



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

March 22, 2024

	Pages
1. Intimate Partner Violence	6 - 9
• The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada	
2. Provincial Changes Affecting Conservation Authority Permits	10 - 13
• Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority	
3. Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters	14 - 28
• Town of Lincoln supporting resolution of Town of Plympton-Wyoming	
• County of Frontenac supporting resolution of Town of Plympton-Wyoming	
• Township of Archipelago supporting resolution of the Municipality of Wawa	
• Township of Georgian Bay	
• Municipality of Hanover supporting resolution of the Municipality of Wawa	
• Town of Moosonee	
4. Fire Apparatus	29 - 34
• Municipality of Calvin supporting resolution of the Municipality of Wawa	
• Township of Lanark Highlands supporting resolution of the Village of Merrickville Wolford	
5. National Fire Fighting Strategy	35 - 39

	Township of Limerick supporting resolution of the Municipality of Calvin	
6.	Blue Box Regulation for 'Ineligible' Sources	40 - 43
	- Township of Perry - Municipality of Chatham-Kent supporting resolution of the Township of Perry	
7.	Occupational Health and Safety Act	44 - 54
	- Township of Puslinch supporting resolution of The City of Greater Sudbury - Town of Grimsby	
8.	Social and Economic Prosperity Review	55 - 62
	- Township of Puslinch - Township of Limerick supporting resolution of the Municipality of Hanover	
9.	Long-Term Care Amendment Act	63 - 65
	Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the City of Waterloo	
10.	Guaranteed Livable Income	66 - 69
	- Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the County of Prince Edward - Municipality of Wawa	
11.	Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems	70 - 75
	- Town of Plympton-Wyoming supporting resolution of the County of Renfrew - Town of Cobourg supporting resolution of the County of Renfrew	
12.	Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support	76 - 79
	Town of Grimsby supporting resolution of the County of Prince Edward	
13.	Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement	80 - 85
	Town of Aurora	

14.	Rising Municipal Insurance Costs	86 - 88
	• Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood	
15.	Municipal Equipment Operator Course	89 - 94
	• Municipality of St. Charles • Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution of the Municipality of St. Charles • Township of Puslinch supporting resolution of the Municipality of Powassan	
16.	Municipal Highway Infrastructure	95 - 101
	• County of Lambton • Township of Amaranth • Township of the Whitewater Region supporting resolution of the County of Lambton • Municipality of Wawa	
17.	Operational Budget Funding	102 - 104
	• Township of Amaranth • Municipality of Powassan supporting resolution of the Township of Amaranth	
18.	Increase Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario	105 - 116
	• Town of Lincoln • Township of Georgian Bluffs • Town of Fort Erie supporting resolution of the Town of Lincoln • Municipality of Wawa	
19.	Road Safety Emergency	117 - 117
	• City of Stratford	
20.	Unnecessary Noise – Highway Traffic Act	118 - 119
	• Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the Municipality of Shuniah	
21.	Residential Tenancies Act	120 - 122
	• Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the Town of	

22.	Expand the Use of Permit-by-Rule	123 - 125
	• Municipality of St. Charles supporting resolution of the County of Prince Edward	
23.	Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act	126 - 144
	• Municipality of St. Charles • Town of Huntsville supporting resolution of the Municipality of Wawa • Tay Valley Township • Municipality of Markstay-Warren • Township of McMurrich/Monteith supporting resolution of the Township of Clearview	
24.	Cemetery Administration Management	145 - 158
	• Town of Kearney supporting resolution of the Township of Puslinch	
25.	Enbridge Gas Inc.	159 - 162
	• Municipality of Tweed	
26.	Metroland Media Group	163 - 163
	• Tay Valley Township	
27.	Climate Change	164 - 164
	• Tay Valley Township	
28.	Strong Mayor Powers	165 - 168
	• Town of Aurora	
29.	Combine ROMA and OGRA Conferences	169 - 170
	• Town of Goderich	
30.	Housing Funding	171 - 172
	• City of Quinte West	
31.	Amenity Sharing with School Boards	173 - 176
	• Town of Aurora	
32.	Ontario Heritage Act	177 - 181

- Town of Cobourg
- Town of Fore Erie

33.	Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework	182 - 183
	• Town of Bracebridge	
34.	Public Health Ontario Labs	184 - 185
	• Municipality of Wawa	



The Honourable / L'honorable Arif Virani, P.C., M.P. / c.p., député
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H8

March 7, 2024

His Worship Matthew M. Shoemaker
Mayor
City of Sault Ste. Marie

(by email)

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The Office of the Prime Minister has forwarded to me a copy of your correspondence concerning the City of Sault Ste. Marie's recommendations to protect against intimate partner violence. Please excuse the delay in responding.

Gender-based violence is unacceptable and has no place in our country. The Government of Canada is committed to ending it in all forms, including intimate partner violence (IPV), and is working to address any gaps in the *Criminal Code* to ensure a robust justice system response. To that end, I welcome your recommendations and the Renfrew County Inquest jury's recommendations, and I agree that more must be done to protect against IPV.

I am pleased to note that the jury's recommendations to create a new offence targeting coercive control and to review the criminal harassment offence are aligned with the Government's ongoing efforts to prevent and eradicate gender-based violence. In September 2022, the Government provided its response to the April 2021 report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights entitled *The Shadow Pandemic: Stopping Coercive and Controlling Behaviour in Intimate Relationships* (<https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/JUST/report-1/response-8512-441-56>). In its response, the Government indicated that it is open to the report's recommendation to develop a new coercive control criminal offence and to monitor the experience of other jurisdictions that have done so, such as the United Kingdom and Scotland.

Department of Justice Canada officials continue to work with provincial and territorial counterparts to enact a new offence prohibiting coercive control, consistent with the Committee's recommendation. The Department has engaged academics, gender-based violence advocates, service providers, and individuals to inform this work.

On November 9, 2023, the Government announced its support for Private Member's Bill C-332, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (controlling or coercive conduct)*. This legislation seeks to strengthen Canada's legislative framework addressing intimate partner violence by proposing reforms that would protect victims of coercive control in intimate relationships. The Government will continue to monitor the progress of this bill as it makes its way through Parliament, while taking into account provincial, territorial, and other stakeholder views.

Justice Canada officials are also reviewing the criminal harassment offence to ensure that it is as responsive as possible to modern manifestations of harassing behaviour, consistent with the jury's recommendation and a resolution by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada in 2022.

I have noted the jury's recommendation that the term "femicide" be included in the *Criminal Code*. While there is no single agreed-upon definition of "femicide" in the national or international context, the term is widely understood to refer to the killing of women, primarily by men, because of their gender. I agree with the United Nations and the Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability that femicide is the most extreme form of violence and discrimination against women and girls.

Under the *Criminal Code*, first and second degree murder are punishable by a mandatory penalty of life imprisonment. Similarly, manslaughter is punishable by a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and parole ineligibility is based on the sentence imposed. In addition, the *Criminal Code* is designed to ensure that offenders of violence against women and girls receive sentences that are proportionate to the gravity of the offence and the degree of responsibility of the offender, taking into account aggravating factors. These can include evidence that the offence was motivated by bias, prejudice, or hate based on sex or gender identity or expression, or evidence that the offender abused their intimate partner, a member of the victim's family, or a member of their own family. In convictions of second degree murder, the presence of aggravating factors may increase the offender's parole ineligibility period, and in convictions of manslaughter, aggravating factors may result in longer sentences. Justice Canada officials are currently examining ways to strengthen the criminal justice system's response to the murder of women.

Our government acknowledges the importance of identifying femicide to raise awareness and assist in developing appropriate responses. For this reason, Statistics Canada is working to track all gender-related homicides in Canada. It may interest you to know that in April 2023, Statistics Canada released a publication entitled *Gender-related homicide of women and girls in Canada* (<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2023001/article/00003-eng.htm>). Please be assured that departmental officials are working with Statistics Canada to determine what more can be done to improve our knowledge of femicide, including through enhanced data collection measures.

I have carefully reviewed the jury's proposal to amend the *Criminal Code*'s dangerous offender provisions. Although the existing dangerous offender provisions allow for an intimate partner violence offender to be designated a Dangerous Offender, Justice Canada officials are examining ways to strengthen these provisions as they apply to the intimate partner violence context.

Additionally, I note the jury's recommendation that alternate means to testify in court, such as video conferencing, be made available to victims. The *Criminal Code* contains provisions that make it easier for victims and witnesses to provide their testimony in court proceedings. For example, victims and witnesses may testify by audio or video conference if appropriate. In determining whether this is appropriate, the court must consider several factors, including the location and personal circumstances of the victim, the nature of their anticipated evidence, and the nature and seriousness of the offence.

Although testifying by video conferencing is already available to victims, as are other testimonial aids, Justice Canada officials are looking for ways to strengthen the ability of the criminal justice system to support victims who testify in court. Currently, victims and witnesses may testify outside the courtroom by closed-circuit television or inside the courtroom behind a screen, and they may have a support person present while they testify.

I also note the jury's recommendation to establish a Royal Commission to review and recommend changes to the criminal justice system to make it more victim-centered. I would like to assure you that the Government is engaged in collaborative work with partners and stakeholders to strengthen victims' rights under the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights* and other federal legislation, and to support improved responses to victims in the criminal justice system. More information on the Government's efforts in this regard, including recent amendments to the *Criminal Code* to support and protect victims of sexual- and gender-based violence, is available in the Government response to the December 2022 Committee report entitled *Improving Support for Victims of Crime* (https://www.ourcommons.ca/content/Committee/441/JUST/GovResponse/RP12336076/441_JUST_Rpt07_GR/VictimsOf%20Crime-e.pdf).

It may interest you to know that *An Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Sex Offender Information Registration Act and the International Transfer of Offenders Act* (former Bill S-12), which received Royal Assent on October 26, 2023, amended the *Criminal Code* to empower victims and survivors of crime by improving the law related to publication bans and victim rights to information. More information is available on the Department's website (<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/csj-sjc/pl/csoir-cerds/index.html>).

In addition, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (bail reform)* (former Bill C-48) received Royal Assent on December 5, 2023, and further strengthened the bail regime's response to IPV by broadening the existing reverse onus to apply to persons who were previously

discharged of an IPV-related offence. More information can be found on the Department's website (<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/csi-sjc/pl/pcscbs-cprslscc/index.html>).

With respect to the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, Budget 2022 provided \$539.3 million over five years in funding, including \$525 million to support the provinces and territories in their efforts to implement the National Action Plan. The Government of Canada has also worked with the provinces and territories to establish bilateral funding agreements to support its implementation. As of December 2023, bilateral agreements have been announced in all 13 jurisdictions. Additional information on the National Action Plan and the bilateral agreements can be found on the Government's website (<https://femmes-egalite-genres.canada.ca/en/gender-based-violence.html>).

