

INFO-24-10



December 20, 2023

Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Corporate Services
Department –
Legislative Services
Division

605 Rossland Rd. E.
Level 1
PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
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**Alexander Harras
M.P.A.
Director of
Legislative Services
& Regional Clerk**

RE: Request the Government of Ontario to provide core funding for organizations providing programs, care, and services for adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder as part of the 2024 Provincial Budget, Our File: C00

Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on December 20, 2023, passed the following resolution:

Whereas the bulk of government funded programs for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) end at age 18 in Ontario;

And Whereas families supporting a loved one with ASD are often forced to make the difficult decision between expensive private day programs and leaving the workforce to provide care;

And Whereas getting out of the home and connecting with others can alleviate social isolation, improve mental and physical health, and lead to an overall better quality of life;

And Whereas Autism Home Base, based in Bowmanville and with weekly drop-ins at McLean Community Centre in Ajax, provides supports and services to 191 Durham Region families, or more than 450 participants, five days a week;

And Whereas by supporting programs for adults with ASD, the Government of Ontario can achieve its goal of keeping patients healthy in their communities and out of hospitals, as noted in the Ministry of Health's 2022-2023 Strategic Plan;

And Whereas Ajax Council supported a motion on November 27, 2023, requesting that the province provide core funding for

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organizations that offer programs, care and services for adults with ASD;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Durham Regional Council formally requests that the Government of Ontario provide core funding for organizations providing programs, care, and services for adults with ASD, including Autism Home Base, as part of the 2024 Provincial Budget; and

A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Health Sylvia Jones, Minister Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo, all Durham Region MPPs, all lower tier Durham municipalities, local school boards, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Autism Ontario.

Alexander Harras

Alexander Harras,
Director of Legislative Services & Regional Clerk

AH/sr

c: Premier Doug Ford
Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones, MPP
Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP
Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, Michael Tibollo, MPP
Patrice Barnes, MPP
Lorne Coe, MPP
Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery, Todd McCarthy, MPP
Jennifer French, MPP
Laurie Scott, MPP
David Piccini, MPP
Town of Ajax
Township of Brock
Municipality of Clarington
City of Oshawa
City of Pickering
Township of Scugog
Township of Uxbridge
Town of Whitby
Durham District School Board

Durham Catholic District School Board
Kawartha Pineridge District School Board
Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic
District School Board
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Autism Ontario