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## Mayoral Direction

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**Direction Number:** 2025-03A  
**Date:** April 11, 2025  
**Subject:** Municipal Reform in Niagara – Request to the Province  
and for Endorsement by Welland City Council

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Pursuant to the Mayor's authority under the Municipal Act, 2001, and in support of effective and accountable local government, I am directing the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a report for Council's consideration on the need for municipal governance reform in Niagara.

This direction follows ongoing signals from the Province of Ontario that further changes to the regional governance structure in Niagara may be under consideration. Given the potential for structural change, it is timely for our Council to proactively assess our position and seek clarity from the Province of Ontario in advance of the 2026 municipal election.


### **Provincial Engagement Strategy**

Formally request clarification and position from the Province of Ontario, specifically the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, on its position regarding governance reform in Niagara. If available, this should include clarity on the anticipated outcomes of the Regional Review and any implications for local municipalities prior to the 2026 municipal election.

**Council Deliberation on Governance Reform**

A report seeking council's endorsement of the need for governance reform in Niagara. Specifically addressing the number of municipalities, two-tier or one-tier model, and council composition across Niagara. This may also include identifying opportunities to better align Niagara Governance with Provincial Priorities, necessary structural changes, improved service delivery and standardization, enhanced collaboration, and the desire to reduce red tape and duplication.

Please prepare this report for Council's review for the April 22, 2025 Council Meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank Campion', is written over a horizontal line.

**Frank Campion**  
Mayor