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A Natural Attraction

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Josh Machesney, City Clerk

June 19, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office, Room 281
Legislative Building
Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

Dear Premier Ford:

This letter will serve to advise that at a meeting of City of Quinte West Council held on June 14, 2023 Council passed the following resolution:

Motion No 23-266 – Notice of Motion – Councillor Sharpe - Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

Moved by Councillor Stedall
Seconded by Councillor Card

Whereas, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;

And whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;

And whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;

And whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;

And whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;

And whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

And whereas the Councillors Freeman, Reid, Sharpe and Stedall support the "Women of Ontario Say No" and their effort to get this legislation passed;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the City of Quinte West supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments;

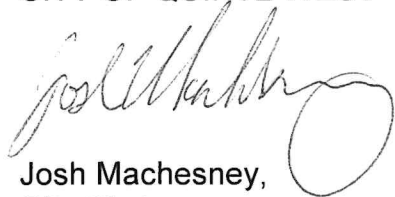
Also be it resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
- Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office. **Carried**

We trust that you will give favourable consideration to this request.

Yours truly,

CITY OF QUINTE WEST



Josh Machesney,
City Clerk

cc:

Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity
Hon. Todd Smith, MPP, Bay of Quinte
Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Municipalities in Ontario