



Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 17, 2026 No: RESOLUTION - 56-2026
Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Scott Brum Item No: 14.2

Description: Ontario Heritage Organization Development Grant Advocacy

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are legislated to preserve records of enduring and historical value, and community archives play a critical role in fulfilling this responsibility, particularly in rural and smaller municipalities; and

WHEREAS The Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) is the only provincial operating grant available to grassroots, non-profit heritage organizations, including community archives and historical societies across Ontario; and

WHEREAS The maximum annual HODG grant of \$1,545 per organization has remained effectively unchanged for more than 15 years, resulting in a significant erosion of its real value due to inflation, such that its current purchasing power is approximately two-thirds of what it was in 2010; and

WHEREAS Rising operating costs related to insurance, utilities, records preservation, digitization, accessibility, and volunteer coordination have increased financial pressure on heritage organizations, often requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs to ensure continuity of service; and

WHEREAS Strengthening HODG would represent a modest but high-impact provincial investment that would help stabilize community archives, reduce pressure on municipal budgets, and safeguard Ontario's public records and local heritage for future generations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council formally support a review and modernization of the Heritage Organization Development Grant, including restoring its real purchasing power through inflationary adjustment and exploring options for increased or multi-year operating stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, and Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Handwritten signature of Mayor Lori Hoddinott
MAYOR

Table with 3 columns: Recorded Vote Requested by, Yea, Nay. Rows include Mayor Lori Hoddinott, Deputy Mayor Scott Brum, Councillor Kevin Rosien, Councillor Robert Campbell, and Councillor Jill Campbell.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote