



**TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON
HYBRID COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND, 2026 - 5:00 P.M.**

Council meetings are recorded and will be available on the Township website under Quick Links – Council Agendas and Minutes within 5 business days of the Council meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84345663527?pwd=T4CjRUyFmbOvapJyhH013pjpHmdGEk.>

1

Meeting ID: 843 4566 3527

Passcode: 787381

One tap mobile

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AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

We will begin the meeting by sharing the Land Acknowledgement Statement:

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Melancthon Township recognizes the ancestral lands and treaty territories of the Tionontati (Petun/Wyandot(te)), Haudenosaunee (Six Nations), and Anishinaabe Peoples. The Township of Melancthon resides within the lands named under the Haldimand Deed of 1784 and the Lake Simcoe-Nottawasaga Treaty (Treaty 18).

These territories upon which we live and learn, are steeped in rich Indigenous history and traditions. It is with this statement that we declare to honour and respect the past and present connection of Indigenous peoples with this land, its waterways and resources.
- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Additions/Deletions/Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
- 6. Approval of Draft Minutes – March 19th, 2026**
- 7. Business Arising from Minutes**
- 8. Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege**
- 9. Public Question Period** (Please visit our website under Agendas and Minutes for information on Public Question Period)

10. Public Works

1. Accounts ending December 31st, 2025 & March 2026
2. Other

11. Planning

1. Applications to Permit
2. Other

12. Strategic Plan

13. Climate Change Initiatives

14. Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur

15. Committee/Board Reports & Recommendations

16. Correspondence

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board – January 21st, 2026
2. Heritage Advisory Committee – January 12th, 2026
3. Parks & Recreation Board – February 23rd, 2026

Items for Information Purposes

1. County of Dufferin – Notice of Public Meeting for Application to Amend County of Dufferin Official Plan – 476420 3rd Line, Melancthon (Chipwoods Park)
2. Town of Shelburne – Increased Capacity of the Town of Shelburne’s Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) – Notice of Completion – Correction
3. Niagara Escarpment Commission – Approval of Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment PC 225 22 – Agricultural Policies Amendment
4. Township of Amaranth – Resolution regarding Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex Board

17. General Business

1. Accounts ending December 31st, 2025 & March 2026
2. Notice of Intent to Pass By-law
3. New/Other Business/Additions
4. Unfinished Business
 1. Email From Debra Jones regarding Proposal to the Township of Melancthon for Implementation for a Free Online Business Directory for Dufferin County
 2. Amendments to the Township Salvage Yard By-law 56-2019 (Mayor White)
 3. Report from Deputy Mayor McLean – Remuneration Report for Council
 4. Town Hall Meeting April 28th, 2026 – Topics
5. Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

18. Delegations

19. Third Reading of By-laws

20. Notice of Motion

21. Confirmation By-law

22. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting – Thursday April 16th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

**APPLICATIONS TO PERMIT FOR APPROVAL
April 2, 2026 COUNCIL MEETING**

| PROPERTY OWNER | PROPERTY DESCRIPTION | SIZE OF BUILDING | TYPE OF STRUCTURE | USE OF BUILDING | DOLLAR VALUE | D.C.'s | COMMENTS |
|--|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|
| 1001232353 Ontario Inc Agent: Larry Waddell - Waddell Engineering Ltd | Pt Lots 275 to 277, Con 2 SW 117287 2nd Line SW | 2350m2 (25295.19sqft) | Crop Storage Building | Crop Storage Building | \$1,500,000 | Yes | Failed - Site Plan Agreement Amendment Required |
| LVI Farms Inc - Levi Hoover Agent: Enoch Martin - Grey North Carpentry Ltd. | Pt Lot 33, Con 3 NE 199057 2nd Line NE | 38.31m2 (412.36sqft) | Agriculture Storage Shed | Agricultural | \$30,000 | No | With Planner for review |



MULMUR-MELANCTHON FIRE BOARD MINUTES

January 21, 2026

Present: Bill Neilson, Chair – Melancthon Township
Earl Hawkins – Mulumur Township
Ralph Moore – Melancthon Township
Mathew Waterfield – Fire Chief
Jeff Merkley – Acting Deputy Fire Chief
Roseann Knechtel – Secretary

Regrets: Kim Lyon, Vice Chair – Mulumur Township

1. Call to Order by the Secretary

The Secretary called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. Appointment of a Chair and Vice Chair

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That the Mulumur-Melancthon Fire Board appoint Bill Neilson as Chair and Kim Lyon as Vice Chair for the year 2026.

Carried.

3. Appointment of a Secretary

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That the Mulumur-Melancthon Fire Board appoint Roseann Knechtel as Secretary for the year 2026.

Carried.

4. Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize

the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the minutes of December 17, 2025 be approved.

Carried.

7. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - None

8. Administration

8.1 Fire Department Tour

Members conducted a tour of the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Hall.

8.2 Annual Review of Bylaws and Agreements

- **Township of Mulmur - Establishing and Regulating By-law 2013**
- **Township of Melancthon – Establishing and Regulating By-law 2014**
- **Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board Agreement**

Members reviewed the by-laws and agreements, noting the need to update the establishing and regulating by-laws for each Township. Discussion ensued on timing for the updates in relation to proposed Shelburne Fire Board changes. By-laws are anticipated to be updated in 2027.

8.3 Annual Review of Policies

- **Procedural Policy**
- **Abuse and Neglect Policy**

- **Capital Asset Policy 2020**
- **Code of Conduct Policy**
- **Disposition of Land Policy 2023**
- **Hiring Policy 2021**
- **No Towing Policy 2020**
- **Procurement Policy 2021**
- **Progressive Discipline Policy 2021**
- **Use of Hall and Equipment Policy 2020**
- **Wage Administration Policy 2023**

Members reviewed the above noted policies and did not identify any changes or updates required.

8.4 Fire Service Levels Discussion

The MMFB recommended that a meeting with the Township Clerk's and Fire Chief be scheduled to discuss fire service levels in relation to the updates required for the Establishing and Regulating By-laws.

8.5 Draft Performance Review Policy

Members reviewed the draft policy and discussed the timing of the reviews in relation to hiring and elections. The Fire Chief is to review "Schedule B – Fire Chief Annual Performance Appraisal" to confirm areas being evaluated are applicable and that no changes are required for the next meeting.

Direction was provided to draft a policy for the review of the Deputy Chief and Captains as well, for consideration at the next meeting.

8.6 Township of Melancthon Correspondence

Members received the correspondence and directed the Chief to work directly with the Township of Melancthon to provide the required information.

8.7 Fire Boards General Discussion – None

8.8 General Fire Chief Update

Chief Waterfield updated Members on Department activities, noting:

- A total of 130 calls for service in 2025 (111 in 2024).

- 3 calls for service to date in 2026 (all MVC's).
- A drop in medical calls with the implementation of the new medical priority dispatch system.
- The forecasted purchase of an ARGO in 2026.
- Current issues with the Department generator – in the process of obtaining quotes.

9. Information Items

9.1 Accounts

9.2 2025 Budget to Actual

9.3 Township of Mulmur: MMFB 2026 Budget Resolution

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board receive the information items as presented.

Carried.

10. Items for Future Meetings

10.1 Deputy and Captain Performance Review Policies

10.2 Fire Chief Performance Review Policy

10. Adjournment

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That we do now adjourn at 7:00 p.m. to meet again on March 18, 2026 at 5:30 pm, in person at the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Hall, or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE- JANUARY 12, 2026

The Township of Melancthon heritage Advisory committee held an electronic meeting on January 12, 2026 at 6:30 pm. The following members were present: Members Todd McIntosh, James Mclean, Janet Burke and David Thwaites.

