

Clarington

2024



2024 Year in Review

See how we're helping to enhance the quality of life in Clarington.



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Introducing Clarington's first-ever Year in Review

Reflecting on an eventful 2024

Clarington is a place of possibilities. Known for our thriving energy sector, historic downtowns and as a great place to live and raise a family, people want to be in Clarington! As the community grows, the Municipality remains dedicated to the 2024-27 Clarington Strategic Plan priorities identified by residents. The 2024 Year in Review highlights the progress made in achieving these goals.

This past year has marked a lot of firsts for the Municipality of Clarington. Once considered small, we are growing and making big changes, leading the way in many aspects of local government. We're making things easier and more convenient for residents with modern upgrades. We've also taken on new responsibilities and found creative solutions that bring countless benefits to our community.

This report reflects the breadth of fresh ideas that have come to life in 2024. It highlights the impact of our investments, the long-term benefits of our new programs and approaches, and numerous examples of how we prioritize our residents' needs while championing Clarington's vibrant future.



#HeartYourParksClarington
Residents show their love for Clarington parks.

Core Values



Accountability

We are accountable to one another and to our community.

We take responsibility for our actions and our decisions.

We are efficient, effective, and responsible stewards of municipal resources.

We provide exceptional service to the people of Clarington.



Integrity

We are honest, dependable, fair and transparent in our decisions and decision-making.

We hold ourselves to a high ethical standard.

We are committed to maintaining a safe, trusting, and supportive environment by demonstrating professionalism, good judgement and personal leadership.



Respect

We treat everyone respectfully and promote an inclusive, diverse, accessible, and fair workplace.

We value the input, contributions, knowledge and experience of others.

We are committed to building and championing an engaged and informed community.

**“WE ARE DEDICATED
TO MAKING
CLARINGTON THE
BEST PLACE IN
CANADA TO LIVE,
WORK, AND PLAY.”**



Clarington is on a mission to grow sustainably. This dynamic growth is a testament to our thriving energy sector and the charming balance of urban and rural amenities we offer. We are making major upgrades to support this growth while preserving the quality of life that makes Clarington unique. Exciting projects like the South Bowmanville Recreation Centre and new municipal facilities, including the Operations Depot, Fire Station, and Training Centre, are in progress.

We remain committed to finding innovative solutions as we face challenges such as high inflation, imposed reductions in parkland, downloaded planning duties, and complex community issues. We are stepping up to support local health care, boost cellular connectivity, aid physician recruitment, and help serve the needs of the unsheltered. By addressing these issues proactively, we will ensure that Clarington continues to thrive both now and in the future.

Our 2024-27 Clarington Strategic Plan outlines our vision for the community and provides a roadmap for achieving our goals. This long-term plan keeps us focused on a bright future for

both residents and businesses, strengthening our sense of direction across the organization as we navigate the challenges of growth and modernization.

Serving our community is more than just a duty; it is a privilege for Clarington Council and staff. We are dedicated to making Clarington the best place in Canada to live, work, and play. Our commitment to top-notch municipal services, key investments in the community, and the preservation of our quality of life inspires us as we move forward. Together, we are building a brighter future for all of Clarington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'AF' or similar initials, representing Adrian Foster.

Adrian Foster
Mayor

“HOW WE DELIVER CHANGE IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS WHY WE PURSUE IT.”

When I look back on 2024, I'm moved by the creative thinking, commitment to community engagement and genuine care that #TeamClarington brings to work every day.

Our continuous improvement journey underscores our organization's commitment to evolve and make positive, lasting change. From the ground up, we've created an internal culture of innovation, collaboration, and openness. This initiative has driven creative solutions and produced tangible results—achieving over \$1.01 million in annualized quantified benefits in just year one. We also built a centralized grant administration program, which awarded us over \$4.1 million in the past year. Our focus on financial stewardship ensures residents benefit from excellent services while maintaining some of the lowest property taxes in Durham Region.

How we deliver change is just as important as why we pursue it: creating a vibrant and thriving Clarington for residents and businesses. Together with Council, we ensure our actions align with what matters most to Clarington. This report highlights numerous projects built for the community by people who call it home. Through Clarington Connected, over 23,000 residents shared their priorities, helping shape eight key

projects that reflect the community's needs. We're also building strong partnerships with our small and large local business community to continue supporting their growth and success.

None of this would be possible without my dedicated colleagues, who care deeply about their neighbours and neighbourhoods. This is #TeamClarington—a team that knows how to have fun, like with our sunflower yoga program and Taylor Swift swims, while prioritizing safety through investments in fire infrastructure. We honour our past with projects like Veterans' Square and the Shaw House renovation, and we're planning for a future shaped by what matters most to residents, through responsible community planning. I'm proud of what we've achieved together and inspired by the possibilities ahead.

Sincerely,



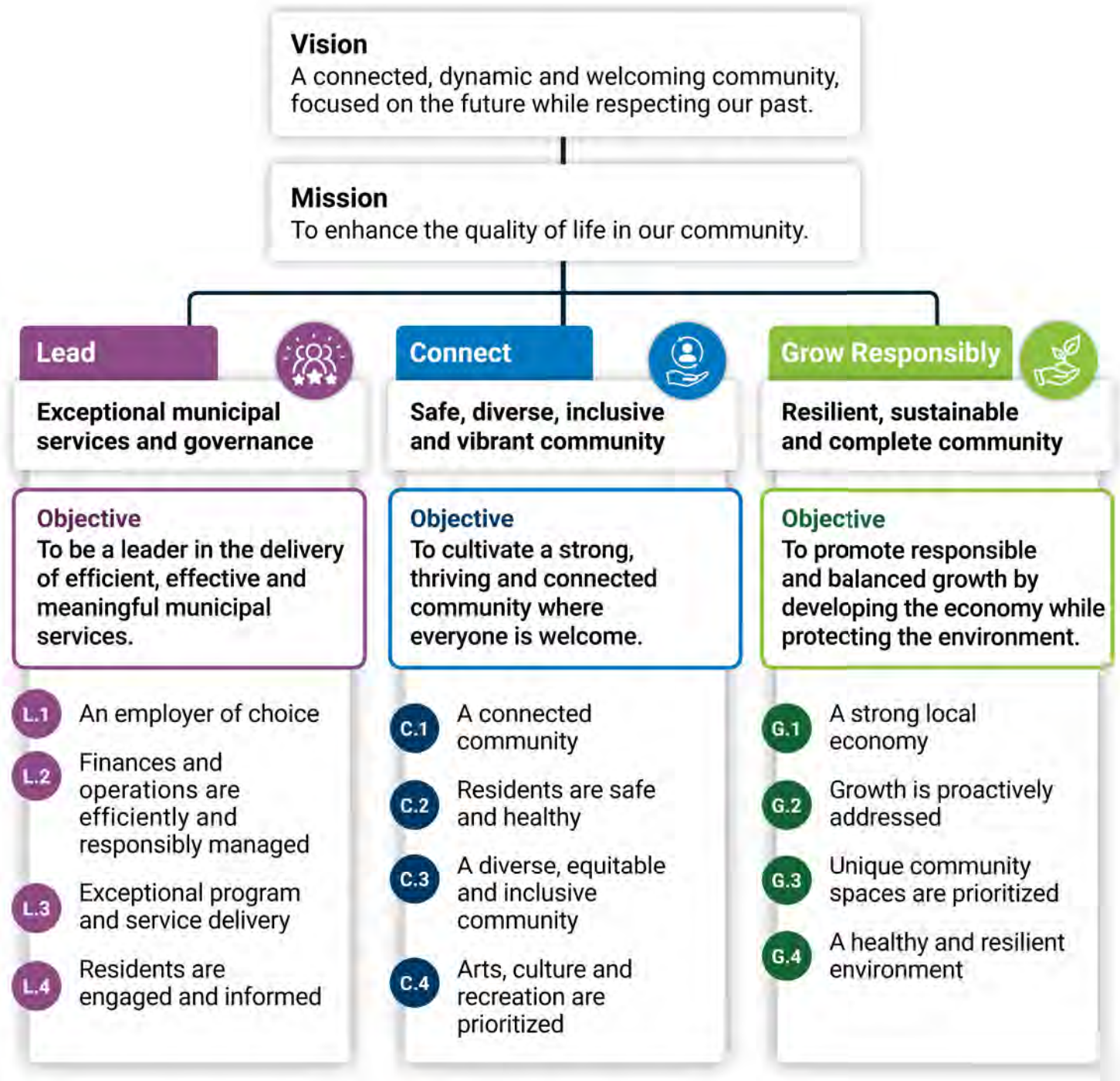
Mary-Anne Dempster
Chief Administrative Officer

2024-27 Strategic Plan

Clarington's priorities have been shaped by this community.

