

2021 ROMA Minister Delegations – Confirmed Meetings

Ministry	Meeting Details	Key Issues
Ministry of Transportation Minister Caroline Mulroney Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt	Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 10:30-10:45 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic congestion continues to be the number one issue for Halton residents. • The application of provincial legislation coupled with the absence of a provincial multi-year infrastructure plan, has resulted in obstacles to increasing housing supply and economic growth. • The reliability and frequency of GO train service throughout Halton is vital to the Region's economic prosperity. <p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A coordinated, multi-year, multi-ministry provincial infrastructure investment plan and funding connected to the Growth Plan for the delivery of schools, hospitals, transit, highways and housing. This would include commitments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Timing and delivery of all day, two-way GO service to Milton and Georgetown to support significant planned population growth. ○ Timing and delivery of a new GO station at Trafalgar and Highway 401 which is a key hub in Halton's Mobility Plan. ○ Highway improvements to the 401 and QEW. ○ Continued approval and development of schools in high growth areas within Halton.
Ministry of Education Minister Stephen Lecce Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt	Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 1:00-1:10 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Region, its Local Municipalities and our School Boards, experience a funding shortfall of approximately \$87.7 million per year due to existing funding tools limitations. This negatively impacts Halton taxpayers. • Currently 19 short-term Halton school improvements are required, and enormous pressures are being put on our schools' capacities. <p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued discussion on a coordinated, multi-year, multi-ministry provincial infrastructure investment plan and funding connected to the Growth Plan for the delivery of schools, and the approval and development of schools and capital improvements in high growth areas within Halton.

<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs</p> <p>Minister Ernie Hardeman</p> <p>*Meeting is with Parliamentary Assistant Randy Pettapiece</p> <p>Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt</p>	<p>Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 1:25-1:40 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halton is appreciative of the recently announced additional funding for the Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) program. Reliable access to broadband internet drives economic investment and job creation and enables small businesses to effectively compete in a digital world. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical need for universal access to broadband internet services to support on-line learning, mental health resources, family and government support services and working from home capabilities. <p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased eligibility for broadband funding programs to support access to broadband for all Halton residents and businesses. That the Province continue to incentivize and encourage investments, partnerships and innovation for broadband deployment in Halton. Coordinate broadband funding and enhancements with the Federal Government.
<p>Ministry of Long-Term Care</p> <p>Minister Merrilee Fullerton</p> <p>Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt</p>	<p>Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 2:30-2:45 pm</p>	<p>Investments in Long-Term Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical need for long-term care reform and that there is an insufficient number of long-term care beds available to meet the needs of the current population. Care requirements at long-term care homes in Ontario are increasing as per the increasing Case Mix Index (CMI). CMIs at all Halton long-term care homes exceed the current provincial average. Halton Region is supportive of the Provincial Government's decision to overhaul the "one-size-fits-all" funding model for long-term care homes and looks forward to working with the Province to accelerate the development of new and redeveloped beds within the region. Halton Region is supportive of the provinces announcement to invest \$761 million to build and renovate long-term care homes across the province. This additional funding will help Halton meet the growing needs of our aging residents and underserved communities. Halton Region is committed to working with the Federal and Provincial Governments as well as our community partners to ensure the quick vaccination of priority groups including our Long-Term Care homes. This is not possible without the adequate supply and equitable distribution of vaccines to meet with needs of Halton.

		<p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to additional long-term care beds in Halton to meet the growing needs of our aging residents and underserved communities. • Increased care, service and supports to those seniors whose needs cannot be safely or effectively managed with current service levels. • Participation and the ability to provide input into the transformation of the long-term care system, including the Independent Commission. • Halton requests increased assistance, support, and a commitment to ongoing long-term care resourcing including human resources and staffing, personal protective equipment, and financial supports. • Implementation of the increase in hours of direct care for long-term care residents as announced on November 2, 2020. • The Provincial Government to clearly and consistently communicate publically the priority populations for receipt of COVID-19 vaccinations, the timing of delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations for each priority population, and the timing of delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations for the general population.
<p>Ministry of Health</p> <p>Minister Christine Elliott</p> <p>Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt</p>	<p>Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 2:55-3:10 pm</p>	<p>Public Health Resources to Support Recovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the health and safety of Halton residents has been a priority for the Region during the pandemic and will continue to be during the recovery period. • As the economy re-opens, case management and contact tracing will remain critical to responding to potential outbreaks and a second wave. At the same time, Halton will need to continue to meet essential requirements under Ontario's Public Health Standards. <p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for resources, such as staffing, to ensure Halton's capability to continue to conduct timely case management and contact tracing while still being able to deliver programs required under Ontario's Public Health Standards. • Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) boundary realignment to ensure Halton is in one LHIN. The alignment of LHIN and municipal boundaries will be critical to ensuring improved coordination of, and access to, community care services beyond the recovery phase of COVID-19 and into the new normal. <p>Clear and Consistent Approach to Vaccinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halton Region is committed to working with the Federal and Provincial Governments as well as our community partners to ensure the quick vaccination of priority groups including our Long-Term Care homes. This is not possible without the adequate supply and equitable distribution of vaccines to meet with needs of Halton.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncertainty of supply of vaccinations from the Federal Government, including the redirection of vaccinations within the Province causes significant issues for Halton to plan and provide vaccinations within the Halton community. <p>Halton Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Provincial Government to clearly and consistently communicate publically the priority populations for receipt of COVID-19 vaccinations, the timing of delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations for each priority population, and the timing of delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations for the general population. <p>Public Health Modernization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halton has a proven model that delivers essential programs to residents in an efficient and coordinated way, as particularly proven through the COVID-19 pandemic. The ability to continue to do this will be critical to recovery and to ensure the safety of the people of Halton. <p>Halton requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> End planned cuts and reform review as well as ensure adequate cost sharing for public health mandatory programs. Additional resources for continued case management, contact tracing and managing outbreaks remain critical. Paramedic Services continue to be delivered by Halton Region. Provide funding necessary to support the Dedicated Offload Nursing program.
<p>Ministry of Infrastructure</p> <p>Minister Laurie Scott</p> <p>** MPP Stephen Crawford, Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Infrastructure will be in attendance</p> <p>Attending: Chair Gary Carr Mayor Meed Ward Mayor Rob Burton</p>	<p>Date: Monday, January 25, 2021 Time: 3:40-3:55 pm</p>	<p>Funding Growth-Related Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halton has long-term infrastructure plans to ensure that municipal infrastructure is available to support planned growth in a responsible way. The pandemic has heightened the need for rural broadband programs and funding to ensure access for all residents and businesses. A strong partnership with the Provincial Government is vital to our community's long-term success. Halton is appreciative of the recently announced additional funding for the Improving Connectivity in Ontario (ICON) program. Reliable access to broadband internet in Halton Region drives economic investment and job creation and enables small businesses to effectively compete in a digital world. <p>Halton Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A coordinated provincial infrastructure investment plan, connected to the Growth Plan, to support high-growth communities such as Halton Region. Appropriate tools and mechanisms for delivering timely funding to pay for infrastructure required to support growth. Increased eligibility for broadband funding programs to support access to broadband for all Halton residents and businesses.

Councillor Best Jane MacCaskill Lynne Simons Mabel Watt		
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