



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

June 23, 2023

	Pages
1. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing	2 - 7
• Letter to Mayor from Minister Clark regarding Municipal Housing Pledges and Targets	
• Proposed Provincial Planning Statement	
2. Correspondence – Resident	8 - 9
• Letter from Martin McCarthy regarding Gateway Site	
• City of Sault Ste. Marie staff response	
3. Correspondence – Environmental Sustainability Committee	10 - 12
Letter to Mayor and Council from Chair	
4. Correspondence – Canadian Federation of Independent Business	13 - 14
Letter to Mayor and Council regarding helping local small businesses affected by major construction	
5. Association of Municipalities of Ontario	15 - 17
Policy update regarding expansion of Strong Mayor Powers	
6. Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario	18 - 21
Advocacy update regarding expansion of Strong Mayor Powers	
7. Resolution	22 - 23
Tarbutt Township regarding Codes of Conduct	

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2023-3202

June 16, 2023

Your Worship
Mayor Matthew Shoemaker
City of Sault Ste. Marie
mayor.shoemaker@cityssm.on.ca

Dear Mayor Shoemaker:

Subject: Municipal Housing Pledges and Targets

Our government is committed to bold and transformative action in order to tackle Ontario's housing supply crisis and reach our goal of building 1.5 million homes by 2031. We recognize that municipalities are critical partners in achieving this goal, and it is in that spirit that I am writing to you today.

While many municipalities have taken significant steps to increase their local housing supply, Ontario needs an unprecedented amount of new homes to meet current and anticipated demand. You may be aware that in Fall 2022, our government requested Municipal Housing Pledges for 29 of Ontario's largest and fastest-growing municipalities. To reach the goal of 1.5 million homes built by 2031, Ontario will need municipalities across the province to do their part in providing homes for future population growth.

Today, I am asking the City of Sault Ste. Marie to demonstrate its commitment to accelerate housing supply by:

- Identifying a locally appropriate Housing Target (i.e., new housing units) to meet current and future housing needs in your municipality to 2031; and
- developing a Municipal Housing Pledge to increase and accelerate housing supply.

Municipalities are critical partners to help us get more homes built faster. Our intention in requesting a housing pledge is that it will be approved by municipal councils and help codify Council's commitment to their target. A Municipal Housing Pledge would set out a Municipal Housing target to 2031, and the strategies and actions that your municipality will take to accelerate housing development.

As the province and municipalities work together to deliver on a commitment to build 1.5 million new homes by 2031, these pledges are critical to coordinate our efforts across governments. Please see the attachment to this letter for additional information on how to develop a Municipal Housing Pledge

Our government will work with you to address potential policy and implementation barriers as you develop your pledges. I encourage you to send any questions to Andrew Carr, Team Lead, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, at Andrew.Carr@Ontario.ca. The deadline for submitting your Housing Target and Housing Pledge is December 15, 2023.

I look forward to working with you to meet our shared commitments and help build the homes Ontarians need and deserve.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

- c: The Honourable Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Housing
- Ryan Amato, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
- Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister
- Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Planning and Growth Division
- Joshua Paul, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division
- Ross Romano, MPP Sault Ste. Marie

Info Sheet: Considerations in Developing Municipal Housing Pledge

The pledge is not intended to be a land-use planning document, and its development should not require external technical expertise. The format and language used in the pledge should be accessible to the general public. The pledge is intended to be approved by municipal councils and should help codify Council's commitment to meeting their municipal housing target.

Municipalities can leverage new and existing policy tools as they develop housing pledges and work towards their housing targets.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of potential strategies and actions that municipalities may include in developing their housing pledges. There may be additional opportunities based on local circumstances and the Province is interested in hearing about those ideas and creative solutions.

