

April 24. 2017

Council of Head, Clara and Maria 15 Township Hall Road Stonecliffe, Ontario, K0J2K0

Dear Council members, and fellow county residents;

These past few months we have had the opportunity to live with the snowmobile use on a section of the "Algonquin Trail" that runs through the Townships of Head, Clara and Maria. This was a choice which was thrust upon us, as we were never asked if we would be open to this dramatic change in our living arrangements. As a matter of interest we were always under the impression that use of the rail bed system was being studied as to the feasibility of a non-motorized system. Wonder what happened with that objective.

I personally, as a resident of HCM townships object to the increase snowmobile activity, and potential ATV activity, along this trail system as it has caused;

Increased Noise level

The amount of noise, especially over weekends is too much. If you are going to stay indoors the whole weekend long it is not an issue but we live here to enjoy the out of doors.

Speeding

Many of the snowmobilers just want to rip along the trail regardless of resident's property or life styles. This portion of the rail bed has been used for a short 3+ months and already there have been 2 accidents involving snow machines.

Not stopping

We the pedestrians are the ones who signal snowmobilers to stop as many disregard whatever stop signs are in place.

Public urination

Being rural we just do not need to add to this problem. A residential area is not the place for this behavior yet some children can look out their bedroom window and there it is!

Snow on roads.... wasting our tax dollars

Groomers and snow machines leave snow on the roads, resulting in the townships spending more money to correct the problem leaving us wondering why are we paying to plow the roads? What a waste of tax dollars!

Trail on Roads

Another issue we have encountered is the snowmobilers are not heeding the signage, in regard to speed. Where the trail leaves the rail bed and travels "on" a township road, parents are the ones monitoring the speed issue and ensuring the safety of their kids waiting for the bus. If the trail stayed away from the residential areas this would not be a problem.

No Policing

With the rail bed through the residential area who is going to police all the activity coming this way? We do not have that kind of manpower on our township staff which is part of the reason I believe we do not have a by-law regulating ATVs on our roads. So, why are we even considering this? We may want to petition to have an OPP station on site.

What's more, it is not necessary to run the trail through this residential section of Head, Clara and Maria as there is so much crown land and other properties for these trails to be on; land that is located well away from residential living. When the trail ran along the portion of Loggers road, the noise and safety issues were not as much a problem as the machines were slowed down to cross roads, speed limits were better adhered to and the signage was better heeded. Except for some issues with the heli -pad and the ball field, this method worked fine, although perhaps not ideal. I think the snowmobilers would have been aware of "eyes on them" as they drove through the built up area. Not the case on the rail bed. It is a free for all. We just needed to fix heli-pad and ballfield issue problem but not by creating another.

The argument that the gas station in Stonecliffe would fail without the use of this stretch is just ridiculous. And the campgrounds will not fail either. For many years connector trails brought machines into our area, as have those in many other areas in Ontario for food, fuel and shelter. For snowmobilers to get to this section of rail trail they need the connector trails as it is. Businesses have grown over the winter period as snowmobiling has grown as a sport, not because there is a stretch of rail bed available here. It is the signage along the main snowmobile trail corridors that will help the businesses to continue to grow.

The rail bed could be better used to support other activities in the area, activities that were to be discussed with public input. How can we use these trails for hiking, biking etc., if we are in danger of being struck by even one careless sledder or ATVer?

I suppose it is nice to be able to advertise that snowmobilers would be spitting distance from the trail should they choose to stay at one of the area campgrounds. However, for businesses to expect others to give up their life style is just selfishness on their part. Why is that more important than the fact that we have invested thousands of dollars into a home in a **quiet area**?

At the recent AGM of the MLSC an attendee mentioned the changing demographics of snowmobilers and the new trend in sledding as off trail activity. I do not want hot shot snowmobilers running races up and down my road (which is not policed on a regular basis) making it unsafe for us to walk in our neighborhood. Furthermore I do not want to see an increase in traffic on this dead end road to those that need to relieve themselves. This trend change is better suited away from homes and children play areas.

MLSC (local snowmobile club) executive stated they had no control over snowmobilers who speed, who do not stop and or who relieve themselves when in fact they do. Just don't re-route the trail through a residential area...you have a great deal of open space for your sport where residents are not impacted. Once again, signage on the main trail corridor will bring your customers in for rooms, food and gas.

Once this is opened up to the snowmobiling, supporters of the ATVers are not far behind and our quiet lifestyle will have been ruined for the whole year through, forever. There is already evidence of this with ATVers over the last year when the rail system was removed. They just ride the berms until they are gone and they have smooth access to the rail bed, never mind the fact they were trespassing. Again, no one to police the existing problems so why not add to it.

I would strongly ask our councillors and county planning groups to reconsider this trend. I would also ask that residents along the rail bed whom are directly impacted by these changes be included in talks. I am only aware of one meeting to date (held in Chalk River for) however, nowhere was it indicated that this meeting was to be the final determination of what is to happen with the rail bed.

So where do we direct our concerns? HCM Council for their support in maintaining our life styles for which we are currently paying taxes; County planning committee for consideration how the rail bed system can best be used with support given to the current residents; or "friends of the trail" to have them consider the needs of those living along the trail by including them in their planning talks? How about local clubs? Is there any interest in what the "close up to" the rail residents are feeling about all this? I am wondering.

This letter in no way is a voice against snowmobiling or "ATVing" as my family enjoys both. It is however, a letter objecting to the way the use of a trail system is being thrust upon us, with no consideration for how it will damage the lifestyle some have worked and paid dearly for. I can see no benefit for motorized sports along a "residential section" of the rail bed and I do not believe I am alone.

Without prejudice,

Gayle Watters

Jim Watters

Jan Elder

Robert Elder

Crystal Fischer

Paul Fischer

Betsy Pichette

Calvin Chartrand

Lisa Longfield

Jim Longfield

Cc County Council - Jennifer Murphy (Chair)

-Jim Hutton CAO

Development of Property Committee, Manager of Forestry and GI, Jason Davis

North Renfrew Times

Pembroke Observer

Eganville Leader





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May 9, 2017

To local municipalities in Renfrew County and beyond

North Algona Wilberforce Township Council is hosting a training day with Fred Dean on Thursday May 25, 2017. The theme of the day is "Whose Meeting is it?"

Mayor Farr and Council Members invite your Council and staff to join us. The location and cost will be dictated by the number of responses, and will be held in Golden Lake or Rankin Culture and Recreation Centre. Lunch will be provided. Location and time will be confirmed.

Training will encompass:

- Powers of Council
- Roles and Responsibilities of Council and Staff
- Accountability & Transparency
- Meetings
- Procedure By-law
- Codes of Conduct, and
- What is on the Horizon

As you review the day's topics, you will find that they are all very timely subjects that would assist your municipality.

To help us, I ask that your response be made by May 22 at the latest.

Yours truly.

Mackie J. McLaren Interim CAO/Clerk

a. io p.iii.

NDP



It being 5:15 p.m., pursuant to an order made earlier today, all questions necessary to dispose of the opposition motion are deemed put and a recorded division deemed requested and deferred until Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at the expiry of the time provided for oral questions.



Opposition Motion—Impact of Carbon Taxes Business of Supply Government Orders

5:15 p.m.

Conservative



(/politicians/deepak-obhrai/)
Deepak Obhrai (/politicians/deepak-obhrai/) Calgary Forest Lawn, AB

Madam Speaker, I just want to warn you that I am going to be speaking in my second language.

If you seek it, I think you will find unanimous consent to see the clock at

LINKS & SHARING TRANSLATED

Opposition Motion—Impact of Carbon Taxes Business of Supply Government Orders

5:15 p.m.

NDP



(/politicians/carol-hughes/)
The Assistant Deputy Speaker (/politicians/carol-hughes/) Carol
Hughes

Is it agreed?

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

Opposition Motion—Impact of Carbon Taxes Business of Supply Government Orders

5:15 p.m.

Some hon. members

Agreed.

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

February 23rd, 2017 / 5:15 p.m.

Liberal



(/politicians/david-mcguinty/)

David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON

moved:

Motion No. 104

That the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development be instructed to undertake a detailed study with regard to the creation of an Ottawa River Watershed Council, which would bring a comprehensive, inclusive, co-management approach to the Ottawa River Watershed, in order to foster ecological integrity, sustainable economic opportunities, and quality of life; in its study, the Committee shall examine (i) the council membership, which would include, but would not be limited to, federal, provincial, regional, and municipal governments, First Nations, industry groups, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions, (ii) important indicators such as water quality, biodiversity, and shoreline integrity, in order to assist with the creation of a co-management plan and conservation strategy, (iii) the economic, cultural, heritage, and natural values within the Ottawa River Watershed; and that the Committee report its findings and recommendations to the House no later than December 2017.

Madam Speaker, it is an honour for me to rise this evening to speak to this motion. I have the good fortune of being the grandson of Irish pioneers who settled in the Ottawa Valley and my great grandparents lived very close to the Ottawa River. There is a very strong tradition that runs through the veins of so many Canadians in this region and beyond, those who have been touched by the beauty and stupendous power of the Ottawa River, which I have always described as the jewel in the crown of the national capital region. I am pleased to move this motion not only as the MP for Ottawa South, but also as the chair of the government's national capital region caucus.

There are now 1.4 million Canadians living in this catchment area called the national capital region and it is growing at a rate of 7% to 8% a year. This is the fifth largest census metropolitan area in the country.

LINKS & SHARING PARTIALLY TRANSLATED The motion calls for a study to revamp our thinking when it comes to managing the way we do business and the way we relate to something as essential as a watershed. It is an incredible opportunity for Canada, not just in the context of the Ottawa River watershed but right across the country. I will come back to that theme in a moment, because there are many trends and positive developments in this regard right across the country.

This is a case where we get to illustrate, through the study, the fact that we need a new form of management. We need a new form of co-management, which is widely described as integrated watershed management. It tries to overcome a fundamental challenge when it comes to the way in which we organize our affairs as a society and how we interface with something as important as, for example, the Ottawa River, how we interface with natural carrying capacity. It is to overcome the challenge of what my parents used to present to their 10 children when they would say that we just could not have a situation where everybody's job was nobody's job.

The Ottawa River watershed, and watersheds writ large across the country and the planet, is what we have to start addressing. Although there is a myriad of actors that interface or deal with the Ottawa River watershed, there is only one watershed. That is one of the stark realizations that folks who live around the watershed, the provinces, the federal government, and different actors, have now realized, that it is a delicate, important asset. It is, frankly, a very valuable asset that forms part of our overall natural capital, not necessarily built capital or human capital but our natural capital.

The motion calls for a major study that would analyze how we could take the management of the Ottawa River watershed to the next level, to the next iteration. This has been informed by the good work of a number of examples in Canada, for example, the Fraser Basin Council in British Columbia. It began in early 1990 and has proceeded in a very sophisticated way to bring together different stakeholders and groups that treat the Fraser Basin as one. They realize it is an asset to be managed with great determination and care as there is only one Fraser Basin. There are not 10 or 20; there is one.

On that note, I am also delighted that many stakeholders in this region are strongly supportive of conducting a study, not least among them the Ottawa Riverkeeper. I really want to commend the Ottawa Riverkeeper and the team, Meredith Brown and Jean Perras, in particular, for their extraordinary leadership and work. They are to be congratulated on pushing out the envelope and thinking in terms of the opportunity in front of us to do something very powerful in our national capital. From here, we can springboard and challenge national capitals right around the world.

