



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, January 24, 2025

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Tara Stephens, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

DATE: January 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Lottery Licensing for Community Organizations

As per By-law 1993-10057, charitable organizations must obtain lottery licensing approval from Council to conduct lottery events. The City Clerk, appointed as the licensing officer for the Corporation, oversees the review of licensing eligibility applications to ensure compliance with the guidelines set by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario. Once eligibility is confirmed, a report was traditionally prepared for Council consideration. However, on March 19, 2024, Council passed a motion delegating authority to the City Clerk to approve lottery licensing requests for eligible organizations and to provide a memorandum be provided to council following approval.

The following five (5) organizations have been granted approval for conducting lottery events within the City of Welland:

Open Arms Mission

Open Arms Mission in Welland, Ontario, is a community-focused organization committed to addressing both the physical and spiritual needs of residents. Established in the late 1980s as a small food bank, it has grown into a multifaceted ministry offering food, personal care items, and additional support services. The Mission Centre on Fifth Street serves as the main hub for client services, while the Fresh Food Hub on Forks Road West facilitates food storage, processing, and distribution for the Niagara Region.

École Secondaire Catholique Saint-Jean-de-Brebeuf

École secondaire Saint-Jean-de-Brébeuf, located in Welland, Ontario, is a French-language Catholic secondary school within the Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir. The school fosters excellence, faith, and a strong sense of community by offering a diverse range of academic programs, extracurricular activities, and spiritual development opportunities. Committed to preparing students for success in a bilingual and multicultural world, the school emphasizes French-language education and Catholic values. With dedicated staff and modern facilities, Saint-Jean-de-Brébeuf provides a supportive and inclusive environment where students can thrive both academically and personally.

Rose City Kids

Rose City Kids (RCK) is a non-profit organization in Welland, Ontario, dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment where children and youth can experience the love of Jesus and be inspired to make positive changes in their lives. Established in 2008, RCK serves over 700 children and youth through programs supported by over 100 volunteers and eight staff members. Initiatives include biweekly Saturday Kids Programs with worship, games, and biblical teachings; Youth Nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays; a Wednesday evening Tutoring Program offering one-on-one academic support; and biweekly Home Visits to connect with families. These programs provide the tools, encouragement, and support children and youth need to succeed, fostering a sense of belonging and community involvement.

87 Eagle Squadron – Welland Air Cadets

Established in 1942, 87 Eagle Squadron is one of Canada's original Air Cadet units, with over 80 years of service. Based at the Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeling Airport in Fenwick, Ontario, the squadron operates from a historic WWII-era building, providing cadets with a rich aviation heritage and a distinctive training environment. The squadron offers a comprehensive program for youth aged 12 to 18, focusing on leadership, citizenship, and physical fitness, with activities including regular parade nights, specialized training in drill, marksmanship, and first aid. Supported by a dedicated team

of officers and volunteers, the squadron continues to inspire and empower the next generation.

The Robert Wood Singers

Established in 1968 by Robert Wood, The Robert Wood Singers is a non-profit choral organization based in Port Colborne, Ontario, that has been delighting audiences across the Niagara Peninsula with harmonious melodies and diverse musical selections for over five decades. Directed by Victoria Rondinelli since 2018, the ensemble consists of approximately 50 members from across the region and has reintroduced a children's choir, "The Wood Kids," to foster musical growth among young participants. Dedicated to community engagement, the group hosts concerts and events, such as "All We Need Is Love" in collaboration with the Niagara Men's Chorus, with proceeds supporting initiatives like Pathstone Mental Health. Their repertoire spans various genres, offering meaningful and enjoyable musical experiences for audiences of all ages.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

FROM: Rob Axiak, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: January 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Summary of Attendance at the 2025 ROMA Conference

The Mayor and I attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference held January 19–21, 2025, in Toronto. This annual conference provides a platform for municipal leaders and provincial officials to engage on issues impacting rural and small urban communities. The conference featured keynote speakers, panel discussions, workshops, and direct engagement opportunities with provincial ministers. We had applied to meet with eight (8) different Ministries and were granted five (5) delegations, as listed below.

Ministerial Meetings Summary:

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)

- Advocated for provincial partnerships to assist with housing developments and enhance affordable housing initiatives.
- Highlighted Welland's efforts to meet and exceed provincial housing targets while requesting financial incentives to bolster affordable housing projects.

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

- Sought provincial support in addressing federal policy changes affecting international students and workforce development in critical sectors, such as advanced manufacturing and tourism.

- Proposed a partnership with Niagara College and the Province to address skilled trades shortages.

Ministry of Transportation

- Emphasized the need for multimodal transportation enhancements, including upgrades to Highways 140 and 406, and better coordination for canal-related land development
- Requested support for acquiring strategic federal lands to accommodate Welland's growth.

Ministry of Tourism, Sport, and Culture

- Proposed funding for upgrades to the Welland Sports Complex and support for a new arena and community center to meet the needs of a growing population. Discussed our two grant applications pending review as part of the Culture, Sport, Recreation Infrastructure program:
 - Welland Stadium (Stream 1: Repair and Rehabilitation)
 - Welland Arenas (Stream 2: New Builds / Signature New Build)

Ministry of Health

- Advocated for increased mental health and addiction services, funding for mobile health clinics, and pending local share contributions.
- Discussed the progress of the three-hospital system in Niagara and our continued work with Niagara health on developing a campus of care model at the Welland location.

Conference Highlights

Among the various sessions attended, one notable event was the **Communal Sewage Services Roundtable** hosted by Minister Paul Calandra (MMAH) and Minister Todd McCarthy (MECP). This session focused on exploring collaborative approaches to addressing sewage service challenges in rural and semi-urban areas. Welland's

participation highlighted the potential for communal sewage solutions on the east side of the shipping canal to support future development. As this was a round table to educate and begin to gauge interest across the province, significant efforts on next steps when working with municipalities would be required.

Next notable highlight from the conference was the speech delivered by the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, on Monday. During his remarks, he made two pointed statements to the room of municipal leaders:

1. He emphasized that the province will not approve any Official Plan that does not fully align with Provincial Priorities, which includes the need to build more homes.
2. He encouraged elected officials to align their decisions with Provincial Priorities, including housing objectives. He indicated that if the municipalities did not do this, that the province would step in to act on behalf of municipalities if necessary.

These comments made by the Minister underscore the importance of Welland continuing to align with provincial housing policies while advocating for support to address local challenges and opportunities.

Next Steps

The discussions and opportunities arising from this conference will be instrumental as we continue to advocate for Welland's priorities. Follow-ups will include formal submissions to provincial ministries on key projects and collaborative efforts with regional stakeholders to leverage provincial support.

I will keep Council informed of any progress stemming from these meetings and from our attendance at the 2025 ROMA conference.

Sincerely,



Rob Axiak
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Welland



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 16

Date: January 16, 2025

MOVED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives all items within Correspondence for Information Section;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Staff to write letters of support from the Town of Kearney for any of the mentioned resolutions of support.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

For

Opposed

Beaucage, Keven

Pateman, Heather

Philip, Cheryl – Mayor

Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor

Sharer, Jill

Good day,

Please be advised that Council of the Township of South Stormont passed the following resolution on December 18, 2024:

Resolution No.: 253/2024

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Andrew Guindon

Seconded by: Councillor Cindy Woods

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

And whereas, the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

And whereas, the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

And whereas, the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

And whereas, redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

And whereas, a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council of the Township of South Stormont formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; Further, that Council of the Township of South Stormont calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities;

Further, that this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;

Further, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);

And further be it resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Result: CARRIED

Kind regards,



Ashley Sloan, AMP

Deputy Clerk
Marriage Officiant

Email: ashley@southstormont.ca

Phone: 613-534-8889 ext. 204

2 Mille Roches Road, PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0

<https://www.southstormont.ca>



Good day,

Please be advised that Council of the Township of South Stormont passed the following resolution on December 18, 2024:

Resolution No.: 254/2024

Moved By: Councillor Reid McIntyre

Seconded by: Councillor Jennifer MacIsaac

**Whereas rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;
And whereas preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural health care system;
And whereas roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums; preventing car crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;
Therefore, be it resolved that the Township of South Stormont requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead;
And further that this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support, as well as the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Transportation.
Result: CARRIED**

Kind regards,



Ashley Sloan, AMP

Deputy Clerk

Marriage Officiant

Email: ashley@southstormont.ca

Phone: 613-534-8889 ext. 204

2 Mille Roches Road, PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0

<https://www.southstormont.ca>



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 16

Date: January 16, 2025

MOVED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives all items within Correspondence for Information Section;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Staff to write letters of support from the Town of Kearney for any of the mentioned resolutions of support.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

For

Opposed

Beaucage, Keven

Pateman, Heather

Philip, Cheryl – Mayor

Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor

Sharer, Jill

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylvia Przedziecki
Council Secretariat Support
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web: www.toronto.ca**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 24-MM23.1**

(Sent by Email)

December 20, 2024

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:**Subject: Member Motion Item 23.1
Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise,
seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo (Ward All)**

