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## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **Regional Council Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 25, 2026**

The Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham met in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

#### **1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment and National Anthem**

Regional Chair Henry read the following land acknowledgement:

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the large Métis communities and growing Inuit communities here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

#### **2. Roll Call**

Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

\* indicates individuals who participated electronically.

##### **Members**

Present: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook\*  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr

Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson\*  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Pettingill

Staff Present: S. Austin, A. Burgess, E. Baxter-Trahair, T. Cheseboro, C. Chu\*, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou\*, J. Dixon, L. Fleury, J. Gaskin\*, C. Goodchild, B. Goodwin, A. Harras, A. Hector-Alexander, B. Holmes, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, R. Jagannathan, J. Kilgour, R.J. Kyle\*, K. McDermott\*, G. Muller, L. O'Dell, N. Pincombe, N. Prasad, M. Simpson\* and E. Valant\*

Regional Chair Henry recognized Pink Shirt Day, which aims to raise awareness of the issue of bullying, as well as funds to support programs that foster children's healthy self-esteem. Chair Henry recounted the story of the origin of Pink Shirt Day.

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

Councillor Mulcahy made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, later in the meeting, with respect to Item 9.4 (Number 2) Report #2026-W-2: Sole Source Procurement of Equipment Replacement, Maintenance Service and Parts Supply for Existing Equipment Installed at Various Water and Wastewater Facilities throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham. She indicated that the company that employs her husband is listed as a sole source supplier.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Motion #30

Moved by Councillor Marimpietri, Seconded by Councillor Brenner,  
That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

- Regular Regional Council meeting held on January 28, 2026;
- Regular Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 1, 2026.

**Carried**

## **5. Presentations**

- A) Shaun Collier, Board Chair, DRPS and Peter Moreira, Chief of Police, DRPS re: Durham Regional Police Service Board – Update to Council
- 

Councillor Collier, Chair of the Durham Regional Police Service Board (DRPSB) provided a governance update including the introduction of new board member John Ecker, information about community engagement activities and an update on the follow-up to the Ontario Civilian Police Commission (OCPC) Investigation Report related to the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS).

Chief Moreira provided comments with respect to the motion that was adopted at the February 11th Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the OCPC Investigation Report.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- DRPS Funding & Budget
- 2025 Budget Investments
- 2026 Budget
- Major Investigation: Project Hydrogen
- School Threats
- Firearms
- Road Safety
- Community Resource Unit (CRU)
- New Initiative: Drone as First Responder (DFR)
- New Initiative: Community Safety Data Portal

A demonstration was provided on the public-facing Community Safety Data Portal including the following dashboards: the public crime map, monthly crime and traffic statistics; hate crimes, and use of force. The data portal also includes strategic plans, reports, community safety resources, and links to open data resources.

Chief Moreira responded to questions from the members of Council.

Motion #31

Moved by Councillor Collier, Seconded by Councillor Chapman,

That the order of the Agenda be altered in order to consider Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole at this time.

**Carried**

5. Motion regarding Ontario Civilian Police Commission Investigation Report related to the Durham Regional Police Service  
**[Carried on a Recorded Vote] [Parts 1 to 4 were divided and voted on separately]**

Whereas in 2019, the Solicitor General asked the now dissolved Ontario Civilian Police Commission (“OCPC”) to review matters related to the Durham Regional Police Service (“DRPS”) and Durham Region Police Service Board (“Board”); and

Whereas the OCPC conducted a formal investigation, which concluded in July 2025 with the development of a Report with recommendations to be implemented by the DRPS and Board; and

Whereas the unredacted Report has not been made public by the OCPC and its successor. This lack of transparency by the OCPC and its successor poses a disservice to the DRPS, its current members, future members, and retirees; and

Whereas the DRPS is governed by the Board, which is independent of the Region of Durham, the Region wishes to take all reasonable steps to ensure continued good stewardship of funding provided to DRPS by Regional property taxpayers and alignment with the values of this Council in all actions related to the subject matter of the OCPC Report; and

Whereas Durham Regional Council wishes to take immediate steps to ensure transparency, accountability, implementing concrete corrective actions, communicating effectively, and rebuilding trust; and

