



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

December 22, 2023

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Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Victoria Leddy
Evermore Ontario

SENT VIA EMAIL: evermoreontario@gmail.com

RE: Declaring Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic – Evermore Ontario

Dear V. Leddy,
Please be advised of the following motion that was passed at the Monday, November 6, 2023,
Goderich Town Council meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Petrie
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Noel

WHEREAS Intimate partner violence (IPV) is physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and aggression that occurs in an intimate relationship;

AND WHEREAS on the morning of September 22, 2015, Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam were murdered by a former partner;

AND WHEREAS on June 28, 2022, a five-person jury established as part of a coroner's inquest into the events of September 22, 2015, delivered 86 recommendations;

AND WHEREAS specific legislation addressing family and domestic violence has been passed by six provinces and three territories, however, to date Ontario has not implemented this type of legislation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Corporation of the Town of Goderich declare an IPV epidemic and call on the Ontario Government to do the same, as per #1 of the Renfrew County Inquest; and
2. This motion be distributed to the Huron-Bruce MP Ben Lobb and MPP Lisa Thompson, Ministry of the Attorney General, Solicitor General, Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, Huron County Council and Huron County lower tier municipalities, Goderich Police Services Board, Ontario Provincial Police, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/ar

cc. Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, pm@pm.gc.ca.
Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario, michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, doug.downey@pc.ola.org
Hon. Charmaine Williams, Women's Social and Economic Opportunity,
charmaine.williams@ontario.ca
Commissioner, Thomas Carrique, Ontario Provincial Police,
County of Huron Council,
Federation of Canadian Municipalities,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
Lisa Thompson, Member of Provincial Parliament for Huron-Bruce,
lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
Ben Lobb, Member of Federal Parliament for Huron-Bruce, ben.lobb@parl.gc.ca

Emailed: Premier@ontario.ca

November 13, 2023

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 28, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Gender-Based Violence & Intimate Partner Violence – Declaration of Epidemic

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Evanturel, at the regular council meeting of November 8, 2023, addressed the increased incidents of gender-based and intimate partner violence.

The increase of these incidents has prompted Council to declare **Gender-Based Violence AND Intimate Partner Violence** an epidemic; and recommends that the Province of Ontario declare this issue an epidemic. It is also necessary that all levels of government take action and address this growing epidemic.

Find enclosed a true copy of Resolution No. 5, passed in open council November 8, 2023, authorizing this declaration and recommendation to the Province of Ontario.

Yours truly,



Derek Mundle
Reeve
THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF EVANTUREL
Encl:

c.c. Honourable Justin Trudeau – Prime Minister of Canada - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
Charlie Angus – MP – Timmins-James Bay - charlie.angus@parl.gc.ca
John Vanthof – MPP – Timiskaming-Cochrane - jvanthof-co@ndp.on.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario - Communicate@amo.on.ca
Englehart & Area Policing Committee - ednancy1@parolink.net
Temiskaming Municipal Association - tma@northernontario.ca
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities - fonom.info@gmail.com
Municipalities in the District of Temiskaming - *emailed*

Resolution of Council

Moved by: Councillor Belanger

Date: November 8, 2023

Seconded by: Councillor MacPherson

Resolution No: 5

WHEREAS Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence is reaching epidemic proportions;

AND WHEREAS a growing numbers of municipalities and regions are demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Evanturel hereby resolves to declare Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

AND FURTHER it be recommended that Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be directed to the Premier of Ontario; and copies be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, Charlie Angus, MP – Timmins – James Bay; John Vanthof – MPP – Timiskaming-Cochrane; Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); Englehart & Area Community Policing Committee; Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA); Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; and Municipalities in the District of Temiskaming.

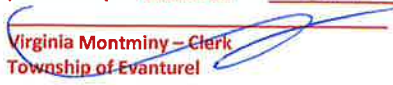
Carried 

Derek Mundle - Reeve

DIVISION VOTE		
YEAS	NAME OF MEMBER OF COUNCIL	NAYS
	BARBARA BEACHEY, COUNCILLOR	
	GISELE BELANGER, COUNCILLOR	
	ROB MACPHERSON, COUNCILLOR	
	JOHN SIMMENS, COUNCILLOR	
	DEREK MUNDLE, REEVE	
	TOTALS	

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest – Report to Council TWP2019-05 – Form A – Reeve Mundle ___; Councillor

Certified to be a true copy of Resolution No. 5 of the Corporation of the Township of Evanturel
passed in open Council on the 8th day of November 2023.


Virginia Montminy – Clerk
Township of Evanturel

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON

Resolution No. 2023 –

November 8, 2023

Moved by:

Mike Garside _____
Janet Gordanier _____
Dave Leask _____
Mike Trainor _____

Seconded by:

Mike Garside _____
Janet Gordanier _____
Dave Leask _____
Mike Trainor _____

WHEREAS the jury heard the Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam Inquest (the Renfrew County Inquest) issued 86 recommendations to prevent future deaths and delivered those recommendations to the province of Ontario ion Intimate Partner violence; and

WHEREAS recommendation #1 of the Inquest for the Province of Ontario to formally declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic; and

WHEREAS every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner; and

WHEREAS this past year in Ontario, 52 women or one every week, were victims of femicide; and

WHEREAS gender-and sexually-diverse Indigenous individuals are particularly at risk, being five times more likely than non-Indigenous gender- and sexually-diverse individuals to experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS according to Statistics Canada, 80% of intimate partner violence goes unreported; and

WHEREAS violence against women costs the national justice system, health care systems, social service agencies, and municipalities nearly \$10 billion dollars per year; and municipalities are on the front lines in addressing gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS over 60 municipalities and regions across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic; and

WHEREAS on August 20, 2023, Ontario Big City Mayors and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario passed a motion declaring intimate partner violence and gender-based violence an epidemic; called on municipalities and regions in Ontario and Canada to do the same; and

called for changes to the Criminal Code; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Hilton recognizes that issues of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence are matters of local importance, including public health, EMS, community services and community safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HILTON declares an epidemic in intimate partner violence and gender-based violence in accordance with recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County inquest:

That the Township request the Ontario Provincial Police to integrate intimate partner violence into the Community Safety and Well Being Plan in accordance with recommendation #10 of the Renfrew County Inquest.

That a copy of this motion be sent to the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Charmaine A. Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity; the Honourable Parm Gill, Minister of Red Tape Reduction; MP Carol Hughes, MPP Michael Mantha, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED _____

DEFEATED _____

Reeve, Rodney Wood

Clerk, Valerie Obarmyskyj



**The Corporation of the
City of North Bay**

200 McIntyre St. East
P.O. Box 360
North Bay, Ontario
Canada P1B 8H8
Tel: 705 474-0400

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
Direct Line: (705) 474-0626, ext. 2510
Fax Line: (705) 495-4353
E-mail: karen.mcisaac@northbay.ca

October 31, 2023

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

This is Resolution No. 2023-401 which was unanimously passed by Council at its Special Meeting of Council held Monday, October 30, 2023.

Resolution No. 2023-401:

Whereas the jury that adjudicated the Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam Inquest (The Renfrew Inquest) issued 86 recommendations to the Province of Ontario on Intimate Partner Violence;

And Whereas recommendation #1 of the Inquest is for the Province of Ontario to declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

And Whereas, every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner;

And Whereas, on any given night in Canada, over 6,000 women and children sleep in shelters because it is not safe for them at home;

And Whereas each year, over 40,000 arrests result from domestic violence, accounting for about 12% of all violent crime in Canada;

And Whereas over one in three women in Canada aged 15 years and older will experience IPV in their lifetime;

And Whereas the cost of violence against women costs the national justice system, social assistance budgets, and municipal budgets millions of dollars per year;

And Whereas IPV is preventable;

And Whereas at a municipal level, IPV contributes to an unsafe community, an increase in homelessness, decreased police and ambulance capacity, additional needs for social housing, and added pressures on the healthcare system and social services;

And Whereas in 2022, Victim Services received 475 calls for service for IPV and supported 400 female-identified IPV victims as well as 39 children, who were harmed or witnesses of IPV;

And Whereas 400 survivors of intimate partner violence accessed supports offered by the Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing in 2022;

And Whereas the North Bay Police Service had approximately 1200 domestic-related calls for service in 2022;

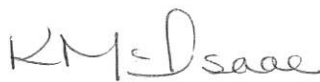
And Whereas North Bay City Council recognizes that issues of violence against women are of local importance to the health and wellness of our residents;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the City of North Bay:

- recognizes the issues of violence against women and girls in North Bay as serious to the health and wellness of local families;
- is committed to engaging with community partners to educate and support our residents about the seriousness and long-term danger of violence in our community; and
- declares, in accordance with Recommendation #1 of the Renfrew Inquest, that Intimate Partner Violence and Violence Against Women are epidemic.