We have many competing interests with the Ottawa River, but, first, why this motion? It is the border. The Ottawa River forms the border between Ontario and Quebec and makes it an interprovincial waterway. Therefore, the management of the Ottawa River is an area of shared jurisdiction. Obviously, the federal government is implicated, the provincial governments of Ontario and Quebec, regional and municipal governments, watershed organizations, and our indigenous peoples.

This motion recognizes the importance of the Ottawa River watershed to our overall economic, ecological, and cultural well-being. A comprehensive study on the creation of an Ottawa River watershed council would ensure that multiple levels of governments, indigenous peoples, and all stakeholders work closely together to coordinate their activities and their decisions that serve to protect and to preserve this incredible asset for all Canadians.

What kinds of competing interests do we have when it comes to something as powerful as this Ottawa River? By the way, Canadians should know that the Ottawa River's flow on a daily basis is greater than every western European tributary combined. It is a mighty, powerful river and in large part helped build lots of early central Canada. There are competing interests. For example, economic ones are hydro power, tourism, forestry, fisheries, agriculture. On the environment there is water quality, with this city and the city of Gatineau extracting most of their drinking water from the surface of the Ottawa River. There is biodiversity, pollution, and climate change. Within the Ottawa River watershed, there are 18 Ontario parks and eight Quebec parks. When it comes to social well-being as I referred to a moment ago, we can speak to water quality and drinking water. We must consider flood risk, recreational purposes, and of course river access. The Ottawa River watershed is a massive part of our local culture, our economy, and our environment. It is an asset. It is, as I said, the jewel in the crown.

How big is it? The Ottawa River watershed covers more than 140,000 square kilometres. it straddles the border between Ontario and Quebec. It is also the largest tributary of the St. Lawrence River. It is very large, larger than many European states, larger than the province of New Brunswick.

What is the present state of affairs now when it comes to the management of this precious asset? We have an Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board. It is the only governance body for the Ottawa River that includes both federal and provincial representatives, including Ontario Power Generation and Hydro-Québec. It is mostly concerned with the question of hydro-electric energy production and of course flooding and other related issues. It does not allow for the broader mandate that this study would examine where other stakeholders, a more diverse array of stakeholders, would come together and treat the watershed as one whole.

This is not simply something that is timely in the context of this region and this particular watershed. On the contrary, the watershed movement, this whole question of evolving toward what is now being called integrated watershed management, is a national and international trend. It allows for a meeting place, an agora as they said in ancient Greece, a place where we can manage human activities and ecosystems at the watershed scale. It would integrate multiple concepts and methods, including water- and land-use planning and management. It evaluates the management of cumulative effects from multiple environmental stressors. Therefore, if we have one municipality releasing waste into the river and yet we have another organization like Atomic Energy of Canada dealing with the challenge of nuclear waste also along the shores of the Ottawa River, we have these different stressors at play but we have no place to sit down collectively to say, "How do we manage these collectively so we can ensure the sustainability of this important watershed?"

It brings together many aspects of governance such as policy, planning, and legislation on the basis of a geographic area, this watershed approach. It brings people together so that their activities can be shared and their relationships are better fostered among the different actors who live, who operate, who act, and who have a bearing on the watershed. This is very important. It is something that exists right across the country.

I alluded earlier to the Fraser Basin Council in British Columbia. Many of my B.C. colleagues here know full well how successful it has been. It brings together dozens of stakeholders and has meetings to assess the overall health of the Fraser Basin and what different effects different activities are having on the Fraser Basin, because it reflects the reality of the concept of there being only one Fraser Basin. Here the study would examine the fact that there is only one Ottawa River watershed.

What are some of the drivers for this integrated watershed management trend in Canada this study might embrace? We know that activities upstream are going to have detrimental effects downstream. I am reminded of what New York City did. Instead of building a multi-billion dollar water treatment facility at the back end, it went upstream and negotiated a series of deals with different municipalities, industries, first nations, etc., to invest in cleaning up the river upstream. By the time the water got to New York City, it was cleaner drinking water. The cost of protecting that watershed in the context of upper New York State was much lower than the cost of building a tertiary water treatment facility in New York City. They treated it as it should, as a form of natural capital to be protected and invested in.

It is also now known that it is just not desirable or feasible any longer to have a single water agency. This is clearly not working. We know that water is connected through the hydrologic cycle, and groundwater and surface water have to be connected in our management activities.

Recently, in a meeting I had with a senior senator from California, I remember having a broad conversation, but the only thing he was fixated on talking about was whether California was going to have access to Canada's water and whether we would be performing inter-basin water transfers, not something this country is particularly interested in seeing happen whatsoever.

We need to know what is happening to the hydrologic cycles, and this can be analyzed through this study. We have to recognize that there will be water shortages, flooding, and water quality issues throughout the globe, including in Canada, southern Saskatchewan, the Red River, the Saguenay River, the Richelieu River, Walkerton, the Great Lakes, and many others.

We also have to consider and examine increased water users and the types of water use, including increased awareness of the need to better balance ecosystem needs and withdrawals. This has led to more conflicts and more difficulty in overcoming the conflicts. Having a watershed council would allow us to deal with and diffuse these conflicts up front, because we would know collectively what is happening in the watershed basin as a whole.

Canadians everywhere now insist on more opportunity for participation, for community-based management approaches. The council would provide such an opportunity.

There are many other drivers at play, not least of which is that we appreciate that aboriginal peoples living in parts of many watersheds, like here in the Ottawa Valley, and throughout Canada, rely on many water resource services, and they must be involved in the planning and management of those resources.

The case for the study to examine this watershed council is pretty darn strong. It is a question of sitting down with the right players, coming up with a management plan and strategy, and coming up with the metrics we need. We do not even have agreed upon metrics to evaluate the state of the watershed.

I am now convinced that all the stakeholders would want to be part of this council. That includes Quebec, the municipality of Gatineau and those on the other side of the river, and all of the communities located along the river, which is thousand of kilometres long.

I am asking my colleagues to support the notion that we examine this in greater detail, study the possibility of having such an approach, and use this as a wonderful opportunity to showcase what a national capital can do, not just in the context of other integrated watershed management approaches for Canada but globally. Let us start with Washington and the Potomac River, for example, and expand beyond there. Canada has this wonderful opportunity and obligation.

I am asking my colleagues to support the motion in due course, and it is an honour for me to present it.

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:30 p.m.



(/politicians/garnett-genuis/)

Garnett Genuis (/politicians/garnett-genuis/) Sherwood Park—Fort
Saskatchewan, AB

Mr. Speaker, we see this trend, from a procedural perspective, of motions being proposed in the House asking committees to conduct studies on certain things, and I have voted in favour of such motions on certain

occasions. However, at the same time, we usually allow committees to be masters of their own domain.

The member has set a fairly tight timeline. Very likely the committee has other business it has envisioned. He is proposing a motion to instruct a committee to do a study on something that is of particular concern in one region. Could the member speak to the wisdom of doing that?

Why would he not simply engage members of the committee and ask when there would be time, in the context of the schedule of the committee, when it might be interested in doing this strictly if it fit in with the committee's strictly place?

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:30 p.m.



(/politicians/david-mcguinty/)

David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON

Mr. Speaker, there is plenty of opportunity for negotiation going forward with respect to the timing, the depth, and the how.

Why would one put a motion forward to examine a particular watershed? Because my 30 years of environmental legal experience have taught me that we need to ground truth, this kind of example in practical ways so Canadians can understand, and they do understand. This is a way to build a council that can be replicated. It can build on the wonderful experiences, for example, of the Fraser Basin Council, of what happened in Lake Winnipeg, of what is going on throughout Quebec with its watershed management approach, which is extremely progressive.

It is not so much the localization of this watershed as it is a study that can be used and extrapolated right across the country.

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

5:30 p.m.

NDP



(/politicians/linda-duncan/)
Linda Duncan (/politicians/linda-duncan/) Edmonton Strathcona, AB

Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for bringing this forward. It is a matter that a number of members have brought forward a number of times. We already have mechanisms under the Canada Water Act that have been in place for decades. Neither Conservative nor Liberal governments have

taken any action to move forward and to do this.

We have many instances where we have watershed agreements, for example, in northern Alberta, nice agreements between two provinces, between the feds and province, but nothing happens.

Why would the member refer this to a committee that has no technical resources, frankly very few resources? Why is he not asking the government of the day to finally move on this?

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:35 p.m.



(/politicians/david-mcguinty/)

David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON

Mr. Speaker, that remains entirely a possibility. I believe the member is still a member of the environment committee and has a very distinguished background in the field of sustainable development. I consider her to be an expert on that committee and hopefully would be able to lend her expertise.

Coming back to the need for this now, we know there is no forum here today with the watershed to even share data, knowledge, or ideas for improvements across the many silos that exist. We know that at the watershed scale, there is no shared management plan, no conservation strategy, no shared vision of common agenda. We can do much better than that. That is the import of this study. I am convinced it is the way forward.

Co-management, whether it is with watersheds or whether it is ocean resources, is the only way to overcome the fiction that there is a limitless caring capacity with our natural ecosystems, and there is not. We know that, not the least of which through all the evidence, all the knowledge we now have about climate change.

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

> 5:35 p.m. Liberal



(/politicians/scott-simms/)
Scott Simms (/politicians/scott-simms/) Coast of Bays—Central—
Notre Dame, NL

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate my colleague who I have known for quite some time. As he compliments our colleague from Edmonton, I would like to compliment him in his expertise, even preceding his time in the

House of Commons.

He spoke about the Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board. It sounds to me that it is quite restricted in allowing other opinions. He uses the Fraser River as a prime example. I would like him to comment further on that and to describe to the House what stakeholders need to be included right now and what his initiative will do to include them.

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

> 5:35 p.m. Liberal



(/politicians/david-mcguinty/)

David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON

Mr. Speaker, let us take a look at the Fraser Basin Council as a model that should be emulated. There are 38 directors, which includes an impartial chair and 37 directors, four orders of government, private sector, civil society, aboriginal leadership. That is a place where people sit down, as

adults, with science, evidence, criteria with measurable outcomes, with a performance plan, with a management plan and steward that precious resource for Canada going forward.

We should examine this in great detail for the Ottawa River watershed. It is a wonderful asset for Canada and all Canadians. Again, our responsibility as the national capital region is to show leadership in this regard.

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

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AS SPOKEN

LINKS & SHARING
AS SPOKEN

5:35 p.m.



(/politicians/garnett-genuis/)

Garnett Genuis (/politicians/garnett-genuis/) Sherwood Park—Fort
Saskatchewan, AB

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate my colleague who introduced this bill. Unfortunately, I find his proposal problematic.

I will go into that later on.

I want to recognize the member for bringing this motion forward. I know he has served in this House for a long time, and I am sure he brings this motion forward with the best of intentions. I heard him speak once at an election forum when I was a student at Carleton University. It was that day that I decided to become a Conservative.

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

Some hon, members

LINKS & SHARING
AS SPOKEN

5:35 p.m.

Oh, oh!

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

> 5:35 p.m. Conservative



(/politicians/garnett-genuis/)

Garnett Genuis (/politicians/garnett-genuis/) Sherwood Park—Fort
Saskatchewan, AB

More seriously, I want to go through a few of the issues on this motion.

This motion asks the House of Commons to direct a particular committee to undertake a study with respect to an issue in the national capital region. From time to time on certain matters of national importance there is an argument for the House of Commons to give this kind of direction to a committee. However, we are seeing an increase in the use of this tool of private members' motions to instruct committees. In general, I do not think that is ideal, because committees provide an opportunity for members of different parties to come together and set an agenda that reflects a view of the larger priorities and the imminent needs with respect to a particular area. Therefore, when a motion instructs a committee, that can really interrupt that process, especially when it is in the context of a fairly tight timeline.