- Strategies to encourage and promote gentle intensification to enable and expedite additional residential units in existing residential areas
- Outline ways in which funding under provincial programs, such as the Streamline Development Approval Fund (SDAF) or Municipal Modernization Program (MMP), has been used to streamline existing municipal development approval processes
- Information on municipal development approval timelines and whether municipalities are being appealed for non-decisions
- Identify potential measures where current lack of infrastructure capacity (e.g., water/wastewater servicing) may limit future housing development
- Strategies to use municipal surplus lands
- Commitment to plan for, fund, and approve (where applicable) specific critical municipal infrastructure to support growth and new housing (e.g., water, wastewater, transit etc.), which may include expanded capacity as well as fully new facilities/assets
- Priorities for strategic and site-specific planning decisions to expedite housing in priority areas (e.g., around transit stations and in transit-serviced areas)
- Update zoning by-laws to permit a greater range of housing to be built without the need for costly and lengthy rezoning applications
- Municipalities may also consider existing tools such as the Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator, [Community Planning Permit System](#), Major Transit Station Areas, and Protected Major Transit Station Areas.

Below are some of the potential components of a municipal housing pledge. Municipalities are free to choose, alter, or add any new components that seem reasonable. Pledges can be represented in the form of plain text, tables, charts, maps, or a combination of them.

- Municipal Housing Target
- Planned and proposed Municipal Initiatives
- Initiative Owner and Additional Stakeholders
- Context and Description of How Initiative Accelerates Housing
- Number of units per initiative and housing type
- Considerations (Barriers, Implementation, Risks, etc.)
- Potential Mitigation Strategies and Proposal to Accelerate Housing
- Potential Reporting and Monitoring Measures

Municipal housing pledges are intended to be public documents and it's anticipated that municipalities will post them online.

Municipalities can contact Ministry staff with any questions and for clarification.

From: growthplanning@ontario.ca
To: [Rachel Tyczinski](#)
Subject: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement | la proposition de déclaration provinciale sur la planification
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 3:01:33 PM

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.

June 16, 2023

On April 6, 2023, the government released a draft of the Provincial Planning Statement ([ERO#019-6813](#)) that would replace the existing Provincial Policy Statement and A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

At that time, natural heritage policies and related definitions remained under consideration by the government and were not released for review and input. The proposed natural heritage policies are now available for review and feedback. The details of the changes can be found through the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#).

Please note that the comment period has been extended to August 4, 2023. You are encouraged to share this information with senior staff in the municipality and to inform the head of council and council members.

Sincerely,

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Le 16 juin 2023

Le 6 avril 2023, le gouvernement publiait une ébauche de la *Déclaration provinciale sur la planification* ([Registre environnemental de l'Ontario n^o 019-6813](#)) qui remplacerait la *Déclaration de principes provinciale* et le document *En plein essor : Plan de croissance de la région élargie du Golden Horseshoe* existants.

À cette date-là, les politiques en matière de patrimoine naturel et leurs définitions connexes demeuraient à l'étude par le gouvernement et n'ont pas été publiées pour un examen, des commentaires et des questions. Les politiques proposées en matière de patrimoine naturel sont maintenant disponibles pour un examen, des commentaires et des questions. On peut trouver les renseignements sur ces changements dans le [Registre environnemental de l'Ontario](#).

Veuillez prendre note que la période de soumission de commentaires a été prolongée jusqu'au 4 août 2023. Nous vous encourageons à partager cette information avec les dirigeantes et les dirigeants de votre municipalité et à en informer la présidente ou le président du conseil et les membres du conseil.

Meilleures salutations,

Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement

To City Councillors / & Board of Works

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

I wish to bring this situation to your attention:

On Sat., June 17th past , I was walking on the waterfront side of Gateway Site .. & noticed an unlocked Gate at the North-west corner of this contaminated area. This area is supposed to be OFF LIMITS.

Chemicals in this area are dangerous, especially to children & animals, so I reported this to local Police station. There are potential water & drowning dangers as well.

In turn, the Board of Works was informed. As of Tues. Jan 20th, the situation has not yet been corrected.

I feel this area needs better supervision -- and better signage -- warning of the dangers of contamination that roaming children & non-English speaking people can easily understand.

