

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Council: August 17, 2018

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Opposition to Buy American Policies and the Tariffs Recently Imposed by the Trump Administration

WHEREAS, at its meeting of June 11, 2018, the Town of Halton Hills passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, since 2009, Council for the Town of Halton Hills have been leaders in taking opposition to Buy American Policies and other punitive trade legislation;

AND WHEREAS, the Buy American Policies have had negative impacts on local Canadian industries and Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS, their impacts have negatively affected Canadian Municipalities and their economies and families;

AND WHEREAS, NAFTA governs nearly every aspect of Canada and the U.S. economic relationship and even minor changes to the established trade relationship could have far-reaching consequences for communities on both sides of the border;

AND WHEREAS, recent trade disputes with the U.S. on softwood lumber and potential tariffs on other commodities has caused business uncertainty and impacted local economies;

AND WHEREAS, Canada's economic future and the continued well-being of communities and their local economies depend on free and fair trading relationships based in current and future international agreements;

AND WHEREAS, the recent imposition by the United States government of tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada, purportedly based on national security grounds, are an affront to the decades-long alliance between Canada and the United States;

AND WHEREAS, given the actions of the United States government, it is imperative that Municipalities and individual Canadian businesses and citizens, as consumers of goods and services, take proactive action to support and protect Canadian interests.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Halton Hills supports the recent resolution passed by FCM to continue to work with the federal government to support the interests of municipalities across Canada affected by trade disputes and during ongoing trade agreement negotiations;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council for the Town of Halton Hills continues to support free and fair trade and vehemently opposes restrictive trade practices;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Halton Hills stands with those Municipalities, Employers, Families who may be impacted by the latest tariffs imposed by the Trump Administration;

AND FURTHER THAT that the Town of Halton Hills encourage residents and businesses with the Town to become knowledgeable about the origin of the products and services that they purchase, consider avoiding the purchase of U.S. products where substitutes are reasonably available and communicating with U.S. businesses and individuals of Canadian concern about the decisions of the United States Government;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Minister Freeland, Mayor Iveson (Edmonton) Chair of the Big City Mayors, Halton MP's, MPP's, Premier, Premier elect, Halton MPP elects, Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, Federal Opposition Leaders, Mayors of Windsor, Hamilton, Halton Region, Burlington, Milton, Oakville, FCM and AMO.

WHEREAS, the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee at their meeting on June 21, 2018 approved the following amendment to add subsection (c), to the motion respecting the Opposition to Buy American Policies and the Tariffs Recently Imposed by the Trump Administration:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton strongly support the above resolution respecting Opposition to Buy American Policies and the tariffs recently imposed by the Trump Administration;
- (b) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Minister Freeland, Mayor Iveson (Edmonton), Chair of the Big City Mayors, Hamilton MP's, MPP's, Federal Opposition Leaders, FCM and AMO; and,
- (c) That the City of Hamilton encourage the federal government to continue to protect trade agreements currently in place that benefit agriculture in both Canada and the United States.