

Memorandum to the Council of

Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Subject: Council Information Digest – Legislative, Agency, and Stakeholder Correspondence
(May–June 2025)

Memo No: 2025-M-143

Date: June 12, 2025

Attachment: None

Prepared By: Laala Jahanshahloo - CAO/Treasurer

Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Memo 2025-M-143 as presented.

1. Introduction

This briefing report summarizes significant correspondence, policy updates, and stakeholder notices received between May and June 2025 and included in the Council Information Package – June 12, 2025. These documents assist Council in maintaining legislative awareness, tracking infrastructure and funding opportunities, and preparing for regional and provincial engagement.

To access the full package of correspondence and original letters, please use the following link: <https://www.temagami.ca/public/download/files/268817>. Hard copies of all information items are also available at the Municipal Office upon request.

2. Executive Summary

- **HECS Program Approval:** Temagami approved for the Housing-Enabling Core Services (HECS) stream, supporting infrastructure for housing growth. Related streams (HEWSF, MHIP) and OCIF allocations highlighted. *(Pages 1–2)*
- **Emergency Reform:** Ontario reintroduces emergency legislation modernizing deployment and coordination (EMCPA). Letters of municipal support encouraged. *(Page 3)*
- **Bill 27 – Wildland Fire Act:** Replaces Forest Fires Prevention Act. Municipal fire planning now mandatory. Enforcement and coordination tools introduced. *(Pages 4–9)*
- **Geologic Carbon Storage Act:** Reintroduced with few changes. Enables regulated long-term CO₂ sequestration. *(Page 10)*
- **OPP Billing Review:** Province reviews Regulation 413/23 with June webinars. Feedback will shape 2026 model. *(Page 11)*
- **OPP Bureau Realignment:** Municipal Policing Bureau dissolved; duties reassigned to Crime Prevention & Community Support Bureau. *(Page 12)*
- **MPAC Audit 2024:** Future benefit liabilities rose to \$43.2M. Revenues and reserves remained stable. *(Pages 13–30)*
- **FONOM Budget Response:** Praises 2025 Ontario Budget for infrastructure, pothole fund, trades programs, and inclusion of Muskoka in the North. *(Pages 31–32)*
- **NEPH Phone System:** New telecom infrastructure rolled out. Toll-free line unchanged. *(Page 33)*
- **NEPH Air Quality Dashboard:** Public access to wildfire smoke data launched using PurpleAir sensors. *(Pages 34–35)*
- **Wildfire Season Briefing:** MNR outlines 2025 fire season hazards, coordination protocols, and suppression maps. *(Pages 36–69)*

3. Provincial Correspondence

- **HECS Stream Approval and Infrastructure Funding**

- Date: May 21, 2025
- Summary: Temagami's approval under HECS was confirmed by Minister Surma. The Province emphasized related streams (HEWSF, MHIP) and the \$2.3B investment into core housing-related infrastructure. Additional funding opportunities through OCIF were also highlighted. Temagami is encouraged to build on this approval by exploring other active infrastructure streams and planning for scalable project delivery.
- Appendix Reference: Pages 1–2

- **Emergency Management Modernization (Bill 27)**

- Date: May 22, 2025
- Summary: Bill 27 proposes sweeping changes to the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, including the creation of Ontario Corps deployment protocols, modernization of outdated coordination tools, and improvements to local emergency management structures. Municipal support letters are requested to help advance this legislation.
- Appendix Reference: Page 3

- ***Wildland Fire Management Act (Bill 27)***

- Date: May 28, 2025
- Summary: The Act repeals and replaces the Forest Fires Prevention Act and introduces mandatory wildland fire planning for municipalities within fire zones. It strengthens enforcement, introduces administrative penalties, and formalizes coordination frameworks. Supporting regulations and implementation standards will follow.
- Appendix Reference: Pages 4–9

- ***Geologic Carbon Storage Act***

- Date: May 27, 2025
- Summary: Reintroduced legislation enables regulated underground CO₂ storage to support long-term emissions reductions. The bill contains permitting, safety, and compliance provisions, and is undergoing public comment via the Environmental Registry.
- Appendix Reference: Page 10

- **OPP Billing Model Review**

- Date: May 21, 2025
- Summary: Ontario has launched a review of the OPP billing model under Regulation 413/23. June webinars will collect municipal feedback to inform the 2026 billing framework. The Province has acknowledged past concerns and aims to create a more equitable cost recovery model.
- Appendix Reference: Page 11

- **OPP Organizational Realignment**

- Date: May 13, 2025
- Summary: The Municipal Policing Bureau has been dissolved. Its core functions are now administered by the Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau. Updated contact information and service continuity measures are included.
- Appendix Reference: Page 12

4. Financial & Legislative Agency Reports

- **MPAC 2024 Audited Financial Statements**

- Date: March 27, 2025
- Summary: MPAC's 2024 audited financial statements confirm that the agency's liabilities for employee future benefits rose to \$43.2 million, reflecting ongoing

demographic and inflationary pressures on long-term obligations. Despite these increases, MPAC maintained stable revenues through municipal levy contributions and realized operational efficiencies to protect reserve balances. The audit also confirms MPAC's compliance with Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) standards. The report includes narrative commentary on assessment modernization progress, digital service enhancements, and future cost containment strategies. No immediate financial impact is anticipated for contributing municipalities, though future cost-sharing formulas may be reviewed.

- Appendix Reference: Pages 13–30

5. Municipal Advocacy & Governance

- **FONOM Budget Statement**

- Date: May 15, 2025
- Summary: The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) issued a positive statement on the 2025 Ontario Budget, applauding targeted infrastructure spending, expanded skilled trades initiatives, and increased road repair funding—especially the \$200M “Connecting the North” pothole program. The statement also highlights the government’s decision to recognize Muskoka as part of Northern Ontario for funding purposes. FONOM continues to advocate for the full implementation of the 2+1 highway model, stronger broadband infrastructure, and dedicated healthcare recruitment incentives. Member municipalities are encouraged to engage in coordinated outreach to provincial representatives to secure follow-up funding commitments.
- Appendix Reference: Pages 31–32

6. . Environmental & Local Stakeholder Correspondence

- **Temagami Forest Management Corporation Update**

- Date: May 2025

- Summary: The Temagami Forest Management Corporation (TFMC) provided an operational update outlining active harvesting zones for 2025 and highlighting the importance of maintaining consistent two-way communication with the Municipality. Specific areas of interest include future planning for blocks near Lake Temagami, the Marten River region, and interface zones with recreational or seasonal properties. TFMC reiterated its commitment to sustainable forest practices, community engagement, and early consultation ahead of any operational changes that could impact access roads or tourism-sensitive areas. The update also includes maps and coordination requests for emergency preparedness and local traffic impacts.
- Appendix Reference: Pages 65–68