## COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

January 28, 2022

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Government Relations and Consultation Activity in 2021

The Government Relations Consultation review process was developed in order to provide a centralized way to coordinate and track opportunities for the city to provide input into Federal and Provincial legislative, regulatory and programming considerations. This process is governed by the Government Relations Consultation Tracking Policy (Policy Number A09 ADM 008).

From January 1 to December 31, 2021, a total of 21 government relations activities took place (Appendix A). This is slightly higher than in 2020, when 17 activities were completed during the course of the year. Of the activities completed:

- Two (2) were consultation responses submitted to the appropriate legislative body
- Nine (9) were advocacy-related submissions, and
- Nine (9) were reviewed with no response provided

The final review was Bill 88, the Planning Amendment Act, 2019, which was reviewed due to its potential municipal impact despite there being no opportunity to comment.

Staff continue to monitor opportunities and will provide information on future advocacy efforts as appropriate.

External Grant Application Tracking and Results

Corporate Strategy began tracking municipal funding opportunities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and expanded its grant tracking to all municipal funding opportunities early in 2021. An administrative framework for tracking external funding opportunities was adopted in September 2021.
From January to December 2021, there have been 15 completed grant applications tracked through this process (Appendix B). Of those completed:

- Seven (7) were successful, for a combined total of more than $868,500 in funds received
- Five (5) are awaiting results, and
- Three (3) were unsuccessful

There are many factors that affect external funding decisions, including the number of applications received relative to the amount of funding available. Cambridge has been very successful at obtaining grant funding in the past and it is hoped that introducing the new external grant application tracking framework will help the City to build on its legacy of financial sustainability by continuing to leverage funds from other sources to support municipal projects and programs.

Attachments

Appendix A: Government Consultation Tracking Summary – January to December 2021

Appendix B: Grant Application Tracking Summary – January to December 2021

Approvals:

☒ Manager/Supervisor  ☒ Deputy City Manager  ☒ City Manager

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<th>Consultation Deadline (or Date of Submission) (MM/DD/YYYY)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>2021 Provincial Budget Submission</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>2/16/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>2021 Federal Pre-Budget Submission</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>2/19/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) - Waterloo Airport Runway Project</td>
<td>Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</td>
<td>4/15/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>ERO 019-3136 Consultation on growing the size of the Greenbelt</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>4/19/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Affordable Housing Funding in Ontario</td>
<td>Minister of Families Children and Social Development</td>
<td>6/2/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Ontario Association of Optometrists - OHIP Negotiations</td>
<td>Premier's Office Ministry of Health</td>
<td>8/4/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Tax Increase-based Equivalent Grant Program (TIEG)</td>
<td>Region of Waterloo</td>
<td>8/9/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Traffic Volumes Along Dundas St. S. (Hwy 8)</td>
<td>Region of Waterloo and Ministry of Transportation</td>
<td>8/20/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Request for establishment of safety zones at hospitals in response to recent protests</td>
<td>Premier's Office Ministry of Health, AMO, Region of Waterloo</td>
<td>9/27/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Title of Consultation/Proposed Legislative Change</td>
<td>Ministry, Department or Agency</td>
<td>Consultation Deadline (or Date of Submission) (MM/DD/YYYY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>Request that the Provincial government mandate Naloxone kits in all public institutions across Ontario</td>
<td>Premier's Office Ministry of Health AMO Region of Waterloo</td>
<td>9/30/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted</td>
<td>CBM Aggregates Application for Dance Pit Expansion</td>
<td>Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)</td>
<td>12/14/2021</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>ERO 019-2811 Minister's Zoning Orders</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>1/30/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>ERO 019-3233 Proposal to amend Minister’s zoning orders and the Planning Act</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>4/4/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>ERO 019-3495 Planning Act Land Division</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>5/25/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>Consultation on strengthening Municipal Codes of Conduct for elected officials</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>7/15/2021</td>
<td>Online survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>Bill 88 - Planning Amendment Act, 2019</td>
<td>Municipal Affairs and Housing</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>ERO 019-2785 Land Use Compatibility Guideline</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks</td>
<td>8/6/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>CP Rail Interim Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan review</td>
<td>CP Rail (per Transport Canada requirements)</td>
<td>8/25/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Title of Consultation/Proposed Legislative Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>ERO 019-3839 Greater Golden Horseshoe Transportation Plan - Discussion Paper</td>
<td>Ministry of Transportation</td>
<td>8/28/2021</td>
<td>Consultation Response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td>Ontario Truck Parking</td>
<td>SDR Consulting</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Grant Program</td>
<td>Purpose of Grant</td>
<td>Amount Received</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful</td>
<td>Fire Safety Grant Program (Ontario Fire Marshall’s Office)</td>
<td>Grant to all municipal fire services to assist in addressing challenges associated with training and virtual inspections due to the COVID-19 pandemic</td>
<td>$36,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful</td>
<td>TD Canada Trust Sponsorship Grant</td>
<td>Cambridge Celebration of the Arts sponsorship grant request</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful</td>
<td>Jumpstart (Canadian Tire Charity)</td>
<td>Youth park space ambassadors to support education and engagement of park users during summer 2021</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful</td>
<td>Audit and Accountability Fund (Province of Ontario) – Intake 2</td>
<td>Efficiencies, effectiveness and cost reduction Technology Services Budget and Process Review.</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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<td>Successful</td>
<td>2020 Reconnect Festival and Event Program (Province of Ontario)</td>
<td>Enhanced and expanded multimedia content for the Old Post Office Projection project - All Projects to be completed by March 31, 2021</td>
<td>$43,425</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful</td>
<td>ICIP COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure - Local Government Intake (Infrastructure Canada)</td>
<td>Funds for new CMH entrance ($225,000) and for Hespeler Arena ($390,000)</td>
<td>$615,000</td>
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<td>Successful</td>
<td>2021 Reconnect Festival and Event Program (Province of Ontario)</td>
<td>Winter Illumination</td>
<td>$70,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Submitted</td>
<td>Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (Infrastructure Canada)</td>
<td>Recreation Complex</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Submitted</td>
<td>Canada Community Revitalization Fund (Fed Dev Ontario)</td>
<td>Grand River Access Improvement Project (access point at Water St. S.)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Submitted</td>
<td>Community Building Fund - Capital Stream (Ontario Trillium Foundation/Province of Ontario)</td>
<td>Ed Newland Pool repairs</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Submitted</td>
<td>Audit and Accountability Fund (Province of Ontario) – Intake 3, Project 1/2</td>
<td>Enhanced Customer Service Strategy</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Grant Program</td>
<td>Purpose of Grant</td>
<td>Amount Received</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Submitted</td>
<td>Audit and Accountability Fund (Province of Ontario) – Intake 3, Project 2/2</td>
<td>Cambridge Fire Department I.T. Strategy</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unsuccessful</td>
<td>Inclusive Community Grant Program</td>
<td>Accessibility of city-owned Fashion History Museum building</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsuccessful</td>
<td>Canada Healthy Communities Initiative – Round 1</td>
<td>Dunbar Rd. Phase 2 Multi-use trail</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsuccessful</td>
<td>Canada Healthy Communities Initiative - Round 2</td>
<td>Dunbar Rd. Phase 2 Multi-use trail (updated application)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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January 18, 2022

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

RE: Resolution from the City of Waterloo passed December 6th, 2021 re 2022 Municipal Election PD Day

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Waterloo at its Council meeting held on Monday, December 6th, 2021 resolved as follows:

WHEREAS Monday, October 24 2022 is Municipal and School Board election day, and municipal clerks who administer Municipal and School Board elections are in the middle of planning for this important democratic event.

AND WHEREAS municipalities have statutory authority to use schools as polling places under section 45 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

AND WHEREAS schools are often the largest, most centrally located and accessible facility in communities which make them ideal locations to host polling stations.

AND WHEREAS many school boards across the Province already work with municipalities to schedule a Professional Development Days (PD Days) on municipal election day every four years.

AND WHEREAS the City of Waterloo municipal clerk runs the elections for several school boards.

AND WHEREAS in 2018, approximately 25% of school boards agreed to make Municipal and School Board Election Day a PD Day. Approximately another 60% had PD days in October already. Almost 30% of had days within a week of
municipal election day and there are a number of school boards that schedule PD Days on Mondays already. And therefore, it is possible to make arrangements for a PD Day to fall on Municipal and School Board Election Day.

AND WHEREAS school boards and municipalities can work together, to increase these rates and make it easier for local voters to cast their ballots while ensuring student safety.

