

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

June 18, 2021

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Province Announces Employment Services Changes and Phase 2 of Natural Gas Expansion Program in Rural, Northern, and Indigenous Communities

Policy Update • June 10, 2021

Employment Services Changes

The provincial government has <u>announced</u> that it is proceeding with a process to select service managers to oversee the planning, design, and delivery of employment services in defined catchment areas. This builds on the existing prototypes already established in: Peel, Hamilton-Niagara, and Muskoka-Kawarthas. The province-wide implementation will be phased over the next few years starting with lower complexity areas and is expected to be completed in 2023. Higher complexity areas such as Northern Ontario and Toronto will be in the final phase.

The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has communicated about the changes to municipal governments and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSABs) that administer Ontario Works. They are eligible to apply to become an employment services manager and would compete with other potential vendors including non-profit organizations, post-secondary institutions, and private companies. Those municipalities and DSSABs that are not interested in applying or unsuccessful with their application, will have their current employment services function for Ontario Works clients transferred to the provincial Employment Services network under the new service manager. This happened in the first three prototype areas.

The first step in the completive bidding process is a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The RFQ document will be available on the <u>Ontario Tenders Portal</u> under reference Tender #14920.

Expanding Access to Natural Gas

Yesterday, the Province <u>announced</u> that Phase 2 of the Natural Gas Expansion Program will allocate more than \$234 million to support 28 new natural gas expansion <u>projects</u> in 43 rural, northern, and Indigenous communities. Construction for projects under Phase 2 will begin as soon as this year, with all 28 expansion projects expected to be underway by the end of 2025.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

Contact:

AMO COVID-19

covid19@amo.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

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Related Content



COVID-19

Province Moving to Step One of Its Roadmap to Reopen on Friday, June 11th, 2021



COVID-19

Blue Box Regulation Released and Province Easing Restrictions on Long-Term Care

JUN 7, 2021 • POLICY UPDATE

JUN 3, 2021 • POLICY UPDATE



COVID-19

COVID-19 Resources



COVID-19

Stay-at-Home Orders to Expire on June 2, 2021 with COVID-19 Restrictions Still in Place

JUN 2, 2021 • RESOURCE

JUN 1, 2021 • POLICY UPDATE



MPP Randy Pettapiece randy.pettapiece@pc.ola.org

May 26, 2021

RE: Domestic COVID-19 Vaccine Production and Capacity

Dear MPP Pettapiece,

At the regular meeting of Council held on May 20, 2021, Perth County Council passed the following resolution brought forward from a Notice of Motion:

Moved by: Councillor Doug Eidt Seconded by: Councillor Doug Kellum

WHEREAS throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Canada has relied on international partners to provide COVID-19 vaccinations; and

WHEREAS the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to Canada may be delayed due to the production/distribution of the vaccine outside of Canada; and

WHEREAS the increased support from all levels of government on the creation of COVID-19 vaccines domestically would increase Canada's vaccine capacity; and

NOW THEREFORE the Council of Perth County recommend to the Federal Government to support domestic production of a COVID-19 vaccine; and

THAT the Council of Perth County encourage all levels of Government to engage and support domestic vaccine capacity; and

THAT this motion be sent to Perth / Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece, MP John Nater and to all municipalities of Ontario.

The conversation was centered around the COVID-19 vaccination, but further developed to ensuring that as a Country we can best create and supply all necessary vaccinations. We thank you for your

Corporation of the County of Perth1 Huron Street, Stratford, Ontario, Canada N5A 5S4t. 519-271-0531f. 519-271-6265www.perthcounty.ca

advocacy on this matter and look forward to supportive responses from our municipal counterparts and officials from all levels of government.

Sincerely,

Jim Aitcheson, Warden The Corporation of the County of Perth

CC: MP John Nater - <u>John.Nater@parl.gc.ca</u> Ontario Municipalities



P.O. Box 130 21 Queen St. Ripley, Ontario N0G2R0

E-mail: info@huronkinloss.com Website: http://www.huronkinloss.com

June 18, 2021

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Queen's Park Legislative Building 1 Queen's Park, Room 281 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

Dear Honourable Doug Ford;

Re: Copy of Resolution #425

Motion No. 425 Moved by: Jeff Elliott Seconded by: Jim Hanna

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby supports the County of Perth in their recommendation to the Federal Government to support domestic production of a COVID-19 vaccine; and to encourage all levels of Government to engage and support domestic vaccine capacity AND directs staff to circulate as appropriate.

Sincerely,

Kelly Lush Deputy Clerk

c.c All Ontario Municipalities



The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 (via e-mail) <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

June 18th 2021

Attention: Premier Ford:

Re: Support for Fire Departments

Please be advised that on June 16th 2021 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion to support the Council of the Township of Hudson's motion (attached) requesting that the Province of Ontario work with the Federal Government to include apparatuses, training, equipment and structures for fire departments as eligible categories to any further infrastructure programs.

Motion 23

Moved by Muriel Wright, Seconded by Gary Atkinson that Council support item 'v' of correspondence from the Township of Hudson regarding Support for Fire Departments.

Motion Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely.

Clerk Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: (via e-mail)

All Members of Parliament Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure Jon Pegg, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton Marilyn Gladu, MP Sarnia-Lambton Ontario Fire Marshal All Ontario Municipalities

> The Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming P.O Box 250, 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming Ontario N0N 1T0 Tel: 519-845-3939 Ontario Toll Free: 1-877-313-3939



CORPORATION OF THE **TOWNSHIP OF HUDSON** 903303 HANBURY RD. NEW LISKEARD, ON P0J1P0 (t) 705-647-5439 (f) 705-647-6373 www.hudson.ca admin@hudson.ca

March 31st, 2021

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

Attention: Premier Ford

RE: Support for Fire Departments

At the Township of Hudson's Regular Meeting of Council held on Wednesday March 3rd, 2021, the following resolution 2021-049 was put forward and passed:

WHEREAS the role of Ontario's 441 fire departments and their approximate 30,000 full, part-time, and volunteer firefighters is to protect Ontarians and their property; and

WHEREAS according to the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management's latest data, in Ontario there was over 11,000 number of loss fires, 9,500 no loss fires, 784 injuries, 91 fatalities, and over \$820 million dollars of estimated loss in 2018; and

WHEREAS fire emergencies only make up a portion of the total calls for help received by fire and emergency service departments as they respond to nearly every public emergency, disaster, or 9-1-1 call; and

WHEREAS Ontario's fire department infrastructure deficit continues to grow annually and is almost entirely borne by the municipality and local taxpayers with the majority having populations under 25,000; and

WHEREAS due to antiquated structures and equipment that do not meet current industry standards the safety of the Ontario public and Ontario firefighters is being jeopardized;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Hudson resolves as follows:

1. **THAT** the Federal and Provincial Government includes apparatuses, training, equipment and structures for fire departments as eligible categories to any further infrastructure programs which will not only provide immediate stimulus to the local, provincial and federal economies given current economic uncertainty but also ensure the safety of Canadians and dedicated firefighters; and

2. **THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure, local MPP, local MP, the Ontario Fire Marshal, Jon Pegg, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Please accept this for your consideration and any necessary action.

Sincerely,

Jordan Kemp Clerk-Treasurer Township of Hudson



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 premier@ontario.ca

June 18th 2021

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

Re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence

Please be advised that on June 16th 2021 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion to support the Council of the Town of Fort Erie motion (attached) requesting that the Province of Ontario work with the Federal Government to address concerns regarding Capital Gains Tax on primary residences.

Motion 23

Moved by Muriel Wright, Seconded by Gary Atkinson that Council support item 'w' of correspondence from the Town of Fort Erie regarding Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residences.

Motion Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely

Clerk ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca

Cc: (via e-mail) All Members of Parliament All Members of Provincial Parliament The Regional Municipality of Niagara Ontario Municipalities

> The Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming P.O Box 250, 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming Ontario N0N 1T0 Tel: 519-845-3939 Ontario Toll Free: 1-877-313-3939



Community Services

Legislative Services

June 1, 2021 File #120203

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

Re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of May 31, 2021 passed the following resolution:

Whereas primary residences are currently exempt from a capital gains tax, and

Whereas currently secondary and additional non-primary properties are subject to capital gains, and

Whereas the Federal Government is currently looking into a primary residence capital gains tax as they have recognized that affordable housing has become a serious issue in Canada, and

Whereas smaller communities including the Town of Fort Erie are seeing unprecedented higher selling prices that are outpacing prices in larger cities, and

Whereas many hard-working Canadians who have only a primary residence with no additional non-primary homes count on their home equity as financial aid to apply to upsizing or downsizing their home depending on their personal situation, and

Whereas a change in taxation to primary residences would be a significant financial blow to Canadians and would create an unfair, two-tiered taxation which could lead to depleted savings, inter-generational disparities, disparities among diverse groups such as seniors who may have a significant portion of their savings vested in their primary residence, as well as, reducing the ability of home ownership thereby a further, higher need for rentals, and

Whereas the Federal government could look at other means to slow down the rapidly escalating housing costs to improve housing affordability;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Federal Government cease further consideration of eliminating capital gains tax exemptions on primary residences, and further

That: A copy of this resolution be circulated to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, All Members of Parliament, All Members of Provincial Parliament, The Regional Municipality of Niagara, and all Municipalities, for their support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

in Schofwel

Ontario Municipalities

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A. Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk cschofield@forterie.ca CS:dlk c.c. All Members of Parliament All Members of Provincial Parliament The Regional Municipality of Niagara



June 10, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Sent via email to: <u>Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca</u> The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

Re: Correspondence received from the Town of Fort Erie regarding Capital Gains tax on Primary Residence

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

At the last regular General Purpose and Administration Committee meeting of the Township of Scugog held June 7, 2021, the Committee received and endorsed correspondence from the Town of Fort Erie dated June 1, 2021 with respect to Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence. Attached please find a copy of the Town of Fort Erie's correspondence dated June 1, 2021.

Please be advised that Committee approved the following recommendation:

"THAT the correspondence received from the Town of Fort Erie regarding Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence, be endorsed."

Please note that all recommendations made by the Committee are subject to ratification at the next Council meeting of the Township of Scugog, scheduled to take place on June 28, 2021.

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Beely Jamieson

Becky Jamieson Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk Encl.

Township of Scugog, 181 Perry St., PO Box 780, Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7 Telephone: 905-985-7346 Fax: 905-985-9914 Page 14 of 29 www.scugog.ca cc: Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A. Manager, Town of Fort Erie, Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk All Members of Parliament All Members of Provincial Parliament The Regional Municipality of Niagara Ontario Municipalities



Community Services

Legislative Services

June 1, 2021 File #120203

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 <u>premier@ontario.ca</u>

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

Re: Capital Gains Tax on Primary Residence

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of May 31, 2021 passed the following resolution:

Whereas primary residences are currently exempt from a capital gains tax, and

Whereas currently secondary and additional non-primary properties are subject to capital gains, and

Whereas the Federal Government is currently looking into a primary residence capital gains tax as they have recognized that affordable housing has become a serious issue in Canada, and

Whereas smaller communities including the Town of Fort Erie are seeing unprecedented higher selling prices that are outpacing prices in larger cities, and

Whereas many hard-working Canadians who have only a primary residence with no additional non-primary homes count on their home equity as financial aid to apply to upsizing or downsizing their home depending on their personal situation, and

Whereas a change in taxation to primary residences would be a significant financial blow to Canadians and would create an unfair, two-tiered taxation which could lead to depleted savings, inter-generational disparities, disparities among diverse groups such as seniors who may have a significant portion of their savings vested in their primary residence, as well as, reducing the ability of home ownership thereby a further, higher need for rentals, and

Whereas the Federal government could look at other means to slow down the rapidly escalating housing costs to improve housing affordability;

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Page two

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Federal Government cease further consideration of eliminating capital gains tax exemptions on primary residences, and further

That: A copy of this resolution be circulated to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, All Members of Parliament, All Members of Provincial Parliament, The Regional Municipality of Niagara, and all Municipalities, for their support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Cu/Schoquel

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A. Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk cschofield@forterie.ca CS:dlk c.c. All Members of Parliament

All Members of Provincial Parliament The Regional Municipality of Niagara Ontario Municipalities



Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Corporate Services Municipal Governance 315 King Street West, P.O. Box 640 Chatham ON N7M 5K8 Tel: 519.360.1998 Fax: 519.436.3237 Toll Free: 1.800.714.7497

May 10, 2021

Via Email: <u>Lisa.Thompson@pc.ola.org</u>

Hon. Lisa M. Thompson Minister of Government and Consumer Services 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Thompson:

Re: Time for Change Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent at its regular meeting held on March1, 2021 passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 (MFIPPA) dates back 30 years;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;

AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the Municipal Clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality; AND WHEREAS the Act fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;

AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services be requested to review the MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

- 1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or designate to be the Head under the Act;
- 2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
- 3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
- 4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed, and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
- That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in Occupational Health and Safety Act;
- 6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;
- 7. That administrative practices implied or required under the Act, including those of the IPC, be reviewed and modernized;
- 8. That the integrity of the Act be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Smith at ckeirk@chatham-ketn.ca

Sincerely,

Judy Smith Digitally signed by Judy Smith Date: 2021.05.10 16:49:07 -04'00'

Judy Smith, CMO Director Municipal Governance Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

C.