Whereas only through action in the public space can we ensure ongoing actions are aligned with our core values of accountability, transparency and responsibility for both DRPS and the Region of Durham

Now Therefore the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham requests:

1. That the Board and DRPS provide regular updates to Durham Regional Council on the completion of all publicly reportable recommendations arising from the Report as publicly reported and approved by the Inspector General;
2. That Regional staff submit a Freedom of Information Request to the Inspectorate of Policing seeking a unredacted copy of the Report;

3. That Regional staff, upon receipt of an unredacted copy of the Report, be directed to take all appropriate measures with respect to any DRPS employee, or former employee, who were found in the Report to have committed wrongdoing. Specifically, such individuals shall be removed from any standing invitation to notable Regional events and shall not be honoured or commemorated on any Regional communication platform; and
4. That Durham Regional Council requests that the Board take all appropriate steps available to recover and remove any ceremonial honours and titles from those found in the Report to have committed wrongdoing and take steps to ensure they shall not be honoured or commemorated on any DRPS communication platform.

Motion #32

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
That the recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the  
Committee of the Whole be adopted.

**Carried on a Recorded Vote**

**Later in the Meeting**

**(See Following Motions)**

**Parts 1 to 4 were divided and voted on separately.**

Motion #33

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
That the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the  
recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole  
be divided in order to allow voting on Parts 1 to 4 separately.

**Carried**

Motion #34

Moved by Councillor Collier, Seconded by Councillor Woo,  
That the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the  
recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole  
be tabled.

**Motion Defeated on the following Recorded vote:**

Yes:           Councillor Collier  
                  Councillor Cook  
                  Councillor Crawford  
                  Councillor Neal  
                  Councillor Woo  
                  Councillor Wotten

No: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

Members Councillor Barton  
Absent: Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

Part 1 of the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole was put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri

Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

Part 2 of the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole was put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid

Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Woo

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

Part 3 of the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole was put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Woo

Councillor Wotten

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration

of Interest: None

Part 4 of the main Motion #32 of Councillors Ashe and Anderson to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 5 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole was put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

Motion #35

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Yamada  
That Council recess for 45 minutes.

**Carried**

Council recessed at 12:04 PM and reconvened at 12:50 PM

A roll call was conducted following the recess and all members of Council were present with the exception of Councillors Barton, Jubb, Nicholson, Pettingill and Shahid.

B) Allison Hector-Alexander, Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Barb Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services re: Equity Audit Update

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A. Hector-Alexander, Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and B. Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services provided a presentation with respect to Equity Audit Update. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Equity Audit Update
- Progress Update
- Recommendations by area
- Strategic Alignment
- Next Steps – Pathways to Equity
  - Recommendation #86: The Region conduct another Staff Census and Equity Audit in 5 years to assess progress and develop a new Equity Strategy
- Organizational Impact

Staff responded to questions from members of Council.

## **6. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

## **7. Communications**

CC 05 Correspondence dated February 10, 2026 from Chief Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) re: Authorization to Enter into an Environmental Assessment Funding Agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc. for Regional Services Required to Support the Development of Northeast Pickering (2026-COW-8)

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**Motion #36**

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
That Council Correspondence CC 05 dated February 10, 2026 from Chief Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) regarding Authorization to Enter into an Environmental Assessment Funding Agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc. for Regional Services Required to Support the Development of Northeast Pickering, be referred to the consideration of Report #2026-COW-8.

**Carried**

CC 06 Correspondence dated January 27, 2026 from Joe Parker, President and Chairman, The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (RAWF) re: Notice of 2026 Appointment of a Representative to the RAWF Board of Governors

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**Motion #37**

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Roy,  
That Councillor Pickles be appointed to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Board of Governors.

**Carried**

CC 07 Correspondence from Louis Bertrand, Scugog Resident re: Environmental Assessment Funding Agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc.

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**Motion #38**

Moved by Councillor Woo, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,  
That Council Correspondence CC 07 from Louis Bertrand, Scugog Resident regarding Environmental Assessment Funding Agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc. be referred to the consideration of Report #2026-COW-8.

**Carried**

**8. Reports related to Delegations/Presentations**

There were no reports related to Delegations/Presentations.

**9. Committee Reports and any related Notice of Motions**

**9.1 Report of the Finance and Administration Committee**

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1. Policy on the Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes  
([2026-A-1](#))
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**[Carried]**

- A) That the Policy on the Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes included as Attachment #1 to Report #2026-A-1 of the Commissioner of Corporate Services be approved and that the previous policy be rescinded; and
  - B) That the Regional Clerk, in consultation with the Regional Solicitor, be granted the authority to make future changes to the policy.
2. The Regional Municipality of Durham's Accessibility Advisory Committee's 2025 Annual Report, 2026 Workplan  
([2026-A-3](#))
- 

**[Carried]**

- A) That Report #2026-A-3 of the Chief Administrative Officer be received for information as The Regional Municipality of Durham's Accessibility Advisory Committee's 2025 Annual Report; and
  - B) That the Regional Municipality of Durham's Accessibility Advisory Committee's 2026 Workplan be approved.
3. 2026 Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee  
([2026-A-4](#))
- 

**[Carried]**

- A) That the draft Terms of Reference for the 2026 Municipal Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee included as Attachment #1 to Report #2026- A-4 of the Commissioner of Corporate Services, be approved;
  - B) That the Regional Clerk be directed to recruit a roster of members for the Joint Compliance Audit Committee and subsequently present an appointing by-law to a future meeting of Regional Council; and
  - C) That at such time as the appointing by-law is enacted by Regional Council, that the 2026 Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee be deemed to be established in accordance with the Municipal Elections Act.
4. Overview of an Auditor General Model and Audit Functions within the Municipal Sector in Ontario and at the Region of Durham  
([2026-F-1](#))
- 

**[Carried as Amended on a Recorded Vote] [See Motion #40]**

That Report #2026-F-1 of the Commissioner of Finance be received for information.

5. Industrial Development Charge Deferral Program Extension  
(2026-F-2)

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**[Carried]**

- A) That the Deferral Program for Regional Industrial Development Charges be extended by one year, to March 31, 2027, under the original terms and conditions approved in Report #2025-COW-16 of the Commissioner of Finance, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, Commissioner of Works, and Regional Solicitor and Director of Legal Services;
- B) That staff be directed to update program materials and communicate the extension to the industrial development community; and
- C) That staff report back on program outcomes and market conditions prior to March 31, 2027.

6. Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Corporate Services – Labour Relations/Employee Negotiations with respect to Canadian Union of Public Employees ("CUPE"), Local 132  
(2026-A-5)

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**[Carried]**

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2026-A-5 of the Commissioner of Corporate Services be adopted.

Motion #39

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Garrard,

That the recommendations contained in Items 1 to 3, 5 and 6 of Report #1 of the Finance and Administration Committee be adopted.

**Carried**

Motion #40

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Garrod,

That the recommendations contained in Item 4 of Report #1 of the Finance and Administration Committee be adopted.

**Carried as Amended on a Recorded Vote**

**Later in the Meeting**

**(See Following Motion)**

Motion #41

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

That the recommendation contained in Item 4 of Report #1 of the Finance and Administration Committee be amended to add the following as new Parts B) to E):

- B) That Regional Council direct that the Region of Durham proceed toward the establishment of an independent Office of the Auditor General;

- C) That staff be directed to report back to Council with a proposed Terms of Reference, governance structure, reporting relationship, and implementation plan required to establish the Office of the Auditor General;
- D) That the staff report include recommended authorities, mandate, scope of audits (including value-for-money audits), and any required by-law or procedural changes;
- E) That the recommended budget allocation and staffing requirements necessary to implement and operate the Office of the Auditor General be included for Council consideration as part of the 2027 Regional Budget process.

**Carried on a Recorded Vote  
Later in the Meeting**

Motion #42

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Chapman

That the question be now put.

**Carried on the following Recorded Vote  
(a 2/3rds vote was attained):**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Dies  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson

Councillor Yamada

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration

of Interest: None

The amending Motion #41 of Councillors Leahy and Yamada to amend the recommendation contained in Item 4 of Report #1 of the Finance and Administration Committee was then put to a vote and **Carried on the following recorded vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada

No: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Regional Chair Henry

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

Motion #43

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Chapman  
That the question be now put.

**Carried**  
**(a 2/3rds vote was attained)**

The main Motion #40 to adopt the recommendation contained in Item 4 of Report #1 of the Finance and Administration Committee was then put to a vote and  
**Carried as Amended on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada

No: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Garrod  
Regional Chair Henry

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

9.2 Report of the Health and Social Services Committee

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None.

9.3 Report of the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee

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1. Memorandum from S. Austin, Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development, re: ALTO High-Speed Rail through Durham Region
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**[Carried]**

- A) That the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham support the addition of a station stop in the City of Pickering; and
- B) That Regional staff be directed to continue working with the City of Pickering, Indigenous community representatives, ALTO and their construction consortium throughout the planning, design, and implementation process to advocate for a station location in Durham Region.

Motion #44

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
That the recommendations contained in Item 1 of Report #2 of the  
Community Growth and Economic Development Committee be adopted.

**Carried**

9.4 Report of the Works Committee

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1. Approval to declare Lands as Surplus, stop up and close, and transfer portions of Stevenson Road (Regional Road 53) and Wilson Road (Regional Road 35), in the City of Oshawa to Metrolinx  
(2026-W-1)
- 

**[Carried]**

- A) That the Regional Municipality of Durham pass a by-law to stop up and close as a public highway:
  - i) That portion of Stevenson Road (Regional Road 53) legally described as Part of Block E, Plan M-1080, City of Oshawa being Part 1 on Registered Plan 40R-33144.
  - ii) That portion of Wilson Road (Regional Road 35) legally described as Part of Lot C-2 Sheet 14, Registered Plan 335, City of Oshawa being Part 1 on Registered Plan 40R-33129.

- B) That the lands be declared as surplus to Regional Municipality of Durham requirements;
  - C) That the Regional Municipality of Durham's solicitors be authorized to complete the transfer of the Lands (39.5m<sup>2</sup>), having an estimated fair market value of \$18,000 to Metrolinx based on a third-party appraisal;
  - D) That Regional staff be permitted to negotiate the disposition of the lands, described in Recommendation A) to Report #2026-W-1 of the Commissioner of Works, with Metrolinx at fair market value;
  - E) That the requirements in Section 3, and 4 of Regional Municipality of Durham By-law #52-95 establishing the procedures, including giving notice to the public, governing the sale of real property be waived;
  - F) That authority be granted to the Regional Clerk and Regional Chair to execute any notices and forms associated with this partial road closure; and
  - G) That the Commissioner of Works be authorized to execute all documents associated with the transaction, including but not limited to Agreement of Purchase and Sale.
2. Sole Source Procurement of Equipment Replacement, Maintenance Service and Parts Supply for Existing Equipment Installed at Various Water and Wastewater Facilities throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham ([2026-W-2](#))
- 

**[Carried]**

- A) That staff be authorized to negotiate and award sole source agreements in 2026 for the unanticipated or end of life replacement of existing equipment installed at various Water and Wastewater facilities throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham, where using a different manufacturer would require significant structural, electrical, mechanical, communication, instrumentation and other supplementary modifications;
- B) That staff be authorized to negotiate and award sole source agreements in 2026 for maintenance service and parts supply for the existing equipment installed as components of various Water and Wastewater facilities throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham, with terms not to exceed five years;

- C) That financing for the sole source agreements for equipment replacement, maintenance service and parts supply be provided from the approved Water Supply and Sanitary Sewerage Operating Budgets, at a cost not to exceed \$3,534,000\* from the approved 2026 Water Supply operating Budget and a cost not to exceed \$11,715,000\* from the approved 2026 Sanitary Sewerage Operating Budget; and
  - D) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the necessary sole source agreements for equipment replacement, maintenance service and parts supply.  
(\* ) before applicable taxes
3. Declaration of Lands as Surplus and Approval to Enter into a Land Swap with the City of Pickering for Lands Near 2765 William Jackson Drive, in the City of Pickering  
[\(2026-W-3\)](#)
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**[Carried]**

- A) That portions of Brock Road (Regional Road 1) legally described Firstly as Part of Regional Road 4, being Part of Regional Road 4, Being Part of Lot 18, Concession 3 (Pickering), Parts 1, 2 and 3 on Reference Plan 40R13458, Subject to D11564 in the City of Pickering, in the Regional Municipality of Durham, identified as part of the PIN 26407-0061 (LT) and described further as Parts 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 on Reference Plan 40R33051 and Secondly as a Road Allowance Between Lots 18 and 19, Concession 3 (Pickering) Lying Between Taunton Road and Rossland Road, Part Lot 18 Concession 3 (Pickering) as in CO68879, Part 2 40R-8811, Parts 1-3 40R-6891, Parts 11, 12 & 13 40R-14541; Part Lot 19 Concession 3 (Pickering) as in Highway Plan 610, CO107391, Part 2 40R13610, Subject to D136274, D136275, D136276, Subject to Debts in D136276 as being Brock Road (also known as Regional Road 1); Pickering Together with an Easement as in DR1026815 in the City of Pickering, in the Regional Municipality of Durham, identified as part of the PIN 26408-0177 (LT) and described further as Part 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 on Reference Plan 40R-33048 (collectively the "Surplus Lands") as declared surplus to Regional Municipal of Durham Requirements;
- B) That Regional Municipality of Durham Council pass a stop-up and close bylaw to close these portions of Brock Road (Regional Road 1) as a public highway;

- C) That the requirements of Section 3 and 4 of Regional Municipality of Durham By-law #52-95 be waived to facilitate the land transfer from the Regional Municipality of Durham to the City of Pickering;
  - D) That Regional Municipality of Durham staff be authorized to transfer the Surplus Lands (approximately 3,509.9 square metres), having an estimated fair market value of \$41,500, to the City of Pickering for a nominal amount. In exchange, the City of Pickering will provide lands legally described as Regional Road 4, Being Part Lots 17 & 18, Concession 3 (Pickering), as in Highway Plan 538 & Part Lot 17, Concession 3 (Pickering) as in CO212542 & CO213985 Except Parts 1 & 2 Plan 40R-24188; Subject to D11654 in the City of Pickering, Regional Municipality of Durham and described further as Part 1 on Reference Plan 40R-33051, to the Regional Municipality of Durham (approximately 1,045.78 square metres) for a nominal amount;
  - E) That the transfer authorized by Recommendation D) of Report #2026-W-3 be conditional on the following easements being registered on title to the Surplus Lands before the transfer:
    - i) Easements for municipal services, existing utilities/services, including for Bell Canada, Enbridge Gas, Elexicon Energy, and the Regional Municipality of Durham, for access, maintenance and repairs.
  - F) That authority be granted to the Regional Clerk and Regional Chair to execute any notices and forms associated with this partial road closure; and
  - G) That the Commissioner of Works be authorized to execute all documents associated with the transaction, including but not limited to the Agreement of Purchase and Sale.
4. Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Works – A Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Lands for Regional Corporation Purposes as it related to a Property Located in the City of Oshawa (2026-W-4)

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**[Carried]**

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2026-W-4 of the Commissioner of Works be adopted.

Councillor Mulcahy made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.4 (Number 2) Report #2026-W-2: Sole Source Procurement of Equipment Replacement, Maintenance Service and Parts Supply for Existing Equipment Installed at Various Water and Wastewater Facilities throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham. She indicated that the company that employs her husband is listed as a sole source supplier.

**Motion #45**

Moved by Councillor Marimpietri, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
That the recommendations contained in Items 1, 3 and 4 of Report #1 of the Works Committee be adopted.

**Carried**

**Motion #46**

Moved by Councillor Marimpietri, Seconded by Councillor Lee,  
That the recommendations contained in Item 2 of Report #1 of the Works Committee be adopted.

**Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: None

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration

of Interest: Councillor Mulcahy

9.5 Report of the Committee of the Whole

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1. Durham Region Nuclear Sector Strategy 2026 Update  
([2026-COW-7](#))
- 

**[Carried]**

That Regional Council approve the 2026 update to Durham Region's Nuclear Sector Strategy to guide and support the Region's role and effective participation in the nuclear sector.

2. Authorization to Enter into an Environmental Assessment Funding Agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc. for Regional Services Required to Support the Development of Northeast Pickering  
([2026-COW-8](#))
- 

**[Carried as Amended on a Recorded Vote] [See Motion #48]**

- A) That the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) enter into an agreement with the Northeast Pickering Landowners Group Inc. (NEPLG) pursuant to the following terms and principles:
- i) NEPLG will deliver a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for water and sanitary servicing for lands generally known as Zone 3 and/or any logical expansion of area within or external to the Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan Area, such as the Northwest Brooklin Lands, as agreed to by the Region;
  - ii) NEPLG and the Region will be co-proponents of the EA;
  - iii) **NEPLG will develop a comprehensive EA work plan and submit it to the Region for approval prior to commencement. The work plan will include a clear approach to comprehensive and meaningful Indigenous engagement and collaboration, and will provide appropriate capacity funding to support meaningful Indigenous participation as required.**

- iv) NEPLG will fully fund the complete EA, including any expansions to the scope agreed to by the Region, with no financial recovery from the Region now or at any time in the future;
  - v) NEPLG will be invoiced for all Regional costs, including staff time and will submit payment in a reasonable time frame;
  - vi) Regional staff will review submitted EA study materials in a timely manner;
  - vii) NEPLG will retain a trustee to represent the landowners group;
  - viii) NEPLG and the Region understand that the EA process will be run concurrent with supporting plans and studies as required by the Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan Policies (as conducted by the City of Pickering), which carries inherent risks that servicing solutions will change as these studies are undertaken;
  - ix) NEPLG will accept that the completion of the EA does not guarantee timing or funding of any required Regional infrastructure works identified through the EA process, however, the Region will consider the addition of the infrastructure project(s) identified through the EA into the next development charge (DC) update. NEPLG accepts the risk that the EA approval could expire before the resulting works are advanced;
  - x) NEPLG and the Region must agree on the content and timing of all major submissions being presented to the public or any other third party/stakeholder/rightsholder;
  - xi) The Region will procure consulting services to act as Regional Representatives. The Region's Representatives will report directly to the Region, but will be funded by NEPLG; and
  - xii) Any other such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Works and Commissioner of Finance; and
- B) That the Commissioner of Works be authorized to execute the agreement, in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner of Finance and Regional Solicitor.

**C) That the Region undertake meaningful Indigenous engagement and collaboration, in the preparation of the EA work plan and throughout the EA process.**

3. Government Relations 2025 Update and 2026 Priorities  
(2026-COW-9)
- 

**[Carried]**

That Report #2026-COW-9 of the Chief Administrative Officer be received for information.

4. Motion regarding legislative changes to Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Act contained in Bill 68
- 

**[Carried]**

Whereas the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

Whereas the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

Whereas these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

Whereas the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

Whereas municipalities are already under significant fiscal strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Regional Municipality of Durham does not support the legislative changes to the OMERS Act contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes; and

2. That the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to:
  - a) Ensure Sponsors retain full control without restriction over their appointments to the new Sponsors Council and Administration Corporation;
  - b) Guarantee the Sponsors Council's independence from the plan administrator and access to resources needed to perform its duties; and
  - c) Limit the Minister's regulation-making authority over plan design and Sponsors Council's internal affairs.
3. That this resolution be circulated to:
  - a) The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs;
  - b) The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
  - c) Durham Region MPPs; and
  - d) The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
5. Motion regarding Ontario Civilian Police Commission Investigation Report related to the Durham Regional Police Service

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**[Carried Earlier in the Meeting] [See Motion #32 on Page 5]**

Whereas in 2019, the Solicitor General asked the now dissolved Ontario Civilian Police Commission ("OCPC") to review matters related to the Durham Regional Police Service ("DRPS") and Durham Region Police Service Board ("Board"); and

Whereas the OCPC conducted a formal investigation, which concluded in July 2025 with the development of a Report with recommendations to be implemented by the DRPS and Board; and

Whereas the unredacted Report has not been made public by the OCPC and its successor. This lack of transparency by the OCPC and its successor poses a disservice to the DRPS, its current members, future members, and retirees; and

Whereas the DRPS is governed by the Board, which is independent of the Region of Durham, the Region wishes to take all reasonable steps to ensure continued good stewardship of funding provided to DRPS by Regional property taxpayers and alignment with the values of this Council in all actions related to the subject matter of the OCPC Report; and

