

## MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Chair Emmerson and Members of Regional Council

From: Laura Mirabella, FCPA, FCA  
Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer

Date: February 25, 2021

Re: 2021 Provincial Budget Consultation

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This memorandum provides Members of Regional Council with an update on staff's submission as part of the Province's 2021 Budget consultation process.

### **The Province sought input into its 2021 Budget**

The Province's 2021 Budget will be focused on supporting people and employers during COVID-19, as they work towards recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On January 15, 2021 the Ministry of Finance announced an opportunity for stakeholders, both public and private sector, to provide input into the 2021 Budget process. This was a similar process as was in place as part of their Fall 2020 Budget consultation. The ideas provided will help the Province set priorities for its spending in the next phase of Ontario's action plan to respond to the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The submission deadline was February 12, 2021. [Input into the 2021 Budget process](#) was accepted through:

1. Written submissions - via email or mail
2. Online survey

The consultation framework did not limit matters that could be covered through written submission, only that it be a maximum of 500 words.

### **Staff submitted comments prior to the submission deadline**

Staff submitted written comments, via email, on February 12 (Attachment 1). Most of the comments have been taken from previous Council directions, including those from an October 2020 memorandum supporting the Region's previous Provincial budget submission, titled, [Provincial Budget Consultation](#), as well as a June 2020 report titled, [Fiscal Sustainability: 2020 Update](#). The Table below summarizes key details of those comments.

**Table 1**  
**2021 Provincial Budget Consultation Submission – Key Details**

Areas to address	Key Details
<b>Yonge Subway Extension (YSE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amend the <i>Development Charges Act, 1997</i> so that benefiting development more equitably funds its share of the YSE</li> <li>Renew the York-specific Annual Repayment Limit (ARL), under <a href="#">Ontario Regulation 403/02</a>, to finance the YSE</li> </ul>
<b>COVID-19 Pressures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amend the Safe Restart Agreement to address municipal pressures for 2021 and beyond</li> <li>Maintain provincial gas tax funding</li> <li>Provide sustainable, reliable Provincial funding for long-term care homes</li> <li>Support Housing Providers for increased COVID-19-related operating costs/rent arrears, and for newly introduced rent freezes</li> </ul>
<b>Others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cancel or defer funding reductions to Public Health and Children's Services</li> <li>Remove funding caps over the next three years, or have the Province assume responsibility for mandated programs currently delivered by the Region</li> <li>Allocate funds from the Non-Resident Speculation Tax, collected in York Region supporting the development of affordable housing</li> <li>Reform joint and several liability</li> <li>Review and adjust <i>Expropriations Act</i> interest rate</li> </ul>

For more information on this memo, please contact Edward Hankins, Director, Treasury Office and Deputy Treasurer, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71644.

*Laura Mirabella*

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Laura Mirabella, FCPA, FCA  
 Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer




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Bruce Macgregor  
 Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments (1)  
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