



**Council Information Package
(Non-Agenda Items)**

Monday, May 12, 2025

Accessibility Accommodations

If you require access to information in an alternate format, please contact the Clerk's department by phone at 519-941-0440 x 2242 or via email at clerksdept@orangeville.ca

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**Policy Division
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch**

April 15, 2025

To: All municipalities in Ontario (Planning Department and/or Clerk's Office)

Re: Agricultural System Implementation

Dear municipal partners,

The [Provincial Planning Statement](#) (PPS, 2024) came into effect on October 20, 2024. To help foster a thriving agri-food sector, the PPS (2024) requires an Agricultural System approach province-wide, which strives to protect the agricultural land base and strengthen the viability of the agri-food network. Implementing an Agricultural System approach can help support agri-food businesses, farm operations, related employment and economic opportunities, and protect Ontario's highest quality farmland.

The PPS, 2024 Agricultural System approach includes two components: 1. the identification of the agricultural land base; and 2. the consideration of the agri-food network – which may include infrastructure, services and assets that the agri-food sector relies on.

To support municipalities in their implementation of an Agricultural System approach, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) has the following resources:

1: Agricultural Land Base Resources

To implement the agricultural land base, municipalities are required to identify and designate prime agricultural areas and consider if there are rural lands that could also be identified as part of an agricultural land base. Inclusion of rural lands within the agricultural land base is left to municipal discretion.

To support this work, OMAFA has data and information available upon request that can help municipalities identify where prime agricultural areas and rural lands are present. While there is no requirement to utilize this data and information in identifying municipal designations, it can help to provide a basis that municipalities can then refine based on

local information, such as municipally-designated prime agricultural areas and settlement area boundaries.

The existing [OMAFA Implementation Procedures for the Agricultural System \(2020\)](#) continue to provide helpful guidance with respect to what/how municipalities can address Agricultural System policies in their respective official plans. It is important to note that given section 5.3 of the Greenbelt Plan, 2017 has not been modified, the 2018 provincial agricultural land base mapping and implementation procedures remains in effect for the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt. OMAFA staff are developing updated Implementation Procedures for the Agricultural System to align with the PPS (2024) and will provide notice once these updates have been finalized.

2: Agri-food Network Resources

The second component of the Agricultural System is the agri-food network. It complements and supports the agricultural land base. The agri-food network includes the regional infrastructure and transportation networks, agricultural operations, services, and other agri-food assets that are needed to sustain and enhance agriculture and the prosperity and viability of the broader agri-food sector.

The OMAFA [Agricultural System Portal](#) maps elements of the agri-food network, however, unlike prime agricultural areas, the agri-food network is not a land use designation within an official plan. Rather, awareness of, and support for the agri-food network is documented in an official plan for economic development purposes and can be achieved in several ways. This could include reference to local elements identified in asset mapping reports, or an inventory of components of the agri-food network in an official plan appendix. Other supportive approaches include policy cross-references to mapping and data tools, including OMAFA's Agricultural System Portal, the development of Agricultural Advisory Committees, supportive economic development policies for the agri-food network, and cross-references to Economic Development staff/programs.

Moving Forward

OMAFA staff will continue to work with municipalities to support implementation of the PPS 2024 Agricultural System policies. As such, we are pleased to share that as part of broader modernization efforts, the Ministry is embracing an 'evergreen' approach for maintaining and enhancing Ontario's digital soil mapping data.

As an example, improved topography/slope information available through new technology will be incorporated in a forthcoming digital update of the existing Canada Land Inventory (CLI) mapping for agricultural soil. As it becomes available, this new information is being applied to CLI ratings across Ontario. OMAFA is committed to making ongoing improvements to ensure CLI data is as accurate as possible. The work currently underway is anticipated to be completed in 2026/27. Until any future release of updated data, municipalities can continue using existing agricultural capability mapping (i.e., CLI ratings).

When you embark on implementing an Agricultural System approach or updating/refining existing official plan mapping, please contact OMAFA staff to discuss the data that may be available to support your project. You can locate OMAFA land use planning staff on [OMAFA's website](#). Below you will find a summary list of the additional resources related to Agricultural System planning and implementation.

Please share this correspondence with the appropriate planning and economic development department staff in your municipality.

Sincerely,



Andrea Martin
Director
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch

Resources

[Provincial Planning Statement, 2024](#)
[Implementation Procedures of the Agricultural System](#)
[A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019](#)
[Agricultural Systems Portal](#)
[OMAFA Agricultural land use planning staff](#)
[Economic tools](#)
[Canada Land Inventory information for Agricultural Land Use Planning in Ontario](#)
[Soil Capability for Agriculture in Ontario](#)
[CONNECT ON](#)



City of Stratford, Corporate Services Department

Clerk's Office

City Hall, P. O. Box 818, Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W1

Tel: 519-271-0250, extension 5237

Email: clerks@stratford.ca

Website: www.stratford.ca

May 1, 2025

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford,

Premier of Ontario

Legislative Building

Queens Park

Toronto, ON, M7A 1A4

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Resolution R2025-174 - Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the City of Stratford

At the April 28, 2025, Regular meeting, Stratford City Council adopted the following resolution in response to the Province's proposal to designate Stratford as a "Strong Mayor" municipality, effective May 1, 2025.

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the City of Stratford as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the City of Stratford has a long history of collaborative, transparent, and accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the City of Stratford did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Stratford City Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the City of Stratford from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Member of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

Sincerely,

T. Dafoe

Tatiana Dafoe, Clerk
City of Stratford

Cc: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Matthew Rae, Member of Provincial Parliament, Perth - Wellington
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario



April 10, 2025

Re: Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates

Please be advised that the Prince Edward-Lennox and Addington Social Services Committee, at its meeting held on April 10, 2025, approved the following resolution:

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;

AND WHEREAS the cost of food, housing, medicine, and other essential items have outpaced the highest inflation rates seen in a generation;

AND WHEREAS people in need of social assistance have been legislated into poverty, housing insecurity, hunger, poorer health, their motives questioned, and their dignity undermined;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Works (OW) Financial Assistance rates have been frozen since 2018 (\$733 per month);

AND WHEREAS Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefit rates have been increased by 6.5 percent as of July 2023 and another 4.5% as of July 2024 to keep up with inflation, however even with the increase, ODSP rates still fall significantly below the disability-adjusted poverty line (\$3,091 per month);

AND 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;

AND 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

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;



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Prince Edward-Lennox & Addington Committee requests the Provincial Government to urgently:

1. Increase Ontario Works rates to match the ODSP rate increases that have already been made and be indexed to inflation;
2. Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen;

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, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Regards,

Sam Branderhorst

Signed with ConsignO Cloud (2025/04/11)
Verify with verifio.com or Adobe Reader.



