

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

September 17, 2021

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**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre
777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2021-4132

September 9, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

Our government believes everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. Inadequate supply and high housing costs have made housing unattainable for too many people in Ontario. We want to reduce red tape and streamline development approvals so that we can help to put affordable home ownership in reach of more Ontario families, and provide more people with the opportunity to live closer to where they work.

That is why I am pleased to provide you with this [Site Plan Control Guide](#). This guide provides an overview of site plan control and shares best practices from some communities across Ontario which municipalities may consider implementing to make the site plan process more efficient.

The Site Plan Control Guide also works to support The Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 and other recent changes to the land use planning system – including changes to the *Planning Act* through Bill 108, the *More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019* and to *A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*. Collectively, these changes support key government priorities of increasing housing supply, supporting job creation and reducing red tape – while continuing to protect Ontarians' health and safety and the environment, including the Greenbelt.

If you have any questions about the Site Plan Control Guide, please email the Ministry at provincialplanning@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark".

Steve Clark
Minister

c: Chief Administrative Officer



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His Worship Alar Soever
Mayor, Town of the Blue Mountains
32 Mill St, The Blue Mountains, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Mr. Mayor

As a local optometrist, I am writing to request that the Town of the Blue Mountains Council join other municipalities within the province and call on the Ontario Government to address the chronic underfunding of eye care.

For more than 30 years, previous Ontario governments have ignored our requests for a sustainable funding system.

Did you know in 1989 the Ontario government paid \$39.15 for OHIP-insured eye exams? Did you know that today, 32 years later, the government only contributes an average of \$44.65 per exam? That's a 14% increase over three decades! With over four million services performed annually under OHIP, this level of funding is not sustainable.

If the government doesn't act before September 1st, 2021, millions of Ontarians are at risk of losing their access to eye care. I'm concerned about what this will mean for my patients and my community. We know the ones who will be impacted most are children, seniors and adults with diabetes or certain eye diseases. Due to this lack of funding, optometrists are also limited in their ability to invest in their practices and access to eye care in rural areas is especially threatened. This is not acceptable.

As the most populated province in the country, compared to other provinces with publicly funded optometry services, Ontario is by far the lowest funded. For example, the funding for seniors' eye exams would have to increase more than 60% to reach the next lowest-funded province, Manitoba, and by more than 125% to reach the next lowest-funded, Québec.

Although it is the province that needs to fix the issue, the underfunding of eye care affects municipalities too. Optometrists are located in over 200 communities, making us the most accessible primary eye care professionals in the healthcare system. In many of these locations, we are the **only** providers of comprehensive general eye care. This is why municipalities must stand up for their residents and help protect access to OHIP optometry services.

So far, five municipalities (Town of Oakville, Town of Fort Frances, Town of Rainy River, City of Cambridge, Municipality of North Perth) have passed motions in support of OHIP optometry services. I'm requesting that my municipal council stand up for eye care by asking the provincial government to commit to reforms so that optometrists are compensated fairly compared to their colleagues all across Canada. Please pass such a motion as soon as possible so that residents can continue to access the quality eye care that they deserve.

Should you have any questions, or would like more information, please let me know. My patients and I hope that we can count on your support.

Sincerely,

Joe Traynor, OD, HBS



760 Peterborough County Road 36, Trent Lakes, ON K0M 1A0 Tel 705-738-3800 Fax 705-738-3801

September 9, 2021

Via email only

To: Premier Doug Ford – doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliott – christine.elliott@pc.ola.org
Dave Smith, MPP Peterborough-Kawartha – dave.smith@pc.ola.org
David Piccini, MPP Northumberland-Peterborough South –
david.piccini@pc.ola.org
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock – laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
Ontario Association of Optometrists – oaoinfo@optom.on.ca

Re: OHIP Eye Care Resolution R2021-593

Please be advised that during their Regular Council meeting held September 7, 2021, Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. **R2021-425**

Moved by Councillor Lambshead
Seconded by Councillor Franzen

Whereas routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life; and

Whereas conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crosses eyes), Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease; and

Whereas payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies); and

Whereas the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease; and

Whereas the Provincial government's refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 Million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians; and

Whereas the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting

September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery; and

Whereas this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children, who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision and to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision-threatening ocular diseases;

Now Therefore, be it resolved that the Municipality of Trent Lakes requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it; and further

That the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place; and further

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPP Dave Smith, MPP David Piccini, MPP Laurie Scott, to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, and to all municipalities in Ontario.

Carried.

Sincerely,



Jessie Clark, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities



PORT COLBORNE

Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 • www.portcolborne.ca

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E amber.lapointe@portcolborne.ca

August 27, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

Sent via E-mail: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: City of Stratford Resolution – Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants

Please be advised that, at its meeting of August 23, 2021, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That correspondence from the City of Stratford regarding the Phase Out of Ontario's Gas Plants, be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference. Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Amber LaPointe
City Clerk

ec: MP Vance Badawey
MPP Jeff Burch
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities



Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Office
CITY of STRATFORD
City Hall, P.O. Box 818
Stratford ON N5A 6W1

519-271-0250 Ext. 5237
Fax: 519-273-5041
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July 23, 2021

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

premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Resolution to Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants

At their June 28, 2021 Regular Council meeting, Stratford City Council adopted a resolution petitioning the provincial government to immediately take steps to replace gas powered electrical generation with non-carbon-based sustainable alternatives.

A copy of the resolution is attached for your consideration. We kindly request your support and endorsement.

Sincerely,

Tatiana Dafoe
Clerk

Encl.
/ja

cc: MPP Randy Pettapiece
MP John Nater
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
All Ontario municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD

Resolution: Phase Out Ontario's Gas Plants

WHEREAS the Earth is on course toward a climate crisis, unless timely actions are taken to minimize the greenhouse effect;

AND WHEREAS the use of fossil fuels is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect because of the increasing amount of heat trapping Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere;

AND WHEREAS Stratford, along with other municipalities has declared a "Climate Emergency" and is considering a Carbon Net Zero goal to be achieved by 2050;

AND WHEREAS the 2050 Carbon Net Zero goal has been, and is being adopted by countries and governments at all levels, as well as by industries, social and economic institutions;

AND WHEREAS the most effective way of achieving that goal is through initiatives in reducing carbon footprint, and greening;

AND WHEREAS in the Province of Ontario, Electricity generation fueled by Natural gas contributes substantially to the province's carbon footprint and provides an opportunity for rapid reduction of carbon dioxide emissions through the elimination of this form of generation;

AND WHEREAS in the interest of environmental and economic wellbeing for the province of Ontario, immediate action to replace the gas generators by sustainable zero carbon alternatives should be undertaken;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Stratford strongly appeal to the Government of Ontario to immediately take steps to replace gas powered electrical generation with non-carbon based sustainable alternatives;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to Ontario municipalities and their organizations including AMO and OSUM for their consideration of support.

Adopted by City Council of The Corporation of the City of Stratford on June 28, 2021

The Corporation of the City of Stratford, P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1
Attention: City Clerk, 519-271-0250 ext 5329, clerks@stratford.ca



August 27, 2021

The Honourable Doug Downey
Ministry of the Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building, 720 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Dear Minister Downey:

Sent via Email: attorneygeneral@ontario.ca

RE: Lottery Licensing to Assist Small Organizations

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its Council meeting on August 24th, 2021 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2021-08-39

“**THAT**, the Council of Tay Valley Township hereby requests Staff to contact the Ministry responsible for the Alcohol and Gaming of Ontario to seek their assistance in implementing an additional level of licensing which would permit small organizations to hold fundraisers as a method of sustaining our community and organizations;

AND THAT, all municipalities in Ontario are sent this resolution to seek their assistance in lobbying the Ministry.”

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (613) 267-5353 ext. 130 or clerk@tayvalleytwp.ca.

Sincerely,

Amanda Mabo, Acting CAO/Clerk

cc: All municipalities in Ontario