



Municipalité de / Municipality of Val Rita-Harty
April 21, 2026 - Regular Meeting of Council - 06:00 PM

1 Appel à l'ordre/Called To Order

This Regular Meeting of Council is called to order at _____p.m.

2 Reconnaissance des terres traditionnelles/Traditional Land Acknowledgement

3 Récit de la mission et de la vision de la municipalité/Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statement

4 Adoption de l'ordre du jour/Approval of Agenda

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

5 Déclarations d'intérêts divergents (pécuniaires)/Declarations of Disqualifying Interest (Pecuniary)

6 Discours du maire/Mayor's Address

7 Approbation du procès-verbal de la (des) dernière(s) réunion(s)/Approval of the Minutes of the Most Recent Meeting (s)

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 17 & 18, 2026 and the Special Council meetings of March 30 and 31, 2026 be adopted as circulated.

📎 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2026

📎 Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 30, 2026

📎 Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 31, 2026

8 Délégations/présentations/Delegations/Presentations

9 Orientations du Conseil pour la réunion précédente/Council Direction From the Previous Meeting

9.1 Sentinel Lights - Consolidation and Recommendation (May meeting)

9.2 Interim Procedural Bylaw

9.3 Financial Governance and Audit (includes Donation Policy)

9.4 Feedback Management Bylaw

9.5 Human Resources Recruitment and Management

9.6 Community Improvement Plan

10 Session de travail du Comité plénier/Committee of the Whole Working Session

10.1 Parks, Beautification and Cemetery Committee

📎 Parks, Beautification and Cemetery Committee Terms of Reference

10.2 Draft Video Camera Use by Members Attending Municipal Meetings

📎 Draft Video Camera Use by Members Attending Municipal Meetings Report

📎 Draft Video Camera Use by Members Attending Municipal Meetings

11 **Affaires législatives/Legislative Matters**

11.1 Bylaws

THAT Bylaw No. 1250-26, Being a Bylaw to establish the 2026 Municipal Elections Joint Compliance Audit Committee be read and adopted this 21st day of April, 2026.

📎 Bylaw 1250-26 To establish the 2026 Municipal Elections Joint Compliance Audit Committee

11.2 Consent Agenda (includes items of correspondence not requiring administrative reports/action, Committee reports not requiring any action by Council -- matters that are for information purposes only).

THAT Council receive the Consent Agenda items as listed on the agenda for the April 21, 2026 Regular meeting of Council.

📎 Canada Post Rates for Libraries - Township of Perry

📎 MMAH Spring Housing Bill

📎 Val Rita-Harty DWS - Accreditation

📎 Harty Lagoon Annual 2025 Report (to be placed on website)

📎 Ministry of Solicitor General - Supporting Firefighter Certification

📎 Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth re: Water Treatment Plant

📎 Public Works Equipment Report March 2026

📎 Fire Chief March, 2026 Report

📎 MMAH Election training - For Information

📎 Kapuskasing invitation for MMAH Training

12 **Affaires administratives/Administrative Matters**

12.1 Fire Department Funding Application Request Recommendation Report

📎 Fire Department Grant Funding Application

📎 Fire Department Grant Funding Application

12.2 CRA - SDEC

📎 CRA-Economic Development Committee

12.3 Municipal Property Development Projects - Committee of the Whole Working Group Recommendation

THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty approves the expansion of the Settlement Boundary and authorizes expenditures associated with the following:

1. Seek and/or acquire PINS on all municipally owned properties from the Land Registry Office or other means, with PINS to be acquired first for vacant and saleable (connections to water and sewer) municipal properties.
2. Authorize Wishart LLP to undertake separation of the follow lots so can be sold:
 - OWENS CON 18 PT LOT 10 PCL 4659CC
 - 35 DU PARCC AVE
 - 36 MUNICIPALE ST
3. Prepare and submit RFQ for Flood Plan Study;

4. Explore subdivision design options;
5. Conduct servicing cost analysis; and
6. Undertake municipal website improvements to attract buyers for sale of property(ies).

12.4 Sanding in front of MTO and Harty Pit Road

THAT Council direct staff as follows: _____

📎 Sanding in front of MTO and Harty Pit Road

13 **Questions relatives à l'encadrement/Leadership Issues**

14 **Huis clos/Closed Session**

15 **Calendrier/Calendar**

📎 Calendrier/Calendar

16 **Confirmation des procédures/Confirmation of Proceedings**

THAT Bylaw NO, 1251-26, Being a bylaw to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Special Council meetings of March 30 and 31, 2026 and the Regular Council meeting of April 21, 2026 be hereby read and adopted.

📎 Bylaw 1251-26 Being a bylaw to confirm the proceedings of Council

17 **Ajournement/Adjournment**

THAT this meeting be adjourned at ____p.m.



Municipalité de / Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Council March 17, 2026 - 06:00 PM

Membres/Members	Steven Lambert - Deputy Mayor (March 17, 2026 Meeting) Roger Lachance – Conseillere/Councillor Angele Beauvais – Conseillere/Councillor Alain Tremblay – Conseiller/Councillor
Regrets:	Johanne Baril - Maire/Mayor (March 17, 2026 meeting)
Employees:	Barbara Major - Deputy Clerk - Virtual Leanne Crozier – Treasurer – Virtual Nathalie Trudel - Municipal Services Coordinator Stefan Landry - Public Works Foreman
Others:	Peggy Young Lovelace – E4m - Virtual Josh Young - E4m - Virtual Sandra Parkin - E4m - Virtual (March 17, 2026 meeting) Claude Rancourt - OCWA - Virtual (March 17, 2026 meeting)
Public:	2

1 Appel à l'ordre/Called To Order

The Regular Meeting of Council is called to order at 6 p.m.

2 Set Aside Interim Procedural Bylaw

Res. # 26-057

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty set aside the Interim Procedural Bylaw, Section 6 (Agenda) with the agenda items to be considered at two meetings of Council as outlined on the agenda.

CARRIED

3 Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Res. # 26-058

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Council approve the appointment of Councillor Steven Lambert as Deputy Mayor, effective March 18, 2026, for the remainder of the term of Council.

CARRIED

4 Reconnaissance des terres traditionnelles/Traditional Land Acknowledgement

None

5 Récit de la mission et de la vision de la municipalité/Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statement

None

6 Adoption de l'ordre du jour/Approval of Agenda

Res. # 26-059

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

7 Déclarations d'intérêts divergents (pécuniaires)/Declarations of Disqualifying Interest (Pecuniary)

None declared.

8 Discours du maire/Mayor's Address

None

9 Approbation du procès-verbal de la (des) dernière(s) réunion(s)/Approval of the Minutes of the Most Recent Meeting (s)

Res. # 26-060

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of February 17, 2026 and the Special Council meeting of March 5, 2026 be adopted as circulated and amended. (*AFMO-March 25 & 26, 2026*)

CARRIED

10 Délégations/présentations/Delegations/Presentations

Nil

11 Orientations du Conseil pour la réunion précédente/Council Direction From the Previous Meeting

11.1 Interim Procedural Bylaw

11.2 Community Improvement Plan

11.3 Financial Governance and Audit (includes Donation Policy)

11.4 Feedback Management Bylaw

11.5 Human Resources Recruitment and Management

12 Affaires législatives/Legislative Matters

12.1 Session de travail du Comité plénier/Committee of the Whole Working Session

12.1.1 Claude Rancourt - Ontario Clean Water Agency

Claude Rancourt, Senior Operations Manager with the Ontario Clean Water Agency made presentation to Council to clarify the Capital Letter and outline priorities for 2026. Council was informed that it needs to demonstrate repair of issues and prioritize what is needed over 10 years to upgrade the plant. Assessments are undertaken by Intact Insurance every three years. Council concurred with the recommendation to proceed with 2026 capital work amounting to \$70,400 (minus clear well cleaning as a RFP and tenders require to be created) and reassessment be undertaken later in 2026.

12.1.2 Fees and Charges

Committee of the Whole gave consideration to amending the Fees and Charges to incorporate a fee for individuals and/or organizations requesting a copy of Council meeting agendas. The agendas are available for public viewing on the municipal website. Committee recommended that two copies be printed and be made available to the public on a first come-first served basis and in event that a copy is not utilized it be made available to the public at the Val Rita-Harty Public Library. Committee also recommended that the Interim Procedural Bylaw be amended to provide for distribution of agendas to Council by the Wednesday preceding a Regular meeting of Council.

12.1.3 Sentinel Lights

Committee considered reimbursement of electricity costs to eligible residents related to Sentinel lights. Committee was informed that enquiries are being made

for reimbursement and staff are seeking policy/bylaws/agreements to effect payment. Committee informed staff that the reimbursement is for the 2025 year. It was recommended that eligible residents be reimbursed a set amount and reconciliation be undertaken upon establishment of a policy. Committee recommended that eligible residents be reimbursed \$200 and staff reconcile and prepare report to Council.

12.1.4 Draft Surplus of Land Bylaw

Committee reviewed the draft surplus of land bylaw and recommended the bylaw be adopted.

12.1.5 Draft Council Remuneration Bylaw

Committee reviewed the draft Council Remuneration Bylaw. Committee was informed that the travel and conference policy is separate from the remuneration policy. The draft bylaw will be brought forward to the next regular meeting of council with amendments to speak to those committees which provide remuneration to members of Council attending and a process to file submissions where such reimbursement is received, mileage (current applies to beyond North Bay), meals, other expenses as per Schedule "B" and development of a meeting per diem rate and submission forms.

12.1.6 Communications Protocol - Updated

Committee reviewed the updated Communications Protocol and recommended that the bylaw be adopted.

12.1.7 Electronic Corporate Seal - Updated

Committee reviewed the updated Electronic Corporate Seal bylaw and recommended the bylaw be adopted.

12.1.8 Human Resource Recruitment and Management Schedule C

Committee reviewed the Human Resources Recruitment and Management Schedule "C" - Onboarding and found the Schedule to be in order.

12.1.9 Human Resource Recruitment and Management Schedule D

Committee reviewed the Human Resources Recruitment and Management Schedule "D" - Employee Development. Committee recommended that the Schedule Page 8 incorporate cell phones and passwords.

12.1.10 Human Resource Recruitment and Management Schedule E

Committee reviewed the Human Resources Recruitment and Management Schedule "E" - Retention and found the Schedule to be in order.

12.1.11 Quarterly Operational Reports

Committee gave consideration to establishing a quarterly municipal report for Council information by municipal staff and contract staff outlining status of priorities, goals, challenges, statistics, etc... Committee concurred with the recommendation and requested that a draft format be reviewed at the Special Council meeting scheduled for the end of March.

12.2 BYLAWS

12.2.1 Bylaw No. 1240-26 - Enter into MOU with Val Rita-Harty Public Library

Res. # 26-061

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Bylaw No. 1240-26, Being a Bylaw authorizing the Mayor and Deputy Clerk to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Val Rita-Harty Public Library be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.2 Bylaw No. 1241-26 Being a bylaw to appoint CBO and delegate authority

Res. # 26-062

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Bylaw No. 1241-26, Being a bylaw to appoint building officials, to delegate appointment authority under the *Building Code Act* to Devon Staley for the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty and to repeal Bylaw No.1200-25 be read and adopted this 17th day of March 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.3 Restricted Acts (Lame Duck) Recommendation Report

Res. # 26-063

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Council receive the Restricted Acts (Lame Duck Period) report from the Deputy Clerk for information purposes; and FURTHERMORE, that the Bylaw for Delegation of Authority be adopted and the Inaugural Meeting date for the Incoming Council be scheduled for November 16, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.4 Bylaw No. 1242-26 Being a bylaw to delegate authority

Res. # 26-064

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Bylaw No. 1242-26, Being a Bylaw to delegate Authority for Restricted Acts "Lame Duck" Restriction of Council for the 2026 Municipal Elections be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.5 Bylaw No. 1243-26 Being a Bylaw to appoint a Deputy Clerk Pro Tem for 2026 Municipal Elections

Res. # 26-065

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Bylaw No. 1243-26, Being a Bylaw to appoint a Deputy Clerk Pro Tem for the 2026 Municipal Elections be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.6 Bylaw No. 1244-26 - To establish Communications Protocol

Res. # 26-066

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Bylaw No. 1244-26, Being a Bylaw to Establish a Communications Protocol be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.7 Bylaw No. 1245-26 - to Authorize Use of an Electronic Corporate Seal

Res. # 26-067

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Bylaw No. 1245-26, Being a Bylaw to authorize use of an Electronic Corporate Seal be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.2.8 Bylaw No. 1246-26 Being a Bylaw to Establish Remuneration

Res. # 26-068

THAT Bylaw No. 1246-26, Being a Bylaw to establish remuneration for Council, Committees of Council and its Local Boards and to provide for reimbursement of expenses be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026. *Amended bylaw to be considered at next Regular meeting of Council.*

TABLED

12.2.9 Bylaw No. 1247-26 Being a Bylaw to Govern the Disposal of Real Property

Res. # 26-069

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Bylaw No. 1247-26, Being a Bylaw to Govern the Disposal of Real Property be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

12.3 Gaetan Malette: Support for M-26 Trans-Canada Highway

Res. # 26-070

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

WHEREAS Motion M-26 regarding the future of the Trans-Canada Highway 11 is currently before the House of Commons; and
WHEREAS the Motion speaks to the critical need for improvements in safety and reliability of Highway 11, a vital link for the movement of goods, services and people across provincial boundaries; and
WHEREAS Motion M-26 calls upon the Federal Government to designate Highway 11 as a Project of National Interest under the Building Canada Act;
NOW THEREFORE Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty hereby supports Motion M-26 and the efforts of MP Gaetan Malette to send a strong and unified message regarding the importance of this corridor.