This plan was created based on extensive community engagement, with input and guidance from Council who listen and advocate for your needs every step of the way. Together, we're enhancing the quality of life in our community because we care about our neighbours and see a vibrant future ahead.

Read the 2024-27 Strategic Plan at www.clarington.net/StrategicPlan



Lead

L.1 Become an employer of choice

At #TeamClarington, we're motivated to make a difference.

Creating a dream team

Our first People Strategy

We believe that passionate and talented individuals are the secret to bringing high-quality services and programs to our community. Our people are our most valuable resource, and their dedication drives our progress.

Throughout the past year, we collaborated with experts and gathered feedback from our employees. These insights will guide our first People Strategy, set to launch in 2025.

We aim to enhance employee satisfaction, foster personal and professional growth, and stay competitive to attract the best talent. It will address all stages of the employee lifecycle—from recruitment and training to retention, development and celebrating successes.



I'm fortunate to be surrounded by fantastic mentors and supportive leaders who genuinely care about my professional growth and aspirations.

Laila Shafi
Coordinator, Projects and Administration

Recruiting top talent with an award-winning campaign

Clarington launched a #TeamClarington recruitment campaign to attract talent from across the Greater Toronto Area. Our *We Are #TeamClarington* video achieved over 200,000 views and even earned a MarCom 2024 Gold Award for excellence in marketing and communications.

As Clarington's population continues to grow, we'll require a strong workforce of passionate people who support our vision for a vibrant and sustainable future.

Recognizing and celebrating #TeamClarington

We launched our first formal Annual Recognition Awards to celebrate the achievements of our extraordinary team members. These individuals create positive change every day through their ingenuity and dedication to outstanding work for our community.

Working in public service is a rewarding career. With many of our team members also being residents of the community, a true passion for serving our neighbours, family and friends shines through.

Check it out on
@ClaringtonConnected YouTube



L.2 Ensure that finances and operations are efficiently and responsibly managed

We're thinking differently to optimize and modernize processes to make every dollar go farther.

Finding efficiencies with new Continuous Improvement initiatives

Providing excellent service is at the heart of everything we do. We continuously strive to push the boundaries of what's possible, always improving in the way we serve our community.

With an innovative mindset, our teams have embraced our Continuous Improvement journey, identifying new operational efficiency opportunities.

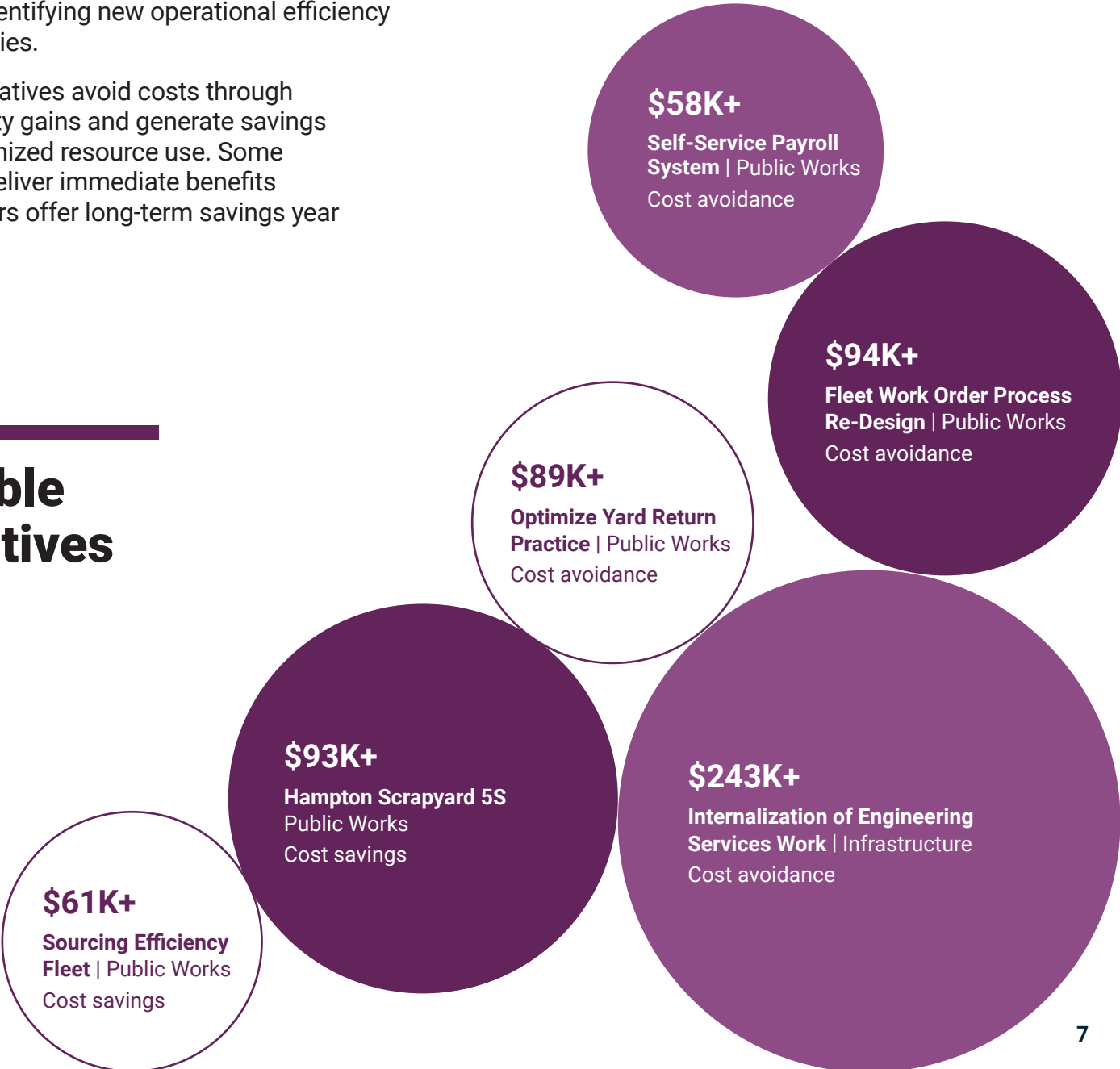
These initiatives avoid costs through productivity gains and generate savings from optimized resource use. Some projects deliver immediate benefits while others offer long-term savings year after year.

Notable Initiatives

\$1.01M+
annualized quantified benefits

200+
staff contributed

73
initiatives



Unlocking external funding opportunities

By building a new centralized grant administration program, we are able to reduce dependency on the property tax base while continuing to bring meaningful municipal services to our community.



Notable Grants



\$18.6K

Age Wise, Eat Right, Feel Right 55+ Active Adults Program
Seniors Community Grant Program



\$509.1K

Hetherington Drive stormwater outlet improvements
Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund



\$41.1K

Firefighter gear washing equipment that support health and safety
Fire Protection Grant 2024-25



\$125K

New EV charge stations coming to Courtice and Newcastle
EV ChargeON Program



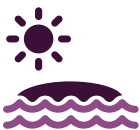
\$50K

Animal shelter improvements
ScotiaWealth - Marilyn Neaves Charitable Foundation



\$88.1K

Youth summer employment
Canada Summer Jobs



\$100K

Bond Head jetty restoration and beach erosion protection
Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative



\$3.2M

Fire training complex at the new Public Works Depot
Ontario Skills Development Fund – Capital Stream



Total grant funding awarded: **\$4.1 million** in 2024

Planning for a modern, growing Clarington

Our first multi-year budget to support our Strategic Plan

Clarington has some of the lowest property taxes in Durham Region. We provide great services at a lower cost, which is crucial at a time when many families are feeling financial pressures that affect their daily lives and future plans.

Our 2024-27 Budget focuses on prudent financial planning, data-driven decision-making, and long-term vision to address upcoming challenges and opportunities. Taking a multi-year budget approach allows us to align resources with our long-term goals, making it easier for everyone to understand our plans and tax rates for the next four years. It ensures stability and predictability, while focusing on growth and modernization.



Read Clarington's 2024-27 Budget at www.clarington.net/Budget



Advocating for you

Our teams continue to advocate for our community's needs with upper levels of government. This helps us move Clarington forward.



L.3 Offer exceptional program and service delivery

Our community's well-being, safety and satisfaction with our services is of the utmost importance to us.

Residents love our recreation programming

From swimming, group fitness, camps and our range of recreation programs, residents are enjoying getting active in their community. We like to think outside the box to offer unique programming to residents throughout the year, with some standouts last year:

World Health Day featured a 90-minute 1980s-themed workout with a Richard Simmons impersonating instructor.



55+ Dance was a fun night of socializing, music, dancing, a hearty meal, and live entertainment.

Level up! Swimming Lesson Progress Cards go online

Parents now receive paperless progress cards when their child completes swimming lessons. Instructors provide feedback in person, offering an opportunity to discuss skills. Benefits of modernizing this service include:

- Better for the environment by eliminating paper waste
- Easy and convenient to access any time, any place, anywhere
- More efficient system allows for more time to dedicate to our guests



Clarington Walks expanded to

5 days a week

for 3 hours a day with over 50 participants daily.



Over 75



participants joined us for four Sunflower Yoga workshops at Bragg Farms.

Bootcamp for Kids **SOLD OUT**

8-week fitness class for ages 6 to 13 at Courtice Community Complex.

225



participants joined us during the 7-week summer schedule for **Families in the Park**.

Over

750

participants joined us for Super Mario and Taylor Swift themed swims.



We keep our facilities in good shape, too!

Diane Hamre Recreation Complex got a new gym floor in the fall. Pool upgrades also began in late 2024.



South Courtice Arena adds Clarington's first accessible outdoor fitness area

On September 21, hundreds of residents joined Mayor Foster and members of Council to celebrate the launch of all-new outdoor amenities at South Courtice Arena.

The launch celebration featured free family-friendly activities, including ice skating, tennis, and fitness demonstrations.

In addition to the arena's NHL and Olympic-sized indoor ice pads, outdoor soccer field, and off-leash dog park, residents can now also enjoy:

NEW!

Accessible outdoor fitness area, paid for in part by the Government of Canada's Healthy Communities Initiative

NEW!

Multi-skills court with both basketball and ball hockey crease line paintings

NEW!

Two lit tennis courts

NEW!

Reconstructed path to the dog park



eBilling now available for property taxes

In our journey to modernize processes, residents can now sign up to receive their property tax bills electronically. Paperless provides a more flexible, convenient, cost-effective, and eco-friendly option.

Sign-up for eBilling at
www.clarington.net/eBilling



Better snow-clearing for safer roads and sidewalks

This year, we improved our snow-clearing routes by reviewing and refining them. We also added GPS tracking, which will allow us to create an online map so you can see when crews are near your neighbourhood and when it was last plowed, updated every five minutes. This will launch for residents in 2025.

We also introduced a new municipal sidewalk snow-clearing program to help keep community walkways safer and easier to travel on. Municipal crews now plow and salt sidewalks on primary routes, pedestrian crossovers, and school crossings in downtown and high-traffic areas.

Clarington is committed to providing efficient and effective snow-clearing services to keep our community safe and accessible during winter.

Did you know?

We held our first-ever "Truck Rodeo" to prep crews on how to work safe this winter. Staff put their skills to the test, navigating a series of obstacles to gear up for winter snow-clearing.



Clarington is responsible for clearing snow on:

1,900+

lane kilometres of roads – that's about as far as here to Kenora!



167 km

of sidewalks, paths and trails – that's about as far as here to Kingston!

36

crossing guard locations



246

windrows as part of our Seniors Snow Removal Program

22

municipal parking lots



29

pedestrian crossovers



11

accessible parking locations



Clarington Emergency and Fire Services administration has a new, historic home

Clarington Emergency and Fire Services administrative offices now reside in the historic Shaw House, a designated heritage building. With the restoration now completed, we have preserved this important piece of Clarington's history and streamlined customer service into a central building.

A \$300,000 grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program supported the renovations, including accessibility improvements of a universal washroom, ramp and elevator.

Official Opening



1890

Originally belonging to Jane Shaw, the house was built around 1890.

After a fire in 1890, it was rebuilt and considered one of the most impressive homes in Bowmanville.

In 2019, it was acquired by the Municipality of Clarington.



L.4 Keep residents engaged and informed

We love connecting with our community in new ways.

#HeartYourParksClarington celebrates outdoor play

Being able to access community parks, trails and open space consistently ranks as a top priority for the community, as seen in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan survey.

We invited residents to share their love for a chance to win a prize, raising awareness and appreciation for these spaces while learning about the challenges Clarington is facing due to recent legislative changes. Hundreds of residents coloured wish flags depicting all the ways they play in Clarington which were displayed in facilities across the municipality.



Clarington Council Hearts our Parks

Sharing their love for our trails, parks and greenspaces, our Mayor and Councillors participated in the social media campaign to highlight why they believe parkland is important in Clarington.

Watch the videos at
www.clarington.net/HeartYourParks



Balancing legislative changes with community priorities

The Ontario government aims to build 1.5 million homes by 2031, assigning housing targets to its 50 largest municipalities, including Clarington. This will bring higher-density neighbourhoods to strategic areas.

As Clarington grows, parks and open spaces in new developments are critical—especially in higher-density areas. Developers must either provide land for parks (conveyed parkland) or contribute funds for park acquisition (cash-in-lieu), key tools to balance development with green space needs. However, Bill 23 (More Homes Built Faster Act) reduced parkland dedication requirements, shifting costs to municipalities to meet our community's needs.

Despite these challenges, Clarington is committed to responsible growth and is working with developers on parkland dedications for new communities, where possible.



As a mother of a two-year-old, “our park” is part of our family. It’s the walk where she learned to run, scooter, and spend many stroller days. It’s where I met so many like-minded mommas who have become very close friends now! We are so thankful for our park!

Myranda, Clarington resident

Reimagining community engagement

Clarington engaged over 23,000 people about eight significant community projects on our Clarington Connected platform—with over 11 per cent of people contributing feedback from the interactive engagement kiosks located in our community centres. Thanks to our passionate and engaged community members, Clarington recorded its highest-ever level of public participation, reaching an impressive engagement rate of 35 per cent—well beyond the industry standard of two to 12 per cent.

We received over

3,000

responses from residents, community organizations, staff and Council to our Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan survey.

Nearly

30 per cent

of all visits to the Clarington Connected website came from people taking part in the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan survey.

Another

25 per cent

of visits came from community members looking to share their thoughts on the future of Bowmanville Community Park, located on the former lands of the Bowmanville Zoo.

Clarington has set a new standard for municipal engagement, reinforcing its commitment to transparency, accessibility, and community-driven decision-making.



We want to hear from you!



Public engagement plays a key role in ensuring the decisions made by Council reflect the vision of the community.

Visit www.claringtonconnected.ca to have your say on what's happening in your neighbourhood.

Adapting to a changing media landscape

With our local media presence shrinking and changes to social media policies for news media, our teams are finding new ways to engage the community.

We aim to provide residents with timely and relevant information while also combating internet misinformation. **Some new initiatives include:**

Email Subscription Campaign

To grow our database, we launched a multimedia campaign to encourage residents to sign up for alerts they're interested in. This means you can get the latest information straight from the source.

1.5K+ new subscribers in 2024



Get the scoop first at
www.clarington.net/Subscribe



Expanded Print Newsletter

To ensure we connect with non-digital community members, we expanded our quarterly print newsletter to four pages. This allows us to include more news that matters to residents.



Engaging Clarington, one post at a time

We deliver timely, accessible, and engaging content on the social media platforms most popular with residents. By focusing on video content, interactive posts, and maintaining a consistent brand voice, we keep residents informed and engaged on important matters. in Clarington.

Across all channels and platforms

4,000+

social posts shared in feeds and stories.

21%

growth in Clarington's online community in 2024, with 35K+ total followers.

Across all platforms



Clarington     

@ClaringtonConnected

22% increase in followers in 2024



Clarington Emergency and Fire Services  

@ClaringtonEFS @Clarington_Fire

4% increase in followers in 2024



Invest Clarington  

@InvestClarington

69% increase in followers in 2024

Did you know?



In 2024, we started live-streaming Council meetings on YouTube.

A grand slam! Newcastle celebrates new park opening

More than 1,000 residents joined Mayor Foster and members of Council to celebrate the official opening of Newcastle Community Park, located on the west side of Diane Hamre Recreation Complex.

Marking the kick-off to our #HeartYourParksClarington campaign, the event started with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a celebratory first pitch with Mayor Foster. Attendees enjoyed a variety of activities, including pickleball lessons, facepainting, swimming, jumping castles, an obstacle course, and a colouring station.

The \$3.5 million community park features paved walkways connecting many new amenities for residents to enjoy:

NEW!

Tournament-grade hardball diamond

NEW!

Tennis and pickleball courts

NEW!

Shade structure alongside existing dog park

NEW!

Skateboard park

Festive community spirit shines at the Courtice Tree-Lighting Ceremony

Celebrating the joyous holiday season, nearly a thousand residents joined Mayor Foster and members of Council at the Courtice Tree-Lighting Ceremony in December. Mayor Foster lit up the newly renovated space outside Courtice Community Complex, turning it into a twinkling winter wonderland.

Events like this showcase the beauty of togetherness, offering an opportunity to connect with one another and cherish time spent with loved ones, friends, and neighbours. They create lasting memories in our beloved public spaces.





Connect

C.1 Create a connected community

We believe that connecting people and places enhances our shared experiences and quality of life.



Stepping up beyond the scope of municipal government to improve cell service issues

Faced with a lack of private sector investment, Clarington took bold steps beyond the scope of municipal government to help address cellular service gaps. Clarington is one of the first municipalities in Canada to partner with a third-party provider to build cellular infrastructure on municipally owned properties.

Clarington will see improved cell service in 2025, with the first tower to be built in Bowmanville at the Fire Station on Highway 2. Stay tuned for updates on additional sites!

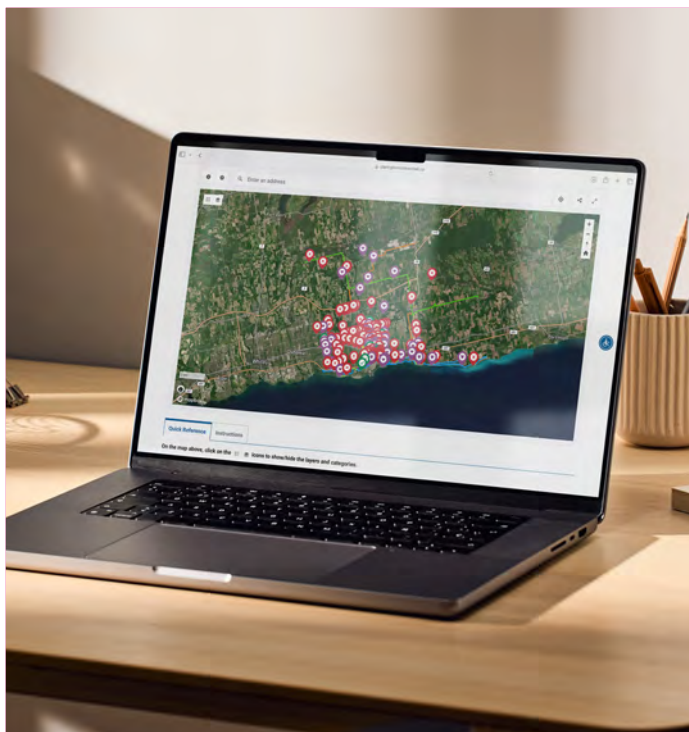
This significant project not only supports Clarington's rapid growth and increasing demand for better service, but also marks positive progress on our commitment to ensuring a bright future for Clarington residents and businesses to thrive.

Stay in the loop with cell service updates
www.clarington.net/CellTower



We understand and share the frustration residents are experiencing when it comes to cell connectivity issues in our community – this is a critical service that impacts us all. Municipalities have grown impatient waiting for a response from upper levels of government on crucial issues that impact our communities – it was time to get this done, and the task fell to us. We've entered an era where local government is forced to go above and beyond its scope to create innovative solutions for residents."

Adrian Foster
Mayor



Developing our first Active Transportation Master Plan

Clarington's Active Transportation Master Plan is being shaped by community voices. We had nearly 800 residents share their thoughts on what makes active transportation safe, accessible, and convenient. Through interactive mapping exercises, surveys, and community workshops, we identified challenges faced when walking, cycling, and rolling in Clarington. This feedback highlights key areas for improvement and has helped us set priorities to guide our network's growth.

Thanks to our community's input, we're working towards a more connected and accessible Clarington. In 2025, we will share the draft Active Transportation Master Plan, allowing for further feedback on creating safer crossings, better cycling routes, and enhanced connections between rural and urban areas. Together, we're making walking, cycling, and rolling safer and more reliable in Clarington with a community-focused plan.

Stay tuned to
www.clarington.net/ATMP



Stroll, bike or run on the Soper Creek Trail extension

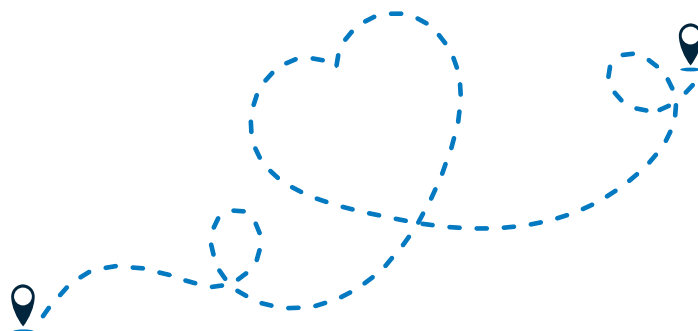
Crews wrapped up the final phase of the Soper Creek Trail extension in Bowmanville, which added 650 metres to connect the trail to Mearns Avenue, just past Cotton Street.

The 3.3 kilometre asphalt path follows the natural lay of the land and features newly installed comfort amenities like benches and waste receptacles. Mature trees, shrubs and plants line the scenic trail and offer views of the creek.



Did you know?

There are over **260 km** of trails across Clarington.



Increased safety at intersections with accessibility improvements

Clarington is working to improve accessibility and safety in our community. Across Bowmanville, Courtice, and Enniskillen, crews made significant intersection accessibility improvements and constructed new pedestrian crossovers.

Installed tactile plate walking surface indicators

Improved line paintings and signage

Replaced concrete curbs and sidewalks

Installed accessible pedestrian signals and related equipment per AODA

Added new pedestrian crossovers with solar-powered flashing beacons

Future transit hubs will feature vibrant neighbourhoods

On June 20, 2016, the Ontario Government and Metrolinx announced the extension of the GO Transit Lakeshore East Corridor by 20 kilometres, with two new stations each in Oshawa and Clarington.

As Clarington gears up for the Province to extend the GO train, we're prioritizing responsible growth in these areas.

Planning is underway on the Courtice Transit-Oriented Community (TOC) Secondary Plan and Bowmanville West Urban Centre and Major Transit Station (GO Train) Area Secondary Plan, which will include a diverse range of housing, shopping, and services, along with new open spaces and boulevards.

Walkable streets and sustainable design will create vibrant neighbourhoods where people of all ages will enjoy living and working. In addition, improved cycling and pedestrian opportunities will enhance community connections.

Follow the project at
www.clarington.net/GoEastClarington



C.2 Help residents be safe and healthy

We care deeply about supporting, protecting and safeguarding our community so everyone can lead happy, fulfilling lives.

We take residents' health care to heart

We continue to support and advocate for the Bowmanville Hospital Foundation and Marigold Hospice Care in Newcastle to ensure high-quality, compassionate health care services are accessible close to home.

These vital institutions are integral to our community, offering crucial support to our residents at every stage of life. By investing in these organizations, we help ensure that when our community members need help most, they receive the care they deserve.

Addressing the shortage of family physicians

Council approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Region of Durham for the development of a Family Physician Recruitment Program.

Staff were also directed to create an incentive program to attract physicians locally to Clarington medical clinics. There is a shortage of family physicians in this area and across Ontario. The Municipality is working to attract more doctors to Clarington so the growing population can continue to enjoy a high quality of life.

Bowmanville Hospital Foundation

\$7.5 million

contribution through
2024-27 Multi-Year Budget

\$28K+

raised from the
2024 Mayor's Golf Classic

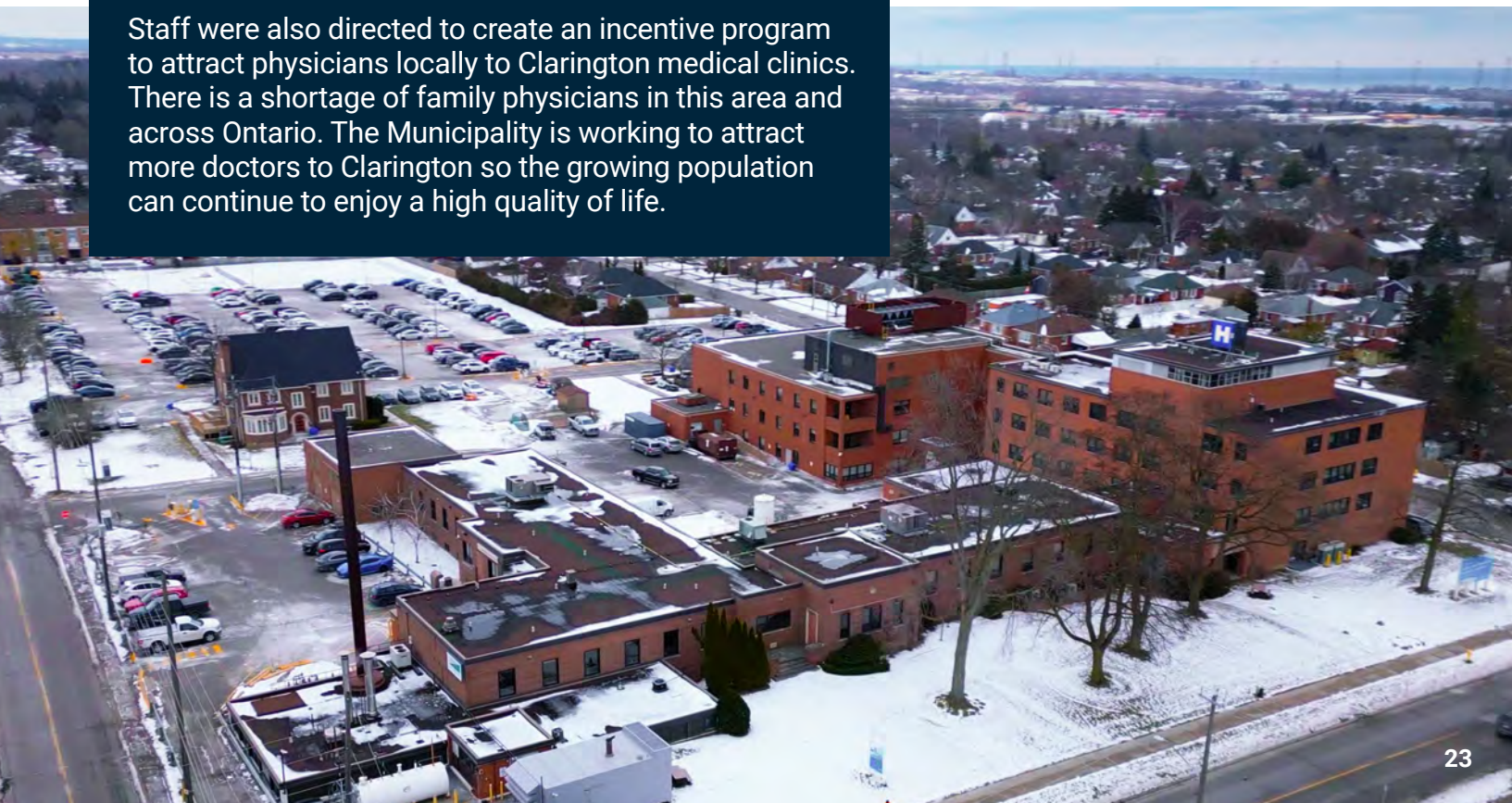
Marigold Hospice Care in Newcastle

\$1.25 million

grant in 2023
to start construction

\$32K+

raised from the
2023 Mayor's Golf Classic





Winter Warming Centre opened to help those in need

A Winter Warming Centre was opened by the Region of Durham in Clarington's former Tourism Office to provide a warm, safe shelter for those in need. The community came together with local organizations, offering drop-in meals and support through the Integrated Community Outreach Network in Clarington (ICONIC). The centre operates nightly from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. throughout the winter and is located at Liberty Street and Baseline Road in Bowmanville.



Learn more at
www.clarington.net/RoadSafety

Slow down in school zones to keep kids safer

Before the 2024-25 school year started, we made changes to create safer streets for everyone in our community. Speed limits in school zones were reduced from 50 kilometres per hour to 30 kilometres per hour.

By doing this, we're providing better protection for our youngest residents and peace of mind for parents. Crews installed 430 signs and posts to support this change.



END INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Combating intimate partner violence in Clarington

Concrete actions to address this issue and support our residents

In the face of darkness, we are making changes that will better protect the safety and well-being of those affected by intimate partner violence (IPV). We are committed to providing individuals and families with the support they need, when they need it. In 2023, Clarington Council voted to declare intimate partner violence an epidemic, supporting the Region of Durham.

In March 2023, a jury made 86 recommendations to the Province following the inquest into the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam, who were victims of intimate partner violence. In response, Clarington Council directed staff to propose initiatives based on the Renfrew County Inquest.



In 2024, we took the following steps:



Provided training to front-line staff to recognize IPV and provided referrals to supports and resources the victims may need.



Posted information and resources in recreation facility washrooms and on community message boards.



Identified and created safe and private spaces in libraries and at community centres where people experiencing IPV can contact shelters, police and victim services for support and guidance.



Partnered with Durham Regional Police Service and the Region of Durham to promote awareness of IPV, and the supports available for those who need them.



Created a new funding stream in the Community Funding Program to support community safety programs, including IPV, particularly in rural areas.

Continued to advocate for expanded transportation

Find resources at
www.clarington.net/IPV



Protecting our community while improving service

From pet ownership to property standards, our Municipal Law Enforcement team cares about keeping our neighbourhoods clean, safe, and welcoming for everyone. In 2024, the team successfully:

Decreased the average
file resolution time by

18 days

despite receiving
an additional

455

complaints in 2024.



96%

of all complaints
were resolved by the
end of the year.



Animal Services’ love and care makes a lasting difference

In 2024, the shelter received nearly 500 animals into its care, highlighting the role of animal welfare initiatives in our community.



HUGO

Age: 10

Gender: MALE

Favourite Feature: MY SMILE

Meet Hugo

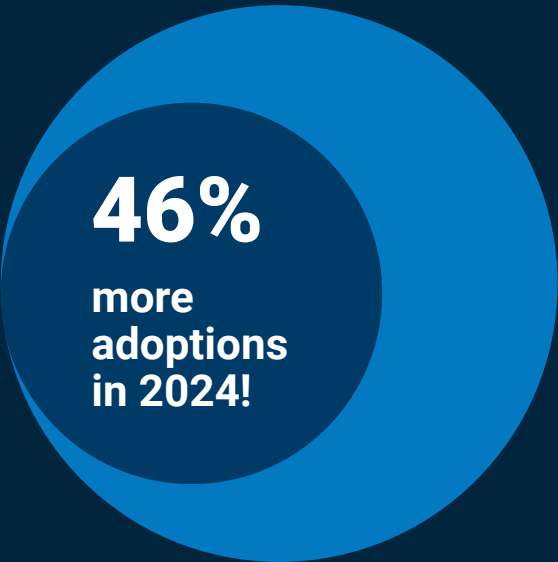
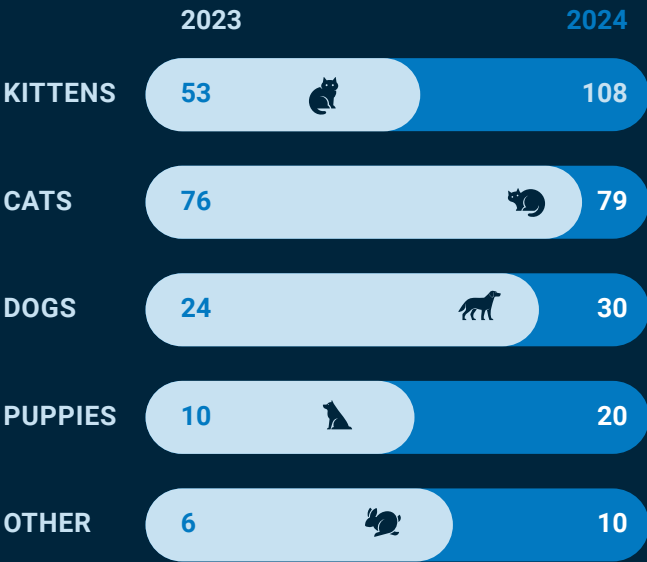
An older chihuahua, believed to be around 10 years old, came into the care of Clarington Animal Services last year. He was neutered and appeared healthy—until a closer look at his teeth revealed they were dirty and infected.

Hugo found a temporary, loving home with a kind staff member who fostered him for three months until his visit to the vet for a dental treatment. After his dental procedure, he ended up with only eight teeth left.

With his semi-toothless smile, sweet Hugo went up for adoption and found a wonderful fur-ever home. Thank you to the team for supporting this little dog (and many others!) back to good health.



Animals found their forever home compared to 169 in 2023.



C.3 Empower a diverse, equitable and inclusive community

At the heart of Clarington, we see a community where everyone feels welcome, authenticity is celebrated, and strength comes from our diversity.

Our first Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Strategy

We value the diversity of the people and communities we serve. Council approved Clarington's first Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Strategy to ensure that everyone in the community has a voice—and everyone is heard.

Action items include:

Developing Equity and Inclusion Lens Guidelines for municipal programs, services and initiatives

Boosting IDEA training for Municipal staff to effectively serve a growing and diverse population

Providing support to increase diversity and representation in Municipal-hosted community programs and celebrations

Learn about the steps we're taking at www.clarington.net/IDEAStrategy



"Everyone deserves to feel included and valued in their community. We are committed to working towards equality and a better future for us all. Clarington's IDEA Strategy will help us create a more open and inclusive community where all are welcome. In Clarington, we value equity, diversity, and inclusiveness—and we are that much stronger because of it."

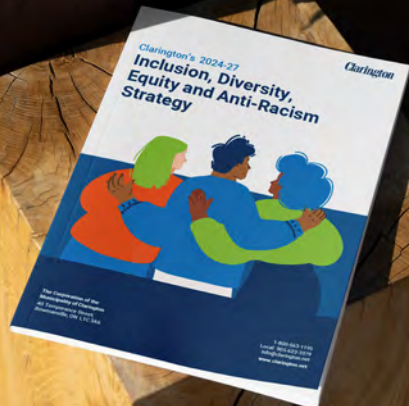
Adrian Foster
Mayor

New Equity and Inclusion Lens Guideline

Similar to a pair of glasses, the Equity and Inclusion Lens Guideline helps you see things from a new or different perspective.

We developed this easy-to-use tool to help staff check their own perspectives and potential biases when reviewing, designing and implementing programs, services and initiatives.

Read it and use it for yourself at www.clarington.net/IDEA



A celebration of talent, culture, and unity

Community comes together for our first Black Vendor Village

During Black History Month, we launched a new annual event to celebrate, support, and experience the incredible talent and entrepreneurial spirit of Black-owned businesses.

The Black Vendor Village is about more than just shopping—it's a celebration of resilience, creativity, and community connection. Guests enjoyed live entertainment, dancing, art and more, while shopping, eating, and connecting with 40+ vendors and services.

Events like this play an important role in highlighting the contributions of underrepresented groups while addressing systemic barriers that have historically limited opportunities for Black entrepreneurs.



New Diversity Leadership Bursary

Clarington is helping to support the educational and career aspirations of youth who champion diversity and inclusion in the community. The goal of the bursary is to encourage and celebrate young community leaders by alleviating some of the financial barriers associated with post-secondary education.

Jenae Heron-Kelly, a Grade 12 student at St. Stephen's Catholic Secondary School in Bowmanville, was the inaugural recipient of Clarington's Diversity Leadership Bursary.

In Clarington, our growing diversity is a source of strength – and young leaders like Jenae are at the forefront of shaping a more welcoming and inclusive community.





Red Dress Day

Honouring missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirited people

May 5 is Red Dress Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirited people. First observed in Canada in 2010, communities and organizations hang red dresses as a call for justice and a reminder of the violence.

To honour this day, our teams created Red Dress Day displays across Clarington at the Municipal Administrative Centre, recreation facilities, and the Bowmanville Library.



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Remembering the children impacted by residential schools

September 30 serves as a day of reflection and recognition of the painful legacy of the Residential School System in Canada that separated Indigenous children from their families and communities and stripped away their traditions, culture and languages. It is a day to honour the children who never returned home, the survivors, their families and communities affected by the legacy of residential schools.

In memory of the children impacted by residential schools, community members were invited to tie an orange ribbon at South Courtice Arena.

We promoted additional initiatives and opportunities across Clarington and Durham Region for residents to participate in, including Clarington Library, Museums and Archives' Indigenous Beading Event at the Courtice Library.

C.4 Ensure arts, culture and recreation are prioritized

We embrace the joy that comes from active living, connecting with our neighbours and cherishing our unique heritage.

Clarington's first-ever outdoor refrigerated skating rink

Plus, two more outdoor rinks in the works!

Clarington's first outdoor refrigerated skating rink opened at the Courtice Community Complex just in time for the holiday break. Residents enjoyed leisurely skating with family and friends, creating cherished memories during this joyous season.

Coming soon!



Winter 2025

Outdoor refrigerated skating rink at the Diane Hamre Recreation Complex in Newcastle



Winter 2026/27

Outdoor refrigerated skating trail at the South Bowmanville Recreation Centre



"I'm so excited to celebrate the opening of our first refrigerated outdoor skating rink. This is a place where families will make lasting memories, skating in winter and enjoying a year-round community hub. Places like this help build healthier communities and make Clarington an even better place to live. This is just the beginning; we're working to build refrigerated outdoor skating rinks across Clarington."

Adrian Foster
Mayor

Now open!

Outdoor refrigerated skating rink at the Courtice Community Complex



Start getting excited for the new South Bowmanville Recreation Centre

We've been hard at work behind the scenes, designing and preparing to start construction on the new South Bowmanville Recreation Centre! With all the preparation work underway, construction on Phase 1 is set to start in spring 2025, preparing for opening in 2026.

Phase 1 will include:

- FIFA-sized multi-sport dome with 3-lane indoor walking track

- Outdoor refrigerated skating trail

- Fully accessible gymnasium with two FIBA basketball courts, versatile for sports like pickleball, tennis and volleyball, plus perimeter bench seating for spectators and athletes

- Multi-purpose rooms for recreation programming

Phase 2 will include:

- Aquatics Centre that includes a 25-metre main pool, a warm water teaching/therapy pool, and viewing area

- Splash pad and playground

- Multi-purpose rooms for recreation programming



Learn more and stay up-to-date on the project: www.clarington.net/SBRC



Extra fun for little ones

In Bowmanville and Solina, we installed new play structures, swings, and amenities at four parks for our youngest residents to get active and enjoy.



Argent Park

592 Longworth Avenue, Bowmanville

- Junior and senior play structures
- Four swings (one accessible)
- Wood fibre safety surface
- Park benches



Elephant Hill Park

30 Maconnachie Place, Bowmanville

- Enlarged playground with wood fibre safety surface
- Junior and senior play structures
- Four swings (one accessible)
- Park benches



Rhonda Park

92 Rhonda Boulevard, Bowmanville

- Enlarged playground with wood fibre safety surface
- Junior and senior play structures
- Four swings (one accessible)
- Park benches and new pathways



Solina Park

1964 Concession Road 6, Solina

- Enlarged playground with wood fibre safety surface
- Junior and senior play structures
- Five swings (one accessible)
- Park benches

Local arenas get some love and extend facility lifespans

The Orono Arena underwent upgrades last summer which are anticipated to extend its lifespan by 15 years. The \$3-million renovation project included replacing the refrigerated floor under the ice pad, upgrading the changing rooms and shower areas, and replacing the rubber flooring throughout the arena. New rink boards and a heated penalty box were also added.



Newcastle Memorial Arena, originally built in 1951, saw the rehabilitation construction of its parking lot. This included landscaping, replacing storm sewer infrastructure, removing and replacing existing parking lot asphalt and road base, installing electrical works for parking lot lighting, installing curbs, a retaining wall, privacy fencing, and other necessary restorations. This is in addition to the major 2023 upgrades anticipated to extend the service life of the rink by 20 to 30 years.





Orono Library designated as a heritage site

Solidifying its place as an integral part of the community's history, Clarington designated the Orono Library under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act in September 2024.

This designation will help preserve the treasured heritage elements of the library and its gardens, ensuring the historic character of Clarington is maintained as the Municipality grows.

"Clarington Library, Museums & Archives is committed to preserving and exhibiting Clarington's cultural heritage, and with this designation, we will continue to champion these values in our community."

Monika Machacek

Chief Executive Officer
Clarington Library, Museums & Archives

Honouring those who served with all-new Veterans' Square



Veterans' Square is a cherished and significant community space that honours the bravery and sacrifice of soldiers from our community and is the focal point of Bowmanville's Remembrance Day Service. The renovations provide more opportunities for residents to connect with the community and honour the sacrifices and achievements of those who served in Canada's military in times of war, military conflict and peace.

