

# **INFORMATION ITEMS**

---

**Week Ending December 4, 2015**

## **REPORTS**

1. None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Metrolinx re: Update on Key Initiatives
2. Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Resettlement of Syrian Refugees
3. Ontario Ministry of Transportation re: Environmental Assessment for the GTA West Transportation Corridor

## **BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

1. None

## **ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE**

1. None



# METROLINX

An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Une agence du gouvernement de l'Ontario

**Office of the President and Chief Executive  
Officer**

Bruce McCuaig  
416-202-5908  
CEO@metrolinx.com

December 4, 2015

City of Guelph  
Clerk's Department  
1 Carden Street  
Guelph, ON N1H 3A1

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

The Metrolinx Board of Directors held its regularly scheduled Board meeting yesterday and we wish to provide your Council with an update of key initiatives.

- GO Transit update highlighting service changes and infrastructure improvements. ([presentation here](#))
- Capital Projects Update ([presentation here](#))
- GO Fare Increase ([presentation here](#))
- Presto provided an update on the roll out of Presto on the TTC ([presentation here](#))
- As part of our Regional Transit Wayfinding Harmonization Strategy a recommended approach to naming the new Eglington Crosstown Stations was adopted. ([presentation here](#))
- As well quarterly (status) updates were provided on major projects within GO Transit, Rapid Transit (York Viva, MiWay, Hamilton LRT, Toronto LRT projects and Hurontario), Policy and Planning projects such as Fare Integration, Union Pearson Express, Presto and Strategic Communications. ([link to Metrolinx Board agenda and updates](#))

If you or your Council wishes to have any additional information please contact Metrolinx Stakeholder Relations Team ([james.harvey@metrolinx.com](mailto:james.harvey@metrolinx.com) or 416-202-5574).

Sincerely,

Bruce McCuaig  
President and Chief Executive Officer

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tel. 416-585-7000  
Fax 416-585-6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tél. 416-585-7000  
Télééc. 416-585-6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)



MIN15-68224

November 27, 2015

Dear Heads of Council:

I'm aware that many municipal leaders have questions about their possible involvement in helping to resettle Syrian refugees.

While many details remain to be worked out by the federal government, the overall plan is taking shape nicely. Let me share with you a few of the things we know so far.

- We expect that the first wave of refugees coming to Canada will number about 10,000 by year end.
- Of these the majority will be privately sponsored. These refugees will be settled and cared for by their sponsors.
- A much smaller number will be government assisted. These refugees will be assisted by federally-funded Refugee Assistance Program agencies located in six urban centres: Toronto (serving the Greater Toronto Area including Peel, York and Durham Regions), Ottawa, London, Windsor, Hamilton and Kitchener-Waterloo. These communities account for about 90% of immigrant and refugee landings to Ontario.
- We expect the government assisted refugees will be located primarily in those urban centres, to make it as easy as possible to provide them with services.
- An additional 15,000 refugees are expected to come to Canada by the end of February 2016.
- Ontario played a leadership role early on, with an additional \$8.5-million in funding to help sponsors and settlement organizations. We continue to play a leadership role in helping to coordinate these efforts. Federal, provincial and municipal representatives are hard at work on pinning down more details and engaging directly with the municipalities likely to be most affected.

- I've spoken with a number of mayors in the last few days and been overwhelmed by the outpouring of generosity. Everyone is eager to help. This is a proud moment for our province and our country.
- The federal government has established a website, [Welcome Refugees](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/welcome/index.asp) [<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/welcome/index.asp>] for up-to-date information. Ontario has also established a [Syrian Refugee](http://www.ontario.ca/syrianrefugees) page [[www.ontario.ca/syrianrefugees](http://www.ontario.ca/syrianrefugees)] with information on how people can help.
- Our province has also established a central co-ordinating function here led by Joan Andrew, a very able former deputy minister of Citizenship and Immigration. You can reach her at 416-325 4764 or [joan.andrew@ontario.ca](mailto:joan.andrew@ontario.ca).

I'm very proud of the way our province is stepping up to show hospitality, and I'm grateful to all of you for your many efforts. As plans continue to evolve, I'll do my best to keep you informed. And I or Joan will be happy to receive your suggestions and offers of resources as we go forward.

Kindest personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted McMeekin". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ted McMeekin  
Minister



# STUDY UPDATE

**Public Information Centre (PIC) #2 for Stage 2 of the GTA West Transportation Corridor Route Planning and Environmental Assessment (EA) Study is not taking place this December as planned. The ministry needs more time as this is a complex study. The ministry will provide more information as soon as it becomes available.**

## The EA Study

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is undertaking Stage 2 of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the GTA West Transportation Corridor. Building on the recommendations from Stage 1, the EA Study will identify the route, determine interchange locations and complete the preliminary design for a new transportation corridor within the Route Planning Study Area. The new transportation corridor will include: a 400-series highway, transitway and potential goods movement priority features.

The GTA West Transportation Corridor is vital transportation infrastructure that will help meet the projected growth in both population and employment identified in the *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2006)*, and will deliver multiple benefits including:

- Greater connectivity between urban growth centres;
- Enhanced people and goods movement;
- Improved commuting; and,
- Greater economic vitality.

The GTA West Transportation Corridor Planning and EA Study is being undertaken as an Individual EA in accordance with the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (EA Act)* and the *GTA West Corridor Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference*, which was approved by the Ontario Minister of the Environment on March 4, 2008.

## Consultation and Contact Information

Comments and input regarding the study are encouraged and will continue to be collected to assist the GTA West Project Team. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation to meet the requirements of the *Ontario EA Act*. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Access to Information Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

*For more information, please contact the GTA West Project Team:*



Website: [www.gta-west.com](http://www.gta-west.com)  
Email: [project\\_team@gta-west.com](mailto:project_team@gta-west.com)  
Toll-Free: 1-877-522-6916  
Twitter: @GTAWestStudy

Des renseignements sont disponibles en français en composant (905) 823-8500 Poste 1471 (Yannick Garnier)