Be it Further Resolved that this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Charmaine A. Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, The Honourable Parm Gill Minister of Red Tape Reduction, Vic Fedeli, MPP., North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Board of Health, the North Bay Police Service Board, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

Yours truly,



Karen McIsaac
City Clerk

KM/ck

THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF
TOWNSHIP OF MACDONALD, MEREDITH & ABERDEEN ADDITIONAL
208 CHURCH ST, ECHO BAY, ONTARIO
P0S 1C0

Date: November 7, 2023

Motion # 23- 392

Moved By: Shelly Bailey

Seconded By: [Signature]

"RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Township of Macdonald, Meredith & Aberdeen Additional supports the City of Sault Ste. Marie's resolution declaring Intimate Partner Violence and gender-based violence an epidemic in accordance with recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Inquest."

Councillor's Vote

Councillor's Name

FOR

AGAINST

BAILEY, Shelly
BROCKELBANK, Parker
CHEVIS, Adam
HANSEN, Derek
WATSON, Lynn

[Signature: Lynn Watson]

Signed Lynn Watson

Carried

MAYOR



City of Sault Ste. Marie Council Resolution

Regular Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 9.1.
Title: Intimate Partner Violence
Date: Monday, October 30, 2023

Moved by: Councillor A. Caputo
Seconded by: Councillor L. Vezeau-Allen

Whereas the jury that heard the Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam Inquest (The Renfrew County Inquest) issued 86 recommendations to prevent future deaths and delivered those recommendations to the Province of Ontario on Intimate Partner Violence; and

Whereas recommendation #1 of the Inquest is for the Province of Ontario to formally declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic; and

Whereas every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner; and

Whereas this past year in Ontario, 52 women or one every week, were victims of femicide; and

Whereas gender- and sexually-diverse Indigenous individuals are particularly at risk, being five times more likely than non-Indigenous gender- and sexually-diverse individuals to experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime; and

Whereas in The City of Sault Ste Marie in 2022, there were 1351 Intimate Partner Violence calls for service made to Sault Ste Marie Police Service; and

Whereas according to Statistics Canada, 80% of intimate partner violence goes unreported; and

Whereas violence against women costs the national justice system, health care systems, social service agencies, and municipalities nearly \$10 billion dollars per year; and municipalities are on the front lines in addressing gender-based violence; and

Whereas over 60 municipalities and regions across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic; and

Whereas on August 20, 2023, Ontario Big City Mayors and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario passed a motion declaring intimate partner violence and gender-based violence an epidemic; called on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all municipalities and regions in Ontario and Canada to do the same; and called for changes to the Criminal Code; and

Whereas Sault Ste Marie City Council recognizes that issues of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence are matters of local importance, including public health, EMS, community services, and community safety

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That Council of The City of Sault Ste Marie declare an epidemic in intimate partner violence and gender-based violence in accordance with recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Inquest;
2. That the City request the Police Service Board to integrate intimate partner violence into the Police Service's Community Safety and Well Being Plan in accordance with recommendation #10 of the Renfrew County Inquest.
3. That Mayor Shoemaker be requested to write a letter to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario requesting that the Province of Ontario re-consider their previous decision and declare intimate partner violence and gender-based violence as an epidemic and act on all of 86 recommendations from the Renfrew County Inquest by setting up a provincial implementation committee to oversee comprehensive consideration of all of the recommendations;
4. That a copy of this motion be sent to The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Charmaine A. Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity; The Honourable Parm Gill, Minister of Red Tape Reduction; Sault Ste Marie MP Terry Sheehan; Sault Ste. Marie MPP Ross Romano; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities; the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities; the Algoma District Municipal Association; Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; and Ontario's Big City Mayors.

Carried



Matthew Shoemaker



The County of Brant

David Bailey
MAYOR

December 21, 2023

Re: County of Brant Resolution – Gender-based Violence and Intimate-partner Violence

I am writing on behalf of the County of Brant council to request that your municipality declare a gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic across Canada, as seen in the attached County of Brant resolution which was passed at the County of Brant Council meeting of November 28, 2023.

Sincerely,

David Bailey
Mayor
County of Brant

Encl. County of Brant Resolution – Gender-based Violence and Intimate-partner Violence

November 28, 2023

Re: County of Brant Resolution – November 28, 2023

At the meeting of November 28, 2023, the Council of the County of Brant adopted the following:

WHEREAS more than 72 municipalities and regions including the Cities of Toronto, Ottawa, Burlington, Windsor, London, Woodstock and most recently, Brantford, along with Peel, Durham and Halton Regions, Norfolk County, Haldimand County, and, of course, Renfrew County, across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic; and

WHEREAS by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, The County of Brant can join the growing number of municipalities and regions in Canada in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic; and

WHEREAS the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and have not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace; and

WHEREAS In 2022, the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (a division of Statistics Canada) issued a report to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women that highlighted the rural rate of reported intimate partner violence against women to be 598 per 100,000 population in Ontario, which compares to 378 per 100,000 population in urban locations; and

WHEREAS those experiencing gender-based and intimate partner violence in rural and farming communities, like those in the County of Brant, face unique risk factors such as isolation, lack of and/or barriers to service and support, strong traditions and community values around firearms, and a sense of responsibility for livestock and pets, which prevent women from seeking support and increase the risk of domestic violence and domestic homicide; and

WHEREAS The Brant OPP reported that, as of September 2023, year-to-date domestic disturbance calls have increased by 4.3%; and

WHEREAS Nova Vita answered over 4,500 crisis and support calls in 2022, and in the same year, 648 women who were seeking safe shelter from family violence were turned away because the shelters were full and had no bed space to offer them. This number doesn't include their children; and

WHEREAS In Ontario last year, a woman was killed every week (52 femicides in 52 weeks) and, In Canada, a woman was killed every 2 days; and

WHEREAS 30% of women report having experienced a sexual assault since the age of 15, and 44% of women report having experienced some form of intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS Gender-Based Violence impacts individuals, families, and communities, and it also places a costly burden on the health, social, and justice systems. In 2009, it was estimated that IPV had an economic cost of \$7.4 billion annually and sexual violence a cost of \$4.8 billion annually; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario states that it will not declare gender-based and intimate partner violence an epidemic as the term epidemic refers to the spread of diseases; and

WHEREAS Merriam Webster defines disease as a condition of the living animal or of one of its parts that impairs normal functioning and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptoms; and

WHEREAS the numerous physical, psychological, and behavioral symptoms that are a consequence of gender-based and intimate partner violence reveal that it meets the definition of disease.

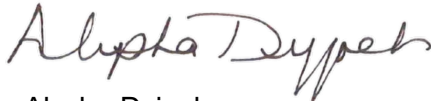
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT The County of Brant Council DECLARE Gender-based violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic in the County of Brant; and*
- B. THAT The County of Brant Council RECOMMEND that gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario; and*
- C. That The County of Brant Council REQUEST that Femicide be added as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada and state its position to the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General Canada, and the Prime Minister of Canada; and*
- D. THAT The County of Brant Council REQUEST that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all municipalities and regions in Ontario declare a gender-based and intimate partner violence epidemic across the country; and*
- E. THAT The County of Brant REQUEST the provincial and federal governments rightfully declare intimate partner and gender-based violence an epidemic and enact the additional 95 recommendations from the inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide; and*
- F. THAT The County of Brant REQUEST that the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions and their emergency and social*

services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence epidemic; and

- G. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to assess what would be required to complete a Community IPV Action Plan that includes items such as resources to address the local IPV epidemic, an awareness campaign, funding a dedicated rural outreach worker through Nova Vita, approaches to engaging with at-risk youth, and other opportunities for County of Brant Council to support, and bring a report back to council before the end of the year for possible inclusions to be considered for the 2024 budget; and*
- H. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to include within the plan the ways the County of Brant can ensure that all victims of intimate partner violence are included, regardless of gender, sex, identity, family status, social economic status, and other barriers to accessing traditional intimate partner violence support services.*
- I. THAT a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to the Brant County Health Unit, as well as the three MPs and three MPPs representing the County of Brant residents.*

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Alysha Dyjach', written in a cursive style.