This situation continues to re-occur, so inspection should be made more routine. Injury or a potential drowning fatality could leave the City open to legal issues.

Thank you for your attention to this issue .

Martin McCarthy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin J. McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Rachel Tyczinski

Subject: FW: Gateway site

From: Larry Girardi <l.girardi@cityssm.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 1:14 PM
To: Rachel Tyczinski <r.tyczinski@cityssm.on.ca>
Subject: FW: Gateway site

Rachel,
As per Travis's comment below. The site will be secured today.
Lg.

From: Travis Reid <t.reid@cityssm.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:54 AM
To: Larry Girardi <l.girardi@cityssm.on.ca>
Subject: RE: Gateway site

Hi Larry, I will inspect and ensure that all access points are locked/secured or repaired asap.

Travis Reid

Manager of Parks
Public Works and Engineering Services
128 Sackville Road
CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE
T: 705-574-1096 F: 705-541-7010
t.reid@cityssm.on.ca



7. Environmental Sustainability Committee Climate Action Priority Letter for Councils 2024 Budget Consideration

Moved by: Andrew Judge

Seconded by: A. Riopel

Resolved that the Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) supports the submission of the Climate Action Priority Letter for Councils 2024 Budget Consideration and recommends that the letter be sent the Mayor, Council and City Senior Management by the ESC 2023 Chair on June 7, 2023.

Carried



SAULT STE. MARIE

2023 June 6

Dear Mayor Shoemaker, Council & City Senior Management,

Climate change is the defining issue of our time and we only have seven years left to reduce our emissions to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels or face irreversible economic, environmental and social impacts¹. As well, the 2022 City corporate emissions inventory update shows that the City is not on track to meeting its emissions reduction goals, as corporate emissions have increased 10% since 2017². A more united and aggressive corporate financial commitment and effort from all departments and Council is required to meet the City's target of net zero emissions by 2050.

The Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC), a committee of Council was established in 2021 to support collaboration and advance projects as they relate to the enhancement of community environmental sustainability, which includes the implementation of the Sault Ste. Marie Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan: 2020 - 2030. The ESC has seven (7) responsibilities that we utilize to accomplish this goal including, developing a list of priorities which support environmental sustainability for Council consideration as part of its annual budget cycle. In advance of the 2024 budget development, the ESC developed a list of three (3) short and three (3) long term priorities for Councils consideration. They are listed below.

ESC 2024 Top 3 Short Term Priorities

1. Make Climate Change Action a top priority in the City's Strategic Plan update

This will ensure that the City starts allocating adequate resources and all departments work together towards meeting the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) Reduction targets.

2. Conduct an annual 'Sustainability Audit' of the City's Budget

The sustainability audit would determine what is currently being spent to address City GHG Reduction targets and analyze on an annual basis to measure improvements and increase accountability towards emissions reduction efforts.

3. Require City staff to have their climate impact statement on Council Reports reviewed by the Sustainability Coordinator

Currently, departmental leads, City Finance, Legal and the CAO review all corporate Reports to Council and must sign off on the report before it is approved for the Council Meeting agenda. The new Climate Impact section on Council Reports is currently voluntary. A mandatory review by the Sustainability Coordinator would encourage corporate wide use of the section and increase awareness, consideration and adoption of measures/projects that both mitigate and/or adapt to climate change.

¹ Intergovernmental on Climate Change (IPCC). (2018). Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty. Retrieved from: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

² Sault Ste. Marie Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory Update: 2022. Retrieved from: <https://saultstemarie.ca/Cityweb/media/Community-Services/FutureSSM/2022-Corporate-Inventory-Methodology-Report-Final.pdf>

Where you belong.



ESC 2024 Top 3 Long Term Priorities

1. Establish a Corporate Environmental Social Governance (ESG) policy

The policy would embed GHG emissions reduction targets into City operations, and require that all staff sign off to ensure adoption and normalize GHG reduction into everyday operational, business and investment thinking. The policy could address many different climate action initiatives such as linking sustainability to planning and engineering departments by using by-laws and zoning powers to reduce built environment emissions (e.g. build zero carbon standards into building new construction for municipal facilities), requiring electric-vehicle charging stations in all new or retrofitted buildings, mandating zero-emissions heating systems, etc.)

