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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE
CAO's Office

Mayor Jennifer Coughlin
Township of Springwater
Jennifer.Coughlin@springwater.ca

June 26, 2025

Dear Mayor Coughlin,

Further to previous correspondence and our ongoing discussions, I am pleased to provide additional follow up with respect to the shared principles for boundary adjustment and cross border servicing between the City of Barrie and the Township of Springwater.

Under the proposed principles, the City of Barrie will extend municipal water and wastewater services to a portion of the Township of Springwater in exchange for additional lands for growth in the City of Barrie, as per the attached map. The proposed compensation arrangement is to be modeled similar to the St. Thomas/Central Elgin agreement. All applicable development charges will be collected in full, supporting responsible infrastructure investment. It is anticipated that as part of the proposed compensation arrangement, the City will provide the Township of Springwater with approximately \$12,500 per developable acre annexed. Land use planning will follow future studies, but is expected to include residential areas, employment lands and environmental protection zones.

To help ensure the appropriate future land uses and an appropriate transition between the communities, the principles include establishing a buffer area along the Barrie-Springwater boundary to appropriately scale any future development.

A key pillar of the framework is a commitment to environmental sustainability by confirming the Mayor of Springwater as a member of the Conservation Trust for Little Lake preservation.

Formation of a joint economic development committee to support coordinated growth strategies and investments in dedicated economic development resources for the Township of Springwater. As part of the compensation agreement, the City will contribute \$100,000 per year for 5 years towards a dedicated economic development resource for the Township of Springwater to work on this collaborative economic development priority.

A collaborative approach to regional healthcare services will be pursued to ensure accessible care across both municipalities.

As part of the transition plan, a property tax phase-in program is anticipated to ease the transition for affected property owners.

It is also proposed that a joint request be made for the Ontario Energy Board to consider an alignment of the Alectra service area to the new municipal boundary to avoid confusion from residents and ensure a streamlined service delivery.

We look forward to your response, and further discussion on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Prowse
Michael Prowse (Jun 26, 2025 15:46 EDT)

Michael Prowse, CAO

Cc. Mayor Alex Nuttall
Deputy Mayor Robert Thomson

