

April 27, 2023

Via Email:

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
lcollins@candevcon.com

Re: Support for Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act

Please be advised that at its meeting held on April 24, 2023, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 110-23:

WHEREAS currently the most severe penalty that can be imposed on an elected official is suspension and loss of pay for 90 days, even in cases of workplace harassment or abuse;

AND WHEREAS there is currently no process to remove an elected official from office, even in cases of confirmed workplace harassment or abuse;

AND WHEREAS a fundamental, underlying principle of broadening diversity, equity and inclusion in politics rests on the assumption that the workplace is safe;

AND WHEREAS Bill 5, the Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act would require all elected officials to comply with the workplace violence and harassment policies of the municipality they represent, permit a municipality to direct the Integrity Commissioner to apply to the court to vacate a member's seat for failing to comply with the municipality's workplace violence and harassment policies as well as restrict officials whose seat has been vacated from seeking re-election in any resulting by-election;

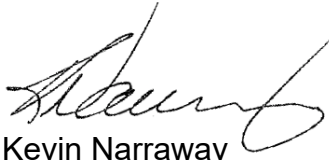
AND WHEREAS at least 27 municipalities have formally endorsed and communicated public support for Bill 5, including Ajax, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Barrie, Orillia, and Richmond Hill;

AND WHEREAS Bill 5 would both hold accountable and protect all municipal officials;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT Whitby Council express its support for Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act; and,
2. THAT a copy of this motion be circulated to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario's Big City Mayors, and all Durham Region municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk 905-430-4315.



Kevin Narraway
Sr. Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Association of Municipalities of Ontario – amo@amo.ca
Ontario's Big City Mayors - info@ontariobigcitymayors.ca
A. Harras, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham - clerks@durham.ca
Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby – lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
N. Cooper, Director of Legislative and Information Services, Town of Ajax – clerks@ajax.ca
F. Lamanna, Clerk/Deputy CAO, Township of Brock – Fernando.lamanna@brock.ca
J. Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington – clerks@clarington.net
M. Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa – clerks@oshawa.ca
S. Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering – clerks@pickering.ca
B. Jamieson, Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk, Township of Scugog – bjamieson@scugog.ca
D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge – dleroux@uxbridge.ca