

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, April 25, 2014				Report Date	Wednesday, April-23-14			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Resolution of Support – Ontario Forest Industries Association - Report #25/04/14/1103

Subject:

Resolution of support for the resolution of the Ontario Forest Industries Association as per direction of Council from last meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

As requested by Council at the March 28, 2014 meeting.

WHEREAS the legislation being considered in Bill 83 seems dangerous and threatening to the reputations and rights of all Canadians, specifically Canadian Corporations;

AND WHEREAS it is felt that adequate protections already exist to protect our rights to Freedom of Speech in Ontario and in Canada;

AND WHEREAS freedoms to speak untruths about corporations or individuals where the issue may be considered a “matter of public interest” with no accountability is setting a dangerous precedent;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the position taken by the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Ontario Forest Industries Association in requesting that Bill 83, *Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014* be stopped prior to further readings or debate as it consists of unnecessary and potentially dangerous legislation;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate provincial representatives for consideration and action.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As per documentation and a draft of the Bill provided prior to the last meeting.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

None

Policy Impact:

Others Consulted/Resources/Sources:

Letter and resolution of Ontario Forest Industries Association.

Additional information...

<http://business.financialpost.com/2014/04/10/ontario-slapp-schtick-bill-83-levels-the-playing-field/>

<http://business.financialpost.com/2014/04/10/ontario-slapp-schtick-bill-83-is-an-abomination/>

http://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2013/11/08/ontario_must_ban_slapp_suits_to_protect_free_speech.html

<http://environmentaldefence.ca/print/node/7832>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/anti-slapp-bill-draws-criticism-from-northern-mayors-1.2579051>

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk