

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH  
MOUNT FOREST AQUATICS AD-HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA  
TUESDAY, JUNE 16 @ 6:00 P.M.  
Plume Room, Mount Forest and District Sports Complex**

SUBJECT	PAGE	LEAD	ACTION
<b>Call to Order and Adoption of Agenda</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the agenda for the June 16, 2026, Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting be accepted and passed.		Chair Burke	Resolution
<b>Declaration of Pecuniary Interest</b>			
		Chair Burke	
<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 10, 2026</b>			
Accepted by Council at the February 23, 2026 Meeting of Wellington North Council  Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the Minutes from the February 10, 2026, committee meeting.	001	Chair Burke	Resolution
<b>Corporate Donor Update</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the verbal update on presentations made to local organizations since the last committee meeting.		Chair Burke and Member Tout	Resolution
<b>Fundraising Sub-Committee Update</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the verbal update from the Fundraising Sub-Committee.		Committee	Resolution
<b>Update from Report to Council</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the verbal update regarding Report RCED 2026-024 (Mount Forest Pool), as previously received by Wellington North Council on May 19, 2026.	005	Chair Burke and CDC Wilson	Resolution
<b>Update on External Grant Opportunities</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the verbal update about external grant opportunities.		CDC Wilson	Resolution

<b>Summer 2026 Newsletter</b>			
		Chair Burke	
<b>Financial Statements</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the financial update.	010	Staff	Resolution
<b>Other Business/Roundtable</b>			
		All	
<b>Next Meeting Dates</b>			
Schedule date for next committee meeting		Chair Burke	
<b>Adjournment</b>			
Recommendation: THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting of June 16, 2026, be adjourned at _____ p.m.		Chair Burke	Resolution

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH  
MOUNT FOREST AQUATICS AD-HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 AT 7:00 P.M.  
ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM**

**Committee Members Present:**

- Sherry Burke, Councillor, Chairperson
- Laurie Doney, Member
- Vern Job, Mount Forest Lions Club
- Penny Renken, Councillor, Member
- Jessica McFarlane, Member

**Guests:**

- Flora Burke

**Staff in Attendance:**

- Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator

**Regrets:**

- Ray Tout, Member
- Al Leach, Mount Forest Lions Club

<b>Call to Order</b>
Chair Burke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
<b>Adoption of Agenda</b>
Moved by Member Doney Seconded by Member Job  THAT the agenda for the February 10, 2026, Township of Wellington North Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting be accepted and passed. CARRIED
<b>Declaration of Pecuniary Interest</b>
None declared.
<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting – July 7, 2025</b>
Accepted by Council at the July 28, 2025 Meeting of Wellington North Council Moved by Member McFarlane Seconded by Member Doney THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the Minutes from the July 7, 2025, committee meeting. CARRIED
<b>Corporate Donor Update</b>
No update was received, as neither Member Leach and Member Tout were in attendance.
<b>Fundraising Sub-Committee Update</b>

Moved by Member Job  
Seconded by Member Renken

THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the verbal update from the Fundraising Sub-Committee.

CARRIED

Chair Burke told the committee she has shifted her focus to reaching out to more local businesses for corporate donations. Chair Burke reported she had a positive meeting with one business on February 6, and expects a donation will be forthcoming. She has also reached out to some other local businesses and hopes to set up meetings in the coming weeks.

Chair Burke also reported she is working on confirming photo opportunities for two recent donations.

The list of local businesses to approach to set up meetings will be recirculated to committee members.

The success of the Holiday Flocking Home Tour was also mentioned. The event raised approximately \$4,000.

#### **ROMA Delegation Update**

Moved by Member McFarlane  
Seconded by Member Job

THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive the verbal report on the delegation to the Minister of Sport at the ROMA Conference for information.

CARRIED

CDC Wilson provided a recap of the Township of Wellington North's delegation to Neil Lumsden, Ontario's Minister of Sport at the ROMA Conference in January. The delegation, which included Wellington North Council members, staff and Town of Minto Mayor Dave Turton, served as an update to Minister Lumsden on the progress of the project and reiterated the need for support from senior levels of government. The delegation encouraged Minister Lumsden to push for the reopening of the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) as an annual funding program. The meeting was well received by Minister Lumsden, who acknowledged the need for more funding dollars for community recreation infrastructure.

CDC Wilson noted that Minister Lumsden also expressed the need for more funding dollars at the Parks and Recreation Ontario Conference in November. At that time, Minister Lumsden reported that 485 applications with a total request of \$1.12 billion were received on the initial intake for CSRIF, which had a total fund of \$200 million.

Chair Burke, who was a part of the delegation, stated that Minister Lumsden recalled the Mount Forest Pool project, noting this was the fourth time representatives from the Township have met with him about it. Chair Burke expressed her gratitude to Mayor Turton for attending delegation, noting that having a neighbouring municipality show its support for the project is very positive. Mayor Brian Milne from Southgate was also invited but was unable to attend due to attending a delegation for his municipality.

Chair Burke reported that Minister Lumsden was impressed with the progress made on fundraising by the community, and appreciative of the efforts of the volunteer committee working on the project.

During the delegation, Minister Lumsden recommended that a letter be sent to Premier Doug Ford encouraging the province to reopen CSRIF, as the oversubscription of the program is a clear indicator that further funding is needed.

### **Letter to Premier Ford**

Moved by Member McFarlane  
Seconded by Member Doney

THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee direct staff to draft a letter to be sent to Premier Doug Ford requesting that the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund be reopened for applications.

**CARRIED**

CDC Wilson read a draft of a letter to the committee to be sent to Premier Doug Ford, and CC'd to Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae and Neil Lumsden, Minister of Sport. This letter will be signed by Mayor Andy Lennox and Chair Burke.

Member McFarlane suggested that the letters of support from the community submitted with the CSRIF application be sent as an attachment to the letter. The committee agreed that this would be beneficial, as it shows the support from the community for the project.

Chair Burke suggested the letter be sent as soon as possible. Staff will send the letter and attachments as soon as possible.

It was also suggested that a template be created for project donors and partners to use to express their support for reopening CSRIF as well. CDC Wilson will work on a draft for review. These letters would be sent in March as a “second wave” of support for reopening the fund.

### **Financial Statements**

Moved by Member Renken  
Seconded by Member Job

THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee receive for information the financial update.

**CARRIED**

CDC Wilson provided a report on the current fundraising total to the committee. As of February 10, the total monies raised and pledged sits at \$1,152,862.32. This total includes all monies pledged, received and the committee's balance in its RBC bank account.

CDC Wilson highlighted some of the recent contributions:

- 2025 Mayor's Charity Bonspiel - \$10,245
- McFarlane Family Dental - \$40,000
- Holiday Flocking Home Tour - \$4,000

CDC Wilson reported that the newsletter campaign last summer was a success, with \$17,100 being received in the 30 days following the delivery of the newsletter via Canada

Post. Member McFarlane suggested that the committee look at the option of doing another newsletter in the spring, which was well received by the committee.

### **Other Business/Roundtable**

Chair Burke provided an update on a meeting that Member Leach, Flora Burke and herself had with Mike Smith of T.D. Smith Transport Inc. in December. This meeting was to provide Mr. Smith with an update on fundraising efforts in 2025 and the status of the project. CDC Wilson put together a package with information on recent donations, as well as a briefing note that highlighted the successes of 2025, along with information regarding the unsuccessful CSRIF grant application. Mr. Smith presented Chair Burke with the second instalment of T.D. Smith's pledge at this meeting.

Flora Burke added that Mr. Smith is very optimistic that the pool project will be completed, is very appreciative of the efforts of all the volunteers on this project, and believes the pool will be a big asset to the community.

Member McFarlane commented that visual representation of items the committee is seeking sponsorship of when meeting with prospective donors is helpful. She asked if it would be possible to get some more graphics of what certain items may look like for future meetings. Chair Burke and staff will put together the requested information.