1. **Call to Order-** Vice-Chair McIntosh called the meeting to order and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township website.
2. **Land Acknowledgement-** Vice Chair McIntosh shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
3. **Agenda-**Moved by James Mclean, seconded by Janet Burke, be it resolved that the Agenda be approved as circulated, as amended. Carried.
4. **Minutes of November 17, 2025-** Moved by Todd McIntosh, seconded by James Mclean, be it resolved that the Minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held on November 17, 2025 be approved as circulated. Carried.
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes-** none
6. **Declaration of pecuniary interest or conflict of Interest –** none
7. **General Business-** none

(1) New/other/Addition-

1. **Heritage Week 2026-** Discussion about possible “project’ focus for Melancthon Township Heritage Week, February, 2026. As with 2025 Heritage Week the hope would be to have the Township post daily on Facebook a photo(s) from a theme referencing Melancthon history. Consensus that for 2026 an effort would be made to locate photos of old Mills/water “industries”. Member Burke will try access photos from the Museum of Dufferin that we might use with a brief statement on the history. Member Thwaites has offered to assist. The information will be provided to Township staff at least one week before Heritage Week.

(2) Unfinished Business

1. **One room Schoolhouse project update-** Vice Chair McIntosh updated the Committee. Since November the Report on Section Schools up to #9 have been provided. He will be providing the Reports for a further four schools before the end of January, 2026.
2. **Water History project-** Member Burke provided an update on her efforts to coordinate with the Museum of Dufferin to obtain information relating to the Mills and the history. She will provide an update to the Committee following her meeting with the Museum rep.
3. **Reeve/Mayor/Council:** Member Thwaites confirmed that the Heritage Tab on the Melancthon website has been updated to add the post on the History of members of Township Council dating back to 1853.

4. **Military War Veterans Project-** Member Thwaites confirmed that he had circulated to the Committee members a 28 page Memorandum on the Melancthon men who had served in WW1 and “come home”. The Committee authorized Member Thwaites to forward the document to Township staff to be added to the Melancthon Heritage tab.

5. **War Veteran’s posters-** Member Mclean reported on his discussions with Council and Township staff on completing the Poster project. There had been some concern expressed about the space available to permanently display the Posters. The question was whether we should proceed with the project and the expenditure of the required funds. The Committee directed Member Mclean to move forward with completing the assembly of the posters/frames. The consensus was that the Committee wanted to complete the project as otherwise the purpose would be frustrated. As for the display of the Posters it was noted that the posters could be rotated on display at the Hall and all would be displayed for Remembrance day. There was also discussion of making the Poster display available for use in other forums, including perhaps schools, the Shelburne Legion and the Museum.

8 **Recommendations to Council – None**

9 **Public Question period-** none

10 **Confirmation Motion –** Moved by Member McLean, seconded by Member McIntosh be it resolved that all actions of the members and officers of the Heritage Advisory Committee with respect to every matter addressed and or adopted by the Board on the above date be hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board members and officers at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

11 **Chair Election:** The Committee, in light of the decision of Chair Pedicone to resign as of December 31, 2025, appointed Member McLean to be the Chair.

12 **Adjournment-** Moved by Member McIntosh, seconded by Member Burke that the Meeting be adjourned to the next meeting scheduled for March 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm or at the call of the Chair. Carried. Meeting concluded at approximately 7:15 pm

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Parks and Recreation Board held a virtual meeting on February 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Chair Bill Neilson, Vice-Chair David Thwaites, Members Jessica Plowright, Ruth Plowright, Lynn Hodgson, Doug Read and Darren White, also present was Becky Cunnington, Parks and Recreation Board Secretary. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Chair Neilson shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Additions/Deletions/Approval of Amended Agenda

Additions

Winter Use of the Parks – Member J. Plowright

Deletions

None

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Thwaites, Seconded by Read that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Hodgson, Seconded by J. Plowright that the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting held on January 26, 2026, be approved as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

No declaration declared at this time.

General Business

1) Addition

1. Winter Use of Parks

Member J. Plowright mentioned there currently wasn't access to the Corbetton Park due to the snow and wondered if this was the intention or if the parks could be utilized in the winter months. A discussion was had about the possibility of having access to both the Corbetton and

Horning's Mills Parks for the winter months. There was also discussion about the clearing of the parking lot at the Corbetton Park. It was noted that the current staff and resources may not support this at this time. Member White also suggested that community volunteers may need to be relied on to support initiatives depending on what they would like to see implemented. Staff were directed to reach out to the Public Works Superintendent to inquire what resources, equipment and staffing would be required to have access to the parks in the winter. The Board also discussed creating a survey to circulate to the public to inquire if they would like access to the parks in the winter and what other recreation needs, programs or initiatives they would like to see. Members are to work on questions that could be included in the survey, and they will be discussed at the April meeting.

