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## **MEMORANDUM**

**WMPSC-C 8-2019**

**Subject: Ontario Waste Management Association's State of Waste in Ontario:  
Landfill Report**

**Date: Monday, February 25, 2019**

**To: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee**

**From: Andrew Winters, Program Manager**

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This memorandum is intended to provide Committee members with an update on the Ontario Waste Management Association (OWMA) report on the status of landfills and waste generated in Ontario.

### **Background**

The OWMA is the largest waste/resource management trade association in Canada, representing members from both the private and public sector, including municipalities. The OWMA embarked on a major data collection and analysis initiative in 2015 to better understand data related to waste management in the province and issued the first State of Waste Report in February 2016. The OWMA has recently issued a follow-up report in 2018. The purpose of the 2015 and 2018 reports is to examine Ontario's remaining landfill capacity in order to allow for more informed policy decisions for the waste management sector.

### **Report**

The OWMA's 2018 State of Waste – Landfill Report in Ontario focused on two key factors - the amount of waste generated in Ontario and the remaining available landfill capacity based on current practices. In 2017, 46% of waste (5,386,067 tonnes) went to private Ontario landfills, 24% (2,745,203 tonnes) was disposed of in Ontario public landfills, and 30% (3,517,567 tonnes) was exported to the United States. As a point of reference, Niagara Region delivered 40,500 tonnes of curbside collected waste to Walker's Landfill (a privately owned facility) in 2017 and 70,455 tonnes of total waste material was landfilled at Niagara Region landfill sites (Humberstone and Regional Road 12).

As of 2017, there was approximately 122.9 million tonnes of available landfill capacity remaining in Ontario. Based on OWMA's analysis, 36% of the remaining capacity is owned by the private sector, while 64% is held by the public sector. If current waste generation rates are maintained and 30% of Ontario's waste continues to be exported to the United States then Ontario would run out of landfill capacity by the year 2032. If

waste was no longer exported to the United States and landfilled in Ontario then the remaining capacity would be exhausted by 2028.

Niagara Region is well positioned in terms of landfill capacity over the next 25 years (Table 1). The Region operates two municipally owned landfills – Humberstone (Welland) and Niagara Road 12 (Grimsby). As of December 2018, Humberstone has 27 years of capacity remaining after receiving from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks an Environmental Compliance Approval for the expansion of the landfill in February 2019. The Niagara Road 12 landfill site has 47 years of remaining capacity as of December 2018 based on the current landfill practices.

Table 1

<b>Landfill</b>	<b>Remaining Capacity (years)</b>
Humberstone	27
Niagara Road 12 (NR – 12)	47

Additionally, the Region has a contract with Walker's Environmental Group that allows for the landfilling of up to 100,000 tonnes of Region curbside waste annually thus further preserving the Region's landfill capacity. The contract with Walker's is scheduled to expire in 2031.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,



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Andrew Winters  
Program Manager, Waste Disposal Operations