MC2 NEWS BRIEF

November 2026



Bill 140 - What You Should Know About the Provincial Government's Latest Attack on the Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights.

This sweeping Omnibus bill will change how you learn about provincial decisions affecting the environment and what rights you have if you disagree. This is the latest in a series of steps to weaken the **Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights.**

The Auditor General (A.G.) has repeatedly raised concerns about how the Environmental Bill of Rights has been watered-down. Including the **passing of Bill 17 in June 2025**, that prohibited municipalities from implementing **green building** standards that require greater energy efficiency than Ontario Building Code. The A.G. also found the province had **exempted permits and approvals for Highway 413 and the Ontario Place redevelopment** from certain consultation requirements.

The **Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO)** has been instrumental in bringing controversial government decisions to public attention. For example, the proposed **removal of 7,400 acres from Ontario's protected Greenbelt.** More than 29,000 submissions were received in response to the posting, leading to media coverage, widespread public outcry and the eventual withdrawal of the proposal. Bill 140 is the government's attempt to make sure that this example of the power of the public voice doesn't happen again.

Under Bill 140, the province would **eliminate the requirement for posting notices on the Environmental Registry of Ontario** when they are also posted on the Ontario Regulatory Registry. The ERO requires mandatory advance notice of environmentally significant decisions, while postings on the regulatory registry are not backed by the same legal requirements and **Ministries can seek exemptions from posting.** Another change will remove the right of third parties to appeal certain environmental approvals to the Ontario Land Tribunal. **This eliminates the mechanism for community groups to challenge approvals for proposals such as landfills, water-taking, quarry licenses and data centres.**

Bill 140 is a product of the "Ministry of Red Tape Reduction" and the MRTR is not a prescribed ministry under the Environmental Bill of Rights. You will not find the proposed Bill on the ERO site. However, the MRTR has graciously acquiesced to allow Ontarians to voice their concern (even though they didn't have to) by submitting a letter of objection through the Ontario Regulatory Registry at:

Proposed Planning Act Changes (Schedule 19 of Bill 140, the Building Ontario Faster Act, 2026) | Environmental Registry of Ontario

The comment period for Bill 140 ends on November 26. We encourage you all to speak up for your Environmental Rights while you still have them.

Stephen Middleton
Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition
Standing Committee on Social Policy

OUR ANNUAL MEETING!





On a bright and mild November afternoon, (MC)2 held its **Annual Meeting** at the Mono Centre Community Hall. On a day when others were out picnicking (we heard!), we had a good crowd of members and other interested people in attendance.

President Don MacFarlane reviewed (MC)2's key events and contributions from the past year and plans for next year. Treasurer Catherine Campbell presented the financial report and incoming Board Director Ellen Sinclair reviewed the accomplishments of our dedicated Environment/Land Use/Outreach Committee.

Elected unanimously as Board Directors for 2026-27 are:

Don MacFarlane - President/Interim Secretary
Catherine Campbell - Treasurer
Barbara Jafelice
Ernie Lynch
Stephen Middleton - ELO Chair
Larry Taman
Ellen Sinclair

Our guest speaker, Senator Rob Black, was warmly greeted by an enthusiastic full-of-great-questions audience for **his presentation "Critical Ground".** Senator Black chairs a Senate Committee which has done an in-depth job of studying the importance of soil in our society. Their work has sparked strong interest within governments across Canada. Soil resources today are as equal a challenge as air and water issues. Senator Black left his audience with the message that the impetus for this critical work to continue must come from community groups like (MC)2! We hope to answer the call!

Mono Council

Newly-elected and re-elected Council members are:

John Creelman - Mayor re-elected
Laura Campbell - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:
Ralph Manktelow
Bradley Mayer-Harman
Christine Sinclair

Installation of the new council is slated for December 1st and its first council meeting will take place on December 8th.

Mulmur Council

Newly-elected and re-elected Council members are:

Janet Horner - Mayor by acclimation
Andrew Cunningham - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:
Shirley Boxem
Kim Lyon
Lisa Thompson

Installation and first Council meeting took place on November 18th

Dufferin News

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A COUNCILLOR TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

"The municipal election is over but your opportunities to make a difference in your community certainly aren't."

Dufferin.News is organizing a free 90-minute on-line workshop called **Take Control of Your Local Government.** Items to be covered are how to find reliable information, understand municipal decisions, ask informed questions and participate effectively between elections.

Visit their website at dufferin.news to register your interest in participating. No political experience or prior knowledge is needed!

SO WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON LATELY?

- Ontario Nature is a registered environmental charity, based in Toronto, which has protected wild species and wild spaces across Ontario since 1931 through conservation, education and public engagement.

Check out Ontario Nature's on-line **campaign to Re-empower Conservation Authorities** to see what we can do to help. The Provincial government plans to consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into 7 (or maybe 9) sprawling regional authorities which would be overseen by a new centralized provincial agency.

Sign the Action Alert or call or write to your MPPs.

Cool Holiday Gift Idea: Ontario Nature partners with Birds & Beans Coffee Roaster on a bird-friendly coffee initiative! $1.50 from each bag sold directly supports the work of Ontario Nature. Ontario Nature Blends are organic, free trade and bird- friendly. Featured in Ontario Nature's gift catalogue (**ontarionature.org**)

- **Mulmur's 4th Annual Tree Program** is a little different this year. Themed "Plant a Tree, Grow a Garden", the program is offering fruit trees and bushes along with the regular selection. Options will include apple and pear trees as well as blueberry and raspberry bushes. **The ordering period began in November till the end of January for fruit trees and bushes and the end of March for other tree varieties. (Shelburne Free Press Nov 5th)**

We welcome your comments!

Contact us at info@monomulmur.com ANYTIME!
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www.monomulmur.com

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