

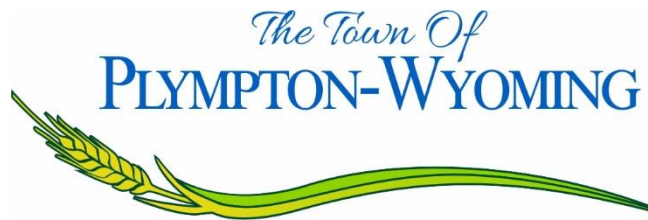


COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

SUMMARY

DECEMBER 8, 2023

1. **C-2023-422**
Correspondence dated December 1, 2023 from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming to Lianne Rood, House of Commons respecting a resolution of support for the Municipality of Wawa correspondence regarding Bill C-310 (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).
2. **C-2023-423**
Correspondence dated December 1, 2023 from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming to Premier Ford and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and, Energy respecting a resolution of support for the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus correspondence regarding Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold.
3. **C-2023-424**
Correspondence dated December 4, 2023 from the Township of Puslinch to the Municipality of Wawa respecting a motion supporting their correspondence regarding Bill C-310 (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).
4. **C-2023-425**
Correspondence dated December 7, 2023 from the St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Church Fundraising Committee respecting a request to waive facility rental fees.



Received December 1, 2023
C-2023-422

Lianne Rood
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

December 1st 2023

Sent via e-mail: Lianne.Rood@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Dear Ms. Rood,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).

Motion 13

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Bob Woolvett

That Council support item 'R' of correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Tax Credit for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

Carried.

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

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario – info@oafc.on.ca
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) – resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC23265 | Meeting Order: 10 |
| Moved by: <i>Cathy Fannon</i> | Seconded by: <i>J. Mal</i> |

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

| RESOLUTION RESULT | | RECORDED VOTE | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DEFEATED | Mitch Hatfield | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TABLED | Cathy Cannon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT) | Melanie Pilon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WITHDRAWN | Joseph Opato | |

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 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | |



Received December 1, 2023
C-2023-423

Premier Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd A. Smith
Minister of Energy, Ontario
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL

December 1st, 2023

Re: Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Calandra, and Minister Smith,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolutions from the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus regarding Support to Revoke Strong Mayor Powers and Increase in the Leave to Construct Threshold.

Motion 14 Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues
Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren
That Council support item 'S' Strong Mayor Powers & 'T' Leave to Construct Threshold from the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus.

Carried.

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

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus
Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing – Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org
Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org
All Ontario Municipalities



October 24, 2023

Premier R. Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

and

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Send electronically via email
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Calandra

Please be advised at the regular meeting of the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus held on October 13, 2023, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by M. Ryan, seconded by B. Milne:

THAT item of correspondence 7-1(b) be received; and

WHEREAS the Western Ontario Wardens Caucus Inc. (WOWC) is a not-for-profit organization representing 15 upper and single tier municipalities in Southwestern Ontario with more than one and a half million residents;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of WOWC is to enhance the prosperity and overall wellbeing of rural and small urban communities across the region;

AND WHEREAS the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 18, for select municipalities, transfers legislative responsibility from the deliberative body of the Council to the Head of Council;

AND WHEREAS the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022, S.O. 2022, c. 24 provides for provincially appointed facilitators to assess the regional governments to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between the upper and lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Building Faster Fund arbitrarily ties housing supportive funding to municipalities that establish a housing target based solely on population size;

AND WHEREAS "responsible and accountable governments with respect to matters within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario requires sustained, strategic, and focused efforts from all levels of government, informed from the expertise of all levels of government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WOWC calls on the provincial government to work with municipalities in Ontario, as a responsible and accountable level of government, to focus all efforts on tackling the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario by:

Revoking existing 'strong mayor powers' and not implementing legislation that transfers legislative responsibility from the body of Council to the Head of Council.

Respecting spheres of jurisdiction, recognizing that municipalities are best positioned to determine the mix of roles and responsibilities between upper and lower-tier municipalities and only conduct structural and service delivery reviews of municipalities or regions where a majority of municipalities included within the region, request the same.

Recognizing rural and small urban municipalities are critical to overcoming the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario and not allocating the majority of scarce provincial housing supportive funding to a limited subset of large urban municipalities in Ontario.

AND THAT WOWC calls upon the provincial government to provide all municipalities with the financial resources to tackle the housing and affordability crisis in Ontario that is pricing too many people, especially young families and newcomers, out of home ownership, while amplifying socio-economic disparities and reliance on municipally provided human services;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for support so that the future governance of our communities is in the hands of its constituents;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to: the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Premier of Ontario; WOWC Members; the EOWC, and all WOWC area MPs and MPPs. - **CARRIED**

Please contact Kate Burns Gallagher, Executive Director, Western Ontario Warden' Caucus, kate@wowc.ca should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus



cc.

Hon. Rob Flack, Associate Minister of Housing

Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org

Matthew Rae, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org

WOWC MPPs

WOWC MPs

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus



October 24, 2023

The Honourable Todd A. Smith,
Minister of Energy, Ontario
Send electronically via email
MinisterEnergy@ontario.ca

Re: Leave to Construct Threshold

Dear Minister Smith,

On October 13, 2023, the WOWC passed a resolution in favour of the Government of Ontario updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$20M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M.

Western Ontario has seen significant growth in the past decade with pressures to build out the gas pipeline network. Many municipalities in our region have lost major investment opportunities because of the delays in getting natural gas to development sites. Any person or company planning to construct hydrocarbon transmission facilities within Ontario, must apply to the OEB for authorization, if the projected cost to build the pipeline is over \$2 million, a threshold that was set in 1998.

Industry proposes updating the LTC cost threshold from \$2M to \$10M for hydrocarbon lines (by amending Ontario Regulation O.Reg.328/03) while maintaining current requirements and expectations for Indigenous consultation and environmental review for projects greater than \$2M and less than \$10M. Increasing the cost threshold to \$10M would closer align Ontario with other Canadian jurisdictions (e.g., in B.C., these thresholds are \$15M for electricity and \$20M for natural gas). The WOWC is recommending a \$20M threshold for our Province to be competitive with other Canadian jurisdictions.

Ontario's outdated regulations are causing the LTC to apply far more broadly than intended when it was established over 20 years ago. Due to increased regulatory and cost pressures, as well as inflation, virtually all gas pipeline projects are now greater than \$2M rendering the threshold meaningless. Roughly 0.5 KM pipe in urban settings now often exceed the \$2M threshold.

Examples of businesses lost in the region due to the regulation include;

- EV Battery Manufacturer, investment of \$1 Billion
- New Distillery
- 2 New Agricultural processing plants - \$140 million total investment
- New Agricultural plant - \$225 million USD investment

Modernizing these outdated regulations would reduce delays and costs for economic development initiatives including new industries seeking to locate in Ontario and create jobs (or existing seeking to expand), transit projects, community expansion projects, housing developments, connections for low carbon fuel blending (e.g. renewable natural gas, hydrogen) as well as residential and business customer connections.

The WOWC supports an increase in the Leave to Construct threshold to \$20M.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glen McNeil". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small "c" above the "i" in "McNeil".

Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

cc.

Western Ontario MPPs
WOWC Members
WOWC Local Municipalities



Received December 4, 2023
C-2023-424

Municipality of Wawa
40 Broadway Ave,
Wawa Ontario,
POS 1K0
VIA EMAIL:
info@wawa.ca

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

December 4, 2023

RE 6.13 Municipality of Wawa Resolution regarding Amendments to the Income Tax Act

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 29, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-382:

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Goyda

That the Consent Agenda item 6.13 listed for NOVEMBER 29, 2023 Council meeting be received; and

Whereas the Township of Puslinch Council supports the Municipality of Wawa Resolution Regarding Bill C-310, Amendments to Income Tax Act;

Therefore, that Council directs staff to send 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: Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario,
Algoma Mutual Aid Association,
Association of Municipalities of Ontario,
Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Resolution # RC23265 | Meeting Order: 10 |
| Moved by: [REDACTED] | Seconded by: [REDACTED] |

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

| RESOLUTION RESULT | | RECORDED VOTE | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DEFEATED | Mitch Hatfield | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TABLED | Cathy Cannon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT) | Melanie Pilon | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WITHDRAWN | Joseph Opato | |

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 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | |

Received December 7, 2023
C-2023-425

St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Church
31928 Hwy-3
Wainfleet, ON
L0S 1V0

December 7, 2023

Council Members
Township of Wainfleet
31940 Hwy-3
Wainfleet, ON
L0S 1V0

Dear Council Members,

We have rented the Moore Room on Saturday January 20, 2024, to organize an indoor garage sale. The intent of this sale is to raise funds for our parish. We are hoping that the Council members will be able to waive the rental fee of \$113.27 so that all proceeds from this event can go directly to the maintenance of the Church.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Eva Schertzing & Cheryl Mucci
Fundraising Committee
St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Church