



County Services: A Guide for Candidates

The County of Essex is an upper-tier municipal government comprised of seven lower-tier municipalities: Amherstburg, Essex, Kingsville, Lakeshore, LaSalle, Leamington and Tecumseh.

Upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities have different roles and responsibilities. In general, the County addresses regional issues, while lower-tier municipalities are responsible for community-level services.



County of Essex Governance Flow

Elections



On **October 26th** Residents in each lower-tier municipality directly elect for respective Councillors – Mayor and Deputy Mayor

County Council



By virtue of their election locally, Mayors and Deputy Mayors become **County Councillors**

Inaugural Meeting



County Councillors are sworn-in, and elect a **Warden & Deputy Warden** from among themselves for the four-year term

Appointments



The Striking Committee makes recommendations for appointments to the County's **Agencies, Boards and Committees**

Governance



County Council governs and Members respect their **fiduciary obligations to the upper-tier** municipality in all decisions

County Council

Essex County Council is comprised of fourteen members who serve by virtue of their election as Mayor or Deputy Mayor in each of the seven lower-tier municipalities.

At the inaugural meeting of County Council, the 14 members elect by secret ballot, from among themselves a Warden and Deputy Warden for the duration of the term. The Warden serves as Head of Council, presides over meetings, and is the official representative of the County of Essex in the community.

Agencies, Boards & Committees

The Striking Committee makes recommendations to County Council for appointments to various Boards and Committees; including the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee, Essex County Library Board, Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority, Invest Windsor Essex, Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island, Windsor Essex County Health Unit and more!



County Services: A Guide for Candidates

Infrastructure & Planning

The County road network extends across all seven lower-tier municipalities. These roads are vital transportation corridors that support the local, regional, and provincial economy by safely moving commercial vehicles, cars, cyclists, and pedestrians.

The County Planning Department is the approval authority for official plans, official plan amendments, plans of subdivision, plans of condominium and part lot control exemptions. All lower-tier Official Plans must conform to the County's Official Plan.

Health & Community Services

The Sun Parlor Home is a County owned not-for-profit long-term care facility that has been operating for more than a century. It is 'home' to more than 200 residents, in private and semi-private rooms. Sun Parlor Home offers resident-focused long-term care with an emphasis on life enrichment activities. Sun Parlor Home offers 24-hour professional nursing care which is complemented by cutting-edge equipment.

With the City of Windsor as the regional service provider, the County coordinates various supports for County residents, through the Residential Services Homes Program and the Essex County Homelessness Hub. These various supports assist vulnerable residents in the County.

Essex-Windsor EMS

The County is the regional service provider for ambulance service and pre-hospital medical care to residents and visitors of Essex County, Windsor and Pelee Island. Essex-Windsor EMS operates out of twelve bases spanning the region. The Province funds 50 per cent of the service, with the remaining costs shared primarily between the County, and the City of Windsor, with the Township of Pelee also contributing.

County Administration

County Administration includes the CAO's Office, Council Services, Legislative and Legal, Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology and Emergency Management. Together, these teams support the operations of all departments across the Corporation.



Contact the County of Essex
coeinfo@countyofessex.ca



Visit the County of Essex Website
countyofessex.ca



Important Upcoming Dates

- November 5, 2026 – Warden’s Banquet, Ciociaro Club
- November 15, 2026 – First day of new term of Council
- November 19, 2026 – December 2, 2026 Meetings of the Striking Committee
- November 25, 2026 – Regional Councils Orientation Session, Ciociaro Club

County Council Regular Meetings

County Council meets the First and Third Wednesdays of Each Month at 6:00PM. Meetings take place at the Essex County Administration Building, Council Chambers, located at 360 Fairview Ave. W., Essex ON, N8M 1Y6. Regular Meetings are open to the public and broadcast via livestream on the County website, and on YourTV Cogeco.

Special Meetings, and Closed Meetings of Council, when needed, are generally scheduled to take place before the Regular Meetings, but may be scheduled on other dates as required.

2026 Meeting Dates

- April 15, 2026
- May 6, 2026
- May 20, 2026
- June 3, 2026
- June 17, 2026
- July 15, 2026
- August 5, 2026
- September 2, 2026
- September 16, 2026
- October 7, 2026
- October 21, 2026 – Final Meeting of the Current Term of Council
- November 4, 2026 – County Council Operational Orientation (9AM Start Time)
- November 18, 2026 – Inaugural Meeting of County Council and Warden’s Election
- December 2, 2026 – 2026 Budget Meeting (9AM Start Time)
- December 9, 2026 – County Council Procedural Orientation (9AM Start Time)
- December 16, 2026 – Regular Meeting or Additional Budget Meeting if needed



The Numbers

\$145.1M



Annual Budget

1,505



Total Lane KM of Road

1,852



Square KM of Land

193,200



Number of Residents in the County of Essex

422,860



Regional Population Windsor-Essex-Pelee



Contact the County of Essex
coeinfo@countyofessex.ca



Visit the County of Essex Website
countyofessex.ca