Finally, the federal government is pursuing a comprehensive approach to addressing firearms-related violence. To that end, *An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms)* (former Bill C-21), which received Royal Assent on December 15, 2023, addresses intimate partner violence, gender-based violence, and self-harm involving firearms through the implementation of a new red flag law. Red flag laws enable any individual to seek a court order to temporarily remove firearms from the possession of a firearms license holder, in circumstances where the licensee poses a danger to themselves or others. The Act also requires Chief Firearms Officers to revoke a firearms license within 24 hours where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the licensee may have engaged in an act of domestic violence or stalking. Moreover, under the Act, any individual who is subject to a protection order or has been convicted of an offence in which violence was used, threatened, or attempted against their intimate partner or any member of their family is ineligible to hold a firearms licence.

I appreciate having had your concerns brought to my attention. I welcome any further input you may have as the Government continues its work to strengthen the criminal justice system's response to intimate partner violence.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Arif Virani, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada



March 8, 2024

Sent to: Municipal CAOs, Clerks, Planning Staff and Building Officials

**Re: Provincial Changes Affecting Conservation Authority Permits
(Changes Effective April 1, 2024)**

Dear Member Municipalities,

Under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, all conservation authorities are required to regulate development within natural hazard areas like floodplains, unstable slopes and wetlands. Property owners require permission from their local conservation authority to undertake development, site alteration, construction or placement of fill within these regulated areas or to interfere with a wetland or straighten, change, divert or interfere with a watercourse.

This letter is to inform you that on February 16, 2024, the provincial government amended Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and its regulations, and while much of the conservation authorities' regulatory process will remain the same, the following key changes will take effect April 1, 2024.

Effective April 1, 2024

Property owners will still be required to apply for a permit from their local conservation authority to undertake otherwise prohibited development, interference, and alteration activities in regulated areas, however the following changes will take effect:

- The definition of a “watercourse” has been amended from “an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs” to “a defined channel, having a bed and banks or sides, in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs”.
- The regulated area around wetlands will be 30 m, including around provincially significant wetlands.
- Certain low-risk activities will be exempted from requiring a permit (list attached).



Transition Plan

Conservation authorities are working together to ensure a smooth transition and will work with municipalities to minimize disruptions to approval processes and development applications. While additional support materials are being developed, please refer to the following in the interim:

- Permit applications submitted to conservation authorities prior to April 1, 2024, will continue to be processed under the current permitting process, while applications submitted on or after April 1, 2024, will be processed under the new process.
- Property owners wanting to undertake an activity that is now exempt from requiring a conservation authority permit are strongly encouraged to confirm with their local conservation authority that their project meets the exemption criteria.
- Conservation authorities will also be working to review and update their regulatory mapping and development review policies where needed to reflect the new regulation, but this will take time and may require public consultation.
 - Municipalities are advised that conservation authority regulatory mapping which has been shared for screening purposes may require updates, and in the interim, conservation authority staff may need to undertake site visits to confirm regulated features and areas.
 - Where discrepancies exist between the text of the legislation or regulation and the conservation authorities' policies, the text of the legislation and regulation will prevail.

Review of Planning Applications

We want to confirm that these legislative changes do not impact planning services that conservation authorities provide to municipalities. Municipalities must continue to circulate planning applications and other matters under the *Planning Act* (including technical reports) to conservation authorities so that we can review and comment on natural hazards including wetland matters as required under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

More Information and Legislative References

Below are links and legislative references for those looking for more information:

- On April 1, 2024, Ontario Regulation 41/24: *Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits* will replace the individual *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses* regulations that each conservation authority has (Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority's current regulation is Ontario Regulation 176/06).



**Sault Ste. Marie Region
Conservation Authority**

- The enactment of O. Reg. 41/24 will also coincide with the proclamation of new sections in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- A decision notice is available on the Environmental Registry of Ontario, posting #019-2927: [Proposed updates to the regulation of development for the protection of people and property from natural hazards in Ontario](#).
- We understand that new and updated regulations will also be published on e-laws in the coming days.
- The administration of O. Reg. 41/24 is a mandatory program and service that all conservation authorities must deliver as per Section 21.1.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and as stipulated in [O. Reg. 686/21: Mandatory Programs and Services](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact our planning and regulations staff with any questions or concerns so that we may assist you. We will continue to keep you informed with any additional information and further details regarding our transition plan and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Barrett".

Corrina Barrett,
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Attached:

- Excerpt from Ontario Regulation 41/24 (activities exempt from requiring a permit)



1100 Fifth Line East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON
P6A 6J8



705-946-8530



nature@ssmrca.ca



www.ssmrca.ca

Exceptions (activities exempt from requiring a permit)

5. Paragraph 2 of subsection 28 (1) of the Act does not apply to,

- (a) the construction, reconstruction, erection or placement of,
 - (i) a seasonal or floating dock that,
 - (A) is 10 square metres or less,
 - (B) does not require permanent support structures, and
 - (C) can be removed in the event of flooding,
 - (ii) a rail, chain-link or panelled fence with a minimum of 75 millimetres of width between panels, that is not within a wetland or watercourse,
 - (iii) agricultural in-field erosion control structures that are not within and that do not have any outlet of water directed or connected to a watercourse, wetland or river or stream valley,
 - (iv) a non-habitable accessory building or structure that,
 - (A) is incidental or subordinate to the principal building or structure,
 - (B) is 15 square metres or less, and
 - (C) is not within a wetland or watercourse, or
 - (v) an unenclosed detached deck or patio that is 15 square metres or less, is not placed within a watercourse or wetland and does not utilize any method of cantilevering;
- (b) the installation of new tile drains that are not within a wetland or watercourse, within 30 metres of a wetland or within 15 metres of a watercourse, and that have an outlet of water that is not directed or connected to a watercourse, wetland or river or stream valley, or the maintenance or repair of existing tile drains;
- (c) the installation, maintenance or repair of a pond for watering livestock that is not connected to or within a watercourse or wetland, within 15 metres of a wetland or a watercourse, and where no excavated material is deposited within an area where subsection 28 (1) of the Act applies;
- (d) the maintenance or repair of a driveway or private lane that is outside of a wetland or the maintenance or repair of a public road, provided that the driveway or road is not extended or widened and the elevation, bedding materials and existing culverts are not altered;
- (e) the maintenance or repair of municipal drains as described in, and conducted in accordance with the mitigation requirements set out in the Drainage Act and the Conservation Authorities Act Protocol, approved by the Minister and available on a government of Ontario website, as it may be amended from time to time; and
- (f) the reconstruction of a non-habitable garage with no basement, if the reconstruction does not exceed the existing footprint of the garage and does not allow for a change in the potential use of the garage to create a habitable space.



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 7, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara Street, P.O. Box 250
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 5, 2024, received and supported correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming dated December 1, 2023, regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters) with the following motion:

Resolution No: RC-2024-06

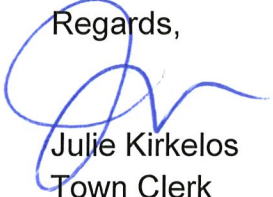
Moved by Councillor JD Pachereva; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

THAT Council support and endorse the resolution within the correspondence received re: Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,


Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



Lianne Rood
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

December 1st 2023

Sent via e-mail: Lianne.Rood@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Dear Ms. Rood,

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 resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).

Motion 13

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Bob Woolvett

That Council support item 'R' of correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Tax Credit for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

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
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario – info@oafc.on.ca
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) – resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Fannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>Jim Al</i>

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;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- 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 Municipality of Wawa 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, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

February 26, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

4800 South Service Road
Beamsville, On, L3J 1L3

Attention: Town of Lincoln

**RE: Correspondence Endorsement – Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to
Subsections 118.06(2) and 118.07(2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for
Volunteer Firefighters)**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on February 20, 2024, received, and endorsed the correspondence from the Town of Lincoln dated February 7, 2024, regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06(2) and 118.07(2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters) with the following motion:

Moved: Councillor Korstanje

Seconded: Councillor Charrois

Resolved that Council endorse the Town of Lincoln's resolution regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06(2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

Cc: Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



2069 Battersea Rd.
Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0

F: 613.548.8460

Whereas these individuals receive some form of pay to cover expenses, but do not draw a living wage from firefighting;

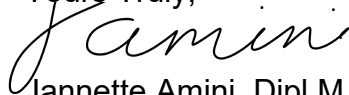
Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the County of Frontenac calls upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and,

Further That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Office of the Fire Marshall, Mark Gerretsen, MP, Kingston and the Islands, Scott Reid, MP, Lanark - Frontenac - Kingston, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

I trust you will find this in order; however should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 613-548-9400, ext. 302 or via email at jamini@frontenacounty.ca.

Yours Truly,



Jannette Amini, Dipl.M.M., M.A. CMO
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

Copy: File



**The Corporation of The Township of The Archipelago
Council Meeting**

Agenda Number: 15.5.

Resolution Number 24-031

Title: Request for Support. Resolution requesting the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue respondents

Date: Friday, February 23, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lundy

Seconded by: Councillor MacLeod

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of The Archipelago hereby supports the Municipality of Wawa's November 7, 2023 resolution in support of Bill C-310 and amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3000 to \$10,000; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to MPP of Parry Sound Muskoka Graydon Smith, MP of Parry Sound Muskoka Scott Aitchison, the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Fannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>J. M. Al</i>

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;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- 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 Municipality of Wawa 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, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.



The Township of Georgian Bay Resolutions Council - 04 Mar 2024

Item 11.(e)

Date: March 4, 2024

C-2024-089

Moved by Councillor Steven Predko

Seconded by Councillor Stephen Jarvis

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 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; and

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Georgian Bay Council request the Government of Canada to increase the tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers; and

THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all Ontario municipalities, and Scott Aitchison, MP.

☒ Carried ☐ Defeated ☐ Recorded Vote ☐ Referred ☐ Deferred

Peter Koetsier, Mayor

March 8, 2024

Municipality of Wawa
Office of the Clerk
Municipal Office
40 Broadway Avenue
PO Box 500
Wawa, ON P0S 1K0

Email: slord@swawa.cc

Re: Support Bill C-310 and Enact Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act

Further to correspondence received from the Municipality Wawa calling on 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, the Council of the Town of Hanover passed the following resolution;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL | Seconded by COUNCILLOR SAKAL

That the Council of the Town of Hanover support the recommendation of the Municipality of Wawa calling 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.

CARRIED

Respectfully,



Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk

cc: Honourable Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

The Corporation of the Town of Moosonee

P.O. BOX 727, MOOSONEE, ONTARIO, P0L 1Y0

RESOLUTION 2024

March 19th, 2024

NO. 2024- ~~46~~ 45

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

Councillor Theresa Chavez	☒	Councillor Theresa Chavez	☐
Councillor Sheldon Ross	☐	Councillor Sheldon Ross	☐
Councillor Diane Ryder	☐	Councillor Diane Ryder	☐
Councillor Carman Tozer	☐	Councillor Carman Tozer	☒
Mayor Wayne Taipale	☐	Mayor Wayne Taipale	☐

MOTION:

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 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; and

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Town of Moosonee Council request the Government of Canada to increase the tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers.