The demand of this motion is for the study to be completed no later than December 2017. We are in the first hour of debate on this motion. Of course there are opportunities for flexibility around the timeline if the member wants to trade the second hour of debate, but it is very likely that if this motion were to pass, it would not pass for a number of months, which would give a fairly limited window of time for the committee that is being instructed to actually undertake the study. That creates some issues, especially when there may be issues of broader national importance. That is not to say that this is not an important question, but it is an important question with respect to a particular region. There may be issues that the committee, in its wisdom, decides need to be studied.

I would encourage members that with issues like this, it is probably worthwhile for members to talk to the members of the committee. There is a provision for members to substitute in at a committee, even to move motions at committees of which they are not regularly a member, and to ask that committee to undertake a study on that basis.

There is a process concern. At some point, as members of this House, if we want to encourage committees to have more autonomy, there is value in saying, even if particular members may agree with the underlying idea, "No, this is something that really should be discussed in the context of the environment committee." It is important that we discuss and consider those procedural dimensions, as well as the substantive dimensions, because there may be cases where there is a laudable objective, but the process is not the best at proceeding to a discussion on that issue.

I have some concerns not just on the procedural side but also in terms of some of the substantive proposals with respect to this motion. It calls for a study perhaps with a view to the creation of an Ottawa River watershed council. It identifies some specific objectives in the context of the creation of that council, and includes a reference to "ecological integrity".

I know that many of my colleagues have a concern about what the implications of this would be for development. There are also some concerns about whether this really moves us in the direction of creating additional red tape that is not needed. There are existing organizations.

There is a voluntary river-keeper organization that presently exists. It is not clear at all, based on the text of the motion, how this proposed new council would function with the existing organization in place. It adds another organization.

The concern is that as layers are added, with additional requirements, maybe we want to affirm the importance of the Ottawa River. I would certainly affirm that importance, having spent time in Ottawa as a student, as well as spending a fair bit of time here in Ottawa now. Adding an additional council, additional levels of review, and perhaps bureaucracy would make potential development projects much more difficult. That is something we need to have some real pause about.

The member was quite right to point out that there are inter-jurisdictional issues involved, because this is a river that goes between Ontario and Quebec, and the federal government can be part of that discussion. As much as possible, it is ideal that, while recognizing the right of the federal government to impose certain things like this, we try to take advantage of existing mechanisms like a voluntary organization that is already in place and pass the authority and control over as much as possible to more local entities that can be more directly responsible. When we have motions like this one, we are asking the House of Commons as a whole to pronounce on something that in practice has a particular impact in a particular region. Giving authority to those closest to that region creates maximum responsiveness to the needs that may come from the community.

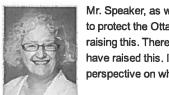
I also alluded to the issue of development. We dealt with this in Bill C-18 (/bills/42-1/C-18/), which the government proposed with respect to Rouge park. The insertion of the language "ecological integrity" certainly sounds like a good thing on the face of it. I do not think anyone said they were opposed to ecological integrity, but when that term is used in a certain context it can create some real problems for development. The way in which something is managed in a more urbanized setting may not be practical to preserve it exactly as it would be in the absence of human habitation. Therefore, we have to be cautious and realistic when we use certain language that may create a certain chill for development.

These are some of the concerns that I have and I think my colleagues have with respect to the bill. It is proposing a new organization, which looks like it would add administrative layers and red tape that really is not needed. It is proposing a study on the creation of that, when in fact, as my NDP colleague has pointed out, there may be some direct action that can be taken right now. The important thing is that any action taken in this area respects the realities that already exist, such as the voluntary organization that is there and the opportunities for this situation to be managed and dealt with in a more local way.

I have talked about the importance of respecting the committee process. I would not say, always and everywhere, we should never have the House of Commons instruct a committee. There are cases on issues of clear priority for the entire country where the House can give that direction to a committee. However, we should not be doing that all the time with every committee. Just looking at the private member's motions that we have, the trend is to give a lot of instructions to committees to do studies. Those seem to emerge without even being preceded by an attempt to propose that same study in the context of the committee. It would at least be worthwhile to propose a study in the context of a committee and then perhaps if the committee was unwilling to do the study, but the member felt strongly for it, then at least that might be a discussion we could have here in the House. However, in general, it does make sense to defer to the wisdom of the members on that committee as much as possible.

There are procedural questions here. There are questions about what the impact would be in terms of development and possibly putting a chill on development. There are questions about whether it is necessary to propose this additional level of administration, especially when there is an existing voluntary organization in place. By all indications, it is working very well, and it is not at all clear, based on this motion, what the interaction would be between this proposed new organization and that voluntary organization.

I look forward to the continuing debate on this, but certainly those are some concerns I have about the motion.



Mr. Speaker, as we have discussed here, Motion No. 104 calls for actions to protect the Ottawa watershed. I would like to thank the hon member for raising this. There have been a good number of members over time who have raised this. It is time for action. There is just a difference in perspective on who should be taking the action.

As the member has mentioned, the Ottawa River is also known as Kitchissippi, meaning the great river by the Algonquin. It may be worth noting that the current Canada Water Act does not include engagement of first nations people, so those are some of the things I will mention later that could be pursued by the committee. It rises from its source in Lake Capimitchigama in the Laurentian mountains of central Quebec and flows west to Lake Timiskaming, and there its route has been used to define the interprovincial border with Ontario, so it is clearly transboundary.

From Lake Timiskaming, the river flows southeast to Ottawa and Gatineau, where it tumbles over the Chaudière Falls and further takes in the Rideau and Gatineau rivers. It drains into the Lac des Deux Montagnes in the St. Lawrence River at Montreal. I would like to share that when I first moved here eight years ago, I was living in the market, and I regularly came to the Hill by walking along the beautiful trail along the river, so I fully appreciate the need to take action to protect that natural landscape.

I have also been told that the drainage area of the Ottawa River includes many significant wetlands. It has been designated a heritage river and is listed, unlike a lot of rivers, under the Navigable Waters Protection Act. Many rivers were removed by the Conservatives.

Another things to be pointed out is the long history of paying attention to pollution of this river. The member mentioned a number of sources: pulp and paper pollution; Atomic Energy of Canada Limited Lab, Chalk River; municipal sewage, the third being the one that has really been dealt with. Today, apparently the main pollutant in the Ottawa River is from plastic micro beads and micro fibres, and I am glad that one of my former colleagues actually brought forward measures to address that.

One of the things that is worth sharing is that a very famous writer, Oscar Wilde, visiting the city in May 1882, was outraged at the state of the river and the level of sawdust. He said, "This is an outrage. No one has the right to pollute the air and water, which are the common inheritance of all. We should leave them to our children as we have received them."

Of course, he was controversial, and that was one of the good reasons for him being controversial.

This is the latest call. I know that the member for **Ottawa South** (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) has raised this matter a number of times in the media and perhaps in the House, and called for federal-level intervention to get things moving between the two provincial jurisdictions and civil society.

It is an intervention long called for by many, including my friend and former MP, Paul Dewar. Inspired by the dedication of local citizens, including the Ottawa Riverkeeper and Waterlution, another group that has been very involved, Paul made repeated calls for federal action to protect the Ottawa River, including tabling an action plan and motion calling for regulations to protect and preserve the integrity of the river; environmental regulations enforcement of the Federal Fisheries Act, which of course has been downgraded by the last government; calling for increased funding to municipalities to improve water treatment, and I understand some action has been taken on that; and calling for public disclosure, compliance records, regular monitoring of ecological indicators, and a watershed management plan.

Due to the constant efforts of local citizens, some action has been taken to garner the efforts in both Quebec and Ontario and the federal authorities to at least provide some level of commitment to take action. Unfortunately, we have not had action. There has been a signing on to an agreement that there needs to be an integrated watershed plan, but no action.

In May 2015, the number of parties, including representatives of the provinces and the federal government, signed on to the Gatineau Declaration Toward an Integrated Approach to Sustainable Water Management Within the Ottawa River Watershed. Regrettably, river advocates tell me that there has then been little concrete action taken, including by the empowered federal authorities to actually finalize the watershed plan and put in place the

necessary enforceable measures to protect the watershed. This is despite the existing powers already under federal law, under the federal Fisheries Act and under the Canada Water Act. This is fully possible.

In the past, the federal government has moved to work with the provinces. For example, in the Mackenzie River Basin and, as was mentioned, in the Fraser. There has been a record of taking action together.

I am concerned about others in transborder areas, including the Mackenzie River Basin and the North Saskatchewan River, that similarly the federal government is dropping the ball on taking action to bring together all the parties on transboundary rivers.

Over a period of many decades, successive federal governments, Liberal and Conservative, have relinquished responsibility for the protection of transboundary or transborder rivers or rivers considered of national significance: the demise of the inland waters directorate; the failure to enforce the federal Fisheries Act; the delisting of navigable rivers; the failure to intervene in project reviews to assert duties over protection of transborder rivers and lakes.

While the motion by the member is laudatory in calling for action to move forward for a watershed plan for the Ottawa River, I wish to share concerns that I have heard from others. As my colleague from the Conservative Party pointed out, the suggested forum, the parliamentary committee on environment and climate change, may not be the best-suited entity to undertake the actions that the member is calling for to actually establish a watershed council, which should be up to the various government entities, which should be up to civil society, which should be up to scientific experts. Certainly the committee, and I know this because I sit on the committee, lacks the resources and the technical and scientific expertise to undertake a number of the measures that the member for Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) is calling for.

In my view, and in the view of those I have conferred with, the preferable locus for action is the government itself, including the environment department, the fisheries department, and possibly the heritage department, and their officials.

For that reason, I wish to present an amendment to the member's motion to enable a broader review and analysis of how well the federal government is delivering on its mandate to protect transboundary waters, more generally, and consideration of measures to ensure more effective and timely action over all of these watersheds.

The parliamentary committee could serve as a useful forum to examine the current legislated mandate, current policies, current instruments available to the federal government, and record of actions taken, including examining case examples of a number of transboundary rivers.

I wish, here, to submit the following amendment.

I move that motion M-104 be amended by deleting all of the words between "regards to" and "and that the Committee" and inserting the following: "(i) reviewing federal jurisdiction, legislation, policies and agreements related to watershed management and protection with an emphasis on transboundary waters and watersheds on federal lands (ii) examining federal actions for selected transboundary watersheds such as the Ottawa River, Mackenzie River Basin and the North Saskatchewan River as case studies to be determined by the Committee, (iii) identifying mechanisms for clarified and enhanced federal interventions to protect Canadian waters;"

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:55 p.m.



(/politicians/anthony-rota/)

The Assistant Deputy Speaker (/politicians/anthony-rota/) Anthony Rota

It is my duty to inform the hon. members that pursuant to Standing Order 93(3) no amendments may be proposed to a private member's motion or to the motion for second reading of a private member's bill unless the sponsor

of the item indicates his or her consent.

Therefore, I ask the hon. member for **Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/)** if he consents to this amendment being moved?

5:55 p.m.



David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, no.

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:55 p.m.



(/politicians/anthony-rota/)
The Assistant Deputy Speaker (/politicians/anthony-rota/) Anthony
Rota

There is no consent. Therefore, pursuant to Standing Order 93, the amendment cannot be moved at this time.

Resuming debate. The hon. member for Pontiac (/politicians/william-amos/).

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

5:55 p.m.

Liberal



(/politicians/william-amos/)
William Amos (/politicians/william-amos/) Pontiac, QC

Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by congratulating the member for Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) for his consistent advocacy in support of the protection of the Ottawa River and its watershed.

I support Motion No. 104, and I really look forward to the work that will be done in support of the establishment of the Ottawa River watershed council.

In the late 1980s, I grew up in west Ottawa just a stones throw away from the river. I drank from the river, swam in it, fiddled around on it, and paddled up and down on it. This is the aquatic spinal cord of our national capital. It is meaningful to me personally that the member for Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) has brought this motion.

In the late 1990s, I commuted in a canoe up and down to my work at the Terrasses de la Chaudière building in Gatineau and back home. We would go down the Ottawa River in the morning, down the rapids, and back up against the flow in the afternoon. I have a great champion for the Ottawa River as a friend, Max Finkelstein. He was the real engine as we paddled upstream.

This river inspired me to become an environmental lawyer, to defend our rights as Canadians to a healthy environment. In turn, this afforded me the opportunity to work with the great organization, the Ottawa Riverkeeper, on the very topic we are debating today: the proper governance of this national capital watershed.

For about a decade, I have advocated that we establish a similar kind of council. Therefore, I want to commend the member for **Ottawa South** (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) for bringing this motion forward.

Now I represent the riding of Pontiac whose very history is defined by the Ottawa River and all its great tributaries, the Dumoine, the Coulonge, the Noir, and the Gatineau. As the member for **Edmonton Strathcona** (/politicians/linda-duncan/) pointed out, it was the Anishinabe peoples who called it the Kitchissippi, the great river. *Meegwetch* for our indigenous friends who have taught us so much over the years about the importance of this waterway. In particular, I would highlight the incredible contributions of the late Grand Chief William Commanda with whom I collaborated to prevent uranium exploration in this watershed.

Over 400 years ago, Samuel de Champlain met the Algonquin chief, Tessouat, who collected the tolls that the Algonquins charged fur traders travelling on the Ottawa River. Chief Tessouat's authority and the historic role of the Algonquins in controlling passage on the Ottawa River is a good starting point for debate on this motion.

The Ottawa River watershed is among the most impressive in Canada and continues to play an important historic, environmental, and economic role. For much of its length, it functions as the boundary between Quebec and Ontario. Located on traditional Algonquin land, it flows through our nation's capital and serves as a wildlife corridor and a natural route for the region's inhabitants.

LINKS & SHARING PARTIALLY TRANSLATED The river provides us with fresh drinking water, fertile agricultural land, hydroelectricity, and lumber to build our houses. The watershed provides for us all.

The Ottawa River watershed is an engine of economic growth in the region and supports many small and medium-sized businesses in such industries as forestry, fishing, and tourism. It is home to an agricultural industry estimated at \$100 million.

The rivers itself is also the main source of drinking water for many communities in the region, including the 30,000 people that I represent in the Plateau, Aylmer, Limbour, and Mont-Luc areas of Gatineau. It is also a continual source of hydroelectric energy for western Quebec and eastern Ontario.

However, it is a fragile ecosystem, and its habitat, which is home to a number of endangered species, is threatened by the historical and current use. A good example is the recent dumping of millions of litres of untreated sewage into the Lièvre River, which flows directly into the Ottawa River.

All levels of government—federal, provincial, municipal, and indigenous—must work together to do more to protect this resource. Water management in Canada does not fall clearly within the jurisdiction of a single level of government. It falls under federal, provincial, and municipal jurisdiction.

Indigenous peoples, particularly the Algonquin Nation, also have various constitutionally protected rights associated with the use of water, including fishing and navigation.

The current governance structure of the Ottawa River watershed is, in my opinion, inadequate. The Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board, which was established in 1983 as an intergovernmental body composed of the governments of Canada, Ontario, and Quebec, is responsible for regulating water flows for hydroelectric production and for flood prevention along the Ottawa River basin. Its mandate is to achieve integrated management by which dam operators can make water flow decisions with full knowledge of the impact that they will have on water levels downstream in other areas of the basin.

However, the committee does not have a mandate to protect the environment. In fact, the board does not actually have an integrated management structure in place where environmental, municipal, aboriginal, and other interests with respect to the watershed can contribute their views, and contribute their knowledge. It creates a bit of a jurisdictional silo in respect of flows and hydroelectricity, but not the entire ecological picture. This is an anomaly, as my learned colleague from Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) pointed out, as many other important watersheds, like the St. Lawrence and Fraser rivers, have integrated management plans, which involve co-operation between, at the minimum, the federal and provincial levels of government.

I support this motion because it will enable our Liberal government and those experts who are so familiar with the Ottawa River to work with different levels of government, Ontario, Quebec, Gatineau, Ottawa, and other local municipalities, to enact and implement improvements in Ottawa River watershed protection and governance.

This motion would allow our government to negotiate an Ottawa River watershed action plan. That is what I would hope would come out of the work of such a council. I hope that would be a collaborative initiative with all levels of government.

In my view, this kind of plan could help pool the resources and expertise of over 20 government agencies, universities, first nations, and other organizations as partners; harmonize regional investments in the waterway to sustainably develop the ecosystem; build on our government's ongoing work to strengthen federal law and policy impacting our waterways, and repealing the Harper Conservatives' drastic measures that weakened all sorts of federal laws, from the Fisheries Act, to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Species at Risk Act, and the Navigable Waters Protection Act.

Before concluding, I would simply like to say that it is so important that we continue to work with the leading voices on this file.

The federal government must continue to engage in co-operative federalism and to work with Ontario, Quebec, and organizations like Ottawa Riverkeeper and CREDDO, the Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais, which have done a lot of work on this file in the past.

I would like to congratulate the member for Ottawa South (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) on his motion, and having regard to the suggestion made by my hon. colleague from Edmonton Strathcona (/politicians/linda-duncan/), I am in agreement with her that the government should move expeditiously on this file. I would like to propose an amendment to the motion.

I move:

That the motion be amended by:

- (a) replacing the words 'the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development be instructed to' with the words, 'in the opinion of the House, the government should';
- (b) replacing the words 'the Committee shall' with the words 'the government should';
- (c) deleting all the words after the words 'within the Ottawa River Watershed;'.

The motion as amended would read: "That, in the opinion of the House, the government should undertake a detailed study with regard to the creation of an Ottawa River Watershed Council, which would bring a comprehensive, inclusive, co-management approach to the Ottawa River Watershed, in order to foster ecological integrity, sustainable economic opportunities, and quality of life; in its study, the government should examine (i) the council membership, which would include, but would not be limited to, federal, provincial, regional, and municipal governments, First Nations, industry groups, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions, (ii) important indicators such as water quality, biodiversity, and shoreline integrity, in order to assist with the creation of a co-management plan and conservation strategy, (iii) the economic, cultural, heritage, and natural values within the Ottawa River Watershed."

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

6:05 p.m.



(/politicians/anthony-rota/)
The Assistant Deputy Speaker (/politicians/anthony-rota/) Anthony
Rota

Once again, it is my duty to inform the hon. member that pursuant to Standing Order 93(3) no amendment may be proposed to a private member's motion or to the motion for second reading of a private member's

bill unless the sponsor of the item indicates his or her consent. Therefore, I ask the hon. member for **Ottawa South** (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) if he consents to this amendment being moved.

Ottawa River Watershed Private Members' Business

6:05 p.m.



(/politicians/david-mcguinty/)

David McGuinty (/politicians/david-mcguinty/) Ottawa South, ON

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do.

LINKS & SHARING AS SPOKEN

LINKS & SHARING

AS SPOKEN

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42nd Parliament, 1st Session

Ottawa River Watershed

Text of the Motion

That the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development be instructed to undertake a detailed study with regard to the creation of an Ottawa River Watershed Council, which would bring a comprehensive, inclusive, co-management approach to the Ottawa River Watershed, in order to foster ecological integrity, sustainable economic opportunities, and quality of life; in its study, the Committee shall examine (i) the council membership, which would include, but would not be limited to, federal, provincial, regional, and municipal governments, First Nations, industry groups, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions, (ii) important indicators such as water quality, biodiversity, and shoreline integrity, in order to assist with the creation of a co-management plan and conservation strategy, (iii) the economic, cultural, heritage, and natural values within the Ottawa River Watershed; and that the Committee report its findings and recommendations to the House no later than December 2017.

Latest Activity

Decision Made - Agreed To (2017.05.03)

History

Placed on Notice	2016.12.02
Placed in the Order of Precedence	2016.12.06
Debated	2017.02.23
Debated	2017.04.06
Decision Made (Amendment) - Agreed To	2017.05.03
Decision Made - Agreed To	2017.05.03
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PARLIAMENT - SESSION

42-1 2015.12.03 -

LATEST ACTIVITY

Decision Made

MOTION

M-104

Corporation of the Township of Essa 5786 County Road 21 Utopia, Ontario LOM 1TO



(4)

Telephone: (705) 424-9770

Fax: (705) 424-2367

Web Site: www.essatownship.on.ca

May 5, 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Please be advised that Council, at their meeting held on April 19, 2017, passed the following resolution:

Resolution No:

CR084-2017

Moved by:

Macdonald

Seconded by:

Smith

Whereas Alisa Vegter made a presentation to Council outlining her proposed sign for "New Driver" Safety Initiative for G1 and G2 drivers; and

Whereas Council for the Township of Essa hereby supports the endeavours of Alisa Vegter in pursuing the recognition of the "New Driver" Sign;

Now therefore be it resolved that this motion be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario and Ontario municipalities for their support.

Carried

The attached illustrates the sign which would be displayed on the vehicles being driven by new drivers.

Yours truly.

Bonnie Sander

Clerk Att.

C.

Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne

MP Kellie Leach MPP Jim Wilson Ontario Municipalities





April 20, 2017

Federal Cannabis Legislation Tabled

The federal government tabled legislation to legalize marijuana on April 13. As expected, the Bills leave the bulk of decisions on age of majority, distribution, and retailing of marijuana to the provinces.

The Legislation:

Bill C-45, the *Cannabis Act*, would amend Canada's Criminal Code, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and other current legislation to allow Canadian residents to sell, buy, possess, and grow marijuana before July of 2018. The legislation proposes:

- limits of 30 grams of dried marijuana for individual possession for adults over the age of 18 years unless a higher age is set by a province;
- authorizes the creation of a licensing system for marijuana growers and a tracking system for plants;
- establishes penalties for possession of greater amounts of marijuana, trafficking outside of the proposed system, and distribution to minors;
- provinces will have the ability to set their own distribution and other rules, or default to the federal requirements.

Bill C-46 amends the *Criminal Code* and other legislation to introduce new penalties for drugged driving, streamline drunk driving provisions. This Bill also allows police officers who suspect a person of driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol to demand a bodily fluid sample.

Next Steps:

AMO is calling for municipal licensing of growers and retailers of marijuana to control where these businesses are located, to limit concentration and proximity to schools, daycares, and residential neighbourhoods.

AMO also wants resources so that municipal governments are not left holding the costs for increased policing, public health, and emergency services due to marijuana legalization. AMO is already engaged with the Province as it develops its approach to cannabis access and regulation. This work, through the AMO Marijuana Legalization Task Force, will continue, as will our advocacy.

AMO Contact: Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, E-Mail: creid@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 334

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria



From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 4:40 PM hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com

Subject: AMO Policy Update - Province Announces Details of Basic Income Pilot

April 24, 2017

Province Announces Details of Basic Income Pilot

Today, the government <u>announced</u> details of a Basic Income pilot in Ontario, to be launched later this spring for a three-year period. The purpose of the pilot is to assess whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, and improve health and education outcomes for people on low incomes.

This announcement follows the government's 2016 budget announcement and a public consultation process. AMO participated in the consultation, stating that basic income is an idea worth exploring to reduce poverty within the context of broader income security reform. AMO has supported the goal of addressing poverty and helping individuals with low income achieve stability in their lives, and welcomes the evidence-informed policy approach that the pilot and evaluation process provides.

The pilot will take place in three locations to assess impacts in rural, suburban, and urban communities from the southern, eastern, and northern parts of the province:

- Hamilton, Brantford, and Brant County launching late spring 2017
- Thunder Bay and the surrounding area launching late spring 2017
- Lindsay launching by fall 2017
- Additionally, the government is working with First Nations communities and partners on a separate basic income pilot for First Nations.

The pilot will include up to 4,000 participants receiving basic income payments, along with a control trial group, with participants who will participate in the evaluation purpose for comparison. Participants will be randomly selected, and will be 18 to 64 years old and living on a lower income. To dissuade individuals from relocating to participate in the pilot, participants will need to have lived in one of the test locations for the past 12 months or longer. Participants will choose whether or not to participate, and can opt out at any point. Additional details are as follows:

- Participants will receive 75% of the Low Income Measure (i.e. 50% of median household income, adjusted to household composition to account for the fact that a household's needs increase as the number of household members increases).
- The basic income payments will be decreased by \$0.50 for every dollar participants earn through work.

• The basic income amount will be responsive to changes in a participant's circumstances, such as a significant decrease in earnings, change in family composition, or change in disability status.

This would mean that participants would receive:

- up to \$16,989 per year for a single person, less 50% of any earned income
- up to \$24,027 per year for a couple, less 50% of any earned income
- up to an additional \$6,000 per year for a person with a disability.

Participants would continue to be eligible for the Canada Child Benefit and Ontario Child Benefit, and would continue to receive the Ontario Drug Benefit and dental benefits. Participants on Employment Insurance or the Canada Pension Plan would have their monthly basic income reduced dollar for dollar.

The pilot will be evaluated by a third-party research consortium, and advised by research and evaluation experts. The evaluation process will include outcomes such as food security, stress and anxiety, mental health, health and health care usage, housing stability, education and training, and employment. AMO looks forward to seeing both the benefits and limitations of the pilot assessed.

The Province will be administering the pilot, with no additional expectations for municipal resource contribution.

Many features of the basic income pilot are consistent with AMO's asks. A key piece for AMO was that impacts be evaluated in a full range of contexts across the province, and it is positive to see rural, urban, suburban, northern, eastern and southern communities represented, along with a range of municipal structures including a single-tier and county.

AMO asked that the pilot be based on an evidence-informed approach, and evaluated by a third party, which the Province is undertaking. AMO also emphasized that the pilot must yield a net benefit to participants and that benefits be high enough to raise people out of poverty. While participants will continue to receive some additional social services and benefits, it is yet to be seen whether receiving 75% of the Low Income Measure less 50% of earned income will be sufficient to lift participants out of poverty.

This pilot is one aspect of the Province's broader income security reform work. AMO will continue to monitor the initiative and the Province's broader work to ensure good outcomes for individuals living in poverty, and an appropriate role for municipal governments.

For more information, see the <u>news release</u> on the Ontario government website and <u>AMO's</u> submission to the Basic Income pilot consultation.

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, E-Mail: mjacek@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 329.

PLEASE NOTE: AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator, and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

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Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From:

AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Sent: To: Monday, April 24, 2017 1:05 PM hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com

Subject:

AMO Policy Update - All Eyes on Queen's Park for this Week's 2017 Provincial Budget

April 24, 2017

All Eyes on Queen's Park for this Week's 2017 Provincial Budget

Note: This Alert provides you with i) key messages going into Budget Day; and ii) how you can stay on top of what the Budget means for municipal governments.

Finance Minister Charles Sousa will deliver the Budget on Thursday. AMO has offered through its pre-budget submission, and other activities, ways the Province can help municipal governments.

We know all Ministers are busy completing their mandate letters from the Premier, some of which could find their way into the Ontario budget bill. In recent days, the government's "Fair Housing Plan" outlined a number of initiatives that impact municipal governments. More details may be in the budget documents. AMO is meeting with Finance and Housing officials this week.

Key Messages going into the Budget:

- Municipal governments and the daily services they provide to communities can ill afford to be micro-managed by Ontario;
- Grant-based infrastructure programs restrict municipal governments ability to meet their local needs competitive grant processes doesn't fit with asset management plans or municipal budgeting;
- A balanced budget is important to the Province but putting more unfunded mandates on the backs of municipal governments is not acceptable;
- There are several actions the Province can take to help municipal governments without any cost to the provincial treasury (e.g. joint and several; better capacity to pay criteria in interest arbitration; reduce/change what and how municipal government must report to the province);
- Will the provincial government signal that it holds an interest in working with us to develop a revenue framework for all municipal governments that goes beyond property taxes, user fees and grants so that long-term municipal fiscal needs can be better met going forward;
- Municipal governments rely on property taxes as their main source of revenue and changes to the property assessment system can do irreparable harm.

A few of the specific things we'll be looking for in the budget papers:

• Will we see an annualized profile of the Province's infrastructure funding for municipal governments for the remainder of its 10 year plan?

- Will the level of provincial contribution for Phase 2 of the federal cost-shared infrastructure funding be enunciated and be 1/3, even where the federal government contributes a greater amount?
- Will the provincial commitment to grow OCIF over the next two years be maintained as well as for the Connecting Link program?
- Will the Province provide funds to municipal government to implement its proposed new regulation to change how municipal asset management plans are developed?
- Will there be an inflationary increase to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) to help some of Ontario's municipal governments cope with no or little growth and increased costs, such as OPP?
- Will the Province proceed with a fire-med proposal notwithstanding municipal governments and paramedic stakeholder groups are in strong opposition?
- Will the Province become a funding partner for social housing, which was downloaded to municipal governments 18 years ago?
- Will the Province deal with joint and several or offer something else to deal with the rising costs of municipal insurance?
- Will the Province find additional funds to invest in education as means to dampen some of the school closures?
- Will long term care, especially municipal long term care facilities, receive additional funding?
- Will there be any changes to Ontario's labour laws that would impact municipal governments?
- Will the amount of cost-shared funding for public health and land ambulance be maintained?

AMO will be at Queen's Park on April 27 to provide immediate budget analysis for you.

Here's how you can help:

- Use the above key messages locally and through social media.
- Tweet a link to the AMO budget submission (<u>Pre-Budget Submission</u>) and tag your MPP as well as @AMOPolicy.
- On budget day, keep an eye on the AMO Twitter feed (@AMOPolicy) for an immediate and response to the budget and retweet.
- Watch for a membership AMO Update at the end of the day which will provide more information on the budget components.

AMO Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, 416-971-9856 Ext. 323; mwilson@amo.on.ca.



POLICY UPDATE

April 20, 2017

Waste Diversion – The Blue Box Today and Tomorrow

Implementation is underway to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act* (RRCEA). In particular, municipal governments will be transitioning from the current Blue Box program, which is run by municipalities and co-funded by producers, to an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime that requires producers to cover all end-of-life costs for waste. Eventually, producers will be fully responsible for meeting recovery targets for designated products and packaging.

The municipal role in this system will be evolving. AMO's Board has resolved that the municipal governments' best interest is to move the Blue Box to full producer funding sooner rather than later. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is asked to initiate the transition for the Blue Box program this year, with completion to the RRCEA by January 2019.

The AMO Board also directed staff to engage with its municipal partners – Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario (RPWCO), the Municipal Waste Association (MWA) and the City of Toronto, to create a municipal waste management entity. The transition and the future work for municipal governments within the new waste management framework requires a high degree of policy and implementation planning involving all the partners. Work on developing this entity has just begun.

In the interim, staff will continue to coordinate stakeholder work through use of existing funding from the Continuous Improvement Fund. This arrangement was approved by the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (formerly Waste Diversion Ontario).

We need to know more about significant post-transition issues such as diversion targets, geographic coverage requirements, and what materials will be designated. Until then, our municipal waste diversion programs will continue to provide the convenient, reliable waste services that residents depend on. Municipal governments may be approached by producers to provide post-transition collection and/or processing services for designated materials. We caution that it is too early for Councils to make informed decisions without having the 'rules of the road' defined through Regulations.

2017 Steward Obligation

We should know the value of the 2017 Steward Obligation by the end of May or early June. This payment recovers costs related to 2015 Blue Box services. The first 2017 quarterly payment to municipalities is expected around June 30, 2017.

The Steward Obligation process has been arduous in recent years. AMO continues to press for a funding that is based on actual Blue Box costs. This past March, the AMO President, Lynn Dollin, wrote to MOECC Minister Murray asking that the 2017 Steward Obligation be set using the Arbitrator's method. This would allow municipalities to receive 50% of their Blue Box net costs, as was done in 2014 and 2015. She further said that if the Authority was going to use the flawed 2016 formula-based method, then municipalities would seek 52.5% of the formula, which would allow us to recover our full share.

AMO and City of Toronto staff also made this request directly to the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority Board on April 11, 2017. Resolving this ongoing conflict would allow everyone to focus on the RRCEA transition and full producer responsibility for the end-of-life costs of designated materials and packaging.

AMO Contact: Dave Gordon, Senior Advisor, E-Mail: dgordon@amo.on.ca, 416.971-9856 ext. 371.



POLICY UPDATE

April 20, 2017

Provinces Announces Fair Housing Plan for Ontario

Today, the government announced a Fair Housing Plan outlining a series of 16 measures to make housing more affordable for renters and homeowners. The intent of the multi-faceted plan is to introduce comprehensive measures that will help people secure affordable housing, stabilize the real estate market, and protect homeowners' investments.

The Plan includes actions to address the demand for housing, increase housing supply, protect renters and homebuyers, and increase information sharing. It includes both flexible, discretionary tools for municipal governments, and some imposed measures that will have fiscal impacts. With some measures, the Province is proposing to play a facilitative role and make a financial contribution. Highlights of the more significant measures include:

- Introducing a 15 percent Non-Residential Speculation Tax (NRST) on foreign home buyers (i.e. non- Canadian, non-permanent resident, non-Canadian corporation) of residential properties of one to six units in the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH);
- Expanding rent control to all private rental units, including those built after 1991, while also providing incentives for purpose-built rentals;
- Empowering Toronto and other potentially interested municipalities to introduce a tax on vacant homes;
- Ensuring that property tax on multi-residential apartment buildings is a similar rate as other residential properties;
- Working with municipalities and others to facilitate affordable housing development on provincially owned surplus lands;
- Establishing a Housing Supply Team to work with municipalities and developers to identify barriers and come up with solutions;
- Providing municipalities with the flexibility to use property tax tools to facilitate development opportunities;
- Working with municipalities and developers to streamline the development approval process;
- Creating a five-year, \$125 million provincial rebate program for development charges in communities most in need of purpose-built rental housing; and,
- Working with municipal governments on an updated Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

AMO is meeting with the Province to learn more details about the range of measures and the government's implementation plan and timelines. For example, how will the 'benefits' of a property tax treatment for multi-residential be put in the hands of tenants rather than owners of rental accommodations?

Legislative change will be required for some of the measures. Are they part of separate legislation or part of the Budget Bill? There are several measures, which apply only in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, which indicate that the Province recognizes that, a 'one-size-fits-all" approach is inappropriate. It is critically important that the Province, along with municipal governments and other housing partners, carefully monitor and evaluate on an ongoing basis the impact that the interventions are having and be very nimble to address emerging unintended consequences.

The announcement also includes a list of previous actions taking by the government, including changes to a rebate for land transfer tax and the ability for municipal governments to enact inclusionary zoning by-laws. Regarding inclusionary zoning, AMO is awaiting a provincial regulation that will enable municipal governments to move forward with this initiative. It is important that a significant degree of local discretion be afforded to municipal governments to pass by-laws that meet local circumstances and need. Further, the regulation should not create any unnecessary barriers to municipal adoption of inclusionary zoning by-laws in order for the initiative to be a success and further contribute to the development of more affordable housing supply in Ontario.

More information on the Fair Housing Plan and the news release is on the Ontario website.

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, E-Mail: mjacek@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 329.

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria



From:

Mark LaVigne <mark.lavigne@sympatico.ca>

Sent:

Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:21 PM

To:

hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com

Cc:

APR Mark LaVigne

Subject:

Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage news release

Dear Ms. Reith,

Please find pasted below our news release for the Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage, our first official release for the project.

Thank you so much for your early support!!

With thanks, mhl

Mark Hunter LaVigne, MAJ, APR, FCPRS

mark.lavigne@hunterlavigne.com 416-884-2018

News Release

Young people paddle hundreds of kilometres this summer, working toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

Toronto, ON, April 20, 2017 – More than 30 people, comprised of Indigenous, Jesuit, English and French Canadian paddlers, will embark on a month-long, 850-kilometre canoe trip July 21 in response to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Following a traditional First Nations canoe trade route, the Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage (CCP) will begin at Midland, Ontario up Georgian Bay, travel across the French River, Lake Nipissing, the Mattawa and Ottawa Rivers, and end near Montreal.

"We are retracing this historic route on the 150th anniversary of Canada as a nation, but more importantly we are trying to work for reconciliation," says Erik Sorensen, SJ, Project Manager of the CCP. "As a member of the Jesuits, a group that had a residential school that played an integral role in colonization efforts by early Europeans, there is a collective healing that I am participating in. And we are changing the way we do things."

"I am hoping to learn a lot about the cultures that are going to be there," says Andrew Starblanket, who is Nēhiyaw and will be representing the Starblanket First Nation in Saskatchewan on the trip. "I guarantee that I'm going to learn a lot about myself and others."

"Ontario's 150th anniversary is an opportunity for us all to reflect on who we are and what we hope to be," said Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport. "The Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage will give people the chance to connect with a meaningful part of our history, experience our province's breathtaking scenery firsthand, and contemplate all that we can achieve by working together."

Jesuit Pope Francis promotes a "culture of encounter," a culture where we engage others where they are at, offer welcome and hospitality, and are moved with compassion and the desire to treat all people with dignity. "This encounter is not about anything so specifically active, it's much more about just being with each other, across our respective cultures and traditions," says Kevin Kelly, SJ, a CCP co-organizer. "Encountering each other is about being ourselves and being open. This immersion experience into nature will also help participants increase their understanding of the current ecological crisis we face, especially the importance of water and our respect for and treatment of it."

The CCP tentative itinerary below, shows major landfalls, but please be advised there may be changes due to logistical considerations and weather related contingencies.

July 21 - Departs Sainte-Marie among the Hurons (Midland, ON)

July 31 – North Bay, ON

August 2 - Mattawa, ON

August 6 - Pembroke, ON

August 9 – Ottawa, ON

August 14 - Montreal, Quebec

August 15 – Kahnawake First Nation (close to Montreal)

Members of the public will be able to join the CCP at special events at major stops along the route.

The Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage has been made possible by the generosity of donors including The Miller Group, the Ontario 150 Community Celebration Fund, the Canadian Heritage River System, Parks Canada, and Ontario Parks. Also thanks to Sainte-Marie among the Hurons and Martyrs' Shrine for hosting the launch event on July 21.

About the Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage

The Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage (CCP) is a project inspired by Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) with the hope of encouraging intercultural and interreligious dialogue and learning. Participants, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, will be immersed in each other's customs and traditions. Through this immersion, the goal is to foster deep respect, trust, dialogue and hopefully friendship, the building blocks for reconciliation.

The canoe route is a traditional First Nations trading route that was travelled by early European settlers such as Samuel de Champlain and Jean de Brébeuf, who were welcomed and guided by the Indigenous Peoples of this land. This pilgrimage will begin at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons in Midland, on the shore of Georgian Bay, on July 21 and end on August 15 on the St. Lawrence River at the Kahnawake First Nation, close to Montreal. The community of paddlers making this 850-kilometre, 25-day voyage is comprised of Indigenous Peoples, Jesuits, English and French Canadians, men and women - all desiring to travel together on a path of healing and friendship. The route follows a similar one paddled by 24 young Jesuits in 1967. For more information, and to donate, please go to: www.canoepilgrimage.com.

About the Jesuits in English Canada

The Jesuits, an order of priests and brothers in the Roman Catholic Church, have worked in Canada for more than 400 years. They have responsibility for the direction of schools, churches, retreat houses, and a variety of social justice ministries that span from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador to Vancouver, British Columbia. They have worked closely with the TRC and issued a public Statement of Reconciliation in 2013. The Jesuits are currently implementing the Calls to Action described by the TRC. For more details please visit www.jesuits.ca.

For news media and government information, please contact:

Mark Hunter LaVigne, MAJ, APR, FCPRS

Mark.lavigne@hunterlavigne.com

416-884-2018 (mobile)

Erica Zlomislic

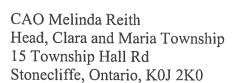
cdacommunications@jesuits.org

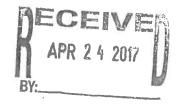
416-962-4500 X225

855-962-4500 X225

416-333-2585 (mobile)









April 12th, 2017

Malada Dear CAO Reith,

As you may be aware, the 2017 Federal Deficit Budget raises personal taxes by targeting all municipal politicians, school board trustees, and elected members of municipal utilities boards, commissions, and corporations.

On Page 208 of the budget, the Trudeau Liberals removed the tax-exempt portion of remuneration paid to local officials.

Introduced in 1947 under the federal *Income Tax Act*, the purpose of the one-third tax-free expense allowance was to provide "an allowance for expenses incidental to the discharge of the person's duties as an elected officer."

Unlike some elected officials in cities who receive office budgets, car and expense allowances as well as six-digit salaries, this is not the case with most municipal politicians I know, with a majority of our councillors receiving a base salary of less than \$20,000.

As it was described to me by a local Mayor about this tax grab:

"Most municipal Council members in rural areas are already very poorly compensated for the work they do in their communities. As Mayor my hourly compensation is well below minimum wage. I make far less than any other municipal staff person working similar hours on behalf of the municipality. It is extremely difficult to attract good candidates into municipal politics now. Removing the 1/3 tax exemption on Council remuneration without compensating for that loss will make it nigh on impossible."

It is the expectation of debt-obsessed Ottawa that remuneration will be "grossed-up" (increasing the salary to offset the increased tax payment) so as not to impact the take-home pay received by a mayor and councillors. This in turn will boost individual tax bills for elected officials as well as costs to ratepayers, who are already struggling with increasing property taxes.

Rather than curbing the abuse of taxpayer money this tax grab claims to stop, by eliminating the tax-free provision, Municipalities will no longer be required to review their remuneration by law at a public meeting once during their four-year term.

Municipalities will now be forced to divert funds which would be spent on roads, bridges or clean water to reimbursing elected officials. This, along with the increased borrowing costs associated with the federal government's infrastructure bank scheme, will place increased pressure to raise property taxes, making home ownership more unaffordable.

This tax grab is an unfair burden on Canadian Municipalities and local ratepayers. The Trudeau Liberals need to be told their spending problem cannot be solved on the backs of home owners struggling to make ends meet.

Media Release Communiqué de presse

For Immediate Release

CNL releases exciting vision for the Chalk River Laboratories

Chalk River, Ontario, CANADA, 2017 April 25 — Today, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) is announcing its long-term strategy and vision for the future of Canada's premier nuclear laboratory. This is an exciting step for CNL, and one which many across Canada's scientific and nuclear community have been waiting for. This strategy outlines a vision for CNL over the next ten years, which positions the organization as a global leader in nuclear science and technology; an organization that is commercially successful, respected for its scientific capabilities, and home to world-leading expertise based out of a modern, efficient and collaborative campus environment.

This strategy wasn't developed in isolation. It reflects input from global leaders in nuclear science, from Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, from current customers and others in the nuclear supply chain, from our local communities and stakeholders, and from our own staff. The long-term strategy identifies those areas where CNL is uniquely equipped, and applies these strengths against what the world needs in nuclear, building on our legacy as a global leader in nuclear science.

The strategy is a forward-looking document, and includes many projects that are subject to rigorous licencing and regulatory processes.

Highlights include:

- An investment of more than \$1.2 billion over ten years in the facilities and infrastructure of the Chalk River Laboratories. This investment enables:
 - the construction the Advanced Nuclear Materials Research Centre, a complex which will include new shielded facilities, and many advanced active laboratories for research involving active or irradiated materials;
 - o a new electrical switchyard, expanded natural gas service, potable water lines, and sanitary sewer system, all of which improve the safety and reliability of the current systems; and,
 - o construction of modern, energy efficient facilities to accommodate maintenance and operations activities, logistics and security, and a new business centre.
- An exciting program in science and technology which includes ambitious goals such as:
 - o the siting of a new, small modular reactor on the CRL site by 2026;
 - development and demonstration of a suite of targeted alpha therapy compounds (an emerging medical isotope technology) by 2022;
 - expansion of our program in hydrogen, with a goal to play a leading role in the demonstration of hydrogen-based bulk transport by 2020;
 - o demonstration of a new advanced fuel fabrication concept by 2020; and
 - o the development, commercialization and deployment of a nuclear industrial control cyber intrusion detection and mitigation system by 2022.
- Details on the work to address legacy waste and nuclear liabilities, while preparing the campus for a period of significant revitalization.

CNL's Long Term Strategy and Executive Summary are available for download at www.CNL.ca.

Quotes:

"From my first day at CNL, I have faced questions – important and valid questions – about the direction the company is headed, about what our science programs will look like, about how the site will evolve, about our waste and environmental projects, and yes, about what our workforce will look like. We now have those answers."

Mark Lesinski, President and CEO

"These documents are, and will remain, a work in progress. This is "Rev 0" and the strategy will evolve as our needs evolve; they will change as our customers' needs change; they will develop as our capabilities develop, but this is an important first step on our journey towards a new vision for CNL and the Chalk River campus."

Mark Lesinski, President and CEO

"New nuclear plants are being built all over the world, and I believe that CNL can enable Canadian industry to succeed in this arena. Our scientists and engineers understand what it takes for to bring a technology from design to deployment. They can take their technical skills and apply them to developing something that is practical for industry — and that makes us a unique resource. "

Dr. Kathryn McCarthy, Vice-President, Research & Development

Supporting Media:

Photos and site renderings to accompany this story are available for download at CNL's flickr site: https://www.flickr.com/photos/cnl Inc

About CNL

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories is a world leader in nuclear science and technology offering unique capabilities and solutions across a wide range of industries. Actively involved with industry-driven research and development in nuclear, transportation, clean technology, energy, defence, security and life sciences, we provide solutions to keep these sectors competitive internationally.

With ongoing investments in new facilities and a focused mandate, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories is well positioned for the future. A new performance standard reinforced with a strong safety culture underscores every activity.

For more information on the complete range of services Canadian Nuclear Laboratories please visit www.cnl.ca or contact communications@cnl.ca.

