

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

A G E N D A of the Regular Meeting of Ear Falls Council #21
Ear Falls Municipal Council Chambers
November 5, 2025 @ 2:30 p.m.

1 CALL TO ORDER

2 ROLL CALL

**3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL
NATURE THEREOF**

4 DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PART I – CONSENT AGENDA

(For the purpose of convenience and for expediting Meetings, matters of business of repetitive or routine nature are included in the Consent Agenda, and all such matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

A particular matter of business may be singled out from the Consent Agenda for debate or for a separate vote upon the request of any Member of Council. In the case of a separate vote, the excluded matter of business is severed from the Consent Agenda, and only the remaining matters of business contained in the Consent Agenda are voted on collectively.

Each and every matter of business contained in the Consent Agenda is recorded separately in the Minutes of the Meeting.)

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby adopts the Items in Sections 5 – 7 of Part 1 – Consent Agenda.

5 MINUTES

C04-MI,

5.1 The review and passing of the Minutes of the previous Meetings.

5.1.1 October 15, 2025 – Regular Meeting of Council Minutes

5.1.2 October 21, 2025 – Special Meeting of Council Minutes

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township

of Ear Falls accepts the Minutes of the previous Meetings of Council numbered 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 at the November 5th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

C06-JO

5.2 Minutes of Committees.

5.2.1 June 26, 2025, Joint Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the Minutes of Committees numbered 5.2.1 at the November 5th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

5.3 Minutes from other Agencies / Organizations.

None.

7 MISCELLANEOUS MOTIONS

7.1. Correspondence.

A01-NA

7.1.1 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received October 6, 2025, re: Ontario Investing \$10 Million in Forest Sector Innovation

M06-ON

7.1.2 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received October 17, 2025, re: Ontario Newsroom-Ontario Implements “One Project, One Process” to Build Mines Faster

M06-ON

7.1.3 Email from Ontario Newsroom, dated October 23, 2025, re: Province Introducing Legislation to Build Homes and Infrastructure Faster

M06-ON

7.1.4 Email from Ontario Newsroom, received October 27, 2025, re: Ontario Investing \$1.1 Billion to Protect and Expand Home Care

D05-TI

7.1.5 Letter from Ministry of Natural Resources, received September 30, 2025, re: Kenora Whiskey Jack Forest Prescribed Burn Plan 2025-2026

H12 – CO

7.1.6 Email from Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs, dated October 28, 2025, re: Save The Date - Northern Municipal Council Workshop

L11-DE

7.1.7 Letter from Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs (MMAH), dated October 30, 2025, re: Amendments to the Development Charges Act, 1997

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls receives and files the documents numbered 7.1.1 to 7.1.7 at the November 5th, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

M03-DO

7.2 Waive Drop-In Fees for Skating and Hockey at the Recreation Centre.

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ear Falls hereby waives the costs associated with Ear Falls residents paying drop-in fees for skating and hockey for the month of November as a means of promoting recreation during the sawmill closure.

S.D.

7.3 Waiving of penalties for the Township of Ear Falls Water / Sewer, Tax, and Miscellaneous Receivable Accounts for the November to December, 2025 period.

Proposed Motion.

WHEREAS one of the largest employers within the township has indefinitely been shut down and is having a financial impact on residents and businesses in Ear Falls; and

WHEREAS Council of the Township of Ear Falls deems it to be in the best interest of the community to cease penalty application for all Municipal Receivables;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Treasurer / Deputy Clerk is authorized to not charge penalties on municipal receivables for the November 1st – December 31st, 2025 period; and

FURTHER THAT standard penalty application will resume on January 1st, 2026, unless otherwise resolved by Council.

D00-FO

7.4 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 for the 2025 Tax Year.

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear

Falls has no objection to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's Response to the Application made under Section 357 of the Municipal Act, 2001 for the 2025 Tax Year regarding the property identified as:

ROLL NUMBER	CURRENT PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT	REVISED PHASED-IN ASSESSMENT
6042-000-001-24900-0000	\$74,000 RT	\$14,000 E

M02-FA

7.5 2026 Annual Employee Health & Safety Workshop.

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls approves the closure of all Municipal Departments on Friday, May 1, 2025, for the purpose of education and training for all Municipal employees at the 24th Annual Employee Health & Safety Workshop.

A01-KE

7.6 Motion of Support for Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) re: Immigration Challenges

Proposed Motion.

WHEREAS municipalities across the Kenora District face acute labour shortages in essential sectors including health care, hospitality, retail, forestry, and mining, and rely heavily on access to immigration and temporary foreign worker programs to meet these demands; and

WHEREAS the Kenora District is among the most rural and remote in Ontario, with municipalities recording some of the highest Rurality Index of Ontario (RIO) scores — such as Red Lake (RIO 98), Pickle Lake (RIO 100), Sioux Lookout (RIO 97), Ear Falls (RIO 95), Machin (RIO 100), and Sioux Narrows Nestor Falls (RIO 96) — underscoring the extreme remoteness and limited labour market access faced by communities across our region; and

WHEREAS processing delays for Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs), particularly for renewals, have reached over 6 months in many cases, forcing workers into precarious legal status, disrupting businesses, and threatening the continuity of essential services such as hospitals, seniors’ care, schools, and local retail; and

WHEREAS the recently implemented cap limiting temporary foreign workers to 10% of an employer’s workforce further disadvantages small, remote northern communities, where unemployment is far below the provincial average and local Canadian labour simply cannot meet demand; and

WHEREAS the inability of LMIA applications to flag urgent renewals for skilled workers already contributing to the Canadian labour force compounds these delays and undermines the federal government's stated goal of attracting and retaining international talent;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA) urgently call upon the Government of Canada to:

1. Establish a streamlined LMIA process for work permit renewals for existing, employed foreign workers critical to maintaining services in remote and northern communities;
2. Expedite processing times for renewal-related applications to prevent lapses in authorization and employer disruption;
3. Reconsider the 10% cap on temporary foreign workers, with exemptions for rural and northern municipalities where chronic labour shortages are documented and Canadian recruitment remains unsuccessful;
4. Engage directly with Northwestern Ontario municipalities, including a visit by the Prime Minister and federal Ministers, to witness firsthand the role immigration and foreign workers play in sustaining northern economies and communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, the Minister of Jobs and Families, and the Minister Responsible for the Federal Agency for Northern Ontario, with copies to the Premier of Ontario, relevant provincial Ministers, Members of Parliament, Members of Provincial Parliament, and partner municipal associations (NOMA, AMO).

8 BY-LAWS

8.1 By-Law No. 2678-25, a By-Law to Affirm Minor Decisions by Council.

D25-CO/D00-BI/D00-AP

8.2 By-Law No. 2679-25, a By-Law to Deem a Lot in a Registered Plan of Subdivision no Longer to be a Lot in a Registered Plan (M653, Lot 16, 17 & 18).

Proposed Motion.

RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ear Falls hereby considers By-Law Nos. 2678-25 and 2679-25 as passed.

PART II – OTHER ITEMS

9 ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

- 9.1 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference Delegation Requests

For Discussion.

M04-MU

- 9.2 Letter received from Lynne Reynolds, dated October 29, 2025, re:
Various Community Concerns

For Discussion.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

11 CLOSED MEETING

12 CLOSED REPORT

13 ADJOURNMENT