

Serving the Town of Pelham

Serving the Town of Pelham as the Mayor or Town Councillor provides an opportunity to make a meaningful impact while representing the interests and well-being of the community. This information has been developed with input from the current Members of Council and is intended for individuals considering running in the 2026 Municipal Election.



2025 Rates of Remuneration:

- Mayor: \$52,810.01, plus an annual vehicle allowance of \$2,400
- Town Councillors: \$23,722.81

The Role of Mayor

Section 225 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, outlines the following responsibilities for the role of the Mayor:

- To act as the chief executive officer of the municipality;
- To preside over council meetings so that its business can be carried out efficiently and effectively;
- To provide leadership to the council;
 - Without limiting clause (c), to provide information and recommendations to the council with respect to the role of council described in clauses 224 (d) and (d.1);
- To represent the municipality at official functions; and
- To carry out the duties of a head of Council under this or any other Act.



The Town of Pelham has been designated by the Province of Ontario as a municipality subject to Strong Mayor Powers under the *Municipal Act, 2001*. As a result, the Mayor's role includes additional authorities established through provincial legislation and regulation. These powers apply only in specific areas prescribed by the Province and are intended to support the advancement of provincially identified priorities, while continuing to operate alongside Council's legislative and decision-making responsibilities.

The Role of Councillors

Section 224 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, outlines the following responsibilities for the role of a Councillor:

- To represent the public and to consider the well-being and interests of the municipality;
- To develop and evaluate the policies and programs of the municipality;
- To determine which services the municipality provides;
- To ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures and controllership policies, practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of Council;
 - To ensure the accountability and transparency of the operations of the municipality, including the activities of the senior management of the municipality;
- To maintain the financial integrity of the municipality; and
- To carry out the duties of Council under this or any other Act.



Council Meetings

Regular meetings of Council are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

- Public Meetings held under the *Planning Act* take place on the second Wednesday of the month, as required, and begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Special Meetings of Council may be called by the Mayor as needed.



Based on feedback from Members of Council, preparation time for each regular Council meeting typically ranges from 5 to 7 hours, depending on the length and complexity of the agenda.

Connecting with Residents

Members of Council reported spending approximately 2 to 4 hours per week connecting with residents, with the time required varying depending on current issues and the decisions before Council. Members also indicated that they receive an average of 10 emails per week from residents.



Connecting with Town Staff

Members of Council reported spending approximately 5 to 7 hours per month connecting with Town staff, either by telephone or in person.



Advisory Committees

Members of Council may participate in advisory committees, working groups, and external boards and committees which provide advice and assistance to Council on a variety of special interest areas. Members of Council identified spending 8 to 10 hours a month devoted to internal and external committees, depending on their involvement.



- Current advisory committees include: Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee, Pelham Finance and Audit Committee, Pelham Seniors Advisory Committee, Pelham Active Transportation Committee, Pelham Cultural Advisory Committee, Agricultural Advisory Committee, Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee
- Current working groups include: Pelham Summerfest, Canada Day Working Group, Mayors Youth Advisory Collective, Meridian Community Centre User Working Group, Utility Sustainability Working Group
- Current boards include: Lincoln Pelham Union Public Library Board, Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeling Airport Commission, Peninsula West Power Inc. Board of Directors, Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc. Board of Directors