CARRIED	☒	DEFEATED	☐	TABLED/DEFERRED UNTIL	☐
---------	-------------------------------------	----------	--------------------------	-----------------------	--------------------------

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: _____

- ☐ Disclosed His/Her/Their Interest
- ☐ Vacated His/Her/Their Seat
- ☐ Deferred

DEPUTY CLERK  Shalom Capili


MAYOR – Wayne Taipale



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

Date: February 27, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024- 81

10.1.7-In Support to Resolution passed by the Municipality of Wawa Fire Apparatus

Moved By: Councillor **GRANT**

Seconded By: Councillor **MORETON**

WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to service operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin is in support of the attached resolution as passed by the Municipality of Wawa and directs the Fire Chief to prepare a letter to give to the clerk as follows; attention to the Fire Underwriters Survey requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, The Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Affairs and Housing, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) MPP Vic Fedeli and all 444 Municipalities in Ontario.

Results: **Carried**

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	☐	☐
Councillor Moreton	☐	☐
Councillor Latimer	☐	☐
Councillor Grant	☐	☐
Councillor Manson	☐	☐



March 13th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
14th Floor
400 University Ave
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

Ministry of Legislative Affairs
Main Legislative Building
Room 223
111 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford, Hon. David Piccini, & Hon. Paul Calandra

Dear Premier Ford, Hon. David Piccini, & Hon. Paul Calandra:

RE: Resolution – Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held March 13th, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Kelso

Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution from the Village of Merrickville Wolford regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus;

AND THAT, this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;



AND FURTHER THAT, this resolution be circulated to all Ontario municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC).

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. All Ontario Municipalities
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC)
Association of Municipalities

Village of Merrickville Wolford

317 Brock Street W PO Box 340
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0
T: 613-269-4791
W: Merrickville-wolford.ca

February 16, 2024

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

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, at its regular meeting on February 12th, 2024, passed the following motion endorsing the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #: R-21-12-02-24

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Barr

Seconded by: Councillor Ireland

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford endorse the resolution received from Prince Edward County regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements Fire Underwriters Survey requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at clerk@merrickville-wolford.ca.

Your truly,



Julia McCaugherty-Jansman
Clerk

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

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

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown



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

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: National Fire Fighting Strategy

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Municipality of Calvin regarding a review of the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Motion024-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican

Seconded by Councillor Glenn Locke

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the National Fire Fighting Strategy.

Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc.

Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: "But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity." He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, "We're really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet."

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, "It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector."

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	☐	☐
Councillor Moreton	☐	☐
Councillor Latimer	☐	☐
Councillor Grant	☐	☐
Councillor Manson	☐	☐



Township of Perry

PO Box 70, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON POA 1J0

PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

www.townshipofperry.ca

February 26, 2024

Via Email

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

Dear Premier Ford,

**RE: Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulation for
'Ineligible' Sources**

At their last regular meeting on Wednesday February 21, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following:

"Resolution #2024-52

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Jim Cushman

Whereas under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only;

And Whereas 'ineligible' sources which producers are not responsible for include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks;

And Whereas should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue

...2

Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;

And further that Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and to all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried."

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bm', is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Beth Morton
Clerk-Administrator

BM/ec

c.c. Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
All Ontario Municipalities

March 5, 2024

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

The Honourable Andrea Khanjin
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Via E-mail: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Re: Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulation for 'Ineligible' Sources

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, at its regular meeting held on March 4, 2024 supported the following resolution from the Township of Perry regarding the above noted matter;

Whereas under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only;

And Whereas 'ineligible' sources which producers are not responsible for include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks;

And Whereas should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;

And further that Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, Local MPP all Ontario Municipalities.

Sincerely,

**Judy
Smith**

Digitally signed by
Judy Smith
Date: 2024.03.05
10:19:56 -05'00'

Judy Smith, CMO
Director Municipal Governance/Clerk

C

Local MPP
Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration**

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

March 7, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Attention: County of Northumberland

**RE: Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to
Clarify the Definition of Employer**

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on March 4, 2024, received, and endorsed the correspondence from The Corporation of the County of Northumberland dated February 22, 2024, regarding support for amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer with the following motion:

Moved: Councillor Howe

Seconded: Councillor Davoli

Resolved that Council endorse Northumberland County's resolution regarding support for amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of Employer.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V Steele'.

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills
Development
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 22, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Ontario Municipalities

**Re: Northumberland County Resolution –
'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify
the Definition of Employer'**

At a meeting held on February 21, 2024 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109 adopting the below recommendation from the February 6, 2024 Corporate Support Committee meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Lucas Cleveland
Seconded by: Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"That the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Council Resolution # 2024-02-21-109

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at matherm@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**

555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M Mather".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By L. Cleveland Agenda Item 10 Resolution Number 2024-02-21- 109
 Seconded By O. Hrusky
 Council Date: February 21, 2024

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the four Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held February 6 and 7), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
		- Social Services Committee, Item 7.a, 'Correspondence, '310 Division Street, Cobourg' – Held by Councillor Cleveland	

And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
 Councillor's Name

Deferred _____
 Warden's Signature

Carried  _____
 Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
 Warden's Signature

Corporate Support Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: February 6, 2024

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2024-02-06-077

Moved by: S. Dobb

Seconded by: B. Ostrander

Council Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

"That the Corporate Support Committee, having considered correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming and Township of Larder Lake regarding 'Support for Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of Employer', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and attached motion from the City of Greater Sudbury; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development), and the Honorable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried _____



Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____

Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____

Committee Chair's Signature



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

January 15th 2024

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10th 2024, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

Motion 14

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett

Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support item 'L' of correspondence from the City of Greater Sudbury re. Amendment to the Occupational Health & Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of 'Employer'.

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: Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Bob Bailey, MPP – Sarnia-Lambton
Association of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario's Big City Mayors
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario
Council of Ontario Construction Associations
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
All Ontario Municipalities

December 12, 2023

Sent Via Email

Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

The following resolution was passed by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on December 5, 2023:

PO BOX 5000 STN A
200 BRADY STREET
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

CP 5000 SUCCA
200, RUE BRADY
SUDBURY ON P3A 5P3

705.671.2489

www.greatersudbury.ca
www.grandsudbury.ca

CC2023-303: WHEREAS in 2015 the City of Greater Sudbury (the "City") entered into a contract with a contractor experienced in road construction projects to complete a project on Elgin Street in the City's downtown core;

AND WHEREAS the contract provided that the contractor would be the constructor for the project as that term is defined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS an employee of the constructor operating a grader on the project struck and killed a pedestrian;

AND WHEREAS the City was charged with offences under the Act as the constructor and the employer;

AND WHEREAS after being acquitted at trial and on appeal, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a decision issued on April 23, 2021, found the City to be liable for contraventions of the Construction Regulations as an employer as it employed quality control inspectors to monitor the quality of work on the project from time-to-time;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada, in a decision issued on November 10, 2023, was evenly divided 4-4 on the issue resulting in dismissal of the City's appeal;

AND WHEREAS the consequence of this decision is that municipalities in Ontario, as well as all other owners of property in the province, who wish to undertake construction, are subject to being charged and convicted as an employer for offences in relation to project sites for which they have no control and have, in accordance with the Act, contracted with an entity to assume plenary oversight and authority over the work on such site as the constructor; AND WHEREAS the potential of an owner being charged as an employer as that term is defined in the Act in circumstances where it has engaged a constructor disregards and renders meaningless the owner-constructor provisions contained in the Act and presents an unacceptable level of increased risk and confusion for owners and contractors throughout the province;

AND WHEREAS the City believes that the safety of workers is paramount however the safety of workers on construction projects in Ontario is not increased by placing liability on parties that do not have control of and are not responsible for the conduct of the work on such sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the City of Greater Sudbury requests that the province amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "employer" to exclude owners that have contracted with a constructor for a project;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, France Gelinas, MPP for Nickel Belt, Jamie West, MPP for Sudbury, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brigitte Sobush', written in a cursive style.

Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

- c. Members of City Council
 Eric Labelle, City Solicitor and Clerk



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

69 FOURTH AVENUE, P. O. BOX 40, LARDER LAKE, ON P0K 1L0

PH: 705-643-2158 FAX: 705-643-2311

LARDERLAKE.CA

January 11th, 2024

****Sent Via Email****

Re: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of "Employer"

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, the following resolution of support was adopted:

Resolution: 4

Moved by: Councillor Kelly

Seconded by: Mayor Quinn

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crystal Labbe', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Crystal Labbe

CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE
69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON
 Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311



MOVED BY:

☐ Thomas Armstrong
☐ Patricia Hull
☒ Paul Kelly
☐ Lynne Paquette

SECONDED BY:

☐ Thomas Armstrong
☐ Patricia Hull
☐ Paul Kelly
☐ Lynne Paquette

Motion #: 4

Resolution #: 4

Date: January 9, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that Larder Lake Council hereby supports the City of Greater Sudbury regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer" And

FURTHER, that this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honorable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, the Honorable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Vanthof, Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP, the Association of Municipalities OF Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Ontario's Big City Mayors, Mayors and Reginal Chairs of Ontario, Northern Ontario Large Urban Mayors, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and all Ontario municipalities.

Recorded vote requested: ☐

	For	Against
Tom Armstrong		
Patricia Hull		
Paul Kelly		
Lynne Paquette		
Patty Quinn		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

I declare this motion

☒ Carried
☐ Lost / Defeated
☐ Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because: _____
☐ Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Chair:

[Signature]

*Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.



Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP
181 St. Andrew St. East
2nd Floor, Fergus
ON N1M 1P9
VIA EMAIL:
ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org

Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP
180 Broadway 3rd Floor
Suite A
Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3
VIA EMAIL:
sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

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

February 27, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
823 Albion Road
Etobicoke, ON
M9V 1A3
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing
VIA EMAIL:
minister.mah@ontario.ca

RE: 6.3 The Association of Municipalities of Ontario Policy Update regarding Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 7, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-037:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.3 listed for February 7, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and



WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and further

THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca); the Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca); the County Clerk, MPP Arnott, MPP Rae, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca).

CARRIED

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



Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca), MPP Matthew Rae
Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org, the Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca)

Corporate Services

January 26, 2024

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Orangeville, at its Regular Council Meeting held on January 22, 2024, approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income redistribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

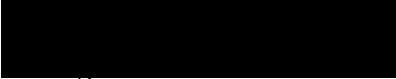
WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Orangeville requests the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion is sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; the MPP, Sylvia Jones; and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Yours truly,



Raylene Martell
Town Clerk



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

The Honorable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Minister.mah@ontario.ca

DEVLIVERED VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2024

RE: Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2024, the Township of Limerick Council passed the following motion, supporting the resolution from the Council of the Hanover regarding a Social and Economic Prosperity Review.

Motion023-2024

Moved by Councillor Jan MacKillican

Seconded by Councillor Grace Hamm

That Council direct staff to issue a letter of support for the Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity.

CARRIED

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@township.limerick.on.ca.

Best Regards,

Victoria Tisdale
Clerk-Treasurer
Township of Limerick

cc. Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ric Bresee – MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities

Victoria Tisdale, Clerk Treasurer
clerk@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478



Nicole Ilcio, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
assistant@township.limerick.on.ca
Telephone: 613-474-2863
Fax: 613-474-0478

February 1, 2024

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

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Hanover adopted the following resolution at their meeting of January 15, 2024 regarding the above noted matter;

Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

CARRIED

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tanya Patterson".

Tanya Patterson
Deputy Clerk

/tp

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.2.

Resolution Number 2024-036

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #5 and #24

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles supports Catherine Fife, Waterloo MPP - Request for Support for Bill 21, Fixing Long Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part), 2022;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Long Term Care, Stan Cho; our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



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](#)

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.5.

Resolution Number 2024-039

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #15

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward on November 17, 2023, regarding Guaranteed Livable Income;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Service, Ryan Williams; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament; our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

November 17, 2023

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2023 the following motion regarding urging the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a guaranteed livable income was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-568

DATE: November 14, 2023

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Maynard

WHEREAS on November 23, 2021 Prince Edward County was certified as a 'Living Wage' Employer at the "support" level, through the Ontario Living Wage Network;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario livable wage for Hastings & Prince Edward, in 2022 was determined to be \$19.05, which is \$3.55 more than the Provincial minimum wage rate of \$15.50; and this rate is paid to all staff including students in 2023;

AND WHEREAS our residents on programs such as Ontario Works, receive targeted fixed monthly incomes of \$733, and ODSP recipients receive \$1,376;

AND WHEREAS the current Ontario minimum wage rate, a person working 37.5 hours per week will earn approximately \$2,500 monthly (before tax);

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the 2023 Vital Signs Report, up to 3,500 residents (10.1% to 13.5%) are living on low income (less than \$36,000 a year after taxes) and PEC's median income lags behind Ontario by \$7,500/year;

AND WHEREAS the median rent for one bedroom in Prince Edward County in accordance with the County Housing Plan for 2023 \$1,513 a month;

AND WHEREAS rent is considered affordable, when it is no more than 30% of gross annual income and the number of people receiving government benefits has increased to a level above the provincial average in Prince Edward County. Extrapolated, a full 30% of County residents are deemed to be low-income and unable to afford either market real estate or rental housing prices;

AND WHEREAS as of March 31, 2023, there are 1,089 households on the Prince Edward - Lennox and Addington Social Services wait list for subsidized housing in Prince Edward County;

AND WHEREAS, in accordance with the County Food Collective, Food bank use is up 26% in Prince Edward County and as many as 6,000 residents experience food insecurity over a year's time;

AND WHEREAS on July 25, 2023 Council expressed support for a more generous Canada Child Benefit targeting low-income families struggling with food insecurity and urged Federal government expedite its 2021 election promise to roll-out Canada's first national school food policy, and endorsed the Coalition for Healthy School Food mission to work with partners across Canada to advocate for a universal cost-shared healthy Canada-wide school food program on September 26, 2023;

AND WHEREAS the 2017 Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) study/survey identified the general affordable workforce housing as a primary obstacle in our workforce attraction;

AND WHEREAS the collected data of housing and poverty statistics, and continuing to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result is important in establishing a livable income;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County join other municipalities across Ontario, including Belleville, Napanee to urge the Federal and Provincial governments to establish a Guaranteed Livable Income program; and

THAT this resolution be sent to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Michael Parsa, M.P.P., Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Ryan Williams, Bay of Quinte M.P.P., Todd Smith, Bay of Quinte M.P.P, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition of Ontario and Pierre Poilievre Leader of the Official Opposition of Canada requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

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

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

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



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24067	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>M Hatfield</i>

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Municipality of St- Charles passed on February 21, 2024, regarding Guaranteed Livable Income attached hereto and;

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Service, Ryan Williams; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament, Carol Hughes, our local Member of Provincial Parliament, Michael Mantha and all Ontario Municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE		
☒ CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐ DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURU O'NEILL
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Mauru O'Neill</i>

This document is available in alternate formats.



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca
(sent via e-mail)

March 4th, 2024

Re: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 28th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the County of Renfrew regarding Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems.

Motion #12

Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren

That Council support correspondence item 'q' from the County of Renfrew regarding water and wastewater.

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
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario)
Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada)
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario),
Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke
John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
AMO; ROMA; FCM;
All Municipalities in Ontario

Office of the
County Warden



9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-7288
FAX: 613-735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

January 31, 2024

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

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

RE: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

Dear Premier Ford,
Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 31, 2024, The County of Renfrew passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) (Section 1.6.6.2) states that municipal sewage services and municipal water services are the preferred form of servicing for settlement areas to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety and that intensification and redevelopment within these settlement areas should be promoted; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Section 2.2.1 (f)) states that planning authorities shall protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water by implementing the necessary restrictions on development and site alternation to protect all drinking supplies and designated vulnerable areas, and protect, improve, or restore vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive groundwater features, and their hydrologic functions; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Sections 2.2.1(h) and (i)) states that there is consideration of environmental lake capacity as well as stormwater management practices; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Protection and Conservation (MECP) Procedural Guideline B-1-5 Policy 2 provision states that water quality which presently does not meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives shall not be further degraded and all practical measures shall be undertaken to upgrade the water quality to the Objectives; and

WHEREAS in 2014 the Township of Whitewater Region authorized Jp2gConsultants Inc. to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of evaluating viable options to upgrade the 1979 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant did not meet guidelines for effluent flow into Muskrat Lake and Cobden Wetland being highly sensitive, at-capacity, inland lake, and Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW) and acknowledged as one of

the most eutrophic in the province. The plant had ongoing seasonal overflow events, and was operating at maximum capacity; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region approved the construction of a new parallel mechanical system that would meet all provincial environmental and regulatory requirements including accommodating future growth. Federal and provincial contributions only covered 50% of the final construction costs, as there was no ability to renegotiate with federal and provincial partners once real costs were known. As a result, the balance of costs (\$6M) was debentured over 30 years at interest rates that are slightly punitive to rural and small urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS in 2019 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region conducted a Water and Wastewater Rate Study that demonstrated the need for rate increases of over 100% to fund the new wastewater treatment plant construction debenture and the significantly increased operating costs for a parallel mechanical system. Rural and small urban municipalities experience very limited growth as federal and provincial policies heavily support growth in urban centers. As there are no other sources of available operational funding, rural and small urban municipalities are expected to fund the construction and operation of these state-of-the-art systems from existing property owners and nominal forecasted growth; and

WHEREAS in 2023 the Township of Whitewater Region combined water and wastewater rates have risen to almost \$3,000/year for its five hundred and eleven (511) users and are among the highest in the County of Renfrew and across the Province of Ontario. There are similarly high user rates in the Township of Madawaska Valley as a result of Provincial regulations and a small number of users. Other examples of rapidly increasing rates include the Towns of Deep River, Renfrew, Arnprior, Laurentian Hills, and Petawawa, and the Townships of Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley and Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where significant upgrades in short periods of time are making rates unaffordable even with an increased number of users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Renfrew:

Advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and Advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Emon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Emon, Warden

County of Renfrew

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

cc: Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario)
Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada)
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke
John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

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

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

Delivered via email
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

March 11, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council support the correspondence from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Provincial and Federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and

FURTHER THAT Council advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario); Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South; David Piccini, MPP,



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

Northumberland-Peterborough South; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all
Municipalities in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

cc. the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario);
the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and
Communities (Canada);
the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
(Ontario);
Philip Lawrence, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
David Piccini, MPP, Northumberland-Peterborough South;
AMO;
ROMA;
FCM; and
all Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Town of Grimsby
Administration
Office of the Town Clerk
160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5
Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2171 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010
Email: vs Steele@grimsby.ca

March 7, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

332 Picton Main Street,
Picton, ON, K0K 2T0

Attention: Catalina Blumenberg, Clerk

Dear: Clerk Blumenberg

RE: Support for a Review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on March 4, 2024, received, and endorsed the correspondence from The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward dated February 16, 2024, regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates with the following motion:

Moved: Councillor Korstanje

Seconded: Councillor Freake

Resolved that Council endorse the County of Prince Edward's resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "V Steele".

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services
Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
The Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
All Ontario Municipalities

WHEREAS designated Service Managers are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity, or tools to provide the necessary income and health related supports to people experiencing poverty; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the Provincial Government to immediately develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to address the rising levels of poverty in Ontario, in particular for those on Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County joins the Town of Orangeville to calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) At least double Ontario Works and ODSP rates and index rates to inflation, answering calls already made by “Raise the Rates” campaign and the “Income Security Advocacy Centre”;
- b) Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;
- c) Commit to jointly working between the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services and the Ministry of Health on the best methods of assessing client needs and then matching those in need to the services they require;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

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

February 16, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of February 13, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program Financial Assistance Rates was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-81

DATE: February 13, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS poverty is taking a devastating toll on communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, with people in receipt of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program being disproportionately impacted;

WHEREAS the cost of food, housing, medicine, and other essential items have outpaced the highest inflation rates seen in a generation;

WHEREAS people in need of social assistance have been legislated into poverty, housing insecurity, hunger, poorer health, their motives questioned, and their dignity undermined;

WHEREAS Ontario Works (OW) Financial Assistance rates have been frozen since 2018 (\$733 per month);

WHEREAS Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefit rates have been increased by 6.5 per cent as of July 2023 to keep up with inflation, however even with the increase, ODSP rates still fall below their value in 2018 (\$1,376 when adjusted for inflation) and significantly below the disability-adjusted poverty line (\$3,091 per month)

WHEREAS OW and ODSP rates do not provide sufficient income for a basic standard of living and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of people across Ontario who rely on these programs live in poverty;

WHEREAS the poverty risk profile for Prince Edward County created by Vital Signs states that 10.1% - 13.5% of County residents are living on low income;

March 6, 2024

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 February 27, 2024
Member Motion 8.2.8 - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Legislative Amendments to
Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace; and

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

Whereas several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst municipal members of councils across Ontario; and

Whereas these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments; and

Whereas municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour; and

Whereas municipal governments have limited abilities in their toolkit to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct; and

Whereas the most severe penalty that can be imposed on a municipal member of council is the suspension of pay for 90 days, even when egregious acts are committed and substantiated; and

Whereas AMO has called on the government to table and pass legislation that reflects the following recommendations:

- **Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment**
 - **Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario**
 - **Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province**
 - **Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner**
 - **Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office;**
1. **Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora supports the call of action the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has submitted to the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them, in consultation with municipal governments; and**
 2. **Be It Further Resolved That the legislation encompasses the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's letter of recommendations which includes options for enforcing compliance by council members with municipal Codes of Conduct such as**
 - **Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment**
 - **Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario**
 - **Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province**
 - **Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner**
 - **Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office; and**

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, the Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all 444 Ontario municipalities.**

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

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

8.2 General Committee Meeting Report of February 20, 2024

8.2.8 Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

Whereas all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace; and

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

Whereas several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst municipal members of councils across Ontario; and

Whereas these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments; and

Whereas municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour; and

Whereas municipal governments have limited abilities in their toolkit to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct; and

Whereas the most severe penalty that can be imposed on a municipal member of council is the suspension of pay for 90 days, even when egregious acts are committed and substantiated; and

Whereas AMO has called on the government to table and pass legislation that reflects the following recommendations:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment

- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
 - Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
 - Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
 - Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office;
1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora supports the call of action the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, (AMO), has submitted to the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them, in consultation with municipal governments; and
 2. Be It Further Resolved That the legislation encompasses the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's letter of recommendations which includes options for enforcing compliance by council members with municipal Codes of Conduct such as
 - o Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
 - o Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
 - o Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
 - o Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
 - o Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, the Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all 444 Ontario municipalities.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.8.

