



Correspondence Items Presented for Information March 25, 2024

- 1) Correspondence from the Deputy Clerk, Tay Valley Township re:
 - a) Request to amend the *Legislation Act, 2006* to include digital publications.
 - b) Declaration of a climate change crisis.
- 2) Correspondence from Save Georgian Bay re: Resolutions to protect Georgian Bay.
- 3) Correspondence from the following municipalities re: Provincial cemetery management support.
 - a) Tay Valley Township
 - b) Municipality of Markstay-Warren
- 4) Correspondence from the following municipalities re: Support of Bill C-310 to increase the amount of tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services.
 - a) Township of Georgian Bay
 - b) Town of Hanover
- 5) Correspondence from the Municipality of Meaford re: Notice of study completion for schedule 'B' structure BR-002 replacement.
- 6) Correspondence from the Clerk, Town of Grimsby re:
 - a) Support for amendment to the *Occupation Health and Safety Act* to clarify the definition of employer.
 - b) Support for a review of the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program financial assistance rates.
- 7) Correspondence from the Clerk, Town of Aurora re:
 - a) Legislative amendments to improve municipal codes of conduct and enforcement.
 - b) Council and committee meeting structure under Strong Mayor Powers.
 - c) Request for amenity sharing memorandum of understanding with school boards for evening/weekend gymnasium use.
- 8) Correspondence from the Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Town of Goderich re: Return to combined ROMA and OGRA conferences.

- 9) Correspondence from the Clerk, City of Quinte West re: Housing funding.
- 10) Correspondence from the Deputy Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services, Town of Cobourg re:
 - a) Proposed amendment to subsection 27(16) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
 - b) Affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities.
- 11) Correspondence from the CAO/Clerk, Township of Amaranth re:
 - a) Resolution on highway 413.
 - b) Operational budget funding.
- 12) Correspondence from the Deputy Clerk, Township of Georgian Bluffs re: Rising municipal insurance costs.
- 13) Correspondence from the following municipalities re: Potential municipal equipment operator course.
 - a) Township of McMurrich/Monteith
 - b) Township of Puslinch
- 14) Correspondence from the Clerk-Treasurer, Township of Limerick re: National fire fighting strategy.
- 15) Correspondence from the Clerk, Township of Puslinch re: Ontario Energy Board's decision on phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas rephasing plan.
- 16) Correspondence from the Clerk/Acting CAO, Township of Lanark Highlands re: Expanding the life of fire apparatus.
- 17) Correspondence from the following municipalities re: Social and economic prosperity review.
 - a) Township of Limerick
 - b) Town of Bracebridge
- 18) Correspondence from the University of Western Ontario's Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children re: "Rural Roots" initiative to empower rural communities in addressing intimate partner violence.
- 19) Correspondence from electHER Now re: Request to strengthen current municipal anti-harassment penalties.
- 20) Correspondence from the Deputy Clerk, City of Owen Sound re: Urgent need for increased funding to libraries and museums in Ontario.

From: TVT Deputy Clerk <DeputyClerk@tayvalleytwp.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 4:28 PM

To: Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

Cc: John.Jordan@pc.ola.org; amo@amo.on.ca; noliver@metroland.com; TVT CAO <cao@tayvalleytwp.ca>

Subject: Council Direction - Request to Amend the Legislation Act, 2006 to include Digital Publications.

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

Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

Tay Valley Township

217 Harper Road, Perth, ON K7H 3C6

T: 613-267-5353 ext. 130 or 1-800-810-0161

F: 613-264-8516

E: deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca

www.tayvalleytwp.ca

From: TVT Deputy Clerk <DeputyClerk@tayvalleytwp.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 10:47 AM
To: TVT Deputy Clerk <DeputyClerk@tayvalleytwp.ca>
Subject: Council Direction - Declaration of a Climate Change Crisis

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

Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

Tay Valley Township

217 Harper Road, Perth, ON K7H 3C6

T: 613-267-5353 ext. 130 or 1-800-810-0161

F: 613-264-8516

E: deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca

www.tayvalleytwp.ca



City of Owen Sound
808 2nd Avenue East
Owen Sound, Ontario
N4K 2H4

March 8, 2024

Dear Mayor Boddy, Deputy Mayor Greig, Councillor Hamley, Councillor Merton, Councillor Farmer, Councillor Koepke, Councillor Middlebro, Councillor Kukreja, Councillor Dodd,

On November 17th, 2023, the council of the Township of the Archipelago in the District of Parry Sound took an extraordinary step.