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted [Item MM23.1](#) and in doing so, has forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and requested that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Yours sincerely,

Niko Markakis, for

for City Clerk

S. Przedziecki/mp

Attachment

Sent to: All Ontario Municipalities
Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Blood Services
Chief Executive Officer, Grifols Canada

c. City Manager

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 23

MM23.1	ACTION	Adopted		Ward: All
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Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

City Council Decision

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted the following:

1. City Council express its opposition to the operation of private for-profit blood collection companies in the City.
2. City Council forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and request that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Summary

In the City of Toronto, we uphold the principle of voluntary blood and plasma donation, acknowledging its vital importance as a public good. Our commitment derives from the lessons of Canada’s tainted blood crisis, which tragically claimed approximately 8,000 lives. The subsequent Royal Krever Commission urged a fully voluntary, non-payment oriented blood and plasma donation system.

Within our Ontario healthcare system, we perceive blood donations as a priceless public resource, underscoring the need to safeguard the integrity of the public, voluntary donor system.

The Voluntary Blood Donations Act of Ontario strengthens this stance, legislating against the payment of donors and prohibiting donors from receiving financial compensation for their blood or plasma.

Canada Blood Services plans to open five paid plasma clinics, including one in Toronto, by 2025. This issue needs immediate attention and action. The public health community has raised concerns about Grifols Pharmaceuticals' plans to open a Toronto clinic. It's vital we protect vulnerable residents from exploitation by for-profit plasma collection companies offering cash for blood-plasma, a predatory practice.

In bringing this motion forward, we strive to reinforce the principles of voluntary, non-remunerated blood and plasma donation, protecting both the integrity of Canada’s public blood system and the dignity of blood donors.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.1

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-249600.pdf>

Attachment 1 - Resolution to Declare the City of Hamilton a "No Paid Plasma Zone"

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-250144.pdf>

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.2.
Resolution Number 2024-424
Title: Resolution Stemming from November 20, 2024 Regular Meeting - Item 8.1 -
Correspondence #9
Date: December 11, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed on October 21, 2024 by the Town of The Blue Mountains, regarding the Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Premier Doug Ford; the Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Sarkaria; the Minister of Infrastructure, King Surma; the Minister of Agriculture, Rob Flack; the Minister of Rural Affairs, Lisa Thompson; the Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Trevor Jones; the Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Good Roads; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



THE TOWNSHIP OF
WOOLWICH

BOX 158, 24 CHURCH ST. W.
ELMIRA, ONTARIO N3B 2Z6
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FINANCE/RECREATION/FACILITIES FAX 519-669-9348

January 17, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

BY EMAIL

Dear Premier,

RE: Resolution Passed by Woolwich Township Council – Election Advocacy and Preparation

This letter is to inform you that the Council of the Township of Woolwich passed the following resolution at their meeting held on January 14, 2025:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report C02-2025 respecting Election 2026 Report 1 – Election Advocacy and Preparation:

- 1. Endorse the resolutions from municipalities across Ontario including that from the Township of Terrace Bay calling on the Province of Ontario to update the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before the summer of 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections; and***
- 2. Forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, our local Minister of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO).***

Township of Terrace Bay Resolution:

WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

AND WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

AND WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

AND WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for

voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

AND WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges;

AND WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape with impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis-disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendation for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Terrace Bay calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, Thunder Bay MPP's, AMO and AMCTO.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tanya Bettridge, by email at tbettridge@woolwich.ca or by phone at 519-669-6004.

Yours truly,



Jeff Smith, Municipal Clerk

Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich

Cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Minister of Education
Minister of Public Business Service Delivery
Minister of Finance
Mike Harris, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
Municipalities of Ontario

"Proudly remembering our past; Confidently embracing our future."



January 21, 2025

Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Subject: Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on January 13, 2025, is forwarded for your consideration.

Whereas:

- 1. A municipality's parks and open spaces are critical infrastructure that support a strong community, and the public's shared and safe use of the municipality's parks and open spaces is integral to ensuring that support.**
- 2. Ontario's municipalities are struggling to maintain their parks and open spaces for their shared and safe use by the public as a result of the increasing proliferation of encampments and illicit activities related thereto.**
- 3. Municipalities that enforce their standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in their parks and open spaces must have regard to the availability of shelter space for those who need shelter.**
- 4. On January 27, 2023, Justice Valente of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice rendered his judgment in *Waterloo (Regional Municipality) v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained* (2023), [2023] O.J. No. 417 (Waterloo Decision) which declared that the municipality's by-law violated section 7 of the *Charter* and was therefore inoperative insofar as it applied to prevent encampment residents from erecting temporary shelters on a site when the number of homeless individuals in the region exceeded the number of accessible shelter beds.**
- 5. The Waterloo Decision's analysis of the adequacy of shelter beds suggests an unworkable and unclear standard that goes beyond the number of shelter**

spaces and that includes the requirement to provide shelter spaces that must accommodate illicit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk. The result is that municipalities are impaired in their enforcement of their standards and have lost or are losing control of their parks and open spaces.

- 6. On December 12, 2024, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introduced Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024. Among its various initiatives, Bill 242 proposes to amend section 2 of the Trespass to Property Act by adding aggravating factors that must be considered in the court's determination of a penalty under that section. However, the key challenge is that a municipality's exercise of its rights at common law and under section 9 of the Trespass to Property Act to remove encampments from the municipality's parks and open spaces remains potentially subject to the unworkable and unclear standard for the adequacy of shelter space suggested by the Waterloo Decision.**
- 7. In these circumstances, municipalities need provincial legislation that clearly defines a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.**

Now therefore, be it resolved:

- 1. That the provincial government be respectfully requested to amend Bill 242 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.**
- 2. That, without limitation, Bill 242 provides that a municipality will have met the standard for shelter space for the purposes of the municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces:**
 - a) despite the establishment and enforcement of shelter rules including rules that prohibit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk; and**
 - b) if an official designated by the municipality is satisfied that the number of available shelter spaces is at least equal to the aggregate of the number of individuals actually seeking shelter and the number of individuals against whom the municipality is planning to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.**
- 3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to:**

- a) Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
- b) Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
- c) Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
- d) Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and to
- f) Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
City Clerk

cc:
City of Peterborough Council
City of Peterborough Staff

**NRH Board of Directors Elects 2025 Officers
With St. Catharines Mayor Mat Siscoe as new NRH Chair**

NIAGARA REGION, January 17, 2025 – At their January 17 meeting, the Niagara Regional Housing (NRH) Board of Directors elected the following Executive Committee to provide leadership for the Board:

- Chair – Mat Siscoe (Mayor, St. Catharines). Mayor Siscoe is serving his first term on the NRH Board. He held the role of Vice Chair 2023-2024
- Vice-Chair – Jeff Jordan (Mayor, Grimsby). Mayor Jordan is serving his first term on the NRH Board. He held the position of Secretary from 2022-2025
- Secretary – Tom Insinna (Regional Councillor, Fort Erie) He is serving his second term on the NRH Board. He held the position of Secretary in 2022
- Treasurer – Leanna Villella (Regional Councillor, Welland) is serving her second term on the NRH Board and was previously Vice-Chair from 2024-2025

The NRH Board is comprised of five Regional Councillors and four Community Directors. Also on the Board are Betty Ann Baker (Community Director, Welland), David Mole (Community Director, St. Catharines), Betty Lou Souter (Community Director, St. Catharines), Drew Toth (Community Director, Niagara Falls) and Gary Zalepa (Lord Mayor, Niagara on The Lake).

Quotes:

“I would like to thank former Chair, Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa, for his exceptional leadership. He has been a tremendous support to our organization and has always been open to creative approaches to address our many challenges. I look forward to working with our new Chair, Mayor Siscoe, who has been a dedicated member of our Board since his 2022.”

~ NRH CEO Cameron Banach

"I am honoured to have been elected Chair of the Niagara Regional Housing Board. Community Housing and new development have never been more important in Niagara, as we experience the impact of the desperate shortage of low income rentals. I look forward to leading NRH as we work with the Region, local municipalities and the community to find solutions together. I would like to thank Lord Mayor Zalepa for his contribution as NRH Chair and looking forward to continuing to work with he and the rest of the NRH Board. "

~ NRH Board Chair, Mat Siscoe

-30-

Contact:

Cameron Banach
Chief Executive Officer, NRH
905-682-9201, ext. 3930
Cameron.banach@niagararegion.ca

Mayor Mat Siscoe
Board Chair, NRH
905-688-5601, ext. 1542
Mat.siscoe@niagararegion.ca

January 23, 2025

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

Re: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0009 regarding Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0009.

Respectfully,



Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Leaders of the Opposition Parties
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local MPs
Local MPPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All 444 Municipalities of Ontario



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0009

Title: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Date: January 20, 2025

Moved by: Mayor A. Lawlor

Seconded by: Councillor C. Somerville

Item No. 12.1

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

AND WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

AND WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

AND WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax

and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

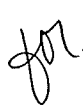

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town of Halton Hills Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT Town of Halton Hills Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Mayor Ann Lawlor