Resolution Number 2024-042

Title: Resolution stemming from January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #8

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Pothier

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Township of Asphodel-Norwood on December 12, 2023, regarding Rising Municipal Insurance Costs;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

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;

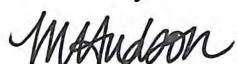
AND WHEREAS these annual increases are unsustainable and divert funds from critical municipal services as one of the most significant constraints in limiting yearly tax levy increases;

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

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.9.

Resolution Number 2024-043

Title: Resolution stemming from January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #8

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

WHEREAS municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortages, which will only be exasperated over the next three (3) to five (5) years, which will cause the levels of service that municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles, calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades, David Piccini; our local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

Township of McMurrich/Monteith

Council has passed a resolution, shown below, in support of the Municipality of St. Charles relating to a fully funded Municipal Equipment Operator Course.

Resolution: 2024-89

Moved by: Dan O'Halloran

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports Resolution 2024=043 from Municipality of St. Charles calling on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund.

Carried



Hon. David Piccini
Minister of Labour,
Immigration, Training and
Skills Development
117 Peter St.
Port Hope, ON L1A 1C5
VIA EMAIL:
David.Piccini@pc.ola.org

Hon. Vic Fedeli
219 Main St. E
North Bay, ON P1B 1B2
VIA EMAIL:
Vic.Fedeli@pc.ola.org

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

March 14, 2024

Association of Ontario Road
Supervisors (AORS)
VIA EMAIL:
Email: admin@aors.on.ca

Association of Municipalities
of Ontario (AMO)
VIA EMAIL:
amo@amo.on.ca

RE: 6.6 Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-066:

Moved by Councillor Bailey and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.1.6 and 6.6 listed for FEBRUARY 28, 2024 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas the Township recognizes that public works departments are responsible for a number of skilled tasks such as proper forestry techniques, welding and metal fabrication, heavy equipment mechanics, and general carpentry skills;

That The Township of Puslinch Council supports the resolution by the Municipality of Powassan resolution regarding the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors Training and in addition, it would be ideal to consider all aspects of a public works department when advocating for government funded training opportunities.



CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

February 13, 2024

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
Minister.MLITSD@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

RE: Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Dear Minister Piccini,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2024, the council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Powassan supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND THAT, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator

Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli, and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

If you have any questions regarding Resolution 2024-43, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allison Quinn
Clerk
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Municipality of Powassan's Member of Provincial Parliament Honourable Vic Fedeli
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors
AMO
All Municipalities in Ontario



Legal Services / Clerk's Department

789 Broadway Street, Box 3000
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

Telephone: 519-845-0801

Toll-free: 1-866-324-6912

Fax: 519-845-0818

February 23, 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Lambton County Council Motion

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of February 07, 2024, Lambton County Council Passed the following resolution:

#25: Ferguson/Bradley:

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has agreed to assume responsibility for the Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway from the City of Toronto, which will be uploaded to the Province of Ontario;

WHEREAS like the City of Toronto, The Corporation of the County of Lambton and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario are experiencing significant financial and budgetary pressures including those related to infrastructure development, maintenance and repairs, and are seeking reasonable solutions to address the same while balancing their financial books;

WHEREAS the uploading of municipal highway infrastructure to the Province of Ontario or, alternatively, appropriately increasing the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to Ontario municipalities will assist municipalities in addressing such financial challenges;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- a) That the Province of Ontario: (i) upload from local municipalities the responsibility of and costs associated with the continued construction, operation, and maintenance of major municipally-owned highways throughout the Province of Ontario to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation; or (ii) alternatively, if uploading is not the preferred option of the Province and/or local municipality, to appropriately increase the

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to municipalities so as to fairly and equitably allocate resources to Ontario municipalities.

- b) That a copy of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Sarnia-Lambton MPP, Bob Bailey; the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria; and the Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Doug Ford.

Carried.

Kind Regards,

DocuSigned by:

5897867E2272445...

Olivia Leger

Clerk/County Solicitor

Encl #CC 04-10-24

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities
Bob Bailey, M.P.P. Sarnia-Lambton Riding
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sakaria, Ontario Minister of Transportation



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

February 23, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation

Sent by email to: Premier@ontario.ca; Minister.mto@ontario.ca

Re: Resolution on Highway 413

At its regular meeting of Council held on February 21, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 3

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas the Township of Amaranth recognizes the importance for efficient and effective transportation networks in the Province and;

Whereas, the Province has committed to getting 1.5 millions home built within the next 10 years or less.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Township of Amaranth request that the Province of Ontario pause advancement on proposed highway 413 and redirect the approximate \$8 billion cost for highway 413 to support municipal infrastructure costs and housing construction initiatives and;

Further be it resolved that at least 50% of those funds be allocated for small urban and rural Ontario with populations less than 50,000. **CARRIED**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk

Copy: Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org
Hon. Kinga Surma, MPP Etobicoke Centre kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org
Dufferin County Municipalities

Council Members

Mayor Neil Nicholson

Deputy Mayor Cathy

Regier

Councillors:

Mark Bell

Michael Moore

Chris Olmstead

Connie Tabbert

Joey Trimm

Certified True Copy

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford

Premier of Ontario

Legislative Building

Queen's Park

Toronto On M7A 1A1

Re: Resolution - Highway Infrastructure Request - County of Lambton

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting of March 20, 2024, the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region adopted the following resolution:

That Council of the Township of the Whitewater Region endorse the letter as presented from Lambton County Council regarding Highway Infrastructure.

Carried - Resolution #2024-5084

(613) 646-2282



Sincerely,

P.O. Box 40,
44 Main Street
Cobden, ON
K0J 1K0



Carmen Miller
Clerk/CEMC



whitewaterregion.ca

Attach: Lambton County Council Motion



Legal Services / Clerk's Department

789 Broadway Street, Box 3000
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

Telephone: 519-845-0801

Toll-free: 1-866-324-6912

Fax: 519-845-0818

February 23, 2024

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

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Lambton County Council Motion

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of February 07, 2024, Lambton County Council Passed the following resolution:

#25: Ferguson/Bradley:

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has agreed to assume responsibility for the Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway from the City of Toronto, which will be uploaded to the Province of Ontario;

WHEREAS like the City of Toronto, The Corporation of the County of Lambton and all municipalities in the Province of Ontario are experiencing significant financial and budgetary pressures including those related to infrastructure development, maintenance and repairs, and are seeking reasonable solutions to address the same while balancing their financial books;

WHEREAS the uploading of municipal highway infrastructure to the Province of Ontario or, alternatively, appropriately increasing the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to Ontario municipalities will assist municipalities in addressing such financial challenges;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- a) That the Province of Ontario: (i) upload from local municipalities the responsibility of and costs associated with the continued construction, operation, and maintenance of major municipally-owned highways throughout the Province of Ontario to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation; or (ii) alternatively, if uploading is not the preferred option of the Province and/or local municipality, to appropriately increase the

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund to municipalities so as to fairly and equitably allocate resources to Ontario municipalities.

- b) That a copy of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Sarnia-Lambton MPP, Bob Bailey; the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria; and the Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Doug Ford.

Carried.

Kind Regards,

DocuSigned by:

5897867E2272445...

Olivia Leger
Clerk/County Solicitor

Encl #CC 04-10-24

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities
Bob Bailey, M.P.P. Sarnia-Lambton Riding
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sakaria, Ontario Minister of Transportation



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24069	Meeting Order: 12
Moved by: <i>M Hatfield</i>	Seconded by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Township of Amaranth passed on February 23, 2024, regarding pausing advancement on proposed highway 413 and redirect the appropriate \$8 billion cost for Highway 413 to support municipal infrastructure costs and housing construction initiatives, a copy of which is attached hereto and;

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Infrastructure, Kinga Surma, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities on Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒ CARRIED		MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐ DEFEATED		Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED		Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)		Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED		Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN		Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL
<i>M. Pilon</i>	<i>Maury O'Neill</i>

This document is available in alternate formats.



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

March 12, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent by email to: Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Re: Operational Budget Funding

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 6, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

Resolution #: 4

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes, and;

Whereas all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has recently received Provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion dollar operating shortfall and approximately \$12 million in Federal and Provincial funding for their Police operating budget, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Province, approximately 40% less than the average Dufferin rural municipal tax rate.

Be it Resolved That the Township of Amaranth call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk
C: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities

March 20, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sent by email to: Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Re: Operational Budget Funding

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 19, 2024, the Council of the Municipality of Powassan passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 2024-93

Moved by: M. Wand **Seconded by:** R. Hall

That the council of the Municipality of Powassan supports the request of the Township of Amaranth calling upon the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allison Quinn
Clerk
Municipality of Powassan

Cc: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

March 12, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Sent by email to: Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Re: Operational Budget Funding

At its regular meeting of Council held on March 6, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution.

Resolution #: 4

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

Whereas all Ontario municipalities are prohibited from running budget deficits for operating purposes, and;

Whereas all Ontario municipalities have similar pressures with respect to aging infrastructure and operating costs for policing, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has recently received Provincial funding to cover a \$1.2 billion dollar operating shortfall and approximately \$12 million in Federal and Provincial funding for their Police operating budget, and;

Whereas the City of Toronto has the lowest tax rates in the Province, approximately 40% less than the average Dufferin rural municipal tax rate.

Be it Resolved That the Township of Amaranth call on the Province of Ontario to treat all municipalities fairly and provide equivalent representative operational budget funding amounts to all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk
C: Premier of Ontario; AMO; Ontario Municipalities



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: Premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

WHEREAS the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

WHEREAS libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to

consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

WHEREAS the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

WHEREAS Cultural institutions, particularly museums, play a vital role in shaping and preserving our community's identity. They contribute to tourism, social participation, senior well-being, skill-building, and learning. As the largest government funder for most of Ontario's smaller museums, municipalities create value in their communities through the work of these institutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Township of Georgian Bluffs

March 8, 2024

Re: Township of Georgian Bluffs Resolution in Support – Town of Lincoln – Need for Increased Funding for Libraries and Museums

To whom it may concern,

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Georgian Bluffs considered the above noted matter and passed resolution RES2024-038 at the March 6, 2024, meeting of Council:

RES2024-038

Moved By: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

That staff be directed to forward a letter in support of the resolution passed by the Town of Lincoln.

