

February 1, 2024

Via Email:

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review

Please be advised that at its meeting held on January 29, 2024, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 19-24:

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,

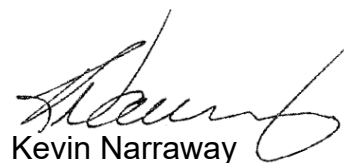
Whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and,

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

Now therefore, be it resolved:

1. 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,
2. That a copy of this resolution be circulated to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Durham area MPPs, Durham area municipalities, the Region of Durham, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4315.



Kevin Narraway
Sr. Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

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