



Township of Wainfleet

"Wainfleet - find your country side!"

March 28, 2018

Ann-Marie Norio
Deputy Regional Clerk
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, PO Box 1042
Thorold ON L2V 4T7

VIA EMAIL: Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca

RE: Niagara Regional Housing Property Tax Exemption Analysis CSC-C 4-2018

Dear Ms. Norio,

Thank you for your recent correspondence, received by our office on March 5, 2018. Please be advised that Council for the Township of Wainfleet, at its regular meeting held on March 27, 2018 passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. C-100-2018

Moved By Betty Konc
Seconded By Terry Gilmore

"**THAT** correspondence item C-064-2018 received from the Office of the Regional Clerk Re: Niagara Regional Housing Property Tax Exemption Analysis CSC-C 4-2018 be received for information;

AND THAT Council for the Township of Wainfleet supports Scenario 5 as outlined in CSD 36-2016."

Carried

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

William J. Kolasa
Chief Administrative Officer/ Clerk

CC: Area Municipalities

Have your say on the Niagara Regional Council's 2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan

Starting today, Niagara Region is inviting residents, businesses and community leaders to share how they would like to “Shape Niagara” by providing their ideas and feedback about what should be included in Council's next strategic plan. Feedback shared with the Region will form part of a background study that will inform the next term of Council's strategic plan deliberations.

The Region's Strategic Plan is an significant document that underpins all of the activities undertaken by the organization. The plan guides which projects and actions staff will work on, what is considered a priority and how best to resource these activities. Council's next strategic plan will run from 2019 until 2022.

In previous years, items on the strategic plan have been completed include securing Daily GO Train service, inter-municipal transit expansion, reducing Ontario Works caseload, growing our population by 10,000 residents and completing vital master plans for transportation and water & wastewater services.

Residents, businesses and community leaders will have numerous opportunities to participate in the “Shape Niagara” process, including:

- Attending one of five public open houses held throughout the region between May and June
- Visiting www.niagararegion.ca/ShapeNiagara to provide feedback online about their priority
- Leaving a comment on social media using the hashtag #ShapeNiagara

Regional staff will be attending local community events throughout the summer to promote the campaign and collect responses.

Feedback will also be collected through a statistically valid telephone survey and third-party moderated focus groups. Additionally, staff will also be re-examining all of the public engagement that took place over the last four years to identify reoccurring themes.

The themes identified through this process will be analyzed by Regional staff and used to provide the 2019 – 2022 term of Regional Council with information they can use when developing their strategic plan. It is anticipated that the final plan will be approved by council in early next year.

Quotes

"To achieve Niagara's true potential, we must forge the next phase of Niagara's path together. As Niagara Region launches “Shape Niagara”, the largest strategic consultation effort in Niagara's history, we must be bold and we must focus on the people that make up Niagara's 12 communities. Regional Council looks forward to residents, businesses, and community organizations seizing the

opportunity to provide input on how they would like to shape the exciting future of Niagara."

~ ***Alan Caslin, Regional Chair***

Contact

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Latest StatsCan Labour Force Survey shows Niagara's unemployment rate in February hit record lows

Niagara Region's unemployment rate in February dropped to its lowest level in nearly two decades, newly released figures show.

The latest Labour Force Survey released by Statistics Canada over the weekend showed unemployment in the St. Catharines-Niagara census area at 5.2 per cent, compared to 5.9 per cent in January.

This is the lowest the unemployment rate has been since April 2000, and placed Niagara not only above Ontario (5.5 per cent) and Canada (5.8 per cent), but also saw the region outperform comparator communities such as Hamilton, Waterloo, Toronto, Guelph, London, Barrie, and Kingston.

Niagara's labour force participation rate (the total labour force relative to the size of the working-age population) showed signs of rebounding to post-2008-09 recession levels, according to the survey.

The latest economic figures highlight the upward trend in local economic activity and underscore the strategic initiatives Regional Council has taken to bolster trade, attract new investment, and create the economic conditions to help businesses stay competitive and grow.

The Niagara Economic Development Office continues to work on investment attraction and economic growth including recently appointing an Economic Development Officer to support local municipalities that do not have economic development staff.

From 2014 to 2017, employers in Niagara created a net 12,741 new jobs.

During that same time period, investment in industrial and commercial building construction totalled \$1.52 billion, with 2017 ranking as the best year on record with \$570 million invested in industrial and commercial building construction in Niagara.

Niagara companies are also exporting more. Between 2011 and 2016, exports grew by \$500 million to a total of \$4.11 billion, which signals that the regional economy is becoming more integrated into the global economy.

Quotes

"Whether Niagara is listed as one of the top areas for economic momentum in Canada, construction values are increasing to an all-time high, or unemployment levels are hitting record lows, our local economy is firing on all cylinders. The latest Labour Force Survey released by Statistics Canada gives a strong indication that Regional Council's strategic initiatives to support Niagara's industries through local job creation and fostering the conditions to attract new investment are making an

3/29/2018

Latest StatsCan Labour Force Survey shows Niagara's unemployment rate in February hit record lows - Niagara Region, Ontario

impact."

~ ***Alan Caslin, Niagara Regional Chair***

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