

Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Box 1000 Aurora, ON L4G 6J1



December 19, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Premier's Office, Room 281 Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 **Delivered by email** premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of December 12, 2023 Motion 10.1 – Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on December 12, 2023, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

- Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and

- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and
 - c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and
 - d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,

/Jaclyn Grossi

Deputy Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

JG/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, MPP
Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Hon. Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dawn Gallagher Murphy, MPP Newmarket—Aurora
Tony Van Bynen, MP Newmarket—Aurora
Leah Taylor Roy, MP Aurora—Oak Ridges—Richmond Hill
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



100 John West Way Aurora, Ontario L4G 6J1 (905) 727-3123

Town of Aurora

Council Meeting Extract

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

10. Motions

10.1 Councillor Gilliland; Re: Homelessness Crisis

Moved by Councillor Gilliland Seconded by Councillor Gaertner

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario, and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners, and residents as well as regional, federal, and provincial governments and agencies; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, and homelessness, which are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas within Ontario; and

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of regional, municipal, and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services within the Town of Aurora and surrounding areas;

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic and health crisis, including people with substance use disorders; and
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora commits to ending homelessness in the community in collaboration with the Region, and both the Provincial and Federal governments; and
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That the Town of Aurora call on the Region, the Province and Federal governments to increase action and supports on the following:
 - a. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and
 - b. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, and economic partners to

- develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and
- c. Provide a long-term financial commitment to assist in the creation of more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, in York Region, including people with substance use disorders; and
- d. Increase investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood; and
- 4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Town of Aurora local MPs and MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.

Yeas (7): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, Councillor Gallo, and Councillor Kim

Carried (7 to 0)