



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

SUMMARY

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

1. **C-2023-332**
Correspondence dated September 25, 2023 from Northumberland County to various Provincial Ministers respecting a resolution in support of the Municipality of St. Charles correspondence regarding Highway Traffic Act Amendments.
2. **C-2023-333**
Correspondence dated September 25, 2023 from the Office of the Regional Clerk respecting a resolution regarding Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Damaging Impacts of Hate and Intolerance.
3. **C-2023-334**
Correspondence dated September 25, 2023 from the City of Quinte West to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution in support of the Municipality of Wawa correspondence regarding Chronic Pain Treatments.
4. **C-2023-335**
Correspondence dated September 26, 2023 from the Town of Fort Erie to the Regional Clerk respecting a resolution regarding the Region's 2024 Operating Budget Levy Approval.
5. **C-2023-336**
Correspondence dated September 26, 2023 from the City of Welland to the Premier's Office respecting a resolution regarding mental health, homelessness and addiction.
6. **C-2023-337**
Correspondence dated September 28, 2023 from the Town of Aurora to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution regarding Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic.
7. **C-2023-338**
Correspondence dated September 28, 2023 from the Town of Aurora to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario respecting a resolution regarding Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in Aurora.



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

September 25, 2023

Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development &
MPP for Northumberland - Peterborough South
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Northumberland County Resolution – ‘Highway Traffic Act Amendments’

At a meeting held on September 20, 2023 Northumberland County Council approved the following Council Resolution # 2023-09-20-647 adopting the below recommendation from the September 7, 2023 Public Works Committee meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Olena Hankivsky

Seconded by: Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Public Works Committee, having considered the correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Highway Traffic Act Amendments', recommend that County Council support the correspondence, and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to key stakeholders."

Council Resolution # 2023-09-20-647

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at matherm@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Mather".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

Council Resolution

Moved By O. Hankivsky

Agenda
Item 10

Resolution Number
2023-09-20 647

Seconded By J. Logel

Council Date: September 20, 2023

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the five Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held September 5, 6, and 7, 2023), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

Committee Name	Item #	Description	Held By
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/			
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~~And Further That the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."~~

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
Councillor's Name

Carried Shouley Reardon
Warden's Signature

Deferred _____
Warden's Signature

Defeated _____
Warden's Signature

Public Works Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: September 7, 2023

Agenda Item: 7.a



Resolution Number: 2023-09-07-629

Moved by: J. Logel

Seconded by: H. Martin

Council Meeting Date: September 20, 2023

"That the Public Works Committee, having considered the correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Highway Traffic Act Amendments', recommend that County Council support the correspondence, and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to key stakeholders."


Carried  Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____ Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____ Committee Chair's Signature

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.4.
Resolution Number 2023-152
Title: Resolution Stemming from May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council (Item 9.1 - Correspondence #16) and the June 21, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council (Item 9.1 - Correspondence #10)
Date: July 19, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Pothier
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the City of Cambridge, on May 9, 2023, regarding Highway Traffic Act Amendments;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO); the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

**The Corporation of the City of Cambridge
Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division
The City of Cambridge
50 Dickson Street, P.O. Box 669
Cambridge ON N1R 5W8
Tel: (519) 740-4680 ext. 4585
mantond@cambridge.ca**

May 10, 2023

Re: Highway Traffic Act Amendments

Dear Ms. Mulronev,

At the Council Meeting of May 9, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

WHEREAS speeding on our roads is a major concern in our community,

AND WHEREAS speeding can occur in all areas of our community,

AND WHEREAS barriers and delays to enforcement pose a danger to our community,

AND WHEREAS our municipality has limited resources to implement speed mitigation road design and re-design,

AND WHEREAS our local police service has limited resources to undertake speed enforcement,

AND WHEREAS s.205.1 of the Highway Traffic Act (HTA) provides that Automated Speed Enforcement systems (ASE) may only be placed in designated community safety zones and school safety zones,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Cambridge request that the Ontario Government amend s.205.1 of the HTA to permit municipalities to locate an ASE system permanently or temporarily on any roadway under the jurisdiction of municipalities and as determined by municipalities and not be restricted to only community safety zones and school safety zones;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local area MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario Municipalities.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Danielle Manton
City Clerk

Cc: (via email)
Steve Clark, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local Area MPPs
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



Administration

Office of the Regional Clerk

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, PO Box 1042, Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Telephone: 905-980-6000 Toll-free: 1-800-263-7215 Fax: 905-687-4977

www.niagararegion.ca

September 25, 2023

CL 13-2023, September 21, 2023
CSC 9-2023, September 13, 2023
CSC-C 18-2023, September 13, 2023

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Motion – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Damaging Impacts of Hate and Intolerance

CSC-C 18-2023

Regional Council, at its meeting held on September 21, 2023, passed the following recommendation, as amended, of its Corporate Services Committee:

WHEREAS respect for the views and opinions of others is a hallmark of civil discourse in our society;

WHEREAS freedom of expression is a fundamental value of a free and democratic society;

WHEREAS speech that threatens violence, intimidates, abuses or bullies is not and should not be protected as free expression;

WHEREAS there have been many recent instances of violence, threats of violence, intimidation, abuse, and bullying by some individuals in the Niagara region against others for a variety of reasons other than legitimate differences of political views or opinions;

WHEREAS some elected officials in Niagara have been the subject of violent attacks, online harassment, and physical intimidation over the past several months;

WHEREAS Regional Council approved on February 17, 2022, a Resolution at the Corporate Services Committee that condemned those acts of violence, harassment, and intimidation against members of Regional Council and local area municipal councils, all public servants, and all health care providers;

WHEREAS elected officials are obligated to adhere to the provisions of codes of conduct that regulate their behaviour when serving the public; and

WHEREAS there is no excuse for bad behaviour by any individual against another.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Regional Council **AFFIRMS** that equity, diversity, and inclusion are core values that it supports and will continue to promote;
2. That the Niagara Regional Police Service **BE REQUESTED** to consider the implementation of training and look to update protocols with respect to responding to complaints of threats of violence, intimidation, and bullying of elected officials and members of local appointed committees in Niagara;
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to investigate the following and provide a report to the Corporate Services Committee as soon as reasonably practical:
 - a) Creation of a program to educate the public on the benefits of equity, diversity and inclusion and conversely the damaging impacts of hate and intolerance;
 - b) Whether Council should consider the creation of a residents or citizens code of conduct to guide individuals engaging elected officials or attending meetings of Regional Council and its Committees and various advisory committees;
 - c) Any further information, data or recommendations that Council should consider to alleviate incidents of hate and intolerance in Niagara;
4. That the Provincial Government **BE REQUESTED** to develop legislation and/or policies to protect elected officials and members of local appointed committees from violence, threats of violence, intimidation, abuse, and bullying by other individuals; and
5. That a copy of this Resolution **BE SENT** to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all municipalities in Niagara, all Niagara MPPs and MPs, and the Chief of the Niagara Regional Police Service for consideration and support.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

:kl
CLK-C 2023-109

Motion – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Damaging Impacts of Hate and
Intolerance

September 25, 2023

Page 3

Distribution List:

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Local Area Municipalities
Jeff Burch, Member of Provincial Parliament, Niagara Centre
Wayne Gates, Member of Provincial Parliament, Niagara Falls
Sam Oosterhoff, Member of Provincial Parliament, Niagara West
Jennie Stevens, Member of Provincial Parliament, St. Catharines
Dean Allison, Member of Parliament, Niagara West
Vance Badawey, Member of Parliament, Niagara Centre
Tony Baldinelli, Member of Parliament, Niagara Falls
Chris Bittle, Member of Parliament, St. Catharines
B. MacCulloch, Chief of Police, Niagara Regional Police Services



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www.quintewest.ca

A Natural Attraction

Tel: 613-392-2841
Toll Free: 1-866-485-2841
josh.machesney@quintewest.ca

Josh Machesney, City Clerk

September 25, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building
Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Support for Municipality of Wawa Resolution re: Chronic Pain Treatments

Dear Premier Ford:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on September 20, 2023 Council supported the attached resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding maintaining OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments by passing the following resolution:

“And further that Staff be directed to prepare a letter of support for Item 12.1 (e) Resolution from the Municipality of Shuniah in relation to Support for the Municipality of Wawa regarding Chronic Pain Treatments.” **Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours Truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST

Josh Machesney,
City Clerk

CC: Municipalities of Ontario
Ryan Williams, MP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Todd Smith, MPP, Bay of Quinte
Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Michael A. Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)





The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Moved by: 	Seconded by: 
--	--

WHEREAS the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons has made a decision that will lead more people who suffer from chronic pain to turn to opioids to alleviate their pain and;

WHEREAS the College is targeting community pain clinics by requiring the use of ultrasound technology in the administration of nerve block injections by licensed physicians. This requirement will increase the time it takes to administer the nerve block and, therefore, reduce the number of patients a physician can see in a day and;

WHEREAS the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) is proposing to reduce coverage for several vital healthcare services, including a drastic reduction in the number and frequency of nerve block injections a patient can receive and;

WHEREAS these changes have been proposed without any consultation with pain management medical professionals or with their patients and;

WHEREAS this cut will force chronic pain clinics to shut down, putting a greater strain on family physicians and emergency rooms and;

WHEREAS with the reduction in the number of nerve blocks being administered, many patients, looking for pain relief, will turn to overcrowded emergency rooms, opioid prescriptions from doctors or opioid street drugs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa is requesting that the Government of Ontario maintain OHIP coverage for chronic pain treatments and continue to provide much-needed care for the people of Ontario;

p.2....



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be forwarded to all Municipalities of Ontario, local MPs and MPPs, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Health, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	
	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL
[REDACTED]	



Legislative Services

September 26, 2023

File #120203

Sent via email: ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk
Niagara Region
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, P. O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

Re: **Region's 2024 Operating Budget Levy Approval**

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Special meeting of September 25, 2023 passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Niagara Region taxes form a significant portion of the overall tax bill that is issued by the local area municipality; and

Whereas the Niagara Region approved a 7.58% increase to the Regional Operating Budget Levy, 8.59% increase to the Water and Wastewater Levy, and a 5.5% increase to the Waste Management Levy, which outpaced the ability to pay and affordability of our local taxpayers; and

Whereas Niagara Region and Local Area Municipalities recognize that the post-pandemic economy, market inflation and housing shortages are a reality which have driven up costs for basic housing and food above the means of many residents.

Therefore be it resolved that the Niagara Regional Council be requested to ensure that the Region's 2024 Operating Budget Levy be approved at or below the current rate of inflation 3.7%, as a responsible, affordability measure for the residents of Niagara; and

That: This resolution be circulated to the Region and all local area municipalities for their support and endorsement.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Todd', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

PT-dlk

c.c. LAM's

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca



Clerks Division
Tara Stephens
City Clerk
905-735-1700 x2159
tara.stephens@welland.ca

September 26, 2023

File No. 21-30

SENT VIA EMAIL

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Buidlig, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Attention: Honorable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Dear Minister Ford:

Re: September 19, 2023 – WELLAND CITY COUNCIL

At its meeting of September 19, 2023, Welland City Council passed the following motion:

**“WHEREAS, Niagara Regional Council, City of Welland, City of Thorold, City of Niagara Falls and City of St. Catharines have adopted motions to declare mental health, homelessness, and addiction as an emergency; and
WHEREAS, the City of Welland has individuals living rough throughout the community; and
WHEREAS, the availability of affordable housing options is rapidly decreasing making it harder for families and individuals to find housing.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND ask Niagara Region commit to deliver more preventative drug education through a public as they see fit; and
THAT Welland City Council lobby the province on more therapeutic approaches and treatment pertaining to mental health care, work to develop strategies to address mental health/homeless/addiction discrimination; and
THAT Welland City Council advocate to the Provincial Government the need for increased medium-housing supply for young people trying to enter the housing market, seniors downsizing, and to open for supply for families; and
THAT Welland City Council requests that the Provincial Government commit to more funding for residential services for adults and children struggling with an intellectual and/or developmental disability; and**

THAT Welland City Council approaches CMHA and express interest in hosting a safe beds program for City of Welland; and

THAT Welland City Council utilizes the state of emergency on mental health, homelessness and addiction to save the Welland Hospital and offer mental health and addiction services in house at the Welland Hospital-more therapeutic approaches to mental health treatment in hospital settings. Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.9 (ontario.ca); and

THAT Welland City Council approaches upper levels of government and Niagara Health System with the goal to secure a drug rehab centre for the City of Welland, similar to Newport in Port Colborne which is run by Niagara Health System; and

THAT Welland City Council supports more training on the issues of mental health, homelessness, and addiction for police officers in Niagara/Ontario; and

That Welland City Council asks for a staff report on community watch programs and crime prevention by environmental design similar to the City of Mississauga; and

That this resolution be circulated to all Niagara-area municipalities, all Niagara area MPP's, MP's, Ontario's Ministers for Community and Social Services, Solicitor General, Health, Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Accessibility, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Indigenous Affairs, Ontario Premier, Doug Ford and Ontario Opposition Leader, Marit Stiles, Federal Ministers of Housing, Diversity and Inclusion, Mental Health and Addictions, Health, Justice and Attorney General, Indigenous services, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Deputy PM, Chrystia Freeland, Canada's Opposition Leader, Pierre Poilievre, Marc Gold, Government Representative in the Senate and Daniel Plett, Leader of the Opposition in the Canadian Senate, CMHA Niagara, and Niagara Health System."

Yours truly,



Tara Stephens
City Clerk

TS:cap

c.c.: - All Niagara Local Area Municipalities
- All Niagara MP's and All Niagara MPP's

- Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
- Ya'ara Saks, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health
- Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility
- Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations
- Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party and Opposition
- Ahmed Hussen, Federal Minister of Housing
- Kamal Khera, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities of Canada
- Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
- Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services of Canada
- Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada
- Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Official Opposition of Canada
- Marc Gold, Representative of the Government in the Senate of Canada
- Donald Neil Plett, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate of Canada
- Canadian Mental Health Association, Niagara Branch
- Niagara Health System
- Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk
- Communications Liaison, Niagara Region Police
- Sherri-Marie Millar, Interim Chief Administrative Officer



Received September 28, 2023
C-2023-337

Legislative Services
Michael de Rond
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

September 28, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 26, 2023
Motion 10.2 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence
Epidemic**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 26, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas 42 municipalities and regions including OBCM (Ontario Big City Mayors) and MARCO (Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario) members Ajax, Brampton, Burlington, Clarington, Hamilton, London, Oakville, Ottawa, Pickering, Whitby, Toronto, and Windsor, along with Peel, Durham and Halton Regions as well as Lanark County, Essex County and Renfrew County across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic (as of August 18, 2023); and

Whereas on August 16, 2023, Justice Minister Arif Virani described gender-based violence as "an epidemic" in the federal government's formal response to a coroner's inquest, also stating that his government is committed to ending the gender-based violence epidemic "in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response"; and

Whereas by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, the Town of Aurora can join the growing number of municipalities and regions in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic; and

Whereas the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support

for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora declare gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora recommend that gender-based violence and intimate partner violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities and regions in Ontario declare a gender-based and intimate partner violence epidemic across the country; and**
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments enact the additional 85 recommendations from the inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the federal government starts this enactment by adding the word Femicide as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada; and**
- 6. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions, and their emergency and social services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Michael de Rond

Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.2 Mayor Mrakas; Re: Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Gallo

Whereas 42 municipalities and regions including OBCM (Ontario Big City Mayors) and MARCO (Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario) members Ajax, Brampton, Burlington, Clarington, Hamilton, London, Oakville, Ottawa, Pickering, Whitby, Toronto, and Windsor, along with Peel, Durham and Halton Regions as well as Lanark County, Essex County and Renfrew County across Ontario have declared a gender-based violence and/or intimate partner violence epidemic (as of August 18, 2023); and

Whereas on August 16, 2023, Justice Minister Arif Virani described gender-based violence as “an epidemic” in the federal government’s formal response to a coroner’s inquest, also stating that his government is committed to ending the gender-based violence epidemic “in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response”; and

Whereas by declaring gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic, the Town of Aurora can join the growing number of municipalities and regions in demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic; and

Whereas the incidences of gender-based violence and intimate partner violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of intimate partner and gender-based violence has not kept pace;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora declare gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora recommend that gender-based violence and intimate partner violence be declared an epidemic in the Province of Ontario; and

3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all municipalities and regions in Ontario declare a gender-based and intimate partner violence epidemic across the country; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments enact the additional 85 recommendations from the inquest into the 2015 murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam in Renfrew County, Ontario, which provide a roadmap to preventing intimate partner violence from escalating to femicide; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the federal government starts this enactment by adding the word Femicide as a term to the Criminal Code of Canada; and
6. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora Requests That the provincial and federal governments provide the necessary support to municipalities, regions, and their emergency and social services to meaningfully address the gender-based violence and intimate partner violence epidemic.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)



Received September 29, 2023
C-2023-338

Legislative Services
Michael de Rond
905-726-4771
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

September 28, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Delivered by email
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of September 26, 2023
Motion 10.4 - Councillor Weese; Re: Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor
Powers in Aurora**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on September 26, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Head of Council is required to confirm in writing his commitment to meet a municipal housing target by October 15, 2023, in order to receive Strong Mayor Powers; and

Whereas the municipality is required to submit a formal housing pledge which will outline how the municipality plans to meet the housing target by December 15, 2023; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers will result in the Head of Council being granted powers such as:

- **Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer;**
- **Hiring certain municipal department heads and establishing and re-organizing departments;**
- **Creating committees of council, assigning their functions, and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council;**
- **Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process;**
- **Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority;**

- **Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority; and**

Whereas these Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic processes executed through municipal elections; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers may also violate by-laws established in Aurora that provides accepted and legal procedures for governance; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council recognizes the important role each Councillor provides the residents in their Ward and the community-at-large;

- 1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That the Aurora Town Council opposes Strong Mayor Powers provided to the Head of Council; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That this approved Motion is to be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Paul Calandra; the Regional Municipality of York; and each of the Municipalities in Ontario.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours sincerely,



Michael de Rond
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York
All Ontario Municipalities



10. Motions

10.4 Councillor Weese; Re: Aurora Council Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers in Aurora

Moved by Councillor Weese

Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the Head of Council is required to confirm in writing his commitment to meet a municipal housing target by October 15, 2023, in order to receive Strong Mayor Powers; and

Whereas the municipality is required to submit a formal housing pledge which will outline how the municipality plans to meet the housing target by December 15, 2023; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers will result in the Head of Council being granted powers such as:

- Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer;
- Hiring certain municipal department heads and establishing and re-organizing departments;
- Creating committees of council, assigning their functions, and appointing the chairs and vice-chairs of committees of council;
- Proposing the municipal budget, which would be subject to council amendments and a separate head of council veto and council override process;
- Vetoing certain by-laws if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority;
- Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the head of council is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority; and

Whereas these Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic processes executed through municipal elections; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers may also violate by-laws established in Aurora that provides accepted and legal procedures for governance; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council recognizes the important role each Councillor provides the residents in their Ward and the community-at-large;

1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That the Aurora Town Council opposes Strong Mayor Powers provided to the Head of Council; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That this approved Motion is to be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Paul Calandra; the Regional Municipality of York; and each of the Municipalities in Ontario.

Yeas (4): Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, and Councillor Gallo

Nays (3): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Kim

Carried (4 to 3)