2. Develop a green development standard (GDS)

This would create incentives or reduce barriers to new developments and/or built environment retrofits that deliver environmental, social and economic benefits and prepare the local market for higher levels of building energy performance beyond the minimum standards adopted from the provincial building code. GDS can catalyze the local building sector to voluntarily meet net zero levels of energy / emissions from new buildings before provincial building codes are available and are a low cost means to influence the community's built environment through input in the design / permitting and post construction stages of new development.

3. Develop a corporate sustainable roads approach and/or strategy

The road sector produces the highest level of greenhouse gas, directly, through fossil energy used in mining, transportation, paving works and also through the emissions coming from vehicles who use the roads. This would look at ways for the City to reduce lifecycle, as well as embodied carbon emissions from road construction, maintenance and design. Road construction and maintenance emission reduction opportunities include, but are not limited to looking for ways to reduce emissions associated to building materials such as asphalt and cement, including excavating materials (e.g. require a certain amount of recycled and renewable materials for building new roads, using low or zero emission equipment for construction). For road design, considerations to connect neighborhoods, encourage active transportation (e.g. every road reconstruction include an active transportation audit) and utilize naturalization landscape elements (e.g. bioswales) and low impact development should be considered, following the complete streets approach.

Thank you for your attention and taking the time to read this letter. We expect that you will respect the priorities that this integral committee of Council have recommended, and that they will form a foundation for 2024 budget discussions and climate action strategies in your administration and management of the City of Sault Ste. Marie. The ESC jointly feels that these priorities will assist in supporting the City's environmental sustainability policies, plans and practices and continuous improvement towards the City's goal of net zero emissions by 2050. We look forward to hearing from you with a response in advance of the 2024 budget approval.

Sincerely,

Donna Hilsinger, Chair, ESC Citizen Representative

c:

Mark Britton, ESC Vice Chair & Citizen Representative & Business Development, PUC

Andre Riopel, ESC Citizen Representative

Andrew Judge, ESC Citizen Representative & Assistant Professor, Anishinaabe Studies, Algoma University

Councillor Corey Gardi, ESC Councillor Representative

Erik Emilson, ESC Citizen Representative & Research Scientist, Natural Resources Canada

Ngairé Roubal, ESC Citizen Representative & Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Tobin Kern, ESC Citizen Representative

Victoria Prouse, ESC Citizen Representative & Senior Policy Advisor, Ontario Ministry of Transportation

June 6, 2023

His Worship Matthew Shoemaker, Mayor of Sault Ste. Marie
& City Council Members
99 Foster Dr.
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
P6A 5X6

Subject: Helping local small businesses affected by major construction

Dear Sir:

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) is Canada's largest association of small- and medium-sized businesses with 97,000 members in all sectors and parts of the country, including 38,000 in Ontario.

On behalf of small businesses, we are calling on all municipalities to implement a construction mitigation program for lengthy projects that cause major disruptions. This initiative should include direct funding to small businesses for income losses.

Lengthy construction projects have wreaked havoc on many of our members. Reduced accessibility has resulted in decreased foot traffic, leading to lower sales and forcing some businesses to close.

Small businesses are willing to put up with some frustration to reap the rewards of improved transportation. The problem is that they must somehow manage to survive until the project reaches the finish line. The glossy project images never show the mess businesses are forced to go through to get there.

According to a report we published in 2018,¹ 41% of Canadian small- and medium-sized businesses were disrupted by local construction projects between 2012 and 2017. In that time, nearly 65,000 businesses were significantly affected by construction, forcing business owners to take out loans, relocate, or even close their doors. Over two-thirds (69%) of survey respondents indicated that their local government

¹CFIB, Paving a Smoother Road: Helping Small Businesses Survive Infrastructure Work, May 2018: <https://20336445.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/20336445/research/report-paving-a-smoother-road-construction-mitigation-policy.pdf>

should adopt a comprehensive construction mitigation program, including compensation for business losses.