The township is about 90 kilometres across Georgian Bay from Meaford, where TC Energy, a Calgary-based pipeline company, is proposing to build a \$4.5-billion pumped storage plant on Defence Department land atop the Niagara Escarpment. But last November the council of the Township of the Archipelago, led by Reeve Bert Liverance, voted unanimously to "vehemently" oppose TC Energy's proposal as a significant threat to Georgian Bay's environment and fresh water -- as well as "a bad financial deal for Ontario."

The township then forwarded that resolution to other municipalities in the Georgian Bay basin. Almost exactly one month later the council of the Town of the Blue Mountains -- next door to Meaford -- followed that example. On December 18th 2023, it voted to support in principle the Township of the Archipelago's resolution. In the last two weeks, the Township of Georgian Bay and the Town of Parry Sound became the third and fourth Georgian Bay municipalities since mid-November to oppose TC Energy's plan. Four councils passed unanimous votes in opposition -- in three months.

For Save Georgian Bay, a Meaford-based group of volunteers comprised of engineers, environmentalists and concerned citizens who oppose TC Energy's scheme, those resolutions from four municipalities that share the irreplaceable fresh water and shoreline of the Bay have been heartening. They affirm the common-sense principle that the waters of the bay know no neat municipal boundaries.

Fish kill, pollution, and turbidity in one area of the Bay mean harm to us all, including our fishing and all-important tourism industries as well as vital summer cottage revenue streams for local businesses.

The company proposes to suck up 23 billion litres of Georgian Bay water every night into a 375-acre reservoir to be excavated and built on the escarpment 150 metres above the bay, then flush it back during the day to generate electricity. In less than 30 years it would have moved as much water as there is in Lake Erie.

TC Energy has never built a pumped storage plant, let alone one of this size, and its pipelines have had significant leaks. The latest was in December 2022, when 13,000 barrels of tar sands crude spilled from the Keystone Pipeline into a creek in Kansas.

Worrisome, too, is that the plant would be built on an active army base, known locally as the "Meaford Tank Range." The site is strewn with unexploded munitions and toxic materials. Engineers and environmentalists warn that, when disturbed during excavation and construction, a range of pollutants could be washed into Georgian Bay by rain and melting snow, or carried by the many streams and creeks that drain the surface of the escarpment. As the waters of Georgian Bay know no municipal boundaries, neither do the pollutants washed into it.

Let's Save Georgian Bay!

We are hoping that other councils around Georgian Bay that share the same sense of stewardship of the waters and the shores, will see fit to endorse the resolution of the Township of the Archipelago or pass similar resolutions of their own.

We are writing you at the suggestion of Rupert Kindersley, executive director of the Georgian Bay Association (GBA), whom you may know. Like the GBA, our concerns are principally for the environment, Georgian Bay's fresh water and stunning landscape which draw so many visitors, either as cottagers, weekenders, boaters, or permanent residents seeking a respite from big-city worries.

But the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), which manages the province's electricity grid, has twice reported to Ontario Energy Minister Todd Smith that the proposal fails to provide a net benefit for electricity customers -- especially in light of newer, more efficient and economic technologies, such as long-duration battery storage.

In other words, Ontario's own electricity regulator says TC Energy's proposal makes no economic sense. Yet the energy minister keeps rejecting the advice of the province's professionals and pushing this proposal ahead. We wonder why.

The price tag has already doubled from \$2.2 billion in 2018 to \$4.5 billion and TC Energy itself is now saying it could soar to \$7 billion -- where the company has agreed to cap it.

The project is moving ahead now in part because Meaford's own council agreed a year ago on February 27th, 2023, in a controversial 5-2 vote, to declare the municipality a "willing host." In doing so, it ignored significant local opposition represented by a hand-signed petition of 3,300 names -- equivalent to a third of the town's voting-age population -- and three-quarters of the depositions from the floor of a packed hall.

We hope you will consider adding your council's voice in opposition to this costly megaproject and its outdated technology.

This letter is accompanied by a fact sheet, which we hope will answer most questions you may have, along with a copy of the resolutions passed by the Township of the Archipelago, the Town of the Blue Mountains, the Township of Georgian Bay, and the Town of Parry Sound.

If any further information would be useful, we would be happy to make a presentation to your council in person.

With thanks for your time and attention -- and best wishes,

Let's Save Georgian Bay!

