The result is a budget that balances the need for affordability with the importance of delivering high-quality services and planning responsibly for Whitby's future." Elizabeth Roy, Mayor, Town of Whitby The budget adopted by Council builds on and amends the Proposed Mayor's Budget (released November 7) and the Draft Budget (prepared by Staff and released October 27).

Only 34% of every residential property tax dollar collected stays with the Town. The rest goes to the Region of Durham (55%) and local school boards (11%). In a 2025 Greater Toronto Area comparison of residential tax rates and annual property taxes paid on a home assessed at \$500,000, the top two municipalities with the highest taxes sit at over \$7,500 each, while Whitby's are \$6,661. The Town's tax rebate program to support low-income seniors and low-income homeowners with disabilities will increase to \$543 in 2026.