

Council and Committee

Monthly Summary

June 2026

Below you will find highlights of the County of Renfrew County Council and Committee meetings held June 10 and June 24, 2026.

Please note that this summary does not constitute the official record of the meetings and approved minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

The full [Council and Committee packages](#) can be found online.

The [June 10, 2026](#) and [June 24, 2026](#) meetings are on YouTube.

Warden's Address

Key highlights

At the June 10 meeting Warden Jennifer Murphy shared the following information:

- The County celebrated World Trails Day and the milestone of the Trans Canada Trail reaching 30,000 km, highlighting the Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail/Algonquin Trail's growing role within the national trail network.
- Warden Murphy highlighted recent attendance at the Garrison Petawawa Business Lunch, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) conference in Petawawa, and the Ontario East Economic Development Commission quarterly meeting in Pembroke, emphasizing the value of regional collaboration, economic development, and infrastructure partnerships.
- Council recognized Seniors Month, National Indigenous History Month, and Pride Month, acknowledging the importance of inclusion, reconciliation, diversity and community engagement.
- Congratulations were extended to Mayor Lori Hoddinott on receiving the AMCTO Diploma in Municipal Administration Award.
- The Warden also celebrated the premiere of the TV series "Every Year After," based on the work of Barry's Bay author Carley Fortune, noting the opportunity to showcase stories and communities from the Madawaska and Ottawa Valleys on a larger stage.

At the June 24 meeting:

- Warden Murphy thanked sponsors, volunteers, participants for supporting the [2026 Warden's Golf Tournament](#), held at Whitetail Golf Club, which raised more than \$17,000 for local food banks across Renfrew County.
- Recognition was given to County Community Services staff who participated in National Indigenous Peoples Day events, reflecting the County's ongoing commitment to learning, relationship-building and reconciliation.

- Warden Murphy recognized Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works and Engineering, at his final Council meeting prior to retirement, thanking him for his years of dedicated service and contributions to County infrastructure and operations.

Delegations

- At the June 10 session of County Council, Lori Huber, CPA, CA, Partner, KPMG LLP presented the 2025 Audited Financial Statements for the County of Renfrew for the year ended December 31, 2025.
- At the June 10 meeting of the Renfrew County Housing Corporation (RCHC) Board, Jennifer Dombroskie, Manager of Community Housing and Kevin Raddatz, Manager of Real Estate, provided overviews of the RCHC from the perspectives of [Community Services](#) and the [Real Estate Division](#) following the completion of the 2025 RCHC Annual report.
- At the June 10 Corporate Services Committee meeting, Chris Ryn, Associate Director of Information Technology, made a presentation about the [Responsible AI Use Framework](#) which he is proposing the Corporation adopt.
- At the June 24 session of County Council, the following delegations were received:
 - Dr. Richard Johnson, Clinical Lead for the Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team (OVOHT), provided Council with an update on efforts to [improve access to primary care](#) across the Ottawa Valley. The OVOHT's vision is to connect every resident to high-quality, team-based primary care, with a goal of attaching all residents to primary care by 2029. The OVOHT successfully met its provincial target of reaching everyone who was on the January 1, 2025, Health Care Connect waitlist by June 20, 2026, achieving the milestone 10 days ahead of schedule.
 - The [Renfrew County Agricultural Economic Development Committee](#) (RCAED) provided Council with an overview of the local agriculture sector, highlighting its significant economic contribution and importance to rural communities. The committee's role is to provide guidance on agricultural issues and support initiatives that strengthen agricultural business and economic development across the County. The presentation emphasized the importance of stakeholder engagement and highlighted opportunities for future growth, including agritourism, value-added agriculture, innovation, skilled labour development, diversified on-farm uses, green energy initiatives and stronger long-term coordination within the sector. The committee noted agriculture's continued role in supporting food security, economic resilience and community vitality across Renfrew County.
 - Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP Billy Denault provided Council with an update on provincial initiatives and investments supporting Renfrew County. Highlights included progress on the Highway 17 expansion project between Arnprior and Bruce Street, more than \$38.6 million in Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund investments for five local municipalities, and over \$1 million in primary care funding to help connect residents with family physicians through the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan. He also noted the Province's approval of a new French Catholic high school in Arnprior supported by a \$13.6 million investment. MPP Denault highlighted ongoing provincial support for local priorities, including the MESA HART Hub, RCVTAC, and efforts related to the Timminco mine lands. He reported that since his election in February 2025, the riding has received more than \$150 million in provincial funding and investments.

Operations Committee

Presented by: Glenn Doncaster, Chair

- Council deferred the County Road 58 (Round Lake Road) rehabilitation project until full reconstruction can be undertaken. Staff will complete interim safety improvements, including asphalt padding and guiderail repairs/replacements, and will review the Asset Management Plan to identify alternative surface-sealer projects for the 2026 Capital Program and report options back to Council.
- County Council recommended that the posted speed limits on County Road 26 (Doran Road), between Highway 17 and Murphy Road in the Town of Petawawa, remain unchanged. The current posted speed limit of Doran Road is as follows: Highway 17 to Black Bay Road – 80km/hr, Black Bay Road to Murphy Road – 60km/hr and Murphy Road to Petawawa Boulevard – 50km/hr. As a part of this review, County staff conducted updated traffic counts south of Black Bay Road and south of Cardinal Crescent.
- County Council adopted a by-law to approve the extension of a contract for the supply and delivery of diesel fuel, gasoline, heating oil, and above ground storage tanks for one year to W.O. Stinson & Son Limited, Pembroke, Ontario, in accordance with the contract documents.
- Council approved a new Public Works and Engineering policy establishing the Standing Corn Snow Fence Program, which partners with local farmers to use standing corn as a natural snow fence to reduce snow drifting, improve winter road safety, and enhance the efficiency of winter maintenance operations.
- Residents are invited to help name the future recreational trail on the former CN Rail corridor, with the transfer of the corridor expected to be completed in 2026. Following a public engagement process that generated more than 100 suggestions, seven finalist names have been selected for public voting. [Voting](#) is open until July 24, 2026. Additional information is available at www.OttawaValleyTrail.com.
- The approved contracts/tenders were as follows:
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 9 (Bulger Road) in the Townships of Admaston/Bromley and North Algona Wilberforce to Bonnechere Excavating Incorporated, Renfrew, Ontario, in the amount of \$894,983.47, plus applicable taxes.
 - For the rehabilitation of County Road 14 (Witt Road), from County Road 26 (Doran Road) to County Road 56 (Woito Station Road), a distance of approximately 4.51km, Township of Laurentian Valley, as submitted by Bonnechere Excavating Incorporated, Renfrew, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,776,591.80, plus applicable taxes.
 - For rehabilitation of County Road 26 (Doran Road), Township of Laurentian Valley, as submitted by Bonnechere Excavating Incorporated, Renfrew, Ontario, in the amount of \$1,236,909.93, plus applicable taxes.
 - For asphalt patching and scratch coat paving for various locations in the Townships of Madawaska Valley and Laurentian Valley, as submitted by Bonnechere Excavating Inc., Renfrew, Ontario in the amount of \$306,175.56 plus applicable taxes.
 - For the manufacture, supply and delivery of a precast concrete box culvert for the replacement of County Structure B188 (Turcotte Bridge) on Code Road, approximately 2.2km east of Micksburg Road, in the Township of Laurentian Valley Rinker Materials, Ottawa, Ontario in the amount of \$231,568.22 plus applicable taxes.

Community Services Committee

Presented by: Anne Giardini, Chair

- Council declared the single-family dwelling at 149 Francis Street surplus and approved a \$900,000 capital project to construct a triplex on the site, supporting the Renfrew County Housing Corporation's long-term housing renewal strategy and creating two additional housing units.

Development & Property Committee

Presented by: James Brose, Chair

- The Draft 2027–2036 Forest Management Plan for the Renfrew County Forest is now available for public review and comment. The Renfrew County Forest spans 6,540 hectares across 54 separate properties throughout the County. This updated plan outlines the objectives, strategies, and operational direction for the sustainable management of these forests over the next 10 years, from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2036. We invite residents, forest users, neighbours, and anyone with an interest in the Renfrew County Forest to review the draft plan and share their feedback during the 60-day comment period, which closes on July 31, 2026. View the Draft Forest Management Plan here: <https://arcg.is/11v1ai2>
- Council declared the County-owned property on Upper Valley Drive in Pembroke surplus to its needs and directed staff to proceed with the disposal process in accordance with County policy, as the site is no longer required following approval of the new Pembroke Paramedic Base location adjacent to the County Administration Building.
- Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Kinsmen Court Home for Men & Women (Pembroke) Inc. and Carefor Health & Community Services to establish a collaborative framework for discussions and preliminary due diligence regarding the potential use and development of the greenspace at 425 Cecilia Street in Pembroke.
- County Council adopted a by-law authorizing the Corporation of the County of Renfrew to enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with the Province of Ontario for financial and program support of Enterprise Renfrew County for a three-year term commencing April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2029, with an option to renew for a fourth year ending March 31, 2030, at the discretion of the Province.
- Council was advised that the County's acquisition of the former CN rail corridor lands in Laurentian Valley and Whitewater Region closed on June 17, 2026, securing a key recreational trail and connectivity asset extending from the Ottawa River to the City of Pembroke's eastern boundary. Public Works and Engineering will begin corridor maintenance activities, including inspections, vegetation management, drainage assessments, and priority repairs.
- Council received an update that all seven spots in Enterprise Renfrew County's 2026 [Summer Company program](#) have been filled, supporting local student entrepreneurs as they launch and operate their summer businesses. Participants include Adelaide Lomore-Beaupre (Laurentian Valley) – Addie Made; Bronwynn Dick (Admaston/Bromley) – Green Thumb, Evelyn Finan (Whitewater Region) – Garden Palette Goods; Hudson Warner (Pembroke) – Shine My Clubs; Kelsea Moore (Whitewater Region) – Moore Volleyball; Nadia DeCarle (Pembroke) – Riverscout Clay, and Rusty Stuart (North Algona Wilberforce) – Red Pine Woodworks. Students will showcase their products and services at the Summer Company Wrap-up Event and BBQ on August 26, 2026, at the County of Renfrew Administration Building.

Health Committee

Presented by: Michael Donohue, Chair

- Members of the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service Sierra Team Matt Cruchet, Shawn Doyle, and Devin Keenan were recently recognized with an OPP Commissioner's Citation for Lifesaving in acknowledgment of their role in a complex rescue operation that took place in Algonquin Park in June 2025. The citation was presented jointly to all agencies and individuals involved in the successful rescue and care of a critically ill patient. The incident required a highly coordinated, multi-agency response involving County of Renfrew Paramedic Service (the Service) personnel, the Ontario Provincial Police Emergency Response Team (ERT), Ontario Parks staff, Ministry of Natural Resources Aviation Services, and the patient's family. The collaborative efforts of all responders contributed to a positive outcome under challenging circumstances in a remote wilderness environment.
- County Council adopted a by-law authorizing a new 10-year agreement with the County of Lanark (to December 31, 2036) for the provision and cost-sharing of cross-border land ambulance services, ensuring the closest available paramedic crew can respond to emergency calls regardless of municipal boundaries.

Corporate Services Committee

Presented by: Peter Emon, Chair

- County Council approved the Audited Financial Statements for the County of Renfrew for the year ended December 31, 2025.
- County Council approved the following amended Corporate Policies – Criminal Record Checks (amended); and Criminal Record Check for All Prospective County of Renfrew Volunteers and Renfrew County Housing Corporation (RCHC) Contractors.

Additional Information

Craig Kelley, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk

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