Alysha Dyjach
Director of Council Services, Clerk
County of Brant



15651

Moved by Kelly Chaytor

Seconded by Aaron Wright

WHEREAS the Municipality of Wawa and the Township of McKeller are requesting the Province to amend the Legislation Act, 2006 to include digital publication as an acceptable and notice requirement for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Gore Bay Council supports this request.

Carried



9.3.4.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2023 – 166

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: November 7, 2023

Councillor **G. ASHFORD**
Councillor **J. BELESKEY**
Councillor **P. BORNEMAN**
Councillor **B. KEITH**
Councillor **D. McCANN**
Councillor **C. McDONALD**
Mayor **J. McGARVEY**

MOVED BY:



SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: ✓ DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

WHEREAS Section 87 of the Legislation Act, 2006 defines "newspaper", in Acts and regulations requiring publication, as a document that,

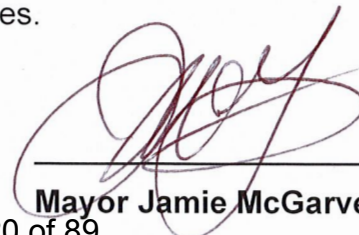
- a) is printed in sheet form, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and
- b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest; ("journal"); and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required to follow prescribed publication and notice requirements of Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

WHEREAS the Town of Parry Sound and many other municipalities in Ontario cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations since effective September 15, 2023, Metroland Media Group ceased the print publication of its weekly community newspapers across Ontario, moving to an online-only model, and there are no other local news publications in Parry Sound fitting the definition of "newspaper" per the Legislation Act,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to include on-line publications as an acceptable means of complying with public notice requirements that refer to newspaper publication in Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and all Ontario Municipalities.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey

November 27, 2023

Re: Item for Discussion – Request for Amendment to Legislation Act, 2006

At its meeting of November 15, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #23-GC-229, regarding the Request for Amendment to Legislation Act, 2006, as follows:

“WHEREAS Metroland Media Group sought bankruptcy protection and ceased the print publication of more than seventy (70) of its weekly community newspapers across Ontario;

AND WHEREAS Metroland Media Group will offer a digital-only format for its customers in place of the more than seventy (70) weekly community newspapers;

AND WHEREAS the Legislation Act, 2006 provides a definition of “newspaper” that is applicable to every Provincial Act and Regulation, as a document that, (a) is printed in sheet form, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and (b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required to follow publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

AND WHEREAS communities such as the Town of Bracebridge cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations as the Bracebridge Examiner news publication is no longer being printed in sheet form and there are no other local news publications fitting the definition of “newspaper”;

AND WHEREAS Bill 73, Supporting Ontario’s Community, Rural and Agricultural Newspapers Act, 2023, is an Act to amend various Acts with respect to the publication of notices in newspapers, however, it does not address the needs of communities that have no local news publications fitting the definition of “newspaper” being “(a) is printed in sheet form, published at regular intervals of a month or less and circulated to the general public, and (b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest.”;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); and, all Ontario Municipalities.”

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262
public works fax: (705) 645-7525
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori McDonald". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "L" and "M".

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



Hon. Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Bldg 11th
Flr, 720 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9
VIA EMAIL:
doug.downey@ontario.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 22, 2023

RE 6.10 Call for an Amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 8, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-246:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

That the Consent Agenda items 6.9, 6.10, and 6.11 listed for NOVEMBER 8, 2023 Council meeting be received; and

Whereas Council supports the resolutions from Township of Plympton-Wyoming and the Township of McKeller regarding an Amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to permit digital notice;

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.



Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston,
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO)
Neil Oliver, CEO & President, Metroland Media Group
All Ontario Municipalities



Hon. Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Bldg 11th Flr, 720 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

October 26th 2023

Sent via e-mail: doug.downey@ontario.ca

Re: Call for an Amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006

Dear Mr. Downey,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on October 25th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolution from the Township of McKellar regarding a Call for an Amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006.

Motion 10

Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren

That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the Township of McKellar regarding a Call for an Amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006.

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,


Erin Kwarciak
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO)
Neil Oliver, CEO & President, Metroland Media Group
All Ontario Municipalities



Township of McKellar

701 Hwy #124, P.O. Box 69, McKellar, Ontario P0G 1C0

Phone: (705) 389-2842

Fax: (705) 389-1244

October 19, 2023

Hon. Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Bldg 11th Flr, 720 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Sent via email: Doug.Downey@ontario.ca

RE: Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*

Dear Mr. Downey,

At the Regular Meeting of Council held on October 17, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar carried the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-671

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

WHEREAS Metroland Media Group has sought bankruptcy protection and will cease the print publication of its weekly community newspapers across Ontario, moving to an online-only model; and

WHEREAS Neil Oliver, Chief Executive Officer and President of Metroland Media Group, said the 71 Metroland community publications will be digital only going forward; and

WHEREAS the *Legislation Act, 2006* provides a definition of “newspaper” which applies to every Ontario Act and Regulation, as in a provision requiring publication, means a document that, (a) **is printed in sheet form**, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and (b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest; (“journal”); and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required to follow publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

WHEREAS communities such as the West Parry Sound Area cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations as the Parry Sound North Star news publication is no longer being printed in sheet form and there are no other local news publications fitting the definition of “newspaper”; and

WHEREAS some small, rural, Ontario Municipalities may not have the means to bring an application to the Court to ask for directions and approval of an alternate manner of providing notice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006* to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); CEO and President of Metroland Media Group, Neil Oliver and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

Regards,



Karlee Britton
Deputy Clerk
Township of McKellar
deputyclerk@mckellar.ca
(705) 389-2842 x5

cc:

Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO)
Neil Oliver, CEO & President, Metroland Media Group
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

November 21, 2023

SENT VIA EMAIL

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A4
VIA EMAIL: premier@ontario.ca

Attn: The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario

Re: Cigarette Producer Responsibility

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting on November 13, 2023 the Town of Amherstburg Council considered a resolution passed by the Council of the Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago in support of amending legislation to ensure cigarette manufacturers are responsible for the collection, recycling, and proper disposal of cigarette waste and passed the following resolution:

Resolution # 20231113-009

Moved By Councillor Allaire
Seconded By Councillor Pouget

That a letter of support for item 16.1 - Township of The Archipelago | Resolution 2023-178 Cigarette Producer Responsibility **BE SENT** to all municipalities and the appropriate Minister.

Sincerely,

Michael Prue, Mayor
Town of Amherstburg



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205
haltonhills.ca

November 23, 2023

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
Via Email

Re: Support for Town of Grimsby resolution on Guaranteed Livable Income

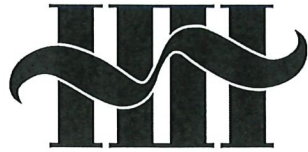
Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, November 20, 2023, adopted Resolution No. 2023-0222 regarding Support for Town of Grimsby resolution on Guaranteed Livable Income.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2023-0222.

