COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE
April 30, 2021

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April 21, 2021

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 of the Council of the City of Waterloo re. Paid Sick Time

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Waterloo at its Council meeting held on Monday, April 19th, 2021 approved the following motion:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic and workplace outbreaks has highlighted the crucial need for paid sick time.

WHEREAS workplace outbreaks are critical sites of COVID-19 transmission in our region.

WHEREAS the subset of front-line workers without access to paid sick leave are disproportionately lower income and racialized members of our community

WHEREAS research shows those who do not have access to paid sick time are more likely to attend work when sick and those most at-risk for illnesses like COVID-19 are the least able to afford to stay home without pay.

WHEREAS research also shows that access to paid sick time can help reduce the spread of influenza-like illnesses in the workplace.

And WHEREAS the Board of Health of Waterloo Region called on the provincial and federal governments to address the gaps in paid sick time at its January 6, 2021 meeting,

Therefore be it resolved that Council requests that the provincial government ensure employees have access to paid sick leave,

That Council requests the Mayor to advocate to the provincial government for paid sick leave on behalf of City of Waterloo Council, and
That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Labour, local MPPs, and the other Councils in Waterloo Region.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only.

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

Sincerely,

\[Signature\]

Julie Scott
City Clerk, City of Waterloo

CC (by email):

Hon. Monte McNaughton, Ontario Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development
Catherine Fife, M.P.P (Waterloo)
Laura Mae Lindo, M.P.P (Kitchener Centre)
Belinda C. Karahalios, M.P.P (Cambridge)
Amy Fee, M.P.P (Kitchener-South Hespeler)
Mike Harris, M.P.P (Kitchener-Conestoga)

Danielle Manton, Clerk, City of Cambridge
Christine Tarling, Clerk, City of Kitchener
Kris Fletcher, 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
Val Hummel, Clerk, Township of Woolwich
April 22, 2021

RE: Request for Reform / Review Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)

This letter is to advise you that Township Council, at their Regular Council Meeting held on March 22, 2021, adopted the following resolution:

“THAT Report CLK-04-2021 be received;

AND THAT Council endorse the draft resolution, as presented by the Township of Guelph/Eramosa;

AND THAT staff be directed to send notification regarding the Township’s support for this resolution to the Minister of Consumer Services, Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Associations of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Association of Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Clerks in Waterloo Region.”

The resolution presented by the Township of Guelph/Eramosa that the Township of North Dumfries has endorse was:

“Be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Guelph/Eramosa has received Clerk’s Department Report 21/03 regarding Advocacy for Reform –MFIPPA Legislation; and

That that the following motions be passed in support of a request to review and reform of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

WHEREAS the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 (MFIPPA) dates back 30 years;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Township of Guelph/Eramosa, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;
AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the Municipal Clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Act fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;

AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services be requested to review the MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

1. That MFIPPA assign the Municipal Clerk, or designate to be the Head under the Act;
2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in Occupational Health and Safety Act;
6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;
7. That administrative practices implied or required under the Act, including those of the IPC, be reviewed and modernized;
8. That the integrity of the Act be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments.”
Please contact the undersigned should you require anything further.

Sincerely,

Ashley Sage, Clerk
Township of North Dumfries
The Honourable Patty Hajdu  
Federal Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
Via email: Patty.Hajdu@pal.gc.ca

April 20th 2021

Re: Support for 988, a 3-Digit Suicide and Crisis Prevention Hotline

Please be advised that on April 14th 2021 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion to support The Town of Caledon letter endorsing the 988 crisis line initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help.

Motion #16 – Moved by Tim Wilkins, Seconded by Mike Vasey that Council support correspondence item ‘o’ from the Town of Caledon regarding support for 988, a 3-digit suicide crisis prevention hotline.

Motion Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarcia@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarcia
Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc. The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, Ontario - christine.elliott@ontario.ca  
Marilyn Gladu, MP Sarnia-Lambton, marilyn.gladu@garl.gc.ca  
Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton, bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org  
Ian Scott, Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), iscott@telesat.com  
All Ontario Municipalities
March 31, 2021

The Honourable Patty Hajdu
Federal Minister of Health
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Ms. Hajdu,

RE: SUPPORT FOR 988, A 3-DIGIT SUICIDE AND CRISIS PREVENTION HOTLINE

I am writing to advise that at the Town Council meeting held on March 30, 2021, Council adopted a resolution endorsing the 988 crisis line initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help.

The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the Federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a National three-digit suicide and crisis hotline;

Whereas the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200%;

Whereas existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories or be placed on hold;

Whereas in 2022 the United States will have in place a national 988 crisis hotline;

Whereas the Town of Caledon recognized that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Town of Caledon endorses this 988 crisis line initiative; and

That a letter demonstrating Caledon’s support be sent to Kyle Seeback, MP, Dufferin-Caledon, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP, Dufferin-Caledon, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications (CRTC) and all municipalities in Ontario.
Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Allan Thompson
Mayor

Cc. Kyle Seeback, MP Dufferin-Caledon, Kyle.Seeback@parl.gc.ca
Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon, sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org
Ian Scott, Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), iscott@telesat.com
All Ontario Municipalities
Good day,

At its regular meeting on April 7, 2021, Council of the Township of Springwater passed resolution C146C-2021 endorsing the following letter presented by the Township of Springwater’s Agricultural Advisory Committee regarding the Clean Fuels Standard:

Dear Mr. Shipley,

The purpose of this letter is to discuss the Proposed Clean Fuels Standard that is being considered for legislation. As members of the Springwater Township Agricultural Advisory Committee, we have serious concerns with this proposal. This proposal in its current form, has the potential to be catastrophic to the Canadian farmer. The proposed rules and regulations for restrictions on land use are detrimental to the long-term viability of Canadian agriculture.