Located in downtown Bowmanville beside Town Hall, the new Veterans' Square features additional flag poles and raised gardens, accessible seating, paved pathways, a service animal relief area and several mobility device charging stations. It also has tactile walking surface indicators, which are detectable underfoot when walking or using a cane. The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 178, who was consulted on the design, led a commemorative ceremony to mark the reopening of the space.

Grow Responsibly

G.1 Bolster a strong local economy

We're attracting new investments and supporting local innovation to build a prosperous and bright future for our community brimming with opportunities.



A proud host community leading municipal collaboration

Clarington is at the forefront of the clean energy future.

Located in the centre of Canada's nuclear expertise, Clarington is a proud host community of cutting-edge technologies at every stage of the nuclear life cycle. The safe operations of our nuclear facilities provide reliable electricity for homes, schools, hospitals and businesses.

Opportunities created by several of Canada's largest infrastructure projects continue to help support the foundation for attracting investment to our growing community.

ELECTRIC FACT

20 per cent of Ontario's electricity supply is produced at Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) Darlington Nuclear Generating Station in Clarington.

Nuclear energy advocacy

Clarington is a founding member of the Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (CANHC). This not-for-profit organization supports current and future nuclear host communities in fostering proactive relationships with the nuclear industry and regulators.

As Chair of CANHC, Mayor Foster joined global leaders at the inaugural Nuclear Energy Summit in Brussels, Belgium, to highlight the role of local government as a partner in safe and responsible nuclear energy production.

Through collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and advocacy with nuclear leaders, we strengthen our community as technologies advance.



Life-saving possibilities of isotopes

Facilities in Clarington produce critical isotopes for medical applications, showcasing the diverse benefits of clean energy technologies beyond electricity generation.

In early 2024, Clarington teamed up with Laurentis Energy Partners, the Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council, and Ontario Power Generation to kick off the Central and Eastern Ontario Isotope Alliance (CEOIA).

Learn more at
www.centraleasternontarioisotopes.ca



"I congratulate Ontario Power Generation and its partners on their remarkable work completing the first phase of site preparation for Ontario's first Small Modular Reactor (SMR). This will bring a wealth of opportunities and benefits to our municipality and our province as we pursue a sustainable and cost-effective energy solution for the future. I look forward to seeing the continued success of this project and the technological innovation and economic development that will result from it."

Adrian Foster
Mayor

The big impact of small modular reactor technology

Making strides towards a low-carbon future, small modular reactor (SMR) technology represents the future of Canada's nuclear industry. Among the many benefits, they are a smaller, more flexible type of nuclear reactor.

The building and operating of four SMRs is expected to create and sustain approximately 2,000 jobs each year in Canada over the next 65 years.

**OPG's Darlington New Nuclear Project is planning four grid-scale SMRs, which could generate enough electricity to power
1.2 million homes.**



Businesses continue to invest in Clarington, adding to our dynamic charm.

From trades to restaurants

33 small businesses

opened in Clarington in 2024, generating over **250 jobs** and contributing more than

\$17 million

in wages to our local community.

As a valued municipal partner, the **Clarington Board of Trade** leads business retention and expansion initiatives, helping to ensure local businesses have the **support and resources** they need to thrive and grow here in Clarington.



Recruiting local businesses to our new **Vendor Directory**

Clarington is committed to creating opportunities for businesses and industries to contribute to our local economy. At the end of 2024, we launched the Clarington Vendor Directory to help businesses unlock new opportunities.

By joining, our municipal procurement staff can start connecting with this growing database in 2025 to find the goods and services they need.



Add your business today at
www.clarington.net/VendorDirectory

Lake Road's industrial area continues to attract new businesses:

Clearwater Structures joined with a brand new

37,000 sq ft

facility employing **40 people**.



Tranquility Home Comfort joined the area to offer HVAC services to the community.

NEW!

40,000 sq ft industrial building on Energy Drive, nearing completion, will manufacture products for the telecom industry.

Bowmanville has also welcomed **Volt Raceway**, occupying

90,000 sq ft

of commercial space and creating nearly

70 jobs



Introducing Clarington Toyota Arena: Our first naming rights agreement

This naming rights agreement—the first of its kind in Clarington—helps support investments in infrastructure and offsets the costs of programs and activities.

Located at the Pad A ice rink at Garnet B. Rickard Recreation Complex in Bowmanville, this sponsorship highlights the opportunity available in partnering with our business community. It's also great way for us to diversify revenue generation outside of the tax base.

G.2 Ensure that growth is proactively addressed

Imagine what the future of Clarington looks like for your family and business – that's what we're planning, preparing, and advocating for.

Clarington advances Secondary Plans

Clarington is working through the development of several Secondary Plans – which will serve as a detailed set of rules and guidelines for developing specific areas within Clarington.

Two Secondary Plans advanced in 2024, including:

Bowmanville East Urban Centre Secondary Plan

A renewed vision for Bowmanville's core

Now Approved

After years of engagement and thoughtful planning, the Bowmanville East Urban Centre Secondary Plan has been approved. The renewed vision will continue to foster a thriving business district while preserving Bowmanville's historic charm.

Centred on the intersection of King Street East and Liberty Street, this 127-hectare area includes Bowmanville's historic downtown, the east business district, the former Goodyear manufacturing lands, the Bowmanville Mall and the Lakeridge Health Bowmanville Hospital. It's also home to businesses, services and government offices and includes a portion of the Bowmanville Creek, Soper Creek and their associated valleylands.



"East Bowmanville will be a vibrant, livable and sustainable community. This plan celebrates the area's historic character while adapting to meet the needs of the future. It paves the way for well-designed future growth that will ensure this area develops as a complete community which will thrive and prosper for years to come."

Adrian Foster
Mayor

See the plan at
www.clarington.net/BowmanvilleEast



Image rendering is for illustrative purposes only.

The Farewell Heights Secondary Plan

An area for opportunity

In Development

The Farewell Heights Secondary Plan Area covers approximately 107-hectares and is located east of Tooley Road, south of Pebblestone Road, west of Courtice Road, and north of the Adelaide Avenue extension in north Courtice.

Currently, the area includes a mix of agricultural, residential, and commercial uses, along with natural features such as woodlots, wetlands, and Farewell Creek.

The Farewell Heights Secondary Plan will provide more detailed guidance for this area, addressing land uses, transportation, infrastructure, natural heritage, phasing, and urban design.

In 2024, a Public Information Centre was held to discuss the area's opportunities with the community. The plan will continue to progress into 2025.

See the plan at
www.clarington.net/FarewellHeights



Planning responsibilities move to municipal level

New Planning Act regulations, which removed Region of Durham's planning authority over Clarington's decisions as of January 1, 2025, have given the municipality greater control over decisions affecting our community and streamlined the planning process.

Although this legislative change did not come with the financial resources to support it, we are committed to undertaking this new planning responsibility efficiently and effectively, as outlined in our 2025 Budget Update.



Preparing for our future by investing in fire service infrastructure

Clarington was awarded a \$3.2 million grant from the Government of Ontario's Skills Development Fund: Capital Stream for the design and construction of a new fire training facility in Bowmanville. This facility will be the first of its kind in Durham Region and will feature a drill tower, a live fire training tower, a training compound, large classroom space, and a driver training track.

It will provide advanced training for senior fire officials in incident command, leadership training for future Fire Chiefs and Deputy Fire Chiefs, and fire training certification for volunteer and career firefighters from underrepresented communities. It will also offer training accessible to partner organizations like Ontario Power Generation and other first responders.

Design work is underway, and the Municipality aims to begin construction in 2026.



G.3 Ensure unique community spaces are prioritized

The perspectives of our community members are integral to our decision-making processes.

3,000+ community members helped shape our Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan

Public spaces connect people to their community. As Clarington grows, recreational needs are changing and diversifying. Our Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan (PRCMP) serves as a roadmap to inform future Council decisions about Clarington's parkland, programs and services, and what's needed to grow with the community for the next 10 to 15 years.

With input from 3,000+ people, including residents, community organizations, staff and Council, and backed by extensive data, trends and analysis, Clarington's final PRCMP was approved by Council on October 28. As a next step, staff will be bringing an implementation plan, along with a financing strategy to Council in 2025.



See the plans at
www.clarington.net/PRCMP



New 34-acre park approved for the former Bowmanville Zoo lands

Clarington Council approved the Master Plan for a new 34-acre park on the former Bowmanville Zoo lands. Phase one, focusing on a trail network, will start construction in fall 2025 and open to the public in 2026.