Carried

Thank you,

Rayburn Murray
Deputy Clerk
Township of Georgian Bluffs
519-376-2729 x. 603 | rmurray@georgianbluffs.ca

Cc:
Premier of Ontario
Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport
Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: Premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

WHEREAS the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

WHEREAS libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to

consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

WHEREAS the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

WHEREAS Cultural institutions, particularly museums, play a vital role in shaping and preserving our community's identity. They contribute to tourism, social participation, senior well-being, skill-building, and learning. As the largest government funder for most of Ontario's smaller museums, municipalities create value in their communities through the work of these institutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities



Legislative Services

March 19, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Support Town of Lincoln Resolution - Request Provincial Government to Support Increasing Funding for Public Libraries and Community Museums

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of March 18, 2024 received and supported correspondence from the Town of Lincoln dated February 28, 2024 requesting the Provincial Government to support increasing funding for Public Libraries and Community Museums.

Attached please find a copy of the Town of Lincoln correspondence dated February 28, 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk
ptodd@forterie.ca
PT-dlk

Attach.

c.c. The Honourable Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport neil.lumsden@pc.ola.org
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario amo@amo.on.ca
Local Area Municipalities
Niagara Region
All Ontario Municipalities



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: Premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

WHEREAS the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

WHEREAS libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

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consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

WHEREAS the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk
jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24068	Meeting Order: 11
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Wawa does hereby support the Resolution passed by the Town of Lincoln passed on February 28, 2024, regarding Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario, a copy of which is attached hereto and;

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Neil Lumsden, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities on Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒ CARRIED		MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐ DEFEATED		Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED		Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)		Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED		Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN		Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL
	

This document is available in alternate formats.



City of Stratford, Corporate Services Department

Clerk's Office

City Hall, P. O. Box 818, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W1

Tel: 519-271-0250, extension 5237

Email: clerks@stratford.ca

Website: www.stratford.ca

February 28, 2024

Sent via email – fred.simpson@townofmono.com

Fred Simpson,
Clerk
Town of Mono

Re: Resolution - Declaration of Road Safety Emergency

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated January 17, 2024, regarding the above-mentioned matter.

The said correspondence was provided to Stratford City Council for their information as part of the February 12, 2024, Council meeting Consent Agenda (CA-2024-008). Council adopted the following resolution:

THAT CA-2024-008, being a resolution from the Town of Mono declaring a road safety emergency to address traffic safety measures, be endorsed.

Sincerely,

T. Dafoe

Tatiana Dafoe, Clerk

/mf

cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Transportation
Minister of Finance
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Dufferin-Caledon MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario municipalities

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.3.

Resolution Number 2024-037

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #9

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Municipality of Shuniah on November 14, 2023, regarding Unnecessary Noise - Engine Brakes;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Sarkaria; our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 399-23

Date: Nov 14, 2023

Moved By: 

Seconded By: 

WHEREAS excessive noise resulting from the operation of moving vehicles falls under the jurisdiction of the Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8. ("Highway Traffic Act") which is enforced by provincially appointed officers;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Shuniah, have received complaints from residents regarding noises associated with the use of engine retarder brakes on heavy vehicles;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation recommends the use of engine braking in certain circumstances, such as the downgrade located on Spruce River Road to avoid overheating brakes, and as a form of backup brake if brakes fail;

AND WHEREAS a higher engine noise is typically emitted for a short period of time (e.g., ten (10) to thirty (30) seconds), depending on the vehicle's speed and vehicles may make a loud "chattering" or "jackhammer" exhaust noise when this braking system is engaged;

AND WHEREAS this noise can be amplified if the vehicle has no muffler or an improper muffling system;

AND WHEREAS noise emissions from commercial vehicles form part of the Ministry of Transportation's inspection process;

AND WHEREAS installation of "courtesy" signs that request the drivers to limit the use of loud compression style brakes are difficult to enforce and there is evidence of these types of signs not being beneficial;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to enhance enforcement for deficient muffler systems to address concerns around excessive and unnecessary noise from engine brakes.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria, MPP Kevin Holland, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Lise Vaugeois, and MP Patty Hajdu.

☒ **Carried**

☐ **Defeated**

☐ **Amended**

☐ **Deferred**



Signature

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

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.4.

Resolution Number 2024-038

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #10

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the Town of Aylmer on November 15, 2023, regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Associate Minister of Housing, Rob Flack; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

November 16, 2023

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

Re: Motion regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act

At their Regular Meeting of Council on November 15, 2023, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following motion regarding Provincial Consideration for Amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act:

Whereas the Ontario government has acknowledged an affordable housing and housing supply crisis, communicating a targeted approach to build 1.5 million homes by 2031; and

Whereas nearly one-third of Ontario households rent, rather than own, according to the most recent 2021 Census of Population; and

Whereas the Ontario government has reported that Ontario broke ground on nearly 15,000 purpose-built rentals in 2022, a 7.5 percent increase from 2021 and the highest number on record, with continued growth into 2023; and

Whereas the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, provides for the maximum a landlord can increase most tenants rent during a year without the approval of the Landlord and Tenant Board; and

Whereas the Ontario government recently strengthened protections for tenants with the intention of preserving affordability, by holding the rent increase guideline for 2024 to 2.5 percent, well below the average inflation rate of 5.9 percent; and

Whereas the rental increase guideline protection does not apply to rental units occupied for the first time after November 15, 2018, leaving an increasing number of tenants susceptible to disproportionate and unsustainable rental increases compared to those benefiting from legislated increase protection;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Council of the Town of Aylmer requests provincial consideration for amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, to ensure that all tenants benefit from protections intended to preserve affordability;

That a copy of this Resolution be sent to:

- Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Honourable Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- And all Ontario Municipalities.

Thank you,

Owen Jaggard

Deputy Clerk / Manager of Information Services | Town of Aylmer

46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7

519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446

ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing paul.calandra@pc.ola.org

Associate Minister of Housing rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.6.

Resolution Number 2024-040

Title: Resolution stemming from December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #16 & 25

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward on November 17, 2023, and the support Resolution passed by Loyalist Township on November 27, 2023, regarding Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to Expand the Use of Permit-by-Rule;
AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

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

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.7.

Resolution Number 2024-041

Title: Resolution stemming from January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #7

Date: February 21, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

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;

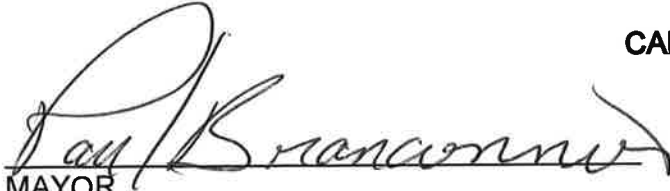
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of 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 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, Todd McCarthy; BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, Jim Cassimatis; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; our local member of Provincial Parliament; and, all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



EMAILED

March 1, 2024

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

Dear Honourable McCarthy:

**Re: Resolution of Council – Town of Huntsville – Support for Municipality of Wawa
Resolution RC24017 – Provincial Cemetery Management**

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on Monday, February 26, 2024 the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Huntsville passed the following resolution:

Motion 28-24

Moved by Helena Renwick, seconded by Monty Clouthier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council support and endorse resolution RC24017 from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Cemetery Transfers, Abandonment Administration, and Management Support.

CARRIED.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Natalie Little
Committee Coordinator
natalie.little@huntsville.ca

Cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
Hon. Jill Dunlop, MPP Simcoe North
Hon. Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound Muskoka
All Ontario Municipalities

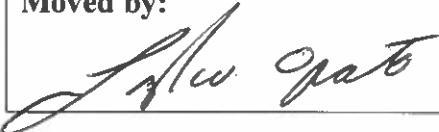
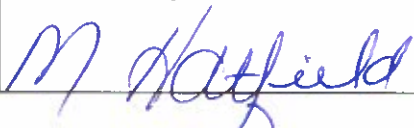


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24017	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Wawa Cemetery Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 where the Committee received correspondence from Tay Township requesting support regarding Provincial Cemetery Management,

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;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa 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 FURTHERMORE, 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.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE		
☒ CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐ DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐ TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐ WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR – JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

Honourable Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery:

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting on February 27th, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2024-02-30

MOVED BY: Korrine Jordan

SECONDED BY: Greg Hallam

“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 their 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, the Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township 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 Honourable Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP John Jordan and all Ontario municipalities.”

ADOPTED

SUBJECT : Provincial Cemetery Management Support Request

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren at its meeting on February 20, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

Resolution #2024-35

Moved by: Francine Bérubé

Seconded by: Maurice Turcot

BACKGROUND

The Municipality of Markstay Warren is responsible for 6 cemeteries. This is a similar situation in many municipalities in Ontario, and that trend will continue. Several municipalities in the Province have passed resolutions asking for annual funding, staff training as well as appropriate and affordable software development for all municipalities to use to administer these cemeteries.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff have reviewed this issue and recommend that the Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren pass the proposed resolution.

Resolution

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 Municipality of Markstay-Warren 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.

TOWNSHIP OF MCMURRICH/MONTEITH

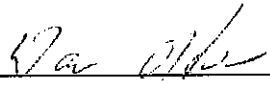
Resolution

Number: 2024-15

January 16, 2024

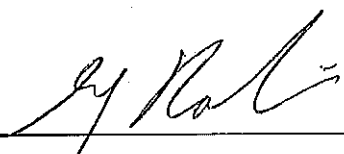
Moved by: Currie, Terry ☐
Dyson, Wesley ☐
O'Halloran, Daniel ☒
Roeder-Martin, Vicky ☐
Robinson, Glynn ☐

Seconded by: Currie, Terry ☐
Dyson, Wesley ☒
O'Halloran, Daniel ☐
Roeder-Martin, Vicky ☐
Robinson, Glynn ☐


Signature: _____


Signature: _____

Be It Resolved that Council receives correspondence from the Township of Clearview dated December 12, 2023 including Staff Report LS-032-2023 regarding cemeteries and that we send a resolution of support for their correspondences to Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and MPP Graydon Smith.

Mayor  _____

Carried ☒ Defeated _____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by: _____

Recorded vote requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:	Yays	Nays
Currie	_____	_____
Dyson	_____	_____
O'Halloran	_____	_____
Roeder-Martin	_____	_____
Robinson	_____	_____



CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

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

*Jan 16
2024
10.9*

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;

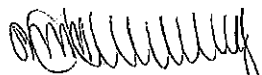
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- 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 Helmkey-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



CLEARVIEW

Staff Report

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



Website: <http://townofkearney.ca>
Phone: 705 636 7752
Fax: 705 636 0527

P.O. Box 38
8 Main Street
Kearney, Ontario
POA 1M0

March 13, 2024

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Minister of Public and
Business Service Delivery
5th Floor 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
VIA EMAIL: Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL: info@thebao.ca

MPP Graydon Smith
Constituency office
230 Manitoba St.
Bracebridge, ON P1L 2E1
VIA EMAIL: Graydon.Smith@pc.ola.org

Re: 9.1 Township of Puslinch Council Resolution 2024-003 regarding Cemetery Administration Management

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney, at its meeting held on March 7, 2024, considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution 2024-82: Moved by: Councillor Sharer, Seconded by: Councillor Pateman

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kearney supports the Resolutions of Puslinch Council, Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed to send a support resolution accordingly.

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

Sincerely,

Cindy Filmore
Deputy Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities



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

Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

MPP Jill Dunlop
Unit 9

575 West St. S
Orillia, Ontario L3V 7N6
VIA EMAIL:

Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org

Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim
CEO/Registrar
100 Sheppard Avenue East,
Suite 500
Toronto, ON M2N 6N5
VIA EMAIL:

info@thebao.ca

MPP Brian Saunderson
Suite 28

180 Parsons Rd.
Alliston, ON L9R 1E8
VIA EMAIL:

Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org

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

February 22, 2024

RE 6.2 Clearview Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management & 6.3 Tay Township Support Resolution Cemetery Administration Management Support

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on January 10, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-003: Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Consent Agenda item 6.2 and 6.3 listed for January 10, 2023 Council meeting be received for information; and

Whereas Puslinch Council supports the Resolutions from Tay Township and Clearview Township regarding Cemetery Administration Management, that staff be directed 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: Ontario Municipalities



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;

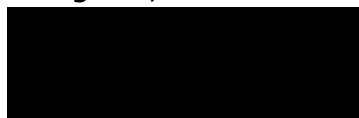
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- 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 HelmKay, 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;

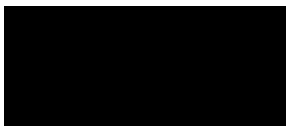
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Tay requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- 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,



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.

**Municipality of Tweed Council Meeting
Council Meeting**



Resolution No.

94

Title:

Enbridge Gas Inc.

Date:

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Moved by

J. DeMarsh

Seconded by

J. Flieler

WHEREAS access to natural gas is important to residents and businesses in our community for affordability and reliability;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas 2024 rebasing application, issued on 21 December 2023, has concerning implications including putting into question the future access to natural gas that support of economic development, affordable housing growth, and energy reliability in communities such as the Municipality of Tweed;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is growing and access to affordable energy to support this growth for homes and businesses is crucial, as is a measured approach to energy transition as not having access to natural gas will stifle economic growth and put housing and energy affordability at risk;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Municipality of Tweed supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition;

AND FURTHER, that the Municipality of Tweed recognizes that there may not be enough electricity available to replace the energy provided by natural gas and meet the increased demand from electrification;

AND FURTHER, that natural gas must continue to play an integral role in meeting the energy needs of Ontario;

AND FURTHER, that the Municipality of Tweed supports the work the Government of Ontario has done to date, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's call for a clear policy on the role of natural gas to secure access to affordable energy;

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy, Ric Bresee, Member of Provincial Parliament for Hastings-Lennox and Addington, all regional municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com.

Carried



VIA EMAIL:
All Ontario municipalities

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

March 14, 2024

RE: 9.3.1 Report ADM-2024-010 Enbridge Gas Follow-Up

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2024-072:

Moved by Councillor Goyda and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That Council receives report ADM-2024-010 regarding the follow-up to the Enbridge Gas Presentation on February 7, 2024; and

Whereas access to natural gas is important to residents and businesses in our community for affordability and reliability; and

Whereas the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas 2024 rebasing application, issued on 21 December 2023, has concerning implications including putting into question the future access to natural gas that support of economic development, affordable housing growth, and energy reliability in communities such as the Township of Puslinch; and

Whereas Ontario is growing and access to affordable energy to support this growth for homes and businesses is crucial, and is a measured approach to energy transition as not having access to natural gas will stifle economic growth and put housing and energy affordability at risk; and

Whereas delivery rates for electricity in rural areas are significantly more costly than delivery rates in urban centres creating an inequity for those living in rural areas; and



Whereas Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024, if passed, would reverse a December 2023 decision by the OEB that requires consumers to pay the cost of connecting a new home to natural gas infrastructure up front instead of over a period of 40 years; and

Whereas Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024, if passed, would increase the OEB's Leave to Consult threshold from \$2 million to \$10 million, requiring that fewer energy projects would need OEB orders to construct a new pipeline resulting in project streamlining and focusing OEB approvals on larger, more complex projects;

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That the Township of Puslinch supports Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024; and
2. That the Township of Puslinch supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition; and
3. That the Township of Puslinch recognizes that there may not be enough electricity available to replace the energy provided by natural gas and meet the increased demand from electrification; and
4. That Natural gas must continue to play an integral role in meeting the energy needs of Ontario; and
5. That the Township of Puslinch supports the need for equitable electricity delivery rates in rural areas and natural gas offers an affordable option for these rural areas at this time; and
6. That the Township of Puslinch supports the work the Government of Ontario has done to date, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's call for a clear policy on the role of natural gas to secure access to affordable energy; and
7. That this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy, Hon. MPP Arnott, Hon. MPP Rae, all Ontario municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in



Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com; and further

That Council direct staff to consult with Enbridge Gas on the next steps associated with commencing the Community Natural Gas Expansion Program in Puslinch subject to the passing of Bill 165: Keeping Energy Costs Down Act, 2024.

CARRIED

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

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC:
Premier of Ontario, Hon. Doug Ford,
Minister of Energy, Hon. Todd Smith
Hon. MPP Arnott,
Hon. MPP Rae,
All Ontario municipalities

Dear Minister Calandra :

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting on February 27th, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2024-02-28

MOVED BY: Andrew Kendrick

SECONDED BY: Greg Hallam

“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 Tay Valley Township cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations as the Metroland Media Group 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 Tay Valley Township 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, requests the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT, this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Lanark Frontenac Kingston MPP, John Jordan; The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); CEO and President of Metroland Media Group, Neil Oliver and all Ontario Municipalities.”

ADOPTED

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada:

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting on February 27th, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2024-02-15

MOVED BY: Korrine Jordan

SECONDED BY: Greg Hallam

“WHEREAS, climate change annually contributes to hundreds of billions of dollars in property and infrastructure damage worldwide, stressing local to national and international economies;

WHEREAS, climate change jeopardizes the health and risks the extinction of millions of species worldwide, stressing and weakening the health and integrity of ecosystems everywhere;

WHEREAS, climate change harms the health and security of people through intense wildfires, flooding, storms, droughts, rising sea levels, the spread of invasive insects bearing diseases, negative impacts on agriculture, and food supply interruption, thus further stressing social, economic, and political systems;

WHEREAS, there is now a large body of evidence and climate change risk scenarios which point to the imperative for steep and permanent reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, immediately and in the coming decades, in order to avoid many climate change “tipping points” which, if crossed, will render further and devastating ecological, economic, and societal losses;

AND WHEREAS, a crisis can be defined as "a dangerous situation requiring immediate action";

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Tay Valley Township officially declares a climate change crisis for the purposes of naming, framing, and deepening our commitment in our climate action plan to protecting our local ecosystems, local economy, and our community from climate change;

THAT, this resolution be revisited each term of Council and within the first year of the new council;

AND THAT, this resolution be provided to Prime Minister Trudeau and all federal ministers with portfolios related to climate change; to all federal Opposition party leaders; to MP Scott Reid; to Premier Ford and all Ontario ministers with portfolios related to climate change; to MPP John Jordan and all other Ontario MPPs; to all Ontario Municipalities and the local media.”

ADOPTED.

March 6, 2024

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 February 27, 2024
Member Motion 8.1.9 - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Council/Committee Meeting
Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Province expanded Strong Mayor Powers to municipalities over 50,000 in population, who committed to a housing pledge in the fall of 2023 to help address the housing crisis, but was not mandatory to accept with a housing pledge; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora head of council has the discretion whether to use the strong mayor powers, except for those dealing with the budget; and

Whereas strong mayor powers permit the head of council the ability to create new committees of council made under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, where all members are council members, and assign their functions. The head of council is also able to appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of such committees of council;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council requests that the Mayor reconsider using strong mayor powers to alter the current structure of Council and/or committee meetings, but rather remains the same as officials were originally elected to do; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, and all Ontario municipalities.**

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Michael de Rond', written in a cursive style.

Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the Standing Committee Reports, items 8.1 and 8.2, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.1.7, 8.1.8, 8.2.1, 8.2.4, 8.2.6, and 8.2.8, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.1 General Committee Meeting Report of February 6, 2024

8.1.9 Member Motion - Councillor Gilliland; Re: Council/Committee Meeting Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers

Whereas the Province expanded Strong Mayor Powers to municipalities over 50,000 in population, who committed to a housing pledge in the fall of 2023 to help address the housing crisis, but was not mandatory to accept with a housing pledge; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora head of council has the discretion whether to use the strong mayor powers, except for those dealing with the budget; and

Whereas strong mayor powers permit the head of council the ability to create new committees of council made under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, where all members are council members, and assign their functions. The head of council is also able to appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of such committees of council;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Council requests that the Mayor reconsider using strong mayor powers to alter the current structure of Council and/or committee meetings, but

rather remains the same as officials were originally elected to do; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill, Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried

Friday, March 8, 2024

Rural Ontario Municipal Association
ATTN: Board of Directors

SENT VIA EMAIL: roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Good Roads Association
ATTN: Board of Directors

SENT VIA EMAIL: info@goodroads.ca

RE: Return to Combined ROMA and OGRA Conferences

Dear ROMA & OGRA Board of Directors,

Please be advised of the following motion passed at the Monday, February 26, 2024, Goderich Town Council Meeting:

Moved By: Councillor Kelly
Seconded By: Councillor Petrie

WHEREAS as a past attendee of combined conferences, it makes great sense for the OGRA & ROMA conferences to be returned to a combined conference effort, not only financially for the municipality but also for availability for participation of members of Council and staff; and

WHEREAS these conferences afford a vital opportunity for delegations with members of our provincial parliament, returning to a combined conference provides a better respect to their availability and participation; and

WHEREAS during the 2019 OGRA conference AGM a resolution was passed regarding the re-establishment of an annual combined conference for both OGRA & ROMA; and

WHEREAS it is understandable that little movement has happened since the resolution at the 2019 OGRA conference AGM was passed, due to delays of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS not all persons who wish to attend can do so in person, that a hybrid participation option be considered for the sessions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Goderich call upon both the ROMA & OGRA boards to re-establish a combined OGRA & ROMA annual conference.

FURTHERMORE that this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MPP Ben Lobb and be circulated to Municipalities of Ontario; as amended.

CARRIED

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 519-524-8344 ext. 210 or afisher@goderich.ca.