In 2018, Montréal became the first municipality in Canada to launch such a program permanently, offering up to \$40,000 in financial assistance to eligible businesses. Montréal recently announced that in addition to the up to \$40,000 per year based on income losses already provided, the city will also offer a \$5,000 grant to businesses with construction disruptions lasting six months or longer. The money will be available from the start of a project without any lost income strings attached.

We encourage you to visit the [City of Montréal's website](#) for further information and to contact us through Riley Locke (riley.locke@cfib.ca) to discuss a similar program for your municipality. In addition, we would be happy to connect you to bilingual contacts at the City of Montréal who can answer questions and help guide you through the implementation of a successful construction mitigation program.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Julie Kwiecinski
Director of Provincial Affairs (Ontario)

Original signed by

Riley Locke
Policy Analyst (Ontario)

Cc: City Clerk

Strong Mayor Powers Expanded

Policy Update • June 16, 2023

The Government of Ontario announced today that new regulations will extend strong mayor powers to additional municipal councils in Ontario. The extension of the additional authority is intended to assist with Ontario's housing shortage, which remains a priority for both the province and municipalities in every part of Ontario.

Expanding access to strong mayor powers is intended to build on other provincial steps to improve access to affordable housing, including the passage of *Bill 97, Helping Homeowners, Protecting Tenants Act*.

These new powers were originally introduced in legislation last summer for Ontario's two largest municipalities. The AMO Board did not take a position on strong mayor powers but expressed openness to the idea. It did express concerns with some aspects of the legislation - in particular, those affecting public administration - and recommended public consultation as the government considered the promised expansion of the new powers to additional municipal councils. AMO also expressed concern with a later provision eliminating the need for majority council support for certain decisions related to provincial priorities.

Municipalities continue to be the most trusted order of government in Canada with statutory requirements in Ontario for transparency, openness and accountability that are unequaled.

In response to today's announcement, AMO released the following media statement:

"Improving housing affordability is a number-one priority for municipalities in every part of Ontario. Strong mayor powers can provide an additional tool to help municipalities play their important role

in increasing Ontario's housing supply. As the most trusted order of government, municipalities can be counted on to exercise new powers accountably and in the best interests of the public and the communities they serve".

Contact:

AMO Policy

policy@amo.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

Share this article:

Related Content



MUNICIPAL NEWS

Call for Expressions of Interest - MPAC Board of Directors

JUN 1, 2023 • NEWS RELEASE



MUNICIPAL NEWS

June Pride Month

MAY 26, 2023 • COMMEMORATION



MUNICIPAL NEWS

Less Red Tape, Stronger Economy Act Introduced & Upcoming AMO Events

APR 5, 2023 • POLICY UPDATE

MUNICIPAL NEWS

Community Paramedicine, Transportation Investments for Small and Rural Communities, and Pathway Immigration Program

JUN 28, 2021 • POLICY UPDATE



[Home](#) > [About AMCTO](#) > [News & Announcements](#)

> [Advocacy Update: Strong Mayor Powers Expanding to More Municipalities](#)

Advocacy Update: Strong Mayor Powers Expanding to More Municipalities

June 16, 2023

Following a meeting with Ontario Big City Mayors this morning, Minister Clark has announced that the Government is expanding 'strong mayor powers' to 26 additional municipalities beyond the City of Ottawa and the City of Toronto, **effective July 1, 2023**. This extension would be made by adding municipalities to [O. Reg. 530/22](#) under the *Municipal Act*.

Once the regulation is in effect, a head of council of a listed municipality can choose whether to use these permissive authorities.

