

Environmental Task Force Agenda

9:00 a.m. - Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Council Chambers

[Zoom Link](#)

1. Call to Order

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

4. Presentation

- | | | |
|----|--|--------|
| a) | Lindsay Surra re: Environmental Monitoring with Citizen GeoScience
Presentation Lindsay Surra | 3 - 15 |
|----|--|--------|

5. Environmental Task Force Notes

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| a) | Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated June 30, 2026 as approved via email and received for information at the August 13, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.
Environmental Task Force - 30 Jun 2026 - Minutes - Pdf | 16 - 19 |
|----|---|---------|

6. Business Arising

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| a) | Work Plan Update 20
1. Short-term Rentals - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra and John Inglis
• Council Resolution #244-26 and Staff Update
2. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler
• Staff Update
3. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt
• Sub-Committee/Staff Update
4. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward
• Sub-Committee Update
5. Community Engagement
Resolution #244-26 | |
| b) | ALTO 21 - 22
• Council Resolution #252-26
Resolution #252-26 | |

7. New Business

8.

Next Meeting Date

- a) Discussion on Future Meeting Schedule

9. Adjournment

- a) Meeting adjourned at _____ a.m.

Citizen GeoScience

Environmental Monitoring and Invasive Species
Detection



Lindsay Surra

Introduction

- Grade 11 student at Granite Ridge Education Centre in Sharbot Lake.
- Lifelong seasonal resident and full-time resident of North Frontenac since 2020
- Experience:
 - Highschool course in GIS and mapping
 - Project lead in an Eurasian Watermilfoil Monitoring Workshop for local lake and property owner associations
 - Analyst for the Palmerston Lake Association's 2025 EWM mapping project

What Is Citizen GeoScience?

- Empowering communities to collect data, identify, analyze, and document environmental concerns through readily available GIS technologies and imagery.
- An emerging strategy to combat invasive species and improve environmental monitoring in communities.

Project Overview

Objectives:

- Demonstrate how citizens can be involved in geographic inquiry and research studies
- Explore the impacts of involvement in participants (Do they feel as though they have more autonomy in geographic issues in their communities?)
- Give communities the resources and tools to feel empowered in identifying and recording environmental issues

Timeframe: June 2026 to March 2027

Multiple individual studies will be performed over the project timeframe

Project Overview

Methods:

- Brief community members/groups and supply information and tools to participate
- Community members fill out a brief pre-study survey
- Each individual study is performed
 - Each will have their own methods and objectives
- Community members fill out a brief post-study survey

Project Overview

Community Roles/Responsibilities:

- Collect spatial data and provide information about invasive species/ecological threat sightings
- Respond to post/pre study surveys

Project Lead Roles/Responsibilities:

- Communication with community groups and individuals
- Provide drone imagery and ArcGIS maps of identified areas of interest
- Analysis and reasoning of data collected
- Final report development

Project Overview

Resources Needed:

- Access to a mobile phone and internet/data (Needs to take pictures)
 - Survey123 data collection
- A google account (to respond to surveys)

Permissions and Safety:

- Participants will be responsible for their own safety

All submissions will be anonymously collected and screened upon submission. Any data that is incomplete, misleading, or unnecessary will be removed.

Palmerston Lake Association Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Mapping Project

Objectives:

- Classify possible EWM in Palmerston Lake
- Measure/estimate area of possible EWM colonies
- Identify ground truthing locations
- Predict short-term spread risk

Methods:

