

Governance Review in Niagara

What Residents Need to Know

Niagara Regional Council has voted to initiate a formal governance review in response to Regional Chair Gale's letter. The review will examine how the Niagara Region and its 12 local municipalities deliver services and govern across the region.

The stated purpose is to identify duplication, improve efficiency, and ensure residents' needs remain central to decision-making.

The review is expected to include:

- Data analysis
- A business case with a financial review
- Consultation with local municipalities
- Public engagement

While different governance models may be examined, **no decisions regarding amalgamation have been made.**

What Has Happened So Far

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| February 19 | A letter was issued to local Mayors (dated February 5), requesting feedback to the Province by March 3, 2026. |
| February 19 | The Regional Chair contacted the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to initiate outreach regarding a governance review. |
| February 24 | The Regional Chair attended a Niagara-on-the-Lake Council meeting to discuss a potential review that could examine amalgamating Niagara's 12 municipalities into either a four-city or single-city model. |
| February 26 | The Niagara Region held its Committee of the Whole – General Meeting, where a motion was approved to initiate a formal governance review for the Niagara Region. |
| March 2 | During the State of the Region event, Regional Chair Gale acknowledged the direction provided by Regional Council at its February 26 meeting and confirmed that municipalities are continuing to move forward on next steps. |

Niagara-on-the-Lake's Position



Town Council has unanimously supported submitting formal feedback to the Province opposing municipal amalgamation and advocating for the protection of the Town's independence.

A Working Group of Council Members and Senior Staff was created to provide structured oversight and ensure the Town's response remains strategic, measured, and aligned with Council direction.

The Town remains financially stable, operationally strong, agriculturally significant, and committed to preserving its unique heritage and local priorities.

Council will continue to advocate for residents and ensure that any potential governance changes are informed by evidence, transparency, and meaningful consultation.

Stay Up to Date

Residents who wish to stay up to date on the Governance Review in Niagara and other Town news are encouraged to subscribe at www.notl.com/subscribe.

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Provide Feedback

Residents are encouraged to submit their feedback about amalgamation to Regional Chair's office via email at bob.gale@niagararegion.ca.