



Community Services

Legislative Services

March 1, 2022

File #120203

Sent via email: ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk
Niagara Region
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, P. O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

Re: City of St. Catharines Resolution – CHPI Funding Shortfalls

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of February 28, 2022 received and supported correspondence from the City of St. Catharines dated January 26, 2022 advising they will address the Minister regarding the CHPI Funding Shortfalls and to coordinate with the Regional Chair's any requests for meetings.

Attached please find a copy of the City of St. Catharines correspondence dated January 26, 2022.

Yours very truly,

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

Encl.

c.c. B. Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk, City of St. Catharines
Local Area Municipalities
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

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January 26, 2022

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk
Niagara Region
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Sent via email: Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca

**Re: CHPI Funding Shortfalls
Our File 35.23.125**

Dear Ms. Norio,

At its meeting held on January 17, 2022, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS temporary COVID-19 relief funding from the province has helped the Region's Homelessness Services respond effectively to the most urgent challenges caused by the pandemic on the homelessness system, but the annual CHPI funding from the province is not adequate and has not significantly increased over the last three years; and

WHEREAS the Niagara Region has had to allocate 1.9 million of its own levy funding to meet the ever-increasing needs of the community, and as per a review by KPMG consultants, it was noted that out of all Ontario municipalities, Niagara Region has one of the highest contributions from property tax levies in the province towards homelessness services, which demonstrates a growing shortfall in provincial funding; and

WHEREAS the Auditor General in her December 2021 report on Homelessness in Ontario raised concerns, finding that since 2013, the Ministry's funding methodology for the CHPI program has been primarily based on historical spending rather than local need; and

WHEREAS on January 11, 2022, the Niagara Region's Public Health and Social Services Committee received a staff report seeking approval for the 2022-2023 Community Homelessness Initiative Plan (CHPI) for Niagara Region and a Motion was approved at that Committee directing the Regional Chair to send a letter to the Minister to immediately urge the province to address the funding inadequacies;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of St. Catharines, representing the largest urban centre in the Region, direct the Mayor and City staff to write a letter asking the Minister to address the CHPI funding shortfalls in Niagara, and to coordinate with the Regional Chair's office to support any requests for meetings with the Minister's office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Motion be sent to the Niagara Region, all twelve lower tier municipalities and to the four local Niagara MPPs.

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
:em

cc: Local area municipalities
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines, JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre, JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls, wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook, sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Brian York, Director, Economic Development and Government Relations
Scott Rosts, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Melissa Wenzler, Government Relations Advisor