



The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie  
Council Correspondence

August 28, 2020

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<b>1. Temporary Street Closure</b> Women In Crisis – Bikers Rights Organization Toy Drive, September 12, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Oakland Avenue from Pilgrim Street to St. Andrew's Church parking lot	
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# FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

August 19, 2020

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference just finished, and members of the FONOM board were pleased to participate over the three-day event. It was an opportunity for us to share and learn with our municipal colleagues from across the province. AMO and its partners did a great job in hosting this virtual event, and the plenary and concurrent sessions were varied and of benefit to our membership. We look forward to meeting in person next year with the City of London as our host.

FONOM wishes to thank all that let their name stand for election to the AMO Board of Directors. We congratulate Mayor Roger Sigouin, Councillor Randy Hazlett, Councillor Deb McIntosh and AMO's Past President Mayor Jamie McGarvey.

Some of the FONOM board also had an opportunity to virtually meet with Premier Ford's cabinet members to discuss issues of importance to municipalities in northeastern Ontario. We discussed the governance of OPP Detachments and the current five Health Units in the Northeast and once they transition. We talked about promoting Northern Ontario economic development, with a post-pandemic lens as a healthy place to grow one's business.

We also had a lengthy discussion about broadband. Even with the funding previously disbursed and the currently allocated funding, all agreed more is needed. No one community, association, or province will be able to tackle this issue. It is apparent the FONOM will have to join with others to work tirelessly together, to build a National Broadband Initiative.

We look forward to partnering with municipalities, municipal associations not only in Ontario but across the country. We must work side by side with provincial governments when talking with not only the federal government but the CRTC and telecommunications companies as well. President Danny Whalen stated, "that only together will reliable, strong broadband be provided to communities and citizens across the country" and "we look forward to linking arms with Minister's Scott, Clark & Rickford to get you connected."

FONOM is an association of some 110 districts/municipalities/cities/towns in Northeastern Ontario mandated to work for the betterment of municipal the government in Northern Ontario and to strive for improved legislation respecting local government in the north. It is a membership-based association that draws its members from northeastern Ontario and is governed by an 11-member board.



President Danny Whalen  
705-622-2479

August 17, 2020

Rachel Tyczinski  
City Clerk  
City of Sault Ste. Marie  
99 Foster Drive  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5X6

Sent via email: [cityclerk@cityssm.on.ca](mailto:cityclerk@cityssm.on.ca)

**Re: Canada/United States Border Closure  
Our File 35.11.2**

Dear Ms. Tyczinski,

Please be advised that the Council of the City of St. Catharines, at its meeting held on August 10, 2020, gave consideration to your Council's resolution respecting the above-noted matter.

The Mayor and Members of Council received and filed the resolution, directing no further action.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk  
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk  
:em

**From:** [City Clerk](#)  
**To:** [Madison Zuppa](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Expanding Cross-Border Relationship Guidelines  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 1:16:06 PM

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**Nancy Milosevich**

Administrative Clerk – City Clerk’s Office  
705.759.5388 n.milosevich@cityssm.on.ca

**CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE**

99 Foster Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5X6  
[saultstemarie.ca](#)



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**From:** Jason Rathwell <jason.rathwell@shaw.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 7:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <cityclerk@cityssm.on.ca>  
**Subject:** Expanding Cross-Border Relationship Guidelines

**This email originated outside of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Do not open attachments or click links unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

To whom it may concern,

Starting out, I would like to congratulate everyone for how we here in Canada have been managing the Covid outbreak. Personally, in my district, we have zero existing confirmed cases and that’s absolutely exceptional. This track record of excellence, however, has come at an extremely high price.

In Ontario, as well as other provinces, communities have been suffering greatly due to the heavily restricted closure of the border with the United States. I’m not simply referring to the fact that cross-border shopping has ceased, which in itself is a heavy hit to many city economies. What I write you today about is a far graver situation; the separation of loved ones.

While I agree that non-essential travel across the United States / Canada border should be maintained, I believe a broader definition of “essential” needs established where relationships are concerned. In my local paper I’ve read stories of individuals who have been together for years, now denied access to their loved ones. They aren’t married, and they don’t live common-law for years at a time, but their relationship is just as real and important as anyone who’s been married. It’s not the position of the government to define what a “relationship” is.

For my own relationship, with a very exceptional woman in Spring Lake, MI, the 5 hour travel between us means nothing. We do it gladly just to be with each other. Both of us have very good and established jobs in our countries/communities, and moving to be together is simply not on the table at this time. That doesn't mean our relationship is any less important than someone who's been living together for 10 years.

It's a constant pain being away from a loved one. As I said earlier, my district has ZERO active cases of Covid and my beloved has been isolated and working at home since the beginning of this outbreak. We're both essential workers, and while we continue to keep our communities running we're denied being together because of some imaginary line on a map. This isn't fair!

Why aren't cross-border relationships considered essential? Why does someone have to isolate in-country for 14 days upon arrival, instead of just isolating while they're visiting? Why can't you volunteer for a blood / nasal test at the border and sign an affidavit stating you won't be doing anything outside of visiting your loved one? There are SO MANY WAYS to allow people in border communities to maintain their cross-border relationships, with little to no risk of spread. If I went back to trucking (which I still hold a license for) I could cross the border tomorrow, drive down to her, and spend the weekend there. That said, I'd have to give up the trade I've spent the last 6 years getting into. It's not fair!

Please, PLEASE, do something. Being separated from the one you love, just because you don't fall under a common-law guideline, is cruel and unusual punishment in my eyes. Traveling to see them, even if it's just to self-isolate with them for a day, IS ESSENTIAL. Any psychologist can tell you how much emotional damage separation causes. Imagine if you were forcefully separated from your loved ones for 6 months, with no end in sight. How would you feel?

Please get together with your higher-ups in government, and your American counterparts, and make this happen. There are literally thousands of both Canadians and Americans, who are doing everything right, and still being tortured every day because they're denied access to their beloved one. At this point I don't know what's worse; Getting Covid or not being unable to see her and the kids.

Sincerely,

Jason Rathwell



**The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss**

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Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario,  
Queen's Park Legislative Building  
1 Queen's Park, Room 281  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

August 17, 2020

Dear Honourable Doug Ford;

Re: Copy of Resolution #485

Motion No. 485

Moved by: Don Murray    Seconded by: Carl Sloetjes

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss hereby support the Council of the Township of Mapleton in their request that: The Province of Ontario undertake a review of the Farm Property Tax Class Rate Program to determine:

- a. The appropriateness of the cost of the Farm Property Tax Class Rate Program falling disproportionately amongst rural residential and business property owners when the benefit of an economically competitive agricultural industry and affordable food and agricultural products is a provincial objective that should be shared amongst all taxpayers in Ontario;
- b. The adequacy of funding being provided to rural municipalities to offset the cost of the Farm Property Tax Class Rate Program;
- c. The differences between the amount of property taxes paid in rural and urban municipalities and the root causes of those differences;
- d. Economic competitiveness concerns with disproportionately higher average property taxes being paid in rural municipalities;
- e. Other methods of delivering the farm tax rebate program to farmland owners where the cost can be shared province wide

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Lush". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Lush  
Deputy Clerk

c.c Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs, MPP Randy Pettapiece, Honourable Ted Arnott, all Ontario Municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).