Respectfully,

Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Hon. Michael Chong, MP – Wellington – Halton Hills
Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP – Wellington – Halton Hills
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Halton Region
All Ontario Municipalities



TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2023-0222

Title: Support for Town of Grimsby resolution on Guaranteed Livable Income

Date: November 20, 2023

Moved by: Councillor A. Hilson

Seconded by: Councillor C. Garneau

Item No. 13.1

WHEREAS the Canadian livable wage for the Greater Toronto Area for 2023 was determined to be \$25.05. This was \$16,511.25 above the annual income of a minimum wage employee;

AND WHEREAS Town of Halton Hills residents on programs such as Ontario Works receive targeted fixed monthly incomes of up to \$733, and ODSP recipients receive up to \$1308;

AND WHEREAS at the current Ontario minimum wage rate, a person working 37.5 hours per week will earn approximately \$2,679.03 monthly (before tax);

AND WHEREAS the median rent (MMR) for a one bedroom apartment in the Town of Halton Hills as of 2022 was \$1100.00 a month, and average market rent (AMR) for the same was \$1215.00;

AND WHEREAS rent is considered affordable when it is less than 30% of income. In the Town of Halton Hills, rent is approximately 150% of Ontario Works, 84% of Ontario Disability Support Services, 41% of minimum wage full-time (before tax), and 82% of minimum wage part time;

AND WHEREAS an annual 2.5% allowable rent increase can be combined with an additional 3% capital investment increase, raising the cost of rental housing another minimum of \$60.50 monthly;

AND WHEREAS the recent 2022 State of Housing Report from the Region of Halton determined that the Region of Halton has serious shortfalls in both affordable and attainable housing supply;

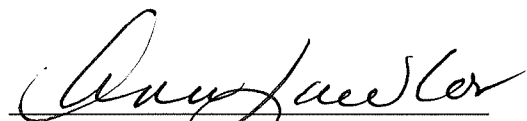
AND WHEREAS this resolution is in support of the September 5th resolution passed by the Town of Grimsby on Guaranteed Livable Income.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Halton Hills circulates correspondence to all Ontario municipalities encouraging them not only to collect data of their housing and poverty statistics, but also to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Halton Hills encourage these same municipalities to join the Town of Halton Hills in advocating on behalf of our communities with this data,

AND FURTHER THAT other levels of government continue to promote affordability and work to align government support programs, such as Ontario Works and ODSP, with the cost of living and average market rent (AMR), including looking into a Guaranteed Livable Income Program;

AND FURTHER THAT this Resolution be forwarded to the Region of Halton, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), MPP Ted Arnott, MP Michael Chong, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services Michael Parsa, Premier Doug Ford and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.



Mayor Ann Lawlor



15650

Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Ken Blodgett

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Gore Bay Council supports the Municipality of Wawa regarding requesting the Government of Canada to amend subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 of the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000;

FURTHER, this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Manitoulin Fire Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried



PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 • www.portcolborne.ca

T 905.835.2900 ext 106 F 905.834.5746

E saima.tufail@portcolborne.ca

December 12, 2023

Bonfield Township
Office of the Deputy Clerk – via email to: deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com
365 Highway 531
Bonfield ON
P0H 1E0

Town of Gore Bay
Office of the City Clerk – via email to: scarr@gorebay.ca
15 Water Street
Gore Bay, ON
P0P 1H0

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: Bonfield Township and Town of Gore Bay - Support Tax Credit Increase Volunteer Firefighters

Please be advised that, at its meeting of November 28, 2023 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the correspondence from Bonfield Township and Town of Gore Bay regarding Support Tax Credit Increase Volunteer Firefighters, be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

S. Tufail

Saima Tufail
Acting City Clerk

cc. Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
Nipissing Mutual Aid Association
Manitoulin Fire Mutual Aid Association
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



**BONFIELD TOWNSHIP
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CLERK**

365 HIGHWAY 531

BONFIELD ON P0H 1E0

Telephone: 705-776-2641 Fax: 705-776-1154

Website: <http://www.bonfieldtownship.com>

Email: deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.com

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

November 14th, 2023

No. 15

Moved by Councillor Clark

Seconded by Councillor Featherstone

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and; WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and; WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and; WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71 % of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Nipissing Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried Jason Corbett

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of Resolution No. 15 of the Township of Bonfield's Regular Council Meeting of November 14th, 2023, and which Resolution is in full force and effect.

Andrée Gagné
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer



15650

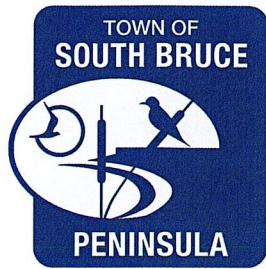
Moved by Dan Osborne

Seconded by Ken Blodgett

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Gore Bay Council supports the Municipality of Wawa regarding requesting the Government of Canada to amend subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 of the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000;

FURTHER, this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Manitoulin Fire Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried



Excerpt from Council Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2023

29. Notice of Motion – Deputy Mayor Hull – Request to Amend Highway Traffic Act for Use of Automated Speed Enforcement Systems

R-407-2023

It was **Moved** by C. Hull, **Seconded** by K. Durst and **Carried**

Whereas speeding on the roads of the Town of South Bruce Peninsula is a concern and can occur in all areas of the community;

And whereas the Town of South Bruce Peninsula has limited resources to implement effective traffic calming measures, speed mitigation, road design and re-design;

And whereas current barriers and delays to enforcement pose a danger to the community;

And whereas local police service has limited resources to undertake speed enforcement;

And whereas s.205.1 of the *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) provides that Automated Speed Enforcement systems (ASE) may only be placed in designated community safety zones and school safety zones.

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of South Bruce Peninsula supports the request of Parry Sound and the City of Cambridge that the Ontario Government amend s.205. 1 of the HTA to permit municipalities to locate an ASE system permanently or temporarily on any roadway under the jurisdiction of municipalities and as determined by municipalities and not be restricted to only community safety zones and school safety zones;

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP Rick Byers, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities;

And further that a delegation be requested at the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association Conference regarding our request to amend the *Highway Traffic Act* in order for the municipality to utilize automated enforcement systems.

**Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting**



Resolution No.

665.

Title:

Councillor J. Flieler

Date:

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Moved by

J. Flieler

Seconded by

P. Valiquette

WHEREAS Municipalities are facing ever increasing demands for services along with demands for repairs, maintenance, and replacement of existing infrastructure to the detriment of the tax paying public they serve as the cost of living continues to rise throughout the country;

AND WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial governments in the past contributed through partnerships to fund projects that have been out of the financial reach of small municipalities;

AND WHEREAS these 1/3 funding agreements have been instrumental in allowing municipalities to adequately plan and execute projects to protect the aging infrastructure already in place;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Tweed has successfully completed more than 19 capital projects using these funding scenarios over the years;

AND WHEREAS it is incumbent upon our Federal and Provincial governments to assist municipalities with limited access to funding except through municipal taxes to re-establish this very important funding stream;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council lobby the relevant Federal and Provincial representatives to bring these concerns to the forefront;

AND FURTHER, that Council consider making a Delegation at the 2024 ROMA Conference;

AND FURTHER, that copies be sent to MP Kramp-Neuman, MPP Bresee, the Hastings County Warden, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried



Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building,
Queen's Park, Toronto,
ON M7A 1A1
VIA EMAIL:
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 27, 2023

RE 6.7 Town of Cobourg - Illegal Land Use Enforcement

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 8, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-358:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda items 6.6, 6.7, and 6.8 listed for NOVEMBER 8, 2023 Council meeting be received; and

Whereas Council has previously passed a resolution regarding illegal land use enforcement;

That Council direct staff to connect with the Town of Cobourg and other municipalities with similar concerns on the possibility of a joint delegation to AMO lead by the Town of Cobourg and report back to Council.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.



Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston,
Municipal Clerk

Cc: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building,
Queen's Park, Toronto,
ON M7A 1A1
VIA EMAIL:
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West,
Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2
clerk@cobourg.ca

October 11, 2023

RE: Correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding Illegal Land Use Enforcement

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on October 2, 2023, passed the following resolution:

Moved by Councillor Miriam Mutton
Seconded by Councillor Brian Darling

Resolution No: 314-2023
October 2, 2023

THAT Council receive the correspondence from the Township of Puslinch regarding Illegal Land Use Enforcement for information purposes; and

FURTHER THAT Council endorse and support the resolution from the Township of Puslinch and Council direct staff to send a duplicate resolution to associated ministries and Ontario Municipalities.

