

**Administration**

Office of the Regional Clerk

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March 22, 2024

**CL 4-2024, March 21, 2024**

**CSC 3-2024, March 6, 2024**

**CSC-C 4-2024 REVISED, March 6, 2024**

***DISTRIBUTION LIST***

***SENT ELECTRONICALLY***

Motion – New Funding Model Resolution

CSC-C 4-2024 REVISED

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 21, 2024, passed the following recommendation of its Corporate Services Committee:

That the Province of Ontario **BE REQUESTED** to 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

That a copy of this motion **BE SENT** to all local area municipalities in Niagara to be endorsed, the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Minister of Finance, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, local MPs and MPPs.

A copy of CSC-C 4-2024 REVISED is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

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CLK-C 2024-029

cc: H. Furtado, Director, Financial Management and Planning/ Deputy Treasurer  
Todd Harrison, Commissioner/ Treasurer, Corporate Services  
Kathy Beach, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Corporate Services

Distribution List:

Local Area Municipalities  
Premier of Ontario  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Minister of Finance  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Local MPs and MPPs

## **NEW FUNDING MODEL RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life for residents of Niagara;

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;

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

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure with some municipalities in Niagara growing by 26% in a 5-year period;

WHEREAS Niagara is home to several post-secondary institutions with significant growth putting additional pressure on municipal infrastructure and services such as public transportation, roads, and sidewalks which are required to service these post-secondary institutions and The Head per Bed Levy has remained unchanged since 1987 and had the Head Per Bed rate been indexed it would be \$158 per head today;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like people who are unhoused, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

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

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution program;

WHEREAS childcare continues to be a barrier for families who work and live in Niagara. Residents require a childcare plan that does not increase municipal costs which could result in reductions of services to families who rely on childcare while restoring the provincial contribution for administrative costs-sharing for childcare, removing the 5% cap as well as fully funding the expansion of new spaces with provincial dollars;

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 to serve the best interest of residents.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That the Province of Ontario **BE REQUESTED** to 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 motion **BE SENT** to all local area municipalities in Niagara to be endorsed and to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario as well as local MPP's Jennie Stevens, Wayne Gates, Jeff Burch and Sam Oosterhoff, MP's Chris Bittle, Tony Baldinelli, Dean Allison and Vance Badawey.