



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Committee of the Whole Meeting** on April 14 and **Council Meeting** on April 28. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title.

- Service Simcoe



Museum Activity Report

Council received the Museum Activity Report for January to March 2026, highlighting strong participation in seasonal programs, events, and

exhibitions at the Simcoe County Museum. The report outlined progress on exhibits, acquisitions, and the Matthews Innovation Gallery expansion, which remains on track.

Overall attendance for the first quarter of 2026 totaled 6,708 visitors, reflecting continued public interest as the Museum advances its programs and services.

View the [report](#).



County of Simcoe Paramedic Services 10-Year Planning Update

Council received the County of Simcoe Paramedic Services 10-Year Planning Update, which forecasts average annual call growth of 3.8% and confirms that optimized station locations and deployment can maintain or improve response performance. The update also underscores the role of modernized dispatch, community paramedicine, and predictive modelling in supporting efficient, evidence-based planning over the next decade.

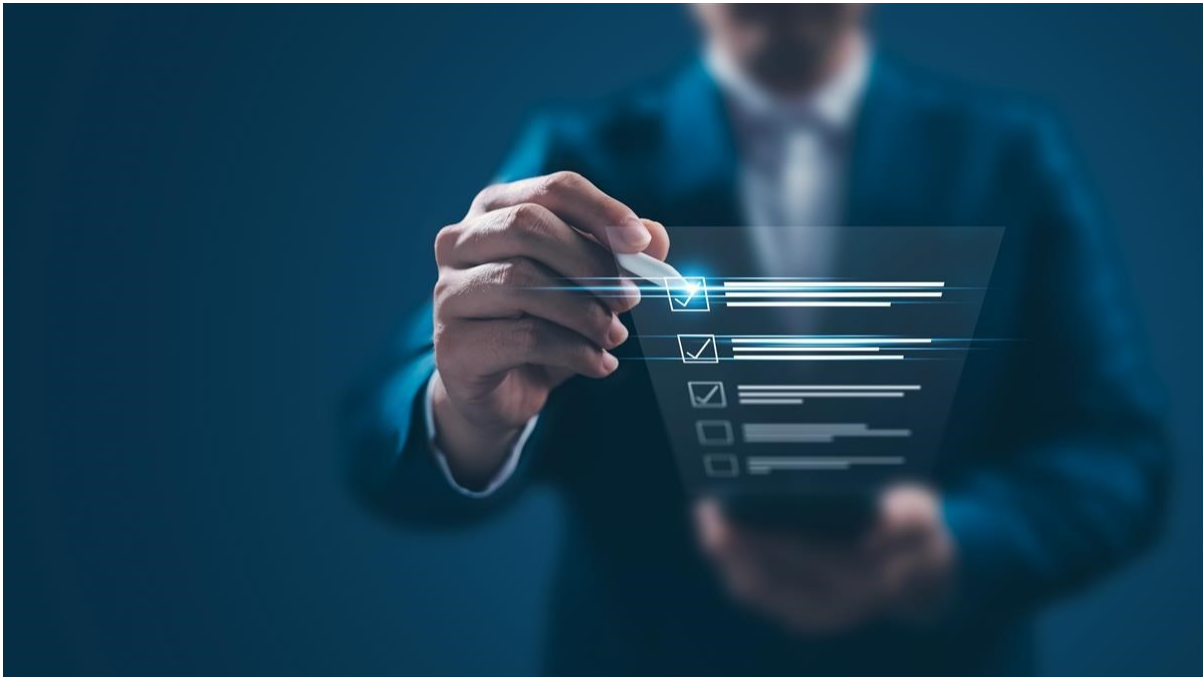
View the [report](#).

Paramedic Services Facility Plan Update

Council approved proceeding with a letter of intent to partner with the Town of Midland on a shared Emergency Services Station and directed staff to update the project in the County's Long-Term Financial Plan. The update also confirmed progress on paramedic facilities and alignment with the

County's hub-and-spoke model, guided by updated planning recommendations through 2034.

View the [report](#).



Simcoe County Municipalities Insurance Pool Update

Council received a report highlighting the successful first 10 months of the Simcoe County Municipalities Insurance Pool (SCMIP), a collaborative regional initiative designed to reduce insurance costs and strengthen risk management for the County, all member municipalities and the City of Orillia.

Within its first 10 months of operation, SCMIP delivered substantial financial savings, established strong governance foundations, modernized insurance systems, and introduced consistent risk-management practices across participating municipalities. Overall, it is estimated that members collectively have saved \$2 million in the first year, which for the County and all members, this represents a reduction of 10 per cent.

The Pool enters Year Two in a strong financial and operational position, fully aligned with the long-term goals of insurance stability, cost efficiency, and collaborative service delivery and within startup plans. County staff report that guidance provided for the second year is to budget an additional 10 per cent reduction in cost for each member.

View the [report](#).



Multi-Residential Subclass Discounts

Council approved a uniform 35 per cent municipal tax discount for all newly adopted Multi-Residential subclasses and directed that the necessary By-law be brought forward to implement the 2026 discount for the New Multi-Residential Municipal Discount Subclass.

This decision establishes a consistent incentive framework to encourage both new rental construction and affordable housing, providing immediate tax relief while supporting long-term housing supply objectives with minimal impact on the broader tax base.

View the [report](#).



Head of Council and Council Composition Update

Council received an information report outlining the introduction of provincial Bill 100, *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*, which proposes significant changes to upper-tier municipal governance, including the County of Simcoe. If enacted, the legislation would reduce County Council from 32 to 17 members, allow for a full-time provincially appointed Warden, introduce potential “Strong Chair” powers, and enable the Province to regulate weighted voting.

Council expressed some concerns about Bill 100 and passed a resolution directing the Warden to write to the Province in response to the regulatory posting and to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The correspondence outlines the County’s perspectives on Bill 100, including a strong preference that County Council continue to select its Warden from among eligible electors in the County and that clear criteria be established should the Minister choose to make an appointment. Council also raised concerns regarding the proposed “Strong Chair” powers and encouraged further engagement and consultation with municipalities as the legislation is considered.

View the [report](#).

Committee of the Whole Agenda - April 14, 2026

Council Agenda - April 28, 2026

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