The resolution reads as follows:

That the Illegal Land Use Enforcement Taskforce's mandate be expanded to include other types of illegal land uses and not solely on illegal trucking land uses; and

That the Province be requested to strengthen municipal enforcement powers by:

- Amending the Municipal Act to enable municipalities to physically bar entry to properties where illegal land uses that have significant detrimental impacts on adjacent residential properties, the environment or create unsafe situations;
- Increasing the maximum penalty amounts in the Planning Act to \$50,000 for an individual upon conviction and on a subsequent conviction, not more than \$25,000 for each day in which the contravention has continued after the day in which the person was initially convicted; and



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

- Including provisions to ensure a corporation is liable to fines of not more \$100,000 upon first conviction and not more than \$50,000 for each day in which the contravention has continued after the day in which the corporation was initially convicted.

That a copy of this report be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin-Caledon; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; and

That a copy of this report be provided to the municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe area seeking support in the request for strengthened enforcement powers to combat significant illegal land uses negatively impacting communities across Ontario and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA).

Sincerely,



Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Cc: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP Dufferin-Caledon,
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
Rural Ontario Municipal Association,
Ontario Municipalities



Katherine Fife
MPP, Waterloo
Constituency Office, 100
Regina St. S., Suite 220,
Waterloo, ON N2J 4P9
VIA EMAIL:
cfife-co@ndp.on.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 28, 2023

RE 6.12 Town of East Hawkesbury Fixing the Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part)

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 8, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-360:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

That the Consent Agenda items 6.12, and 6.13 listed for NOVEMBER 8, 2023 Council meeting be received; and

Whereas Council supports the resolutions from the Township of East Hawkesbury regarding Bill 21, Fixing the Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part); and

That Council direct staff to send a support resolution accordingly.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.



Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston,
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP
All Ontario Municipalities

**Township of East Hawkesbury
Regular Meeting**



Agenda Number: 16.
Resolution # 2023-50
Title: Correspondence
Date: October 10, 2023

Moved by: Monique Desjardins
Seconded by: Stéphanie Sabourin

Be it resolved that Council support Bill 21 amends the Residents' Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission but to have accommodation made available for both spouses so they may continue to live together.

Carried

[Redacted Signature]
Herni Villeneuve, Clerk,

**Canton de Hawkesbury Est
Réunion Extraordinaire**



No. du point à l'ordre du jour: 16.
Résolution # 2023-50
Titre: Correspondance
Date: le 10 octobre 2023

Proposé par: Monique Desjardins
Appuyé par: Stéphanie Sabourin

Qu'il soit résolu que le Conseil soutien le projet de loi 21 qui modifie la Charte des droits des résidents énoncée à l'article 3 de la loi de 2021 sur les soins de longue durée en ajoutant le droit des résidents de ne pas être séparés de leur conjoint au moment de leur admission, mais de disposer d'un logement pour les deux conjoints afin qu'ils puissent continuer à vivre ensemble.

Adoptée


Hemi Villeneuve, Greffière,



MUNICIPALITY OF
North Perth
www.northperth.ca

A Community of Character

330 Wallace Ave. N., Listowel, ON N4W 1L3

Phone: 519-291-2950

Toll Free: 888-714-1993

October 26th, 2023

Minister of Long-Term Care
438 University Avenue, 8th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of North Perth passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held on October 16th, 2023 regarding a request for support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022 from Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP.

Moved By: Lee Anne Andriessen **Seconded By:** Sarah Blazek

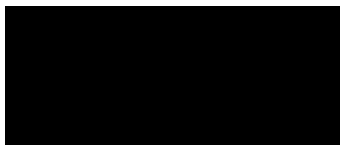
THAT: The Council of the Municipality of North Perth supports Consent Agenda Item 7.11 *Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP – Request for Support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022.*

AND THAT: Staff be directed to forward the resolution to other provincial entities and other Council counterparts across Ontario.

CARRIED

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



Sarah Carter
Acting Clerk/Legislative Services Supervisor
Municipality of North Perth
330 Wallace Ave. N., Listowel ON N4W 1L3
519-292-2062
scarter@northperth.ca

Cc: Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP
Perth Wellington MPP, Matthew Rae
All Ontario Municipalities



Catherine Fife

MPP Waterloo

Todd Kasenberg
Mayor of Municipality of North Perth

RE: Requesting your support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022

September 25, 2023

Dear Mayor Kasenberg,

I am writing to you today to share an update on Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022, and to request your support for this important legislation.

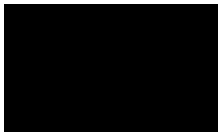
Bill 21 amends the Residents' Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission but to have accommodation made available for both spouses so they may continue to live together.

The Act was inspired by Cambridge resident Jim McLeod, who will have been separated from his wife of 65 years Joan, on September 17, 2023. Nearly 6 years later, Jim continues to champion spousal reunification. He often says that he will talk to anyone and has two giant binders full of his advocacy work on the Bill. Last week, he told me that his heart is breaking because of his separation from Joan. He has brought other seniors who are separated from their spouses into the advocacy – you cannot sit with these folks for any amount of time and not care deeply about this legislation.

I know that you value the many contributions that older adults have made to Waterloo Region, and care deeply that they can live their final years with dignity and love. **I am hoping you will consider bringing a motion forward to your Council, in support of the Till Death Do Us Part Act.** Your support will help us to keep attention on this important legislation, so that it can finally be called to the Standing Committee on Social Policy – one step closer to Royal Assent.

I would be happy to discuss the Bill with you further, via phone call or an in-person meeting at your convenience. Thanks in advance for considering my request.

Sincerely,



Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP
Finance & Treasury Board Critic

Constituency Office
100 Regina St. S., Suite 220
Waterloo, ON N2J 4A8
Ph: 519-725-3477 | Fax: 519-725-3667
Email: cfife-co@ndp.on.ca

Queen's Park Office
Room 154, Main Legislative Bldg.
Queen's Park, Toronto ON M7A 1A5
Ph: 416-325-6913 | Fax: 416-325-6942
Email: cfife-qp@ndp.on.ca

BACKGROUND:

On November 15, 2022, the Till Death Do Us Part Act, passed second reading in the Ontario legislature after being [introduced for the third time in September 2022](#). The bill was then referred to the Ontario Legislature's Social Policy Committee. You can view highlights of the second reading debate here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYRIgQgDe2k>

I have been pushing for the Standing Committee on Social Policy to schedule a time to begin the work of reviewing Bill 21 since November 2022. **Today marks 286 days since the Act passed second reading at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.** Unfortunately, the Bill has yet to be called to committee.

Bill 21, which was formerly Bill 153 and 95, respectively, had passed second reading and was sent to the Justice Committee in December 2019, but was wiped off the order paper when Premier Ford prorogued the house in 2021. It was reintroduced early 2022 but did not have time to progress before the election.

Since I first introduced this Bill in 2019, the number of people who've reached out to my offices with heartbreaking stories of couples entering long-term care who are torn apart has skyrocketed. Simply put, Ontario seniors deserve dignity in care and should have the right to live with their partner as they age. Of note, Nova Scotia passed similar legislation, titled the [Life Partners in Long-Term Care Act](#) in 2021.

Following many meetings with stakeholders, it's clear that "care campuses" which offer different levels of care (independent, assisted living and long-term care) are the progressive model for investing in quality care for Ontario's aging population. Care campuses are an essential element to keeping couples together as they often age at different rates. This level of choice has been brought to my attention as especially important to rural and northern municipal leaders across Ontario. The care campus model for seniors housing that builds different levels of care has unique financial savings that will be critical as we grapple with a rapidly aging province.

We need the Bill to be called to the Standing Committee on Social Policy as soon as possible. We know that couples who are separated across Ontario cannot wait any longer for this legislative change to be made.

Here are the links to recent media coverage of the Till Death Do Us Part Act, which provide more specific insights into the lived experiences of older adults who are separated from their spouses:

- [CTV News Kitchener: Ontario seniors separated in long-term care pushing for the right to remain together](#)
- [CityNews Kitchener: Waterloo MPP appeals for seniors bill to be brought forward](#)
- [Waterloo Region Record: Cambridge senior calls for end to separating couples in long-term care](#)



COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 440-23

Date: Nov 28, 2023

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____

THAT Council hereby receives the resolution from North Perth supporting Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP - Request for support for Bill 21, Fixing Long Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022 and same be filed in the Clerk's Office;

AND THAT Council directs the clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Long Term Care Stan Cho, MP Marcus Powlowski, MP Patty Hajdu, MPP Kevin Holland and MPP Lise Vaugeois, and all Ontario Municipalities.

