

**KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL
REPORT CARD
Q1 2023**

For 182 years, The Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce has been facilitating connections and collective action to strengthen our business community.

This report card is part of our continued advocacy efforts to ensure that City Council remains transparent and accountable to our vibrant business community.

How to read our report card

Our team has reviewed motions presented to City Council over the first quarter of 2023, and identified the motions that are most relevant to the Kingston business community and how council voted on those motions.

Ratings explained



Red: Council is seen to be offside with the priorities of the business community. Issues important to the business community and workers are not being considered or are being voted down.



Yellow: Council is somewhat aligned on business issues. There is occasional consideration given to business concerns and vote outcomes sometimes reflect the needs of local employers and workers.



Green: Council is generally aligned with the priorities of the business community. Issues important to the business community are regularly being discussed and considered, and votes on business issues typically pass.

Individual councillors' voting records are included at the end of the report for your information. In recording council votes, a green indicates a vote in favour, red indicates a vote to reject, yellow indicates abstention, and black indicates absence. Note there are 13 members of city council.

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

Patio Application 377 Princess (Tommy's)

About: The owner of 377 Princess Street, Tommy's Good Time Inc. submitted an application to extend their outdoor patio on the Princess Street frontage of their establishment for the purpose of serving food and alcoholic beverages.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: Unanimous in favour

Vacant Residential Tax

About: The City voted in favour of introducing a new tax on vacant properties to begin in 2024, despite Kingston's persistently low vacancy rate and concerns this motion will not solve the underlying issues contributing to Kingston's housing shortage such as the rejection of development permits and high barriers to development.

We also feel this initiative is not a good use of staff time and will be difficult to enforce.

Chamber Desired Outcome: Oppose

Council Result: 12 in favour, 1 opposed

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

Memorial Cup Bid

About: Council approved in-kind contributions equivalent to approximately \$374,000 which offsets facility and equipment rental fees, staffing costs, and enhanced and extended municipal services across City departments for the Kingston Frontenacs' unsuccessful 2024 Memorial Cup host city bid.

The Memorial Cup bid was later rejected by the Ontario Hockey League (a decision which is beyond the control of Council and the Frontenacs). The Frontenacs are a Chamber member.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: Unanimously in favour

Housing Pledge

About: Council pledged to build eight thousand housing units within a decade, per a target set by the province.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: 11 in favour, 2 oppose, 1 abstain

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

St. Lawrence Business Park Expansion

About: Council directed staff to initiate a community and Indigenous engagement process and report back to Council with a recommendation on how best to bring the St. Lawrence Business Park Expansion Lands into the City's inventory with a "shovel worthy" approach.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: 11 in favour, 1 opposed, 1 abstain

Opposing More Homes Build Faster

About: Council voted to oppose the 'More Homes Built Faster Act', a provincial bill which reduced the role of conservation authorities in providing advice and technical support to municipalities to ensure housing does not cause unintended environmental consequences.

This vote was a formality and has no material effect on the implementation of Bill 23.

Chamber Desired Outcome: Oppose

Council Result: Unanimously in favour

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

City Budget

About: The draft city budget was amended to approve an increase of \$740,000 to the 2023 Municipal Operating Budget for Public Works to facilitate the hiring of 12 new firefighters in 2023. Mayor Paterson said, "the budget passed with a property tax increase that is among the lowest of other cities across the province, but it wasn't as low as it could have been."

The budget was later passed with a larger increase in order to hire additional firefighters.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour of the budget as originally drafted.

Council Result: 12 oppose, 1 in favour

Kingston Public Market RFP to Loving Spoonful

About: Council approved the award of contract for Kingston Public Market operation services to Loving Spoonful.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: Unanimously in favour

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

Rapid Housing Initiative

About: Council authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to receive \$6,669,918 under the Rapid Housing Initiative's Round 3 Cities Stream for the creation of new affordable housing units.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: Unanimously in favour

Approval of Zoning By-Law for 2925-2929 Princess Street

About: The proposed motion involved approving a zoning by-law amendment and draft plan of subdivision located at 2925-2929 Princess Street. Councillors and residents expressed concerns on a few matters regarding this lot, including its high density, accessibility to food and transportation services, and environmental implications.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: 12 in favour, 1 absent

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

Deferral of Implementing New Bulk Water Usage and Wastewater Disposal Fee Rates

About: City Council approved plans to impose charges for Bulk Water Usage and Wastewater Disposal in the Utilities Kingston 2023 budget, which went into effect April 1.

Residents brought forth concerns that they were not informed of the new rates and that the costs are too high. A motion was presented to council to defer the implementation of the new rates so they can be reviewed by Utilities Kingston.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

Council Result: 12 in favour, 1 absent

1ST QUARTER VOTING ON BUSINESS ISSUES

Ontario Land Tribunal Proposed Settlement – 275 & 283 Queen Street & 364 Barrie Street

About: Council was presented with a proposed Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) settlement between the City and the developer of this property. The settlement would have reduced the height of the proposed tower and made other changes to its podium, and would have committed the developer to making a donation towards Lionhearts Inc. to be applied toward the provision of affordable supportive housing units. Note this development includes one Chamber member.

A two-week deferral was proposed by council despite recommendations against a deferral by City staff. The deferral motion ended up passing instead.

Chamber Desired Outcome: In favour

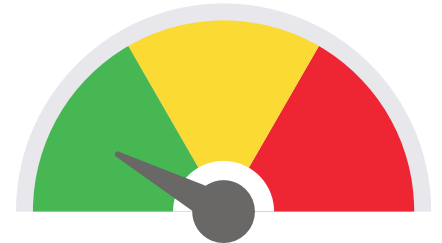
Council Result: Nine oppose, three in favour, one absent

Q1 2023 COUNCIL SCORE

We appreciate that this is the first quarter of the new council and it is a learning experience, particularly for the new members at the table.

We will summarize our overall first quarter assessment as 'green', with a few business-friendly motions passed despite some areas of concern.

We hope to see council stay on course with important business issues at the top of their agenda as businesses continue to recover from pandemic-era debt.



Q1 2023

We will continue to watch for progress on the issues our members have told us are key to their success and the success of their employees: housing, workforce development and talent attraction, and access to core services like medical care and daycare.

ABOUT YOUR CHAMBER

The Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce is the oldest chamber in Ontario and boasts a membership base of 650 businesses representing over 18,000 employees.

We are the trusted advocate and tireless champion for local business. We are committed to stimulating the growth and prosperity of the local business community. Our mission is to influence public policy, be the catalyst for connectivity, and provide unique competitive advantages for our members.

We invite prospective new member organizations to visit kingstonchamber.ca and complete a membership application.

1ST QUARTER VOTING RECORDS ON BUSINESS ISSUES

FINAL OPERATING AND
CAPITAL BUDGET
APPROVAL

KINGSTON PUBLIC MARKET
OPERATION SERVICES (RFP TO
LOVING SPOONFUL)

RAPID
HOUSING
INITIATIVE



MAYOR BRYAN PATERSON
Mayor



COUNCILLOR GARY OOSTERHOF
District 1, Countryside



COUNCILLOR PAUL CHAVES
District 2, Loyalist-Cataraqui



COUNCILLOR LISA OSANIC
District 3, Collins-Bayridge



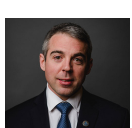
COUNCILLOR WENDY STEPHEN
District 4, Lakeside



COUNCILLOR DON AMOS
District 5, Portsmouth



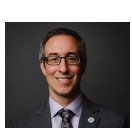
COUNCILLOR JIMMY HASSAN
District 6, Trillium



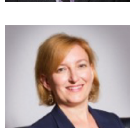
COUNCILLOR BRANDON TOZZO
District 7, Kingscourt-Rideau



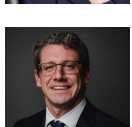
COUNCILLOR JEFF MCLAREN
District 8, Meadowbrook
-Strathcona



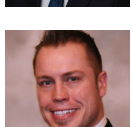
COUNCILLOR VINCENT CINANNI
District 9, Williamsville



COUNCILLOR CONNY GLENN
District 10, Sydenham



COUNCILLOR GREGORY RIDGE
District 11, King's Town



COUNCILLOR RYAN BOEHME
District 12, Pittsburgh



1ST QUARTER VOTING RECORDS ON BUSINESS ISSUES

2925-2929
PRINCESS STREET
ZONING AMDNEMENT

DEFERRAL OF IMPLEMENTING
NEW BULK WATER USAGE AND
WASTEWATER DISPOSAL FEE
RATES

275-283 QUEEN STREET
AND 364 BARRIE STREET
OLT SETTLEMENT



MAYOR BRYAN PATERSON
Mayor



COUNCILLOR GARY OOSTERHOF
District 1, Countryside



COUNCILLOR PAUL CHAVES
District 2, Loyalist-Cataraqui



COUNCILLOR LISA OSANIC
District 3, Collins-Bayridge



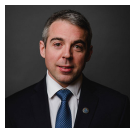
COUNCILLOR WENDY STEPHEN
District 4, Lakeside



COUNCILLOR DON AMOS
District 5, Portsmouth



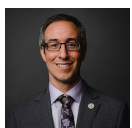
COUNCILLOR JIMMY HASSAN
District 6, Trillium



COUNCILLOR BRANDON TOZZO
District 7, Kingscourt-Rideau



COUNCILLOR JEFF MCLAREN
District 8, Meadowbrook
-Strathcona



COUNCILLOR VINCENT CINANNI
District 9, Williamsville



COUNCILLOR CONNY GLENN
District 10, Sydenham



COUNCILLOR GREGORY RIDGE
District 11, King's Town



COUNCILLOR RYAN BOEHME
District 12, Pittsburgh

	2925-2929 PRINCESS STREET ZONING AMDNEMENT	DEFERRAL OF IMPLEMENTING NEW BULK WATER USAGE AND WASTEWATER DISPOSAL FEE RATES	275-283 QUEEN STREET AND 364 BARRIE STREET OLT SETTLEMENT
MAYOR BRYAN PATERSON Mayor	ABSENT	ABSENT	
COUNCILLOR GARY OOSTERHOF District 1, Countryside			ABSENT
COUNCILLOR PAUL CHAVES District 2, Loyalist-Cataraqui			
COUNCILLOR LISA OSANIC District 3, Collins-Bayridge			
COUNCILLOR WENDY STEPHEN District 4, Lakeside			
COUNCILLOR DON AMOS District 5, Portsmouth			
COUNCILLOR JIMMY HASSAN District 6, Trillium			
COUNCILLOR BRANDON TOZZO District 7, Kingscourt-Rideau			
COUNCILLOR JEFF MCLAREN District 8, Meadowbrook -Strathcona			
COUNCILLOR VINCENT CINANNI District 9, Williamsville			
COUNCILLOR CONNY GLENN District 10, Sydenham			
COUNCILLOR GREGORY RIDGE District 11, King's Town			
COUNCILLOR RYAN BOEHME District 12, Pittsburgh			