Niagara-on-the-Lake Represented at the OGRA Conference

For Immediate Release

February 28, 2020

-Niagara-on-the-Lake- The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake was well represented at the 2020 Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Conference, which took place February 23 to 26, 2020, in Toronto. Attendees included Interim CAO Sheldon Randall, Manager of Public Works Jeff Vyse, Environmental Services Supervisor Brett Ruck, Facilities Supervisor Hans Pauls, Engineering Technologist Bryan McMillan, and Councillor Erwin Wiens.

Representatives of the Town met with Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure, MPP Stephen Crawford, to talk about funding for shoreline work to protect interior infrastructure assets in vulnerable areas. Discussion took place about the lack of funding available for municipalities in this position due to climate change and international management of the controlled release of water into the lakes and rivers. This led to further wording changes for future intakes of programs available to the Town. Words like “protection of existing infrastructure” could qualify in the future.

The Minister’s office demonstrated positive uptake to what was presented by staff and felt these wording changes are as powerful as words like “new, replacement and refurbishment,” and that protection should be looked at.

Town officials also met with Ling Mark, Director of the Great Lakes & Inland Waters Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Discussions took place about flooding and the need for all Provincial Ministries to work together with municipalities to help with funding for protecting land and infrastructure because of rising lake levels. They also spoke about the need for the Province to work with the Federal levels of government on this issue.

“I want to thank staff for their efforts at OGRA this week,” said Randall. “I look forward to working with all of the Ministries moving forward to provide some relief for our shoreline.”

For more information, please contact:

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