☒ Carried

☐ Defeated

☐ Amended

☐ Deferred

Signature

Municipality of Shuniah, 420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7A 1X8



MUNICIPALITY OF

North Perth

www.northperth.ca

A Community of Character

330 Wallace Ave. N., Listowel, ON N4W 1L3

Phone: 519-291-2950

Toll Free: 888-714-1993

October 26th, 2023

Minister of Long-Term Care
438 University Avenue, 8th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of North Perth passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held on October 16th, 2023 regarding a request for support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022 from Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP.

Moved By: Lee Anne Andriessen **Seconded By:** Sarah Blazek

THAT: The Council of the Municipality of North Perth supports Consent Agenda Item 7.11 *Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP – Request for Support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022.*

AND THAT: Staff be directed to forward the resolution to other provincial entities and other Council counterparts across Ontario.

CARRIED

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Sarah Carter
Acting Clerk/Legislative Services Supervisor
Municipality of North Perth
330 Wallace Ave. N., Listowel ON N4W 1L3
519-292-2062
scarter@northperth.ca

Cc: Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP
Perth Wellington MPP, Matthew Rae
All Ontario Municipalities



Catherine Fife

MPP Waterloo

Todd Kasenberg
Mayor of Municipality of North Perth

RE: Requesting your support for Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022

September 25, 2023

Dear Mayor Kasenberg,

I am writing to you today to share an update on Bill 21, Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022, and to request your support for this important legislation.

Bill 21 amends the Residents' Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021 by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission but to have accommodation made available for both spouses so they may continue to live together.

The Act was inspired by Cambridge resident Jim McLeod, who will have been separated from his wife of 65 years Joan, on September 17, 2023. Nearly 6 years later, Jim continues to champion spousal reunification. He often says that he will talk to anyone and has two giant binders full of his advocacy work on the Bill. Last week, he told me that his heart is breaking because of his separation from Joan. He has brought other seniors who are separated from their spouses into the advocacy – you cannot sit with these folks for any amount of time and not care deeply about this legislation.

I know that you value the many contributions that older adults have made to Waterloo Region, and care deeply that they can live their final years with dignity and love. **I am hoping you will consider bringing a motion forward to your Council, in support of the Till Death Do Us Part Act.** Your support will help us to keep attention on this important legislation, so that it can finally be called to the Standing Committee on Social Policy – one step closer to Royal Assent.

I would be happy to discuss the Bill with you further, via phone call or an in-person meeting at your convenience. Thanks in advance for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP
Finance & Treasury Board Critic

Constituency Office
100 Regina St. S., Suite 220
Waterloo, ON N2J 4A8
Ph: 519-725-3477 | Fax: 519-725-3667
Email: cfife-co@ndp.on.ca

Queen's Park Office
Room 154, Main Legislative Bldg.
Queen's Park, Toronto ON M7A 1A5
Ph: 416-325-6913 | Fax: 416-325-6942
Email: cfife-qp@ndp.on.ca

BACKGROUND:

On November 15, 2022, the Till Death Do Us Part Act, passed second reading in the Ontario legislature after being [introduced for the third time in September 2022](#). The bill was then referred to the Ontario Legislature's Social Policy Committee. You can view highlights of the second reading debate here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYRIgQgDe2k>

I have been pushing for the Standing Committee on Social Policy to schedule a time to begin the work of reviewing Bill 21 since November 2022. **Today marks 286 days since the Act passed second reading at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.** Unfortunately, the Bill has yet to be called to committee.

Bill 21, which was formerly Bill 153 and 95, respectively, had passed second reading and was sent to the Justice Committee in December 2019, but was wiped off the order paper when Premier Ford prorogued the house in 2021. It was reintroduced early 2022 but did not have time to progress before the election.

Since I first introduced this Bill in 2019, the number of people who've reached out to my offices with heartbreaking stories of couples entering long-term care who are torn apart has skyrocketed. Simply put, Ontario seniors deserve dignity in care and should have the right to live with their partner as they age. Of note, Nova Scotia passed similar legislation, titled the [Life Partners in Long-Term Care Act](#) in 2021.

Following many meetings with stakeholders, it's clear that "care campuses" which offer different levels of care (independent, assisted living and long-term care) are the progressive model for investing in quality care for Ontario's aging population. Care campuses are an essential element to keeping couples together as they often age at different rates. This level of choice has been brought to my attention as especially important to rural and northern municipal leaders across Ontario. The care campus model for seniors housing that builds different levels of care has unique financial savings that will be critical as we grapple with a rapidly aging province.

We need the Bill to be called to the Standing Committee on Social Policy as soon as possible. We know that couples who are separated across Ontario cannot wait any longer for this legislative change to be made.

Here are the links to recent media coverage of the Till Death Do Us Part Act, which provide more specific insights into the lived experiences of older adults who are separated from their spouses:

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- [CityNews Kitchener: Waterloo MPP appeals for seniors bill to be brought forward](#)
- [Waterloo Region Record: Cambridge senior calls for end to separating couples in long-term care](#)

December 1, 2023

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of Monday, November 27, 2023, Council of Loyalist Township passed the following resolution:

Resolution 2023.21.17

Moved by Deputy Mayor Townend

Seconded by Councillor Proderick

That Council receive and support Prince Edward County's resolution dated November 14, 2023 urging the Province to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities.

Motion carried.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Kantharajah".

Anne Kantharajah

Township Clerk

akantharajah@loyalist.ca

613-386-7351 Ext. 121

Att: Prince Edward County resolution, November 14, 2023

cc: Mayor Jim Hegadorn, Deputy Mayor Townend, Councillor Proderick, Rebecca Murphy, CAO

November 17, 2023

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2023 the following motion regarding support for the Province to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, storm water management systems, and certain water taking activities was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-569

DATE: November 14, 2023

MOVED BY: Councillor Maynard

SECONDED BY: Councillor Roberts

WHEREAS the Municipality, in support of the Quinte Conservation Authority, actively supports the Source Water Protection Program, as part of local efforts to implement the Clean Water Act, 2006 and its regulations to protect local municipal drinking water sources;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is proposing to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities;

AND WHEREAS In 2018, Bill 68, the Open for Business Act was passed, whereby it legislated that less complex activities that pose low-risk to the environment should not be required to go through the approval process and instead, should self-register on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR);

AND WHEREAS Quinte Conservation Authority has outlined in their October 24, 2023 report to their Board, that the activities proposed to move to the EASR may pose too much risk to drinking water, and can pose threats to human health and the environment;

AND WHEREAS Quinte Conservation Authority noted the source water protection concern generally lies in the fact the Ministry will no longer undertake an up-front detailed review of applications related to the specified activities, thereby potentially weakening regulatory oversight;

AND WHEREAS the specified activities, which have the potential to cause significant adverse impacts to the natural environment and human health will no

longer be subject to public and site-specific scrutiny prior to commencing operation in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County supports the concerns outlined by Quinte Conservation Authority and urges the Provincial government to stop the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, stormwater management systems, and certain water taking activities; and

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Todd Smith, Bay of Quinte M.P.P. and Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) and all Ontario Conservation Authorities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Maynard and Marcia Wallace, CAO



Premier Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd A. Smith
Minister of Energy, Ontario
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL

December 1st, 2023

Re: Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Calandra, and Minister Smith,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolutions from the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus regarding Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold.

Motion 14 Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues
Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren
That Council support item 'S' Strong Mayor Powers & 'T' Leave to Construct Threshold from the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus.

Carried.