CARRIED

12.4 Fire Truck Mandatory replacement cycles

Res. # 26-071

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

WHEREAS fire department apparatus, including the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty's primary fire truck, is essential for delivery of fire protection services and ensuring safe, reliable operations; and
WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council; and
WHEREAS the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty fire truck is 24 years old and meets all safety regulations; and
WHEREAS mandatory 20-year replacement cycles for functional trucks create significant budget pressures for smaller municipalities; and
WHEREAS, fire apparatus requirements are governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS); and
WHEREAS, Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) establishes apparatus replacement

schedules based on safety and risk mitigation; and
WHEREAS, no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty petition the Provincial Government and FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), NEOMA, Mushkegowuk-James Bay MPP Guy Bourgoïn and Kapuskasing-Timmins-Mushkegowuk MP Gaetan Malette.

CARRIED

12.5 Committee of Adjustment Meeting Recommendations

12.5.1 Consent Application VRH-02

Res. # 26-072

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Council approve Consent Application File VRH-002 pursuant to Section 53 of the Planning Act, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Certificate of Consent pursuant to Section 53(42) of the Planning Act shall be issued within two years of the notice of decision. Any request for the Certificate of Consent must include a written submission demonstrating that all conditions of the consent have been satisfied.

2. That the following parcels be merged through a deeming by-law enacted by the Municipality and recorded on title at the Land Registry Office:

PCL 11269 SEC CC; BLK B PL M315C OWENS; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 12999 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 4, 6R3240; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 11268 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 2 & 3, 6R3240; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 12998 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 6, 6R3240, PT 2, 6R5992; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 10883 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 5, 6R3240; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 6662 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 2, CR229; VAL RITA-HARTY

PCL 10395 SEC CC; PT LT 8 CON 17 OWENS PT 9, 6R3240; VAL RITA-HARTY

3. That the restriction be removed from the Land Registry records on:

PCL 10883 SEC CC; PT LT 9 CON 18 OWENS PT 5, 6R3240; VAL RITA-HARTY

4. That all applicable fees for the Certificate of Consent be paid in accordance with the Municipality's Fees and Charges By-law.

5. That a draft reference plan, prepared by an Ontario Land Surveyor and illustrating the lands subject to Consent File VRH-002, be submitted to the Municipality for review and approval prior to registration in the applicable Land Registry Office.

CARRIED

12.5.2 Consent Application VRH-03

Res. # 26-073

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Council approve Consent Application File VRH-003 pursuant to Section 53 of the Planning Act, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Certificate of Consent pursuant to Section 53(42) of the Planning Act shall be issued within two years of the notice of decision. Any request for the Certificate of Consent must include a written submission demonstrating that all conditions of the consent have been satisfied.

2. That the following parcels be merged or adjusted through a deeming by law enacted by the Municipality and recorded on title at the Land Registry Office:

PCL 9133 SEC CC; PT LT 8 CON 17 OWENS PT 21, 6R2225; VAL RITA-HARTY
PT LT 8 CON 17 OWENS BEING PTS 22 AND 23, 6R2225; TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA-HARTY

3. That all applicable fees for the Certificate of Consent be paid in accordance with the Municipality's Fees and Charges By law.

4. That a draft reference plan, prepared by an Ontario Land Surveyor and illustrating the lands subject to Consent File VRH-003, be submitted to the Municipality for review and approval prior to registration in the applicable Land Registry Office.

5. That any outstanding property taxes applicable to both the severed and retained parcels be paid in full.

6. That the severed industrial lot (M1 portion) comply with all applicable Zoning By-law provisions. Any identified non-conformities (e.g., parking) must be addressed through a zoning amendment, minor variance, or other mechanism prior to development.

7. That the retained lot, currently dual-zoned (M1 & A1) and containing a non-conforming industrial use, be required to:

Rezone the lot to a single zone that reflects the intended future use and aligns with the Official Plan (e.g., M1 to formalize the existing industrial use, or Rural (A1) for continued rural use).

Submit a zoning amendment application to the Municipality prior to finalization of the consent and complete the rezoning process within a timeframe established by Council.

8. That the owner provide confirmation of municipal servicing availability (water and sewer) for the severed lot prior to issuance of the Certificate of Consent.

CARRIED

12.6 Township of Hornepayne Resolution Support

Res. # 26-074

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

WHEREAS there is a visible disparity between the northern and southern population of Ontario; and

WHEREAS Northern Ontario has an abundance of opportunity in the form of municipally serviced building lots for both Industry and population growth; and

WHEREAS high residential property taxes in northern Ontario discourage and prohibit the construction of new residential single-family dwellings; and

WHEREAS the addition of a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass would create an incentive for the building of new homes in small northern Ontario communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty does hereby request that the Honorable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, the Minister of Finance, amends the Assessment Act to include a Small Northern New Residential property tax class and subclass;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario; MPP Guy Bourgouin; the Honourable Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Minister George Pirie, Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth; the Honourable Minister Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; AMO; FONOM; NEOMA and ROMA.

CARRIED

12.7 OCWA 2026 Capital

Res. # 26-075

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Council approve the Version #2 Financial Capital letter with the Ontario Clean Water Agency (minus clear well cleaning due to need for RFP and tender preparation) authorizing expenditures in the amount of \$70,400 plus applicable taxes and reassessment of repair be undertaken later in 2026.

CARRIED

13 Recess to March 18, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Res. # 26-076

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT this March 17, 2026 meeting of Council be recessed at 8:09 p.m. and that the meeting resume at 6 p.m. on Wednesday March 18, 2026.

CARRIED

14 Attendance

Membres/Members

Johanne Baril - Maire/Mayor
 Angele Beauvais – Conseillere/Councillor
 Roger Lachance – Conseillere/Councillor
 Steven Lambert – Conseiller/Councillor
 Alain Tremblay - Conseillere/Councillor

Employees:

Barbara Major - Deputy Clerk - Virtual
 Leanne Crozier – Treasurer – Virtual
 Nathalie Trudel - Municipal Services Coordinator
 Stefan Landry - Public Works Foreman

Others:

Peggy Young Lovelace – E4m - Virtual
 Josh Young - E4m - Virtual

Public:

2

15 Resume Recessed Meeting

Res. # 26-077

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT the recessed meeting of Council from Tuesday March 17, 2026 resume at 6:01 p.m. on Wednesday 18th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

16 Affaires administratives/Administrative Matters

16.1 Community Bulletins

Res. # 26-078

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty receives the Municipal Bulletin Mailout Proposal report; AND FURTHERMORE, that Council authorize staff to proceed with the publishing of a Bulletin on a regular basis and approve associated costs, as presented.

CARRIED

16.2 Website Maintenance

Res. # 26-079

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Council receives the report recommending the retention of Ontario North Consulting for website maintenance and content upload services, and THAT Council approve expenditures up to a maximum of \$2,500 with a service review to be conducted in September, 2026.

CARRIED

16.3 Employment Options Emploi

Res. # 26-080

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Council receive the report for use of space by Employment Options Emploi and concur with the recommendation for Employment Options Emploi to utilize space at the Val Rita-Harty Public Library, at no cost, for employment intake and assistance to residents.

CARRIED

16.4 Public Works Supervisor February Report

Res. # 26-081

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT the Public Works Supervisor equipment report for February be received.

CARRIED

16.5 Summer Student 2026 hourly rate of pay

Res. # 26-082

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Council approve the hiring of two (2) Summer Students for the 2026 season for the Public Works Department; AND FURTHERMORE, the hourly rate be set at \$20.00 per hour.

CARRIED

16.6 Health Care Recruitment and Retention Committee

Res. # 26-083

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty receive the Health Care

Recruitment and Retention Committee annual report and authorize payment of the 2026 HCR&RC contribution amounting to \$3,473.02.

CARRIED

16.7 Fees Schedule

Res. # 26-084

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

That Council approves amendment to the Interim Procedural Bylaw to provide for the finalization and distribution of Council agendas by 4 pm the Wednesday preceding a Regular meeting of Council AND FURTHERMORE, that two (2) spare copies of the agenda be printed (excluding the Consent Agenda) for use by the public and/or make available at the Val Rita-Harty Public Library.

CARRIED

16.8 2026 Budget Deliberation

Res. # 26-085

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT Council hold a Special meeting(s) on March 30, 2026 at 6 p.m. for 2026 preliminary budget deliberations and on March 31, 2026 at 6 p.m. for planning and development.

CARRIED

16.9 NEOMA Annual Meeting

Res. # 26-086

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Council approves the attendance of all members of Val Rita-Harty Council who wish to participate at the NEOMA annual meeting being held in Kapuskasing on Friday April 10, 2026.

**Registrations are due March 27, 2026.

To date the following have confirmed attendance: Councillor Lachance and Councillor Lambert. Kindly inform the Deputy Clerk if you plan to attend.

CARRIED

16.10 Fire Smart Project

Res. # 26-087

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Council terminate the existing Ontario Fire Smart Communities (Transfer Payment Agreement) and reapply in the Spring if so recommended by the Fire Chief.

CARRIED

16.11 Sentinel Lights

Res. # 26-088

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Council authorizes reimbursement of \$200 to eligible residents with respect to payment of electricity reimbursement for Sentinel Lights and direct staff to provide a recommendation report and reconciliation of costs going forward at the next Regular meeting of Council.

CARRIED

17 Questions relatives à l'encadrement/Leadership Issues

Nil

18 Consent Agenda (includes items of correspondence not requiring administrative reports/action, Committee reports not requiring any action by Council -- matters that are for information purposes only).

Res. # 26-089

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT Council receives the Consent Agenda items as listed on the agenda for the March 17, 2026 regular meeting of Council.

CARRIED

19 Huis clos/Closed Session

Res. # 26-090

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT Council move to Closed Session Meeting at 6:18 p.m. pursuant to the *Municipal Act* Section 239 (2) to consider: (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting

the municipality or local board; (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on, by or on behalf of the municipality or local board, and Section 239(3.1) Education and Training for the following matters:

1. Personal Matters about identifiable individuals (5);
2. Litigation/Potential Litigation (3)
3. Advice subject to solicitor-client privilege (2);
4. Education and Training (1).

Regarding Aboriginal Housing Claim, Statement of Defense, Return for Service agreements and Procedural Bylaw-Voting Reconsideration training.

N. Trudel and S. Landry departed from the meeting.

CARRIED

20 Report from Closed Session

Res. # 26-091

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT Council arise from Closed Session Meeting at 9:05 p.m. Council met in Closed Session pursuant to the *Municipal Act* Section 239 (2) to consider: (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; (e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; (f) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; (k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on, by or on behalf of the municipality or local board, and Section 239(3.1) Education and Training. Council directed as follows:

1. Authorized the Mayor and Deputy Clerk to execute a Return for Services Agreement with the Health Care Recruitment and Retention Committee;
2. Gave direction to staff pertaining to legal matters regarding Ontario Aboriginal Housing Claim, potential litigation and investigative matters with respect to identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees.

CARRIED

21 Calendrier/Calendar

22 Confirmation des procédures/Confirmation of Proceedings

Res. # 26-092

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT Bylaw 1248-26, Being a bylaw to confirm the proceedings of Council for the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2026 be hereby read and adopted.

CARRIED

23 Ajournement/Adjournment

Res. # 26-093

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT this regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Deputy Clerk



Municipalité de / Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting of Council March 30, 2026 - 06:00 PM

Membres/Members	Johanne Baril - Maire/Mayor Steven Lambert - Conseillere/Councillor Roger Lachance – Conseillere/Councillor Angele Beauvais – Conseillere/Councillor Alain Tremblay – Conseiller/Councillor
Employees:	Barbara Major - Deputy Clerk Leanne Crozier – Treasurer – Virtual Bert Godin - Fire Chief Genevieve Couture - Library CAO Stefan Landry - Public Works Foreman
Others:	Peggy Young Lovelace – E4m Josh Young - E4m
Public:	3

1 Call To Order

This Special Meeting of Council is called to order at 6:04 p.m.

2 Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Baril spoke to the importance of dialogue and invited everyone to ponder what steps they can undertake to advance dialogue. She also shared with Council a call received by the Municipal Services Coordinator from an Elder. Mayor informed Council that she returned the telephone call and the Elder extended their appreciation for the patience shown by the MSC.

3 Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statements

None

4 Adoption of the Agenda

Res. # 26-094

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5 Declaration of Pecuniary and General Conflict of Interest

None declared.

6 Special Business

6.1 Bylaw No. 1249-26 To enter into agreement with Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response

Res. # 26-096

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

THAT Bylaw No. 1249-26, Being a Bylaw to enter into agreement with the Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response be read and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

6.2 Working Group Committee

6.2.1 Preliminary budget discussion

It was noted that this was the first time the Val Rita-Harty Library and the Fire Department are presenting preliminary budgets to Council.

The Treasurer informed Council about the Pothole Repair program and utilization of calcium purchase/application on roads and installation of culverts as program deliverables. She advised that Council will review all departmental budgets at the next budget deliberation meeting.

6.2.1.1 Val Rita-Harty Public Library

Library Chief Administrative Officer G. Couture presented the Val Rita-Harty Public Library preliminary 2026 budget. She informed Council that additional activities are being proposed to increase Library attendance and the Library now has a CAO, temporary librarian and a student.

6.2.1.2 Fire Department

Fire Chief B. Godin presented the Fire Department preliminary 2026 budget. A revised budget will be undertaken to include the purchase of a portable generator (on a trailer) and compressor. The Fire Chief will obtain current quotations for Council consideration. It was noted that \$3,500 was set aside in 2025 was not utilized. Council directed that resolution be presented at the next regular meeting to set aside the \$3,500 in reserves for 2026.

6.2.1.3 Public Works Department

Public Works Foreman S. Landry presented the preliminary 2026 Public Works, environmental, recreation and culture and cemetery budgets. He provided explanation of the budget operational and capital expenditures. It was suggested that a reserve for a Harty columbarium be considered for 2026 and staff was directed to schedule a Cemetery Committee meeting. Additionally the Public Works Foreman will prepare staff recommendation report pertaining to painting of lines for pickleball/basketball, use of the park at night and for the access door to transport equipment outside from the gymnasium.

7 Adjournment

Res. # 26-097

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT this Special Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Deputy Clerk



Municipalité de / Municipality of Val Rita-Harty Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting of Council March 31, 2026 - 06:00 PM

Membres/Members	Johanne Baril - Maire/Mayor Angele Beauvais – Conseillere/Councillor Steven Lambert - Conseillere/Councillor Roger Lachance – Conseillere/Councillor Alain Tremblay – Conseiller/Councillor
Employees:	Barbara Major - Deputy Clerk Leanne Crozier – Treasurer – Virtual Sandra Parkin - E4m - Virtual
Others:	Peggy Young Lovelace – E4m Josh Young - E4m

1 Call To Order

This Special Meeting of Council is called to order at 6 p.m.

2 Land Acknowledgement

Nil

3 Recital of the Municipal Mission and Vision Statements

Nil

4 Adoption of the Agenda

Res. # 26-098

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Lachance

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5 Declaration of Pecuniary and General Conflict of Interest

None declared.

6 Closed Meeting Session Resolution

Res. # 26-099

THAT Council move to Closed Session Meeting at 6:03 p.m. pursuant to the *Municipal Act* Section 239 (2) to consider: (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee, (d) labour relations or employee negotiations and(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on, by or on behalf of the municipality or local board for the following matters:

1. Property matters;
- 2 Work load realignment; and
3. Job transition

CARRIED

7 Report from Closed Session

Res. # 26-100

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Steven Lambert

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

THAT Council move to Public Meeting Meeting at 7:04 p.m. Council met in Closed Session pursuant to the *Municipal Act* Section 239 (2) to consider: (b) personal matters about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee, (d) labour relations or employee negotiations and(k) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on, by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. Council directed staff to proceed with direction pertaining to property matters and Council recommended approval of the Administrative Service Delivery incorporating the hybrid model with outsourced specialist services and that community information be prepared and released regarding the hybrid model format utilizing the communication protocol policy.

CARRIED

8 Special Business - Working Group

8.1 Municipal development projects

Josh Young, E4m planner presented to Council power point presentation supporting growth in Val Rita-Harty which outlined goals, sale of municipally owned property, website improvements/portal with up-to-date information, expanding the Settlement Boundary, subdivision opportunities, financial impact, housing types and zoning and economic opportunities associated with the Ring of Fire. Planner was directed to seek information on tiny communities that was

commenced with College Boreal students. Council approved the next steps going forward which included website work related to community development related to sale of municipal properties, engage developers and contracts as potential partners with the municipality, explore subdivision design options and conduct servicing cost analysis. Resolution will be presented at the next Regular meeting of Council.

8.2 Quarterly Operational Reports - Review of draft format

Council reviewed the draft quarterly report and concurred with the format. Council was informed that the Financial Management Bylaw and the Level of Service are being prepared and will include metrics which will be beneficial to Council in terms of equipment lifecycle versus operational cost,, etc...Additionally staff report will be prepared related to water billlls (frontage levy and water cost useage).

Council requested that sanding in front of the MTO and Harty Pit Road be placed on the agenda of the next meeting.

9 Adjournment

Res. # 26-101

PROPOSÉE PAR / MOVED BY: Councillor Alain Tremblay

APPUYÉE PAR / SECONDED BY: Councillor Angèle Beauvais

THAT this Special Meeting of Council be adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor

Deputy Clerk



CORPORATION DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ / OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA - HARTY

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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA-HARTY PARKS, BEAUTIFICATION & CEMETERY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MANDATE

1. Val Rita-Harty Parks, Beautification and Cemetery Committee

1.1 A municipal Committee to be known as the “Val Rita-Harty Parks, Beautification and Cemetery Committee” hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”: is established as a Municipal Committee in accordance with the Municipal Act.

1.2 The Committee shall abide by and be subject to all Municipal Policies, rules and regulations.

1.3 The purposes of the Committee are:

1.3.1 To advise Council on matters of parks, cemeteries and green space within the Township of Val Rita-Harty;

1.3.2 To assist Council in enhancing and beautifying the Township of Val Rita-Harty by recommending implementation of community-based beautification projects;

1.3.3 To make recommendations to Council with regards to the preservation, maintenance and development of the Township of Val Rita-Harty cemeteries;

1.3.4 To advise and inform Council on issues related to parks, cemeteries and public green spaces as they arise.

1.3.5 To advise Council with regard to the Community Strategic Plan;

1.3.6 To set out clear goals for the committee for the term.

2. Composition

2.1 The Committee shall consist of a minimum of five (5), members recommended by the Committee and appointed by Council resolution;

2.2 At the discretion of Council, up to two (2) members may be Council members;

2.3 Each member of the Committee must be a resident of Val Rita-Harty;

2.4 Each member of this Committee shall have the right to vote;

2.5 The Chair shall be appointed by the Committee members at their first meeting of the year. The Chair does not have to be a Council member and appointment shall take place during the first meeting of every year;

2.6 The vice-president shall be appointed by the Committee members at their first meeting of the year;

2.7 The Municipal CAO shall act as the Committee Secretary;

2.8 The Mayor shall automatically be an ex-officio member of this Committee with voting rights.

3. Term of Office

3.1 The Council member(s) shall have a term subject to the Municipal Procedural By-Law but in any event shall not extend past the end of the term of office of the appointing council;

3.2 For the purposes of continuity, the non-council members will have a term equal to the term of the appointing Council, unless the Committee rules otherwise on a case-by-case basis. If the Committee rules otherwise, it may extend the non-council members by one year.

4. Number of Meetings each year

4.1 The Committee shall meet at least two (2) times every calendar year and, in addition, at any time at the request of a majority of the members of the Committee or at the call of the Chair, or the Mayor.

5. Vacancies: Removal

5.1 A member of the Committee who is a member of Council ceases to be a member of the Committee if he or she ceases to be a member of Council;

5.1.1 The member can stay a member of the Parks, Beautification & Cemetery with a nomination from the committee and an approved declaration from Council confirming the re-appointment;

5.2 A member of the Committee may resign from office by providing notice in writing to the Committee;

5.3 If the seat of a member of the Committee becomes vacant, the Committee shall;

5.3.1 Declare the seat to be vacant at its next meeting; and

5.3.2 Immediately nominate another possible appointee and forward a copy of its declaration to Council for consideration and reappointment at the earliest opportunity. If the Committee doesn't have the minimum required members to function, the Committee and Council will expeditiously appoint a new member to the Committee, in accordance with these terms of reference.

5.4 In the case of a vacancy for any cause, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall be qualified to be appointed and shall hold office for the balance of the term for which his or her predecessor was appointed;

5.5 Any member of the Committee who fails to attend three (3) successive scheduled meetings of the Committee, with no just cause, shall be subject to forfeiting his or her appointed seat at the discretion of the Committee, and if such is the case, the Committee and Council shall

appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

6. Reappointment

6.1 A member is eligible for reappointment on the expiration of his or her term.

7. Open Meetings: Quorum

7.1 All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public except where a meeting may be closed to the public by the Municipal Act, or applicable legislation;

7.2 A person may be expelled from a meeting for improper conduct at a meeting;

7.3 A majority of the members of the Committee constitutes a quorum;

7.4 The Committee proceeding shall be as outlined and in accordance with Council's Procedural By-law;

7.5 All Committee members shall adhere to Council's Code of Conduct.

8. Minutes; Records and Meetings

8.1 The Committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and shall forward copies of the minutes and proceedings to every member of the Committee;

8.2 The Municipal CAO shall act as the Committee Secretary who shall retain and preserve the records of the Committee including resolutions, minutes, and proceedings of regular or special meetings;

8.3 The Chair of the Committee, with the assistance of the CAO shall be responsible to prepare the agenda;

8.4 The agenda needs to be sent to all Committee members and the CAO at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting.

9 Powers and Duties; Limitations on Delegation

9.1 The members, while carrying out their mandate shall have regard for the organizational structure of the municipality and shall not provide specific direction to the Township staff. Such direction is only to be provided by the CAO. In addition, members shall not become involved in staff work or direct staff in the performance of their duties.

9.2 Subject to the limitations and conditions in this section (including Municipal Act conditions relating to matters requiring the consent and approval of Council) the following authorities and privileges of the Council with respect to the provision of all Parks, Beautification and Cemetery monetary accounts are delegated to the Committee, to be exercised, in all respects, in accordance with this mandate:

9.2.1 Manage a municipal account set aside for the purposes of the Committee fulfilling this mandate that is subject to the conditions of this mandate;

- 9.2.2** The Committee's financial administration functions will be performed by the Township, in accordance with this mandate;
 - 9.2.3** The Committee, acting in accordance with the Municipal Act, and in accordance with this mandate, will plan how finances are expended and how revenues are generated, in consultation with the Township, and seek approval of this plan from the CAO;
 - 9.2.4** Consider, plan and oversee all matters concerning both cemeteries;
 - 9.2.5** All Committee members must act in the best interest of the community as a whole;
 - 9.2.6** The Committee shall speak with one voice and all decisions arising from Committee meetings and approved by Council shall be supported as decisions of The Committee;
 - 9.2.7** Submit operating and capital plans and budgets developed in accordance with these terms of reference, to be provided by, or before, the 31st day of March of each calendar year or as otherwise directed by the CAO from time to time;
 - 9.2.8** The Committee shall, at the times and in the form requested, promptly provide the Council of the Township of Val Rita-Harty with information requested by the Township relating to its purposes.
- 9.3** The Committee Chair will meet regularly with the Township CAO and provide the following:
- 9.3.1** Any updates or discussions required for the Committee and Council to implement this mandate;
 - 9.3.2** Any requests for staffing assistance and involvement in implementing this mandate.