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be held at the call of the chair.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Member Doney  
Seconded by Member Renken

THAT the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee meeting of February 10, 2026, be adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

CARRIED



## TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH

TO: Mayor and Council

DATE: May 19, 2026

MEETING TYPE: Open

SUBMITTED BY: Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator

REPORT #: RCED 2026-024

REPORT TITLE: Mount Forest Outdoor Pool Update

### RECOMMENDED MOTION

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report RCED 2026-024 Mount Forest Outdoor Pool Update;

AND THAT Council direct staff to proceed with a Class B cost estimate and tender-ready documents for the Mount Forest Outdoor Pool and that this work be approved to be sole sourced by architects Tillman Ruth Robinson at a cost of \$243,940.00;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to prepare an updated workplan for the Mount Forest Outdoor Pool;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize staff to apply for grant opportunities for the Mount Forest Outdoor Pool project, including provincial and federal grants.

### PREVIOUS REPORTS/BY-LAWS/RESOLUTIONS

RPL 2021-022 Mount Forest Pool new Concept Design  
 RPL 2021-012 Mount Forest Pool new  
 RAC 2016-003 Mount Forest Pool new establish Ad Hoc Committee  
 OPS 2023-034 Mount Forest Pool new Detailed Design  
 OPS 2023-008 Mount Forest Pool new financing  
 OPS 2023-001 Mount Forest Pool new Work Plan  
 OPS 2022-021 Mount Forest Pool new conceptual design  
 OPS 2022-007 Mount Forest Pool new Community Survey  
 OPS 2022-006 Mount Forest Pool new Open House  
 OPS 2021-034 Mount Forest Pool new Southgate support  
 OPS 2021-034 Mount Forest Pool new Southgate support  
 OPS 2021-030 Mount Forest pool new Award of Concept Design  
 OPS 2020-004 Mount Forest Pool new Fund Raising

EDO 2023-015 Mount Forest Pool new Work Plan  
 CAO 2022-003 Mount Forest Pool new Attachment 3-Pool Concept 3  
 CAO 2022-003 Mount Forest Pool new  
 CAO 2017-025 Mount Forest Pool new Land Purchase Opportunity [2]  
 CAO 2017-025 Mount Forest Pool new Appendix 2  
 CAO 2017-025 Mount Forest Pool new Appendix 1  
 CAO 2017-021 Mount Forest Pool new Land Purchase Opportunity  
 CAO 2017-021 Mount Forest Pool new Appendix 2  
 CAO 2017-021 Mount Forest Pool new Appendix 1  
 C&ED 2024-007 Corporate Donor Program Fundraising Materials  
 C&ED 2024-007 Corporate Donor Program Attachment B -Presentation  
 C&ED 2024-007 Corporate Donor Program Attachment A Canvassing Guide  
 C&ED 2025-008 Donation Agreement (Closed)  
 C&ED 2025-011 Fundraising Update  
 C&ED 2025-023 Mount Forest Pool Mailer

## BACKGROUND

### WORKPLAN

Staff Report OPS 2023-034 was presented to Council for consideration at their meeting on October 10, 2023. Council approved an updated work plan as presented within the staff report as follows:

Once 80% of the \$2.5 million fundraising target has been met, and initiated through a motion included in the minutes from Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee to a future meeting of council, further direction is given to Township staff to:

- TBD: Architect completes construction design and specification for tendering package including updated probable cost estimate (Approximately 4-month task to complete.)
- TBD: Council decision on increasing the financial funding from the original \$5.3 million cost estimate to the updated probable construction design cost estimate

Once 100% of the \$2.5 million fundraising target has been met, and initiated through a motion included in the minutes from Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee to a future meeting of council, further direction is given to Township staff to:

- TBD: Council decision for final financial contribution for future capital budget
- TBD: Tender
- TBD: Construction
- TBD: Completion of Construction
- TBD: Season after construction is completed, the new Mount Forest Outdoor Pool and Aquatics Centre opens for its inaugural season

### FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee has been extremely successful in their corporate fundraising efforts to date. In February 2025, T.D. Smith Transport confirmed a donation in the amount of \$500,000 towards the new pool. As outlined in the fundraising brochure, a \$500,000 donation qualifies as a Diamond Level Donor, granting naming rights to the facility for 20 years. The 20-year agreement commences when the new pool officially opens and will be known as the T.D. Smith Aquatic Centre.

