

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles  
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

**Agenda Number:** 8.3.

**Resolution Number** 2024-071

**Title:** Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #8

**Date:** March 20, 2024

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**Moved by:** Councillor Pothier

**Seconded by:** Councillor Laframboise

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding household food insecurity;**

**AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsaco; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.**

CARRIED

  
MAYOR



**Public Health**  
**Santé publique**  
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

January 24, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Dear Recipient:

**Re: Household Food Insecurity**

At its meeting on January 18, 2024, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #06-24:

*WHEREAS food security is a chronic and worsening health issue as documented by annual local data on food affordability and as recognized by multiple Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) resolutions: [A05-18](#) (Adequate Nutrition for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), [A18-02](#) (Minimum Wage that is a Living Wage), [A15-04](#) (Basic Income Guarantee), and [A23-05](#) (Monitoring Food Affordability in Ontario and the Inadequacy of Social Assistance Rates)*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts call on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and*

*THAT in the context of the Public Health Strengthening roles and responsibilities deliberations, the Board of Health urge all health system partners to remain committed to population health assessment and surveillance as it relates to monitoring food environments and, specifically, to monitoring food affordability; and share this motion broadly with local and provincial stakeholders.*

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Household food insecurity is one of the strongest predictors of poor health, making it a serious public health issue (PROOF, 2023). Individuals who are food insecure are at higher risk of diet-related diseases like diabetes and are at higher risk for a wide range of chronic conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders, arthritis, and chronic pain. Household food insecurity leaves an indelible mark on children's health and well-being (PROOF, 2023). The experience of food insecurity in childhood is associated with mental health concerns throughout childhood and into early adulthood (PROOF, 2023). In Ontario, the healthcare costs of individuals who are the most food insecure can be more than double that of individuals who are food secure (PROOF, 2023, Tarasuk et al., 2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – the solutions for which will not only help many Ontarians in need but also protect the sustainability of our critical health and social services resources.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
Honourable Peter Bthlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance  
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health  
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt  
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury  
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin  
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Jacqueline Edwards and Jennifer Babin-Fenske, Co-chairs, Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council  
Richard Lathwell, Local Food Manitoulin  
Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources  
All Ontario Boards of Health  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

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PROOF (2023). What are the implications of food insecurity for health and health care? Identifying Policy Options to Reduce Household Food Insecurity in Canada. Retrieved from:  
<https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/what-are-the-implications-of-food-insecurity-for-health-andhealth-care/>

Tarasuk, V., Cheng, J., de Oliveira, C., Dachner, N., Gundersen, C., Kurdyak, P. (2015). Association between household food insecurity and annual healthcare costs. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 1 87 (14) E429-E436. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.150234>