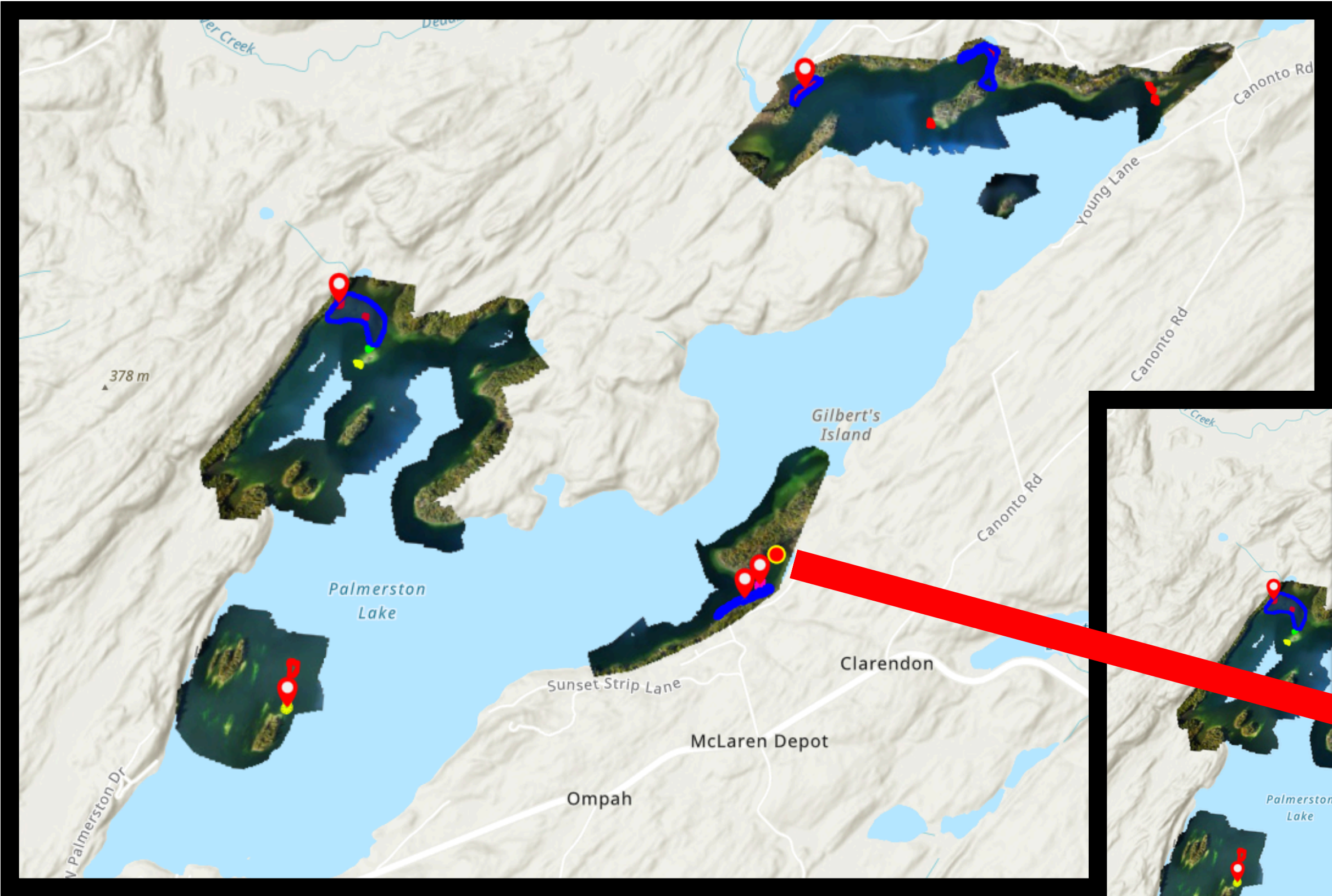
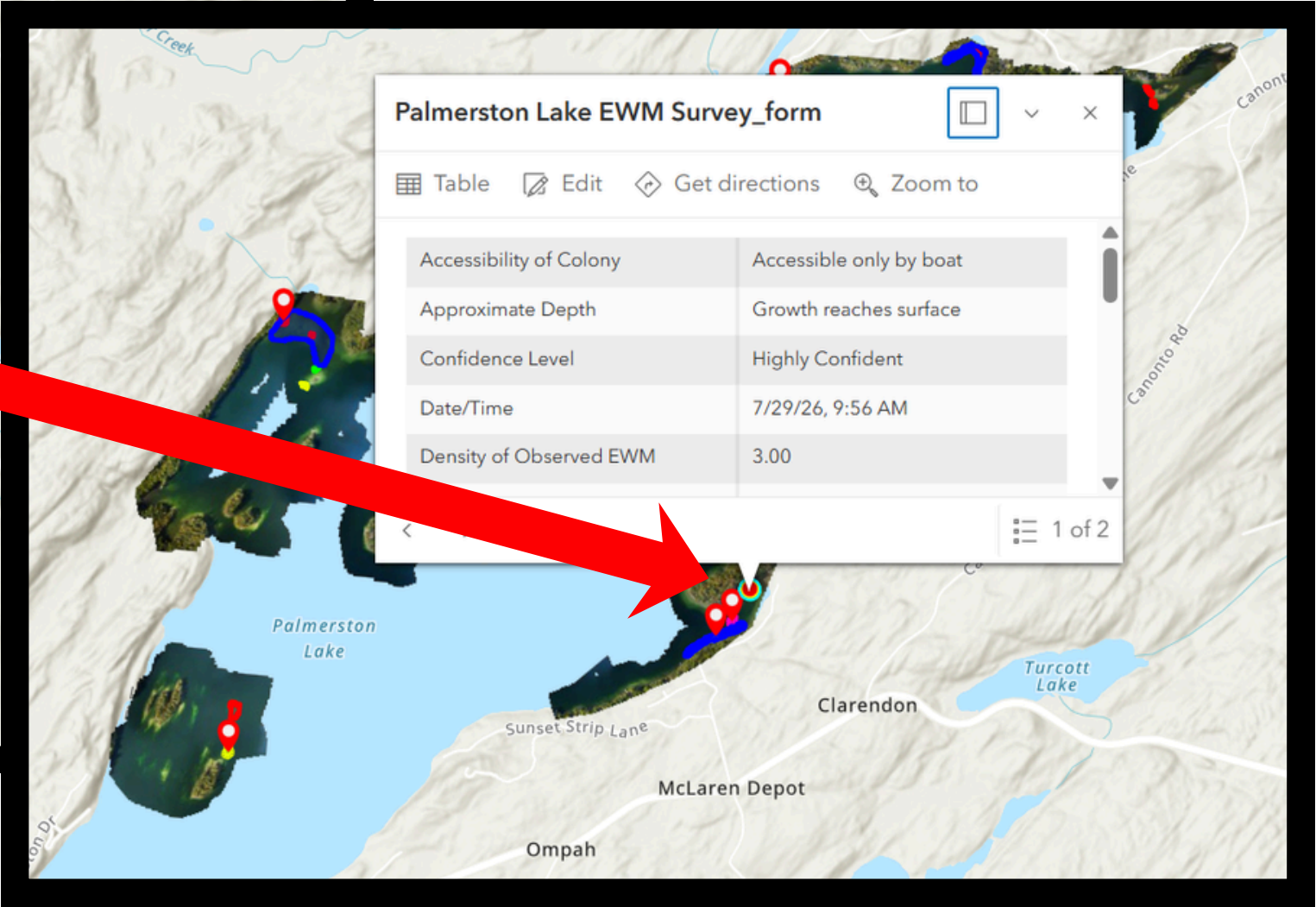
- Drone imagery was taken
- Speculated EWM was classified and delineated on an ArcGIS map
- Ground-truthing sites were identified
- Survey123 was created with input by the PLA for member use during ground truthing

