



NEWS RELEASE

Niagara-on-the-Lake Modernizes Building Permit By-law and Updates Planning & Building Fees

For Immediate Release

December 9, 2025

Niagara-on-the-Lake is enhancing how development services are delivered. At the October 28 meeting, Council approved a new Building Permit By-law, and at the December 2 meeting, Council approved Planning and Building fees.

“These updates reflect Council’s commitment to continuous improvement, accountability, and better service for our community,” said Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. “By modernizing our by-law and fee structures, we are ensuring that growth pays for growth, protecting taxpayers while supporting responsible development.”

The new Building Permit By-law replaces the previous version to better align with the *Building Code Act* and the Ontario Building Code. It streamlines processes, enhances consistency with neighbouring Niagara municipalities, and improves clarity around application requirements, inspections, and service standards.

At the same time, updated Planning and Building fees ensure more accurate cost recovery for development review and permitting services. These adjustments help reduce the financial burden on taxpayers by ensuring that those using the services contribute appropriately to their delivery.

“This is another important step in modernizing our service delivery,” said CAO Nick Ruller. “Whether someone is applying for a building permit or going through the planning process, these updates make the experience more predictable and accessible.”

Both the new Building Permit By-law and the updated Planning and Building fees will take effect on January 1, 2026. Learn more about the Town’s [planning](#) and [building](#) services.

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