



MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

34 Ottawa Street, P.O. Box 740
Morrisburg ON K0C 1X0
613.543.2673 | southdundas.com

MOVED BY *Debbie Wilson* **RESOLUTION NO** _____

SECONDED BY *[Signature]* **DATE** April 19, 2016

WHERE AS in the 2016 Ontario Budget, the government of Ontario has suspended current intake of applications to the Rural Economic Development program and has indicated that it plans to integrate the program into the Jobs and Prosperity Fund.

WHERE AS the Jobs and Prosperity Fund is narrowly focused and is restricted to private sector organizations and industry partners, which prevents access to funding for rural municipalities and others who formerly benefitted from the Rural Economic Development Program. The emphasis on large projects that meet either of minimum \$5 million or \$10 million in eligible project costs thresholds, will significantly restrict benefits from this fund.

WHERE AS in contrast, the Rural Economic Development Program supported a number of capacity building projects including but not limited 'Business Retention and Expansion' and 'Downtown Revitalization' projects and Economic Development Strategic Planning projects for small rural municipalities who were looking to improve their local economy. Also of note is that because the Jobs and Prosperity Fund is not specifically designated for rural areas, that funds from this program will likely favour more urban areas of the province.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Council of the Municipality of South Dundas asks the government of Ontario to reconsider the suspension of and the integration of the Rural Economic Development Program into the Jobs and Prosperity Fund with the view to ensuring that Rural Economic Development Program stays as an intricate funding program of the Province that will support capacity building and foster economic growth in rural municipalities in Ontario.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipal and regional councils in Ontario requesting that they endorse and support this resolution and communicate their support to the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

CARRIED DEFEATED DEFERRED

Delegarde
MAYOR

Recorded Vote:	
Mayor Delegarde	_____
Deputy Mayor Locke	_____
Councillor St. Pierre	_____
Councillor Ewing	_____
Councillor Mellan	_____