Lianne Rood, MP Dave Epp MP Rick Nicholls, MPP Monte McNaughton, MPP Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario Association of Municipalities of Ontario AMCTO Legislative and Policy Advisory Committee Ontario municipalities



June 7, 2021,

Via Email: <u>Lisa.Thompson@pc.ola.org</u>

Hon. Lisa M. Thompson Minister of Government and Consumer Services 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Honourable Lisa Thompson,

Re: Support MFIPPA Change 2021

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of South Huron at its regular meeting on May 17, 2021 passed the following resolution:

197-2021 Moved By: Ted Oke Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council support municipality of Chatham-Kent resolution and support a change to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the recommendations outlined therein; and

That a letter demonstrating South Huron Council's support be sent to MPP Lisa Thompson, Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, AMCTO Legislative and Policy Advisory Committee and Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

Result: Carried

Sincerely

Alex Wolfe, Deputy Clerk Municipality of South Huron <u>awolfe@southhuron.ca</u> 519-235-0310 ext. 224

Encl.

MUNICIPALITY OF CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON 322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759 Exeter Ontario NOM 1S6 Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304 Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

cc: Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario Association of Municipalities of Ontario AMCTO Legislative and Policy Advisory Committee Municipality of Chatham-Kent



June 11, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P. Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Lyme Disease Awareness Month Our Files: 35.31.99/35.23.12

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting held on May 31, 2021, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

"WHEREAS May is Lyme Disease National Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines Strategic Plan includes improving livability for all; and

WHEREAS Niagara Region is a high-risk area for ticks and Lyme Disease, and cases continue to increase; and

WHEREAS Ontario health does not cover treatment and testing for all strains of Lyme Disease; and

WHEREAS Lyme Disease is a crippling disease if not diagnosed and treated appropriately;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines call on the Ontario government to expand testing to all strains of Lyme Disease and improve the level of treatment and care for those diagnosed with this crippling disease; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Minister of Health, local MPPs, Niagara Health, Niagara Region Public Health, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be sent correspondence of Council's decision; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Mayor bring this matter to the attention of the Niagara Region and request that the Region build an awareness campaign with on-line resources for families with Lyme Disease."



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

underle

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

cc: Ontario Minister of Health Niagara Area MPPs Niagara Health Niagara Region Public Health Niagara Region Ontario Municipalities Association of Municipalities of Ontario, <u>amo@amo.on.ca</u> Melissa Wenzler, Government Relations Advisor

THE TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY Council

DATE: 14 June 2021

	YEA	NAY			
Councillor Bochek			MOVED BY:	Bochek	
Councillor Cooper					
Councillor Douglas			SECONDED	Wiancko	
Councillor Hazelton			BY:		
Councillor Jarvis					
Councillor Wiancko					
Mayor Koetsier					
DEFERRED	CARRIED	X	DEFEATED	REFERRED	

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Municipality of Calvin's Resolution 2021-136 regarding the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario's (AGCO) to amend regulations to permit fundraisers for small organizations; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Provincial government and all Ontario municipalities.

Peter Koetsier

Mayor

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN Resolution

DATE: May 25, 2021	NO. <u>2021-136</u>
MOVED BY Heather Olmstead	
SECONDED BYChristine Shippam	

"That Council hereby requests Staff to contact the Ministry responsible for the Alcohol and Gaming of Ontario to seek their assistance in implementing an additional level of licensing which would permit small organizations to hold fundraisers as a method of sustaining our community and organizations;

And further that all municipalities in Ontario are sent this resolution to seek their assistance in lobbying the Ministry."

Nan Jamel

CARRIED_

DIVISION VOTE

NAME OF MEMBER OF COUNCIL	YEA	NAY
Coun Cross	X	
Coun Maxwell	X	
Coun Olmstead	X	
Coun Shippam	X	
Mayor Pennell	X	

THE TOWNSHIP OF GEORGIAN BAY Council

DATE: 14 June 2021

	YEA	NAY		
Councillor Bochek			MOVED BY:	Jarvis
Councillor Cooper				
Councillor Douglas			SECONDED	Cooper
Councillor Hazelton			BY:	
Councillor Jarvis				
Councillor Wiancko				
Mayor Koetsier				
DEFERRED	CARRIED	X	DEFEATED	REFERRED

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the Township of the Archipelago's Resolution 21-091 regarding Bill 279 – Environmental Protection Amendment Act (Microplastics Filters for Washing Machines) 2021; and

THAT this resolution be circulated to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, all municipalities in the Great Lakes Watershed and to the Federal and Provincial Representatives.

