

**Regional Municipality of Waterloo  
Strategic Planning and Budget Committee  
Addendum Agenda**



Date: Friday, December 20, 2024  
Regular Session: 8:30 a.m.  
Location: Council Chambers/Electronic

Should you require an alternative format please contact the Regional Clerk at Tel.: 519-575-4400, TTY: 519-575-4605, or [regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)

**Pages**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Land Acknowledgement**
3. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest under the “Municipal Conflict of Interest Act”**
4. **Councillor Motions - Where Notice Has Been Provided**

**4.1 Councillor B. Vrbanovic Motion**

**Recommended Motion:**

Whereas Supplies, Equipment, Facilities Maintenance, Professional Fees & Services, Communications, Travel, and Facility Occupancy Charges have seen a proposed increase from a total expenditure of 185,354,000 in 2024 to 202,630,000 in 2025, representing 17,276,000 or 9.32%,

And whereas the one-year inflation rate is 2.2% and the two-year average inflation rate is 3.2%,

Be it resolved that the total increase for these areas be capped at 5%, or a total expenditure in 2025 of 194,622,000, and further, that the 2025 operating budget be reduced by \$8,008,000, less than \$1,070,000 or an overall decrease of \$6,938,000.

**4.2 Councillor B. Vrbanovic Motion**

**Recommended Motion:**

Whereas the 2025-2034 Regional Capital Budget is proposed to be set at \$6,773,503,000;

And where as the 2025 capital budget is proposed to be \$652,995,000;

Be it resolved that the 10 year capital budget be reduced annually by the equivalent of a 1% reduction to the proposed 2025 regional tax levy.

**\*4.3 Councillor D. McCabe Motion**

~~WHEREAS The Region of Waterloo has a long-standing policy which~~

~~stipulates that organizations running deficits must provide a deficit reduction strategy in order to be eligible to continue to receive regional funding,~~

~~AND WHEREAS TheMuseum has consistently run consecutive deficits for a number of years and has not provided a credible deficit reduction plan, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The funding allocation for TheMuseum be phased out in 2025 and fully removed from the regional budget in 2026.~~

**5. COR-CFN-24-028, 2025 User Fees and Charges Update**

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**Recommended Motion:**

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo repeal By-Law 24-028, (A By-Law to amend By-Law Number 23-062, A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo and repeal By-law 23-009, as Amended) and pass a new Fees and Charges By-law including the new and adjusted fees and charges in the 2025 Budget as set out in report COR-CFN-24-028 dated December 11, 2024.

**6. COR-CFN-24-027, Municipal Budget Regulation**

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**Recommended Motion:**

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo adopt report COR-CFN-24-027 dated December 11, 2024 titled “Municipal Budget Regulation” as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09.

**7. Main Budget Motion Approval**

**Recommended Motion:**

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following action with respect to the 2025 Plan and Budget:

1. Approve the 2025 Plan as set out Appendix A of report COR-CFN-24-049 dated December 11, 2024;
2. Approve the 2025 Operating Budget as summarized in Appendix D of report COR-CFN-24-029 dated December 11, 2024 as amended by the Strategic Plan and Budget Committee on December 11, and December 20, 2024, with a net expenditure of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and a property tax levy of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in 2025;
3. Approve the 2025 Capital Budget and 2026-2034 Capital Forecast as summarized in Appendix D of report COR-CFN-24-029 dated December 11, 2024, as amended by the Strategic Plan and Budget Committee on December 11, and December 20, 2024, and subject to final adjustments for 2024 project carry-forwards.

**8. Communications**

**8.1 Tara De Souza, University of Waterloo**

50

Re: Region of Waterloo Budget 2025 and Transit.

52

- |             |   |    |
|-------------|---|----|
| <b>8.2</b>  | <b>Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Cambridge</b><br>Re: Region of Waterloo Budget - Comments to Region, City & Township Councils.                 |    |
| <b>8.3</b>  | <b>Dr. Karen Baird, Region of Waterloo Dental Clinic</b><br>RE: Urgent: Reconsideration of Budget Cuts to the Region of Waterloo Dental Clinic. | 55 |
| <b>8.4</b>  | <b>David Kuhn, Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association</b><br>Re: Region of Waterloo Budget 2025 and Transit.                                | 59 |
| <b>8.5</b>  | <b>Barry Green, Cambridge</b><br>Re: The Grand River Transit Fee Changes and the Bus Route Reductions   | 61 |
| <b>8.6</b>  | <b>Beatriz Gomez, Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival</b><br>Re: Potential budget saving options for 2025                       | 62 |
| <b>*8.7</b> | <b>Brian Otto, Waterloo</b><br>Re: Regional Budget Cuts   | 64 |
| <b>9.</b>   | <b>Other Business</b>   |    |
| <b>10.</b>  | <b>Adjourn</b><br><b>Recommended Motion:</b><br>That the meeting adjourn at x:xx x.m.   |    |

**Region of Waterloo**

**Corporate Services**

**Corporate Finance**

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**To:** Strategic Planning and Budget Committee

**Meeting Date:** December 11, 2024

**Report Title:** 2025 User Fees and Charges Update

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**1. Recommendation:**

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo repeal By-Law 24-028, (A By-Law to amend By-Law Number 23-062, A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo and repeal By-law 23-009, as Amended) and pass a new Fees and Charges By-law including the new and adjusted fees and charges in the 2025 Budget as set out in report COR-CFN-24-028 dated December 11, 2024.

**2. Purpose / Issue:**

To approve new and adjusted User Fees and Charges to come into effect at various times throughout the year.

**3. Strategic Plan:**

This report supports the strategic focus area of a Resilient and Future-ready Organization.

**4. Report Highlights:**

- Section 391 of the Municipal Act authorizes municipalities to establish and maintain a list of services subject to fees or charges. As part of the 2025 budget development process, all service areas have reviewed Regional user fees and charges.
- The preliminary 2025 Water and Wastewater Budget includes the following proposed rate increases effective January 1, 2025:
  - Wholesale water and wastewater rates charged to area municipalities:
    - Water Supply: 4.9%.
    - Wastewater Treatment: 5.9%.

- Retail rates for customers in Wellesley and North Dumfries:
  - Water distribution: 3.9%.
  - Wastewater collection: 3.9%.
- The proposed 2025 Transit Services budget includes an average fare increase of 2.7%, with detailed increases and effective date varying by fare type. Appendix B provides a list of transit-related housekeeping updates and GRT fees that are proposed to be introduced or changed during 2025.
- Waste Management fees are proposed to increase on April 1, 2025. This includes tipping fees for recyclables (+\$1/MT), general refuse/garbage (+\$2/MT) and the special handling load rate (+\$4/MT).
- Airport proposed fee changes include increases to automobile parking, landing fees, apron parking and snow removal. New fees include lost or stolen parking pass, urea applications and heavy equipment services fees.
- Minor changes to fees and charges are proposed for Seniors' Services, Legal Services, Supportive Housing, Cultural Services, Regional Growth, Development and Sustainability Services, Public Health Programs, Paramedic Services and Transportation. Appendix A provides a list of fees that are proposed to be introduced or changed during 2025.

## 5. Background:

Section 391 of the Municipal Act authorizes municipalities to establish and maintain a list of services subject to fees or charges. The Region's current by-law is By-Law 24-028, (A By-Law to amend By-Law Number 23-062, A By-law to Establish Fees and Charges for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo and repeal By-law 23-009, as Amended). These by-laws are updated annually to incorporate new or revised fees adopted by Regional Council.

As part of the 2025 budget process, all service areas have reviewed their fees and charges and, where appropriate, are proposing changes to certain fees. Appendix A & B provide a list of fees that are proposed to be introduced or changed during 2025. Certain program area fee changes are highlighted below.

### a) Public Transit Fares.

The proposed 2025 Transit Services budget includes an average fare increase of 2.7%, with detailed increases varying by fare type, and most coming into effect July 1, 2025.

Proposed Transit fare changes include the following (a full list of proposed changes is included in Appendix B):

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Change
Cash Fare	\$3.75	\$4.00	\$0.25
EasyGo Fare Card	\$5.00	\$4.00	-\$1.00
Stored Value	\$3.00	No change	No change
Monthly Pass	\$96.00	\$100.00	\$4.00

GRT has increased the transfer time from 90 minutes to 120 minutes on any single trip. While the Cash Fare is proposed to increase, GRT is supporting the transition to more affordable single-trip transit products by maintaining Stored Value fees and reducing the price of the EasyGO fare card, which will be the same price as Cash Fare and no longer requires a minimum load. GRT is also launching mobile payment options for more ways to pay for transit trips. These proposed changes will enable GRT to carry out targeted promotion of the EasyGO fare card or mobile payment for any customer impacted by Cash Fare changes.

As noted in report RSC-SPR-24-001 dated November 29, 2024, staff are proposing the below changes to the fees and charges since report COR-CFN-24-020 dated October 30, 2024 was presented to Council. Several fare products are automatically adjusted when a price change to the Monthly Pass fare occurs.

Description	Proposed Fee on October 30	Proposed Fee on November 29	Change
Monthly Pass	\$100.00	\$104.00	\$4.00
Summer Pass (July and August)	\$170.00	\$176.00	\$6.00
Affordable Transit Program (ATP) – Monthly Pass (Only available to ATP participants)	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$2.00
TravelWise Corporate - Monthly Pass (Only available to TravelWise Program participants)	\$85.00	\$88.00	\$3.00

#### b) Waste Management fees and charges

Proposed fee changes within Waste Management, effective April 1, 2025, include increases to tipping fees for recyclables and general refuse/garbage and the special handling load rate. The proposed fee changes are outlined in the table below.

Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Increase
Waste tipping fee	\$100.00 / MT	\$102.00 / MT	\$2.00 / MT
Recyclables tipping fee	\$50.00 / MT	\$51.00 / MT	\$1.00 / MT
Special handling fee	\$ 200.00 / MT	\$204.00 / MT	\$4.00 / MT

\*MT - Metric Tonne.

The foregoing fee changes for Waste Management are projected to increase 2025 revenue by \$195,000.

### c) Airport Services fees and charges.

Proposed fee changes include increases to automobile parking, landing fees, apron parking and snow removal. New fees included in the 2025 preliminary budget include, lost or stolen parking pass and area applications and heavy equipment services fees. Subject to Council approval, these fees would come into effect on January 1, 2025 and are expected to generate \$557,000 in revenue which has been reflected in the preliminary 2025 operating budget.

### d) Children Services.

To support the transition to \$10 per day average fees by the end of 2025-26, families with children aged 0-5 in the licensed Home Child Care program would see childcare base fees capped at \$22 per day effective January 1, 2025. The reduced fees are legislatively required and fully supported through provincial Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care funding with no required municipal cost-share.

### e) Water/Wastewater user rates.

Staff are proposing a wholesale water supply rate increase of 4.9% in 2025 and a wastewater rate increase of 5.9%, effective January 1, 2025. This is consistent with the projection provided during the 2024 budget. The proposed water and wastewater rates will assist with maintaining the long-term financial sustainability of the program. The rates to be charged to area municipalities for water supplied and wastewater treated as of January 1, 2025 are outlined in the table below.

Description	Current Rate / m3	Proposed Rate per m3 as of January 1, 2025
Water Supply	\$1.205	\$1.264
Wastewater Treatment	\$1.4777	\$1.5649

For retail customers in Wellesley and North Dumfries, staff propose a water distribution rate increase of 3.9% and a wastewater collection rate increase of 3.9% effective January 1, 2025. The water distribution rate is consistent with

projections provided during the 2024 budget. Wastewater collection was projected at 4.9% in the 2024 budget. The rates to be charged to Wellesley and North Dumfries for water distribution and wastewater collection as of January 1, 2025 are outlined in the table below.

Description	Current Rate / m3	Proposed Rate per m3 as of January 1, 2025
Water Distribution	\$3.38	\$3.51
Wastewater Collection	\$2.53	\$2.63

The water distribution and wastewater collection monthly fixed rates are proposed to increase by \$1.00 as of January 1, 2025. The monthly fixed rates to be charged to Wellesley and North Dumfries for water distribution and wastewater collection are outlined in the table below.

Description	Current Rate	Proposed Rate as of January 1, 2025
Water Distribution	\$11.00	\$12.00
Wastewater Collection	\$10.00	\$11.00

Additional proposed changes to fees are outlined in Appendix A relating to user rate charges to area municipalities, the rates and fixed fees for the distribution and collection systems in the Townships of Wellesley and North Dumfries, water meters (19 mm service), sewer surcharge rate and sampling fees.