1) Unfinished Business

1. Riverview Park – Deferred

2. Horning's Mills Park

i. Blue Jay Grant

Vice-Chair Thwaites will reach out to the current users of the ball diamond to discuss the possibility of a partnership and if they are willing to commit to a certain number of days or usage of the ballpark then the board would consider applying for the grant to facilitate improvements at the ball diamond.

ii. Rental Income 2025

The Board had no questions or comments regarding the 2025 Rental Income Report that was circulated.

iii. 2026 Confirmed Rentals

Township Staff advised that both the Men's League and Women's League that had rented the ball diamond last year have sent in their deposits and rental agreements for 2026. Mansfield Minor Ball had reached out but had not yet committed to specific dates.

3. Corbetton Park

i. Slide

ii. Shade Covers/Sails

iii. Community Message Board

iv. Library Boxes

Items i.-iv. were discussed, the slide and sunshade projects are on hold until the budget is passed. The community message board and library boxes will move forward once the weather turns nicer.

4. Melancthon Day

Member R. Plowright shared that OPP Officer McLean is interested in trying to organize and run a ball tournament for Melancthon Day. She also suggested that the park could be licensed again for alcohol and that the hours for the event may need to be adjusted again if the ball tournament does happen. She inquired if Blitzful Treats would be interested in serving food for lunch instead of just treats and then the Mulmur Melancthon Fire Department could run their BBQ for dinner. Chair Neilson will reach out to Blitzful Treats to see if the vehicle they will have at the event would be able to do both treats and food for lunch. Member Hodgson was asked if she would look after organizing the fireworks, bouncy castle and kids raffle baskets again this year which she agreed to. Member R. Plowright volunteered to look after the organization of the food needed for the events over the weekend.

5. 2026 Projects & Events

Touch a Truck Event

Further discussion was had about moving forward with the Touch a Truck Event to be held in early August. Chair Neilson will reach out to the Shelburne Fire Department to see if they would be interested in bringing out some equipment for the event. It was also discussed to reach out to Officer McLean to see if the OPP would be able to bring a cruiser. Member Read will reach out to the owner of a Tow Mater replica to see if they would be available to bring the vehicle to the event. Other suggestions for vehicles that were discussed were Farm Equipment, Township Roads Equipment and an Ambulance. A date will be set based on the availability of the Tow Mater vehicle.

2) Brainstorming

1. Partnership with the County to Promote the Trail

Member Thwaites suggested the Township consider a partnership with the County of Dufferin to help promote the rail trail and events or activities associated with it. A discussion was had and the Board decided to make a recommendation to Council to do so.

Recommendation to Council

The Parks and Recreation Board discussed partnering with the County of Dufferin to promote activities and events utilizing the Dufferin Rail Trail.

As a result of the discussion the Board recommends that Council support the Parks and Recreation Board's recommendation to explore a partnership with the County of Dufferin to collaboratively promote activities and events utilizing the Dufferin Rail Trail

That staff be directed to engage with the County to determine opportunities for joint marketing, community programming, and event coordination, and report back to Council with further details as appropriate.

Public Question Period

None.

Confirmation Motion

Moved by Read, Seconded by Thwaites that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Parks and Recreation Board with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board Members at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

Adjournment

8:21 p.m. - Moved by Hodgson, Seconded by Read that we adjourn this Parks and Recreation Board meeting to meet again on Monday March 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Application to Amend County of Dufferin Official Plan

April 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Mel Lloyd Centre, Entrance F, New Horizon's Room
167 Centre Street, Shelburne

County File No: COPA2-25

Location: 476420 3rd Line, Melancthon (Chipwoods Park)

TAKE NOTICE that the County of Dufferin will hold a Public Meeting pursuant to subsection 22 of the Planning Act to hear public comments on a privately initiated County official plan amendment prior to the County making any decisions at a future meeting.

THE PUBLIC MEETING will be held in-person on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 6:00 pm in the New Horizon's Room at the Mel Lloyd Centre, Entrance F, 167 Centre Street, Shelburne. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the County's website on the Friday prior to the meeting. As this meeting is for the purpose of receiving feedback from the public on the proposed official plan amendment, no decisions will be made by Council at the meeting.

Any person or public body may participate in this process by attending the meeting to speak in-person or by providing written comments on the proposed official plan amendment. Those who attend in-person to speak will have 3 minutes for comments during the meeting.

Written comments received prior to the meeting will be circulated to Council as part of the agenda package for the meeting. Written comments will also continue to be accepted by staff until a decision has been made by Council. Written comments can be sent to the attention of the County Clerk by email or by regular mail to the address listed at the end of this notice.

All information submitted to the County is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act. Personal information collected at the public meeting will be used to support Council in their decision making. Names and comments will form part of the public record.

Please note that this meeting will not be recorded or livestreamed.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT is to redesignate the subject lands from *Countryside Area* (Schedule B) and *Prime Agricultural* (Schedule C) to *Community Settlement Area*. The redesignation is to permit the establishment of a permanent, year-round, affordable leasehold community consisting of 222 residential units, recreational areas, and a defined commercial area.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION including a copy of the proposed official plan amendment is available on the County's website <https://www.dufferincounty.ca/planning-development/application-process-fees/>

OTHER RELATED APPLICATIONS

The applicant has submitted Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendments to the Township of Melancthon. Those applications have not yet been deemed complete, as Township staff are awaiting a decision on the County Official Plan Amendment. No file numbers have been assigned to the applications at the Township level.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED OF THE DECISION of County Council in respect to this matter, you must make a written request to the County Clerk at the address listed below. Such requests must include the name and mailing address/email address to which the notice should be sent.

THE APPROVAL AUTHORITY for County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendments is the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions of the public meeting or make written submissions to the County of Dufferin before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the County of Dufferin before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless in the opinion of the Tribunal there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

DATED at Orangeville this 25th day of March, 2026.

Michelle Dunne, County Clerk
55 Zina Street, Orangeville, ON L9W 1E5
Phone: 519-941-2816 ext. 2504
Email: clerk@dufferincounty.ca



Increased Capacity of the Town of Shelburne's Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP)

Notice of Completion - Correction

On March 24, 2024, The Town of Shelburne issued a Notice of Completion for the Increased Capacity of the Town's Water Pollution Control Plan (WPCP). The Notice incorrectly referred to the Town's assessment following Schedule 'B' requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment 2023 when the assessment followed Schedule 'C' requirements. Having completed all the requirements of the Schedule 'C' assessment, this Municipal Class Assessment was completed on April 22, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Ian Callum, Senior Environmental Project Manager
S. Burnett & Associates Limited
210 Broadway, Unit 203
Orangeville, ON L9W 5G4
T: 519-215-6893
Email: ian.callum@sbaengineering.com

Jim Moss, Director, Development and
Operations
Town of Shelburne
203 Main Street East,
Shelburne, ON L9V 3K7
Tel: 519-925-2600 Ext. 227

Niagara Escarpment Commission

232 Guelph St.
Georgetown, ON L7G 4B1
Tel: 905-877-5191
www.escarpment.org

Commission de l'escarpement du Niagara

232, rue Guelph
Georgetown ON L7G 4B1
No de tel. 905-877-5191
www.escarpment.org



Niagara Escarpment Commission
An agency of the Government of Ontario

March 17, 2026

TO: All Escarpment municipalities
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
Conservation Authorities

Ontario Craft Wineries
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Grape Growers of Ontario
Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario
Beef Farmers of Ontario
Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association
Dairy Farmers of Ontario
Chicken Farmers of Ontario
Bruce Trail Conservancy
Interested Parties

FROM: Sandy Dobbyn
Niagara Escarpment Commission

**RE: Approval of NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT PC 225 22 –
Agricultural Policies amendment**

Please be advised that Pursuant to Section 10 (11) of the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, the Minister of Natural Resources approved Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment PC 225 22, on March 11, 2026. A copy of the amendment is attached.

.../2

INFO 3
APR 2 2026

Note that an updated office consolidation of the [Niagara Escarpment Plan](#) can be downloaded from the NEC website.

For additional information about the Proposed Amendment, please contact the undersigned by telephone at (226) 668-2781 or by email to sandy.dobbyn@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,

Sandy Dobbyn,
Senior Strategic Advisor

Enclosure

Decision of the Minister
Under the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*
Respecting Amendment PC 225 22 to the Niagara Escarpment Plan

WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 6.1(2) of the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter N.2 (the “Act”), the Niagara Escarpment Commission is requesting the following amendment to the Niagara Escarpment Plan:

1) That NEP Part 1.3.3.15 be added as follows:

1.3.3.15. As part of maple sugar harvesting, the tapping of trees, the collection of sap, the placement of minor ancillary equipment or structures (e.g., collection tanks, vacuum systems), and the establishment of minor trails (i.e., without the addition of aggregate material or pavement) to facilitate the collection of sap. For greater certainty, this does not include maple syrup production or sale, or the construction of buildings or structures related to the processing of sap for maple syrup production or sale.

2) That NEP Part 1.4.3.2 be amended by removing the words “in prime agricultural areas” to read as follows:

1.4.3.2. Agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses.

3) That NEP Part 2.7.2 f) be added as follows:

2.7.2 f). Expansions to existing buildings and structures for agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses, if it is demonstrated that: a) there is no alternative and the expansion or alteration in the feature is minimized; and b) the impact of the expansion or alteration on the feature and its functions is minimized and mitigated to the maximum extent possible.

4) That NEP Part 2.7.2 g) be added as follows:

2.7.2 g). Agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses, and on-farm diversified uses in an Earth Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest, which is not also identified as any other Key Natural Heritage Feature, provided it has been demonstrated that the earth science values can be maintained and protected. Planning, design, and construction practices shall be identified that will keep disturbance to landform character to a minimum and ensure the protection of the geological or geomorphological attributes.

5) That the following new definition be added to Appendix 2 of the NEP.

Earth Science Value: values that relate to the geological, soil, and landform features of the environment.

AND WHEREAS the requirements of clauses 10(1)(a), (b) and (c) of the Act pertaining to notification of, or consultation with municipalities, the public, and an advisory committee established under subsection 4(1) of the Act were carried out respecting the proposed amendment;

AND WHEREAS comments supporting the proposal, modification requests and written objections to the proposed amendment were received by the Niagara Escarpment Commission before the expiration of the time for making comments;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 10(9) of the Act, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, after giving consideration to comments received under section 10 of the Act, submitted to me its recommendations on the proposed amendment by a letter dated July 18, 2025;

AND WHEREAS I have received and considered the recommendations of the Niagara Escarpment Commission and the objectives and purpose of the Niagara Escarpment Plan and the Act in relation to the proposed amendment;

THEREFORE, pursuant to subsection 10(11) of the Act, I approve the proposed amendment of the Niagara Escarpment Plan as follows:

1) That NEP Part 1.3.3.15 be added as follows:

1.3.3.15. As part of maple sugar harvesting, the tapping of trees, the collection of sap, the placement of minor ancillary equipment or structures (e.g., collection tanks, vacuum systems), and the establishment of minor trails (i.e., without the addition of aggregate material or pavement) to facilitate the collection of sap. For greater certainty, this does not include maple syrup production or sale, or the construction of buildings or structures related to the processing of sap for maple syrup production or sale.

2) That NEP Part 1.4.3.2 be amended by removing the words “in prime agricultural areas” to read as follows:

1.4.3.2. Agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses.

3) That NEP Part 2.7.2 f) be added as follows:

2.7.2 f). Expansions to existing buildings and structures for agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses, if it is demonstrated that: a) there is no alternative and the expansion or alteration in the feature is minimized; and b) the impact of the expansion or alteration on the feature and its functions is minimized and mitigated to the maximum extent possible.

4) That NEP Part 2.7.2 g) be added as follows:

2.7.2 g). Agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses, and on-farm diversified uses in an Earth Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest, which is not also identified as any other Key Natural Heritage Feature, provided it has been demonstrated that the earth science values can be maintained and protected. Planning, design, and construction practices shall be identified that will keep

disturbance to landform character to a minimum and ensure the protection of the geological or geomorphological attributes.

5) That the following new definition be added to Appendix 2 of the NEP.

Earth Science Value: values that relate to the geological, soil, and landform features of the environment.

Dated this 11 day of March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MH', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Honourable Mike Harris
Minister of Natural Resources



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

February 24, 2026

Ms. Kim Fraser, Facility Administration Manager
Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex Board
200 Fiddlepark Lane
Shelburne, ON L9V 2C9

Re: Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex Board

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of Council held February 18, 2026, Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 6

Moved by: B. Metzger

Seconded by: G. Little

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council of the Township of Amaranth provide notice to withdraw from the Centre Dufferin Recreation Centre Board unless an updated agreement is reached by August 1, 2026.

CARRIED

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin
CAO/Clerk

Denise Holmes

From: Debra Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2026 10:19 AM
To: Denise Holmes; Darren White
Subject: Re: Proposal to the Township of Melancthon
Attachments: Melancthon_Business_Directory_Brief.pdf

Dear Members of Council,

Thank you for your favourable response to the proposed business directory initiative. I agree that a **Melancthon Township-focused directory** is a practical starting point.

To support further consideration, I have attached a brief comparison of how nearby municipalities approach online business directories, along with a recommended model tailored specifically for Melancthon.

The key takeaway is straightforward: while larger centres have functional directories, most rural townships do not. This creates a clear opportunity for Melancthon to implement a **simple, low-cost, and highly effective directory** that would immediately improve access to local services and support local businesses.

Importantly, this can be achieved using existing website tools, with businesses submitting and maintaining their own listings, keeping ongoing staff requirements minimal.

I would be pleased to assist further in shaping the structure and rollout of this initiative at a planning level. While I do not have the technical expertise to implement the system directly, I am happy to support the concept and help ensure it is practical and successful.

Thank you for your continued leadership and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss next steps if helpful.

Sincerely,

Debra Jones



Attached: Melancthon Business Directory Comparison Brief

From: Denise Holmes <dholmes@melancthontownship.ca>
Sent: March 5, 2026 4:28 PM
To: Debra Jones [REDACTED] Darren White <dwhite@melancthontownship.ca>
Subject: RE: Proposal to the Township of Melancthon

Hi Debra,

We will put this on the next Agenda for a discussion.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Denise B. Holmes, AMCT
CAO/Clerk, Township of Melancthon
519-925-5525 Ext. 101

The Administration Office will be open to the public Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be no public access between 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. as the Office will be closed.

From: Debra Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 11:35 AM
To: Darren White <dwhite@melancthontownship.ca>; Denise Holmes <dholmes@melancthontownship.ca>
Subject: Proposal to the Township of Melancthon

Proposal to the Township of Melancthon
Implementation of a Free Online Business Directory for Dufferin County

Submitted to: Township of Melancthon Council

Purpose: Strengthening Sustainable Economic Growth, Community Well-Being, and Local Business Resilience

Executive Summary

This proposal recommends that the Township of Melancthon develop and host a **free, centralized online business directory listing all businesses across Dufferin County**.

The directory would serve as:

- A one-stop digital hub for residents to find local trades, services, retailers, and professionals
- A visibility platform for small and rural businesses
- A tool to advance sustainable growth and economic resilience
- A cost-effective strategy to strengthen community well-being

In challenging economic times, municipalities have a unique opportunity to support local enterprise through infrastructure that increases visibility, connectivity, and access — without placing additional financial burdens on businesses.

Why This Matters Now

1. Supporting Local Businesses in Difficult Economic Conditions

Small and rural businesses face increasing pressure from:

- Rising operational costs
- Competition from large urban and online corporations

- Limited marketing budgets
- Reduced walk-in traffic

A free, municipally supported online directory would:

- Increase discoverability of local businesses
- Keep consumer spending within the region
- Reduce dependence on paid advertising platforms
- Level the digital playing field for smaller operators

When residents can easily find local options, they are more likely to shop locally — strengthening the local tax base and sustaining employment within the county.

Alignment with Township Goals

The Township of Melancthon has consistently emphasized:

- Sustainable growth
- Responsible development
- Community well-being
- Economic resilience

A centralized business directory directly supports these goals.

Sustainable Growth

Sustainable development is not only about land use — it is about economic circulation. A local business directory:

- Encourages residents to source goods and services locally
- Reduces travel distances and associated environmental impact
- Strengthens rural supply chains
- Supports long-term viability of small enterprises

Keeping economic activity local is one of the most effective forms of sustainable development.

Community Well-Being

Community health is strengthened when:

- Residents know who their local tradespeople are
- Services are easy to find in emergencies
- New residents can quickly integrate into the local economy
- Businesses feel supported by their municipality

A directory fosters:

- Local trust networks
- Increased interaction between residents and business owners
- Stronger civic identity

It creates visibility and cohesion — especially important in rural communities.

A One-Stop-Shop for Residents

Residents often struggle to quickly locate:

- Local contractors and trades
- Healthcare and wellness services
- Agricultural suppliers
- Home services
- Retail and specialty services

A searchable online directory would allow filtering by:

- Category
- Location
- Service type
- Contact information
- Website and social media links

This convenience reduces reliance on out-of-county providers and improves local economic circulation.

Economic Development Benefits

1. Increased Local Spending Retention

When residents find local providers easily, spending remains within Dufferin County. This strengthens:

- Municipal revenues
- Employment stability
- Business expansion opportunities

2. Attraction of New Residents and Investors

Prospective residents and entrepreneurs evaluating Melancthon look for:

- Service availability
- Economic vibrancy
- Community infrastructure

A comprehensive directory signals:

- Organization
- Business diversity
- Pro-growth municipal leadership

It becomes a marketing asset for the Township itself.

3. Business Equity and Inclusion

Not all businesses have:

- Websites
- SEO expertise
- Social media advertising budgets

A free directory ensures equal access to visibility — regardless of size or technical skill.

Implementation Approach

The directory could be:

- Hosted directly on the Township website
- Developed in collaboration with Dufferin County or the local Chamber of Commerce
- Updated annually via business self-registration and verification

Key Features:

- Free listing for all Dufferin County businesses
- Searchable by industry and service category
- Mobile-friendly interface
- Optional map view
- Regular verification to ensure accuracy

Costs would be relatively modest compared to the economic benefit generated through improved business visibility.

Long-Term Vision

This initiative can evolve into:

- A “Shop Local” campaign integration
- Seasonal business promotion features
- Emergency services quick-reference lists
- New resident welcome resources
- Tourism and agri-business promotion tools

It becomes not merely a list — but a digital economic ecosystem.

Conclusion

A free online business directory for Dufferin County, hosted or supported by the Township of Melancthon, represents:

- A low-cost, high-impact economic development strategy
- A direct support mechanism for small and rural businesses
- A meaningful step toward sustainable growth
- A tangible investment in community well-being

In a time when local economies face increasing external pressures, strengthening internal connectivity is both practical and visionary.

This initiative demonstrates leadership, foresight, and a commitment to keeping Melancthon — and Dufferin County — economically resilient and community-focused.

I respectfully request that Council consider placing this item on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

DebraJones



Business Directory Comparison Brief

Melancthon Township Opportunity Assessment

Purpose

To evaluate how nearby municipalities present online business directories and identify a practical, low-cost model for Melancthon Township.

| Municipality | Directory Type | Searchable | User-Friendly | Effectiveness |
|----------------|----------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| Orangeville | Structured directory | Yes | High | Strong |
| Shelburne | Semi-structured | Partial | Moderate | Good |
| Grand Valley | Basic listings | No | Low | Limited |
| Mono | External links | No | Low | Limited |
| Amaranth | Minimal | No | Low | Weak |
| East Garafraxa | Minimal | No | Low | Weak |
| Mulmur | Limited | No | Low | Weak |
| Melancthon | Minimal/none | No | Low | Opportunity |

Key Insight

There is a clear gap between urban, fully searchable directories and rural township listings. Melancthon has an opportunity to implement a simple, modern solution that exceeds peer municipalities.

Recommended Approach

Develop a simple, searchable, self-managed directory using existing website tools. Businesses submit their own listings, with Township approval and annual verification.

Outcome

Low-cost, quick to launch, minimal maintenance, and high value to residents and local businesses. Positions Melancthon as a leader among rural municipalities.