10 Role of the Chair

- 10.1** The Chair is responsible for ensuring the smooth and effective operation of the Committee and its' roles. This will include responsibility for:
 - 10.1.1** Calling the meetings to order;
 - 10.1.2** Encouraging an informal atmosphere to encourage the exchange of ideas;
 - 10.1.3** Creating an agenda in conjunction with the CAO;
 - 10.1.4** Chairing the meetings to ensure business is carried out efficiently and effectively;
 - 10.1.5** Acting as spokesperson;
 - 10.1.6** Representing the Committee on other committees when necessary;
 - 10.1.7** The Chair shall conduct meetings in accordance with the Township's Procedural By-Law;

10.1.8 In the absence of the Chair, these responsibilities will be undertaken by the Vice-Chair.

11 Role of the Secretary

11.1 The Secretary is responsible for ensuring a complete up-to-date record for the Committee. The Secretary will be the staff liaison for the Committee.

11.1.1 In liaison with the Chair, arrange a date, time and venue for meetings;

11.1.2 In liaison with the Chair, set agendas and circulate agendas to the members two business days prior to the meeting;

11.1.3 Circulate draft minutes to the members;

11.1.4 Keep a complete up-to-date record of the Committee minutes.

12 Role of Members

Membership on the Committee is a position of responsibility and requires a strong commitment to the Terms of Reference. Committee members are required to:

12.1 Attend all regularly scheduled meetings. Members shall notify the Chair and Secretary if they are unable to attend a meeting;

12.2 Adhere to the provisions set out in the Policy for Boards and Committees of Council. If a member has an unexplained absence of three or more consecutive meetings then their seat on the Committee shall be declared vacant;

12.3 Review all information supplied to them;

12.4 Prepare information for use in the development of materials for the Committee;

12.5 Promote the role of the Committee and its' decisions made;

12.6 Offer input to committee reports to Council;

12.7 Attend training as required to effectively perform their role as a committee member;

12.8 Committee Members are subject to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act R.S.O. 1990, c. M50 and must disclose any direct or indirect pecuniary interest. The disclosure must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

13 Budget

13.1 The Committee shall submit its annual capital budget in the form, and at the time, required by the CAO.

14 Review

14.1 The Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Township of Val Rita-Harty shall, by December 31st of each calendar year, conduct a review of the committee Terms of

Reference and Mandate.

- 14.2** The Committee shall submit its annual budget to the CAO for approval, no later than March 31st of each calendar year.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Val Rita-Harty adopts the Val Rita-Harty Parks, Beautification and Cemetery Committee” Terms of Reference as presented.

Adopted – May 30th, 2023



Municipalité de Val Rita-Harty Municipality

Item #: WORKING GROUP

Personnel responsable / staff: Deputy Clerk

Date : April 21, 2026

pour / for: conseil / Council

Sujet / Re : Draft Bylaw Video Camera Use by Members Attending Municipal Meetings

Description:

Councillor Lambert has requested that the attached draft bylaw be placed on the agenda for consideration.

Lien avec plan stratégique / Link to Strategic Plan:

The report aligns with the Municipal Strategic Plan by ensuring transparency and accountability.

Recommandation / Recommendation:

THAT Council _____

Financial Implications: 2026 Budget – N/A

Rapport soumis par / Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Major

Deputy Clerk

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA HARTY**

BYLAW NUMBER DRAFT

**BEING A BYLAW TO REQUIRE VIDEO CAMERA USE BY MEMBERS
ATTENDING MUNICIPAL MEETINGS ELECTRONICALLY**

Legal Authority

Scope of Powers

Section 8(1) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, ("*Municipal Act*") as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on municipalities to enable them to govern their affairs as they consider appropriate, and to enhance their ability to respond to municipal issues.

Powers of a Natural Person

Section 9 of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act.

Powers Exercised by Council

Section 5 (1) of the *Municipal Act* provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by its Council

Powers Exercised by By-law

Section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under section 9, shall be exercised by bylaw unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise.

Powers to Participate in Meetings Electronically

Section 238 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, permits members of Council, local boards, and committees to participate in meetings electronically.

Preamble

WHEREAS Council for the Township of Val Rita-Harty deems it expedient to enter into an agreement with His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response (hereinafter referred to as Province of Ontario) for the Emergency Preparedness Grant, as per the attached agreement.

Decision/Direction

Council of the Municipality of Val-Rita Harty recognizes the importance of transparency, accountability, and effective communication during meetings conducted by electronic means;

AND FURTHERMORE, Council recognizes that the use of video during electronic participation assists in confirming the identity of participants and maintaining a level of engagement comparable to in-person attendance;

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Municipality of Val Rita Harty directs as follows:

1. THAT this Bylaw shall be called the **Electronic Meeting Video Participation Bylaw**.
2. THAT the attached Schedule "A", forms part of this Bylaw.
3. This Bylaw takes effect on the day of its final passing.

Read and adopted by Resolution 26- this ____ day of ____, 2026.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk

Schedule “A” to Bylaw No. Draft

1. Title

1.1 This By-law may be cited as the “**Electronic Meeting Video Participation By-law.**”

2. Definitions

2.1 In this By-law:

- a) “**Council**” means the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val-Rita Harty.
- b) “**Electronic Meeting**” means a meeting where one or more participants attend by electronic means, including video conferencing platforms.
- c) “**Member**” means a member of Council, committee, local board, or advisory body established by Council.
- d) “**Chair**” means the presiding officer of a meeting, including the Mayor or committee chair.

3. Application

3.1 This By-law applies to all Members attending any meeting of Council, committees of Council, or local boards by electronic means.

3.2 This By-law applies to regular meetings, special meetings, and committee meetings where electronic participation is permitted.

4. Video Requirement

4.1 Any Member attending a meeting electronically shall activate their video camera upon joining the meeting.

4.2 The Member’s camera shall remain activated and the Member shall remain visibly present on screen for the duration of the meeting.

4.3 Members shall ensure that:

- a) their face is reasonably visible;
- b) lighting and positioning allow identification of the Member; and
- c) the environment is appropriate for a public meeting.

5. Temporary Deactivation of Video

5.1 A Member may temporarily deactivate their camera in the following circumstances:

- a) due to technical or connectivity issues;
- b) when briefly leaving their seat;
- c) where directed or approved by the Chair; or
- d) where necessary for accessibility or accommodation reasons.

5.2 Where possible, a Member shall notify the Chair or the Municipal Clerk before temporarily turning off their camera.

6. Verification of Attendance

6.1 The Municipal Clerk or designate may confirm the visual presence of Members attending electronically.

6.2 If a Member's camera remains off for a prolonged period without explanation, the Chair may determine that the Member is not present for the purposes of quorum or voting.

7. Enforcement

7.1 The Chair may remind any Member who fails to comply with this Bylaw to activate their video camera.

7.2 Continued non-compliance may result in the Member being recorded as absent for the applicable portion of the meeting.

8. Administration

8.1 The Municipal Clerk shall administer this Bylaw and provide guidance regarding electronic meeting procedures.

9. Severability

9.1 If any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in force.

DRAFT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA HARTY

BYLAW NUMBER 1250-26

BEING A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH THE 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMPLIANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Legal Authority

Scope of Powers

Section 8(1) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, ("*Municipal Act*") as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on municipalities to enable them to govern their affairs as they consider appropriate, and to enhance their ability to respond to municipal issues.

Powers of a Natural Person

Section 9 of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act.

Powers Exercised by Council

Section 5 (1) of the *Municipal Act* provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by its Council

Powers Exercised by By-law

Section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under section 9, shall be exercised by bylaw unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise.

Municipal Elections Act

Section 88.37 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 requires municipalities to establish an Election Compliance Audit Committee to deal with matters regarding election campaign finances, before October 1st in an election year;

Preamble

WHEREAS the municipalities of Smooth Rock Falls, Fauquier-Strickland, Moonbeam, Kapuskasing, Val Rita - Harty, Opatatika, Mattice - Val Cote and Hearst deems it expedient to establish a Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee.

Decision/Direction

NOW THEREFORE the Council for the Municipality of Val Rita Harty directs as follows:

1. That a committee, to be known as the 2026 Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee, is hereby established, to satisfy the requirements of Section 88.37 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.
2. That the 2026 Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee shall consist of three members to be selected and appointed by the municipalities respectively, to deal with each municipal election compliance audit request in accordance with the Terms of References and Section 88.37 of the Municipal Election Act, 1996.
3. That the terms of reference, as set out in Schedule "A", shall form part of this bylaw.
4. Should any of the members of the Joint Compliance Audit Committee resign or otherwise become unable to perform their duties, local advertising will be undertaken to seek new persons that will be appointed by the municipalities respectively. Advertising costs will be shared equally between participating municipalities.
5. Participating municipalities to this Joint Compliance Audit Committee shall only be responsible for the costs associated with an application for a compliance audit for a candidate within the election process of their own municipality.

6. That this by-law shall come into force on the date of its adoption.
7. That Bylaw No. 1134-22 is hereby repealed.

Read and adopted by Resolution 26-0 this 21st day of April, 2026.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk

Schedule “A” to Bylaw No. 1250-26

Terms of reference 2026 Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee

Mandate

The powers and functions of the committee are set out in Section 88.37 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. The committee is required to:

- a) within 30 days, consider a compliance audit application received by an elector and decide whether it should be granted or rejected; and
- b) if the application is granted;
 - appoint an auditor;
 - receive the auditor’s report;
 - consider the auditor’s report and decide whether legal proceedings should be commenced; and
 - recover the costs of conducting the compliance audit from the applicant if there were not apparent contraventions and if there appears to be no reasonable grounds for having made the application.

Composition

The Committee shall be composed of three (3) members appointed jointly by the participating municipalities from Smooth Rock Falls to Hearst through a coordinated selection process, and that have:

- commitment to learn and understand municipal election campaign financing rules,
- analytical and decision-making skills;
- experience working on committees;
- availability and willingness to attend meetings;
- excellent oral and written communication skills; and
- the knowledge of both official languages will be considered an asset.

Members of Council, municipal personnel or candidates running for office in the 2026 municipal elections, are not eligible to be appointed to the Committee.

Should an appointed member accept employment or register as a candidate with any of the member municipalities, their appointment will be terminated.

All committee members must agree in writing that they will not work for or provide any advice to any candidate running for municipal office within the member municipalities. To avoid any potential conflict of interest, applicants with accounting or auditing backgrounds must agree in writing that they will not offer their services to any municipal election candidates.

Duration

The term of the Committee shall commence upon appointment in 2026 and continue until November 14, 2030, or until all matters arising from the 2026 Municipal Election have been fully concluded.

Chair

During the first meeting, committee members shall select one of its members to act as Chair.

Membership selection

All applicants will be required to complete an application form outlining their qualifications and experience.

Each member municipality will select an individual who will serve on the selection committee. The selection committee shall meet to review and select the members for approval and appointment by the Councils of the member municipalities to the Joint Election Compliance Audit Committee.

Where a vacancy occurs, the remaining members may continue to act provided quorum is maintained. A replacement shall be appointed as soon as practicable through the joint selection process.

Remuneration

\$225 per diem, plus mileage.

Meetings

The Committee shall meet as needed, following a consultation with the Clerk of the appropriate municipality. The Committee will conduct its meetings in public and conducted in accordance with the requirements of the provisions of the Municipal Act, 2001. The Committee will communicate its meeting notices, agendas and minutes in the same manner as municipal Council.

Meetings may be conducted electronically in accordance with applicable legislation. A majority of members shall constitute quorum.

Indemnification

Members shall be indemnified by the participating municipalities for actions undertaken in good faith in the performance of their duties.

Confidentiality

Members shall maintain confidentiality of all information received in closed session or through audit processes.

Staffing and funding

Administrative support to the Committee will be provided by the appropriate municipal office. Administration costs for such items as printing and mailing will be absorbed within the municipal office budget.

Cost Allocation

All costs associated with a compliance audit, including auditor fees, legal costs, and administrative expenses, shall be borne by the municipality to which the application pertains, unless otherwise agreed.

Deposit

The appropriate municipality shall obtain a deposit of \$300 from the applicant requesting a compliance audit. In the case where there was no apparent contravention or if there appears to be no reasonable grounds for having made the application, the said deposit of \$300 will be retained and applied against the recovery of costs accrued associated with the request for the compliance audit.



**The Corporation of the
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: February 18, 2026

Resolution No.: 2026- 078

Moved By: Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in ensuring equitable access to information, literacy, education, and culture for all residents;

And whereas interlibrary loan services are an essential component of public library operations, particularly for small and rural communities with limited local collections;

And whereas reduced postal rates for library materials have historically enabled libraries to share resources efficiently and affordably across Canada;

And whereas recent amendments to the Canada Post Corporation Act have removed the legislative requirement to provide reduced postal rates for library materials, creating uncertainty for the continued delivery of this essential service;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry calls upon the Government of Canada to maintain and protect reduced-rate postal distribution for library materials through legislation;

And that Council requests that the Minister responsible for Canada Post ensure continued, affordable postal access for libraries and interlibrary loan services;

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Joel Lightbound, Minister of Government Transformation, Public Works and Procurement, Scott Aitchison, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka, Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario municipalities for support.

Carried: Defeated:


Norm Hofstetter, Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
Council	For	Against
Councillors Jim Cushman		
Joe Lumley		
Margaret Ann MacPhail		
Paul Sowrey		
Mayor Norm Hofstetter		

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2026-1123

April 1, 2026

On March 30, 2026, our government introduced the *Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026*, (Bill 98). Through this legislation and accompanying measures, we are creating the conditions for Ontario to build the housing and infrastructure it needs to grow and remain competitive. These changes will help get shovels in the ground faster for much-needed housing, and housing enabling-infrastructure projects, while improving the way people and goods move across Ontario.

A brief description of the proposals in this bill are included in this letter below. You are also invited to review the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) and [Regulatory Registry of Ontario](#) posting links provided with this letter and share any feedback you may have.

If you have any questions, please reach out to my Director of Stakeholder and Caucus Relations, Tanner Zelenko, at Tanner.Zelenko@ontario.ca

I look forward to our continued collaboration with our municipal partners as we build a more prosperous, resilient and competitive economy that will enhance affordability and the quality of life for Ontario residents and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Flack".

Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
- Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Graydon Smith, Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
- Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Laura Smith, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Brian Saunderson, Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- David McLean, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Laurie Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing

Development Charges Act, 1997 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 3 of the Bill would make amendments to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.

New section 4.5 would provide that non-profit retirement home developments are exempt from development charges.

The Schedule would also make technical amendments to address out-of-date cross-references in provisions related to front-ending agreements.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997* through the Ontario Regulatory Registry

<https://www.regulatoryregistry.gov.on.ca/proposal/52054>

Municipal Act, 2001 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The Schedule repeals and remakes section 93 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to address barriers to the development of communal water and wastewater systems and increase housing supply across Ontario.

New subsection 93 (1) of the Act provides that no person shall construct, maintain or operate a non-municipal water or sewage public utility without first applying for and obtaining the consent of the municipality. Under new subsection 93 (2) of the Act, a municipality that receives an application for one of these utilities must review that application and either provide consent subject to conditions and limits that are agreed upon, or, in the case of a regulation having been made setting out criteria or conditions that must be met, and the municipality is of the opinion that regulated requirements have been met, the municipality must provide consent to the application. Regulation-making authority would be made to establish the criteria or conditions related to applications for consent and for the proposed public utility.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([ERO 026-0302](#)) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.

Planning Act – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 7 of the Bill proposes the following amendments to the *Planning Act* that would help create the conditions necessary to support housing and community development. If passed, the proposed changes would:

- Specify a standardized structure and a standardized set of land use designations for local official plans (i.e., lower- and single-tier municipalities and planning boards).
- Provide a two-phased implementation approach for the new official plan framework which focuses on the 29 large and fast-growing municipalities in the first phase,
- Remove redundant requirement for municipalities to include climate change policies in their official plans,
- Provide the Minister with authority to exempt lower-tier municipalities from requirement to conform with upper-tier official plan to facilitate voluntary early implementation of the proposed official plan framework,

- Provide that for an already approved Protected Major Transit Station Area (PMTSA), only official plan amendments changing the boundaries of the PMTSA or the planned population and jobs for the area would require the Minister's approval,
- Remove the legislative requirement for the Minister to provide notice on proposed amendments to or revocations of Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs),
- Provide flexibility for removing Simcoe County's planning responsibilities in up to three separate phases, based on municipal readiness, and
- Facilitate the implementation of provisions from Bill 23, the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, that provide for a new framework for developer-identified land, including encumbered land and privately owned public spaces (POPS) arrangements, to count toward municipal parkland dedication requirements.
- Remove references to "sustainable design" from site plan control and restrict municipalities from requiring an owner of land to provide electric vehicle supply equipment in connection with off-street vehicular parking facilities, so that municipalities may not impose 'enhanced' development standards at the lot level that are not required for health, safety, or environmental performance (e.g., stormwater).
- Provide the Minister with authority to establish a minimum lot size through regulation.

We are interested in receiving your comments on these proposed measures. Comments can be made through the Environmental Registry of Ontario and the Ontario Regulatory Registry from March 30, 2026, to April 29, 2026:

- [ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026).

We are also interested in receiving any comments you may have on other associated proposals:

- [ERO 026-0315](#): Consultation on upper-tier official plans, secondary plans, and site and area-specific policies
- [ERO 026-0310](#): Consultation on site plan control reform under the *Planning Act* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*
- [ERO 026-0305](#): Proposed Changes to Various Regulations Under the *Planning Act* to Facilitate the Electronic Submission of Information and Materials to Approval Authorities and Allow Notices to be Given Electronically to the Province
- [ERO 026-0314](#): Proposed Changes to Various Regulations Under the *Planning Act* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to Specify Additional "Prescribed Professions" for the Purposes of a Complete Application
- [ERO 026-0313](#): Streamlining the Information and Material that Planning Authorities can Require as Part of a Complete Application
- [ERO 026-0309](#): Proposed Regulation to Prohibit Mandatory Enhanced Development Standards as a Condition of Land Division Approvals
- [ERO 026-0311](#): Proposed Regulatory Approach to Establish a Minimum Residential Lot Size in Urban Areas
- [ERO 026-0304](#): Draft Projection Methodology Guideline to support the implementation of the Provincial Planning Statement, 2024
- [ERO 026-0312](#): Proposed Changes to Support Standardizing of Parkland Requirements Under the *Planning Act*

The Environmental Registry postings provide additional details regarding the proposed changes.

Building Code Act, 1992 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Schedule 1 amends the *Building Code Act, 1992* to clarify that standards for the protection or conservation of the environment are included in the meaning of municipal by-laws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings for the purposes of section 35 of the Act.

[ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026.

City of Toronto Act, 2006 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The proposed change would, through various amendments to section 114 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, remove references to “sustainable design” in site plan control. Changes would also be made to allow the Minister to establish a minimum lot size through regulation under the *Planning Act*.

[ERO 026-0300](#): Proposed Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006, Building Code Act, 1992 and Municipal Act, 2001 Changes (Schedules 7, 2 and 1 of Bill 98, the Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026

Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025 – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

The ministry is proposing legislative amendments to the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025*. These include:

- Explicitly prohibiting private ownership in any new Water and Wastewater Public Corporation (WWPC) to align with the government’s intent to maintain 100% public sector ownership and respond to the strong feedback we have heard on the issue from the public, unions, associations and municipalities regarding privatization.
- Supporting the continuation of services and existing contracts – so that transferred contracts and agreements are not affected by a transfer to a new WWPC. This includes contracts such as employment or insurance, permits, licenses or a collective agreement, helping to support an efficient transfer and continuity of service during the transfer process.
- Supporting labour and employment continuity by clarifying that certain rights (such as successor, employment, and pay equity rights) are carried forward to a new WWPC.
- This would include regulation-making authority to help ensure continuity of services related to contracts and employees that are transferred to a new WWPC.
- Prohibiting the transfer of long-term municipal water and wastewater debt to a WWPC to provide clarity and reduce lender uncertainty, while creating new regulation-making authority to enable future regulations to address other matters related to municipal debt.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notice and the Ontario Regulatory Registry ([026-0301](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301)) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301>

Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Schedule 8 of the Bill proposes a change to the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA)* to clarify that a drinking water system owned by a WWPC would be considered a municipal drinking water system under the SDWA. This change would ensure that WWPCs are subject to the same public health and safety requirements under the SDWA that apply to all municipal drinking water systems.

The Bill also proposes changes to the *Safe Drinking Water Act* that would deem municipal consent to have been provided under the *Safe Drinking Water Act* for a proposed non-municipal drinking water system if consent has been provided by a municipality under the *Municipal Act* and regulated requirements under that Act were met. This avoids duplication of the municipal consent and helps to remove a barrier to development on communal systems.

You may provide your comments on the proposed changes to the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) notices related to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, [026-0302](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0302), and the *Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025*, [026-0301](https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301) from March 30, 2026 to April 29, 2026.
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0301>
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/026-0302>

Fare Alignment and Seamless Transit Act, 2026 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 4 of the bill enacts the *Fare Alignment and Seamless Transit Act, 2026*. The proposed legislation would authorize the Minister of Transportation to make regulations:

1. **Prescribing local transit systems** in the GTHA that are subject to the Act.
2. **Establishing One Fare 2.0**, including: setting fare prices and categories; defining eligibility and fare discount policies; establishing fare and transfer policies between prescribed transit systems (e.g., free transfers); requiring participation in a unified fare payment system approved by the Minister (e.g., PRESTO); and determining how fares shall be apportioned among prescribed transit systems in a geographic zone, which could result in the reallocation of fare revenue collected in one prescribed transit system to another prescribed transit system in a different municipality.
3. **Improving service to key regional destinations** by designating new and existing routes as “priority routes”, including routes that may cross municipal boundaries; setting service standards for priority routes; and prescribing requirements for service integration between prescribed transit systems, including requiring a prescribed transit system to provide services outside of its primary service area (i.e., in other municipalities).

4. **Improving specialized transit service**, including requiring prescribed specialized transit systems to: participate in a unified trip booking system approved by the Minister; and provide transportation a prescribed distance outside of its primary service area (i.e., in another municipality) without requiring a person with a disability to transfer to a different passenger transportation system.
5. **Creating exemptions** from the Act or regulations.

Metrolinx Act, 2006 – Ministry of Transportation

Schedule 5 amends *the Metrolinx Act, 2006* to create a voluntary, streamlined compliance reporting process for Metrolinx which will be more scoped than the traditional building permit process. The proposed compliance reporting process does not override the existing building permit process. Instead, it allows for more flexibility for Metrolinx by creating a streamlined process to get building science expertise from municipalities.

The proposed legislative amendments require municipalities, upon receiving a proposed construction or demolition notice from Metrolinx, to provide Metrolinx with a report that includes:

- An assessment of whether the proposal would contravene the Building Code.
 - Municipalities would not include a review of certain *Planning Act* requirements such as municipal zoning bylaw and site plan approvals.
- An assessment of the applicability of the Architects Act or the Professional Engineers Act.
- An assessment of whether every person who prepared the relevant building documents had the correct qualifications under the Building Code.
- Any other prescribed information.

The proposed legislation also enables the Minister of Transportation, through regulation, to prescribe additional exemptions to applicable law and specific timelines for municipal inspections and conveyance of occupancy reports, among other items.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

This is to certify that the following operating authority:

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA)

2085 Hurontario Street, Suite 500, Mississauga ON L5A 4G1 Canada

operates a Drinking Water System on behalf of

Township of Val Rita-Harty

8 Des Aulnes Ave, Val Rita, Ontario, P0L 2G0, Canada

which conforms with the requirements of:

**DRINKING WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT STANDARD
VERSION 2-2017**

for the following scope of accreditation:

Drinking Water Treatment & Distribution; Full Scope

Including:

Val Rita-Harty WTP & DS

Certificate Number:

0240625

File No.:

2023-143229

Issue Date:

17 Mar 2026

Original Certification Date:

13 Sep 2013

Certification Effective Date:

28 Aug 2025



Mark Thomas

Executive Vice President

Assurance, Sustainability, AgriWorld & Food

QMI-SAI Canada Ltd.

20 Carlson Court, Suite 200

Toronto, Ontario M9W 7K6 Canada





Harty

Sewage Treatment Lagoon Sewage Collection System

Annual Operating Report
January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

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Name of Facility:	Harty Sewage Treatment Lagoon
Address:	Lot 29, Concession 4, Township of Williamson Harty, Ontario
Ministry Works #:	120003316
Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA):	3-0085-006, issued July 15, 1983
Sewage Collection System (CLI-ECA):	July 15, 1983
Report Period:	January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

Capacity of Works	unknown
Service Area	Community of Harty
Service Population	90
Effluent Receiver	Un-named Creek to the Kapuskasing River
Major Process	Three Cell Waste Stabilization Lagoon

The Harty Lagoon sewage works is classified as a Class 1 wastewater treatment facility, and a Class 1 wastewater collection system.

The wastewater collection system is described to be individual pressure sewage collection systems with 1.5 horsepower grinder pumps which are pumped to a main trunk sewer and gravity fed to lagoon.

The lagoon is comprised of three (3) cells with a total surface area of approximately 2.26 ha (Cell 1 is 0.75 ha, Cell 2 is 0.75 ha and Cell 3 is 0.76 ha), and a total effective storage volume of 30,600 m³, including inlet and outlet control structures, fencing and outfall ditching.

The system operates on a semi-annual discharge basis without defined effluent discharge periods. This discharge is directed to an unnamed creek that leads to Kapuskasing River. Prior to each discharge season, samples are collected to ensure total phosphorous concentrations are below 1.0 mg/L. When required, phosphorous removal is accomplished by batch dosing the lagoon contents with alum, prior to discharge.

The Township of Val Rita - Harty owns the lagoon and the collection system.

DEFINITIONS

BOD5 - Five-day biochemical oxygen demand measured in an unfiltered sample

ECA – Environmental Compliance Approval

TSS - Total Suspended Solids

TP - Total Phosphorus

EFFLUENT QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL MEASURES UNDERTAKEN

Members of the operational staff possesses a high level of process knowledge and regulatory competence.

Lagoon contents were sampled and analyzed prior discharge to ensure effluent parameters met the limits specified in the ECA.

Samples are collected as required and analyzed by Testmark Laboratories Limited, located in Timmins, Ontario. Licensed Operators conduct in-house tests for monitoring purposes using procedures as per Standard Methods of Water and Wastewater.

Any bypass or upset events that occur within the collection system or plant site are tested, monitored and reported to the Spills Action Center (SAC).

MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES PERFORMED ON THE WORKS

Lagoon maintenance, including non-scheduled maintenance, is monitored using OCWA's preventative maintenance software programs. All routine and preventative maintenance measures were conducted as scheduled.

OPERATING PROBLEMS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

There were no major operating issues during the reporting period.

ALTERATIONS, EXTENSIONS OR REPLACEMENTS TO THE WORKS

There were no alterations, extensions or replacements proposed in the process or operations for the reporting period. There was no need for major modifications to improve performance or reliability of the system.

CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL MONITORING EQUIPMENT

The monitoring equipment is calibrated based on the manufacturers' recommendations and conducted by a trained person.

Instrument	Calibration Date	Accuracy
pH meter (Oakton pH Meter Series 10)	July 29, 2025	99.3 %

ABNORMAL DISCHARGE EVENTS, OVERFLOWS, BYPASSES AND SPILLS

All events are verbally reported to the Ministry of the Environment's Spills Action Center, a courtesy call to the Ministry of Health and a written report is submitted to Environment Canada and OCWA's Compliance Department.

The were no abnormal discharge events during the reporting period.

SLUDGE REMOVAL

There was no sludge removed during the reporting period

COMPLAINTS

There were no complaints received during the reporting period

MONITORING DATA – RAW SEWAGE (INFLUENT)

On the raw influent, a monthly grab sample analyzed for:

- BOD₅,
- total suspended solids and
- total phosphorous

Below is a summary of the raw influent sampling for the calendar year:

Parameter (mg/L)	Number of Samples	Annual Average	Maximum
BOD ₅	12	108	190
Total Suspended Solids	12	122	218
Total Phosphorous	12	3.99	7.05

Refer to *APPENDIX A: Monthly Summary of Raw Influent Sampling and Monitoring Data*, which summarizes the monitoring and sampling analysis conducted at the facility

MONITORING PROGRAM – COLLECTION SYSTEM OVERFLOWS (CLI-ECA)

A weekly grab sample is taken on any collection system overflow and analyzed for:

- BOD₅
- Total Suspended Solids
- Total Phosphorous
- Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen
- E.coli

The Harty sewage collection system does not contain any pumping stations. There were no sewage collection system overflows events during this reporting period.

MONITORING DATA – PRE-DISCHARGE SAMPLING

Pre-discharge sampling is to be completed prior to the scheduled discharge and analyzed for total phosphorous to determine if the concentrations are greater than 1.0 mg/L, and if chemical treatment is needed. The pre-discharge sampling consists of taking of three (3) total phosphorous samples at least 3 weeks prior to a planned discharge, with a treatment requirement if the average concentrations are above 1.0 mg/L. If required, the treatment with chemical additives shall be completed and discharge is commenced no sooner than one week after treatment.

Average Total Phosphorous (mg/L)	Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 3
Spring – May 6 to 8	0.148	0.228	0.081
Fall – September 15 to 17	0.968	0.065	0.048

Refer to *APPENDIX B: Summary of Cell Contents Sampling*, which includes additional details for the cell contents sampling analysis.

MONITORING DATA - FINAL EFFLUENT

There is no defined time period for the spring or fall discharges. The minimum sampling requirement for the final effluent is samples taken on the first day, middle and last day of the discharge. Samples are taken and analyzed for:

- BOD₅
- Total Suspended Solids
- Total Phosphorous
- *E. coli* (*Escherichia coli*)

Spring Discharge

The controlled spring discharge for 2025 began on May 29th and ended on June 12th. The following data is from the controlled spring discharge. Non-compliance occurs when a sample concentration exceeds the compliance limit.

Parameter (mg/L)	Average Results	Max Result	Compliance
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/100mL)	0	0	None
BOD ₅	1.5	1.7	22.5 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	3.6	4.3	22.5 mg/L
Total Phosphorous (TP)	0.164	0.360	1.5 mg/L

Fall Discharge

The controlled fall discharge for 2025 began on October 6th and ended on October 28th. The following data is from the controlled fall discharge. Non-compliance occurs when a sample concentration exceeds the compliance limit.

Parameter (mg/L)	Average Results	Max Result	Compliance
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/100mL)	18	28	None
BOD ₅	2.2	2.7	22.5 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	4.5	6.5	22.5 mg/L
Total Phosphorous (TP)	0.071	0.129	1.5 mg/L

Refer to *APPENDIX C: Summary of Final Effluent Sampling and Monitoring Data*, which summarizes the monitoring and sampling analysis conducted.

Summary of Effluent Flow

Discharge Period	Average Flow (m ³ /d)	Total Flow (m ³)
Spring: May 29 to June 12	697	10,448
Fall: October 6 to October 28	324	7,449

Refer to APPENDIX D: Summary of Final Effluent Flow Monitoring Data which summarizes the treated effluent flows during the reporting period.

ANNUAL LOADINGS (EFFLUENT)

As defined in the ECA, the "Annual Average Loading" means the value obtained by multiplying the average concentration of a contaminant by the *Average Daily Flow* over the same period of twelve (12) consecutive calendar months.

Parameter	Final Effluent Loadings (kg/year)	Compliance
BOD ₅	32.8	306
Total Suspended Solids	72.7	306
Total Phosphorous	2.1	20.4

Refer to *APPENDIX E: Loading Calculations*, for additional details.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PROGRAM SUCCESS AND ADEQUACY

The table below details the efficiency of the lagoon's performance demonstrating pollutant removal rates from raw sewage concentrations through to final effluent for BOD₅ suspended solids and total phosphorus.

Parameter (mg/L)	Influent	Effluent	% Removal
BOD ₅	108	1.8	98.3
Total Suspended Solids	122	4.1	96.7
Total Phosphorous	3.99	0.118	97.1

Note: percent removal calculations are based on the annual average values

INTERPRETATION OF MONITORING AND ANALYTICAL DATA

Harty Sewage Treatment Lagoon's effluent monitoring parameters fell below the compliance limits specified in the facility's ECA.

The effluent quality is based on the biochemical oxygen demand, total phosphorous and total suspended solids levels.

The Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) is the amount of oxygen used by micro-organisms as they decompose organic matter in the effluent sample for five days. High BOD₅ in effluent means a large quantity of oxygen was needed to break down the organic matter and identifies a large amount of organic matter in the effluent indicating inadequate treatment. The BOD₅ concentration limit of 22.5 mg/L, and the loading limit of 306 kg/year were not exceeded.

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in effluent are composed of settable solids and non-settable solids depending on the size, shape and weight of the solid particles. Settable solids are large sized particles that tend to settle more rapidly in a given period of time. The TSS concentration limit of 22.5 mg/L, and the loading limit of 306 kg/year were not exceeded.

Total Phosphorus (TP) refers to the amount of phosphorus in a sample. Excess TP stimulates algae and weed growth that may cause fluctuations in dissolved oxygen in the receiving waters. The TP concentration limit of 1.5 mg/L, and the loading limit of 20.4 kg/year were not exceeded.

SUMMARY

The Harty Sewage System consists of sewage works for the collection and transmission of sewage, consisting of low-pressure grinder pumping system with grinder unit and service lateral installation by each resident, force mains, with discharge into a three (3) cell stabilization pond and a P.V.C gravity discharge sewer from the waste stabilization pond to the receiving stream. The collection system does not have any immediate concerns.

In 2025, the effluent during discharge periods was of good quality and well below the compliance limits established in the ECA.

APPENDIX A: Monthly Summary of Raw Influent Sampling and Monitoring Data

Raw Sewage Parameters	09-Jan-25	25-Feb-25	13-Mar-25	10-Apr-25	06-May-25	10-Jun-25	09-Jul-25	12-Aug-25	09-Sep-25	06-Oct-25	18-Nov-25	16-Dec-25
BOD5 (mg/L)	170	100	90	70.3	14	87	22	130	120	140	160	190
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	5.69	2.17	4.43	2.84	0.875	3.85	1.34	3.95	5.14	7.05	6.49	4.02
Suspended Solids (mg/L)	187	87	73	106	22.5	11.5	196	194	180	107	218	84

APPENDIX B: Summary of Cell Contents Sampling
Harty - Spring Discharge Cell Contents

Cell 1 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	2.6	2.8
Field pH	7.42	7.78
Field Temp	11	16
Total Phosphorus	0.148	0.186
Suspended Solids	5.2	7.0

Cell 2 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	4.0	5.8
Field pH	7.98	8.23
Field Temp	11	17
Total Phosphorus	0.228	0.433
Suspended Solids	6.2	7.0

Cell 3 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	3.1	4.5
Field pH	7.59	7.85
Field Temp	10	14
Total Phosphorus	0.081	0.098
Suspended Solids	9.5	13.5

Three consecutive samples collected 3 weeks before discharge

Spring Discharge	6-May-25	7-May-25	8-May-25
BOD5	2.7	2.8	2.4
Field pH	7.19	7.78	7.3
Field Temp	15.6	9.3	7.5
Total Phosphorus	0.117	0.142	0.186
Suspended Solids	4.5	7	4

Spring Discharge	6-May-25	7-May-25	8-May-25
BOD5	2	5.8	4.3
Field pH	8.23	7.88	7.82
Field Temp	17.4	8.6	7.8
Total Phosphorus	0.433	0.13	0.12
Suspended Solids	7	6	5.5

Spring Discharge	6-May-25	7-May-25	8-May-25
BOD5	2	4.5	2.8
Field pH	7.85	7.52	7.4
Field Temp	13.5	9.4	8
Total Phosphorus	0.062	0.098	0.083
Suspended Solids	13.5	7.5	7.5

Harty - Fall Discharge Cell Contents

Cell 1 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	3.4	5.0
Field pH	7.53	7.74
Field Temp	21	22
Total Phosphorus	0.968	1.120
Suspended Solids	9.3	21.3

Cell 2 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	1.7	2.4
Field pH	9.41	9.71
Field Temp	21	22
Total Phosphorus	0.065	0.083
Suspended Solids	12.5	34.0

Cell 3 Contents	Average	Max
BOD5	2.1	2.7
Field pH	8.60	8.68
Field Temp	20	21
Total Phosphorus	0.048	0.052
Suspended Solids	15.8	21.0

Three consecutive samples collected 3 weeks before discharge

Fall Discharge	15-Sep-25	16-Sep-25	17-Sep-25
BOD5	5	2.8	2.5
Field pH	7.38	7.74	7.48
Field Temp	21	22	19
Total Phosphorus	0.91	0.873	1.12
Suspended Solids	3.7	2.8	21.3

Fall Discharge	15-Sep-25	16-Sep-25	17-Sep-25
BOD5	2.4	1.6	< 1
Field pH	9.71	9.28	9.24
Field Temp	21.5	21.5	19.5
Total Phosphorus	0.043	0.083	0.068
Suspended Solids	1	2.5	34

Fall Discharge	15-Sep-25	16-Sep-25	17-Sep-25
BOD5	2.7	2.6	< 1
Field pH	8.52	8.6	8.68
Field Temp	19	20.5	19
Total Phosphorus	0.05	0.052	0.043
Suspended Solids	21	11	15.3

APPENDIX C: Summary of Final Effluent Sampling and Monitoring Data

Spring Combined Effluent	29-May-25	5-Jun-25	12-Jun-25
Field pH (units)	7.23	7.25	7.9
Field Temperature C	19	17	11
Total Phosphorus	0.360	0.052	0.079
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/100 mL)	0	0	0
BOD5	1.6	1.7	1.1
Suspended Solids	4.3	2.3	4.3

Fall Combined Effluent	6-Oct-25	14-Oct-25	28-Oct-25
BOD5	2.5	1.4	2.7
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/100 mL)	28	13	16
Field pH (units)	7.96	8.01	7.05
Field Temperature C	16	12.5	8
Total Phosphorus	0.063	0.022	0.129
Suspended Solids	6.5	< 0.67	6.3

APPENDIX D: Summary of Final Effluent Flow Monitoring Data

Effluent Discharge	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
<i>Effluent Flow - Avg (m3/d)</i>					457	756				324		
<i>Effluent Flow - Max (m3/d)</i>					534	1,032				393		
<i>Effluent Flow - Total (m3)</i>					1,372	9,076				7,449		
<i>Days Discharging</i>					3	12				23		

APPENDIX E: Loading Calculations

Loading Calculations

$$\boxed{\frac{\text{Annual average result}}{\text{L}} \frac{\text{mg}}{\text{L}}} \times \boxed{\frac{1000 \text{ L}}{1 \text{ m}^3} \times \frac{1 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}}} \times \boxed{\frac{\text{annual average flow}}{\text{year}} \frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{year}}} = \boxed{\frac{\text{Loading}}{\text{year}} \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{year}}}$$

convert from mg/L to kg/m³

BOD₅ Loading Calculation

$$\frac{1.8 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ L}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ L}}{1 \text{ m}^3} \times \frac{1 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}} \times \frac{17,897 \text{ m}^3}{\text{a}} = \frac{32.8 \text{ kg}}{\text{a}}$$

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Loading Calculation

$$\frac{4.1 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ L}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ L}}{1 \text{ m}^3} \times \frac{1 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}} \times \frac{17,897 \text{ m}^3}{\text{a}} = \frac{72.7 \text{ kg}}{\text{a}}$$

Total Phosphorous (TP) Loading Calculation

$$\frac{0.12 \text{ mg}}{1 \text{ L}} \times \frac{1000 \text{ L}}{1 \text{ m}^3} \times \frac{1 \text{ g}}{1000 \text{ mg}} \times \frac{1 \text{ kg}}{1000 \text{ g}} \times \frac{17,897 \text{ m}^3}{\text{a}} = \frac{2.1 \text{ kg}}{\text{a}}$$

APPENDIX F: CLI-ECA Reporting Sections

Collection ECA # 291-W601 Schedule E	(Page #) Section in Report
4.6.3 If applicable, includes a summary of all required monitoring data along with an interpretation of the data and any conclusion drawn from the data evaluation about the need for future modifications to the Authorized System or system operations.	(3) MONITORING PROGRAM – COLLECTION SYSTEM OVERFLOWS (CLI-ECA) (2) ABNORMAL DISCHARGE EVENTS, BYPASSES AND SPILLS (2) ALTERATIONS, EXTENSIONS OR REPLACEMENTS TO THE WORKS (6) SUMMARY
4.6.4 Includes a summary of any operating problems encountered and corrective actions taken.	(2) ABNORMAL DISCHARGE EVENTS, BYPASSES AND SPILLS (2) OPERATING PROBLEMS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
4.6.5 Includes a summary of all calibration, maintenance, and repairs carried out on any major structure, Equipment, apparatus, mechanism, or thing forming part of the Municipal Sewage Collection System.	(2) CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL MONITORING EQUIPMENT (2) MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES PERFORMED ON THE WORKS
4.6.6 Includes a summary of any complaints related to the Sewage Works received during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the complaints.	(3) COMPLAINTS
4.6.7 Includes a summary of all Alterations to the Authorized System within the reporting period that are authorized by this Approval including a list of Alterations that pose a Significant Drinking Water Threat.	(2) ALTERATIONS, EXTENSIONS OR REPLACEMENTS TO THE WORKS
4.6.8 Includes a summary of all Collection System Overflow(s) and Spill(s) of Sewage, including: a) Dates; b) Volumes and durations; c) If applicable, loadings for total suspended solids, BOD, total phosphorus, and total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and sampling results for E.coli; d) Disinfection, if any; and e) Any adverse impact(s) and any corrective actions, if applicable.	(2) ABNORMAL DISCHARGE EVENTS, BYPASSES AND SPILLS

<p>4.6.9 Includes a summary of efforts made to reduce Collection System Overflows, Spills, STP Overflows, and/or STP Bypasses, including the following items, as applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A description of projects undertaken and completed in the Authorized System that result in overall overflow reduction or elimination including expenditures and proposed projects to eliminate overflows with estimated budget forecast for the year following that for which the report is submitted. b) Details of the establishment and maintenance of a PPCP, including a summary of project progresses compared to the PPCP's timelines. c) An assessment of the effectiveness of each action taken. d) An assessment of the ability to meet Procedure F-5-1 or Procedure F-5-5 objectives (as applicable) and if able to meet the objectives, an overview of next steps and estimated timelines to meet the objectives. e) Public reporting approach including proactive efforts. 	<p>(6) SUMMARY</p>
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Ministry of the Solicitor General

Ministère du Solliciteur général

Office of the Fire Marshal

Bureau du commissaire des incendies

25 Morton Shulman Avenue
Toronto ON M3M 0B1
Tel: 647-329-1100
Fax: 647-329-1143

25, avenue Morton Shulman
Toronto ON M3M 0B1
Tél. : 647-329-1100
Télééc. : 647-329-1143



Date: March 3, 2026

To: Fire Chiefs
Deputy Fire Chiefs

From: John McBeth
Deputy Fire Marshal – Training, Certification, & Public Education

Re: Supporting Firefighter Certification

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) continues to support departments in achieving firefighter certification, and our engagement with fire departments, training providers, and stakeholders across Ontario will not waver as we progress towards the first compliance deadline for [O. Reg 343/22](#) on July 1, 2026.

In doing so, our collective focus has always been to modernize firefighter training, testing and certification processes. Our shared goal is a consistent, transparent, and fair certification system that supports firefighter safety, professional competency, and public trust.

As this work progresses, the training and certification team remains committed to responsive service, reduced administrative burden, and improved access to timely, accurate information. To demonstrate this commitment, I am pleased to outline some key enhancements and supports to assist fire departments.

Frequently Asked Questions

To address questions regarding certification requirements, testing, timelines, and individual circumstances, we have developed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. The FAQ serves as a central reference for fire departments and will be updated regularly as our office continues to field questions.

- The most current version is attached and will continue to be available on the [Training and Certification Portal](#).
- Updates will reflect ongoing program enhancements and clarifications and will be version controlled so that you are accessing the most up to date information. Please refer to the Portal for the most up to date questions and answers.

eTesting Platform Enhancements

As of April 1, 2026, the OFM is enhancing its eTesting platform to improve usability, reliability, and alignment with the certification framework.

Departments and candidates with testing sessions already booked through AS&E will be contacted directly regarding any impacts and next steps to upcoming testing sessions. Our priority is a smooth transition, minimal disruption, and continued integrity of the testing process.

Those locations that are already making use of our current eTesting system will benefit from increased testing functionality in the new platform. As we roll out this new platform, we will provide access (in a phased approach) to new departments who have not yet accessed eTesting as a way to support certification in Ontario.

Training and Certification Portal Improvements

We are expanding the functionality and information available through the Training and Certification Portal to support accurate and comprehensive student records.

A complete student profile will now allow students to:

- Access OFM course and training history
- Review AS&E written and practical testing data

In the next few weeks, official results for written and practical certification examinations will also be accessible directly through the portal, providing greater visibility into certification status. Unofficial results will no longer be sent to departments as official scoring and portal updates will take place much sooner with enhanced access for learners.

Issuing IFSAC Certificates

To support system enhancements and improved service delivery, the OFM will move to scheduled certification printing intervals.

- Certification results will be available promptly through the Training and Certification Portal following successful exam and post course assignment completion.
- Physical IFSAC certificates will be printed and distributed quarterly to departments, which will allow departments to align their recognition events and reduce the risk of certificates being misplaced when they don't arrive on a regular schedule within departments.

This approach prioritizes timely access to results while ensuring consistency and data integrity.

As we move toward the mandatory certification deadline, the OFM remains committed to supporting the Ontario fire service through clear communication, ongoing system improvements, and collaborative engagement.

Fire departments are encouraged to monitor the Training and Certification Portal, including the FAQ document, for ongoing updates. Additional communications will follow as enhancements are implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John McBeth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

John McBeth
Deputy Fire Marshal - Training, Certification and Public Education

Ministry of Northern Economic
Development and Growth

Office of the Minister

16th Floor, Suite 1600
438 University Avenue
Toronto ON M5G 2K8

Ministère du Développement et
de la croissance économique
du Nord

Bureau du ministre

16^e étage, bureau 1600
438, avenue University
Toronto ON M5G 2K8



774-2026-47

March 25th, 2026

Her Worship Johanne Baril
Mayor
Township of Val Rita-Harty
106 Government Road, PO Box 100
Val Rita-Harty, ON P0L 2G0
mayor@valharty.ca

Dear Mayor Baril: *Johanne*

It was a pleasure meeting with The Township of Val Rita-Harty at this year's Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference.

I was pleased to learn that you are working with the Ministry of Infrastructure to obtain funding for the township's water treatment plant. I understand the importance of ensuring that residents have access to safe and reliable drinking water, and I appreciated hearing more about the steps you are taking to advance this priority. My office has requested Minister McCarthy's office to keep us up to date, as you continue working towards a funding solution.

Our discussion regarding the impacts associated with the 2023 Highway 11 closure, provided helpful context on the situation. I understand this remains an important issue for the municipality. My staff have connected with Minister Kerzner's office, to raise your concerns on what future measures can be taken to ensure that in the event of future closures, that collaboration between local authorities are coordinated with your community. As your discussions continue, please keep my office informed.

Additionally, as noted during our meeting, the opportunity to bring additional housing development to the township is being explored. I understand my staff have connected you directly with the office of the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to discuss what resources may be available to prepare for any future development. My office would be glad to be kept updated as you continue these conversations.

Once again, thank you for meeting with me at the 2026 ROMA Conference. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Pirie".

The Honourable George Pirie
Minister of Northern Economic Development and Growth

.../2

- c: Roger Lachance, Councillor, Val Rita-Harty (councillor_lachance@valharty.ca)
- The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation (minister.mto@ontario.ca)
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Acting Minister of Infrastructure (minister.moi@ontario.ca)
- The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General (Minister.SOLGEN@ontario.ca)

PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT REPORT
for the month of March 2026

MAKE	Meter hrs beginning of month	Meter hrs this month	Total meter hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
Kubota 2004	5381	22	5403	22	Rink
COMMENTS: Blower chain repair					

MAKE	Km beginning of month	Km this month	Total km end of month	Meter hrs beginning of month	Hrs this month	Total meter hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
2007 Mack 700 Truck/S.P./Sander	148807	2160	150967	8507	105	8612	85	Snow removal
							20	Sanding
COMMENTS: Weld broken shoe mounting								

MAKE	Meter hrs beginning of month	Meter hrs this month	Total meter hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
2014 John Deere Backhoe/loader	6848	110	6958	110	Snow removal
COMMENTS: Two new front tires. Two new king pins and bearings. Left hand side.					

MAKE	Km beginning of month	Km this month	Total km end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
2018 Chevrolet 1 Ton	88166	1006	89172		
COMMENTS: Oil change					

MAKE	Meter hrs beginning of month	Meter hrs this month	Total hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
1998 Champion Grader	17345	112	17457	24	Cut Ice in concessions
				88	Snow removal
COMMENTS: Install new wing cable					

MAKE	Meter hrs beginning of month	Meter hrs this month	Total hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
CAT D-5 DOZER	6931	19	6950	19	Compact waste
					Snow removal
COMMENTS: Change bearings in idler pulley. Two new belts					

MAKE	Meter hrs beginning of month	Meter hrs this month	Total hrs end of month	Hours worked this month	Work done
Zamboni	8525	6	8531	6	Rink
COMMENTS:					

OTHER MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:

1.Snow removal

2. cut snow banks/ cut ice in concessions

3. Haul snow

4. Sanding

5. Rink maintenance

6. Equipment Maintenance and repair

7. Recycle

8. Landfill

9. Hired two loaders to open concession roads back to two lanes. Due to drifting along farmers fields. 41.5 hrs loader rental this month.

10. Excavator cleaned storm sewer drainage ditch from Eglise Ave to warehouse. Typically takes 24-26 hours. This year due to snow loads we received it took 38 hrs.

11. Minor community center maintenance

12.

SIGNATURE: Stefan Landry

DATE: March 31, 2026

http://companyweb/shared_documents/blank_forms/public_works_equipment_report.doc

VAL RITA HARTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

**MONTHLY REPORT
March 2026**

March 1st-March 31st

March 11, 2026 - Truck #2 Safety check at OK Tire

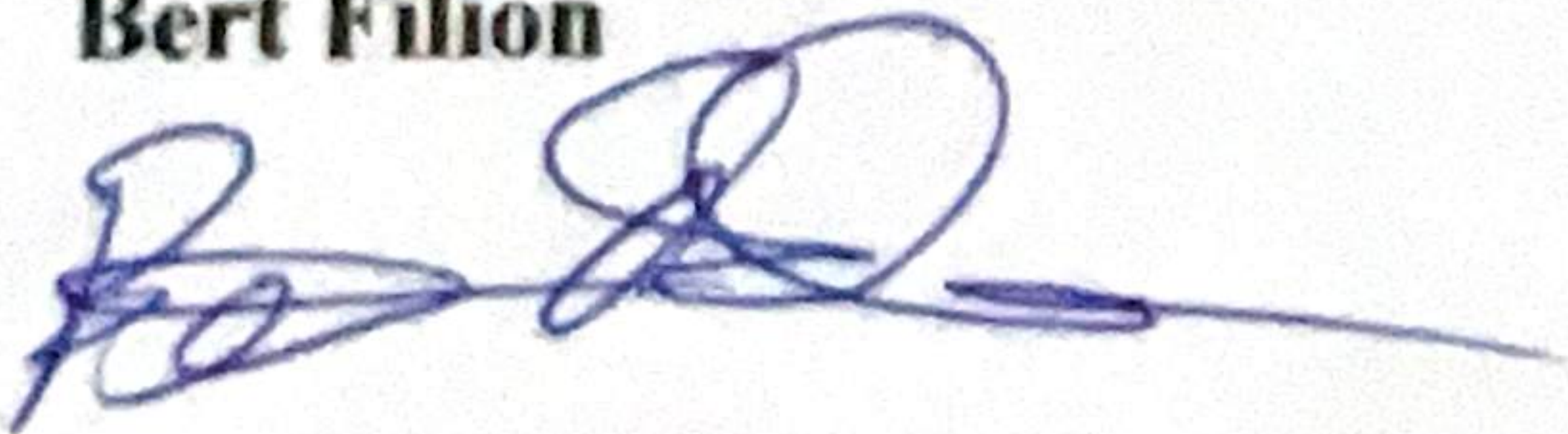
March 12, 2026 - Truck #1 Safety Check at OK Tire

March 19, 2026- Meeting and Training

7 firefighters responded

March 30, 2026- Budget Meeting

Bert Filion



Fire Chief



Municipalité de Val Rita-Harty Municipality

Item #:11 (Consent)

Personnel responsable / staff: Deputy Clerk

Date : April 21, 2026

pour / for: conseil / Council

Sujet / Re : MMAH Election Information Session

Description:

The Town of Kapuskasing and the Town of Hearst are both hosting Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Info Sessions for the 2026 Municipal Elections. In Kapuskasing it will be held on May 5 at 6 p.m. at the Civic Centre and in Hearst on May 6 at 6 p.m. at the Inovo Centre.

Lien avec plan stratégique / Link to Strategic Plan:

The report aligns with the Municipal Strategic Plan by ensuring transparency, accountability and communication.

Recommandation / Recommendation:

Provided for information purposes. See attachment for Kapuskasing session.

Financial Implications: 2026 Budget – N/A

Rapport soumis par / Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Major

Deputy Clerk

Participate in MMAH Info Session for 2026 Municipal Elections

TammyFillion<Tammy.Fillion@kapuskasing.ca>
accounting@moonbeam.ca;alemieux@hearst.ca;+11 others

Hi Everyone,

On behalf of the Town of Kapuskasing, I am pleased to invite your municipality to participate in an upcoming Candidate Information Session in preparation for the 2026 Municipal Election.

The session will be delivered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) in collaboration with the Town of Kapuskasing and other interested municipalities and will take place as follows:

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Civic Centre, Town of Kapuskasing

MMAH will provide a presentation covering key topics for potential candidates, including:

- Roles and responsibilities of elected officials and staff
- Eligibility rules
- Nomination process
- Campaign finances
- Compliance Audit
- Third Party Advertising
- Scrutineers
- Recounts

Following the presentation, the event will transition into a trade show-style format, where participating municipalities will have the opportunity to host a table or kiosk to share their candidate packages and engage directly with individuals interested in running for office. This is a great opportunity to promote candidate education and connect with potential candidates.

Please advise at your earliest convenience if your municipality is interested in participating.

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

Thank you, and I look forward to your participation.

Tammy Fillion
Administrative Secretary / secretaire administrative
Town of / Ville de Kapuskasing
88, promenade Riverside Drive
Kapuskasing, On
P5N 1B3

705-337-4252



Municipalité de Val Rita-Harty Municipality

Item #:	Personnel responsable / staff: Deputy Clerk
Date : April 21, 2026	pour / for: conseil / Council
Sujet / Re : Fire Department funding application for communication equipment	

Description:

Attached is an application for funding to the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command by the Val Rita-Harty Fire Department for communications equipment with grant request totalling \$9,340. The communication equipment for which funding is being requested is for 4 Motorola portable radios with speaker/microphones and 4 Motorola monitor VI Pagers with amplifier charges.

Lien avec plan stratégique / Link to Strategic Plan:

The report aligns with the Municipal Strategic Plan by ensuring transparency, accountability and safety to personnel and residents.

Recommandation / Recommendation:

THAT the Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty supports the grant funding application to the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command by the Val Rita-Harty Fire Department in the amount of \$9,340 for essential communications equipment.

Financial Implications: 2026 Budget - Nil

Rapport soumis par / Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Major
Deputy Clerk



CORPORATION DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ / OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA - HARTY

TEL: (705) 335-6146
FAX: (705) 337-6292

106 GOVERNMENT ROAD W
VAL RITA, ON, P0L 2G0

WWW.VALHARTY.CA
ADMINISTRATION@VALHARTY.CA

Grant Application – Fire Department Communication Equipment Upgrade

Contact

Bert Filion
Fire Chief
Val Rita-Harty Fire Department

Project Location

Val Rita-Harty Fire Department

Description of Need

The Corporation of the Township of Val Rita-Harty Fire Department currently relies on aging communication equipment that no longer meets its operational demands. Reliable communication is essential for firefighter safety, coordination, and effective emergency response, particularly in a rural area where coverage can be limited.

Communication limitations have already been identified during emergency response situations, increasing risks for both firefighters and the public.

Proposed Project

The Fire Department is seeking funding to upgrade communication equipment, including:

- 4 Motorola R5 Portable Radios with speaker/microphones
- 4 Motorola Minitor VI Pagers with amplifier chargers

Detailed Budget (Excluding Taxes)

Motorola R5 Portable Radios – 4 units @ \$1,370.00 = \$5,480.00

Motorola Minitor VI Pagers – 4 units @ \$965.00 = \$3,860.00

Total Requested: \$9,340.00

Community Benefit

This project will improve public safety by ensuring reliable communication during emergencies. It will enhance coordination, reduce response delays, and improve the safety of firefighters and residents.

Municipal Council (Term: December 2022 – October 2026)

Mayor: Johanne Baril

Councillors:

Angèle Beauvais

Roger Lachance

Alain Tremblay

Steven Lambert

Required Endorsements

Municipal Clerk – Council Resolution

Fire Chief – Bert Filion



Municipalité de Val Rita-Harty Municipality

Item #:	Personnel responsable / staff: Treasurer
Date April 21, 2026	pour / for: conseil / Council
Sujet / Re : CRA – La Societe Developpment Economique Communautaire	

Description:

Canada Revenue Agency has been in contact with me to discuss source deduction payments received by CRA for the months of February 2025, April 2025, and May 2025 under the La Societe Developpment Economique business number. The total remittance received is \$682.48.

CRA requires either a monthly remittance or a NIL remittance report monthly. Alternatively, if the account is not going to be used, it should be closed by representatives they have on file for this account.

Lien avec plan stratégique / Link to Strategic Plan:

The report aligns with the Municipal Strategic Plan by ensuring transparency and accountability.

Recommandation / Recommendation:

THAT Council for the Municipality of Val Rita-Harty direct as follows: _____

Financial Implications: None

Rapport soumis par / respectfully submitted:

Leanne Crozier
Treasurer



Municipalité de Val Rita-Harty Municipality

Item #: 12.4

Personnel responsable / staff: Deputy Clerk

Date : April 21, 2026

pour / for: conseil / Council

Sujet / Re : Sanding in front of MTO and Harty Pit Road

Description:

At the March 31, 2026 Special Meeting, Council requested that the following be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting of Council:

Sanding in front of MTO and Harty Pit Road.

In discussion with the Public Works Foreman S. Landry, he advised that at this time all roadways are being maintained equally. Additional information from Council is appreciated and S. Landry will be pleased to respond/speak to enquiries from Council.

Lien avec plan stratégique / Link to Strategic Plan:

The report aligns with the Municipal Strategic Plan by ensuring transparency and accountability.

Recommandation / Recommendation:

THAT Council direct staff _____

Financial Implications: 2026 Budget – N/A

Rapport soumis par / Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Major

Deputy Clerk

Calendar of Meetings

Name	Date	Location
Nominations Open	Nominations open Friday May 1 st however office is closed until May 5 th .(nominations accepted during regular business hours) to August 21 st (office will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)	Municipal Office
MMAH Candidate Information Session in Kapuskasing	May 5, 2026 at 6 p.m.	Kapuskasing Civic Centre
MMAH Candidate Information Session in Hearst	May 6, 2026 at 6 p.m.	Hearst Inovo Centre
FONOM	May 11 to 13, 2026	Timmins
Regular Council Meeting	May 19, 2026 at 6 p.m.	Council Chambers
CEMC-Emergency Management Program Committee	May 20, 2026 at 5 p.m.	Council Chambers
CEMC-Emergency Management Control Group & Firefighters	May 20, 2026 at 6:30	Council Chambers
AMO	August 16 to 19, 2026	Ottawa

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAL RITA HARTY

BYLAW NUMBER 1251-26

BEING A BYLAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

Legal Authority

Scope of Powers

Section 8(1) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, ("*Municipal Act*") as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on municipalities to enable them to govern their affairs as they consider appropriate, and to enhance their ability to respond to municipal issues.

Powers of a Natural Person

Section 9 of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act.

Powers Exercised by Council

Section 5 (1) of the *Municipal Act* provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by its Council

Powers Exercised by By-law

Section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act* provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under section 9, shall be exercised by bylaw unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise.

Preamble

Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty ("Council") acknowledges that many of the decisions it makes during a meeting of Council, regular, special, or otherwise, are done by resolution. Section 5 (3) requires that Council exercise their powers by Bylaw.

Council further acknowledges that the passing of resolutions are more expedient than adopting Bylaws for each decision.

Decision

Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty decides it in the best interest of the Corporation to confirm its decisions by way of Confirmatory Bylaw.

Direction

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty directs as follows:

1. The Confirmatory Period of this Bylaw shall be for the Special Council meetings of March 30 and 31, 2026 and the Regular Council meeting of April 21, 2026.
2. All By-Laws passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.
3. All resolutions passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.
4. All other proceedings, decisions, and directives of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Val Rita Harty during the period mentioned in Section 1 are hereby ratified and confirmed.
5. This Bylaw takes effect on the day of its final passing.

Read and adopted by Resolution 26- this 21st day of April, 2026.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk