



## PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

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March 26, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Sylvia Jones  
Minister of Health  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
[Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca](mailto:Sylvia.Jones@ontario.ca)

Dear Honourable Doug Ford and Honourable Sylvia Jones:

**Re: Provincial Healthcare Advocacy**

Please be advised that, at its meeting of March 25, 2025 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne passed the following motion:

**Whereas** the Province of Ontario has appointed Dr. Philpott as the Chair of the New Primary Care Action Team to develop a strategy to address the shortage of primary care physicians with a mandate to attach all Ontarians to primary care in the next five years (2030); and

**Whereas** the City of Port Colborne has a population of over 20,000 residents, with just under 10,000 who are unattached to a primary care physician in the City of Port Colborne, demonstrating a need for a primary care safety net locally; and

**Whereas** the Port Colborne Urgent Care Centre provides a first point of contact with our healthcare system for Niagara residents without a primary care physician, which will continue beyond the opening of the South Niagara Hospital in 2028; and

**Whereas** over 2600 people have respectfully expressed their wishes to save and restore the 24/7 Urgent Care services in Port Colborne via a petition submitted to the Council for the City of Port Colborne, attached hereto; and

**Whereas** the Council for the City of Port Colborne desires to request for a continuation of funding for Port Colborne Hospital operations, without reduction of any funding to Niagara Health for construction and operation of the new South Niagara Hospital; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved,

**That:** The City of Port Colborne Mayor and Council formally requests to the Province of Ontario the continuation of funding for Port Colborne Hospital operations, without reduction of any funding to Niagara Health for construction and operation of the new South Niagara Hospital; and

**That:** The City of Port Colborne Mayor and Council requests that the Province of Ontario put a moratorium on the closure of urgent care centres and the implicit removal of primary care health services from the City of Port Colborne and all small and rural communities in Ontario until Dr. Philpott's mandate is complete to ensure that all Ontarians are attached to a primary care physician; and

**That:** This resolution be forwarded to Niagara's local MPPs and circulated to the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Madden  
City Clerk

ec:       Niagara Region MPP's

- Wayne Gates
- Jennie Stevens
- Jeff Burch
- Sam Oosterhoff

Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
All Ontario Municipalities