Sam Branderhorst, Chair
Prince Edward-Lennox and Addington Social Services Committee

Cc: Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services
Minister of Health
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association
All Ontario Municipalities

Municipality of *Bluewater*

April 28, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Legislative Building
Queens Park
TORONTO ON M7A 1A4
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

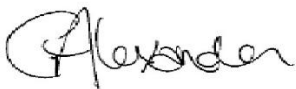
At the Municipality of Bluewater's regular Council meeting held on April 22, 2025, Council passed the following resolution:

MOVED: Councillor Whetstone **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to expand Strong Mayor Powers to an additional 169 municipalities across Ontario, including the Municipality of Bluewater, effective May 1, 2025;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Municipality of Bluewater is in opposition to the addition of Strong Mayor Powers in the Municipality of Bluewater, and across the Province;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Ontario Municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support. **CARRIED**



Sincerely,



Chandra Alexander
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH MIDDLESEX
RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL**

Member Present	YES	NO	DATE: APRIL 23, 2025
Councillor A. Cornelissen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOVED BY: 
Councillor C. Daigle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Councillor B. Irwin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SECONDED BY: 
Councillor S. Nirta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Deputy Mayor P. Hodgins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mayor B. Ropp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

RESULT: Carried

WHEREAS the Province has announced the expansion of strong mayor powers to another 169 municipalities as of May 1, 2025 in addition to the 47 municipalities which currently have received strong mayor powers; and

WHEREAS the Province claims that strong mayor powers will get homes and infrastructure built faster, reduce red tape, and accelerate the delivery of key priorities; and Whereas research from the Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has identified that: a) there is no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers; and b) strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and chief administrative officers (CAOs), threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership; and

WHEREAS strong mayor powers is an erosion to the democratic process of an historically non-partisan municipal governance structure;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the North Middlesex hereby resolves to reject the strong mayor powers granted to it, and requests that the Province repeal the legislation, or offer the option to municipalities to opt out of strong mayor powers; and

THAT this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Rob Flack, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Steve Pinsonneault, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON

322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759

Exeter Ontario

N0M 1S6

Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304

Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747

www.southhuron.ca

April 30, 2025

Via email: rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Hon. Rob Flack,

Re: Proposed Amendments to O.Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their April 22, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

176-2025

Moved By: Jim Dietrich

Seconded by: Wendy McLeod-Haggitt

That South Huron Council supports the April 14, 2025 correspondence of Town of Saugeen Shores regarding opposition to Proposed Amendments to O.Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers; and

That this supporting resolution and the originating correspondence be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Rob Flack, Lisa Thompson, MPP, Minister of Rural Affairs, AMO, Town of Saugeen Shores, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232

Encl.

cc: Minister of Rural Affairs, MPP Lisa Thompson, lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org;
AMO, resolutions@amo.on.ca ; Town of Saugeen Shores,
clerk@saugeenshores.ca; and all municipalities in Ontario.



Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

April 14, 2025

Honourable Rob Flack
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister,

RE: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to O.Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

I am writing to express my opposition to the government's proposed expansion of Strong Mayor powers to include the Town of Saugeen Shores. As the Mayor of Saugeen Shores, I am concerned about the implications of this policy change on our local governance. Please consider this letter as the Town of Saugeen Shores submission on O.Reg. 530/22 which is available for comment until April 16th.

In my experience, the 'Council Manager' system of governance has always served our municipality well. Specifically, when it comes to advancing our shared priority of building more housing to serve our residents, Saugeen Shores Council has demonstrated flexible and determined leadership. Our Council has enabled housing by reducing red tape resulting in the construction of more than 600 multi-family residential units in the last two years alone. Given the strong and sustained commitment of our Council to these efforts, I do not see how the introduction of Strong Mayor powers will accelerate the construction of housing (or the pursuit of other priority areas) in any way. On the contrary, vesting these new powers in the Mayor threatens to disrupt long-established and effective processes, sidelining elected members of Council with effects that may be contrary to the interests of our residents.

Saugeen Shores has thrived for decades on the principle of shared leadership. We have an effective team of elected representatives working in partnership with a professional staff to achieve goals that are transparently set out in our Strategic Plan and annual Business Plans. This approach to governance is foundational to building trust between the municipality and the residents that it serves. I fear that the unilateral decision-making enabled by Strong Mayor powers would erode this trust and disrupt the collaborative environment that has long been at the heart of the democratic tradition of our Council and community.

I urge you to reconsider the expansion of Strong Mayor powers. If the government has a strong desire to advance these major changes to the governance of our municipality, I

request that you engage in a thorough consultation process with our Council and the residents of our community before moving forward. It is crucial that any changes to local governance structures be made in close partnership with the communities they impact.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and hope that we can work together in the interest of ensuring strong local governance in Saugeen Shores.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Charbonneau', written in a cursive style.

Luke Charbonneau, Mayor
Town of Saugeen Shores

cc. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Lisa Thompson, MPP, Minister of Rural Affairs
Council, Town of Saugeen Shores
All Ontario Municipalities

**The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE**



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 7.2.
Resolution Number 2025-104
Title: Resolution Stemming from March 19, 2025 Regular Meeting - Item 8.1 - Correspondence #19
Date: April 16, 2025

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Loftus

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution 15 passed on March 3, 2025 by the Corporation of the City of Sarnia, regarding the Carbon Tax;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, Mark Carney; his Cabinet, Leaders of Opposition; our local Member of Parliament (MP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

March 6, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Re: Carbon Tax

Dear Prime Minister,

At the meeting of Sarnia City Council held on March 3, 2025, the following resolution was adopted:

That given the advent of the US tariffs and the economic impact on Canadians it is even more critical at this time to petition our own Federal liberal government to put a stop the 20 percent increase to the carbon tax scheduled to be implemented April 1, 2025. The vast majority of Canadians do not support the carbon tax, and the timing could not be worse for the impact to our citizens; and

That the resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, his Cabinet, Leaders of Opposition, our MP, and All Ontario Municipalities.

Your consideration of this matter is respectfully requested.

Yours sincerely,



Amy Burkhart
City Clerk

Cc: Cabinet Ministers
The Honourable Pierre Poilievre, M.P.
The Honourable Marilyn Gladu, M.P.
All Ontario Municipalities



Town of Amherstburg
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

April 15, 2025

SENT VIA EMAIL

Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A4
VIA EMAIL: premier@ontario.ca

Attn: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Re: Resolution# 20250414-011 - Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Town of Amherstburg

At its regular meeting on **April 14, 2025**, Amherstburg Town Council passed **Resolution 20250414-011** in response to the Province's recent proposal to designate Amherstburg as a "**Strong Mayor**" municipality, effective May 1, 2025.

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Town of Amherstburg as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherstburg has a long history of collaborative, transparent, and accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision-making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Amherstburg did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Amherstburg Town Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Town of Amherstburg from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all regional Members of Provincial



Town of Amherstburg

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Michael Prue, Mayor

Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and urge you to respect the democratic wishes of our Council and community.

Sincerely,

Michael Prue, Mayor
Town of Amherstburg

Cc: The Honourable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)
Regional Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



THE CORPORATION OF THE **TOWN OF COBALT**

May 1, 2025

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

Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt

At its Regular Council Meeting held on April 29, 2025, Council discussed their opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025. Council of the Town of Cobalt requests that the proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to expand Strong Mayor Powers and duties to additional municipalities not include the Town of Cobalt.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 2025-057

MOVED BY: Councillor Lafleur
SECONDED BY: Councillor Starchuk

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt has a long history of collaborative, transparent, and accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision-making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Corporation of the Town of Cobalt from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all regional Members of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

CARRIED

We trust you will find this satisfactory if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the undersigned.

Kind Regards,



Steven Dalley
Town Manager, Clerk/Treasurer
Tel: (705) 679-8877
Email: sdalley@cobalt.ca

cc:

John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane
All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



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

Delivered via email

Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
premier@ontario.ca

May 5, 2025

RE: Ontario Works Financial Assistance Rates

Please be advised that the Town of Cobourg Council, at its meeting held on April 30, 2025, passed the following resolution:

THAT Council requests the Provincial Government to urgently:

- Increase Ontario Works rates to match the ODSP rate increases that have already been made and be indexed to inflation;
- Commit to ongoing cost of living increases above and beyond the rate of inflation to make up for the years they were frozen; 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, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Sincerely,

Kristina Lepik
Deputy Clerk/Manager, Legislative Services

Enclosure.

cc. Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services;
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health;
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
Ontario Municipal Social Services Association; and
All Ontario Municipalities



Phone: 613-584-2000
Fax: 613-584-3237
Email: townmail@deepriver.ca
deepriver.ca | [f](#) [@](#)

April 30, 2025

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

Honorable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

Re: Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities

Dear Minister Flack,

Thank you for your letter dated April 9, 2025, regarding your intention to expand strong mayor powers to the Town of Deep River.

I am writing as requested by Council, to emphasize that the most significant barrier to support the provincial priorities which *"include supporting the construction of new homes, economic development and building infrastructure that supports community growth, including housing-enabling infrastructure like water and wastewater infrastructure, as well as roads, highways, transit and more"* is a lack of financial resources for infrastructure projects.

Over the past several years the Town of Deep River has been investing in infrastructure projects at a rate that is not sustainable to create capacity for new residential development which is currently in the planning stages. During this same period, we have requested grant funding from the Province of Ontario through infrastructure grant applications and delegations to ministers at both AMO and ROMA to support our growth initiatives but have been unsuccessful to date.

Our primary barrier to growth in the Town of Deep River is a lack of financial support for infrastructure projects to generate capacity. This in my opinion would have a much higher impact on new housing growth than strong mayor powers will for the Town of Deep River.



I would be more than happy to answer any questions or discuss how Deep River can help to promote and achieve Ontario's housing targets.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Patterson', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Sean Patterson
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Deep River
613-584-2000 ext., 108
spatterson@deepriver.ca



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER

P.O. BOX 400 • 100 DEEP RIVER ROAD • DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO K0J 1P0
Tel: (613) 584-2000 • www.deepriver.ca • Fax: (613) 584-3237



BY EMAIL

April 30, 2025

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

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Town of Deep River in Response to the Province's Recent Proposal to Designate Deep River as a "Strong Mayor" Municipality, Effective May 1, 2025.

At a Special Meeting of Council held on April 29, 2025, Council of the Town of Deep River passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2025 128

MOVED BY: Councillor Fitton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hughes

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Town of Deep River as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Deep River has a long history of collaborative, accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision-making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Deep River did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Deep River Town Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Town of Deep River from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all regional Members of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and urge you to respect the democratic wishes of our Council and community.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Mellon', written in a cursive style.

Jackie Mellon
Clerk
Town of Deep River
jmellon@deeperiver.ca

cc: Regional Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



BY EMAIL

April 28, 2025

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

Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers: Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22

At its Regular Council Meeting held on April 22, 2025, Council discussed their opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025. Council of the Town of Essex requests that the proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to expand Strong Mayor Powers and duties to additional municipalities not include the Town of Essex.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R25-04-187

Moved By Mayor Bondy
Seconded By Councillor Hammond

Whereas on April 9, 2025, the Government of Ontario (hereafter, the "**Province**"), led by Premier Doug Ford, announced a proposal to expand "Strong Mayor Powers" as provided for by Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, to the heads of council in 169 additional municipalities including the Town of Essex, effective May 1, 2025;

And whereas Strong Mayor Powers erode democratic process and have fundamentally altered the historic model of local governance which has existed for almost two centuries, by:

- Providing the head of council with the authority to give direction and make certain decisions without the usual consensus from a majority of the members of council; and,
- Creating a power imbalance by providing the head of council with special powers that other members do not generally have.



And whereas the Province is undermining the local governance model and municipal independence by attempting to advance its priorities through municipalities, and downloading its responsibilities to the same.

Now there be it resolved that:

- The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Essex ("**Council**") formally **opposes** the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025;
- Council requests that the proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities not include the Town of Essex; and
- Council **directs** the Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex, Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West, Andrew Dowie, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh, Trevor Jone, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington, AMCTO, AMO and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Malandrucolo".

Joseph Malandrucolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandrucolo@essex.ca

cc: Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex
Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West
Andrew Dowie, MPP Windsor-Tecumseh
Trevor Jones, MPP Chatham-Kent-Leamington
Association of Municipal Managers Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



GEORGINA

Legislative Services Department/Clerk's Division

April 7, 2025

Via email; premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
TORONTO, Ontario M7A 1A1

The Honourable Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution regarding Salt Management

Please be advised that Town Council adopted the following motion concerning Salt Management;

RESOLUTION NO. C-2025-0077

Moved By Councillor Neeson

Seconded By Regional Councillor Davison

WHEREAS road salt is a known toxic substance designated under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act because of tangible threats of serious and irreversible environmental and public health concerns associated with road salt; and

WHEREAS salt levels in Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes have increasingly worsened since the 1970s, seriously affecting municipal drinking water sources and aquatic life; and

WHEREAS Lake Simcoe is our closest freshwater lake and is the 4th largest inland lake within Ontario, host to a number of functions including a biodiverse habitat for over 56 species of fish, the source water for municipal drinking water for hundreds of thousands of residents within the watershed, including 41,000 here in the Town of Georgina, and the many other recreational and commercial functions it serves; and

WHEREAS Lake Simcoe's salinity concentrations have increased over 500% since monitoring began over the past 50 years, with the primary contributor being runoff from the use of salt for winter maintenance; and

WHEREAS the Ontario and Canadian governments have taken many actions over the past 25 years including setting water quality guidelines, developing voluntary codes of practice, signing the Canada-Ontario Great Lakes Agreement, and holding workshops, yet still the salt problem continues to grow; and

WHEREAS numerous situation analyses have recommended salt solutions involving liability protection, contractor certification, government-approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) and salt management plans; and

WHEREAS increased numbers of slip and fall claims, and other injury/collision claims related to snow and ice, are resulting in salt applicators overusing salt beyond levels considered best practices; and

WHEREAS unlimited contractor liability is making it difficult or expensive for snow and ice management contractors to obtain insurance coverage, resulting in contractors leaving the business, thereby making it difficult for municipalities and private owners to find contractors; and

WHEREAS the Snow and Ice Management Sector (SMS) of Landscape Ontario is working with the Ontario government to institute a limited liability regime for snow and ice management, including enforceable contractor training/certification and government-approved BMPs for salt application; and

WHEREAS many Ontario municipalities have Salt Management Plans, but these often require updating in light of improved science and better salt management practices now available; and

WHEREAS The Town of Georgina shares fifty-two (52) kilometers of beautiful Lake Simcoe shoreline and all 288 square kilometers of the Town of Georgina are encompassed by sub-watersheds that drain into Lake Simcoe; and

WHEREAS road authorities that use salt, such as the Town of Georgina, must abide by, and benefit from, established provincial regulations around snow clearing and maintenance, whereas private contractors only have voluntary programs for salt use for private and commercial property management; and

WHEREAS the Town of Georgina has demonstrated great initiative in salt mitigation efforts including committing to the use of rock salt alternatives, installation of electronic spreader controllers on all material spreading units, reduced application rates when appropriate, use of pre-wet and brine when appropriate, and an updated salt management plan that outlines salt best management practices specific to the Corporation of the Town of Georgina's winter maintenance operations

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That the Town of Georgina urges the Province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially endorsed standard Best Management Practices for snow and ice management; and

2. That the Town of Georgina urges the Province of Ontario to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and

3. That the Town of Georgina continues to commit to the reduction of the use of road salt as much as possible while meeting local service levels and maintaining safety on roads and sidewalks; and

4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to all municipalities in York Region, all Lake Simcoe Watershed municipalities; all municipalities in Ontario; The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation and The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority requesting their endorsement; The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); all Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs; Conservation Ontario; The Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition; The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition; Minister Todd McCarthy (MECP); Attorney General Doug Downey, and The Honourable Premier Doug Ford.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your consideration of this resolution.

Sincerely,
FOR THE TOWN OF GEORGINA,



Carolyn Lance
Council Services Coordinator

cc: Minister Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney-General; doug.downey@pc.ola.org
York Region municipalities
Ontario municipalities
Lake Simcoe Watershed municipalities
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority; r.baldwin@LSRCA.on.ca
The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation; sylvia.mccue@georginaisland.com
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; resolutions@amo.on.ca
Lake Simcoe Watershed MPP's
Conservation Ontario; info@conservationontario.ca
Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition; dani@waterwatchers.ca
The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition; rescuelakesimcoecoalition@gmail.com

Executive Services
99-A Advance Avenue, Napanee, ON K7R 3Y5 www.greaternapanee.com

April 23, 2025

Township of Rideau Lakes
1439 County Road 8
Delta, ON K0E 1G0
Sent via email: mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Greater Napanee passed a resolution at its regular session meeting of April 22, 2025 in support of your correspondence regarding Strong Mayor Powers Legislation. A copy of the resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at jwalters@greaternapanee.com if you require any further information with respect to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Jessica Walters
Clerk

cc: Honourable Premier Doug Ford
Honourable Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
AMO
AMCTO
All Ontario municipalities

RESOLUTION #194/25 Pinnell Jr., Norrie

That the Town of Greater Napanee sends a letter of support to the Township of Rideau Lakes in regard to their opposition of Ontario Expanding Strong Mayor Powers to 169 Additional Municipalities, and that the Town of Greater Napanee also request to be excluded from the Strong Mayor Powers;

And that a copy of the letter of support be sent to the Honorable Premier Doug Ford, the Honorable MPP Ric Bresee; the Honorable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, and all other municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and support.

For: 5 Opposed: 2 Abstained:0 Absent: 0

CARRIED.

For:

Councillor Schenk, Councillor Hicks, Councillor Pinnell Jr., Councillor Norrie, Councillor Martin

Opposed:

Mayor Richardson, Deputy Mayor Calver



52 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1B4
Tel: (705) 746-2101 • Fax: (705) 746-7461 • www.parrysound.ca

Office of the Mayor

April 22, 2025

Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
College Park, 17th floor,
777 Bay St.
Toronto ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Flack,

On behalf of Council of the Town of Parry Sound, please accept my congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing. It's an important Ministry and we look forward to working with you and Ministry staff.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing provided notice on April 9th that the Ministry was seeking comments regarding its intent to extend strong mayor powers to an additional 169 municipalities, including the Town of Parry Sound. The comment period was open until April 16th. These additional powers are not powers that I as Mayor believe are necessary and do not wish to exercise them. At our April 15th meeting, Council unanimously voted to reject strong mayor powers, request the province to repeal the legislation, or alternatively permit municipalities to opt out.

We were disappointed that there was no previous communication before the April 9th letter, with a comment period of only one week. Contrary to provincial claims that strong mayor powers will get homes and infrastructure built faster, reduce red tape and accelerate the delivery of key priorities, research by the Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has found no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers; and moreover the strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and senior staff, threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership. We have seen very questionable use by mayors with strong mayor powers.

...2

Our public expects a democratic process. Given the overwhelming use of executive orders by the current US President and multiple respected analysts' concerns about the US slipping into authoritarianism, our country and its democratic institutions should be safeguarding these democratic principles that provide accountability to the public and not undermining them.

We encourage the provincial government to repeal this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jamie McGarvey', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.


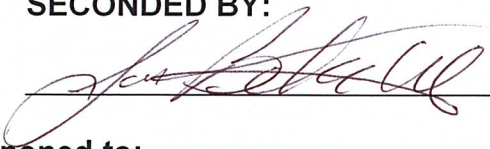
Jamie McGarvey
Mayor, Town of Parry Sound

c.c. Premier Doug Ford
MPP Graydon Smith
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities
Members of Town of Parry Sound Council
CAO Clayton Harris
Clerk Rebecca Johnson



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2025 – 047

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO	DATE: April 15, 2025
Councillor G. ASHFORD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOVED BY: 
Councillor J. BELESKEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Councillor P. BORNEMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SECONDED BY: 
Councillor B. KEITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Councillor D. McCANN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Councillor C. McDONALD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mayor J. McGARVEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
CARRIED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED: <input type="checkbox"/> Postponed to: _____			

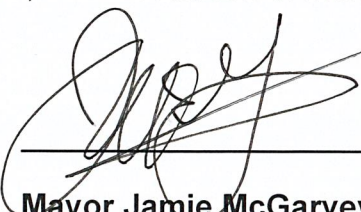
Whereas the Province has announced the expansion of strong mayor powers to another 169 municipalities as of May 1, 2025 in addition to the 47 municipalities which currently have received strong mayor powers; and

Whereas the Province claims that strong mayor powers will get homes and infrastructure built faster, reduce red tape, and accelerate the delivery of key priorities; and
Whereas research from the Association of Municipal Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has identified that: a) there is no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers; and b) strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and chief administrative officers (CAOs), threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership; and

Whereas strong mayor powers is an erosion to the democratic process of an historically non-partisan municipal governance structure;

Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound hereby resolves to reject the strong mayor powers granted to it, and requests that the Province repeal the legislation, or offer the option to municipalities to opt out of strong mayor powers; and

That this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Rob Flack, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Graydon Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

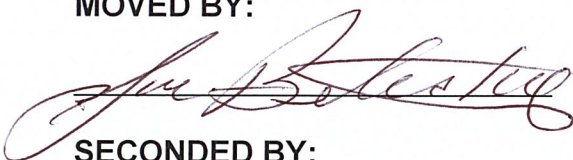
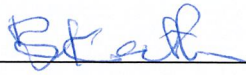


Mayor Jamie McGarvey



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PARRY SOUND
RESOLUTION IN COUNCIL

NO. 2025 – 046

DIVISION LIST	YES	NO	DATE: April 15, 2025
Councillor G. ASHFORD	_____	_____	MOVED BY: 
Councillor J. BELESKEY	_____	_____	
Councillor P. BORNEMAN	_____	_____	
Councillor B. KEITH	_____	_____	
Councillor D. McCANN	_____	_____	
Councillor C. McDONALD	_____	_____	SECONDED BY:
Mayor J. McGARVEY	_____	_____	
CARRIED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED: _____ Postponed to: _____			

WHEREAS inclusive, evidence-based scientific research leads to better outcomes for Canadians by ensuring that all voices and experiences are reflected in the development of knowledge, treatments, and innovations;

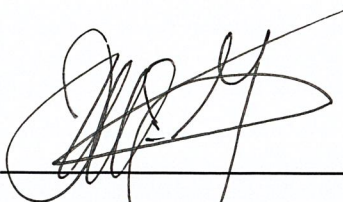
WHEREAS Canadian municipalities benefit directly from research-informed policies on public health, infrastructure, education, environmental protection, and economic development;

WHEREAS diverse and inclusive research teams have been shown to generate more innovative, practical, and impactful solutions, and yet many equity-deserving groups, including women, remain underrepresented in science and research careers;

WHEREAS inclusive research strengthens our economy, healthcare system, and ability to address national and global challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Parry Sound supports the national call for stronger federal support for inclusive research that reflects the diversity of Canadian communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be shared with other municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and relevant provincial and federal representatives for consideration and support.



Mayor Jamie McGarvey



TOWN OF PETAWAWA

1111 Victoria Street, Petawawa, Ontario K8H 2E6

☎ (613) 687-5536

✉ gserviss@petawawa.ca

🌐 petawawa.ca

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

Honorable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

April 29, 2025

RE: Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities

Dear Minister Flack,

Thank you for your letter dated April 9, 2025, regarding the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to the Town of Petawawa. Our Council discussed this issue in an open forum at our council meeting on April 23rd and are firmly of the belief that this effort undermines the value of collaboration between the Mayor, Councillors, and Staff. Increasing the powers of the Mayor to push forward Provincial Priorities would eliminate shared decision making, create divisiveness at the council table, and blur the lines between administrative and political roles. Our council believes that this would result in an erosion of the democratic process at the Municipal level, especially in a small city like Petawawa.

Although we don't always agree unanimously on all matters, our council works as a cohesive unit, firmly focused on the goals of advancing and encouraging growth and making our community a wonderful place in which to live and invest. Each of member of council brings their own set of skills, knowledge, values and perspectives to achieve these goals, and has worked extremely well together.

Since it was sworn in, our Council has been collectively focused on advancing provincial priorities by delivering much needed housing, building infrastructure that supports community growth and the construction of new homes, including housing-enabling infrastructure such as water and wastewater. The largest community in Renfrew County, Petawawa has grown significantly over the last decade (roughly 25%) and added a large amount of new housing to meet market demands. In 2024, Petawawa increased the size of its planning department to

reduce permit processing times, 120 new dwellings (Single Family Detached/Row Housing/Multi-family) were constructed, and there are many more dwellings underway:

Structure type	In Pre-Consultation or going through Planning Approvals	Planning Approvals Complete (under construction)
Single Family Detached	533	61
Row Housing	24	96
Apartment	348	60
Additional Residential Unit	0	44
Total Units	905	261

Further to this, Garrison Petawawa and Canadian Nuclear laboratories are reporting that they will need to house 1100 individuals and their families as they expand operations. Based on this need and other factors, our municipality is working with private sector and nonprofit developers to meet the demand for both market and affordable housing. To be forthright, where the municipality needs help the most to support housing development and foster densification is access to additional funding to extend utilities, such as water and wastewater services, to developable lands to meet future growth needs. Petawawa has faced a significant reduction in Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) over the past two fiscal years (\$2.3 million over 2024 and 2025) due to the Business Education Tax discount as well as an annual reduction in Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding over the past decade which has hampered our ability to extend necessary water and wastewater infrastructure vital to delivering new homes. The community's Ontario Community Infrastructure Funding was reduced in 2025 as well.

In closing, our Council requests that the Ontario Government excludes the Town of Petawawa from its proposed amendments to O. Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers and Duties to Additional Municipalities, and work with the municipality to identify funding to support expansion of its storm, water and wastewater treatment systems to support future residential and commercial growth. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me through our offices if you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Gary Serviss
Mayor of Petawawa

Copied: Doug Ford, Premier
Billy Denault, MPP, Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke

Enc. Resolution – Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Town of Petawawa



TOWN OF PETAWAWA

1111 Victoria Street, Petawawa, Ontario K8H 2E6

☎ (613) 687-5536

✉ gserviss@petawawa.ca

🌐 petawawa.ca

April 28, 2025

Delivered Electronically

Attn: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Re: Resolution - Opposition to Strong Mayor Designation for the Town of Petawawa

At its Council-In-Committee meeting on **April 28, 2025**, Petawawa Town Council passed a **Resolution** in response to the Province's recent proposal to designate Petawawa as a "**Strong Mayor**" municipality, effective May 1, 2025.

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has proposed to designate the Town of Petawawa as a "Strong Mayor" community, granting enhanced powers to the Mayor effective May 1, 2025; and,

WHEREAS the Strong Mayor powers significantly alter the balance of governance at the municipal level, undermining the role of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principle of majority rule; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Petawawa has a long history of collaborative, transparent, and accountable local governance built upon a foundation of Council-debate and shared decision-making; and,

WHEREAS many municipally elected officials across the province and members of the public have expressed significant concern regarding the imposition of these powers; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Petawawa did not formally request or express a desire to be designated under the Strong Mayor framework; and,

WHEREAS a growing number of municipalities and elected officials across Ontario are questioning the appropriateness of the Strong Mayor system and are calling for its reconsideration or repeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Petawawa Town Council formally request that the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately remove the Town of Petawawa from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all regional Members of Provincial

Parliament, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their awareness and support.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and urge you to respect the democratic wishes of our Council and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Serviss', with a small 'ss' written below the main signature.

Gary Serviss
Mayor, Town of Petawawa
(613) 687-5536
gserviss@petawawa.ca
petawawa.ca

CC:
The Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)
Regional Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)



April 30, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Mr. Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton
bob.bailey@pc.ola.org

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming at its Regular Council meeting on April 30th, 2025, passed the following motion:

Motion #14

Moved by Kristen Rodrigues
Seconded by Alex Boughen

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario announced on April 9th, 2025, that it will extend “**Strong Mayor Powers**” to an additional 169 Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Province only accepted comments on the government’s intentions until April 16, 2025 with the new powers set to begin on May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS the timeline for feedback from municipal councils was unreasonably short, especially when considering many of the impacted councils generally only meet one to two times monthly, with the added staff time required to prepare reports and provide more detailed information on the impact of the provincial legislation;

AND WHEREAS the intent of the legislation is to build more homes faster, The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), which has been tracking the use of strong mayor powers since they were first introduced in Toronto and Ottawa in 2022, said there is no evidence

to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housings starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers;

AND WHEREAS the new powers include the ability to set budgets, veto bylaws, pass bylaws with just one-third of their council's support, appoint senior civil servants, and solely delegate and oversee the CAO position, which further erodes the lines of an elected official's position and impairs the ability of council to work as a whole on behalf of the community;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the council for the Town of Plympton-Wyoming fully supports the existing electoral process under which the residents duly elected all council members and value a collaborative and council-driven approach to decision making without impairment on any members of council;

AND FURTHER That Council respects the province's intent, but the imposition of Strong Mayor Powers results in an erosion of the democratic process and further deteriorates the promotion of diversity in municipal representation;

AND FURTHER The Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming is formally opposed to the use of Strong Mayor Powers and requests that the province repeal the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation all together as a matter of upholding the democratic rights of all elected officials;

AND FURTHER, that in the absence of a repeal, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council requests that the province allows municipalities the option to formally decline as a matter of record with the province.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.



Sincerely,
Dianne Gould-Brown
dgould-brown@plympton-wyoming.ca
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



Town of Saugeen Shores
600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820
Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

April 14, 2025

Honourable Rob Flack
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister,

RE: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to O.Reg. 530/22 to Expand Strong Mayor Powers

I am writing to express my opposition to the government's proposed expansion of Strong Mayor powers to include the Town of Saugeen Shores. As the Mayor of Saugeen Shores, I am concerned about the implications of this policy change on our local governance. Please consider this letter as the Town of Saugeen Shores submission on O.Reg. 530/22 which is available for comment until April 16th.

In my experience, the 'Council Manager' system of governance has always served our municipality well. Specifically, when it comes to advancing our shared priority of building more housing to serve our residents, Saugeen Shores Council has demonstrated flexible and determined leadership. Our Council has enabled housing by reducing red tape resulting in the construction of more than 600 multi-family residential units in the last two years alone. Given the strong and sustained commitment of our Council to these efforts, I do not see how the introduction of Strong Mayor powers will accelerate the construction of housing (or the pursuit of other priority areas) in any way. On the contrary, vesting these new powers in the Mayor threatens to disrupt long-established and effective processes, sidelining elected members of Council with effects that may be contrary to the interests of our residents.

Saugeen Shores has thrived for decades on the principle of shared leadership. We have an effective team of elected representatives working in partnership with a professional staff to achieve goals that are transparently set out in our Strategic Plan and annual Business Plans. This approach to governance is foundational to building trust between the municipality and the residents that it serves. I fear that the unilateral decision-making enabled by Strong Mayor powers would erode this trust and disrupt the collaborative environment that has long been at the heart of the democratic tradition of our Council and community.

I urge you to reconsider the expansion of Strong Mayor powers. If the government has a strong desire to advance these major changes to the governance of our municipality, I

request that you engage in a thorough consultation process with our Council and the residents of our community before moving forward. It is crucial that any changes to local governance structures be made in close partnership with the communities they impact.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and hope that we can work together in the interest of ensuring strong local governance in Saugeen Shores.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Charbonneau', written in a cursive style.

Luke Charbonneau, Mayor
Town of Saugeen Shores

cc. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Lisa Thompson, MPP, Minister of Rural Affairs
Council, Town of Saugeen Shores
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

April 25, 2025

By Email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford

By Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

**Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal
Affairs and Housing**

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, April 22, 2025, passed the following resolution regarding its April 15, 2025 Letter sent to Ontario's Regulatory Registry on the proposed May 1, 2025, expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, a copy of which is enclosed.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

Motion: RCM - 114/25

Moved by Councillor Alicia Higgison
Seconded by Councillor Tania Jobin

"That the agenda Communication item regarding the Town of Tecumseh and its opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers **be circulated** to the Premier of Ontario, the local MPPs, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, and all municipalities".

Carried

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's action on the matter.

Yours very truly,

Robert Auger, LLB
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

RA/ja
Attachment

1. Town of Tecumseh Resolution- Strong Mayor Powers dated April 15, 2025
- cc.
- County of Essex
 - Town of Amherstburg
 - Municipality of Lakeshore
 - Municipality of Leamington
 - Town of LaSalle
 - Town of Essex



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

April 15, 2025

Ministry to Municipal Affairs and Housing

Via Email to the Ontario's Regulatory Registry

Re: Letter of Resolution – Proposed May 1, 2025, expansion of Strong Mayor Powers to the Town of Tecumseh

At its April 15, 2025, Special Council meeting called in response to the April 9, 2025, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing news release on the proposal to expand Strong Mayor Powers to 169 additional municipalities, the Council of the Town of Tecumseh provided the following comments with the unanimous passage of the following resolution:

“Motion: SCM – 19/25

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bachetti

Seconded by Councilor Jobin

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through O. Reg. 530/22 under the Municipal Act, 2001, has designated the Town of Tecumseh as a “Strong Mayor” municipality, granting the enhanced powers of Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act to its Head of Council effective May 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing news release announcing the proposal to expand Strong Mayor powers to 169 additional municipalities on April 9, 2025, indicated a one-week consultation deadline for municipal comments on the proposal to be submitted to Ontario's Regulatory Registry by April 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS without the benefit of a more thorough consultation process and suitable period of time for feedback on the proposed expansion of Strong Mayor powers, the proposal is a disservice to the very communities they impact; and

WHEREAS Strong Mayor Powers alter the balance of governance at the local level, undermining the role of our duly elected members of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principles of majority vote and majority rule; and

WHEREAS the Town of Tecumseh has had a long and successful history of local governance based on collaborative and effective leadership built upon a foundation of Council debate and reaching consensus on decisions for its community; and

WHEREAS the Town of Tecumseh being a smaller community, has thrived with these collaborative, transparent, and accountable processes without the need for an expansion of

Strong Mayor Powers in order to serve Provincial Priorities and act in the best interests of its residents; and

WHEREAS given the long history of the Town of Tecumseh as a collaborative Council, the extension of Strong Mayor powers to the Town of Tecumseh may serve to instead counteract the stated purposes of the Strong Mayor Power legislation by disrupting what have been successful democratic processes and by undermining the important role that each Council member provides for its citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Tecumseh Town Council formally opposes the proposed expansion of Strong Mayor Powers as announced on April 9, 2025 and further requests that the proposed amendments to O. Reg 530/22 to expand Strong Mayor Powers to Additional Municipalities NOT include the Town of Tecumseh and respectfully requests that the Town of Tecumseh be removed from the list of municipalities so designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon circulation that the Clerk be authorized to send and upload a copy of this resolution together with a letter of resolution to Ontario's Regulatory Registry by the April 16, 2025, deadline for comments on the proposal.

"Carried."

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Auger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Auger, LL.B.
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

From: [Clerks](#)
To: premier@ontario.ca; rob.flack@pc.ola.org; Ernie.Hardemanco@pc.ola.org; resolutions@amo.on.ca; roma@roma.on.ca
Subject: [External Email] Tillsonburg Town Council Decision Letter - April 14, 2025 - Strong Mayor Powers
Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 8:41:09 AM
Attachments: Outlook-cid_image0.png

Hello,

At the April 14, 2025, meeting of Tillsonburg Town Council, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution # 2025-125

Moved By: Councillor Spencer

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Beres

THAT Council receive item 12.8 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Letter Re: Strong Mayor Powers, as information;

WHEREAS the Ontario government has proposed expanding the "strong mayor" powers to 169 additional municipalities under the proposed legislation on May 1, 2025, which would grant mayors in these municipalities more authority, particularly concerning the control of municipal budgets, planning and operational decisions;

AND WHEREAS this proposal has raised significant concerns regarding the centralization of power, erosion of local democracy, reduced accountability, and the potential for the abuse of power;

AND WHEREAS the proposed expansion of strong mayor powers undermines the collaborative nature of municipal governance, and diminish the role of elected municipal councillors in representing the diverse interests of the community;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the negative impacts on public trust, democratic participation, and municipal decision-making processes, if mayors are given the ability to bypass council decisions without adequate consultation or oversight;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Tillsonburg;

1. Does not support the proposed strong mayor powers as currently outlined;
2. Supports specific powers to mayors as it pertains to identifiable decisions regarding housing, development, infrastructure and transit to provide tools that reduce obstacles that can stand in the way of new housing and infrastructure developments;
3. Strongly suggests that free reign of decision-making regarding hiring, firing, committees and so forth be removed from the proposed authority;
4. Strongly suggests that members of current Council were duly elected officials by citizens with the awareness of one vote per council member and majority votes are the democratic process;

5. Requests that the Provincial Strong Mayor Powers proposed to take effect on May 1, 2025, be deferred to allow for greater clarity and that the Province seek collaborative input from the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO);
6. Directs staff to forward this resolution immediately to Minister Flack, Premier Ford, MPP Hardeman, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario Municipalities before April 16, 2025.

Regards,

Amelia Jaggard

Deputy Clerk

Town of Tillsonburg

10 Lisgar Ave

Tillsonburg, ON N4G 5A5

Phone: 519-688-3009 Ext. 4041

Ranked one of “Canada’s Top 25 Communities to Live and Work Remotely” (*Maclean’s 2021 Best Communities*)

www.Tillsonburg.ca

www.DiscoverTillsonburg.ca

www.Facebook.com/TillsonburgON



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Township of Central Frontenac

1084 Elizabeth Street, P.O. Box 89, Sharbot Lake, ON K0H 2P0

Tel: 613-279-2935 or 1-800-300-6851, Fax: 613-279-2422

www.centralfrontenac.com



Office of the Clerk

At its regular meeting of Council held April 8, 2025, the Corporation of the Township of Central Frontenac passed the following motion.

Whereas United States President Donald Trump, continues to threaten executive orders to impose tariffs on imports from Canada;

And whereas these tariffs will have a significant detrimental impact on the economic stability in both countries;

And whereas our Prime Minister and Premier are encouraging Canadians to choose Canada and to choose products made in Canada;

And whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power through capital and infrastructure programs;

And whereas we must stand united and strong to meet this moment and protect our communities.

And whereas municipalities can assist in the effort to combat tariffs and support businesses in the procurement for capital and infrastructure programs;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Township of Central Frontenac only purchase products made in Canada whenever practicable, and when not in violation of trade agreements and legislation, in all of its purchasing decisions, including increasing current invitational and open market thresholds in the Procurement By-law to enable targeted purchases from Canadian Suppliers;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, MPP John Jordan, MP Scott Reid, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and all Ontario municipalities.

Dated at Sharbot Lake, Ontario

This 17th day of December 2024.

Page 53 of 77


Cathy MacMunn, CAO/Clerk

Township of Champlain

Resolution
Regular Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 11.1.
Resolution Number 2025-120
Title: Councillor Gerry Miner - Surveillance and Monitoring of Heavy Vehicles in Ontario
Date: April 24, 2025

Moved By: Gérard Miner
Seconded By: Paul Burroughs

Whereas the Council of the Township of Champlain is of the opinion that additional surveillance and monitoring of heavy vehicles in Ontario is required to ensure the safety of other motorists, property owners, and pedestrians.

Be it resolved that the Township of Champlain calls upon the Government of Ontario to: increase surveillance and spot checks of all heavy vehicles travelling on Ontario roads; as well as monitoring the testing standards maintained by privately-owned heavy licensing facilities.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the MPP Glengarry-Prescott-Russell, the Ontario Provincial Police, AMO and all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried

Certified True Copy of Resolution

Alison Collard, Clerk Date:

Canton de Champlain
Résolution
Réunion régulière du Conseil

No. du point à l'ordre du jour: 11.1.
No. du point 2025-120
Titre: Conseiller Gerry Miner - Surveillance et contrôle des véhicules lourds en Ontario
Date: le 24 avril 2025

Proposée par: Gérard Miner
Appuyée par: Paul Burroughs

Attendu que le Conseil du Canton de Champlain est de l'avis qu'une surveillance et un contrôle accrus des véhicules lourds en Ontario sont nécessaires pour assurer la sécurité des autres automobilistes, des propriétaires fonciers et des piétons.

Qu'il soit résolu que le Canton de Champlain demande au gouvernement de l'Ontario d'accroître la surveillance et les vérifications de tous les véhicules lourds circulant sur les routes de l'Ontario, et de contrôler les normes de vérification maintenues par les installations privées d'immatriculation des véhicules lourds; et

De plus, qu'il soit résolu que cette résolution soit transmise au ministre des Transports de l'Ontario, au ministre des Affaires municipales et du Logement, au député provincial de Glengarry-Prescott-Russell, à la Police provinciale de l'Ontario, à l'AMO et à toutes les municipalités de l'Ontario.

Adoptée

Copie certifiée conforme

Alison Collard, greffière Date :

April 11, 2025

The Honourable Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
Room 5E200, 5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Lisa M. Thompson
Minister of Rural Affairs, Huron-Bruce MPP
408 Queen Street
P.O. Box 426
Blyth, ON N0M 1H0
Email: lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: rob.flack@pc.ola.org

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

Sent Via Email

Dear Hon. Premier and Ministers:

Re. Installation of New Utility Poles in Howick Township through the Accelerated High Speed Internet Project (AHSIP)

It is with great concern that we provide a connectivity update from the perspective of the Township of Howick. The Township applauds the provincial government for its \$4 billion investment to provide high-speed internet access in every region of Ontario and is appreciative of the Ministry of Infrastructure's leadership with the Accelerated High Speed Internet Program (AHSIP).

Improved connectivity to Ontario's unserved and underserved areas creates immense economic development opportunities and begins to address some of the challenges experienced by rural and remote communities. These communities continue to experience profound inequities in the areas of education, business and interpersonal relationships due to the lack of adequate communications infrastructure. The buildout of new broadband infrastructure starts the work towards resolving this inequity.

The Township of Howick is a small, rural municipality with a rich and proud history in agriculture. Through AHSIP, Xplore Inc. has obtained \$1.6 billion of private investment and government funding for fibre network expansion in several underserved, rural Ontario communities, including Howick Township.

While Howick Township is supportive of all rural residents receiving access to reliable high-speed internet, there are ongoing concerns from Council and residents over the installation of dozens of new utility poles within the municipal right-of-way across Howick's countryside instead of utilizing Hydro One's existing utility poles or underground direct bury or drilling methods.

In response to our inquiries, representatives from Xplore Inc. have explained to township council and staff that these new utility poles have been installed by their subcontractor because of "significant delays in Hydro One's permitting process to add broadband infrastructure to their existing utility poles and because it is the most cost-effective installation method."

The Ministry of Infrastructure outlines very thorough processes, procedures and timelines for Attaching to LDC-Owned Poles in the *Building Broadband Faster in Ontario* guidelines released November 30, 2021. Section 2.2 of the guideline outlines the Broadband One Window (BOW) authorization process for LDC owned pole attachments, including the engineering design requirements as well as the applicable standards to which stakeholders are expected to adhere to. This process includes field inspection/survey of the poles, pole loading structural analysis and determination of what telecom and power make-ready work, if any, needs to be completed for safe attachment. Nowhere in the guidelines does the Ministry of Infrastructure outline a process for installing new utility poles instead of attaching to existing LDC owned poles.

This leave us in Howick Township with several questions:

What guidelines are being followed if this ISP is completely bypassing the LDC in favor of erecting new utility poles? Is the Ministry of Infrastructure responsible for making sure these guidelines and processes are being followed? If Xplore Inc. has admitted to avoiding the permitting process of using the LDC's (Hydro One) existing utility poles, who owns these new utility poles that have been installed? Who is responsible for their maintenance and eventual replacement? Who is going to maintain the brush and shrubbery that surround many of these new poles in the municipal right-of-way?

It is Howick Township's opinion that the AHSIP program lacks oversight and compliance measures over the work being completed by the Internet Service Providers and their sub-contractors. Along with this, the *Building Broadband Faster Act, 2021, S.O. 2021, c.2*,

Sched. 1 has stripped Howick Township's right to question the installation of dozens of new utility poles without incurring financial penalties for causing delays to the project.

We have included photos (see [Appendix A](#)) of the substandard installation of new utility poles across Howick Township under AHSIP that occurred throughout this past winter. As you can see, many poles were installed incorrectly, quickly and during all weather conditions. This required the sub-contractors to return several times to fix deficiencies. This doesn't seem like the most cost-effective installation method. Other photos show examples of the number of new poles installed in areas of Howick Township. With our primarily agriculture-based background and economy, many Howick Township landowners are quite upset with the amount of new utility poles that have been installed. Farm equipment continues to get larger in size as farming techniques modernize, and these new 30ft utility poles limit access to fields with overhead infrastructure installed along the municipal right-of-way.

Through our research into this matter, we have not found examples of so many new utility poles being installed elsewhere across the province to facilitate the installation of fibre optic high-speed internet infrastructure. New pole installations are only referenced in the program guidelines regarding LDC-owned poles requiring replacement prior to installing the broadband infrastructure.

Can you explain why so many new utility poles are being installed in Howick Township directly by the ISP instead of utilizing existing utility poles owned by Hydro One as outlined in your program guidelines? Municipalities were not informed that dozens of new utility poles would be installed through AHSIP. Howick Township is requesting to have these new utility poles removed in favour of utilizing existing LDC owned poles or direct bury or plowing methods of installation.

We encourage any other Ontario municipalities who are experiencing similar new utility pole installations through the Accelerated High Speed Internet Program to reach out to Howick Township directly, and to join Howick Township by reaching out to the above listed ministries with your concerns.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Caitlin Gillis
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Howick
clerk@howick.ca



Doug Harding
Reeve
Township of Howick
dharding@howick.ca

















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

Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

April 25th, 2025

To whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that at the Township of Larder Lake Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, April 8th, 2025, the following resolution of support was adopted:

Resolution: 5

Moved by: Councillor Armstrong

Seconded by: Councillor Hull

That Council supports item 6.3.1 of letters and communications from the Town of Fort Frances regarding the Sovereignty of Canada

Carried

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Crystal Labbe", is written over a horizontal line.

Crystal Labbe
CAO/ Clerk Treasurer

Enc. Fort Frances Resolution of Council
Resolution of support Township of Larder Lake



FORTFRANCES

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

Monday, February 10, 2025

Oral Motion

“THAT Council supports the Town of Halton Hills Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding the Sovereignty of Canada.”

Moved by Wendy Brunetta, Seconded by Steven Maki, Motion Carried by Council.

WHEREAS President Trump has suggested that with the use of “economic force” such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions, and by more than a century and a half of multicultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect, and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Fort Frances categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Fort and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.

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 #: 5

Resolution #: 5

Date: April 8, 2025

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the township of Larder Lake supports the resolution from the Town of Fort Frances regarding the Sovereignty of Canada

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)

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*

Chair:

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



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

April 29, 2025

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Proposal to End Daylight Savings Time in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan at its meeting on April 28th, 2025 passed the following resolution:

R107-2025

Moved by Councillor Terry Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Mark Allen

Whereas Ontario already has the legislative framework to end the antiquated practice of Daylight Saving Time (DST), as per the Time Amendment Act of 2020: But New York has delayed us for over 4 long years.

And Whereas the Case for Ending DST immediately pertains to clear and present Health and Public Safety concerns: Clock shifts spike heart attacks, accidents, and stress, per the Canadian Society for Chronobiology. Kids lose focus, domestic violence rises, and vulnerable folks—mentally ill, homeless, addicts—face unnecessary strain and relapse risks. Indigenous health gaps deepen as DST clashes with traditions. Standard Time aligns with nature, easing healthcare burdens and healthcare costs.

And Whereas ending DST is a clear and permanent assertion of the economic independence of Ontario: Our new, post tariff economic reality exposes the reliance on New York for our internal policy as outdated. Ontario should look out for Ontarians, and

our sovereignty must be asserted. Quebec already considers the change; so 15 million Ontarians should not continue to wait on NY. Businesses will adapt; citizens will gain stability. Over 100,000 petition voices and 70% of Ontarians agree. Ontario must take the lead, and hopefully NY can eventually follow our lead for the good of their own people.

Therefore be it resolved that we request staff to distribute this communication to all the Municipalities, Chiefs & Councils of Ontario in addition to the Premier of the Govt. of Ontario and urge the Premier to:

1. Amend the Time Amendment Act 2020 to drop New York's contingency, effective immediately.
2. Set permanent Standard Time (EST) from November 2, 2025.

CARRIED.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan



Liz Ross
Deputy Clerk

Sent via Email:
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, premier@ontario.ca
Municipalities of Ontario



Grant Bivol
Town Clerk
Town of Niagara on the Lake
VIA EMAIL: clerks@notl.com

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

April 16, 2025

RE: Support Resolution – Town of Niagara on the Lake Council Resolution regarding
Amendment of Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on March 26, 2025
considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-100:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the Consent Agenda item 6.11 listed for MARCH 26, 2025 Council meeting be
received for information; and**

**Whereas Township of Puslinch Council supports the Town of Niagara on the Lake
Council Resolution regarding Amendment of Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario
Heritage Act, that Council direct staff to prepare a support resolution accordingly.**

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information
and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Hon. Michael Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing Hon. Paul Calandra, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, MPP Thompson,
all Ontario Municipalities

February 26, 2025

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

EMAIL: Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier Ford,

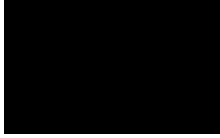
**RE: Requests the Province of Ontario Reconsider the Amendment of
Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act**

Please be advised that at its meeting of February 25, 2025, Council of the Town of Niagara on-the-Lake adopted the following resolution:

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Niagara-on-the-Lake Town Council endorses the resolution from the Municipality of South Huron requesting the Province reconsider the amendment to Subsection 29(1.2) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
2. Be It Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Minister Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and MPP Thompson.
3. Be It Further Resolved That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

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

Sincerely,



Grant Bivol
Town Clerk

c.c. Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Hon. Michael Ford - Michael.Ford@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Hon. Paul Calandra - minister.mah@ontario.ca
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario - resolutions@amo.on.ca
All local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
MPP Thompson - lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org
All 444 Municipalities of Ontario



**TOWNSHIP OF RIDEAU LAKES
Special Council Meeting**

RESOLUTION 104-2025
Title: MSC (PW) Rec #78-2025 re: Strong Mayor Powers (for Council approval)
Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Moved by Councillor Dunfield
Seconded by Deputy Mayor P. Banks

WHEREAS at the Municipal Services Committee meeting held April 14, 2025, Recommendation #78-2025 was passed related to the recent announcement from the Government of Ontario on Strong Mayor Powers to an additional 169 municipalities effective May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS said recommendation further requested that the Province remove Rideau Lakes from the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Rideau Lakes concurs with MSC Recommendation #78-2025.

YES: 5 NO: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 CONFLICT: 0 ABSENT: 1

Carried

YES: 5 Councillor J. Banks Councillor Carr Councillor Dunfield Councillor Hutchings
Deputy Mayor P. Banks

NO: 2 Councillor Maxwell Councillor Pollard

CONFLICT: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Mayor Hoogenboom



**TOWNSHIP OF RIDEAU LAKES
Municipal Services Committee (PW)**

RECOMMENDATION: 78-2025

Title: Ontario Proposing to Expand Strong Mayor Powers to 169
Additional Municipalities

Date: Monday, April 14, 2025

Moved by Councillor Dunfield
Seconded by Deputy Mayor P. Banks

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced an expansion of strong mayor powers to an additional 169 municipalities, effective May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS these powers allow mayors to unilaterally override council decisions, appoint senior municipal staff, and set budgets without majority council approval, undermining the principles of democratic governance;

AND WHEREAS municipal governance functions best through a collaborative decision-making process where elected councils, representing the collective voice of their communities, work alongside experienced municipal staff;

AND WHEREAS there is no evidence to suggest that strong mayor powers have increased housing starts, contrary to the provincial government's stated justification for their implementation;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has raised concerns that strong mayor powers blur the lines between political leadership and administrative expertise, threatening the neutrality of municipal public service;

AND WHEREAS the City of Orillia recently experienced a situation where its mayor unilaterally overturned a council decision regarding the hiring of a Chief Administrative Officer, demonstrating the potential for these powers to be misused;

AND WHEREAS the Township of Rideau Lakes has also experienced governance challenges resulting from mayoral overreach, further highlighting the risks posed by concentrating authority in a single elected official;

AND WHEREAS democratic principles require that municipal governance remain a system of "one person, one vote" rather than granting disproportionate power to a single individual;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Rideau Lakes:

1. Strongly opposes the expansion of strong mayor powers to additional municipalities, including Rideau Lakes;
2. Calls on the Government of Ontario to reverse this decision and uphold the traditional balance of municipal governance; and
3. Directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to:
 - The Honourable Rob Flack Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - MPP Steve Clark
 - The Honourable Premier of Ontario Doug Ford
 - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks, and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
 - All Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

AND FURTHER that the Province be requested to remove Rideau Lakes from the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation.

YES: 5 NO: 3 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0

Carried

YES: 5

Councillor J. Banks Councillor Carr Councillor Dunfield
Councillor Hutchings Deputy Mayor P. Banks

NO: 3

Mayor Hoogenboom Councillor Maxwell Councillor Pollard



April 24, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

Via email: Premier@ontario.ca

At the April 16, 2025 regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Zorra, the following resolution was passed:

WHEREAS the Ontario government has proposed expanding the "strong mayor" powers to 169 additional municipalities under the proposed legislation, which would grant mayors in these municipalities more authority, particularly concerning the control of municipal budgets and planning decisions;

AND WHEREAS this proposal has raised significant concerns regarding the centralization of power, erosion of local democracy, reduced accountability, and the potential for the abuse of power;

AND WHEREAS the proposed expansion of strong mayor powers undermines the collaborative nature of municipal governance, and diminishes the role of elected municipal councillors in representing the diverse interests of the community;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the negative impacts on public trust, democratic participation, and municipal decision-making processes, if mayors are given the ability to bypass council decisions without adequate consultation or oversight;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Zorra opposes the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers;

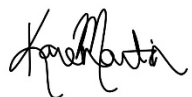
AND THAT the Council formally expresses its opposition to the Ontario government's proposal to expand Strong Mayor Powers to preserve local democracy, transparency, and accountability;

AND THAT the Council encourages advocacy for democratic principles and for municipal governance systems that prioritize collaboration, inclusivity, and democratic engagement;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Ontario Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Ontario municipalities, as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for further action.

Disposition: Carried

Yours truly,



Karen Martin
Clerk
Township of Zorra

25-009

CC: Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) resolutions@amo.on.ca