Yours truly,



Andrea Fisher
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
/ar

cc. Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca
Hon. Paul Calandra Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron–Bruce lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
Mandi Pearson, Clerk/Operations Clerk mpearson@petrolia.ca
Ontario Municipalities

P.O. Box 490
7 Creswell Drive
Trenton, Ontario K8V 5R6
www.quintewest.ca



A Natural Attraction

Tel: 613-392-2841
Toll Free: 1-866-485-2841
josh.machesney@quintewest.ca
clerk@quintewest.ca

Josh Machesney, City Clerk / Manager of Legislative Services

March 7, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via Email - justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

RE: Notice of Motion – Councillor Stedall – Housing Funding

Dear Prime Minister:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on March 6, 2024 Council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 24-167 – Notice of Motion – Housing Funding

Moved by Councillor Stedall

Seconded by Councillor Armstrong

Whereas the City of Quinte West is in need of \$28M in funding to complete the West End Trunk Sewer Main replacement in 2024, which is critical in the ongoing development of new homes in Quinte West;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West requires \$58.6M in funding to upgrade the Trenton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade building to accommodate new homes to be built;

And Whereas the City cannot afford to increase Water, Sewer or Tax rates to fund all of this infrastructure;

And Whereas increased Debt to build the projects will just increase costs to Water, Sewer and Tax rates, or increased costs to developers;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West is currently experiencing a housing crisis from all citizens but specifically with regards to over 250 requiring housing, from Military members of CFB Trenton;

And Whereas City Council approved a Housing Action Plan with a projected 831 new residential units to be completed based on anticipated Housing Accelerator Fund funding over 3 years;

And Whereas the Federal government denied the City of Quinte West the Housing Accelerator Fund;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West is not currently eligible for funding under the Provincial Building Faster Fund as its population is below the threshold;

And Whereas the City of Quinte West may make application to the provincial Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund which has only \$200M available in funding of which the province would only fund up to 73% to a maximum of \$35M for one project;

And Whereas additional funding has not been allocated from the Federal Government to enhance the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Funding;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the City of Quinte West calls on the Federal Government to re-evaluate their lack of funding for municipalities with a population less than 50,000 in rural Ontario and to make available funding for infrastructure programs to help build infrastructure to help build much-needed new homes;

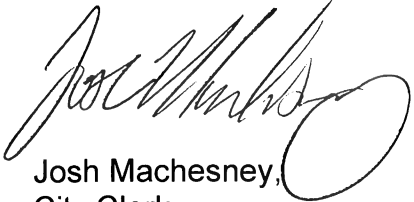
And Further That the Province of Ontario be asked to invest more than the currently allocated \$200M into their Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund;

And Further That this motion be circulated to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Federal Minister for Housing, Ryan Williams MP, Premier Doug Ford, the Provincial Ministers of MOI, MMAH, and Todd Smith MPP, and all municipalities, for their support. **Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours Truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST



Josh Machesney,
City Clerk

cc: Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Todd Smith, MPP, Bay of Quinte
All Municipalities

March 6, 2024

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 February 27, 2024
Member Motion 8.2.7 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend
Gymnasium Use**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the importance of fostering community engagement and providing recreational opportunities; and

Whereas schools are funded by local taxpayers; and

Whereas school gymnasiums serve as valuable amenities that can enhance recreational activities for residents; and

Whereas existing school board policies/procedures do not prioritize municipal residency within their allocation of the use of space; and

Whereas the school board charges a premium rate to use the schools on weekends causing a barrier for the Town or local organizations to afford;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That this Council requests the Province and the Minister of Education to assist in making school board facilities available to local municipalities on a priority, at a cost recovery rate; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That Council requests the School Boards within the jurisdiction of the Town of Aurora to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town for the shared use of school gymnasiums on evenings and weekends; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this request be sent to the relevant School Boards, expressing the Town's interest in establishing a collaborative agreement for evening and weekend gymnasium access; and**

- 4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town staff is directed to collaborate with the School Boards in drafting the terms and conditions of the MOU, ensuring clarity and fairness in the shared use of these facilities; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That upon reaching an agreement, the MOU shall be presented to Council for review and approval; and**
- 6. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party, Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and**
- 7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.**

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

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: York Region District School Board
York Catholic District School Board
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party
Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party
All Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities



8. Standing Committee Reports

Moved by Councillor Thompson

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

That the Standing Committee Reports, items 8.1 and 8.2, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.1.7, 8.1.8, 8.2.1, 8.2.4, 8.2.6, and 8.2.8, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)

8.2 General Committee Meeting Report of February 20, 2024

8.2.7 Member Motion - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend Gymnasium Use

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the importance of fostering community engagement and providing recreational opportunities; and

Whereas schools are funded by local taxpayers; and

Whereas school gymnasiums serve as valuable amenities that can enhance recreational activities for residents; and

Whereas existing school board policies/procedures do not prioritize municipal residency within their allocation of the use of space; and

Whereas the school board charges a premium rate to use the schools on weekends causing a barrier for the Town or local organizations to afford;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That this Council requests the Province and the Minister of Education to assist in making

school board facilities available to local municipalities on a priority, at a cost recovery rate; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That Council requests the School Boards within the jurisdiction of the Town of Aurora to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town for the shared use of school gymnasiums on evenings and weekends; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this request be sent to the relevant School Boards, expressing the Town's interest in establishing a collaborative agreement for evening and weekend gymnasium access; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town staff is directed to collaborate with the School Boards in drafting the terms and conditions of the MOU, ensuring clarity and fairness in the shared use of these facilities; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That upon reaching an agreement, the MOU shall be presented to Council for review and approval; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party, Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and
7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.

Carried



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

All Ontario Municipalities

Sent via email

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

March 8, 2024

RE: Correspondence from the Architectural Conservancy Ontario regarding Proposed Amendment to Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to the removal of listed (non-designated) properties from municipal heritage registers

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on February 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act on or before January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS since January 1, 2023, municipal staff and members of the municipal heritage committee in the Town of Cobourg have been diligently working to: review the municipal heritage register; research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties; review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties; contact owners of such properties; determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

WHEREAS the above-noted work involving 213 listed properties in the Town of Cobourg is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024 with the limited municipal resources available.



The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg

Resolution

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Cobourg authorize the Mayor to promptly send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act be amended to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030; and

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to forward this resolution to all 443 municipalities in Ontario seeking support of the ACO correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristina Lepik".

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services



Office of the Mayor

WAYNE H. REDEKOP

March 22, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Michael D. Ford
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
14th floor, 56 Wellesley Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2E7
Michael.Ford@pc.ola.org

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

**Re: Architectural Conservancy Ontario - Request Provincial Government to Amend
Deadline of Subsection 27(16), Ontario Heritage Act**

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of March 18, 2024 received and supported correspondence from the Architectural Conservancy Ontario dated February 8, 2024 requesting the Provincial Government to amend Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act by extending the deadline for five years, from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030, and passed the following resolution:

Whereas subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act stipulates that any non-designated heritage property listed on the municipal register of properties as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the municipal register on or before January 1, 2025, if the council of the municipality does not give a notice of intention to designate the property under subsection 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act on or before January 1, 2025; and

Whereas since January 1, 2023, municipal staff and members of the municipal heritage committee in this municipality have been diligently working to: review the municipal heritage register; research the heritage value and interest of listed (non-designated) properties; review and research the heritage value and interest of non-designated properties; contact owners of such properties; determine which properties should potentially be designated in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and take all required steps to designate such properties; and

Whereas the above-noted work involving 34 listed properties in this municipality is extremely time-consuming and cannot be completed by December 31, 2024 with the limited municipal resources available;

.../2

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Now therefore be it resolved,

That Council authorize the Mayor to promptly send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act be amended to extend the above-noted deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030.

Attached please find a copy of the Architectural Conservancy Ontario correspondence dated February 8, 2024.

I know that you value the history and heritage of our province and the contributions made to our society of those who came before us. By preserving our architectural and built heritage, we honour those contributions and the historical foundations of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,



Wayne H. Redekop
Mayor

WHR:dlk
Attach.
c.c. All Ontario Municipalities

February 8, 2024



**ARCHITECTURAL
CONSERVANCY
ONTARIO**

Premier Ford,

Re: Looming expiry date for protection of heritage properties listed under the Ontario Heritage Act

We are writing to express our concerns with a key amendment to the *Ontario Heritage Act*; which your government passed in 2022. Under it, any heritage property listed on a municipal register as of December 31, 2022 shall be removed from the register on January 1, 2025, unless that council has given notice of its intention to designate the property under the Act. Properties that lose listing status cannot be re-listed for another five years.

This change affects some 36,000 listed heritage properties, according to the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, in over 100 municipalities across the province. These properties have only limited, short-term (60 day) protection. As ACO warned in December 2022, forcing municipalities to designate all listed properties within two years or drop them from the register was draconian and totally unrealistic. With the expiry date now less than one year away, municipalities, large and small, are scrambling to review their registers and prioritize properties for designation or other protection. The staff/financial cost in research alone is enormous.

Automatically removing listed properties from the registry in less than eleven months will encourage demolition of existing and affordable housing alternatives at a time when we need them the most.

ACO is asking that Subsection 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* be amended in the spring session of the Legislature, to extend the deadline in the Act for five years, from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030. This early certainty of an additional five years for implementation would give municipalities the opportunity to better plan, resource and undertake this complex exercise. The 2030 timeline would help municipalities ensure that properties are not "thrown off the list" prematurely and without input from property owners.

ACO believes that property owners should not be forced to choose between designation and nothing at all to recognize the heritage significance of their property. However, this is the choice your government has forced on them. At the very least, owners and municipalities should be given more time to make this choice, and given reasonable notice of this extension.

Diane Chin
President

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 206, Toronto, ON M5V 3A8

T 416.367.8075 TF 1.866.221.1420 F 416.367.8630 E info@acontario.ca

www.acontario.ca

The past. Our present. Your future.

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2024

BY COUNCIL

March 14, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework

At its meeting of March 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-053, regarding Resolution of Support Regarding Request to the Province of Ontario for New Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework, as follows:

“WHEREAS the current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge calls on the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

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

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); the Muskoka and Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

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

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Resolution # RC24066	Meeting Order: 9
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Auditor General's Report and recommendations regarding Public Health Ontario were released on December 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS should the Report's recommendations be accepted by the Ministry of Health, it would lead to the closure of (6) six Public Health Ontario Labs, including the Public Health Lab in Sault Ste. Marie; and

WHEREAS these closures will result in the most northern Public Health Lab being situated in Thunder Bay, which will lead to further inequities in health care for residents in Northern Ontario compared to Southern Ontario and adversely affect Wawa residents who would have to travel six (6) hours to reach Public Health Lab services versus the two (2) hours it takes currently; and

WHEREAS these closures will lead to a significant loss of public health expertise in the Algoma District, Wawa and Northeastern Ontario with the positions from the lab, including four medical laboratory technologists ending, at a time where public health expertise has proven to be a critical asset in assisting with the many public health challenges in Northern Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of Wawa communicate to Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones that it strongly objects to the closure of the Public Health Lab in Sault Ste. Marie due to the profound impact it will have on the public health of Northern Ontarians and Wawa residents and;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

FURTHERMORE, THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of Health, M.P.P. Michael Mantha, municipalities in the Algoma District, FONOM and Premier Doug Ford.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

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