



Township of Lucan Biddulph

270 Main Street
P.O. Box 190, Lucan, Ontario N0M 2J0
Phone (519) 227-4491; Fax (519) 227-4998

February 20, 2024

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

VIA Email to: premier@ontario.ca

RE: Resolution on the Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that at their last regular meeting on Tuesday February 20, 2024, the Council of the Township of Lucan Biddulph passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2024-056

Moved by A. Westman

Seconded by C. Burghardt-Jesson

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life; and

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year; and

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining Municipal fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need; and

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; now


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Lucan Biddulph requests the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion is sent to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford; the MPP, Rob Flack; and all municipalities in Ontario.

CARRIED

Please contact our office should you require any further information on this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Reymer
CAO/Clerk

CC: MPP Rob Flack



February 13, 2024

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

Delivered electronically to premier@ontario.ca

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

In October 2023, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) called upon you as Premier to agree to an update of the provincial-municipal partnership by conducting a social and economic prosperity review: a joint review of revenues, costs and financial risks and a detailed analysis of Ontario's infrastructure investment and service delivery needs.

At the regular meeting of the Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus on Friday, February 9, 2024, the Caucus supported AMO with the following resolution;

Moved by R. Ehgoetz, seconded by D. Canniff:

WHEREAS current municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.'; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca); the Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca); and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca).” - **CARRIED**

As you know, Ontario's municipal governments provide critical services that residents rely on most every day. The ability to provide these services depends on a fiscal framework that enables municipalities to balance revenues and expenditures responsibly and fairly, reflecting local circumstances and priorities.

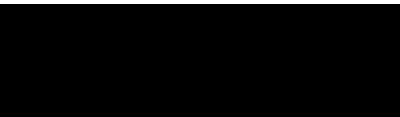
Municipalities across Ontario are also facing increasingly complex challenges, such as tackling homelessness and climate change, without the financial tools to solve them. In 2022, municipal expenditures outpaced provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion in areas of provincial responsibility including social housing, long-term care, land ambulance, social services, and childcare.

This current arrangement makes it impossible for municipalities to invest in the infrastructure needed to support housing and economic growth, or to prepare for the impacts of climate change. Property taxpayers, including small business owners and seniors on fixed incomes, can't afford to pay for the province's affordability and homelessness crisis.

Taxpayers expect governments to work together to solve problems.

We look forward to collaborating with you on this critical review.

Sincerely,



Glen McNeil
Chair, Western Ontario Wardens' Caucus

cc.

Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, minister.mah@ontario.ca
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, minister.fin@ontario.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario, amo@amo.on.ca
Western Ontario MPPs
Western Ontario Municipalities



374028 6TH LINE • AMARANTH ON • L9W 0M6

February 12, 2024

Honourable Syliva Jones, MPP Dufferin-Caledon
108 Broadway
3rd Floor, Suite A
Orangeville ON L9W 1K3

Sent by email to: Sylvia Jones, sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Re: Resolution on the Social and Economic Prosperity Review

At its regular meeting of Council held on February 7, 2024, the Township of Amaranth Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution #: 8

Moved by: G Little

Seconded by: A. Stirk

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

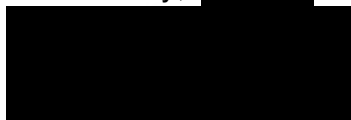
Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And That a letter be sent to request advocacy in advance of the Provincial budget to the Premier, the Dufferin-Caledon MPP and local municipalities.

CARRIED

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours truly,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Nicole Martin.

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.
CAO/Clerk

Cc:
Doug Ford, Premier
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities



2297 Highway 12
PO Box 130
Brechtin, ON L0K 1B0
www.ramara.ca

February 9, 2024

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Attn: Minister Paul Calandra
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

RE: Township of Ramara Resolution 2024.24
Request for Province of Ontario and AMO Social and Economic Prosperity
Review to Promote the Stability and Sustainability of Municipal Finances

Dear Minister Paul Calandra,

At their regular meeting on January 29, 2024, the Council of the Township of Ramara passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND THAT staff circulate it to MPP Jill Dunlop, applicable Ministries, and Ontario Municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory; however, if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Connor CMO, AOMC

Director of Legislative Services & Community Services / Clerk

Cc. MPP Jill Dunlop

Via email: Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org



February 6, 2024

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South
7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Cres.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7
Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Dear Honourable Minister Bethlenfalvy:

Re: Support for Comprehensive Review of Social and Economic Prosperity

At their meeting held on February 6, 2024, Council discussed the need for a stable and sustainable municipal financial position. Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario as they request that the Province undertake a comprehensive review of social and economic prosperity. The resolution adopted by Council is below.

R-43-2024

It was **Moved** by C. Hull, **Seconded** by T. Bell and **Carried**

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

And whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility, and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

And whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

And whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like delivering long term care services, homelessness and affordable housing options, addressing the mental health and addictions crises, and other social services;

And whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;



TOWN OF
SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

And whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And whereas the Province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the Provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Therefore be it resolved that The Town of South Bruce Peninsula requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

And further that this resolution be sent to The Premier of Ontario Doug Ford, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy – Ontario's Minister of Finance, Rick Byers – MPP Grey/Bruce/Owen Sound, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all other Ontario municipalities.

We trust that you will consider our request and look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Yours very truly

[Redacted Signature]
Angie Cathrae
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
519-534-1400 ext 122
Angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

cc: Premier Doug Ford, Rick Byers MPP Bruce/Grey/Owen Sound, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, All Ontario Municipalities