Tom Buck
for Save Georgian Bay
tbuck@savegeorgianbay.ca

cc: Rupert Kindersley, Executive Director, the Georgian Bay Association
Briana Bloomfield, Clerk for the City of Owen Sound

Let's Save Georgian Bay!



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

Agenda Number: 15.2.
Resolution Number 23-189
Title: TC Energy Pumper Storage Project
Date: Friday, November 17, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Cade Fraser
Seconded by: Councillor Emery

WHEREAS the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has recommended to the Ministry of Energy (MoE) that the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project (the “Project”) on Georgian Bay should not be approved because it is a very bad financial deal for Ontario; and

WHEREAS the proposed TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay would cause irreparable harm to the environment and would have significant negative impacts on the local animal, plant, fish, and human populations; and

WHEREAS the Project would irreversibly alter and damage the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area, putting at risk the important tourist industry, sport and commercial fishing that relies on these natural benefits; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defense (DND) have failed to adequately remediate the environmental impacts of the military base over the years making it a brownfield site, meaning that the area is already polluted and that the proposed project would exacerbate the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of The Archipelago vehemently opposes the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges DND to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MoE cease their support of the Project, accept the IESO recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebovillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.

Carried



Minutes: The Blue Mountains, Council Meeting

Date: December 18, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers and Virtual Meeting
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

Prepared by: Corrina Giles, Town Clerk

Members Present: Mayor Andrea Matrosovs, Deputy Mayor Peter Bordignon,
Councillor Gail Ardiel, Councillor Paula Hope, Councillor Alex Maxwell
Councillor Shawn McKinlay, Councillor June Porter

Staff Present: CAO Shawn Everit, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Director of
Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Director of Planning and
Development Services Adam Smith, Acting Director of Finance & IT
Services Sam Dinsmore

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES:

D.1.3 Township of Archipelago
Re: Resolution No. 23-189, TC Energy Pumped Storage Project (For Council Consideration)

Moved by: Councillor Ardiel
Seconded by: Councillor Maxwell

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the November 17, 2023 correspondence of the Township of Archipelago Re: Resolution No. 23-189, TC Energy Pumped Storage Project;

Yay (7): Mayor Matrosovs, Deputy Mayor Bordignon, Councillor Ardiel, Councillor Hope, Councillor Maxwell, Councillor McKinlay, and Councillor Porter
The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

Moved by: Councillor McKinlay
Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Bordignon

THAT, with respect to the November 17, 2023 correspondence of the Township of Archipelago Re: Resolution No. 23-189, TC Energy Pumped Storage Project, Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains supports in principle, the resolution and directs staff to circulate the resolution to those listed in the Archipelago resolution.

Yay (7): Mayor Matrosovs, Deputy Mayor Bordignon, Councillor Ardiel, Councillor Hope, Councillor Maxwell, Councillor McKinlay, and Councillor Porter

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

Agenda Number: 15.2.
Resolution Number: 23-189
Title: TC Energy Pumped Storage Project
Date: Friday, November 17, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Cade Fraser
Seconded by: Councillor Emery

WHEREAS the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has recommended to the Ministry of Energy (MoE) that the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project (the “Project”) on Georgian Bay should not be approved because it is a very bad financial deal for Ontario; and

WHEREAS the proposed TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay would cause irreparable harm to the environment and would have significant negative impacts on the local animal, plant, fish, and human populations; and

WHEREAS the Project would irreversibly alter and damage the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area, putting at risk the important tourist industry, sport and commercial fishing that relies on these natural benefits; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defense (DND) have failed to adequately remediate the environmental impacts of the military base over the years making it a brownfield site, meaning that the area is already polluted and that the proposed project would exacerbate the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of The Archipelago vehemently opposes the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges DND to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MoE cease their support of the Project, accept the IESO recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebouthillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.

Carried

New Business Item for Council



Moved by: Councillor Stephen Jarvis
Seconded by: Councillor Peter Cooper
Meeting Date: February 12, 2024
Subject: TC Pumped Storage proposal – Meaford, Ontario

Report:

<https://thenarwhal.ca/ontario-pumped-storage-projects/>

Recommendation:

WHEREAS the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has recommended to the Ministry of Energy (MoE) that the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project (the "Project") on Georgian Bay should not be approved because it is a very bad financial deal for Ontario; and

WHEREAS the proposed TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay could cause irreparable harm to the environment and could have significant negative impacts on the local animal, plant, fish, and human populations; and

WHEREAS the Project could irreversibly alter and damage the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area, putting at risk the important tourist industry, sport and commercial fishing that relies on these natural benefits; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defense (DND) have failed to adequately remediate the environmental impacts of the military base over the years making it a brownfield site, meaning that the area is already polluted and that the proposed project would exacerbate the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of Georgian Bay opposes the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges DND to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MoE cease their support of the Project, accept the IESO recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebouthillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2024 – 029 .

DIVISION LIST

YES NO

DATE: February 20, 2024

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

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MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

CARRIED: ✓ DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby supports the Township of The Archipelago's resolution, attached as Schedule A, opposing the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges Department of National Defense (DND) to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

That the Ministry of Environment cease their support of the Project, accept the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Township of The Archipelago, and to the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebouthillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.

Mayor Jamie McGarvey



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

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Resolution Number 23-189
Title: TC Energy Pumper Storage Project
Date: Friday, November 17, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Cade Fraser
Seconded by: Councillor Emery

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WHEREAS the Project would irreversibly alter and damage the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area, putting at risk the important tourist industry, sport and commercial fishing that relies on these natural benefits; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defense (DND) have failed to adequately remediate the environmental impacts of the military base over the years making it a brownfield site, meaning that the area is already polluted and that the proposed project would exacerbate the situation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of The Archipelago vehemently opposes the TC Energy Pumped Storage Project on Georgian Bay and urges DND to immediately implement measures to remediate the military base to ensure that the area is fit for human and animal habitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MoE cease their support of the Project, accept the IESO recommendations that the Project should not be approved, and therefore avoid placing an unnecessary financial burden on Ontario taxpayers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin, the IESO, DND, the Honourable Andre Khanjin Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Scott Aitchison, M.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka, Diane Lebovillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to request their co-operation in preventing this project from proceeding.

Carried

Fast Facts

ABOUT TC ENERGY'S PUMPED STORAGE PLAN



TC ENERGY'S SO-CALLED 'GREEN' ENERGY STORAGE PROPOSAL WILL:

Threaten the fresh waters and pristine beauty of Georgian Bay

Kill fish and harm the aquatic ecosystem of Georgian Bay by pumping 23 billion litres of bay water, along with creatures in it, up and down the escarpment every day for at least 50 years

Excavate a 375-acre reservoir on top of the Niagara Escarpment - a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve - to be contained by a "high hazard" 4.8-kilometer perimeter dam, 20 metres in height

Excavate massive tunnels deep into the Niagara Escarpment and beneath the lakebed of Georgian Bay

Require 50 kilometres of high voltage underwater cables stretching to Wasaga Beach

Cost more than \$7 billion but create only 20 permanent long-term jobs (\$350 million per job)

Provide no net economic value to Ontario electricity customers, according to reports in 2021 and 2023 from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)

Hand TC Energy a binding long-term contract that ALL Ontario taxpayers and electricity customers will pay for, despite the IESO reports saying it making no economic sense

Benefit from a highly irregular understanding with the Ontario government to have its pre-construction costs paid by Ontario taxpayers

Be built on an active Defence Department training base strewn with unexploded munitions and toxic pollutants accumulated over 80 years that, once disturbed, can be washed down into Georgian Bay

Employ outdated technology. Long-duration Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are cheaper, more efficient, need a fraction of the land, not require a body of water and can be installed quickly where actually needed

Consume 30 per cent more electricity overnight than it can release during the day

Increase greenhouse gases during construction and operation

Operate on an unsolicited and untendered long-term contract, contrary to normal procedures

Take almost a decade to begin operation

Put at risk as many as 30 endangered species

Endanger residents of 300 existing homes, farms and cottages below the reservoir and dam who will be unable to obtain flood insurance.

From: TVT Deputy Clerk <DeputyClerk@tayvalleytwp.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 4:02 PM

To: Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org

Cc: Registrar@TheBAO.ca; John.Jordan@pc.ola.org; TVT CAO
<cao@tayvalleytwp.ca>

Subject: Council Direction - Request to Assist Municipalities in the Growing Concern of Cemetery Transfers.

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

Aaron Watt, Deputy Clerk

Tay Valley Township
217 Harper Road, Perth, ON K7H 3C6
T: 613-267-5353 ext. 130 or 1-800-810-0161
F: 613-264-8516
E: deputyclerk@tayvalleytwp.ca
www.tayvalleytwp.ca

From: Spare <spare@markstay-warren.ca>

Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 4:03 PM

To: Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola; Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola; Registrar@TheBAO.ca

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.

Carey Roy a/s Kim Morris

Kim T. Morris
CAO/Clerk
DG/Greffière
Municipality of Markstay-Warren
(705)853-4536 ext. 202
Email: kmorris@markstay-warren.ca





**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



341 10th St. Hanover ON N4N 1P5

t 519.364.2780 | t 1.888.HANOVER | f 519.364.6456 | hanover.ca

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya Patterson".

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



Municipality of Meaford

Notice of Study Completion

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Schedule 'B' Structure BR-002 Replacement

Item 5

This notice was first issued on March 7, 2024

The Study

The Municipality of Meaford has completed the study to address the structural deficiencies at Structure BR-002 and determine a preferred replacement alternative for the structure. Structure BR-002 is located on Sideroad 24, a short distance west of Tom Thompson Lane – Concession A, within the Municipality of Meaford. The structure crosses over Bothwell Creek and its location is shown in the key plan herein.

The existing single-span reinforced concrete 'T' beam structure was identified as being deficient with respect to its physical condition, overall width, and load capacity. The Study was initiated in October 2022 to identify alternative design options and replacement structure types.

The Process

The replacement and design alternatives were evaluated based on a variety of technical studies, including ecology, cultural heritage, flood modeling, and geotechnical review. Throughout the study, consultation with the public, stakeholders, and review agencies were undertaken to develop the problem and opportunities related to the study and receive input from the public. A Notice of Study Commencement inviting public input was published on October 29, 2022.

Preferred Alternative

Through evaluation of the alternatives and consultation with agencies and the public, the preferred solution has been selected. The preferred solution involves the replacement of Structure BR-002 in the same location and alignment, with a new prefabricated modular bridge.

Project File Report

A Project File Report has been prepared to document the planning and decision-making process completed as part of this study. To access the Project Study Report and review ongoing project updates, visit the webpage at: www.meaford.ca/BR2

If you require a hard copy of the report for review, please contact a member of the Project Team.

Consultation and Input

By this notice, the report will be placed on the public record at the location indicated above, and comments will be accepted for a period of 30 days starting March 7, 2024, and ending April 5, 2024. If you have questions or comments regarding the study, please contact one of the Project Team members below:

Joel Saunders

Project Manager, Infrastructure
Municipality of Meaford

21 Trowbridge Street West, Meaford ON N4L 1A1
(519) 538-1060 extension 1319 | jrsaunders@meaford.ca

Matthew Brooks, P.Eng.

Project Manager

R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited
3 Ronell Crescent, Collingwood ON L9W 3R4
(705) 797-4284 | matt.brooks@rjburnside.com

Section 16 Order Request

In addition to general project comments as outlined above, a request to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order imposing additional conditions or requiring an individual environmental assessment may be made on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests shall be made within the 30-day comment period previously identified and should include your full name and contact information.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (additional conditions or an individual environmental assessment), explain how an order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy potential adverse impacts, and can include any supporting information. The request should be sent to both:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor, Toronto ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch

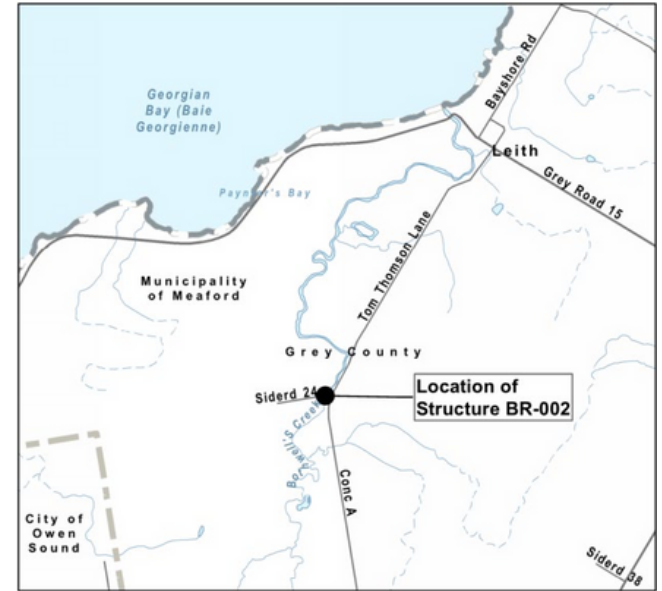
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue W, 1st Floor, Toronto ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Requests should also be sent to the Municipality of Meaford by mail or e-mail. Please visit the ministry's website for more information on requests for orders under Section 16 of the Environmental Assessment Act at:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-section-16-order>

All personal information included in your request – such as name, address, telephone number, and property location – is collected and maintained, under the authority of Section 30 of the Environmental Assessment Act, for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential.