**f) Below are adjustments since report COR-CFN-24-020 dated October 30, 2024:**

**Housing Services (Waterloo Region Housing)** - Introduction of a monthly parking space fee of \$50 per month (and an extra \$50 for an additional space) for tenants occupying the Low-End Market (LEM) units in Waterloo Regional Housing Revitalization projects.

**Supportive Housing – Sunnyside Home**– Increase to monthly parking for a secondary vehicle.

**Provincial Offences Court:** To match the current fees regulated by Ministry of Attorney General (MAG), increases to transcription (printed and electronic), subsequent copies and noting the \$25 minimum charge per transcript.

**Transportation:** Introduction of the Crane Swing Fee which allows the erection and use of a construction crane that may swing over Regional Roads, and/or the ION LRT tracks.



**Children's:** Increase to the daily rates for school age care (children over the age of 6 years). The proposed changes will see increases between 2.6 - 7.7% across the 4 rate categories and will reflect a fixed increase of \$2.00 per day in each rate category. These rates align with market rates for school age care in our community. This rate increase will have no direct impact on low income families in receipt of child care subsidy. 100% of this increase will go to caregiver compensation. This will support caregivers to purchase materials and equipment to provide high quality child care to school age children in their programs. Providing this increase to caregiver compensation also incentivizes caregivers to provide child care to school age children which is in demand across our community.

**Council and Administrative Services:** Removal of the research time fee as well as note and header clarification.

**Facilities Management and Waterloo Region Emergency Services Training and Research Complex (WRESTRC)-** Bylaw update to reflect internal structure changes in 2024.

**g) Other service areas.**

Other minor changes to Regional fees and charges are proposed as follows:

- **Seniors' Services:** Increases to the Regular Day Program, Extended Day Program and telephone/cable fees.
- **Supportive housing:** Increases to use of washing machine fees with extended time and lunch visits.
- **Legal Services:** Increases to the sale of surplus land to external party agreement, full/partial closure of Regional road application and development agreements, site plan agreements, and any amending agreements fees.
- **Cultural Services:** Updates to the by-law for consistency across the museum locations on areas such as: general admission, room rental, education programs, and camp fees; creation of new rental fees for underutilized and new facilities (i.e. covered pavilion, outdoor amphitheatre); travel trade tour market admissions; and increases to archival fees, offsite outreach programs, and birthday parties to reflect true cost of service.
- **Waterloo Region Library:** New fee introduced for cassette tapes – memory lab and the removal of fees for public health kits and cost recovery for photos.
- **Regional Growth, Development and Sustainability Services:** New fee introduced for engineering review.
- **Infectious Diseases, Dental and Sexual Health:** Increases for thermometers.
- **Paramedic Services:** Increases to special event coverage fees.

- **Transportation:** Increases to fees for roads and traffic collision summaries, count fees, permit fees, special signal requests and Waterloo spur agreements.

## 6. Area Municipality Communication and Public/Stakeholder Engagement:

Nil.

## 7. Financial Implications:

The estimated incremental user fee revenue increase in 2025 associated with the proposed fee changes is outlined in the table below (areas with minimal revenue changes have been excluded):

Division	Incremental 2025 revenue (\$000's)
Airport	\$557
Grand River Transit	\$320
Legal Services	\$2
Transportation	\$10
Waste Management	\$195
Water Services	\$8,599
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,683</b>

The estimated incremental revenue identified in the table above have been incorporated into the preliminary 2025 operating budget. Should Council decide to change these or any other fee or charge listed under the by-law during the budget process, the proposed changes listed herein would be updated.

## 8. Conclusion / Next Steps:

A resolution to repeal the current Fees and Charges By-law and user rate by-laws and pass a new consolidated Fees and Charges By-law is included along with the General Budget Resolutions on December 11, 2024.

### Attachments:

Appendix A: Proposed Changes to the Fees and Charges By-Law.

Appendix B: Proposed Changes and Housekeeping Updates to the Fees and Charge By-Law as Presented on October 30, 2024.

**Prepared By:** Emily Dykeman, Financial Analyst

**Reviewed By:** Chris Wilson, Manager, Corporate Budgets

**Approved By:** Wayne Steffler, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer

**Appendix A – Proposed Changes to the Fees and Charge By-Law**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>			
<b>Seniors' Services - Sunnyside Home</b>			
<b>Community Alzheimer Program</b>			
Regular Day Program	\$19.50	April 1, 2025	\$20.00
Extended Day Program (per day)	\$22.50	April 1, 2025	\$23.10
Cable Television - Residents (per month)	\$33.00/month	April 1, 2025	\$34.00/month
<b>Children's Services</b>			
<b>Home Child Care (Full Fee Parents)</b>			
<b>0-5 hours</b>			
School Age	\$26.00	March 1, 2025	\$28.00
<b>0-10 hours</b>			
Infant	\$25.99	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Toddler	\$23.15	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Preschool (plus school age children under 6)	\$22.21	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
School Age	\$45.00	March 1, 2025	\$47.00
<b>10-18 hours</b>			
Infant	\$29.30	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Toddler	\$28.35	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Preschool (plus school age children under 6)	\$27.41	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
School Age	\$56.00	March 1, 2025	\$58.00
<b>18-23 hours</b>			
Infant	\$39.22	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Toddler	\$38.27	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
Preschool (plus school age children under 6)	\$37.33	January 1, 2025	\$22.00
School Age	\$77.00	March 1, 2025	\$79.00
<b>Supportive Housing – Sunnyside Home (formerly Supportive Housing)</b>			
Cost of One Use of Washing Machine	\$1.50	April 1, 2025	\$1.75

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Parking for Secondary Vehicle (monthly)	\$30.00	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
Cost of One 8-min. Cycle of Dryer	\$0.25	April 1, 2025	Cost of 45-min Cycle of Dryer \$1.75
Supportive Housing Lunch Visit (per meal)	\$9.25	April 1, 2025	\$9.50
<b>Housing Services (Waterloo Region Housing)</b>			
Laundry Concession (coin laundry) Fees			
Cost of one use of a washing machine	\$1.50	January 1, 2025	\$1.75
Cost of one use of a dryer (45 min. cycle)	\$1.50	January 1, 2025	\$1.75
Parking Fees			
Low End Market (LEM) units monthly parking space	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
Second vehicle - monthly	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
<b>PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT &amp; LEGISLATIVE SERVICES</b>			
<b>Legal Services</b>			
Development Agreements, Site Plan Agreements, and Any Amending Agreements	\$893.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$938.00 + disbursements*
Miscellaneous Agreements (e.g. Municipal Access, leases, licenses, air rights & misc. real estate documents (e.g., Deeds, Quit Claims)	\$315.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$331.00 + disbursements*
Release or Partial Release of Development Agreement **	\$105.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$110.00 + disbursements*
Certificate of Compliance	\$105.00 per agreement	January 1, 2025	\$110.00 + disbursements*
Due Diligence Request - per request	\$105.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$110.00 + disbursements*
Encroachment Agreements including Temporary Tie-Back Agreements **	\$383.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$402.00 + disbursements*
Full/Partial Closure of Regional Road	\$1,060.00 + disbursements* (+ \$2,000 deposit)	January 1, 2025	\$1,113.00 + disbursements* (+ \$2,000 deposit)
Easement Required to be Conveyed to Region as Condition of Development or Site Plan Approval	\$347.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$364.00 + disbursements*
Land Required to be Conveyed to Region as	\$173.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$182.00 + disbursements*

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Condition of Development or Site Plan Approval			
Release, Partial Release or Replacement of Existing Easement, Release or Partial Release of One Foot Reserve or other Regional interest in lands if no other consideration passing	\$389.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$408.00 + disbursements*
All ancillary and Amending documentation, including, but not limited to, Assumption Agreements related to the Affordable Home Ownership Program	\$404.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$424.00 + disbursements*
Servicing Agreements ***	\$79.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$83.00 + disbursements*
Surplus Land Circulation Process	\$420.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$441.00 + disbursements*
Sale of Surplus Land to External Party ****	\$1,260.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$1,323.00 + disbursements*
Misc. Letters (i.e. roads/access inquiry)	\$105.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$110.00 + disbursements*
<b>Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy</b>		January 1, 2025	<b>Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)</b>
Routine Disclosure Information Requests (Disclosure of Information where no Freedom of Information Request has been made.)		January 1, 2025	Delete
Research Time	\$7.50 for each 15 minutes	January 1, 2025	Delete
1. The intent of these fees is to allow for reasonable cost recovery for routine disclosure of information in situations where it is not necessary for the requester to make a Freedom of Information request under		January 1, 2025	Delete

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
<p>the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (M.F.I.P.P.A.). The fees mirror those which are prescribed under the M.F.I.P.P.A. regulation for Freedom of Information requests.</p>			
<p>2. These fees apply to all Region of Waterloo departments, but do not apply to: 1) requests which are submitted as formal Freedom of Information requests under M.F.I.P.P.A., or 2) requests for “Personal Health Information” held by Regional offices which are “Health Information Custodians” as defined by the Personal Health Information Protection Act (P.H.I.P.A.), and which are handled under section 51 of that Act. Routine disclosure requests made by third parties for Personal Health Information as permitted under subsection 8(4) of PHIPA are subject to these fees.</p>		January 1, 2025	Delete
<p>3. Departments may waive the fees wholly or in part at their discretion. Fees are normally waived if the request is from a public authority (e.g. police or children’s aid society requests) or situations where the Region must provide information to comply with the instructions of a court or tribunal.</p>		January 1, 2025	Delete
<p>4. These fees do not apply to specific types of information or information products for which Regional</p>		January 1, 2025	Delete

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Council has approved a separate fee, and which fee is incorporated into the schedule under the Fees and Charges By-law. The fees do not apply to the release of information for which a fee is specified by or under a statute.			
5. "Search Time" is the staff time necessary to locate specific information which must be identified and retrieved from existing files, records or electronic data.		January 1, 2025	Delete
6. "Research Time" is the staff time needed to collate or compile information, if the information requested is not contained in an existing record.		January 1, 2025	Delete
7. "Record Preparation" is the staff time needed to delete non-responsive or protected information from the copy of the records provided to the requester.		January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Personal Health Information Requests</b>		January 1, 2025	<b>Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA)</b>
1. Price is regulated by the Province of Ontario and is subject to revision		January 1, 2025	Delete
2. These fees apply only to requests from individuals for their own "Personal Health Information", held by the Region's offices, which are designated as "Health Information Custodians" by the "Personal Health Information Protection Act."		January 1, 2025	Delete

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
3. Region of Waterloo Health Information Custodians may waive the fees wholly or in part at their discretion. Fees are normally waived if the request is from a public authority (e.g. police or children's aid society requests) or situations where the Region must provide information to comply with the instructions of a court or tribunal.		January 1, 2025	Delete
4. These fees do not apply to specific types of information or information products for which Regional Council has approved a separate fee and which fee is incorporated into the schedule under the Fees and Charges By-law. The fees do not apply to the release of information for which a fee is specified by or under a statute.		January 1, 2025	Delete
5. "Record Preparation" is the staff time needed to delete non-responsive or protected information from the copy of the records provided to the requester.		January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Waterloo Region Housing only</b>			
Mortgage Discharge Statement Fee for Affordable Home Ownership Program	\$105.00 + disbursements*	January 1, 2025	\$110.00 + disbursements*
<b>Council and Administrative Services</b>			
<b>Clerks Administration</b>			
Filing Fee for Requesting an Investigation under Section 239.1 of the "Municipal Act, 2001", as amended	\$50.00	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Provincial Offences Court</b>			
Transcription (original printed copy)	\$3.20/page	January 1, 2025	\$7.10/page
Transcription (original	NEW	January 1,	\$6.30/page



Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
electronic copy)		2025	
Subsequent copies or transcript	\$0.55/page	January 1, 2025	\$.80/page
	NEW	January 1, 2025	Note: \$25 minimum charge per transcript
<b>Cultural Services*</b>			
<b>Museums and Historic Sites - General</b>			
<b>Note: Special events and promotions may be priced differently from General Admission, as approved by the Manager, Region of Waterloo Museums and Archives.</b>			
Special Events, Workshops, Walking Tours and Lectures	Prices vary depending on program, supplies, etc.	January 1, 2025	Varies
Travel Trade Group Programs	NEW	January 1, 2025	Varies
Ticket Processing/Handling Fee	Prices vary depending on third party costs.	January 1, 2025	Varies
Filming	\$6,000.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,000-\$6,000 per day
Birthday Party	\$12.95-\$20 per person (depending on theme)	January 1, 2025	\$20-\$25 per person
Specialized Tour	\$10 per person in addition to applicable General Admission	January 1, 2025	\$10 per person plus applicable General Admission
Travelling Exhibit Rental	Rental revenue net of brokerage fees as per contract	January 1, 2025	Rental revenue net of brokerage fees as per contract
<b>Memberships (per year)</b>			
Family	\$67/year	January 1, 2025	\$67/year
Individual	\$39/year	January 1, 2025	\$39/year
<b>Room Rentals - General Provisions</b>			
<b>Note: Room rental fee at Museums and Historic Sites is complimentary for Region of Waterloo meetings where greater than 50% of attendees are Regional employees, or group is an affiliated agency and/or the event deals with a Regional issue.</b>			
<b>Note: No room rental fees for First Nations, Metis and Inuit community groups and organizations in designated Regional facilities or grounds for Indigenous ceremonial or cultural events open and accessible to members of the local Indigenous communities</b>			
<b>Note: If additional security is required, cost of security will be charged back to renter.</b>			
Room set-up and specialized cleaning (not related to artifacts), as required.	\$50-\$67/hour	January 1, 2025	\$67/hour
Room cancellation fee, without notice.	\$50-\$67 (non-refundable)	January 1, 2025	\$67 (non-refundable)

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Additional staffing	NEW	January 1, 2025	Varies (cost recovery)
<b>Education Programs</b>			
Onsite or Virtual Half Day School Programs (up to 2 hours) Program (per child rate; one adult free per 6 students)	\$9 per student	January 1, 2025	\$9 per student
Additional Adults	\$9 per additional adult	January 1, 2025	\$9 per additional adult
Onsite or Virtual Full Day School Programs (up to 4 hours) Program (per child rate; one adult free per 6 students)	\$13 per student	January 1, 2025	\$13 per student
Additional Adults	\$13 per additional adult	January 1, 2025	\$13 per additional adult
Seniors Outreach Program (half day maximum)	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$150-\$300
Other Child/Youth Community Outreach (Offsite) Programs (up to 4 hours) Program (per child rate)	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$150-\$300
Other Adult (Offsite) Community Outreach Programs	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$150-\$300
Summer Day Camp (4 day week)	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$240.00
Summer Day Camp (5 day week)	\$290.00	January 1, 2025	\$300.00
PD Day Camp	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$60.00
<b>Archival Services (Previously Archives)</b>			
Research Time	First 30 minutes free then \$31.00/hour	January 1, 2025	\$45.00/hour
Photocopies/printouts	First 10 pages free then \$0.20/page	January 1, 2025	\$0.25/page
CD, Flash drive or other media	\$10.00 each	January 1, 2025	\$10.00 each
<b>Reproductions of Historic Images</b>			
Personal Use (JPEG)	No Charge	January 1, 2025	No Charge
Commercial Use (TIFF)	\$21.00/image	January 1, 2025	\$25.00/image
High Res (TIFF)	\$21.00/image	January 1, 2025	\$25.00/image

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Commercial use handling fee per order	\$10.00	January 1, 2025	\$15.00
Audio visual digital files	Price on Request	January 1, 2025	Varies
<b>Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum</b>			
<b>General Admission Prices</b>			
Adults (aged 18 - 54)	\$12.00	January 1, 2025	\$12.00
Children (aged 5-12)	\$6.00	January 1, 2025	\$6.00
Children (aged 4 and under)	No Charge	January 1, 2025	No Charge
Family ( 2 adults and their dependent children)	\$29.00	January 1, 2025	\$29.00
Seniors (aged 55 and over)	\$9.00	January 1, 2025	\$9.00
Students (aged 13 -17 and/or with ID from educational institution)	\$8.00	January 1, 2025	\$8.00
Groups (20+ people)	NEW	January 1, 2025	10% discount on general admission
Travel Trade / Motor Coach Tour Group Rate	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$8.00
<b>Advanced Ticket Sales</b>			
Lifelong Learning Workshops and Lectures	Prices vary depending on program, supplies, etc.	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Special Events, Workshops, Walking Tours and Lectures
Special Events		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Special Events, Workshops, Walking Tours and Lectures
Some special events are priced differently than general admission	Prices Vary	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Special Events, Workshops, Walking Tours and Lectures
<b>School Admissions</b>			

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Education Program Admission		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Education Programs
1/2 day program (per child rate, one adult free per 6 students)		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Education Programs
(Additional adults pay \$9.00 each)	\$9.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Education Programs
Groundwater Festival (per child rate, all adults free)	\$6.50	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Education Programs
School Fairs - Full day (per child rate, all adults free)	\$13.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Education Programs
<b>Memberships (per year)</b>			
Family	\$67.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Membership
Individual	\$39.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General Provisions - Membership
Photocopies	\$0.20/page	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Publications	Prices vary according to length of publication	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
<b>Rentals</b>			
Doon Heritage Village	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$750 / \$375 per hour (Standard/Community Groups)
Willow Green (maximum 4	NEW	January 1,	\$650

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
hours)		2025	
Covered Pavillion (regular operating hours only)	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$500
Covered Pavillion (outside of regular operating hours)	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$1,000
Gazebo - Gazebo and Willow Green only; no Living History Village access (4 hour period)	\$614.00	January 1, 2025	Delete
• In Front of Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum	No Charge	January 1, 2025	Delete
• In Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum - included in lobby rental for wedding	N/A	January 1, 2025	Delete
• In Living History Village - included with Church rental, Gazebo rental and wedding reception	N/A	January 1, 2025	Delete
• On Willow Green	\$100.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Rentals - Willow Green
<b>Room Rentals</b>			
Note: • Complimentary for Region of Waterloo meetings when greater than 50% of attendees are Regional employees, or group is an affiliated agency and/or the event deals with a Regional issue. • Larger groups can be accommodated at a higher fee based on the required staffing level		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General - Room Rentals - General Provisions
• Exhibit Galleries, Grand Foyer and Theatre Rentals - Some exhibits may require a higher fee based on staffing and/or security costs. • No room rental fees for First Nations, Metis and Inuit community groups and organizations in designated Regional facilities or grounds for Indigenous ceremonial or cultural events open and		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General - Room Rentals - General Provisions

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
accessible to members of the local indigenous communities			
Room set-up and specialized cleaning (charged as required for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$50.00/hour	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General - Room Rentals - General Provisions
Room cancellation fee without notice, non-refundable (charged for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$50.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General - Room Rentals - General Provisions
Grand Foyer - Saturday (4 hour period) <b>Update:</b> Friday to Sunday/Holidays (Maximum 4 hours)	\$1,995.00/Standard Group; \$718.00/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$2,000.00/Standard Group; \$1,000.00/Community Group
Grand Foyer - Standard Rate Only - per evening; Monday to Thursday  <b>Update:</b> Grand Foyer (weekday evenings) - Monday to Thursday	\$1,025.00/Standard Group	January 1, 2025	\$1,500.00/Standard Group; \$750.00/Community Group
Exhibit Galleries in conjunction with Grand Foyer and/or Theatre rental (Fee is for group sizes up to 150. Larger groups can be accommodated at a higher fee based on the required staffing level.)  <b>Update:</b> Galleries	\$308.00/hr/Standard and Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$300.00/Standard Group; \$200.00/Community Group
<b>Classroom A</b>			
Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm	\$51.00/hr/Standard Group; \$36.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$50.00/hr/Standard Group; \$35.00/hr/Community Group
Evening/Weekend/Holiday	\$97.00/hr/Standard Group; \$66.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$100.00/hr/Standard Group; \$70.00/hr/Community Group
<b>Classroom B</b>			

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm	\$36.00/hr/Standard Group; \$5.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$35.00/hr/Standard Group; \$15.00/hr/Community Group
Evening/Weekend/Holiday	\$62.00/hr/Standard Group; \$46.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$70.00/hr/Standard Group; \$50.00/hr/Community Group
<b>Classroom C</b>			
Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm	\$26.00/hr/Standard Group; \$5.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$35.00/hr/Standard Group; \$15.00/hr/Community Group
Evening/Weekend/Holiday	\$51.00/hr/Standard Group; \$41.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$70.00/hr/Standard Group; \$50.00/hr/Community Group
Temporary Gallery / Classroom D (Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm)	New	January 1, 2025	\$50 / \$35 per hour
Temporary Gallery / Classroom D (Evening/Weekend/Holiday)	New	January 1, 2025	\$100 / \$70 per hour
<b>Theatre</b>			
Monday to Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm	\$97.00/hr/Standard Group; \$72.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$100.00/hr/Standard Group; \$75.00/hr/Community Group
Evening/Weekend/Holiday	\$175.00/hr/Standard Group; \$97.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	\$175.00/hr/Standard Group; \$100.00/hr/Community Group
Patio (3 hr period)	\$409.00/hr/Standard Group; \$255.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Curatorial Meeting Room</b>			
Day	\$31.00/hr/Standard Group; \$10.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	Delete
Evening/Weekend	\$56.00/hr/Standard Group; \$46.00/hr/Community Group	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Site Rentals - Group Discounts</b>			
Virtual school programs	Range of \$100.00 - \$258.00 based on the program	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Birthday Party	Range of \$12.95 - \$20.00 per person based on the theme	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Ticket Processing/handling Fee - may apply for events at all museums	Rates vary based upon event ticket fee	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Specialized Tour Per person, in addition to General Admission	\$10.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Willow Green or other outdoor space at Doon Heritage Village with Living History Village access during regularly scheduled daytime tours	\$615.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Heritage Site Film Permit	\$6,000.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
<b>Reproductions of Historic Images</b>			
Scanning fee per image	\$3.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Handling fee per order	\$10.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Images burned onto a C.D.:	\$31.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Up to 10 images per C.D.	\$3.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Note: \$3.00 scanning fee per image		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
<b>Research and Reference Requests (Historic)</b>		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
First 15 minutes	No Charge	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Thereafter per quarter hour	\$15.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Summer Day Camp (Weekly)	\$290.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
<b>Exhibit Rental</b>		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Travelling Exhibit Rental	Rental revenue net of brokerage fees as per contract	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
<b>Schneider Haus (Formerly Joseph Schneider Haus)</b>			
<b>Admission</b>			
<b>General</b>			
Adults (aged 18-54)	\$7.00	January 1, 2025	\$7.00 per adult



<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Children (aged 5-12)	\$4.00	January 1, 2025	\$4.00 per child
Children (aged 4 and under)	No Charge	January 1, 2025	No charge
Family (2 adults and their dependent children)	\$16.00	January 1, 2025	\$16.00 per family
Seniors (aged 55 and over)	\$6.00	January 1, 2025	\$6.00 per senior
Students (aged 13-17)	\$5.00	January 1, 2025	\$5.00 per student
Groups (20+ people)	New	January 1, 2025	10% discount on general admission
Travel Trade / Motor Coach Tour Group Rate	New	January 1, 2025	\$8.00
<b>Special Events</b>			Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Virtual school programs	Range of \$100.00-\$258.00 based on the program	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Birthday Party	Range of \$12.95-\$20.00 per person based on the theme	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Ticket Processing/handling Fee	Rates vary based upon event ticket fee	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Booked for group of 20 or more	Regular admission rate, less 10%	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
<b>Advanced Ticket Sales</b>			Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Lifelong Learning Workshops and Lectures - Prices vary depending on program, supplies, etc.	Lifelong Learning Workshops and Lectures - Prices vary depending on program, supplies, etc.	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Special Events - Some special events are priced differently than general admission.	Special Events - Some special events are priced differently than general admission.	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
<b>Education Program Admission</b>			Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
1/2 Day Program (per child rate; one adult free per 6 students)	\$9.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Full Day Program (per child	\$13.00	January 1,	Delete and moved to

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
rate; one adult free per 6 students)		2025	Museums and Historic Sites - General
Summer Day Camp (Weekly)	\$290.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
<b>Room Rentals</b>			Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Room set-up and specialized cleaning as required (also charged for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$67.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Room cancellation fee without notice, non-refundable (also charged for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$67.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Historic house and exhibit galleries - may require additional fees to recover staffing costs	Varies	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Classroom (Weekdays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm)	\$41.00/hr standard; \$26.00/hr community groups	January 1, 2025	\$40.00/hr standard; \$25.00/hr community groups
Classroom (Weekends during public hours)	\$77.00/hr standard; \$48.00/hr community groups	January 1, 2025	\$70.00/hr standard; \$50.00/hr community groups
Classroom (Evenings after 4:30 pm)	\$51.00/hr standard; \$31.00/hr community groups	January 1, 2025	\$70.00/hr standard; \$35.00/hr community groups
Amphitheatre (during public hours)	New	January 1, 2025	\$150.00/hr standard; \$100.00/hr community groups
Amphitheatre (evenings after 4:30pm)	New	January 1, 2025	\$200.00/hr standard; \$150.00/hr community groups
Outdoor green space - during regular hours	\$138.00/hr standard; \$107.00/hr community groups	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Photocopies	\$0.20/page	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival Services
Heritage Site Film Permit	\$6,000.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Archival

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
			Services
<b>McDougall Cottage</b>			
Virtual school programs	Range of \$100.00-\$258.00 based on the program	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Ticket processing	Rates vary based upon event ticket fee	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Education Program Admission		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
1/2 Day Program (per child rate; one adult free per 6 students)	\$9.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Full Day Program (per child rate; one adult free per 6 students)	\$13.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Lifelong Learning Workshops and Lectures - Prices vary depending on program, supplies, etc.	Prices Vary	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Special Events - Some special events are priced differently than general admission.	Prices Vary	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
General Admission	By donation	January 1, 2025	By donation
<b>Cottage Rental</b>			
Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimentary for Region of Waterloo meetings where greater than 50% of attendees are Regional Employees, or group is an affiliated agency and/or the event deals with a Regional issue</li> <li>• No room rental fees for First Nations, Metis and Inuit community groups and organizations in designated Regional facilities or grounds for Indigenous ceremonial or cultural events open and accessible to members of</li> </ul>		January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
the local indigenous communities			
Room set-up and specialized cleaning as required (also charged for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$57.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Room cancellation fee without notice, non-refundable (also charged for Region of Waterloo meetings)	\$57.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
Historic house and exhibit galleries - may require additional fees to recover staffing costs	Actual Costs	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
High Season (May - October):		January 1, 2025	Delete
Full Day (up to 8 hours), security guard additional <b>Update:</b> Full Day (up to 8 hours)	\$923.00	January 1, 2025	\$500.00/hr standard; \$250.00/hr community groups
Half Day (up to 4 hours), security guard additional <b>Updated:</b> Half Day (up to 4 hours)	\$461.00	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hr standard; \$125.00/hr community groups
Low Season (November - April):			
Full Day (up to 8 hours), security guard additional	\$512.00	January 1, 2025	Delete
Half Day (up to 4 hours), security guard additional	\$256.00	January 1, 2025	Delete
Back Porch per hour (available seasonally during hours of operation)	\$31.00	January 1, 2025	Delete
Heritage Site Film Permit	\$6,000.00	January 1, 2025	Delete and moved to Museums and Historic Sites - General
<b>Region of Waterloo Library</b>			
<b>Media Storage and Other Supplies</b>			
Cassette tapes - Memory Lab	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$5.75
<b>Lost or Badly Damaged Materials</b>			

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
For Public Health Resource kits, the member will be charged the cost of the material + a \$15.00 administration fee. Return of material within 12 months of the item being marked lost cancels the cost of the material, but not administration fee and outstanding overdue charges.	Administration fee: Exempt Replace materials: HST exempt	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Photocopies/Printouts</b>			
Photos	Cost Recovery	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Regional Growth, Development and Sustainability Services (Formerly Community Planning)</b>			
Engineering Review Fee	New	January 1, 2025	\$1,250.00
<b>Airport Services (Region of Waterloo International Airport)</b>			
<b>Advertising</b>			
19 5/8" x 47 1/8" Airport Terminal Building Lobby	\$182.50	January 1, 2025	Delete
Roadside Signage	\$53.05 per side	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Apron Parking*</b>			
60,001 - 100,000 kg.	\$66.00	January 1, 2025	\$100.00
<b>Automobile Parking</b>			
Special Events Parking Permit	\$5.00/vehicle	January 1, 2025	Delete
Value Parking Lot - Daily	\$11.00/day, first 30 minutes free	January 1, 2025	\$15/day, first hour free
Premium Parking - Daily	\$16.00/day, first 30 minutes free	January 1, 2025	\$20/day, first hour free
Short Term Parking Lot – Hourly	\$3.00/hour, maximum 24/day. 30 min free.	January 1, 2025	\$4/hr, \$28/day, first hour free
<b>Aviation Fuel Surcharge</b>			
Jet Fuel	\$0.045	January 1, 2025	\$0.05
<b>Landing Fees*</b>			
2,500-21,000 kg	\$8.25	January 1, 2025	\$8.50
21,001-45,000 kg	\$8.25	January 1, 2025	\$8.50
Greater than 45,000 kg	\$8.25	January 1, 2025	\$8.50

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Helicopters	\$8.25	January 1, 2025	\$8.50
<b>Airport Miscellaneous Fees</b>			
Hydro Meter Reading Administration Fee	\$15.00	January 1, 2025	\$25.00
<b>Office Administration Fees</b>			
Boardroom Rental - During business hours	No Fee	January 1, 2025	Delete
Boardroom Rental - After hours	\$50.00 1st 4 hours / \$10.00 each additional hour. Security \$25.00/hour	January 1, 2025	Delete
Overhead and L.C.D. display - If not renting Boardroom	\$25.00 each per day	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Fire Services Fees</b>			
Fire Extinguisher Training	\$60.00 per person	January 1, 2025	Delete
<b>Security</b>			
Parking Pass	New	January 1, 2025	\$25.00 for lost, Stolen or unreturned card
<b>Snow Removal</b>			
Commercial property tax tenant	\$250.00 per hour. Half hour minimum.	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hour plus materials - Half hour Minimum
Winter Sand Application	\$50.00 per application	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hour - Half hour Minimum
Urea applications	New	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hour plus material - Half hour Minimum
Apron Sweeping	\$125.00 / hour	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hour - Half hour Minimum
Heavy Equipment Services Fees	New	January 1, 2025	\$250.00/hour - Half hour Minimum
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>			
<b>Infectious Diseases, Dental and Sexual Health</b>			
Thermometer (cold chain)	\$103.00	January 1, 2025	\$115.00
<b>Paramedic Services</b>			
<b>Special Event Coverage - Regular</b>			
Single Paramedic plus vehicle	\$97.00 / hour; \$388.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$99.00 / hour; \$398.00 minimum
Two Paramedics plus vehicle	\$165.00 / hour; \$659.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$170.00 / hour; \$680.00 minimum
Single Paramedic	\$68.00 / hour; \$273.00 minimum	April 1,	\$70.00 / hour; \$282.00

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
		2025	minimum
<b>Special Event Coverage - Short Notice (Overtime - OT) - or Full Time Staff</b>			
Single Paramedic plus vehicle	\$131.00 / hour; \$522.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$135.00 / hour; \$539.00 minimum
Two Paramedics plus vehicle	\$234.00 / hour; \$933.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$240.00 / hour; \$961.00 minimum
Single Paramedic	\$111.00 / hour; \$411.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$106.00 / hour; \$423.00 minimum
<b>Special Event Coverage - Public Holiday (Overtime - OT)</b>			
Single Paramedic plus vehicle	\$165.00 / hour; \$660.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$170.00 / hour; \$680.00 minimum
Two Paramedics plus vehicle	\$302.00 / hour; \$1,207.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$311.00 / hour; \$1,243.00 minimum
Single Paramedic	\$137.00 / hour; \$548.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$141.00 / hour; \$564.00 minimum
<b>Special Event Coverage - Other</b>			
Vehicle - Ambulance	\$29.00 / hour; \$112.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$29.00 / hour; \$116.00 minimum
Vehicle - Emergency Response Unit (ERU)	\$29.00 / hour; \$112.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$29.00 / hour; \$116.00 minimum
Supervisor	\$72.00 / hour; \$295.00 minimum	April 1, 2025	\$80.00 / hour; \$320.00 minimum
<b>TRANSPORTATION SERVICES</b>			
<b>Transportation</b>			
<b>Roads and Traffic</b>			
Collision Summaries	\$6.00	January 1, 2025	\$50.00/5yr & \$75.00/10yr
<b>Count Fees</b>			
24 Hour Speed/Volume Counts	\$6.00	January 1, 2025	\$30.00
Turning Movement Counts	\$6.00	January 1, 2025	\$75.00
<b>Permit Fees</b>			
Oversize Load Permits	\$57.00	January 1, 2025	\$58.00
Super Load Permits	\$192.00	January 1, 2025	\$197.00
Special Event Permits	\$46.00	January 1, 2025	\$47.00

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Filming Permits	\$46.00	January 1, 2025	\$47.00
Work Permits	\$227.00	January 1, 2025	\$233.00
<b>Special Signal Requests</b>			
Legal Opinion Traffic Signal Requests	\$457.00	January 1, 2025	\$470.00
Signal Timing Requests	\$ 57.00	January 1, 2025	\$59.00
Synchro Network Requests	\$112.00	January 1, 2025	\$115.00
Traffic Signal Video Requests	\$141.00	January 1, 2025	\$145.00
<b>Construction / Infrastructure</b>			
Storm Water Network Revision Application Fee	\$250.00	January 1, 2025	\$258.00
Noise Study Assessment Fees	\$250.00	January 1, 2025	\$258.00
Developer	New	January 1, 2025	\$5,000
Crane Swing Fee	New	January 1, 2025	\$5,000
<b>Telecommunications Access Agreements</b>			
Base Fee	\$5,150.00 + annual escalation % based on the Consumer Price Index	January 1, 2025	\$5,305.00
Telecommunications Access Agreements	\$567.00	January 1, 2025	\$584.00
Tender Documents (paper copy)	\$36.00	January 1, 2025	\$37.00
<b>Waterloo Spur Agreements</b>			
Existing Perpendicular Crossing of rail property by Municipalities/Utilities or other third parties	No annual fee subject to payment of renewal fee of \$412.00 (per agreement regardless of number of crossings) upon expiry of ten (10) year agreement	January 1, 2025	\$424.00
New Perpendicular Crossing of rail property by Municipalities/Utilities or other third parties	No annual fee subject to payment of minimum Application Fee of \$773.00 Applicants will also be responsible for payment of extra costs relating to specific	January 1, 2025	\$796.00



Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
	applications such as consultant or third party engineering review in accordance with an estimate to be provided by the Region of Waterloo.		
Application Fee	Based on Actual costs, varies by type of application, with minimum of \$772.00	January 1, 2025	\$795.00
<b>Grand River Transit (See appendix B)*</b>			
<b>ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>			
<b>Waste Management</b>			
<b>Waterloo and Cambridge Sites</b>			
General Refuse/Garbage (Starting April 1, 2023, the General Refuse/Garbage fee will be applicable for inert materials)	\$100.00/M.T.	April 1, 2025	\$102.00/MT
Special Handling Load Rate (Waterloo Site only) (includes: stumps, wire, styrofoam, asbestos, and nuisance dust)	\$200.00/M.T.	April 1, 2025	\$204.00/MT
Special Handling Load Rate (Waterloo Site only) (includes asbestos ONLY)	\$350.00/M.T.	April 1, 2025	\$385.00/MT
Recyclables (Loads must not be mixed with garbage) (All regular blue box materials, yard waste, brush, leaves, grass, appliances and scrap metal)	\$50.00/M.T.	April 1, 2025	\$51.00/MT
<b>Water and Wastewater Services*</b>			
Water Rate (for Area Municipalities and not customers)	1.205	January 1, 2025	1.264
Wastewater Rate (for Area Municipalities and not customers)	1.4777	January 1, 2025	1.5649
St. Agatha Regional Assumption Fee (*Regional Assumption Fee now applicable to all properties in St. Agatha which are eligible to connect.)	\$5,000.00/household*	January 1, 2025	\$5,000.00/household*