The Mount Forest Lions Club has pledged \$250,000 to the project, and the Township of Southgate has also pledged \$250,000 to the project.

As of April 29, 2026, a total of \$1,152,862.32 has been pledged or donated to the Mount Forest Outdoor Pool project, representing 46% of the committee's fundraising target of \$2.5 million.

In January 2025, staff submitted an application to the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) – Stream 2 for new construction of facilities, requesting 50% of the project costs based on the 2023 Class C cost estimate. In June 2025, correspondence was received stating the application was unsuccessful.

Earlier this year, the Township and Committee submitted a letter to Premier Doug Ford and Neil Lumsden, Minister of Sport for the province, encouraging the continuation of CSRIF for future years.

## ANALYSIS

The Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee continues to pursue donors to meet its fundraising target of \$2.5 million, and have been meeting with local businesses, organizations and individuals over the past 12 months. One common theme the committee has heard in feedback following presentations is that companies and organizations are open to making a donation when the project has gone to tender and/or construction begins.

Staff have continued to investigate future grant opportunities. In 2026, staff have reviewed more than 60 possible grant opportunities. This project is eligible for several grants, which range in possible dollar amounts from \$5,000 to \$100,000. There are also several grants which this project is not eligible for, based on eligibility criteria such as not funding capital or infrastructure projects.

In March 2026, the Province of Ontario announced the 2026 Budget, which included an additional \$300 million for CSRIF. As of writing, no information has been shared about when the application intake window will open, or when applications are due.

On April 7, 2026, Prime Minister Mark Carney officially launched the Build Communities Strong Fund. This is a \$51 billion investment by the federal government over the next 10 years to support a range of infrastructure projects, including new community and recreation spaces. Eligible project proponents can submit their initial expressions of interest for shovel-ready projects now. This fund prioritizes shovel-ready projects that can start over the next 12 months and have a minimum of a Class C cost estimate.

In the feedback received from the 2025 CSRIF application and eligibility requirements of the Build Communities Strong Fund, shovel-ready projects are noted as being prioritized for funding.

In consultation with the Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee, staff are recommending proceeding with obtaining a Class B cost estimate and advancing the project to a tender-ready stage. This would allow the project to continue moving forward and position the Township well to apply for funding through programs such as CSRIF, the Building Communities Strong Fund, and other external funding opportunities that prioritize shovel-ready or under-construction projects.

Advancing the project to this stage would also enable the Committee to re-engage with businesses and organizations that previously expressed interest in supporting the project through donations once tendering and/or construction begins. In recent years, the Township has been successful in securing external funding for several major capital projects, including the Arthur Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion. This success places the Township in a stronger position for Council to consider moving forward with this project.

If approved, staff would return to Council at a future date with an updated workplan for consideration.

## CONSULTATION

Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee  
 Tammy Stevenson, Manager of Infrastructure and Engineering  
 Brooke Lambert, CAO

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Capital - The cost to move forward with obtaining a Class B cost estimate and bringing the project to tender readiness is \$243,940.00 from architects Tillman Ruth Robinson. This firm completed the Class C estimate for the Township in October 2023 and it is recommended that Council approve the sole source of this firm to complete this work. These funds are available in the 2026 budget.

## ATTACHMENTS

None.

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2024

- Shape and support sustainable growth  
How:
- Deliver quality, efficient community services aligned with the Township's mandate and capacity

How:

009

- Enhance information sharing and participation in decision-making

How:

- N/A Core-Service

#### ASSESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS DISABILITIES ACT CONSULTATION

Does this report apply to any of the standards under the AODA that require consultation

- Customer Service Standard
- Information and Communications Standard
- Employment Standard
- Transportation Standard
- Design of Public Spaces Standard
- Not applicable

Approved by:

Brooke Lambert, Chief Administrative Officer



# Mount Forest Outdoor Pool<sup>011</sup> Fundraising Update

As of June 12, 2026

**\$2.5 Million Goal**

80% of Goal: Project can go to tender,  
shovels hit the ground

**Current total:**

**\$1,157,461**

46% of target

