

= Ontario Highway 89 =

King 's Highway 89 , commonly referred to as Highway 89 , is an east ? west provincially maintained highway in the southwestern portion of the Canadian province of Ontario , stretching 107 kilometres (66 mi) from the junction of Highway 9 and Highway 23 in Harriston in the west , to Highway 400 just east of Cookstown in the east . The principal urban centres along the highway include Alliston , Shelburne and Mount Forest . Outside of these towns , the highway travels through rural farmland across a large part of southwestern Ontario .

Highway 89 was established in 1937 as a result of the rerouting of Highway 9 between Orangeville and Highway 27 . In 1963 , the route was extended west to Palmerston and east to Highway 400 . Plans were conceived during the late 1970s to push the highway further east to Highway 12 via Ravenshoe Road , resulting in a brief extension to Highway 11 . However , environmental protest over the chosen route through the Holland Marsh resulted in the cancellation of plans in 1986 . In 1997 , the section between Highway 400 and Highway 11 was decommissioned . The most recent change to the route took place in 2003 , when the section of Highway 89 between Palmerston and Harriston was renumbered as part of Highway 23 , creating a shared terminus at a junction with Highway 9 .

= = Route description = =

The route forms the main streets of several of the small towns that dot the highway east to west , namely Cookstown , Alliston and Shelburne . The highway also forms the backbone of many small villages and hamlets between the larger centres , such as Conn , Keldon , Primrose , Violet Hill , Rosemont and Nicolston .

The highway formerly continued past its current eastern terminus at Highway 400 to Yonge Street , formerly Highway 11 , in the hamlet of Fennell . This section is now numbered as Simcoe County Route 3 and known locally as Shore Acres Drive . The highway also continued past its current western terminus in Harriston , taking the route to Palmerston that is now numbered as Highway 23 .

The highway mostly runs through farmland and small communities , although the route does pass by Earl Rowe Provincial Park and the Honda car manufacturing plant in the Alliston area . Other parks and natural areas that are close to the route are Boyne Valley Provincial Park and Mono Cliffs Provincial Park , both of which are located on the Niagara Escarpment . Further west is the Luther Marsh Conservation Area , a vast wilderness area that surrounds Luther Lake .

= = History = =

Highway 89 was created out of a highway rerouting in the late 1930s . Originally , it formed the routing of Highway 9 , which until then turned north at Orangeville , travelling concurrently with Highway 10 , then turning east to Cookstown . On February 10 , 1937 , Highway 9 was rerouted along its present course east of Orangeville . By 1938 , Highway 89 was designated along the former route of Highway 9 .

Highway 89 remained as @-@ is until the early 1960s , when it was extended west to Palmerston and east to Highway 400 . On April 1 , 1963 , the highway was assumed through the counties of Dufferin , Grey and Wellington . The section between Highway 27 and Highway 400 was assumed the following day .

During the mid @-@ 1970s , Highway 89 was extended east to Highway 11 at Fennell . This section was eventually returned to the jurisdiction of Simcoe County on April 1 , 1997 . During the spring of 2003 , the MTO renumbered several highways to improve route continuity . Among these was the renumbering of a section of Highway 89 between Harriston and Palmerston . The result of this renumbering was a shared terminus between Highway 89 and Highway 23 at an intersection with Highway 9 .

== Extension to Highway 12 ==

During the late 1970s , plans arose to create a new highway link on the south side of Lake Simcoe to connect Highway 400 and Highway 12 . The route for this extension was announced on June 30 , 1978 . It was to follow 11th Line from Highway 400 east to the Holland Marsh , where it would cross towards the northeast onto the alignment of Ravenshoe Road (York Road 32) . The extension would traverse the length of Ravenshoe Road to Lakeridge Road (Durham Road 23) , where it would zig @-@ zag onto Concession Road 7 to end immediately north of Sunderland . However , heavy environmental protests ensued over the chosen route through the marsh . Consequently , then Transportation Minister Ed Fulton officially cancelled the extension on April 21 , 1986 . The proposal has since been reborn as the Bradford Bypass .

== Major intersections ==

The following table lists the major junctions along Highway 89 , as noted by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario .