

MOTION



North Bay, ON February 27, 2024

Subject: Comprehensive Social and Economic Prosperity Review

File No.

Res. 2024-

Moved by Councillor: Horsfield

Seconded by Councillor: Mallah

Whereas current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario’s economic prosperity and quality of life;

And Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

And Whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

And Whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And Whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

And Whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

And Whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can’t afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And Whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario

And Further that a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario (premier@ontario.ca); Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (minister.mah@ontario.ca); the Minister of Finance (minister.fin@ontario.ca); MPP Victor Fedeli and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca).

Carried

Carried as amended

Lost

Conflict _____

Endorsement of Chair _____

Yeas _____

Nays _____

Record of Vote (Upon Request of Councillor _____)

Signature of Clerk _____