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

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus
Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing – Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org
All Ontario Municipalities



October 24, 2023

Premier R. Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

and

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Send electronically via email
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra

Please be advised at the regular meeting of the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus held on October 13, 2023, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by M. Ryan, seconded by B. Milne:

THAT item of correspondence 7-1(b) be received; and

WHEREAS the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus Inc. (WOWC) is a not-for-profit organization representing 15 upper and single tier municipalities in Southwestern Ontario with more than one and a half million residents;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of WOWC is to enhance the prosperity and overall wellbeing of rural and small urban communities across the region;

AND WHEREAS the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 18, for select municipalities, transfers legislative responsibility from the deliberative body of the Council to the Head of Council;

AND WHEREAS the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 24 provides for provincially appointed facilitators to assess the regional governments to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between the upper and lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Building Faster Fund arbitrarily ties housing supportive funding to municipalities that establish a housing target based solely on population size;

AND WHEREAS "responsible and accountable governments with respect to matters within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario requires sustained, strategic, and focused efforts from all levels of government, informed from the expertise of all levels of government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WOWC calls on the provincial government to work with municipalities in Ontario, as a responsible and accountable level of government, to focus all efforts on tackling the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario by:

Revoking existing 'strong mayor powers' and not implementing legislation that transfers legislative responsibility from the body of Council to the Head of Council.

Respecting spheres of jurisdiction, recognizing that municipalities are best positioned to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between upper and lower-tier municipalities and only conduct structural and service delivery reviews of municipalities or regions where a majority of municipalities included within the region, request the same.

Recognizing rural and small urban municipalities are critical to overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario and not allocating the majority of scarce provincial housing supportive funding to a limited subset of large urban municipalities in Ontario.

AND THAT WOWC calls upon the provincial government to provide all municipalities with the financial resources to tackle the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario that is pricing too many people, especially young families and newcomers, out of home ownership, while amplifying socio-economic disparities and reliance on municipally provided human services;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for support so that the future governance of our communities is in the hands of its constituents;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to: the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Premier of Ontario; WOWC Members; the EOWC, and all WOWC area MPs and MPPs. - **CARRIED**

Please contact Kate Burns Gallagher, Executive Director, Western Ontario Warden' Caucus, kate@wowc.ca should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus



cc.

Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing

Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org

Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org

WOWC MPPs

WOWC MPs

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus



October 24, 2023

The Honourable Todd A. Smith,
Minister of Energy, Ontario
Send electronically via email
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

Re: Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Minister Smith,

On October 13, 2023, the WOWC passed a resolution in favour of the Government of Ontario updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$20M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M.

Western Ontario has seen significant growth in the past decade with pressures to build out the gas pipeline network. Many municipalities in our region have lost major investment opportunities because of the delays in getting natural gas to development sites. Any person or company planning to construct hydrocarbon transmission facilities within Ontario, must apply to the OEB for authorization, if the projected cost to build the pipeline is over \$2 million, a threshold that was set in 1998.

Industry proposes updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$10M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M. Increasing the cost threshold to \$10M would closer align Ontario with other Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., in B.C., these thresholds are \$15M for electricity and \$20M for natural gas). The WOWC is recommending a \$20M threshold for our Province to be competitive with other Canadian jurisdictions.

Ontario's outdated regulations are causing the LTC to apply far more broadly than intended when it was established over 20 years ago. Due to increased regulatory and cost pressures, as well as inflation, virtually all gas pipeline projects are now greater than \$2M rendering the threshold meaningless. Roughly 0.5 KM pipe in urban settings now often exceed the \$2M threshold.

Examples of businesses lost in the region due to the regulation include;

- EV Battery Manufacturer, investment of \$1 Billion
- New Distillery
- 2 New Agricultural processing plants - \$140 million total investment
- New Agricultural plant - \$225 million USD investment

Modernizing these outdated regulations would reduce delays and costs for economic development initiatives including new industries seeking to locate in Ontario and create jobs (or existing seeking to expand), transit projects, community expansion projects, housing developments, connections for low carbon fuel blending (e.g. renewable natural gas, hydrogen) as well as residential and business customer connections.

The WOWC supports an increase in the Leave to Construct threshold to \$20M.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glen McNeil". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

cc.

Western Ontario MPPs
WOWC Members
WOWC Local Municipalities

December 7, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Via email: Premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Via email: MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

MPP Trevor Jones
Chatham-Kent-Leamington
Via email: trevor.jones@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Parsa and MPP Jones:

RE: Ontario Works Rates

On November 6, 2023, after much discussion on increased homelessness in Chatham-Kent, Councillor Marjorie Crew made the following motion that was passed unanimously by the Mayor and Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent:

"That Council prepare a letter addressed to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, as well as local MPPs to strongly recommend that accommodation rates of social assistance payments increase to the Average Market Rent (for all types of rentals) for recipients of Ontario Works Assistance and the Ontario Disability Support Program. And that a copy of this letter be sent to AMO, ROMA, aPHa and all Councils in Ontario".

In Chatham-Kent:

- 1) Total homelessness has been gradually increasing since November 2022.
 - (a) Pre-pandemic, it was decreasing through Employment and Social Services' 'Housing First' approach, coordinated access system and a 'By Name List'.
- 2) The percentage of individuals experiencing homelessness in our community have identified as staying outdoors doubled in 2023 from 2022.
- 3) The average housing move-ins has been steadily declining each month.
- 4) On average, the number of new individuals (never previously identified as experiencing homelessness) added to the By Name List each month has increased from 2022.
- 5) The average market rent is \$1,522 for a one-bedroom apartment and a single person on Ontario Works receives a maximum of \$390 toward accommodation costs.

Cont'd...

Homelessness is increasing in Chatham-Kent and the well-being of our residents is decreasing. Since 2018, the Ontario Works rates have been frozen and yet the caseload in Chatham-Kent has only increased. If the goal was to drive more people into the workforce it is not working, but instead driving more people into homelessness. Nearly 80% of people accessing emergency shelter have social assistance as their main source of income. We cannot build affordable housing fast enough and need upstream issues like social assistance rates to be resolved to stop our community members from slipping into homelessness. Homelessness has resulted in significant pressures and costs on many of our services including Police, Fire Services, Paramedics, Public Works, Parks and Social Services. Unhoused residents are suffering, and property taxpayers are seeing significant asks from the 2024-2027 budgets to mitigate the challenges of homelessness.

In recent years, housing was determined to be a human right by both the Federal and Provincial governments and thus income maintenance programs should have housing allowances that reflect actual expenses. Other income programs have increased, yet Ontario Works particularly has remained far below the poverty line with no increase since 2017. In 1995, social assistance rates were slashed by 21.6% and have only increased by 41%. At the same time \$1.00 in 1995 has the same buying power as \$1.81 today, so inflation over that period has been over 80% - however, the Ontario Works rate has increased by only about 41% (half of inflation rate) for a single person in the past 28 years (5,6). People who have had to find new housing in today's rental market, experience a higher rate of inflation as they are required to pay rents that have increased by approximately 133% in that time period.

For these reasons and the fact that Ontario social assistance rates are one of the lowest of provinces in Canada, we ask that the Province of Ontario raise social assistance rates, especially Ontario Works Assistance significantly using the Average Market Rent to determine accommodation limits. This will provide social assistance recipients the opportunity to stay housed and be well, potentially re-joining the workforce and reduce the burden on community programs and municipal services. Our downtowns and parks can return to what we all enjoyed in smaller cities like ours only a few years ago. An investment in our citizens who are vulnerable is expected to create savings in almost every other sector.

