

The Corporation of The City of Dryden

February 8, 2021

Minutes of a Special Open Meeting of Council held at 6:30 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Mayor Wilson, Councillors Bush, Carlucci, S. MacKinnon, McKay and Price. Councillor M. MacKinnon joined meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Absent: None.

Staff: CAO R. Nesbitt, Acting Clerk A. Euler and Cemetery & Licensing Coordinator P. Spielmacher.

1. Call to Order:

Deputy Mayor Councillor Carlucci called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement:

Deputy Mayor Councillor Carlucci read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. Convene a Special Open Council Meeting:

(a) Convene a Special Open Council Meeting.

1 *Bush THAT Council convene a Special Open Meeting of Council for the*
S. MacKinnon purpose of discussing the following items:

Staff Reports, By-laws and Motions:

(a) Staff Report AD-2021-10 re KDMA Resolution.

(b) By-law 2021-18 re Confirmatory By-law.

- CARRIED.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof for:

(a) The Agenda for this meeting.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Carlucci called for declarations of pecuniary interest, and the general nature thereof, under The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to the agenda for this meeting and the response was negative.

5. Staff Reports, By-laws, and Motions:

(a) Staff Report AD-2021-10 re KDMA Resolution.

Ms. Euler presented her Staff Report recommending Council adopt a resolution to be presented at the annual Kenora District Municipal Association Conference. Council concurred with the recommendation.

2 *McKay WHEREAS Ontarians already pay the highest property taxes in the*
Price country, generally driven by the transfer of social housing and other
services, a role in healthcare, and emergency service cost growth
(per AMO's submission to the Province for the 2019 Ontario Budget
2019): and
WHEREAS the impact of the transfer of social service costs to
municipalities from the Province has led to not only higher property
taxes, but also significantly increased infrastructure deficits, the
delay or cancellation of community improvement projects and in
some cases reductions in service levels; and
WHEREAS even with these high property taxes, the aggregate
Ontario municipal infrastructure deficit is estimated to be in excess
of \$60 billion and growing (per AMO's submission to the Province
for the 2019 Ontario Budget); and
WHEREAS Polling by AMO has shown that municipal services are
important to Ontarians. More than eight in ten Ontarians say they
would be concerned if the Province placed new demands on

municipal governments that result in higher property taxes (per AMO's submission to the Province for the 2019 Ontario Budget 2019); and

Whereas in 2018, \$133.7 billion in provincial spending went to all transfer payment recipients. Support for municipal governments accounts for just \$4.2 billion of that amount or 5.6% of provincial spending. A small amount for the Province, however the support these dollars provide locally is huge. (per AMO's submission to the Province for the 2019 Ontario Budget 2019); and

Whereas Municipal governments are the creation of, and important to, the provincial government. They are the front line. Municipal governments deliver many of the services that make communities strong and build the infrastructure needed to grow the economy; and

Whereas uploading of costs for social services and health programs back to the Provincial government is critical to ensure municipalities can continue to deliver those services and have a sustainable future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dryden City Council requests the Kenora District Municipal Association supports it in seeking joint solutions with the Minister of Finance to eliminate the deleterious effects that the transfer of social and public health service costs have created for municipalities as noted above. The City of Dryden requests that the transfer of Provincial social service and health care costs to municipalities be frozen at 2020 levels for 2021, and furthermore, that these costs be fully uploaded back to the Province over a five-year period starting in 2022.

This will result in the Province of Ontario being aligned with all of the other Provinces in Canada with respect to the funding of social services and allow municipalities to work towards more competitive municipal tax rates and long-term sustainability
- CARRIED.

(b) By-law 2021-18 re Confirmatory By-law.

3 **Price** ***THAT By-law 2021-18 being a by-law to confirm the***
 S. MacKinnon ***proceedings of Council be read a first, second and third time.***
 - CARRIED.

6. Adjournment:

(a) Adjournment.

4 McKay *THAT this meeting do hereby adjourn.*
S. MacKinnon *- CARRIED.*

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Confirmed this day of 2021.

Clerk

Mayor