Project and notice information will be made accessible upon request in accordance with the Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.





**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 that reads "V Steele". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "V" and "S".

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 Maddison".

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. Dibb

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 SUCGA
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

[Signature] 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 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		

I declare this motion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost / Defeated
<input type="checkbox"/> Deferred to: _____ (enter date)
Because: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ (enter body)
Expected response: _____ (enter date)

Chair:

[Signature]

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

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



**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

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 that reads "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;



Legislative Services
Michael de Rond
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

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
 - 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.

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

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

Carried (6 to 0)



Legislative Services
Michael de Rond
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

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.**

Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024
Council/Committee Meeting Structure Under Strong Mayor Powers
March 6, 2024

2 of 2

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael de Rond".

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



Legislative Services
 Michael de Rond
 905-726-4771
 clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
 100 John West Way, Box 1000
 Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

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 Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



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.

The Town of Goderich
57 West Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2K5
519-524-8344
townhall@goderich.ca
www.goderich.ca



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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Fisher".

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;

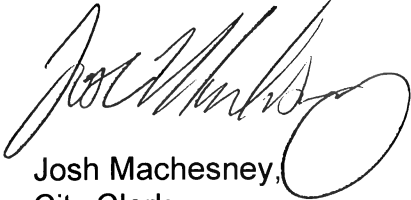
And Further That the Province of Ontario be asked to invest more than the currently allocated \$200M into their Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund;

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



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



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



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Martin", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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



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



The Corporation of the Township of Georgian Bluffs

March 8, 2024

Re: Township of Georgian Bluffs Resolution in Support – Rising Municipal Insurance Costs

To whom it may concern,

Please be advised that Council for the Township of Georgian Bluffs considered the above noted matter and passed resolution RES2024-036 at the March 6, 2024, meeting of Council:

RES2024-036

Moved By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

That staff be directed to forward a letter in support of the resolution passed by the Township of Asphodel-Norwood.

Carried

Thank you,

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

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: 10.8.
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

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

From: Clerk <clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 11:34 AM
To: Tammy Godden <clerk@stcharlesontario.ca>; David.Piccini@pc.ola.org;
resolutions@amo.on.ca; JVanthof-gp@ndp.on.ca; admin@aors.on.ca
Subject: RE: MSC Res. 2024-043 - Potential Municipal Equipment Operator Course

Good morning.

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

Best regards,
Cheryl Marshall,
Clerk/Treasurer
Township of McMurrich/Monteith
P.O. Box 70, 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone: 705-685-7901 Fax: 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com



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



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

DEVLIVERED 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Moreton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Latimer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Councillor Manson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



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



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

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,



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



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 "Lori McDonald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



Western

Centre for Research & Education on
Violence Against Women & Children

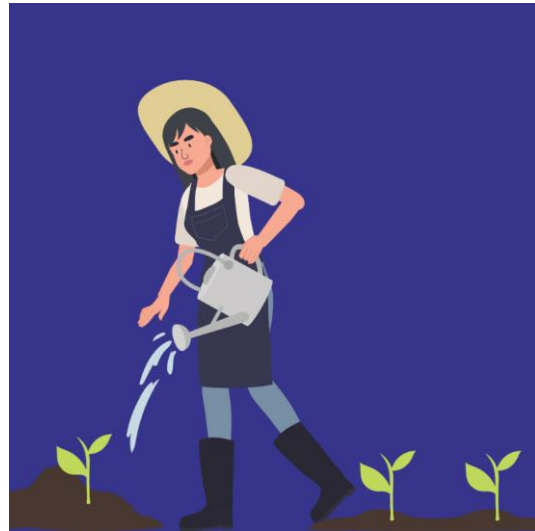
Neighbours, Friends, and Families (NFF) Launches “Rural Roots” Initiative to Empower Rural Communities in Addressing IPV

[Neighbours, Friends, and Families](#) (NFF) is proud to unveil the [Rural Roots initiative](#), a collaborative effort in partnership with [Lanark County Interval House](#) and [Luke’s Place](#). Born from a commitment to address intimate partner violence (IPV) in rural areas, Rural Roots will equip individuals with the knowledge and tools to support survivors within their rural communities.



The genesis of Rural Roots is in the webinar, “[A Rural Inquest: The Role of Neighbours, Friends and Families in Keeping Women Safe](#),” which delved into the inquest into the 2015 murders of three women in a rural community in eastern Ontario. Rural Roots strives to bridge gaps in understanding and support for survivors of IPV in rural communities.

Rural IPV presents distinct challenges that are frequently overlooked in urban centric narratives. For example, rural victim/survivors are 30% more likely to face firearm threats compared to their urban counterparts.



Rural Roots empowers individuals to take meaningful action through a simple framework: See it, Name it, Check it.

SEE IT

See it: be aware of common warning signs of IPV so you know it when you see it.

NAME IT

Name it: for what it is, to yourself, and to the person you are concerned about.

CHECK IT

Check it: for danger, for yourself, and reach out for community expertise.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of rural survivors of IPV. Join us in championing, safety, support, and empowerment within our communities.

For more information or to get involved visit:

<https://www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca/rural-roots/index.html>



Neighbors, Friends and Families is a provincial public education campaign out of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children

and is dedicated to preventing intimate partner violence and domestic homicides by raising awareness and empowering individuals to take action within their communities.

Contact Information:

1. **NFF/CREVAWC Office** -
Christine Wildman 519-661-4040
2. **Luke's Place** – Pamela
Cross 613-328-1851
3. **Lanark County Interval House** – Erin Lee 613-878-5700, Brianne Luckasavitch 343-551-9586

To find **local resources** in your area, visit <https://sheltersafe.ca/get-help/>



March 8, 2024

Mr. Rick Byers, MPP
Bruce Grey Owen Sound
345 8th Street E, Suite 104
Owen Sound, ON
N4K 1L3

Ms. Lisa Thompson, MPP
Huron-Bruce
807 Queen St., Unit 3, PO Box 834
Kincardine, ON
N2Z 2Y2

Mr. Brian Saunderson, MPP
Simcoe-Grey
180 Parsons Road, Suite 28
Alliston, ON
L9R 1E8

Dear Mr. Byers, Ms. Thompson and Mr. Saunderson,

Re: Please Strengthen Current Municipal Anti-Harassment Penalties NOW

On behalf of electHER Now, a non-partisan organization working toward gender parity in the political landscape, we are requesting that the Municipal Act be amended to protect not just women, but all elected to municipal office and those who work with elected officials when individuals have violated workplace violence or harassment policies.

Since 2021 when the Ontario Government announced they had begun the process of gathering input about the issue there has been a rising trend in the reporting and the degree of abuse.

At electHER Now, we are working hard to encourage more women to run for office and support them in their municipal political journey. We would welcome the opportunity to have a conversation with you to discuss strategies and options to strengthen the Municipal Act and stop Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders.

Please connect with us at electhernowadvocate@gmail.com to arrange a meeting date and time.

Thank you,

Carol Merton

Co-Founder, electHER Now
2022-2026 Councillor
Municipality of Owen Sound

Laura Wood

Co-Founder, electHER Now
Community Volunteer

Jennifer Shaw

Advisory Council, electHER Now
2022-2026 Deputy Mayor
Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

c.c. All 17 municipalities in Grey and Wardens of Bruce and Wardens Grey County and Bruce County

Website: electhernow.ca Email: electhernowadvocate@gmail.com

Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk
City of Owen Sound
808 2nd Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2H4



Telephone: 519-376-4440 ext. 1235
Facsimile: 519-371-0511
Email: slandry@owensound.ca
Website: www.owensound.ca

March 20, 2024

Via Email

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

Re: Support for Town of Lincoln's Resolution respecting an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

City Council, at its meeting held on March 11, 2024, considered the above-noted matter, and passed Resolution No. R-240311-010 as follows:

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on the March 11, 2024 Consent Agenda respecting an urgent need for increased funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario, City Council:

- 1. Supports the resolution passed by the Town of Lincoln; and**
- 2. Directs staff to send this resolution to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Alex Ruff, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Rick Byers, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Town of Lincoln."**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Staci Landry
Deputy Clerk

Encl. Town of Lincoln – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

cc: Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Town of Lincoln



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