

February 1, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Social and Economic Prosperity Review**

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Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Hanover adopted the following resolution at their meeting of January 15, 2024 regarding the above noted matter;

**Moved by COUNCILLOR KOEBEL      Seconded by COUNCILLOR HOCKING**

**Whereas** current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

**Whereas** nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

**Whereas** municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

**Whereas** unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

**Whereas** municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

**Whereas** inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

**Whereas** property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

**Whereas** the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

**Whereas** municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

**Therefore be it resolved that** the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

**And further that** a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

**CARRIED**

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tanya Patterson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tanya Patterson  
Deputy Clerk

/tp

cc: Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Honourable Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Municipalities