Peter Koetsier

Mayor



Township of The Archipelago

9 James Street, Parry Sound ON P2A 1T4 Tel: 705-746-4243/Fax: 705-746-7301 <u>www.thearchipelago.on.ca</u>

May 21, 2021

21-091

Moved by Councillor Andrews Seconded by Councillor Manners

RE: <u>Bill 279 – Environmental Protection Amendment Act (Microplastics Filters</u> for Washing Machines), 2021

WHEREAS microfibers are human-made strands less than 5mm composed of either synthetic or natural materials. Microfibers are shed through the wear and tear of textiles through the laundering process;

WHEREAS billions of microfibers are released into the Great Lakes daily from machine laundering of clothes. Studies have found a single load of laundry can release up to millions of microfibers into washing machine effluent, which flows to the wastewater treatment plant. Wastewater treatment can capture up to 99% of microfibers in sewage sludge, but microfibers are still released into aquatic ecosystems through treated effluent. Billions of microfibers are released into the aquatic ecosystem daily in the Great Lakes basin, either directly via treated final effluent, or indirectly as runoff from land-application of treated sewage sludge; and

WHEREAS microfiber contamination is widespread: Worldwide and local studies have shown microfibers present in commercial fish, Great Lakes fish (including Lake Trout, Rainbow smelt, Brown bullhead, etc.), honey, salt, Great Lakes beer, tap water, bottled water and much more; and

WHEREAS microfibers are the most prevalent type of microplastics in the environment and have been found in surface water, soil, biota, and atmospheric samples; and

WHEREAS a 2014 surface water study in Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and their tributaries measured micoplastics at abundances between 90,000 and 6.7 million particles per square kilometer. These levels of microplastics are similar to or exceed concentrations found in ocean gyres like the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch; and

WHEREAS microplastics do not biodegrade; and

WHEREAS chemicals such dyes and flame retardants are added to textiles during manufacturing. Textiles can also absorb chemicals from their environment after manufacturing. Some of these chemicals are toxic, and harmful chemical compounds can be released into the environment via leaching from microfibers; and

WHEREAS a growing body of research shows that the effects of microplastics on animal life are far-reaching. Researchers have investigated the impacts of microplastics on gene expression, individual cells, survival, and reproduction. Mounting evidence shows that negative impacts can include decreased feeding and growth, endocrine disruption,

decreased fertility, and other lethal and sub-lethal effects. Some of these effects are due to ingestion stress (physical blockage), but many of the risks to ecosystems are associated with the chemicals in the plastic. Studies have shown that chemicals transfer to fish when they consume microplastics. When these fish end up on our dinner plates, we potentially increase the burden of hazardous chemicals in our bodies; and

WHEREAS a recent set of laundering experiments in the laboratory; have shown that an external filter can capture an average of 87% of fibres by count and 80% by weight before they go down the drain (McIlwraith et al. 2019). On a wider scale and in real-life context, Georgian Bay Forever, the University of Toronto and the Town of Parry Sound are completing a study that is measuring the effect that about 100 filters in households has on reducing microfibre pollution in the effluent of a wastewater treatment plant. The results of this study are to be released in August; and

WHEREAS add-on filters cost approximately \$180-220 CDN to purchase and install, which is prohibitive for the average household. Accordingly, voluntary adoption rates are low; and

WHEREAS France has passed legislation (France 2020-105, Article 79) that requires future washing machines sold to have filters. California has introduced a bill (California AB 622), and Ontario has tabled Private Member's Bill 279 to prohibit sales of washing machines without a filter of mesh size 100 microns or smaller. Companies such as Arclik have manufactured washing machines with filters built directly into them;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) recognizes that to date the largest documented source of environmental microfibers is washing machines, and that findings indicate washing machine filters mitigate the majority of fibres shed during machine washing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cities Initiative recognizes the need to require future sales of washing machines to include filters with a maximum mesh size of 100 microns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cities Initiative and its members call on the Ontario government to pass Bill 279, and to call on the Canadian and U.S. government to create appropriate regulatory measures to the same effect; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that until households can only buy new laundry machines outfitted with <100 micron filters, the Cities Initiative and its members call on provincial, state and federal governments to provide funding and education to help constituents reduce microfiber waste.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Council for the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago directs its staff to submit this resolution to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative; and forward this resolution to all municipalities in the Great Lakes watershed and to Federal and Provincial Representatives.

Carried.