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Water Conservation By-law Permit Application Fee	\$10.00	January 1, 2025	\$10.00
200 litre Rain Barrel (purchase price)	\$40.00	January 1, 2025	\$40.00
Filming (Commercial)	\$1,000.00 to \$3,000.00/day Depending on size of production, site disruption, and film crew requirements. Other fees may apply, e.g. janitorial fees	January 1, 2025	\$1,000.00 to \$3,000.00/day Depending on size of production, site disruption, and film crew requirements. Other fees may apply, e.g. janitorial fees
<b>Retail Water/Wastewater</b>			
New Account Set-Up	\$30.00	January 1, 2025	\$30.00
Arrears Transferred to Tax Roll	\$50.00	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
Meter Dispute Test (no charge if meter is defective)	Actual costs to a maximum of \$350.00	January 1, 2025	Actual costs to a maximum of \$350.00
Service Reconnection Fee (for non-payment)	\$100.00	January 1, 2025	\$100.00
Special Meter Read	\$40.00	January 1, 2025	\$40.00
Remote Meter Re-Wiring	\$100.00	January 1, 2025	\$100.00
Water Certificate - Within 48 hours of Request	\$50.00	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
Water Certificate - Same day	\$75.00	January 1, 2025	\$75.00
Application fee - Permanent Water/Wastewater Connection	\$1,250.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,250.00
Application fee - Temporary Water Connection	\$750.00	January 1, 2025	\$750.00
Backflow Test Report Fee - permit fee and initial inspection	\$175.00	January 1, 2025	\$175.00
Backflow Test Report Fee - annual inspection report	\$50.00	January 1, 2025	\$50.00
Environmental Records Search Fee	\$150.00	January 1, 2025	\$150.00
<b>Water Services - Other Charges</b>			
Water meters (19 mm service)	\$200.00	January 1, 2025	\$200.00
Water meters (larger than 19 mm)	Cost Recovery	January 1, 2025	Cost Recovery
Water Distribution Rate	\$3.38/cu metre	January 1,	\$3.51/cu metre

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
		2025	
Water Distribution Fixed Rate	\$11.00	January 1, 2025	\$12.00
Wastewater Collection Rate	\$2.53/cu metre	January 1, 2025	\$2.63/cu metre
Wastewater Collection Fixed Rate	\$10.00	January 1, 2025	\$11.00
Wastewater Collection Increase for Flat Annual Rate (A percentage increase applies to the flat annual rate upon every owner of a property that is connected to The Regional Municipality of Waterloo's wastewater collection system, but not The Regional Municipality of Waterloo's water distribution system, in the Township of Wellesley or the Township of North Dumfries.)	2.9%	January 1, 2025	2.9%
<p><b>Note:</b>  For the purposes of this By-law,  (a) the term "owner" shall mean the owner or owners of the property in fee simple and where there is more than one such owner, then each owner shall be joint and severally liable for any charges, maintenance fees and interest imposed pursuant to this By-law;  (b) notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the term "owner" shall mean an owner or owners of the property in fee simple and any tenant or tenants if a tenant or tenants occupied a property, in whole or in part, on December 14, 2011 pursuant to a lease wherein the tenant or tenants assumed responsibility for the charges, maintenance fees and interest imposed pursuant to this By-law, in which case, such persons shall be responsible for any charges, maintenance fees and interest, as applicable, on a joint and several basis for the respective leased premise; and  (c) the term "connected" shall mean that the property has a service lateral that runs from any building or buildings upon the property to a sewer that is owned or under the jurisdiction of The Regional Municipality of Waterloo.</p>			
<b>Risk Management Plan Applications</b>			
Farming Activities	n/a	January 1, 2025	n/a
Provisional RMP	\$0	January 1, 2025	\$0
Chemical handling and Storage/Stormwater/Waste Handling/Winter Maintenance (Other)	\$650.00	January 1, 2025	\$700.00
<b>Amendments to a Risk Management Plan</b>			
Administrative	\$250.00	January 1, 2025	\$250.00

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Technical	\$500.00	January 1, 2025	\$500.00
Establish a RMP under Section 58 (10,11,12) CWA	\$5,000.00	January 1, 2025	\$5,000.00
Notices Issued under Section 59 of the CWA	\$0	January 1, 2025	\$0
<b>Inspections:</b>			
Inspection to confirm implementation of RMP	\$0	January 1, 2025	\$0
Inspections following a non-compliance visit	\$200.00	January 1, 2025	\$200.00
<b>Sewer Use By-law 21-036 Permits</b>			
Application Fee for All Permits	\$200.00	January 1, 2025	\$200.00
Surcharge Permit Issuance	\$1,500.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,500.00
Compliance Permit Issuance	\$1,500.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,500.00
Temporary Discharge Permit Issuance	\$1,500.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,500.00
General Discharge Permit Issuance	\$1,500.00	January 1, 2025	\$1,500.00
Amendment Fee for All Permits	\$750.00	January 1, 2025	\$750.00
<b>Sewer Surcharge Formula Treatment Unit Costs per Kilogram (tax exempt)</b>			
Rs = Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in \$/kg	\$0.71	January 1, 2025	\$0.72
Rb = Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD) in \$/kg	\$0.80	January 1, 2025	\$0.80
Rp = Phosphorus (P) in \$/kg	\$5.66	January 1, 2025	\$7.10
Rk = Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) in \$/kg	\$1.43	January 1, 2025	\$1.72
<b>Hauled Wastewater Disposal Rates per Truckload</b>			
Septage (per 15 cubic meter truck)	\$249.12	January 1, 2025	\$261.19
Holding Tank (per 15 cubic meter truck)	\$175.32	January 1, 2025	\$183.53
<b>Environmental Enforcement and Laboratory Services (EE&amp;LS)</b>			
<b>Private Well Tests (Offered through Public Health Only):</b>			
Fluoride test per sample	\$20.20	January 1, 2025	\$20.80
Nitrate test per sample	\$20.20	January 1, 2025	\$20.80
<b>Note: The tests outlined <u>below</u> are not available to the general public. They only apply to municipalities and townships.</b>			

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
<b>Inorganic Lab Tests:</b>			
Alkalinity	\$20.50	January 1, 2025	\$21.10
Ammonia (as N) – biosolids, cake	\$35.60	January 1, 2025	\$36.70
Ammonia (as N) - water	\$30.60	January 1, 2025	\$31.50
Chemical Oxygen Demand	\$20.30	January 1, 2025	\$20.90
Conductivity	\$11.05	January 1, 2025	\$11.40
Dissolved Organic Carbon	\$32.55	January 1, 2025	\$33.50
Hardness - Calculation (Ca & Mg are additional)	\$6.90	January 1, 2025	\$7.10
IC parameter – individual anion - biosolid, cake	\$25.20	January 1, 2025	\$26.00
IC parameter - individual anion – water	\$20.20	January 1, 2025	\$20.80
ICP/MS Metal – individual elements - biosolid, cake	\$24.65	January 1, 2025	\$25.40
ICP/MS Metal - individual elements - water	\$19.65	January 1, 2025	\$20.20
Mercury or Silver	\$26.90	January 1, 2025	\$27.70
pH	\$9.85	January 1, 2025	\$10.15
Pre-treatment - lab filtration (groundwater / surface water)	\$8.05	January 1, 2025	\$8.30
Pre-treatment – lab filtration - wastewater, biosolids	\$30.90	January 1, 2025	\$31.80
TKN - biosolid, cake	\$38.90	January 1, 2025	\$40.05
TKN (High Level or Low Level)	\$33.90	January 1, 2025	\$34.90
Total Organic Carbon	\$24.80	January 1, 2025	\$25.55
Total Dissolved Solids	\$17.75	January 1, 2025	\$18.30
Total Solids (TS)	\$15.65	January 1, 2025	\$16.10
Volatile Solids (when done with TS)	\$9.25	January 1, 2025	\$9.50
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	\$16.65	January 1, 2025	\$17.15

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Volatile Suspended Solids (when done with TSS)	\$9.25	January 1, 2025	\$9.50
True Colour	\$18.95	January 1, 2025	\$19.50
Turbidity	\$17.90	January 1, 2025	\$18.45
Un-ionized Ammonia	\$51.00	January 1, 2025	\$52.55
UV Transmittance	\$16.25	January 1, 2025	\$16.75
<b>Biological Lab Tests</b>			
Colony Confirmation – TC or EC – Membrane Filtration (any matrix)	\$25.00	January 1, 2025	\$25.00
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (Total OR Carbonaceous)	\$32.10	January 1, 2025	\$33.05
HPC	\$20.15	January 1, 2025	\$20.75
Membrane Filtration [Biosolids] - per test	\$45.35	January 1, 2025	\$46.70
Membrane filtration [DW] - per test	\$20.15	January 1, 2025	\$20.75
Membrane Filtration [SW/WW] - per test	\$27.75	January 1, 2025	\$28.60
Presence/Absence (Colilert)	\$17.90	January 1, 2025	\$18.40
<b>Organic Lab Tests</b>			
1,4 - Dioxane	\$329.25	January 1, 2025	\$339.00
2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid	\$157.10	January 1, 2025	\$160.00
Base Neutral Semi-volatiles (BaP, Chlorophenols, Endrin, Pesticides)	\$350.00	January 1, 2025	\$360.50
Benzo(a)pyrene	\$157.10	January 1, 2025	\$160.00
Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene and Xylene	\$77.25	January 1, 2025	\$79.55
Carbamates	\$245.95	January 1, 2025	\$253.30
Diquat/Paraquat	\$189.95	January 1, 2025	\$195.65
Glyphosate	\$189.95	January 1, 2025	\$195.65

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
Haloacetic Acids (5 individual compounds and total)	\$244.20	January 1, 2025	\$251.50
Metolachlor	\$161.80	January 1, 2025	\$166.65
Phenoxy Acid Herbicides	\$246.00	January 1, 2025	\$253.40
Polychlorinated Biphenyls	\$152.15	January 1, 2025	\$156.70
Schedule 24 Volatile Organic Compounds	\$130.10	January 1, 2025	\$134.00
Single VOC analyte	\$70.80	January 1, 2025	\$72.90
Trihalomethanes	\$77.60	January 1, 2025	\$79.90
VOC Target list	\$169.55	January 1, 2025	\$174.65
<b>Field Tests and Sampling</b>			
Routine sampling (per tap)	\$19.30	January 1, 2025	\$22.50
Chlorine Residuals (field)	\$15.85	January 1, 2025	\$16.50
Dissolved Oxygen (field)	\$15.85	January 1, 2025	\$16.30
pH (field)	\$15.85	January 1, 2025	\$16.30
Temperature (field)	\$10.90	January 1, 2025	\$11.20
Turbidity (field)	\$15.85	January 1, 2025	\$16.30
<b>Additional Services</b>			
Drinking Water Adverse Reporting	\$39.80	January 1, 2025	\$41.30
DWIS/LRMA uploads	\$7.90	January 1, 2025	\$7.90
Municipalities/Townships - DW Weekly Program Fee	\$172.80	January 1, 2025	\$178.00
RMOW - DW Weekly Program Fee	\$449.65	January 1, 2025	\$463.10
Special sampling hourly rate (Regular)	\$67.60	January 1, 2025	\$75.00
Special sampling hourly rate (Sunday) - 2 hour minimum	NEW	January 1, 2025	\$150.00
Special sampling hourly rate (After hours M-F and Saturdays- 2 hour minimum)	\$96.50	January 1, 2025	\$112.50

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Subcontracted Analysis Audit and Setup	\$266.25	January 1, 2025	\$266.25
WW Operations – Monthly Coordination Fee	\$636.55	January 1, 2025	\$655.65
<b>Notes / Additional Charges (as applicable):</b>			
Premium will be applied for each day that overtime costs are incurred.	\$108	January 1, 2025	\$110
Preliminary Reporting / Notification Fee (per occurrence)	\$5.00	January 1, 2025	\$5.00
Non-routine Data/Report/COC search or summary (hourly rate - min. 1 hour)	\$25.00	January 1, 2025	\$25.00
Rush priority analysis (does not apply to Biological tests)	75% for 1-2 working days 50% for 3-4 working days	January 1, 2025	75% for 1-2 working days 50% for 3-4 working days
Subcontracted Analysis and Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical charges will be applied as they are incurred.</li> <li>• Adverse Reporting and DWIS Upload fees will be applied as they are incurred.</li> <li>• Rush charges will be applied as they are incurred from subcontractors.</li> <li>• Shipping Charges will be applied as they are incurred from couriers.</li> </ul>			

\*The program area has provided a comprehensive list of fees which include fees that are remaining unchanged in the proposed 2025 budget.



