



Briefing Note from Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer

Government relations activities:

Regional

- Chair Henry and Elaine Baxter-Trahair participated in a Federal Pre-budget Consultation Roundtable hosted by MP Turnbull, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance, where they outlined Durham's priorities for consideration to be included in the upcoming federal budget.
- Follow up packages were sent to Ministers met with at AMO to respond to requests during delegations for more details on Durham projects and continue conversations on shared priorities.
- A formal submission was submitted to Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) in response to the federal government's Building Canada Homes market sounding guide.

Provincial

- Following the release of regulations under the Transportation of the Future Act, Chair Henry and Elaine Baxter-Trahair met with Minister Surma and Ministry of Infrastructure staff to discuss next steps for the GO Lakeshore East Extension project.

Federal

- The [Major Projects Office \(MPO\)](#) launched to fast-track nation-building infrastructure projects by streamlining approvals, coordinating financing, and partnering with Indigenous Peoples.
- Five major nation building projects have been referred to the MPO to move forward, and one of these projects was [Darlington New Nuclear](#), which is advancing toward operational small modular reactors.
- [Build Canada Homes](#) (BCH), launched, a new agency within HICC, to accelerate the construction of affordable housing at scale. BCH pulls functions from CMHC and will focus on leveraging public lands, streamlining financing, and promote innovative building methods for community and supportive housing.
- Ministerial changes were announced:
 - Chrystia Freeland will step down from her role as Minister of Transport and Internal Trade.
 - Dominic LeBlanc will add the role of Minister of Internal Trade to his current responsibilities.
 - Steven MacKinnon will add the role of Minister of Transport to his current responsibilities, alongside his duties as Leader of the Government in the House of Commons.

Current items of interest:

- [Walking together: Honouring the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- [ID and Benefits Access Hub events are here to help you thrive](#)
- [Changes to Regional services in observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

- [Join us at a Public Information Centre to help improve bicycle parking across Durham Region](#)
- [New name, same heart: Children's Services Division gets a new name!](#)
- [Metrolinx Notice: Building demolition works on Simcoe Street](#)
- [Share Durham roads with farm equipment](#)

Road work:

- [Lane restrictions on Taunton Road in Pickering and Ajax](#), for the safe construction of a new watermain.
- [Lane restrictions on Lake Ridge Road, in Brock](#), for road rehabilitation.
- [Lane restrictions on Rossland Road, in Oshawa](#), for road resurfacing.
- [Lane restrictions on Osborne Street, in Brock](#), for road rehabilitation.

Key activities from September:

- [KI tablets available to those who live and work near nuclear generating stations](#)
- [Here and Now Counselling: prompt, issue-focused support](#)
- [Open Skies: New getaway guide inspires local adventures and local impact](#)
- [Celebrating Welcoming Week in Durham Region](#)
- [Get ready for Curbside Giveaway Day on September 13](#)
- [Cultivating connections: Annual farm tour highlights supportive agriculture industries](#)
- [Health Department releases report on climate change and air quality in Durham Region](#)
- [Durham Region to host 2026 Budget Town Hall](#)
- [Helping kids get to school safely by slowing down in school zones](#)
- [Take part in Durham's treasure hunt: Curbside Giveaway Day!](#)
- [The Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee Meeting #57](#)
- [Water distribution system cleaning in Sunderland](#)
- [Mosquitoes test positive for West Nile virus in Uxbridge](#)
- [Building a healthier future: Durham Region commits \\$750K to food security and poverty initiatives](#)