

September 3, 2021

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

Sent via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Comprehensive Marine Strategy  
Our File 35.31.99**

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting held on August 30, 2021, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

“WHEREAS Canadians depend on our waterways for leisure, sustenance, and their livelihood and our marine sectors contribute approximately \$31.7 billion annually in gross domestic product and account for close to 300,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS the federal government has consulted widely with the provinces and territories, Indigenous peoples, industry, conservationists, and all Canadians in the development of the Blue Economy Strategy; and

WHEREAS Quebec, British Columbia, and the Atlantic provinces have achieved great success in the emerging marine sector economy, and to remain competitive Ontario must capitalize on the economic potential of its marine sector; and

WHEREAS the marine industry is vital to Ontario’s economy through the creation of jobs, increased supply chain efficiencies and resilience, and the ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and road congestions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council calls on the Government of Ontario to create a comprehensive Marine Strategy that will:

- Provide the Great Lakes with modern and competitive infrastructures, and
- Ensure efficient and ecosystem-friendly navigation of the Great Lakes, and
- Deliver sustainable development opportunities for maritime communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council calls on the Government of Ontario to signal their commitment to the importance of the marine sector by appointing or creating an Ontario Marine Strategy Secretariat position to lead the consultations and oversee the strategy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford; Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation; local MPPs; the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); Ontario's Big City Mayors (formerly Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario-LUMCO); the Niagara Region; all local area municipalities; MP Chris Bittle; MP Vance Badaway; and Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk  
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk  
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cc: Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade [vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org](mailto:vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org)  
Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation [caroline.mulroney@pc.ola.org](mailto:caroline.mulroney@pc.ola.org)  
Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure [kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org](mailto:kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org)  
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines, [JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca)  
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The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO), [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Ontario's Big City Mayors, [info@ontariobigcitymayors.ca](mailto:info@ontariobigcitymayors.ca)  
The Niagara Region  
Local area municipalities  
Brian York, Director of Economic Development and Government Relations  
Melissa Wenzler, Government Relations Advisor, City of St. Catharines