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

C: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
alPHa
Ontario Councils

December 06, 2023

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

Sent via email: resolutions@amo.on.ca

Attention: Colin Best, President

Dear Mr. Best

Re: Grey Highlands Resolution #2023-964

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the December 06, 2023 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

2023-964

Whereas the Enbridge Gas has shared with Grey Highlands key messages regarding the Ontario Energy Board's Leave to Construct (LTC) process, entitled "reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in Ontario"; and

Whereas Grey Highlands supports and wishes to endorse the recommendations put forward by Enbridge Gas in order to expedite the installation of natural gas to rural, remote or underserved communities such as Grey Highlands; now Therefor be it resolved that the Municipality of Grey Highlands petition the Ontario Government to expedite the implementation of the following recommendations:

- i) THAT the Government of Ontario move to modernize the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Leave to Construct (LTC) process for smaller pipeline projects in order to bring reliable, affordable energy options to communities, homes and businesses in a more cost-effective and timely manner.**
- ii) THAT the LTC cost threshold be updated from \$2M to \$10M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M.**
- iii) THAT these outdated regulations are causing the LTC to apply far more broadly than intended when it was established over 20 years ago due to**

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
519-986-2811 Toll-Free 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca

increased regulatory and cost pressures, as well as inflation, virtually all gas pipeline projects are now greater than \$2M rendering the threshold meaningless.

iv) THAT roughly 0.5 KM pipe in urban settings now often exceeds the \$2M threshold.

v) THAT modernizing these outdated regulations would reduce delays and costs for economic development initiatives including transit projects, community expansion projects, housing developments, connections for low carbon fuel blending (e.g., renewable natural gas, hydrogen) as well as residential and business customer connections.

vi) THAT based on OEB's performance standards, this proposal would save approx. 5-7 months of regulatory process which is in addition to the time needed to undertake Indigenous consultation and environmental review and prepare an application to the OEB.

vii) THAT the cost of preparing and having a LTC application heard ranges from approx. ~\$50,000 to ~\$200,000, which is passed on to customers.

viii) THAT while no cost-based threshold exists for electricity lines, there are a range of exemptions ensuring that LTC is only required for significant electricity projects and the proposed changes would help ensure that, consistent with electricity projects, LTC for hydrocarbon lines would only be required for significant projects.

ix) THAT increasing the cost threshold to \$10M would closer align Ontario with other Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., in B.C., these thresholds are \$15M for electricity and \$20M for natural gas); and

That this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Energy, Todd Smith, The Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy and all regional municipalities requesting support of the proposed changes regarding reducing red tape for more cost-effective, timely energy connections in Ontario.

CARRIED.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Amanda Fines-Vanalstine

Amanda Fines-VanAlstine
Manager of Corporate Services/Deputy-Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

cc. Premier Doug Ford
Minister of Energy Todd Smith,
Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy
All municipalities in Ontario

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
519-986-2811 Toll-Free 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca



Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

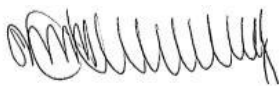
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- **Increased regulatory processes**

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- **Inconsistent cemetery regulations**

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- **High maintenance costs**

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- **Cost of cemetery management software**

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha Helmkey, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



December 21, 2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

sent via email Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Todd McCarthy,

Re: Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request – Tay Township

Tay Township Council passed the following resolution during the December 20, 2023 Council Meeting regarding the Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request:

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

TAY TOWNSHIP

450 Park Street
PO Box 100
Victoria Harbour, Ontario
L0K 2A0



And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Sent on behalf of Tay Township Council.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katelyn Johns'.

Katelyn Johns, MPPA
Municipal Clerk

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities/MPP, and all Ontario municipalities.

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Advocacy– Short Term Rentals

Please be advised that the following resolution was adopted by Committee of the Whole at its meeting held on November 27, 2023 and subsequently ratified by City Council on December 11, 2023:

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum dated November 6, 2023 from Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Vice Chair of Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, we recommend in support of the request to the Government of Ontario to establish a regulatory framework requiring digital platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO to:

- Require owners using the digital platforms to comply with municipal planning and licensing regulations; and
- Prevent advertising of properties that are not registered with the relevant municipality; and
- Provide a contact with the platform to ensure ongoing and effective communications for provincial and municipal officials;

AND THAT the City of Thunder Bay call upon the Province of Ontario to work with municipalities to address situations in which long term housing stock has been lost to corporate ownership of short-term rental properties;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra, MPP Lise Vaugeois and MPP Kevin Holland, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and all municipalities in Ontario;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to Council for ratification.

CARRIED

Should you have any further questions relative to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours very truly,



Dana Earle
Deputy City Clerk

Cc:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra
MPP Lise Vaugeois
MPP Kevin Holland
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
All municipalities in Ontario

December 19, 2023

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Delivered by email
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

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

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of December 12, 2023
Motion 10.3 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Community Safety and Inciteful Speech

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on December 12, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas there has been an escalation in terrorist activity and unrest around the world that has triggered homeland rallies and advocacy that supports inciteful actions, which are causing uncertainty and unsafe feelings in our own country; and

Whereas inciteful speech is knowingly being utilized to create division, manipulation and spread misinformation, which could be defined as violent extremist propaganda and encouraging violent crimes; and

Whereas any loss of innocent civilian life is unacceptable and tragic; and

Whereas other local municipal councils and residents in Aurora have expressed concerns of uncertainty and safety who are asking for peace, protection and security; and

Whereas law exists to help maintain public safety, security, peace and order in society, and in Canada, where the responsibility for criminal justice is shared between the Federal, Provincial and territorial governments; and

Whereas it is important to protect our general freedoms of speech, while respecting the principles to protect and respect human rights, whether in

person or in a free, open and secure internet, and to ensure transparency and accountability;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledges that residents in the community have expressed feelings of uncertainty and safety concerns, due to the recent global unrest, and condemns all acts of terror and violence resulting in loss of life or injury; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on all levels of government to acknowledge this uncertainty and safety concerns in Canada and look to strengthening their available tools to deny inciteful speech that encourages violent extremists the ability to publicly manipulate, advocate, and incite violence or physical harm to another human being, whether it be online or in person; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That Council encourages our community and diverse local leaders of faith to bring the community together to promote peace, healing and understanding during this difficult time; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to both the Federal and Provincial government and all municipalities in Ontario.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi
Deputy Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

JG/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.3 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Community Safety and Inciteful Speech

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas there has been an escalation in terrorist activity and unrest around the world that has triggered homeland rallies and advocacy that supports inciteful actions, which are causing uncertainty and unsafe feelings in our own country; and

Whereas inciteful speech is knowingly being utilized to create division, manipulation and spread misinformation, which could be defined as violent extremist propaganda and encouraging violent crimes; and

Whereas any loss of innocent civilian life is unacceptable and tragic; and

Whereas other local municipal councils and residents in Aurora have expressed concerns of uncertainty and safety who are asking for peace, protection and security; and

Whereas law exists to help maintain public safety, security, peace and order in society, and in Canada, where the responsibility for criminal justice is shared between the Federal, Provincial and territorial governments; and

Whereas it is important to protect our general freedoms of speech, while respecting the principles to protect and respect human rights, whether in person or in a free, open and secure internet, and to ensure transparency and accountability;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledges that residents in the community have expressed feelings of uncertainty and safety concerns, due to the recent global unrest, and condemns all acts of terror and violence resulting in loss of life or injury; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on all levels of government to acknowledge this uncertainty and safety concerns in Canada and look to strengthening their available tools to deny inciteful

speech that encourages violent extremists the ability to publicly manipulate, advocate, and incite violence or physical harm to another human being, whether it be online or in person; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That Council encourages our community and diverse local leaders of faith to bring the community together to promote peace, healing and understanding during this difficult time; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be provided to both the Federal and Provincial government and all municipalities in Ontario.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

December 19, 2023

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

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of December 12, 2023
Motion 10.1 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on December 12, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and**

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:**
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and**
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and**
 - c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and**
 - d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Jaclyn Grossi

Deputy Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

JG/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, MPP
Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to

develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and

- c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and
 - d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)

December 22, 2023

Sent via E-mail
david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

David Piccini, MPP
Northumberland-Peterborough South
117 Peter St
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5

Re: Rising Municipal Insurance Costs

Dear MPP Piccini,

At its regular meeting held December 12, 2023, the Council of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood considered the above-noted matter and passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are experiencing higher insurance rates at each renewal with limited access to insurance providers willing to quote on municipal insurance needs;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Asphodel-Norwood's annual insurance premiums have increased from \$150,280 to \$299,729 from 2020 to 2024, representing an accumulated increase of 99.5% over this period;

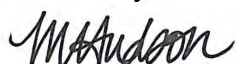
AND WHEREAS these annual increases are unsustainable and divert funds from critical municipal services as one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood directs staff to send a letter to the MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South calling for action to reduce insurance costs;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all Ontario Municipalities for support.

Trusting you will find the foregoing satisfactory, but please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Melanie Hudson, Acting Clerk
Township of Asphodel-Norwood

-2-

Cc: Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities