

# Haldimand County's new administration building open for business

New site designed with 22 per cent growth opportunity

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A ground floor entrance and ample seating allow guests to access the new administration building with ease. - Tamara Botting/Torstar

## [Haldimand's new administration building is open for business.](#)

"The intent was to try and make one place where people could come to do business, get information, etc.," said county chief administrative officer Craig Manley.

From an employer standpoint, "We wanted the groups that needed to work together to be co-located," Manley said, not only for more synergies, but also to save time that was previously wasted with staff travelling between sites. Previously, the county had six administration buildings.

The new building, located at 53 Thorburn St. S., Cayuga, currently houses about 180 staff members, with approximately 22 per cent growth opportunity.

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Phil Mete, general manager of public works operations, said the building was designed for the needs of today, but also "You're trying to look 20, 30 years out as well."

One of the ways they saved space was by making the offices smaller than in the old buildings.

Furthermore, Mete said, the size of a staffer's workspace "is not based on the hierarchy of your position, but the function of your job."

The main foyer has two service counters — one for general county inquires, and the other is the Provincial Offences Office — as the council chambers also double as a courtroom.

The second floor is dedicated to development services, planning and engineering, and the third floor is for staff who work more behind the scenes in the county, like human resources.

Manley said the building was designed so that at the end of the day, "The space is productive, and also attractive, as we work to recruit people."

There are still some final touches to be done, as well as landscaping outside. There will be a building dedication and grand opening held soon.

The first council in committee meeting in the new building is expected to be on March 31.



by [Tamara Botting](#)

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