**Appendix B - Proposed Changes and Housekeeping Updates to the Fees and Charge By-Law as Presented on October 30, 2024**

**(Grand River Transit)**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION SERVICES</b>			
<b>Grand River Transit (GRT)</b>			
EasyGO Fare Card	\$5.00	July 1, 2025	\$4.00
GRT Photo ID Card (Available at GRT Customer Service Centres)	\$5.00	July 1, 2025	\$4.00
<b>Cash Fare Payment (Tax Exempt)</b>			
Cash Fare (Exact change only)	\$3.75	July 1, 2025	\$4.00
<b>General Fare Categories (Tax Exempt)</b> (EasyGO Fare Card payment and/or other form of electronic payment method required, unless otherwise noted.)			
Stored Value	\$3.00	No Change Proposed	\$3.00
Multi-Ride Fare	\$3.50	No Change Proposed	\$3.50
Day Pass – Single	\$8.00	No Change Proposed	\$8.00
Day Pass – Group (Up to 5 travelling together)	\$12.00	No Change Proposed	\$12.00
Monthly Pass	\$96.00	July 1, 2025	\$100.00
Summer Pass (July and August)	\$163.20	July 1, 2025	\$170.00
<b>Eligibility-based Fare Categories (Tax Exempt)</b> (EasyGO Fare Card payment and/or other form of electronic payment method required, unless otherwise noted.)			
Children under 5 with paying customer (Up to a maximum of three (3) children)	No Charge	No Change Proposed	No Charge
MobilityPLUS permanent registrants with I.D. (Riding conventional transit services)	No Charge	No Change Proposed	No Charge
Affordable Transit Program (ATP) – Stored Value (Only available to ATP participants)	\$1.50	No Change Proposed	\$1.50
Affordable Transit Program (ATP) – Monthly Pass (Only available to ATP participants)	\$48.00	July 1, 2025	\$50.00
TravelWise Corporate - Stored Value (Only available to TravelWise Program participants)	\$2.55	No Change Proposed	\$2.55

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
TravelWise Corporate - Monthly Pass (Only available to TravelWise Program participants)	\$81.60	July 1, 2025	\$85.00
College Pass (Per eligible student per school term)	\$312.00	September 1, 2025	\$325.00
U-Pass (Per eligible student per school term for student groups participating in the Region's Universal Transit Pass program)	\$118.97	September 1, 2025	\$124.91
<b>GRT MobilityPLUS (Tax Exempt)</b>			
MobilityPLUS tickets (strip of 5)	\$15.00	No Change Proposed	\$15.00
MobilityPLUS tickets (strip of 5) – ATP (Only available to ATP participants)	\$7.50	No Change Proposed	\$7.50
<b>GRT MobilityPLUS Township Fare (Tax Exempt)</b>			
Within Township	\$3.00	No Change Proposed	\$3.00
First Boundary Crossed	\$4.75	No Change Proposed	\$4.75
Secondary Boundary Crossed	\$7.00	No Change Proposed	\$7.00
<b>TravelWise Program Service (Tax Inclusive)</b>			
Corporate (<101 Employees)	\$650.00	No Change Proposed	\$650.00
Corporate (101-250 Employees)	\$1,250.00	No Change Proposed	\$1,250.00
Corporate (251-500 Employees)	\$1,750.00	No Change Proposed	\$1,750.00
Corporate (501-1000 Employees)	\$2,750.00	No Change Proposed	\$2,750.00
Corporate (1001-3000 Employees)	\$4,500.00	No Change Proposed	\$4,500.00
Corporate (3001-6250 Employees)	\$6,250.00	No Change Proposed	\$6,250.00
Corporate (6251+ Employees)	\$1.00/employee, to a maximum of \$10,000.00	No Change Proposed	\$1.00/employee, to a maximum of \$10,000.00
Non-Profit (<101 Employees)	\$520.00	No Change Proposed	\$520.00
Non-Profit (101-250 Employees)	\$1,000.00	No Change Proposed	\$1,000.00
Non-Profit (251-500 Employees)	\$1,400.00	No Change Proposed	\$1,400.00

Description	Current Fee	Effective Date	Proposed Fee
Non-Profit (501-1000 Employees)	\$2,200.00	No Change Proposed	\$2,200.00
Non-Profit (1001-3000 Employees)	\$3,600.00	No Change Proposed	\$3,600.00
Non-Profit (3001-6250 Employees)	\$5,000.00	No Change Proposed	\$5,000.00
Non-Profit (6251+ Employees)	\$1.00/employee, to a maximum of \$8,000.00	No Change Proposed	\$1.00/employee, to a maximum of \$8,000.00
Developer	Same rates as Corporate Employer Category based on number of tenants' employees.	No Change Proposed	Same rates as Corporate Employer Category based on number of tenants' employees.

**Region of Waterloo**

**Corporate Services**

**Corporate Finance**

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**To:** Strategic Planning and Budget Committee

**Meeting Date:** December 11, 2024

**Report Title:** Municipal Budget Regulation

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**1. Recommendation**

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo adopt report COR-CFN-24-027 dated December 11, 2024 titled “Municipal Budget Regulation” as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09.

**2. Purpose / Issue:**

To meet the requirements of O. Reg 284/09 under the Municipal Act.

**3. Strategic Plan:**

The annual budget aligns resources to the organization’s strategic vision and numerous initiatives set out in the Corporate Strategic Plan.

**4. Report Highlights:**

- The Municipal Act requires municipalities to prepare and adopt an annual budget. Accompanying regulations allow for amortization expenses, post-employment benefits expenses and solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses to be excluded from the annual budget.
- Before adopting a budget that excludes any of the expenses noted above, a municipality must prepare a report regarding the excluded expenses and adopt the report by resolution.
- This report fulfills the reporting requirement. The Region includes in its annual budget contributions to capital reserves (in lieu of and in excess of amortization) to provide funding for future asset renewal and replacement costs. The Region also includes in its annual budget the cost of employment benefit expenses and solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses (capital and operating), rather than the change in the amount of the future liability and asset retirement obligation which are reported as an expense in the annual financial statements.

## 5. Background:

### Legislative Provisions.

Section 289 of the Municipal Act (“the Act”) [see Appendix “A”] requires an upper-tier municipality to prepare and adopt a budget including estimates of all sums required during the year for the purposes of the upper-tier municipality. O. Reg 284/09 under the Act [see Appendix “B”] allows for the following items to be excluded from the annual budget: amortization expenses, post-employment benefits expenses and solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses.

The Act requires that municipalities prepare balanced budgets which include all of the annual expenses of the municipality. The Region, similar to most municipalities in Ontario, budgets on a modified accrual basis to determine the property tax levy and user rate requirements needed to fund the operations of the Region and its ten year capital program.

Before adopting a budget that excludes any of the expenses listed above, a municipality must prepare a report regarding the excluded expenses and adopt the report by resolution. Such report must contain an estimate of the change in the accumulated surplus of the municipality to the end of the year resulting from the exclusion of any of the expenses, and an analysis of the estimated impact of the exclusion of any of the expenses on the future tangible capital asset funding requirements.

### Amortization Expenses/Capital Funding.

The Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) requires the historical cost of tangible capital assets and the related annual amortization expense to be recorded in municipal audited financial statements. Amortization is the amount of a tangible capital asset which is consumed through use of that asset by a municipality during the year. For example, a road with an expected life of 50 years would have one-fiftieth of its historical cost recorded as amortization each year.

The historical cost of assets net of accumulated amortization (\$4.0 billion in 2023) is included in the Statement of Financial Position, while the annual amortization expense (\$161.9 million in 2023) is included in the Statement of Change in Net Debt and Statement of Cash Flows. The Region’s annual operating budget includes transfers to reserves to fund rehabilitation, replacement and expansion of assets as well as principal and interest repayments on debt issued to acquire assets. These amounts provide for the acquisition and replacement of assets as required, and in the Region’s case the combined amount exceeds the related annual amortization (which reflects the historical cost of assets).

As previously reported, additional budget contributions are required to fully fund asset lifecycle costs. The current level of property tax levy contributions to fund capital asset renewal falls short of contribution targets and the Region’s ten-year capital plan currently does not achieve pay-as-you-go funding for asset renewal and rehabilitation projects.

Further information will be provided through future Asset Management Plan and Policy updates.

### **Post-Employment Benefit Expenses.**

The Region's annual financial statements include a liability associated with employee future benefits. This liability has three components: post employment benefits, sick leave and Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB). These future liabilities are calculated on an actuarial basis annually for financial statement purposes in accordance with PSAB requirements. Post-employment benefit expenses refer to post employment benefits (health, dental, and life insurance) and vested sick leave. The liability for these benefits as of December 31, 2023 was \$51.7 million for the Region and \$200.3 million for the Waterloo regional Police Services (WRPS), while the 2022 net change in the future liability was \$2.5 million for the Region and \$7.5 million for WRPS. For annual budget purposes, the Region and the Police Services Board estimates the current year benefit cost and this amount is provided for in the annual operating budget. Additionally, in 2022 Police Services started setting aside funds in a reserve to fund the future benefit costs.

### **Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Expenses.**

Landfill closure and post-closure costs are incurred to close active landfill sites and to monitor and remediate any closed landfills in the future. The Region owns and operates one active landfill site and owns and monitors five closed landfill sites. Solid waste landfill closure and post-closure costs are funded through the Region's annual budget.

On January 1, 2023, the Region adopted Public Accounting Standard PS 3280 – Asset Retirement Obligations. The new accounting standard addresses the reporting of legal obligations associated with the retirement of certain tangible capital assets and resulted in a withdrawal of Section PS 3270 – Solid Waste Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Liability. In accordance with the provisions of this new standard, the Region removed the landfill liability that had been recognized to date and recognized an asset retirement obligation on January 1, 2022. The liability represents the required closure and post-closure care for the one active and five closed landfill sites owned by the Region. To date, Ontario Regulation 284/09 has not been updated to reflect these changes.

In the Region's financial statements, asset retirement obligations associated with landfill closure total \$80.9 million for 2023, an increase of \$7.7 million from 2022. These amounts recognize the legal obligation associated with the retirement of a tangible capital asset and are not included in the annual budget. The Region includes in its annual budget the annual maintenance and monitoring expenses at closed landfill sites as well as any capital works.

## **6. Area Municipality Communication and Public/Stakeholder Engagement:**

Nil.

**7. Financial Implications:**

The following table illustrates the amounts budgeted and included in the financial statements for the above items in the 2023 fiscal year. The 2024 amounts for changes in the outstanding liability will be available when the 2024 financial statements are completed. For comparison purposes 2025 budget figures are also shown. The table illustrates that the amount of funding raised through the annual operating budget to fund non-growth and growth related capital projects (including repayment of debenture principal) exceeds the amortization expense used for financial statement purposes. This is expected as the amount required to fund asset replacements in the future would typically exceed amortization based on historical costs.

Expense (\$ thousands)	2023 Budget	2023 Financial Statements	Difference	2025 Budget
<b>1. Amortization/Capital funding</b>				
Transfers to Capital Reserves	\$159,707	n/a	-	\$191,377
Principal Repayments	\$56,845	n/a	-	\$56,907
Amortization	n/a	\$161,878	-	n/a
<b>Total Amortization/Capital funding</b>	<b>\$216,552</b>	<b>\$161,878</b>	<b>\$54,674</b>	<b>\$248,284</b>
<b>2. Post-Employment Benefits</b>				
Region (excluding WRPS)	\$3,875	\$2,537	-	\$4,702
Waterloo Regional Police Service	\$4,420	\$7,538	-	\$6,621
<b>Total Post-Employment Benefits</b>	<b>\$8,294</b>	<b>\$10,075</b>	<b>(\$1,781)</b>	<b>\$11,323</b>
<b>3. Landfill Closure and Post-Closure</b>				
Operating Budget Expenditures	\$2,374	n/a	-	\$2,441
Capital Budget Expenditures	\$9,167	n/a	-	\$5,506
Landfill Closure Asset Retirement Obligation	n/a	\$7,658	-	n/a
<b>Total Landfill Closure and Post-Closure</b>	<b>\$11,541</b>	<b>\$7,685</b>	<b>\$3,856</b>	<b>\$7,947</b>

**8. Conclusion / Next Steps:**

Nil.

**9. Attachments:**

Appendix A: Excerpt from Municipal Act.

Appendix B: Ontario Regulation 284/09, Budget Matters — Expenses.

**Prepared By:** Christopher Wilson, Manager, Corporate Budgets

**Approved By:** Wayne Steffler, Commissioner, Corporate Services/Chief Financial Officer

**Appendix A: Excerpt from Municipal Act.****Yearly budgets, upper-tier:**

- 289. (1)** For each year, an upper-tier municipality shall, in the year or the immediately preceding year, prepare and adopt a budget including estimates of all sums required during the year for the purposes of the upper-tier municipality, including,
- (a) amounts sufficient to pay all debts of the upper-tier municipality falling due within the year;
  - (b) amounts required to be raised for sinking funds or retirement funds;
  - (c) amounts in respect of debenture debt of lower-tier municipalities for the payment of which the upper-tier municipality is liable; and
  - (d) amounts required by law to be provided by the upper-tier municipality for any of its local boards, excluding school boards. 2001, c. 25, s. 289 (1); 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 119 (1).

**Exception:**

- (1.1) Despite subsection (1), a budget for a year immediately following a year in which a regular election is held, may only be adopted in the year to which the budget applies. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 119 (2).

**Detail and form:**

- (2) The budget shall, in such detail and form as the Minister may require, set out the following amounts:
  1. The estimated revenues, including the amount the municipality intends to raise on all the rateable property in the municipality by its general upper-tier levy and the amount it intends to raise on less than all the rateable property in the municipality by a special upper-tier levy under section 311.
  2. The estimated portion of the estimated revenues described in paragraph 1, if any, to be paid into the municipality's reserve, sinking and retirement funds.
  3. The estimated expenses, subject to any regulation made under clause 292 (2) (a).
  4. The estimated portion of the estimated expenses described in paragraph 3, if any, to be paid out of the municipality's reserve, sinking and retirement funds. 2009, c. 18, Sched. 18, s. 1.



**Appendix B: Ontario Regulation 284/09  
Budget Matters — Expenses.**

**Exclusion:**

1. In preparing the budget for a year, a municipality or local board may exclude from the estimated expenses described in paragraph 3 of subsection 289 (2) and in paragraph 3 of subsection 290 (2) of the Act all or a portion of the following:
  1. Amortization expenses.
  2. Post-employment benefits expenses.
  3. Solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses. O. Reg. 284/09, s. 1.

**Report:**

2. (1) For 2011 and subsequent years, the municipality or local board shall, before adopting a budget for the year that excludes any of the expenses listed in section 1,
  - (a) prepare a report about the excluded expenses; and
  - (b) adopt the report by resolution. O. Reg. 284/09, s. 2 (1).
- (2) If a municipality or local board plans to adopt or has adopted a budget for 2010 that excludes any of the expenses listed in section 1, the municipality or local board shall, within 60 days after receiving its audited financial statements for 2009,
  - (a) prepare a report about the excluded expenses; and
  - (b) adopt the report by resolution. O. Reg. 284/09, s. 2 (2).

**Contents:**

3. A report under section 2 shall contain at least the following:
  1. An estimate of the change in the accumulated surplus of the municipality or local board to the end of the year resulting from the exclusion of any of the expenses listed in section 1.
  2. An analysis of the estimated impact of the exclusion of any of the expenses listed in section 1 on the future tangible capital asset funding requirements of the municipality or local board. O. Reg. 284/09, s. 3.

**Review:**

4. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing shall initiate a review of this Regulation on or before December 31, 2012. O. Reg. 284/09, s. 4.
5. Omitted (provides for coming into force of provisions of this Regulation). O. Reg. 284/09, s. 5.

December 5, 2024

Kevan Marshall, Project Manager - Climate and Energy Transition  
Melissa Murray, Assistant Manager Marketing, Communications and Community Engagement  
Grand River Transit  
250 Strasburg Road  
Kitchener, Ontario N2E 3M6  
by email: [KMarshall@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:KMarshall@regionofwaterloo.ca) and [MeMurray@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:MeMurray@regionofwaterloo.ca)

## **Re: Region of Waterloo Budget 2025 and Transit**

Dear Kevan and Melissa,

The University of Waterloo (UW) is writing to oppose the Region of Waterloo's proposed service reductions and fare fee increases for Grand River Transit (GRT) as part of the Region's current budget process, which were announced via email to the University on November 29, 2024. The Region's proposed reduction in frequency of bus routes #9 and #30, fare fee increase to the TravelWise Corporate Monthly Pass, and removal of garbage cans at bus stops will directly and negatively affect the University of Waterloo community.

### **1. BUS ROUTES #9 AND #30**

GRT route #9 is a major feeder into the University of Waterloo campus. Based on data provided to UW by GRT, route #9 is the third most frequently used transit route for UPass holders, after the two iXpress routes, with over 85,000 trips in Fall 2023 (falling only 1000 short of the first and second most frequently used routes after the iXpress routes). Notably, these numbers are for UPass holders only and do not include employees or other users and visitors of campus.

The proposed shift from 20 to 30 minute frequency during daytimes will likely be a concern for hundreds or thousands of students and other riders, presenting a number of risks:

- Over-crowding on buses
- During peak: students or other riders being stranded at bus stops on their way to campus or on their way home, if the bus is full and they are not permitted to board
- General lack of convenience, increasing wait times by 10 minutes
- Limited transfer access to make connections to other routes

Service on this route was already reduced in summer 2024 from every 15 minutes to every 20 minutes on weekdays. This reduction was accepted as a compromise because it occurred as a result of routing adjustments made by GRT that benefit the UW community.



UW's department of Sustainable Transportation and WUSA (Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association) have been involved in the GRT Business Plan engagement sessions this Fall, with many positive discussions about service improvements. This current budget discussion goes against the spirit of the Business Planning, as we should be continuing to talk about improvements over time, not reductions. During a climate crisis and financial insecurity for many residents, investments in public transit is key; budget reductions in this area sends ridership and transportation planning in the wrong direction.

The University of Waterloo is currently developing its first institutional Sustainable Transportation Plan, with completion expected in Spring 2025. An integral pillar of this Plan is "Circulation and Movement", which aims to address how campus community members move around campus. UW recently gained dedicated staff capacity for transit education and coordination (and sustainable transportation as a whole), and thus it was UW's intent to increase promotion of these routes, particularly route #30. Since summer 2024, University of Waterloo staff have had ongoing discussions with GRT staff about improvements for route #30 for a wider-range of university travels and were hoping to continue these discussions.

## 2. FARE FEE INCREASES

The Region has proposed a fee increase for the TravelWise Corporate Monthly Pass (of which UW employees are a part) from \$81.60/month to \$88/month. UW is aiming to increase employee use of transit for their daily commute as part of internal sustainability objectives. The fare fee increase by the Region will be objectionable for many current riders and does not incentivize potential riders to switch from single occupant vehicle to transit.

## 3. GARBAGE COLLECTION AT BUS STOPS

The Region has also proposed the removal of garbage cans at bus stops. While this is a lower priority concern for UW, it is still a concern. Garbage cans at stops on major routes on Columbia Street and University Avenue, for example, have been noticed as overflowing at times. Loss of waste collection at stops could harm the transit experience and discourage usage.

We thank you in advance for your attention and look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,



Tara De Souza  
Sustainable Transportation Specialist



Mat Thijssen  
Director of Sustainability



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**Subject:**

Region of Waterloo Budget - Comments to Region, City &amp; Township Councils

**From:** Douglas Saunders**Sent:** December 9, 2024 12:16 AM**To:** Regional Council All <[RegionalCouncilAll@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:RegionalCouncilAll@regionofwaterloo.ca)>; Regional Clerk<[RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)>; [mayor@waterloo.ca](mailto:mayor@waterloo.ca); [council@waterloo.ca](mailto:council@waterloo.ca); [hamiltons@cambridge.ca](mailto:hamiltons@cambridge.ca);[earnshawr@cambridge.ca](mailto:earnshawr@cambridge.ca); [robertss@cambridge.ca](mailto:robertss@cambridge.ca); [gkosch@wellsley.ca](mailto:gkosch@wellsley.ca); Jeff Smith <[jsmith@woolwich.ca](mailto:jsmith@woolwich.ca)>**Cc:** Luisa D'Amato <[ldamato@therecord.com](mailto:ldamato@therecord.com)>; Doug Coxson <[doug@cambridgetoday.ca](mailto:doug@cambridgetoday.ca)>; The Record Newsroom<[newsroom@therecord.com](mailto:newsroom@therecord.com)>; [newsroom@cambridgetimes.ca](mailto:newsroom@cambridgetimes.ca); [mike@villagemedia.ca](mailto:mike@villagemedia.ca)**Subject:** Region of Waterloo Budget - Comments to Region, City & Township Councils

Regional Chair Redman, Mayors, Regional, City and Township Councillors:

I had contemplated forwarding comments to the final meeting of the Budget Committee and Special Council Meeting for consideration before the 2025 Budget is finalized. I chose instead, to send you a post that I have sent broadly throughout my contacts through email and social media. It has gone to contacts across the country. That same post, included in this message should be considered in the context of your final deliberations. They are offered bluntly and from the heart in the hope that you will soberly consider the contradictions of your statements and actions with the hope that you will understand the imbalance of your actions and the resulting harms for constituents ... especially the poor, the unhoused, those struggling with additions and chronic mental health issues.

As always, and once again I offer to be available to meeting with you to provide advice based on my 45+ year career in the human services ... advice that I am currently offering to municipalities and District Service Administration Boards throughout Ontario through my association as a consultant with the Beam Group out of Toronto.

Should you wish to discuss anything in the comments below, please feel free to contact me. My coordinates and contact details are at the end of this message.

**Message Delivered via Email, Social Media and Person to Person**

Is it just me or does anyone else see that logic and reason have taken their place beside common sense as long distant historical elements of political thought?

Everyone from the Mayor and many Cambridge City and Waterloo Region Councilors to the Premier, devoid of compassion, shout from the rooftops that the poor (especially Ontario Works recipients) should "get off their a\$\$es and get a job" (said by the Premier himself), the homeless, after having their encampments bulldozed should go somewhere else, addicted drug users and those with declining mental health should move away or be scooped up and forced into some magical treatment beds sufficient of which don't exist for those who currently want treatment! Yet, at the same time, these same politicians are proposing significant reductions in funding for the very services that are designed to help the poor achieve these very demands politicians are making. Balancing the Regional budget by significant cuts in the Social Services, reductions in transit

frequency or increases in transit fares are **COUNTERINTUITIVE** to the expectations of "get a job", "live somewhere other than a tent" and "stop using drugs".

As a former Commissioner of Community Services for this Region, I can tell you the counselling collaborative funded through the Region, was, in part, established to provide support to clients in their search for employment. These supports are designed to assist those most estranged from the labour force, those battling mental health and addictions to address these issues through treatment and education in order to obtain and maintain gainful employment. If you are cutting these services, you are defeating your own request to the client population not to mention the fundamental principle and primary expectation of the Ontario Works Act!! Further restrictions of such supports to employment simply compound the elimination of the staff Social Workers in the Employment and Social Services Division who not only provided direct client services but also served as consultants to Case Managers in supporting them to understand the mental health barriers faced by their clients. These represent significant service removals made exponentially worse by the proposed reduction in funding to the Counselling Collaborative.

The poor, no matter whether they are recently unemployed and receiving EI, the working poor, Ontario Works or ODSP recipients, need transit services to attend education, training and reskilling programs that make them more able to compete for an obtain employment, not to mention be able to get to work should they obtain a job. Reducing service frequency or increasing the fares are illogical and, dare I say stupid, when you're expecting people to obtain and maintain employment. You cannot demand that people get off their bottoms and get jobs then limit their ability to get to work.

During the Premiership of Mike Harris, I ran the Family Benefits Programs for the Province in Toronto Region. When Harris and his clan cut the social assistance rates by 21%, staff in my offices (over 1,000 in 9 offices serving 100,000 clients) wept when parents came into our offices, left their children in our waiting rooms and said to our reception staff, "you raise them, we can't afford them" ... this is not hyperbolae, this actually happened. Sadly, it was not deemed sufficiently newsworthy to capture media attention that might well have enraged clear thinking citizens. It was the only time in my executive management career that I told the staff to call FACS or CAS and ask them to apprehend the children from our offices, not because of parental neglect or abuse but because of incompetent government policy.

These cuts to balance the Region's budget are no different. They are incompetent government policy. They are evidence that the political arena is no longer a place where thoughtful elected officials come together to problem solve with balance in mind so much as contradicting themselves at every turn and harming their constituents in what appears to be the sport of the exercise. No elected official in their right mind would ever blatantly speak out of both sides of their mouths ("get a job but we're cutting employment supports") without being certain they could get away with it ... and we have only ourselves to blame. A misguided "majority" of the electorate, largely angry, self interested and compassionless individuals, put the current politicians there and a silent majority enables them by not standing up to challenge these proposed policies and cuts. The behaviour at all levels of government is beyond unconscionable and mere steps behind our neighbours to the south.

I don't want to hear a single politician gripe about the poor, the homeless, encampments, the addicted, those suffering mental health issues or others unless and until you come to your senses and begin to govern responsibly. YOU are harming your constituents by failing to be balanced, knowledgeable and compassionate

in your decisions. You are an embarrassment to what it is to be Canadian. You make a mockery of the principles of wealth distribution, universality of services and the notion of Canada's long respected social safety net. For proud Canadians who believe in the underlying principles of what it is to be Canadian are embarrassed by your actions.

As for Regional Councillor Pam Wolf (and any who may be silently sympathetic) ... I applaud you. Keep up the good work and continue to fight for those who lack the agency to stand up for themselves. I promise you, there are those of us in this community who will do our best to organize and be ready for the next election to ensure those who cannot do the job in a balanced, compassionate and logical way, no longer have the positions around the horseshoe to continue imposing harm.

I hope you will listen carefully to this input, consider your decisions and reverse the unnecessarily harmful actions you are imposing on the most vulnerable among us.

Deeply sincerely,

**Douglas**

**Douglas E. Bartholomew-Saunders**  
**Cambridge, Ontario, N1R5S5**

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**Subject:**

Urgent: Reconsideration of Budget Cuts to the Region of Waterloo Dental Clinic

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**From:** Karen Baird

**Sent:** December 9, 2024 4:05 PM

**To:** Regional Clerk <[RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)>

**Subject:** Urgent: Reconsideration of Budget Cuts to the Region of Waterloo Dental Clinic

Dear Councillor,

My name is Dr. Karen Baird, and I have had the privilege of serving as a dentist at the Region of Waterloo Dental Clinic for over 11 years. During this time, I have witnessed firsthand the critical role our clinic plays in providing essential dental care to children, youth, and adults in our community. I am writing to urge you to reconsider the proposed closure of this clinic, as doing so would have far-reaching negative consequences for the Region of Waterloo.

Although government programs like Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) and the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) aim to increase access to dental care, significant gaps remain:

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**Restrictive Eligibility:** The income threshold for HSO is incredibly low. For a family of four, the maximum income to qualify is \$34,046, leaving many low-income families without access to care.

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**Limited Provider Participation:** Due to HSO's low reimbursement rates, many dental offices do not accept patients on the program. In our region, only two of the four pediatric specialty offices accept HSO patients, resulting in long wait times.

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**CDCP Challenges:** While the CDCP allows for a higher income threshold, barriers such as tax filing requirements, disqualification for having insurance, and unaffordable co-pays (40-60%) prevent many from accessing care. Extra billing, which covers the gap between government payouts and recommended fees, further compounds the financial burden on patients.

In practice, these gaps mean many families cannot afford even basic dental care. For example, private insurance co-pays, often 20% or more of the total bill, are prohibitive for many, and limited coverage caps (e.g., \$200 per year) fail to address the true cost of dental care.

### **Continued High Demand for Services**

Despite the introduction of the CDCP for children under 18 earlier this year, our clinic has not seen a decline in demand. On December 3 alone, we treated 10 new patients, all with extensive cavities. Just last week, I had to prescribe antibiotics three times for preventable dental infections. If the clinic were to close, these patients would have no choice but to seek treatment at emergency rooms, further straining our healthcare system and driving up costs.



## **Preventable Long-Term Costs**

Dental issues left untreated often escalate, leading to more complex and expensive problems. For instance, untreated cavities can result in tooth loss, requiring orthodontic treatment that is not covered by government programs and costs upward of \$7,000—far beyond the means of low-income families.

## **Cost Efficiency of the Clinic**

The most expensive aspect of a dental clinic is its infrastructure, which is already in place. The yearly operational costs are relatively low compared to the significant benefits the clinic provides to our community.

## **Broader Implications of Budget Cuts**

The proposed cuts target those most vulnerable to financial hardship—the same individuals already struggling with rising costs of housing, utilities, and basic needs. Reducing services in this area would be a disservice to our community.

As a side note, it is disheartening to see cuts affecting client-facing positions that directly serve those in need while redundancies persist in other areas, such as remote positions that may not offer the same level of public impact. Many taxpayers, myself included, would rather see resources allocated to services like the dental clinic than to roles with less tangible benefits to the community.

I am happy to provide additional information or answer any questions about the importance of these services. Thank you for your time and reconsideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Karen Baird

Sent from my iPhone

**Sent via Email**

December 9, 2024

Regional Chair Karen Redman  
Waterloo Regional Council  
150 Frederick Street  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4J3  
[KRedman@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:KRedman@regionofwaterloo.ca)

Dear Chair Redman and Members of Waterloo Regional Council,

On behalf of the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA), we are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed reductions to Grand River Transit (GRT) services as part of Council's 2025 budget considerations. These cuts will have a profound impact on the over 35,000 undergraduate students we represent at the University of Waterloo, the majority of whom rely on GRT for their daily commutes and activities around the region.

WUSA initially commended the original GRT plan, which emphasized service expansion, Cambridge campus integration, and equitable employment for transit workers. This plan aligned with the region's sustainability and accessibility goals while addressing key student concerns. Unfortunately, the proposed changes undermine these aspirations, jeopardizing the progress that has been made.

**Key Concerns:**

- 1. Undermining Climate and Sustainability Goals:**  
The proposed cuts contradict the region's climate commitments, pushing more residents toward car usage. This will increase road congestion, parking demand, and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. Impact on Students:**  
Over 90% of University of Waterloo students rely on active or public transit for commuting. Reducing services—particularly critical routes such as 29 and 30—will severely disrupt student mobility and daily activities, creating ripple effects for the region's transportation system.
- 3. Erosion of U-Pass Agreement Commitments:**  
The U-Pass program—specifically the recent extension through 2027 that was agreed to in principle by our board in part to accommodate regional staff working on the updated GRT Business Plan—which saw a 5% year-over-year fee increase justified by promised service improvements, is being undermined by these proposed reductions. This not only breaks the trust of students but also sets a concerning precedent for future agreements.

**4. Diminished Transit Experience:**

Persistent concerns like insufficient trash cans at transit stations continue to detract from the transit experience. Such small yet significant oversights discourage ridership and reduce the overall appeal of public transit.

**5. Broader Benefits of Transit Investment:**

Beyond student use, public transit benefits the entire region by reducing road pollution, collisions, and police overtime, and by improving community health and safety. Cutting transit services risks reversing these gains, to the detriment of all residents.

We urge Council to reject the proposed cuts and instead prioritize investments that enhance public transit, reflecting shared goals of sustainability, accessibility, and community well-being. Maintaining critical routes and upholding the commitments in the U-Pass agreement are vital to sustaining trust and ensuring that public transit continues to serve as a cornerstone of regional growth and prosperity.

WUSA stands ready to collaborate with the region on finding solutions that ensure GRT remains a reliable and sustainable transportation option for students and the broader community.

Sincerely,

**Nicholas Pfeifle**



President

Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association, University of Waterloo

**Arya Razmjoo**



Vice President

Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association, University of Waterloo

cc: Members of Regional Council

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**Subject:**

The Grand River Transit Fee Changes and the Bus Route Reductions

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**From:** barry green**Sent:** December 10, 2024 10:08 PM**To:** Regional Clerk <[RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca)>**Subject:** The Grand River Transit Fee Changes and the Bus Route Reductions

Here is what I have to say

Your article on the region's proposed cuts to transit and social services, which were described by councillor Pam Wolf as "cruel" are exactly that.

Cutting Grand River Transit service on some routes would harm many people in Cambridge and Waterloo region who rely on public transit to get around.

It is their only means of transportation. I also think it's ridiculous that the region wants to raise the monthly bus pass to \$104. That is too much for many people to afford.

Just imagine that you're a family of four and you have to buy a bus pass for every single person. On top of that they want to reduce service on some of the routes.

When they do that, they're going to leave people stranded when the buses are too full.

For people without a car, the only other way to get around is taxis, a far too expensive option for most people.

I work at Costco and for me to get to work from my home in Cambridge would cost almost \$40 in a taxi. And that's just one way.

Barry Green  
Cambridge

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**Subject:** Comment: Potential budget saving options for 2025  
**Attachments:** Support for the reopening of Doon Village38515ae-c209-44ed-b553-b3ac5a3ab353.pdf

From: noreply@regionofwaterloo.ca <noreply@regionofwaterloo.ca> On Behalf Of Beatriz Gomez  
Sent: December 12, 2024 3:10 PM  
To: Regional Clerk <RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca>  
Subject: Comment: Potential budget saving options for 2025

Dear members of the Waterloo Region Council,

On behalf of the Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival, I am writing to you today to share a letter of support for the reopening of the Doon historic village, which is currently under discussion as a potential cost-saving measure.

As a key venue for our festival, the historic village has played an instrumental role in providing a culturally rich and engaging environment for thousands of students, teachers and volunteers who participate in our educational programs each year. The village not only serves as the backdrop for this important community event, but it is also a vital symbol of the area's cultural and social history, fostering connections and learning among local residents and visitors alike.

In the attached letter, we outline the significant value that the historic village brings to our festival and to the wider community. We believe that reopening this venue will help preserve its unique heritage while continuing to serve as an educational hub for future generations. The letter expresses our strong support for the initiative and highlights the ongoing positive impact it has on the region's residents.

I kindly ask for your thoughtful consideration of this matter as the council moves forward with discussions. We are hopeful that, with your support, we can ensure the continued success of the Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival and the vibrant role the historic village plays in the social and cultural fabric of our community.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. Please feel free to reach out if you require any additional information or would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,  
Beatriz Gomez

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Origin: <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regional-government/communicate-with-council.aspx>  
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This email was sent to you by Beatriz Gomez through <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca>.



Dear Members of the Region of Waterloo Council,

My name is Beatriz Gomez and I am writing on behalf of Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater festival, a beloved event that has been proudly hosted at the Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum from 1996 to 2019. Over the years, this festival has become a significant part of our community, drawing thousands of children, parents and teachers every year to experience its unique offerings. The Doon Village, with its charm and cultural richness, has always provided a perfect backdrop for the festival, creating an atmosphere that enhances the experience for attendees and brings people together. We are eager to bring the festival back to its historic venue and return to the Doon Village in 2025. We anticipate 6,000 to 7,000 elementary students, teachers and parents will visit the festival at Doon Village in 2025.

We understand that the site has been closed for construction and that there are considerations to keep it closed to save costs. However, we strongly believe that reopening the historic site to the public, especially for events like our festival, would be a tremendous benefit to the community. The site's historical and cultural significance offers a unique opportunity to deepen the connection to our past while simultaneously providing a lively and educational environment for present-day celebrations.

The value of historic sites cannot be overstated. They serve as tangible links to our shared history, offering an educational experience for all generations. They also contribute to the cultural fabric of our region, offering a sense of pride and identity to our community. By reopening this site, we not only preserve its cultural value but also provide an enriching experience for local children and families who look forward to visiting Doon and attend the festival each year. The festival has consistently brought joy and education, and the historic site itself adds an irreplaceable element that enhances the event and encourages a deeper appreciation for the region's heritage.

Moreover, the festival's continued presence at this site contributes to the local economy and supports community spirit. It attracts visitors, and offers educational programming that promotes both history and culture. Keeping the historic site closed may save money in the short term, but the long-term benefits of preserving and celebrating this asset far outweigh the costs.

We respectfully ask the Council to consider the broader cultural and community benefits of reopening the historic site. The festival, combined with the site's unique historic charm, provides an invaluable resource for our community, and we hope that you will support us in continuing this important tradition.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to the possibility of collaborating with the Region of Waterloo to ensure the ongoing success of this cherished event.

Sincerely,

**Beatriz Gomez** (she/her)  
Executive Director  
Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival  
[www.wwcgf.com](http://www.wwcgf.com) (289) 834-3730

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**Subject:** In response to your question, yes, please include my comments below to Council

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**From:** Brian Otto

**Sent:** December 18, 2024 9:30 AM

**To:** Shannon Gillies

**Subject:** In response to your question, yes, please include my comments below to Council

The proposed cuts to the Regional budget are scandalous, targeting the most vulnerable in our community. Those on ODSP and Works - or unable to access even these meager supports - are already living below the poverty line, and you propose to cut their income and services even further, just to avoid charging taxpayers like me a couple hundred dollars more annually; this is just plain WRONG. This region is one of the most prosperous and wealthy in the country, so there is no excuse for the level of poverty and homelessness we see. This plan will make it worse!

Brian Otto  
Waterloo, ON