Whereas Durham Regional Council wishes to take immediate steps to ensure transparency, accountability, implementing concrete corrective actions, communicating effectively, and rebuilding trust; and

Whereas only through action in the public space can we ensure ongoing actions are aligned with our core values of accountability, transparency and responsibility for both DRPS and the Region of Durham

Now Therefore the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham requests:

1. That the Board and DRPS provide regular updates to Durham Regional Council on the completion of all publicly reportable recommendations arising from the Report as publicly reported and approved by the Inspector General;
2. That Regional staff submit a Freedom of Information Request to the Inspectorate of Policing seeking a unredacted copy of the Report;
3. That Regional staff, upon receipt of an unredacted copy of the Report, be directed to take all appropriate measures with respect to any DRPS employee, or former employee, who were found in the Report to have committed wrongdoing. Specifically, such individuals shall be removed from any standing invitation to notable Regional events and shall not be honoured or commemorated on any Regional communication platform; and
4. That Durham Regional Council requests that the Board take all appropriate steps available to recover and remove any ceremonial honours and titles from those found in the Report to have committed wrongdoing and take steps to ensure they shall not be honoured or commemorated on any DRPS communication platform.

**Motion #47**

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
That the recommendations contained in Items 1, 3 and 4 inclusive of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

**Carried**

**Motion #48**

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
That the recommendations contained in Item 2 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

**Carried as Amended on a Recorded Vote**

**Later in the Meeting**

**(See Following Motion)**

Motion #49

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Brenner

That the main Motion #48 of Councillors Ashe and Pickles to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 2 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole be amended so that Part iii) now reads as follows:

- iii) NEPLG will develop a comprehensive EA work plan and submit it to the Region for approval prior to commencement. The work plan will include a clear approach to comprehensive and meaningful Indigenous engagement and collaboration, and will provide appropriate capacity funding to support meaningful Indigenous participation as required.

And that the following be added as a new Part C):

- C) That the Region undertake meaningful Indigenous engagement and collaboration, in the preparation of the EA work plan and throughout the EA process.

**Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Collier  
Councillor Crawford

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration

of Interest: None

The main Motion #48 of Councillors Ashe and Pickles to adopt the recommendations contained in Item 2 of Report #2 of the Committee of the Whole was then put to a vote and **Carried as Amended on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Collier  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Neal

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

## 10. Departmental Reports & Other Resolutions

- A) Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Town of Ajax Membership Appointment for 2026 , File: A01-40  
(2026-CG-6)
- 

**[Carried]**

Motion #50

Moved by Councillor Collier, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,

- A) That Tallal Tabish be appointed to the Durham Active Transportation Committee as its Town of Ajax representative;
- B) That Tallal Tabish be advised of their appointment to the DATC; and
- C) That a copy of Report #2026-CG-6 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development be forwarded to the Town of Ajax and the Durham Active Transportation Committee.

**Carried**

Motion #51

Moved by Councillor Roy, Seconded by Councillor Carter,

That the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order to introduce a motion without notice.

**Carried on the following Recorded Vote  
(a 2/3rds vote was attained):**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy

Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Collier  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor Nicholson

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

**B) Motion Regarding Provincial Social & Economic Prosperity Review**

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**Motion #52**

Moved by Councillor Roy and Seconded by Councillor Carter,

Whereas current provincial–municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining the Region of Durham’s economic prosperity, tax payer affordability, critical front-line service levels and infrastructure conditions, impacting the quality of life of its residents;

Whereas nearly one-third of all municipal spending in Ontario is directed toward services in areas of provincial responsibility including health and social services, with expenditures outpacing provincial contributions by approximately \$4 billion annually;

Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has emphasized that the ongoing requirement for municipalities to fund provincial responsibilities—such as social housing, health-related capital obligations, and social services—results in at least \$1.5 billion annually in net municipal expenditures for social housing alone, a problem unique to Ontario; for the Region of Durham, in 2026, approximately \$284.7 million in property taxes are committed to health and social services programs including \$95.3 million for social housing and homelessness supports;

Whereas communities are further required to contribute 10% of capital funding for new provincial hospitals, diverting local revenue away from essential municipal infrastructure when property tax funds are used;

