

## Council Memorandum

<b>Date:</b>	September 10, 2024
<b>To:</b>	Committee of the Whole
<b>From:</b>	Councillor Warren
<b>Re:</b>	Becoming a Willing Host for Solar and Wind Developments

### Recommendation

**That** the Memorandum from Councillor Warren, **regarding City of Kawartha Lakes Becoming a Willing Host for Solar and Wind Developments**, be received;

**That** Staff report back, first quarter 2025 on changes to the Provincial Renewable Energy Program and procurement of new projects;

**That** the report includes information and options for council to reconsider being a “Willing Host” for solar and/or wind developments; and

**That** this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

### Rationale

The municipality has not been a “willing host” of renewable energy projects for many years. Late last year, the provincial government made moves to rejuvenate an important economic engine -renewable energy. In November, the government announced it is developing a program to allow corporations to buy renewable power from new clean electricity generators and in December, the Independent Electricity System Operator announced it will acquire 5,000 megawatts of clean energy.



Renewable power generation has been found to increase municipal revenues. In Alberta, municipal tax revenues from renewables tripled from 2017 to 2022 and led to the creation of thousands of jobs, according to the Business Renewables Centre-Canada.

The global energy transition is well underway, with 30% of the world's electricity supply coming from renewables in 2023; in December at the global climate summit in Dubai, Canada and the U.S. joined more than 115 other countries in pledging to triple renewable energy production by 2030; the International Energy Agency projected last year that the world will see peak oil use before 2030.