



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

Title: Support Resolution Request – November 2024

Prepared By: Allyson Euler

Department: Administration

Report Number: Administration-2024-022

Recommendation:

That Council provide direction to staff regarding support resolution requests.

Background:

The City of Dryden receives Support Resolution requests to be presented to Council. These are compiled and presented at a Council Meeting to obtain direction regarding those items Council would like to support via resolution at the next meeting of Council.

Discussion:

Through the month of October the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) sent several notices to area municipalities looking for support of initiatives.

On October 7 they shared a letter that had been sent to the President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Transport and to Mayor Chow of Toronto. This letter indicates support for the sustained operation and development of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and expresses concerns that the Tripartite Agreement that governs operations at the Airport expires in 2033, less than 9 years from now. The letter asks that Minister Anand and Mayor Chow begin a process to modernize the Agreement and secure the long-term future of Canada's 9th busiest airport, the 3rd busiest in Ontario, to ensure Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and the important travel connections it facilitates are sustained.

On October 10 NOMA shared a letter that had been sent to Alan Spacek, the Board Chair of Ontario Northland Transportation Commission (ONTC), supporting the ONTC's proposed expansion of motor coach services in Northwestern Ontario, noting the expansion aligns with NOMA's strategic priorities and the broader transportation objectives of the Ministry of Transportation and the Government of Ontario. In the letter NOMA advised they'd like to see a secondary bus route for both Highways 11 and 17 to increase efficiency and reliability on this transportation corridor and encouraged ONTC and the province to expand ONTC's motor coach services to include North and South routes to connect communities including Red Lake, Ear Falls and Sioux Lookout to Highways 11 and 17, noting such additions would greatly enhance transportation connection in our region.

On October 31 NOMA requested support for a resolution it had adopted in support of the implementation of the Ontario Forest Industries Association's 2025 Ontario Budget Recommendations supporting attracting investment and maintaining forest operations and employment in Ontario.

If Council would like to support any of these initiatives, motions will be brought forward to the December 9, 2024 meeting of Council.

Attachments (Reference Material):

- October 7 Letter and NOMA Resolution re: The Future for Billy Bishop Airport
- October 10 Letter from NOMA requesting support for Ontario Northland Transportation Commission's proposed extension of bus services in Northwestern Ontario
- October 31 NOMA Resolution supporting the implementation of the Ontario Forest Industries Association's 2025 Ontario Budget Recommendations in support of attracting investment and maintaining forest operations and employment in Ontario.