AND WHEREAS partnering with municipalities for the 2022 municipal and school board election to fall on a PD Day has a number of benefits to School boards, schools and the broader community including:

- Easing the facilitation of Election Day so that Clerks can ensure a smooth democratic process which elects school board trustees as well as local council members.
- Ensuring public health promotion and protection through more adequate physical distancing in these larger venues.
- Enhancing the principles of safe schools for both students and teachers by reducing the number of people in the school.
- Providing voters with a large, accessible location to cast their votes for their school board and municipal representatives.

AND WHEREAS school boards are entering into deliberations about the 2022-2023 School year calendar in order to submit their proposed calendars to the Ministry of Education by May 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED the City of Waterloo Council request that all School Boards in the Province of Ontario schedule a Professional Development Day for the 2022 Municipal and School Board Election Day, October 24th 2022.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.
Sincerely,

Julie Scott  
City Clerk, City of Waterloo

CC (by email):

- Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education  
- Danielle Manton, Clerk, City of Cambridge  
- Christine Tarling, Clerk, City of Kitchener  
- William Short, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Waterloo  
- Ashley Sage, Clerk, Township of North Dumfries  
- Grace Kosch, Clerk, Township of Wellesley  
- Dawn Mittleholtz, Clerk, Township of Wilmot  
- Jeff Smith, Clerk, Township of Woolwich
January 7, 2022

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General
Ministry of the Attorney General
11th Floor, 720 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Dear Minister,

We, the Mayors of the Town of Caledon and the Town of Mono, respectfully submit this joint letter to provide you with our municipal perspectives, outline our unique challenges and frustrations, and also to propose solutions that would mitigate the serious issues facing our provincial offence courts in Dufferin and Caledon.

Municipal resources are being exhausted and pushed beyond capacity and the implications are profound. The information we share below clearly indicates that the Caledon/Dufferin POA Courts are in a crisis. We are not alone in the Province nor are the problems described here solely attributable to COVID 19.

The critical challenges are:

*Last minute cancellations due to a lack of judicial resources*

This is resulting in a negative and compounding administrative impact to case management. As example, between September 10th and December 15th there were 3,038 docket lines cancelled and rescheduled. This one example equates to 26 closed court days.

A related frustration is that early resolution dockets are often cancelled, with the next available return date being in June pushing some matter 12 months before they are able to have an early resolution. Matters requesting trials are being scheduled up to 24+ months out.

Another troubling result of this issue is the capital and operating costs to run a court are essentially wasted when we are forced to reschedule due to lack of, or cancellation of, judicial resources. We have provided the courtroom and technology, the court clerks and prosecutors, and notified all the defendants, only to repeatedly cancel.

*Reduction of Judicial availability for administrative functions such as swearing of informations, issuing of summons and review of applications*

This is creating an enormous backlog and, in some cases, has resulted in the swearing of informations occurring after an appearance date causing inconvenience to defendants and the need to re-issue summonses with attendant multiple, unproductive court attendances.
Outlined below are some possible solutions that from our perspective would mitigate these issues.

- Assign Justices of the Peace to POA courts either in person or virtually. This should entail total mobility for all justices of the peace regardless of region.

- There are currently over 80 per diem justices of the peace and they should be utilized to the fullest. Exemption from their presiding ‘cap’, something allowed for, should be considered to address backlog. Per diem justices of the peace willing to accept POA assignments would go a long way to addressing backlog.

- Allow e-Hub access for POA court matters immediately, for the swearing of informations and issuing of summons to start addressing the timeliness of judicial administrative functions and paperwork.

- Launch early resolution, trial and paperwork blitzes to address backlog. Make judicial dependant paperwork a mandatory part of court assignments.

- Use your legislative authority as Attorney General to fast track section 11 of the POA to proclaim the re-opening amendments and, amend the early resolution process in section 5 of the PA to permit the clerk of the court to enter convictions.

- Together with the Ontario Court of Justice, commit to convening a ‘Justice Summit’ on POA where all stakeholders can address the considerable issues facing our courts.

Minister, it is not inconceivable that hundreds if not thousands of serious charges are at risk of being withdrawn either by prosecutors or as the result of a court ruling on 11b of the Charter as it applies to old POA cases.

We are very willing to be part of the solution and welcome a further conversation with you or your staff on how we can work together. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Mayor John Creelman
Town of Mono

Mayor Allan Thompson
Town of Caledon
Copy to:

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin Caledon

The Honourable Lise Maisonneuve, Chief Justice, Ontario Court of Justice

The Honourable Paul R. Currie, Regional Senior Justice, Central West Judicial District

Her Worship Marsha Farnand, Regional Senior Justice of the Peace
COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 13-22

Date: Jan 11, 2022

Moved By: DON SMITH

Seconded By: RON GIARDETTI

THAT Council hereby supports the resolution from Tay Valley regarding the recently announced postponement of the province-wide assessment update for the 2022 and 2023 taxation years and their request of the government of Ontario to reconsider its decision and to direct MPAC to proceed with a province-wide assessment update; and

BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario Honourable Doug Ford, local MP's and MPP's, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all other Ontario municipalities.

☐ Carried  ☐ Defeated  ☐ Amended  ☐ Deferred

Signature

Municipality of Shuniah, 420 Leslie Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7A 1X8
January 12, 2022

City of St. Catharines
Legal and Clerks Services
Office of the City Clerk
Box 3012, 50 Church Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

ATTN: Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
bdunk@stcatharines.ca

RE: National Childcare Program

Please be advised the Council of The Corporation of The Town of Niagara-on-the Lake, at its regular meeting held on December 20, 2021, passed a motion in support of The City of St. Catharines resolution in regard to the National Childcare Program,

“WHEREAS the province of Ontario has the most expensive childcare in the country, presenting a financial hardship for many families and a barrier for women’s full economic participation; and

WHEREAS the $34 billion early learning and childcare spending commitment announced this year by the federal government will bring transformative change to childcare by lowering parent fees and expanding the supply of regulated not-for-profit and public childcare in this country; and

WHEREAS the federal government has already reached childcare agreements with BC, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory, PEI, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec; and

WHEREAS the provisions of each agreement vary to some degree, but the majority of the jurisdictions have agreed to use the federal funds to:
(a) lower parent fees by 50 per cent by the end of 2022 and to $10 a day by 2025-26 or sooner;
(b) improve the wages and working conditions of early childhood educators, and
(c) publicly fund the expansion of not-profit and public childcare;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines request that the provincial government take the necessary steps to work with the federal government on a bilateral agreement to ensure the new national child care program be made available to Ontarians, and that it focuses on increased access, affordability, quality and responsiveness, all of which are essential to the COVID-19 pandemic response; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff actively monitor federal developments and engage in provincial and regional discussions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council request the City Clerk circulate Council's decision to other municipalities in Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact our office at 905-468-3266.

Sincerely,

Colleen Hutt
Acting Town Clerk

c.c. Premier Doug Ford - doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
    Niagara Area MPPs
    Ontario Municipal Social Services Association - info@omssa.com
    Ontario Municipalities
    Association of Municipalities of Ontario - amo@amo.on.ca
January 19, 2022

Re: Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding (Mayor, G. Smith)

At its meeting of December 22, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motions 21-GC-317, regarding the Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding, as follows:

“WHEREAS the Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) has provided prevention education, advocacy and support for survivors of recent or historical sexual violence in the area since 1993;

AND WHEREAS the number of survivors needing access to crisis counselling and long-term therapy programs has multiplied four (4) times since 1993;

AND WHEREAS ongoing underfunding of MPSSAS and the sexual assault services sector has reduced the number of resources available to provide these services due to highly specialized skill requirements that are unmatched by low wages and benefits relative to other mental health funded positions;

AND WHEREAS the current COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in isolated survivors, unable to leave abusive situations due to pressures on housing and shelters, requiring the services of MPSSAS;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT increased and sustainable provincial funding for MPSSAS and other sexual assault services centres be supported for priority consideration by the Provincial Government and its agencies.”

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

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

Yours truly,

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk
January 25, 2022

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

sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Funding Support for Infrastructure Projects – Bridge/Culvert Replacements in Rural Municipalities

Dear Premier:

At the last regular Council meeting held January 12th, 2022, the following resolution was passed:

“**RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio supports the requests from the Township of Adelaide-Metcalfe, the Township of Lake of Bays, the Township of Amaranth and Northumberland County for the Federal and Provincial Government to provide more funding to rural municipalities to support infrastructure projects related to major bridge and culvert replacements.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Provincial Minister of Finance, Federal Finance Minister, AMO, and all Ontario municipalities.”

Sincerely,

*Dianne Gould-Brown*

Dianne Gould-Brown, CMO  
Municipal Clerk

cc:
Hon. Peter Bethenfalvy, Ontario Minister of Finance minister.fin@ontario.ca  
Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Federal Minister of Finance chrystia.freeland@fin.gc.ca  
AMO amo@amo.on.ca  
All Ontario Municipalities
November 1, 2019

The Honourable Francois Legault
Premier of Quebec
Edifice Honore-Mercier, 3e etage
835, boul. Rene-Levesque Est
Quebec QC G1A 1B4

This letter is to information you that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wilmot adopted the following resolution at their Regular Council Meeting held on October 28, 2019:

“WHEREAS hate crimes against religious minorities are growing in Canada; and,

WHEREAS the Township of Wilmot fully supports every citizen’s right to choose what they wear and condemns the Province of Quebec’s legislation to limit that choice; and,

WHEREAS the Township values religious freedom for Sikhs, Jews, Muslims, Christians and people of all faiths, and acknowledges the harm the Province of Quebec’s Bill 21 can inflict upon those who sincerely seek to follow the practices of their faith and dictates of their conscience;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Wilmot denounces the Province of Quebec’s Bill 21; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Township of Wilmot council affirms our commitment to be the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion for all of our residents, which includes support for religious freedom and the preservation of the rights of minorities; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Premier of Quebec; the Honourable Premier of Ontario, the Local Members of Provincial Parliament; the Region of Waterloo; local municipalities; and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.”
Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Tracey Murray
Manager of Information and Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk
Township of Wilmot

cc: The Honourable Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford
    Mike Harris, MPP
    Amy Fee, MPP
    Catherine Fife, MPP
    Belinda Karahalios, MPP
    Laura Mae Lindo, MPP
    Kris Fletcher, Region of Waterloo
    Danielle Manton, City of Cambridge
    Christine Tarling, City of Kitchener
    Olga Smith, City of Waterloo
    Grace Kosch, Township of Wellesley
    Valrie Hummel, Township of Woolwich
    Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Good Morning All,

Attached is the motion Kitchener City Council approved last evening related to this matter:

"WHEREAS the City of Kitchener is troubled by the removal of a Grade 3 elementary school teacher from her classroom in Chelsea, Quebec recently for wearing a hijab to work; and,

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener denounces Quebec’s Bill 21 as discriminatory, offensive and feel it runs contrary to who we are as Canadians and residents of Kitchener. The City of Kitchener embraces and celebrates its diversity and believes in the civil rights and religious freedoms guaranteed to everyone in Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms; and,

WHEREAS Ontario’s Big City Mayors (OBCM), of which Kitchener is a member, voted unanimously in opposition to Quebec’s Bill 21. Further, OBCM calls on all Members of Canada’s Parliament to support the challenge of Bill 21 at the Supreme Court; and,

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener passed a Resolution on August 26, 2019 to denounce the Province of Quebec’s Bill 21 (An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State) which prohibits public servants from wearing religious symbols including turbans, hijabs, yarmulkes, crosses and many others; and,

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Kitchener has undertaken actions to address systemic racism and discrimination against ethnic groups, Indigenous Peoples, and Black communities; and,

WHEREAS Cities are closest to the people and those elected to represent them play an important role in advocating on their behalf to ensure their rights and freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution are protected,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The City of Kitchener Council endorse the current legal challenge against the Province of Quebec’s Bill 21 - An Act respecting the laicity of the State, an effort that is being led by the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM), the World Sikh Organization of Canada (WSO) and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA),

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Mayor write a letter on behalf of the Mayor and Council of the City of Kitchener to the Prime Minister of Canada and all federal parties urging
their support to intervene in the legal challenge at the Quebec Court of Appeal. If the case moves to the Supreme Court and if an improper decision is made, it would impede upon the advancements we have made on diversity, equity and inclusion for all Canadians.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT The City of Kitchener continue to invest in supporting local diversity and inclusion initiatives including promoting the existing City of Kitchener’s Racialized and Indigenous Support for Equity (RISE) grant which will provide funding to Black, Indigenous and racialized community members to support initiatives that decrease inequities and increase opportunities for enhanced well-being in 2022."

Regards,

Dianna Saunderson, AMP

Manager of Council/Committee Services & Deputy Clerk | Corporate Services | City of Kitchener
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