The municipalities that will be added to the regulation include:

Town of Ajax	City of Barrie	City of Brampton
City of Brantford	City of Burlington	Town of Caledon

City of Cambridge	City of Clarington	City of Guelph
City of Hamilton	City of Kingston	City of Kitchener
City of London	City of Markham	Town of Milton
City of Mississauga	City of Niagara Falls	Town of Oakville
City of Oshawa	City of Pickering	City of Richmond Hill
City of St. Catherines	City of Vaughan	City of Waterloo
Town of Whitby	City of Windsor	

These 26 additional municipalities are single or lower-tier municipalities with a population over 100,000 or projected to grow to 100,000 by 2023. These municipalities have also submitted a [housing pledge](#) to the Province.

Of note, during media availability following the announcement, Minister Clark indicated that more municipalities will be receiving a letter inviting them to sign a housing pledge and consideration will be given to adding more municipalities to the regulation.

Minister Clark also confirmed that the additional powers given to these 26 municipalities are the same as what was given to Ottawa and Toronto, and that the Provincial priorities prescribed in [O. Reg. 580/22](#) remained unchanged.

AMCTO has long advised that without providing reasonable timelines to implement Provincially mandated changes to structures, governance or

other matters, the Province continues to place undue administrative and operational burden on municipal staff who must implement these initiatives.

In August of 2022, AMCTO presented to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy regarding Bill 3: *Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022*. **Our submission** expressed concerns about the effective removal of non-partisan local government management professionals, especially the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and the impact this could have on the politicization of senior and other local government officials. We also emphasized the additional undue administrative burden this change could have on our members and other municipal staff.

In addition, we also responded to the Government's regulatory proposals regarding prescribed **Provincial priorities** related to the Act, and **matters that bring Part VI.1** of the Act into effect. We once again urged the Province to consider how implementation of these changes would work on the ground, including impacts on local governance, operational matters, and already limited municipal finances, resources and staff capacity.

As an Association representing municipal staff, we play an important role in facilitating conversations on the practical considerations regarding the implementation of 'strong mayor' authority. With this in mind, we will continue to work together with Toronto and Ottawa to bring information and considerations for implementing 'strong mayor powers' to our members and other affected municipalities. Stay tuned for more information on this to come.

For more information or to discuss further, please contact:

Alana Del Greco

Manager, Policy and Government Relations

adelgreco@amcto.com


Charlotte Caza


Policy Advisor

ccaza@amcto.com

For the latest legislative and policy news and announcements, don't forget to subscribe to our [policy blog!](#)

The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario

 2680
Skymark
Avenue,
Suite 610,
Mississauga,
ON L4W
5L6 Canada

 905-602-
4294

 [Email Us](#)

 [Contact Us](#)

 [Personal
Information
Policy](#)

 [Subscribe
to
Newsletter](#)



[Copyright Policy](#)

Website by [Upanup](#)



The Township of Tarbutt
27 Barr Road South
Desbarats, Ontario P0R 1E0
Ph: 705-782-6776 Fax: 705-782-4274
www.tarbutt.ca

June 22, 2023

Premier Doug Ford
Minister of Municipal Affairs Steve Clark

At the June 21, 2023 meeting of the Council of The Township of Tarbutt, the following resolution was unanimously supported as a result of the failure of the Ontario legislature to pass Bill 5, *Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act* on May 31, 2023:

WHEREAS all Ontarians can expect and deserve a safe and respectful workplace; and

WHEREAS municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians, need respectful discourse; and

WHEREAS several incidents of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred in recent years amongst members of municipal councils, and occur at an alarming rate, particularly among small, rural communities; and

WHEREAS these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and erode the public perception of local government; and

WHEREAS municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour toward staff and other council members; and

WHEREAS municipal governments are not provided with the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that The Township of Tarbutt supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for the Ontario Government to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance in consultation with municipal governments; and further

THAT the legislation encompass the following AMO recommendations to:

- Update municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment;
- Create a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario;

... 2

- Increase training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province;
- Allow municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner; and
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and in the subsequent term of office.

We trust that local leadership can rely on your support of this important measure.



Lennox Smith, Mayor

cc: All Central Algoma Municipalities
Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity
AMO
Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin