

April 23, 2012

Honourable Dalton McGuinty Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Sir:

## **RE: COUNCIL Resolution – Provincial Payment-in-lieu of Taxes**

At the Tillsonburg Town Council Meeting of April 23, 2012, Council passed the following resolution:

"WHEREAS in 1970 the rate of provincial payments in lieu of taxes for universities was arbitrarily set at \$25 per full time student; and

WHEREAS in 1973 that was doubled to \$50 per student and the payment was expanded to include hospitals and provincial correctional institutions; and

WHEREAS in 1987 that rate was increased by 50%, still without apparent justification, to \$75 per student and bed; and

WHEREAS that rate has remained constant since that time despite the fact that inflation would in 2012 require an almost doubling of the payment (\$146); and

WHEREAS at least sixty-five communities have called for an increase in payments; and

WHEREAS heads of universities are supporting that call; and

WHEREAS Premier McGuinty has looked to the municipalities of the province to be the economic engine of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the payments in lieu of taxes do not meet the actual costs of municipalities to provide the necessary services for the various institutions, thus placing an unfair tax burden on their property tax payers, thereby jeopardizing a municipality's ability to meet infrastructure demands, and consequently weakening their ability to act as economic engines;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg calls on the government of the Province of Ontario to include in the budget now being prepared an increase to the payments in lieu of taxes; and

THAT the Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg calls on the Province of Ontario to meet with the host municipalities for the purpose of reviewing the basis for payments in lieu of taxes, and determining a stable foundation going forward for those payments that meets associated costs prior to the 2013 budget cycle; and

THAT copies of this motion be sent to: the Premier Dalton McGuinty; the Honourable Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance; all Ontario municipalities with any of hospitals, post secondary institutions or provincial correctional institutions; Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), MPP Ernie Hardeman, MPP Toby Barrott, MPP Jeff Yurek, MPP Tim Hudak, Head of the Opposition Party and South Central Ontario Region (SCOR)."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 688-3009 Ext. 3224

Regards,

Donna Wilson

Clerk

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