Whereas municipal revenue sources, primarily property taxes, do not grow at the same rate as the economy or inflation, yet municipalities—including the Region of Durham—are responsible for managing major growth-related infrastructure such as roads, transit, water, sewer, police, and paramedics;

Whereas AMO has estimated that Ontario municipalities are planning for between \$250 billion and \$290 billion in capital investments over the next ten years, with \$100 billion of that related to infrastructure growth. For the Region of Durham, capital investments of \$14.1 billion are forecasted for 2026 to 2035. This level of investment cannot be funded by municipalities alone;

Whereas AMO has stated that allocating a portion of these housing-related provincial revenues to municipalities would provide a predictable, growth-linked revenue stream necessary to support housing targets and the expansion of critical public infrastructure;

Whereas AMO has cautioned that proposals to reduce or limit development charges shift costs away from growth and onto existing property taxpayers and water and sewer users, threatening municipalities' ability to finance essential infrastructure, given that most municipal reserves are already allocated to specific projects or required for responsible asset management practices;

Whereas Regional staff have already identified \$22.7 million in expenditure reductions for 2026 and continue to identify efficiencies through the 2026 Core Services Review;

Therefore be it resolved that

The Council of the Region of Durham calls upon the Province of Ontario to work collaboratively with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) to undertake a comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review to modernize and realign the provincial–municipal fiscal framework, ensuring that municipal revenues are aligned with the actual costs of today's service delivery and growth;

Be it Further Resolved That

The Region of Durham requests that this review specifically address the \$4-billion annual gap where municipal property taxes are currently used to fund provincial responsibilities, including social housing, health, and transit, and further evaluate:

- the \$1.5-billion annual municipal burden created by the provincial download of social housing costs;
- the requirement for communities to fund 10% of provincial hospital capital projects;
- the opportunity to allocate a portion of provincial Land Transfer Tax and HST revenues generated by housing activity to municipal infrastructure supporting growth;

Be it Further Resolved That

The Province be urged to establish a predictable, housing-linked revenue stream for municipalities that reflects the economic, social, and infrastructure demands associated with growth, including addressing the financial impacts of changes to development charges;

Be it Further Resolved That

A copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Minister of Health
- Minister of Infrastructure
- All Durham MPP's
- All local Durham municipalities
- Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO)
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

**Motion Referred on a Recorded Vote  
See Following Motion**

Motion #53

Moved by Councillor Foster, Seconded by Councillor Leahy,

That the main Motion #52 of Councillors Roy and Carter be referred to the March 25, 2026 Regional Council meeting.

**Carried on the following recorded vote:**

Yes: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada

No: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Shahid  
Regional Chair Henry

Members

Absent: Councillor Barton  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Pettingill

Declaration  
of Interest: None

**11. Notice of Motions**

There were no notices of motion.

**12. Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business to be considered.

### 13. **Announcements**

Various announcements were made relating to activities and events within the Region and area municipalities.

Regional Chair Henry announced that Invest Durham has launched a new talent attraction campaign called North of Unexpected to promote North Durham and why Brock, Scugog and Uxbridge are exceptional places to live and build a career. The campaign will run through April 3 with a dedicated landing page, high profile ads and a social media strategy. Chair Henry asked that members of Council share and amplify the campaign.

### 14. **By-laws**

2026-013 Being a by-law to stop up and close as a public highway, that portion of Stevenson Road (Regional Road 53) legally described as Part of Block E, Plan M-1080, City of Oshawa being Part 1 on Registered Plan 40R33144 and that portion of Wilson Road (Regional Road 35) legally described as Part of Lot C-2 Sheet 14, Registered Plan 335, City of Oshawa being Part 1 on Registered Plan 40R-33129 (the "Lands").

This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> Report of the Works Committee presented to Regional Council on February 25, 2026.

Motion #54

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
That By-law Number 2026-013 be passed.

**Carried**

### 15. **Confirming By-law**

2026-014 Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham at its meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

Motion #55

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
That By-law Number 2026-014 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham at their meeting held on February 25, 2026 be passed.

**Carried**

**16. Adjournment**

Motion #56

Moved by Councillor Dies, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 2:14 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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John Henry  
Regional Chair & CEO

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Alexander Harras  
Regional Clerk