Palmerston Lake Association Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) Mapping Project

Resources Created:

- AcrGIS Online map with classified drone imagery
- Written report that includes:
 - Drone imagery analysis
 - Short term spread risk assesment
 - Ground truthing site reccomendations
 - Future monitoring reccomendations
- Survey123 complete with feilds applicable to the association's needs
- Resources and information on the identification of EWM to distribute to association members

ArcGIS Online Map Sample



Palmerston Lake EWM Survey_form	
Table	Edit
Get directions	Zoom to
Accessibility of Colony	Accessible only by boat
Approximate Depth	Growth reaches surface
Confidence Level	Highly Confident
Date/Time	7/29/26, 9:56 AM
Density of Observed EWM	3.00

Survey123 Sample

9:44 PM

Lindsay

Palmerston Lake Eurasian Watermilf...

Please ensure you are observing roadside/water safety and obeying trespassing laws while responding to this survey.

Date/Time

MM/DD/YYYY

-- : -- : --

Location

Find address or place

NORTH AMERICA

SOUTH AMERICA

EUROPE

AFRICA

ASIA

AUSTRALIA

9:44 PM

Lindsay

Approximate Depth

Growth reaches surface

Just below surface

Deeper than boat

Barely visible from surface

Mixed with Native Aquatic Plants?

Yes

No

Maybe

9:45 PM

Lindsay

Maybe

Density of Observed EWM

1 - low density, 5 - high density

1

5

Reset

Confidence Level

How confident are you that you have observed EWM?

Highly Confident

Moderately Confident

Not Confident

Accessibility of Colony

Seen from shore/dock

Accessible only by boat

Both

Other

Images of Observed EWM (in water)

Drop image here or select image

Additional Image (close up of plant)

Drop image here or select image

Submit

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Conclusion

- Involving members of the community meaningful data collection
- Allowing for anonymous submissions of environmental concerns
- Creating publicly available resources for members of the communities
- **Any submissions or information helps!**

Environmental Task Force Minutes

9:00 AM - Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Council Chambers

Present: Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl (Chair); Councillor Fred Fowler; Paul Asselin; Bruce Moore; Marlene Spruyt; and Katie Surra

Absent with Regret: Deputy Mayor John Inglis; and Mike Ward;

Also Present: Tara Mieske, Clerk/Planning Manager; and Darwyn Sproule, P.Eng. Public Works Manager.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Traditional Land Acknowledgement.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None declared.

4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) ***Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated April 28, 2026 as approved via email and received for information at the May 21, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council.***

No comments.

5. Business Arising

a) ***Work Plan Update***

1. Short-term Rentals (STR) - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra and John Inglis

The Clerk/Planning Manager (CPM) provided an overview of the research completed including:

- the key reasons for implementing STR licensing in rural areas is to address environmental and health and safety concerns.
- public consultation is key to successfully implementing a STR licensing including targeted stakeholder meetings, surveys, open houses, etc.
- requirements for submitting an application vary between municipalities and are dependent on the reasons the program is being implemented. For example if

- septic use is a concern you may wish to request a septic inspection report.
- a fee comparison has been started and the fees range from \$350 to over \$1,000. As the program is to be cost neutral we need to determine what the costs to implement and operate the program are and how many licenses will be issued to determine the cost per license
 - enforcement varies by municipality and includes fines, court proceedings, administrative monetary penalties and demerit point systems.

Staff advised they do not have time to complete further research to provide a cost analysis or timeline for implementation and are recommending Council consider a consultant to assist with this. The Task Force requested an Administrative Report be provided to Council at the July 9, 2026 Council Meeting to request a consultant be considered to continue the project.

2. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler

The Public Works Manager (PWM) advised the current voluntary septic program has exceeded the budget for this year. The CAO approved an additional 20% being added to the budget to permit additional inspections; however there were more requests. A report is being provided to Council to request additional funding for 2026 to provide for a total of 65 inspections. This is the best response to the program for quite some time. There has been a lot of education on the voluntary program from the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance, Mississippi Rideau Septic System Office (MRSSO), etc. People are also aware of the mandatory program being discussed and are taking advantage of the voluntary program.

A report was provided to Council on the mandatory program at the time of sale which included four options. Council approved using a similar arrangement with the MRSSO as their office administers the voluntary program in the Township. The Township will be responsible for providing the list of properties to be inspected and MRSSO will be responsible for the administration and inspections. Enforcement will be completed by MRSSO in conjunction with the Chief Building Official (CBO). The costs for enforcement will be charged to the Township. A further report to Council will be provided with more details on the proposal including exemptions, proposed costs, user fees, agreement with MRSSO, etc. for further direction. It is anticipated these details will be provided to Council in August.

3. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt

Resolution #164-26

Asselin provided an overview of the proposal. It is assumed that North Frontenac Township must proceed with the current Hydro One EV charging contract in order to remain compliant with financial grant conditions. It is also assumed the majority operational cost is related to fixed delivery charges which are not related to the amount of grid power used by the installed EV chargers. As such, the cost of a battery system would be mostly in addition to existing Hydro One ongoing costs.

Powerwall system required to charge a typical passenger car EV

System configuration (not including solar generation system): 4 Powerwall units

Approximate cost (including installation): \$50,000 CAD

Maximum discharge rate: 46kW (approximately half of the existing L3 chargers)

Approximate time to charge car: 1 hour (twice as long as the existing L3 charger)

Powerwall system required to charge a typical pickup truck EV

System configuration (not including solar generation system): 4 Powerwall units + 3 DC expansion units

Approximate cost (including installation): \$80,000 CAD

Maximum discharge rate: 46kW (approximately half of the existing L3 chargers)

Approximate time to charge pickup: 2 hours (twice as long as the existing L3 charger)

The Powerwall battery system can be charged via a solar generation system (priced separately) or via grid power. Battery charging rates are approximately half the discharge rate, therefore, 2 hours to recharge after a car charge and 4 hours to recharge after a pickup charge. Higher capacity systems, such as a Tesla Powerpack, can be chosen at a significantly higher cost. Non Tesla based systems would be less costly.

Net Metering Presentation/Report

The PWM with assistance from Asselin will be doing a presentation to Council in August accompanied by a report outlining the two options being net-metering option or load distribution. It is recommended a staff or volunteer person be responsible to track the system. The time would be limited but it needs to be checked often to ensure the system is operating effectively and if it isn't the problem can be addressed.

4. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward

No update at this time.

5. Community Engagement

The Summer Newsletter will provide an update on the Blue Box Recycling transition.

b) *ALTO High Speed Train*

The Task Force discussed Alto's report on the comments received during the public consultation period. The northern route was found to have less impact on people and farmland but would have higher construction costs. They also discussed the Minister of Transport's direction to ALTO to develop a plan to assess a southern route option that includes a potential stop in Kingston. If Kingston is included as a stop the northern route would not be considered.

6. New Business

None.

7. Next Meeting Date

The Task Force decided due to the amount of business the July 28, 2026 meeting could be cancelled and they would meet again at their regularly scheduled August 25, 2026 meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Deputy Mayor Roy Huetl, Chair



**Resolution of the Regular Council
of the Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac**

Date: August 13, 2026

Resolution # 244-26

Moved By:
Councillor John Inglis

Seconded By:
Councillor Mike Hage

Be It Resolved That Council receives the Clerk/Planning Managers Administrative Report entitled "Short Term Rental Licensing - Request for Quotations";

And That Council instructs the Clerk to proceed with Option #1; and instructs staff to have a consultant complete a Business Case;

And That the costs be taken from the Operating Contingency Reserve

Carried

Mayor



**Resolution of the Regular Council
of the Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac**

Date: August 13, 2026

Resolution # 252-26

Moved By:
Councillor Mike Hage

Seconded By:
Councillor Wayne Good

Whereas Council passed Resolution #156-26 at their meeting on May 1, 2026 receiving a Notice of Motion from Mayor Lichty requesting staff prepare a strategy to ensure North Frontenac residents remain informed and the Township is prepared to structure an organized response as and if necessary, regarding the ALTO project;

And Whereas Council passed Resolution #176-26 at their meeting on May 21, 2026 instructing the Manager of Community Development to work with Mayor Lichty to prepare a strategy with respect to the ALTO project to ensure the Township is prepared to organize a response and to ensure residents remain informed, including legal advice as to what is permitted;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the Manager of Community Development's (MCD) and Mayor's Administrative Report entitled "ALTO - Proposed Communications Strategy - Phase One (1)";

And That Council reaffirms its position that the Township does not support the proposed corridor going through the Township of North Frontenac;

And That Council approves a three (3) phase approach regarding ALTO:

- Phase 1 (Current): Monitor, Organize, Inform
- Phase 2 (Route Identification): Mobilize, Consult, Advocate
- Phase 3 (If Township Alignment is Confirmed): Escalate Advocacy, Coordinate Landowner Support, Intensify Public Engagement

And That should there be a need to move into Phase 2 or 3, another report will be provided to Council;

And That Council establish an ALTO Response Team consisting of the Mayor, Chief Administrative Officer, and Manager of Community Development (MCD) to monitor

project developments, coordinate municipal communications, and provide updates to Council and residents;

And That Council directs the MCD to create a dedicated ALTO Project Information Hub through Engage Frontenac and the Township website to provide residents with project information, Township position statements, scheduled ALTO public consultation opportunities, and Council materials;

And That Council directs staff to provide ongoing public information updates through Engage Frontenac, the Township website and social media channels.

Carried

Mayor
