



Council - Committee of the Whole

Resolution # 2024-147
Title: Resolution seeking support re: Champlain Bridge Rehabilitation
Date: June 4, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Georges Pharand
Seconded by: Councillor Roch St. Louis

WHEREAS the Champlain Bridge, located on the King's Highway 17, west of the Town of Sturgeon Falls in the Municipality of West Nipissing is integral infrastructure to the Trans-Canada Highway network and also serves as a connecting link to Highway 64;

AND WHEREAS Highway 17 is a critical link in the Trans-Canada highway network, with Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) of over 14,000 travelers;

AND WHEREAS the majority of the traffic is provincial traffic, using the Trans-Canada highway for transporting goods and services in Ontario which, if shut down or restricted, would result in a 123km detour.

AND WHEREAS in 2021 an agreement was entered into between the Municipality and the Ministry of Transportation for the design of the rehabilitation or replacement of the Champlain Bridge, which design indicated that the bridge should be replaced at the anticipated cost of \$30,000,000.

AND WHEREAS Municipality of West Nipissing does not have the financial resources to undertake a project of this magnitude without assistance;

AND WHEREAS the Province has previously recognized the financial burden placed on municipalities, forced to maintain Provincial Infrastructure, by removing the burden of the Don Valley Parkway, and the Gardner Express Way from the City of Toronto;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario recognize the Champlain Bridge as critical provincial infrastructure and assume responsibility for its replacement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if the assumption of the Bridge by the province cannot be undertaken, that the Province provide financial and operational assistance to the Municipality of West Nipissing for the undertaking of the replacement of the Champlain Bridge;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all northeastern municipalities served by the Highway 17 as well as the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) be requested to support the Municipality of West Nipissing's request by submitting letters of support to the Ministry of Transportation.

CARRIED