The Zoo Lands are cherished by the community. The new park will offer residents access to this well-loved property. The park's design, developed with community input and in collaboration with Valleys 2000, captures the natural features and history of the land.

It builds on previous efforts by Valleys 2000, who hired a design firm to create an initial plan and brought together community members, staff and local businesses to provide input on the plan.

It includes:

Natural Play Structures

Connected Trails

Outdoor Ampitheatre

Demonstration Gardens

Art and Culture Installation Spaces



Explore more at
www.clarington.net/BowmanvillePark



G.4 Promote a healthy and resilient environment

We're doing our part to protect our heritage and environment while mitigating the effects of climate change.

Steps towards our net-zero goals

In our Corporate Climate Action Plan, we've set targets to help mitigate the effects of climate change. Based on 2018 baseline levels, we're aiming for:



35% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030



Net-zero by 2050

Read more at
www.clarington.net/ClimateChange



New development standards for municipal building renovations and construction

For our municipal buildings, we created the Sustainable and Resilient Design Guideline to inform the construction of our new buildings and major renovations. This ensures that they are more resilient to the impacts of climate change and aligned with our net-zero targets for 2050.

Grant awarded to help reduce GHG emissions

A \$166,080 grant will help identify new ways to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from municipal buildings, thanks to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund. The study will explore measures like installing rooftop solar panels and implementing HVAC improvements.



Reserve funds established to invest in reaching our goals

Council approved reserve funds that will support:

- Funding initiatives identified in our Climate Change Action Plan, such as investing in green alternatives
- Responding to climate emergencies and extreme weather disasters
- Providing enhanced resilience to capital infrastructure on climate change

Clarington recognized for energy efficiency

In 2024, Durham Greener Buildings recognized Clarington's success in achieving climate targets, awarding the municipality with:



Best Energy Performing (Large) Townhall
Municipal Administrative Centre



Climate Leadership Award
GHG Reduction Pathway Study

Trees for Rural Roads

With our Trees for Rural Roads program, we work with our community to distribute and plant trees and shrubs around Clarington's rural roads.

31

participants in 2024

428

native tree saplings
planted in 2024

8,800

trees planted
since 2012



Benefits of the program include:

Provides increased tree canopy cover and wildlife habitat

Adds ecological value

Preserves Clarington's rural character

Contributes to local efforts to take action on climate change

Check out the program at
www.clarington.net/TreesForRuralRoads



Bringing more electric vehicle infrastructure to Clarington

With more residents choosing electric vehicles (EVs), we're expanding our charging infrastructure to a total of 36 charging points across our community – including Clarington's first Level 3 fast charger at the Diane Hamre Recreation Complex. Thanks to Ontario's EV ChargeON Program, in December we were awarded \$120,000 to support our growth. This is in addition to \$60,000 in grant funding announced in March 2024 as part of NRCan's Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program.

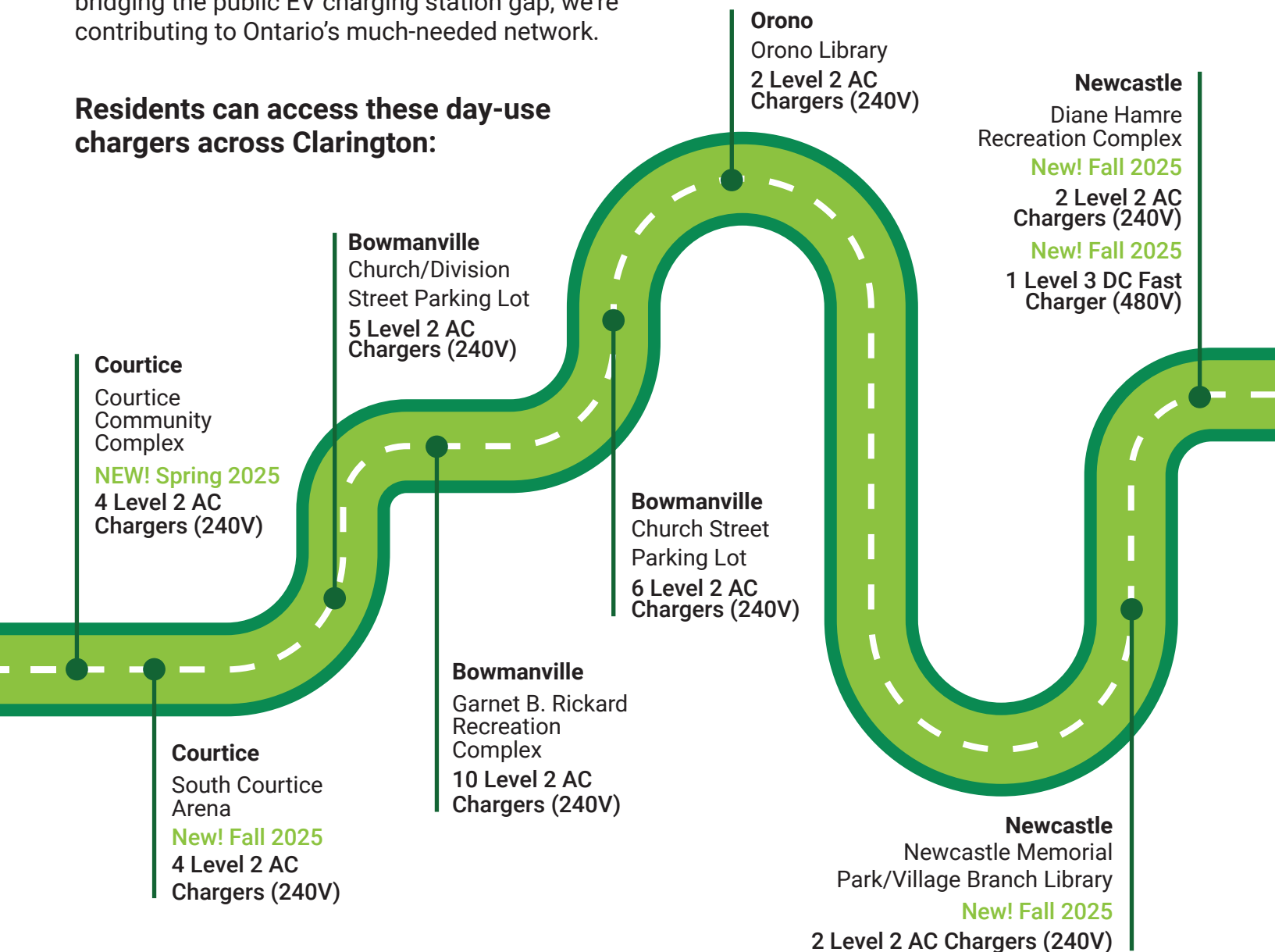
As transportation is one of the largest contributors to pollution and climate change, we're excited to support the community in adopting EVs. By leading with investment and bridging the public EV charging station gap, we're contributing to Ontario's much-needed network.

Residents can access these day-use chargers across Clarington:

What to look for!



Learn more at
www.clarington.net/EVs



\$100K grant to help plan restoration of the Graham Creek Jetties and Bond Head beach

Jetties, made of wood, stone, or concrete, are built along coastlines or riverbanks to help with maritime navigation and protect the shore. By undertaking a Coastal Process Study, we can understand how waves, currents, and sediment impact them.

Using nature-based approaches, we will determine how we can improve the resilience of the Graham Creek Jetties and Bond Head Beach against environmental changes, particularly those caused by climate change.

Funded in part by the Government of Canada's Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative, Clarington was awarded with \$100,000 over a two-year period. Technical support will be provided by the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. This study will build on previous studies under the Lake Ontario Canadian Nearshore Assessment (2019) and advance the recommendations outlined in the Lake Ontario Shoreline Management Plan (2020).

Initiatives like these support Clarington's 2024-27 Strategic Plan to protect the environment while enhancing Clarington's waterfront.

Bond Head,
Newcastle



THANK YOU
FOR A GREAT YEAR,
CLARINGTON!

We look forward to giving you
more reasons to love living and doing
business here in 2025.

Clarington

Clarington

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TTY: 1-844-790-1599

www.clarington.net

   @ClaringtonConnected

↑ PSSST! FOLLOW US!

DID YOU HEAR THEY'RE
INSTALLING A 20-KM
WATERSLIDE DOWN
HIGHWAY 2? *



* It's tricky to know what's real (this is not).
Get the facts at www.clarington.net/Subscribe.