If this proposal goes ahead, Canadian farmers will be unable to make improvements to their land to make it more efficient for the use of crop production, thus making them unable to meet the needs of food supply needed for the ever-growing population. Making improvements to land for crop production is essential to the growing demand in food supply for our country and should not have restrictions placed upon it. Instilling restrictions in this manner is no different than telling a homeowner that any renovations made after a specific date disqualifies any future renovations.

The restrictions being imposed through the Clean Fuels Standard will make it so Canadian farmers are unable to recoup costs that they are spending in order to meet the needs of the growing population in Canada. Having these restrictions in place, will have buyers seeking products elsewhere, out of country. What will this do to Canada’s economy?

The ideas proposed, ‘setbacks from watercourses and woodlands,’ would come at a tremendous cost to the Canadian farmers who have purchased, paid taxes, and cared for, for generations, are suddenly unable to use the land for renewable fuel purposes.
How will these costs be recovered if the farmer is unable to utilize this land for crop production? Is a farmer going to have to build separate grain storage to store products that are ineligible for renewable energy at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars? Isn’t it important that the Canadian Government work with Canadian farmers, not impose unworkable rules and regulations that hinder crop production and create a competitive disadvantage with other countries?

The Canadian Government has shown little regard for Canadian farmers in some of their policies and proposed legislation in recent years. The Clean Fuels Standard combined with the recent Carbon Tax, has the potential to put many Canadian farmers out of business. We need our governments to work with Canadian farmers in order to provide for the growing need of food supply in our country.

Please contact Chair David Spring to discuss this further at (705) 730-4033. We look forward to your support on this matter.

Sincerely,

Don Allen
Mayor, Township of Springwater

David S. Spring
Chairperson of the Springwater Township Agricultural Advisory Committee

Cc:
Hon., Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change;
MPP Doug Downey,
Hon., Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
All Ontario Municipalities
Dear Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, P.C., M.P.

My name is Secretary-General Benjamin Doolittle UE, I am the current occupant of the Office of Secretary-General for the Mohawk Nation of Grand River Country.

I am writing to your office in concern of the desire of certain Canadians that reside within our Mohawk Domain, to place human remains into Ó:SE KENHIONHATA:TIE (Grand River). "Community members want permission to scatter ashes in Grand River; Environment Ministry says it likely wouldn't impact water quality", Published Wednesday, April 14, 2021 (Tegan Versolatto, CTV News Kitchener Videographer)

The lack of federal, provincial, or municipal rules pertaining to dumping human remains into our waterway is concerning, however, until the Mohawk Nation of Grand River has entered a formal agreement to allow any ceremonial use or customary burial access to the land and waterways including airspace, it is premature for the municipality and province to assume jurisdiction over our treaty lands and our Grand River.

My office has taken the opportunity and time to appreciate the complexities of such use, however, we do not consent to the use of our sacred river as a human cremation dumping ground.

The lands colloquially known as the Grand River or Haldimand Tract were set apart by formal treaty, Canada and Ontario do not have proper jurisdiction to enter or occupy our treaty lands, Until Canada has acquired certain consent from our mohawk people of the grand river and this office, I must firmly reject your right to assume jurisdiction on our lands and waterways.

Please confirm and acknowledge the receipt of this email.

God save the Queen.

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Sincerely,
Benjamin Doolittle U.E.
Secretary General
Office of Secretary General for the
Mohawk Nation of Grand River Country
193 Drummond Street, Brantford
Mohawk Domain [Without Canada]
From: Veronica Martisius <veronica.martisius@gmail.com>
Date: April 23, 2021 at 17:07:29 EDT
To: Council <Council@cambridge.ca>
Subject: [External] Permission to scatter ashes in the Grand River

Dear Mayor and Council of Cambridge,
I am Mohawk and member of the Six Nations of the Grand River. I was born and raised in Brantford, ON along the Grand River. The river is my relation. I am writing to you to respectfully ask that before you make a decision regarding the above request, that your City and the Hindu community consult in good faith with the Six Nations of the Grand River, including the Mohawk Nation and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs. And further, that the scattering of ashes in the Grand River NOT be permitted without the Free Prior and Informed Consent of the Six Nations people. With great respect, there is more to this request than determining whether or not the scattering of ashes will impact water quality. This decision needs to be considered in the spirit of reconciliation and with a greater understanding of our relationship to the river. Thank you in advance for your respect and consideration.
Sincerely,
Veronica Martisius, BA, MA, JD

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Origin: https://www.cambridge.ca/Modules/contact/search.aspx?s=2FA1AxrcxEIOsPPlUs3QPlUsJLFAeQuAleQuAl
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This email was sent to you by Veronica Martisius<veronica.martisius@gmail.com> through https://www.cambridge.ca.