-30-

Contact:

Patrick Quinn
Director, Corporate Communications
CNL, 1-866-886-2325





THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ADJALA – TOSORONTIO

7855 Sideroad 30 * R.R.#1 * Alliston, Ontario * L9R 1V1 Telephone: (705) 434-5055 Fax: (705) 434-5051

Office of the Clerk

BY E-MAIL ONLY

April 20, 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Office of the Prime Minister 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: Canada's 150th Birthday

Please be advised that Council at their meeting of April 10, 2017 passed the following resolution:

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Little, seconded by Councillor Keenan:

RESOLVED THAT in recognition of Canada's 150th birthday, the federal and provincial governments be requested to wave the taxes payable on the purchase of a Canadian Flag or Canada 150 Anniversary flag for the year 2017; and further,

THAT this motion be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario and Ontario municipalities for their support.

Yours truly,

Barbara Kane Township Clerk

c.c. Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne Ontario Municipalities



Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

5950 Malden Road, LaSalle, Ontario, N9H 1S4 Phone: 519-969-7770 Fax: 519-969-4469 www.town.lasalle.on.ca

Office of the Director of Council Services
Brenda Andreatta, Director of Council Services/Clerk

April 13, 2017

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Re: Funding for the Great Lakes

LaSalle Town Council at its meeting held April 11, 2017 considered the matter of the recent decision by the United States Government to eliminate funding to the Environmental Protection Agency thereby negatively impacting the Great Lakes. Council adopted the following resolution:

CR 142/17

Whereas algal blooms in Lake Erie threaten its natural and economic resources by negatively impacting the use of water for drinking, fishing, boating and swimming; and

Whereas Lake Erie experienced the largest harmful algal bloom in its history in 2015; and

Whereas toxins from algal blooms can cause severe health issues; and

Whereas communities that depend on Lake Erie as a source for drinking water have made significant investments to ensure it is free from dangerous levels of algal toxins and nuisance algae; and

Whereas algal blooms limit the enjoyment of Lake Erie beaches and other recreational water activities; and

Whereas, local tourism, commercial and residential property values and the commercial and recreational fishing industry may be negatively affected due to the presence of algal blooms; and

Whereas, the United States recently announced a proposal to cut funding to the Environmental Protection Agency that pays 97 percent of the costs for Great Lakes pollution cleanup thereby putting the future health of the Great Lakes in danger,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ontario Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Mayors of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative BE REQUESTED to lobby U.S. State representatives to overturn the decision by the U.S. federal government to drastically reduce spending on the health of the Great Lakes, and that a copy of this resolution BE FORWARDED to local MP's and MPP's, Essex County municipalities, AMO and FCM to request support of the initiative.



The importance of the continued vitality of the Great Lakes to the Province of Ontario cannot be overstated. AMO's assistance in circulating this resolution to Ontario municipalities is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brenda Andreatta

Director Council Services/Clerk

Brend andreas

DISCLAIMER: This material is provided under contract as a paid service by the originating organization, and does not necessarily reflect the view or positions of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), its subsidiary companies, officers, directors or agents.

NOTE: This is a PDF of a document that is not accessible. Please contact 519.969.7770 for assistance.



INTERNATIONAL DRIVE PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA K8A 6W5 613-735-7288 FAX: 613-735-2081

www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

MEMORANDUM

TO:

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Renfrew County Municipal Clerks & Treasurers

Ross Jeffery, Victoria Morena, MPAC

FROM:

Jeff Foss,

Director of Finance/Treasurer

DATE:

April 27, 2017

SUBJECT:

Taxation By-laws

Please find attached copies of the Taxation By-laws for your information. The following By-laws were adopted at the Wednesday, April 26, 2017 session of County Council:

County of Renfrew By-law 38-17 - A By-Law to Set Tax Ratios for County Purposes and Lower-Tier Purposes for the Year 2017.

County of Renfrew By-law 39-17 - A By-Law to Set Tax Rate Reductions for Prescribed Property Subclasses for County Purposes and for Lower-Tier Purposes for the Year 2017.

County of Renfrew By-law 40-17 - A By-Law to Establish the 2017 Tax Rates for County of Renfrew Purposes.

County of Renfrew By-law 41-17 - A By-Law to Adopt Optional Tools for the Purposes of Administering Limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Property Classes for the Year 2017.

2017 County of Renfrew Tax Rates

I am providing for your information a table summarizing the 2017 County tax rates with a comparison to the 2016 rates:

Property Class	2017 Tax Rates	<u>2016</u> Tax Rates
Residential	0.00358971	0.00345406
Residential - FAD (Phase I)	0.00125640	0.00120892
Multi-Residential	0.00697697	0.00671332
Commercial - Occupied	0.00651425	0.00626809
Commercial - Vacant	0.00455998	0.00438766
Commercial - FAD (Phase I)	0.00125640	0.00120892
Industrial - Occupied	0.01025332	0.00992395
Industrial - Vacant	0.00666466	0.00645057
Large Industrial - Occupied	0.01279174	0.01238083
Large Industrial – Vacant	0.00831463	0.00804754
Landfill	0.00651425	n/a
Pipelines	0.00478437	0.00460357
Farmland	0.00089743	0.00086352
Managed Forest	0.00089743	0.00086352

Deadlines for LTM Tax Rating By-laws - As we are all using OPTA to create a CD to generate all business class property tax bills, the CD will not be available until <u>ALL</u> LTM's complete their budget processes and adopt a rating by-law. TPWG is recommending that all tax rating by-laws should be adopted prior to **June 15, 2017** and all tax rates should be entered by each municipality into the OPTA system by that same date. This process would allow the issuance of property tax bills to the business community before the summer vacation period.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

BY-LAW NUMBER 38-17

A BY-LAW TO SET TAX RATIOS FOR COUNTY PURPOSES AND LOWER-TIER PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR 2017

WHEREAS it is necessary for the Council of the County of Renfrew, pursuant to Section 308 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, to establish the tax ratios for 2017 for the County of Renfrew and its lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the tax ratios determine the relative amount of taxation to be borne by each property class;

AND WHEREAS the property classes have been prescribed by the Minister of Finance under the Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.A.31, as amended, and Regulations thereto.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew hereby enacts as follows:

- 1. THAT for the taxation year 2017, the tax ratio for property in:
 - (a) the residential property class is 1.000000;
 - (b) the multi-residential property class is 1.943600;
 - (c) the commercial property class is 1.814700;
 - (d) the industrial property class is 2.898454;
 - (e) the large industrial property class is 3.616027;
 - (f) the pipelines property class is 1.332800;
 - (g) the farm property class is 0.250000;
 - (h) the managed forest property class is 0.250000;
 - (i) the landfill property class is 1.814700.
- 2. THAT for purposes of this by-law, the commercial property class includes all commercial office property, shopping centre property and parking lot property.
- 3. THAT the large industrial optional property class applies within the County of Renfrew and its lower-tier municipalities.
- 4. This by-law shall come into force and take effect upon the passing thereof.

READ a first time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a second time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a third time and finally passed this 26th day of April, 2017.

JEMNIFER MURPHY, WARDEN

W. JAMES HUTTON, CLERK

BY-LAW NUMBER 39-17

A BY-LAW TO SET TAX RATE REDUCTIONS FOR PRESCRIBED PROPERTY SUBCLASSES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES AND FOR LOWER-TIER PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR 2017

WHEREAS it is necessary for the Council of the County of Renfrew, pursuant to Section 313 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, to establish tax rate reductions for prescribed property subclasses for 2017 for the County of Renfrew and its lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the property subclasses subject to tax rate reductions are those prescribed under Section 8 of the Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.A.31, as amended;

AND WHEREAS the tax rate reductions reduce the tax rates that would otherwise be levied for municipal purposes;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew hereby enacts as follows:

- THAT the tax rate reduction for:
 - (a) the excess land and vacant land subclasses in the commercial property class is 30%;
 - (b) the excess land and vacant land subclasses in the industrial property class is 35%;
 - (c) the excess land and vacant land subclasses in the large industrial property class is 35%;
 - (d) the first subclass of farmland awaiting development in the residential/farm, multiresidential, commercial or industrial property class is 65%;
 - (e) the second subclass of farmland awaiting development in the residential/farm, multiresidential, commercial or industrial property class is 0%.
- 2. THAT for purposes of this by-law:
 - (a) the commercial property class includes all commercial office property, shopping centre property and parking lot property;
 - (b) the first subclass of farmland awaiting development and the second subclass of farmland awaiting development consist of land as defined in accordance with the Assessment Act, as amended, and the regulations thereto.
- This by-law shall come into force and take effect upon the passing thereof.

READ a first time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a second time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a third time and finally passed this 26th day of April, 2017.

JENNIFER MURPHY, WARREN

W. JAMES HUTTON, CLERK

BY-LAW NUMBER 40-17

A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH THE 2017 TAX RATES FOR COUNTY OF RENFREW PURPOSES

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew shall in each year prepare and adopt estimates of the sums it requires during the year for the purposes of the municipal corporation pursuant to Section 289 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew on January 25, 2017 adopted By-law Number 5-17, being a By-law to Adopt the Estimates for the Sums Required During the Year 2017 for General, Capital and All Purposes of the County of Renfrew;

AND WHEREAS Council adopted the sum of Forty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Two Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty-One Dollars (\$42,292,821) as the estimate of the property tax levy required during the year 2017 for general, capital and all purposes of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 311 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, provides that for purposes of raising the General County Levy, the Council of the County shall each year, by by-law, direct the Council of each lower-tier municipality to levy a separate rate, as specified in the by-law, on the assessment in each property class in the lower-tier municipality rateable for county purposes;

AND WHEREAS all property assessment rolls on which the 2017 taxes are to be levied have been returned and revised pursuant to the provisions of the Assessment Act;

AND WHEREAS the tax ratios on the property classes prescribed pursuant to Section 7 of the Assessment Act and the regulations thereto (the "Prescribed Property Classes") for the 2017 taxation year have been set out by by-law by the Corporation of the County of Renfrew for the County and lower-tier purposes;

AND WHEREAS the subclass tax rate reductions on the property subclasses prescribed pursuant to Section 8 of the Assessment Act (the "Prescribed Property Subclasses") for the 2017 taxation year have been set out by by-law by the Corporation of the County of Renfrew for County and lower-tier purposes;

AND WHEREAS the tax rates on the Prescribed Property Classes and Prescribed Property Subclasses have been calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act, 2001 and the manner set out herein;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew hereby enacts as follows:

1. That for the year 2017 the rates to be applied on the taxable and payment-in-lieu assessment in each municipality rateable for County purposes shall be as follows:

Residential	0.00358971
Residential – Farmland Awaiting Development (Phase 1)	0.00338371
Multi-Residential	
Commercial – Occupied	0.00697697
•	0.00651425
Commercial – Vacant	0.00455998
Commercial – Farmland Awaiting Development (Phase 1)	0.00125640
Industrial – Occupied	0.01025332
Industrial - Vacant	0.00666466
Large Industrial - Occupied	0.01279174
Large Industrial – Vacant	0.00831463
Landfill	0.00651425
Pipelines	0.00478437
Farmlands	0.00089743
Managed Forests	0.00089743

- 2. That for purposes of this by-law:
 - (a) the commercial property class includes all commercial office property, shopping centre property and parking lot property;
 - (b) the first subclass of farmland awaiting development and second subclass of farmland awaiting development consists of land as defined within the Assessment Act, as amended, and the regulations thereto.
- 3. The dollar amount to be raised for County purposes by each lower-tier municipality by application of the various tax rates so specified within this by-law on the taxable and payment-in-lieu assessment in each property class in the lower-tier municipality rateable for County purposes is as set out in Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this by-law.
- 4. That the dollar amount to be raised for County purposes by each lower-tier as set out in Schedule "A" shall be paid to the County in accordance with County of Renfrew By-law 34-12.
- 5. That this by-law shall come into force and take effect upon the passing thereof.

READ a first time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a second time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a third time and finally passed this 26th day of April, 2017.

W. JAMES HUTTON, CLERK

PROPERTY TAXATION FOR COUNTY PURPOSES:

MUNICIPALITY	TAXABLE ASSESSMENT	PAYMENT-IN-LIEU ASSESSMENT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
TOWNS				
ARNPRIOR	3,591,181	32,455	2 022 020	2.001
DEEP RIVER	1,500,692	52,455 511,037	3,623,636	8.6%
LAURENTIAN HILLS	1,351,605	•	2,011,729	4.8%
PETAWAWA	5,168,844	171,234	1,522,839	3.6%
RENFREW	2,874,192	2,527,408	7,696,252	18.2%
Sub-Total	14,486,514	124,148	2,998,340	7.1%
-	14,400,014	3,366,282	17,852,796	42.2%
TOWNSHIPS				
ADMASTON/BROMLEY	1,093,708	3,563	1,097,271	2.6%
BONNECHERE VALLEY	1,627,067	22,629	1,649,696	3.9%
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH RAGLAN	702,512	38,760	741,272	1.8%
GREATER MADAWASKA	2,681,349	46,539	2,727,888	6.5%
HEAD, CLARA & MARIA	695,721	77,133	772,854	1.8%
HORTON	1,432,278	2,538	1,434,816	3.4%
KILLALOE, HAGARTY & RICHARDS	1,196,337	30,494	1,226,831	2.9%
LAURENTIAN VALLEY	4,474,327	62,775	4,537,102	10.7%
MADAWASKA VALLEY	2,563,383	43,351	2,606,734	6.2%
McNAB/BRAESIDE	3,189,552	6.911	3,196,463	7.6%
NORTH ALGONA WILBERFORCE	1,535,366	7.429	1,542,795	3.6%
WHITEWATER REGION	2,870,352	35,951	2,906,303	6.9%
Sub-Total	24,061,952	378,073	24,440,025	57.8%
_	,	0.01010	=7,770,020	31.070
TOTAL	38,548,466	3,744,355	42,292,821	100.0%

BY-LAW NUMBER 41-17

A BY-LAW TO ADOPT OPTIONAL TOOLS FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADMINISTERING LIMITS FOR THE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND MULTI-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY CLASSES FOR THE YEAR 2017

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew may, in accordance with Section 329 to Section 331 of The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended (hereinafter referred to as "The Act") modify the provisions and limits set out in these sections of The Act, with respect to the calculation of taxes for municipal and school purposes payable in respect of property in the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew must similarly modify the provisions and limits set out in Section 332 of The Act with respect to the "tenant cap" calculations;

AND WHEREAS this by-law shall only apply to properties in any of the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes to which Part IX of The Act applies;

AND WHEREAS for the purposes of this by-law the commercial classes shall be considered a single property class and the industrial classes shall be deemed to be a single property class;

AND WHEREAS "uncapped taxes" means, the taxes for municipal and school purposes that would be levied for the taxation year but for the application of Part IX of The Act.

AND WHEREAS the Council may pass a by-law to apply any one or any combination of the following options:

- a) increase the annual cap from 5% of last year's capped taxes up to a maximum of 10% of last year's capped taxes; and/or
- b) set an upper limit on annual increases at the greater of the amount calculated under (a) and up to 10% of the previous year's CVA tax; and/or
- c) up to a maximum \$500.00 threshold may be set for increasing properties, decreasing properties or both; and/or
- d) exit the capping program immediately if all properties in a class were taxed on full CVA tax in the previous year final tax billing; and
- e) phase-out of the capping program by moving towards CVA Tax over a 4 year phase-out period if all properties in the broad class had a tax level of 50% or greater at the time of the previous year final billing; and
- f) exclude vacant land from the eligibility requirements that all properties are within 50% of CVA Tax within (e) above; and

- g) limit capping protection to only reassessment related changes prior to 2017; and
- h) exempt a property from the application of Part IX of The Act if any of the following conditions exist:
 - (i) The taxes for the property in the previous year were equal to its uncapped taxes for that year.
 - (ii) As a result of Part IX of The Act, the taxes for the property in the previous year were lower than the property's uncapped taxes for that year, but in the current year, if Part IX of The Act applied, the property's taxes would be equal to its uncapped taxes, or a tax decrease for the property would be limited.
 - (iii) A tax decrease for the property in the previous year was limited under Part IX of The Act, but in the current year, if Part IX of The Act applied, the property's taxes would be equal to its uncapped taxes, or a tax increase for the property would be limited.

AND WHEREAS a by-law passed to adopt the provisions of subsection 329.1 paragraphs 1 and 2 of The Act provides that such provisions shall also apply to Section 332 of The Act with respect to the "tenant cap" calculations;

AND WHEREAS the Council may pass a by-law to adopt the provisions of Section 329.1 of The Act whereby a "floor" or minimum uncapped tax percentage applies to eligible properties in one or more of the capped classes;

AND WHEREAS the council has reviewed the provisions of Section 329.1 of The Act and hereby deems it necessary and appropriate to adopt optional tools for the purpose of administering limits for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes:

AND WHEREAS the Council has reviewed the provisions of Section 329.1 of The Act and hereby deems it necessary and appropriate to adopt optional tools for the purpose of providing minimum amounts for properties subject to the provisions of Section 331 for the Commercial, Industrial, and Multi-Residential property classes;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew hereby enacts as follows:

- 1. That paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 8 of Subsection 329.1 (1) of The Act shall apply to the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes for 2017.
- 2. And that in determining the amount of taxes for municipal and school purposes for the year under subsection 329 (1) and the amount of the tenant's cap under subsection 332 (5), the greater of the amounts determined under paragraphs a) and b) as set out below shall apply in determining the amount to be added under paragraph 2 of subsection 329 (1), and the increasing amount under paragraph 2 of subsection 332 (5),
 - (a) the percentage set out in Subsection 329 (1) paragraph 2 and in Subsection 332 (5) paragraph 2 shall be ten per cent (10%), and

- (b) the amount of the uncapped taxes for the previous year multiplied by ten per cent (10%).
- 3. The amount of the taxes for municipal and school purposes for a property for a taxation year shall be the amount of the uncapped taxes for the property for the year if the amount of the uncapped taxes exceeds the amount of the taxes for municipal and school purposes for the property for the taxation year as determined under section 329, as modified under section 329.1 of The Act and this by-law, by five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or less.
- 4. And that for all properties that become eligible within the meaning of subsection 331 (20) of The Act, (New Construction), the taxes for municipal and school purposes for the year or portion of the year shall be 100% of the uncapped taxes for the property for 2017.
- 5. That properties are exempt from the application of Part IX of The Act for 2017 if the taxes for the property in the previous year were equal to its uncapped taxes for that year. In other words, this "Stay at CVA" option will exclude properties that were at CVA tax in 2016 from the capping calculations in 2017.
- 6. That all properties in the Multi-Residential class were taxed on full CVA in the previous year final tax billing, the County of Renfrew approves and authorizes under Part IX of The Act for the Multi-Residential class to exit the capping program immediately.
- 7. That, under Part IX of the Act, all properties in the Commercial and Industrial Class phase-out of the capping program by moving towards CVA Tax over a 4 year phase-out period since all properties in the broad class had a tax level of 50% or greater at the time of the previous year final billing. Vacant land is excluded from the eligibility requirements that all properties are within 50% of CVA Tax.
- 8. And that, under Part IX of the Act, capping protection be limited to only reassessment related changes prior to 2017.
- 9. This By-law shall come into force and take effect upon the final passed thereof.

READ a first time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a second time this 26th day of April, 2017.

READ a third time and finally passed this 26th day of April, 2017.



Gouvernement du Canada

Home → News → News Releases → New reporting tool and initiatives improve drone safety





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News Release



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New reporting tool and initiatives improve drone safety

Transport Canada improving safety for Canadians and supporting innovation in growing industry

December 21, 2016 - Ottawa, Ontario - Transport Canada

Canadians expect to feel safe on the ground and in the sky, which is why Transport Canada is moving forward with a number of safety initiatives for drones.

Kate Young, Member of Parliament for London West and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, on behalf of Minister Marc Garneau, today outlined concrete steps that have been taken to improve safety and support innovation in one of Canada's fastest growing industries: drones. This includes launching a new incident-reporting tool to keep Canadians safe from reckless drone use and issuing new exemptions for non-recreational operators that will help industry evolve and develop in a rapidly changing field.

Over the past year, Transport Canada has made progress on drones, also known as unmanned air vehicles (UAVs). The department is focused on a number of key areas including:

- · Helping Canadians report safety concerns through a new online tool
- · Improving regulations for drone operators
- · Simplifying rules for commercial operators with two new exemptions
- · Supporting innovation for commercial operators at a new drone test site in Alberta
- Partnering with retailers to provide safety information at the point-of-sale
- · Launching a No Drone Zone public awareness campaign

Canadians are encouraged to visit www.canada.ca/drone-safety for updates on the department's progress on drones.

Quotes

"Transport Canada is proud of the work that's been done over the past year to improve safety for Canadians and support innovation for the drone industry. Many Canadians will receive or purchase drones over the holidays this year and we encourage all new operators to learn the rules and help us keep the skies safe."

Kate Young

Member of Parliament for London West

"In the past few years, the use of drones in Canada has increased tremendously and it's a good time to be working with this industry. Transport Canada is taking a number of steps to improve safety and innovation in this sector, including engaging retailers so new drone users are aware of the rules from the start; introducing an efficient tool for Canadians to report safety issues; and helping drone users test new technology." The Honourable Marc Gameau

Minister of Transport

"The growth and availability of drones and other unmanned aircraft have truly opened the skies. Whether you're flying for fun or work, it's important to always put safety first. Fanshawe is doing its part to keep the skies safe by offering Transport Canada-compliant training, developed to ensure drone pilots have the knowledge and skills to contribute to an industry culture marked by growing diligence and responsibility." Stephen Patterson

Chair of Fanshawe's Norton Wolf School of Aviation Technology

Quick Facts

- Anyone who operates a drone in a reckless and negligent manner, violates controlled or restricted airspace, or endangers the safety of manned aircraft could face fines of up to \$25,000 and/or prison.
- So far in 2016, the department has issued 4,298 SFOCs, compared to 2,480 SFOCs in 2015 (an increase of 73 %)
- If an operator does not follow the requirements of their SFOC, Transport Canada can issue fines of up to \$3,000 for an individual and \$15,000 for a business.

Associated Links

- · Drone safety website
- · Backgrounder: Transport Canada's drone safety initiatives
- · Report a drone incident (online form)
- Notice of Proposed Amendment on UAVs

Contacts

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This news release may be made available in alternative formats for persons living with visual disabilities.

Search for related information by keyword

Hon. Marc Garneau | Transport Canada | Transport

Date modified:

2016-12-21



NORTH RENFREW LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES INC.

P.O. Box 1988 • 47 Ridge Road • Deep River, Ontario K0J 1P0 • Tel: 613-584-1900 • Fax: 613-584-9183 E-mail: nrltc@nrltc.ca • Web Site: www.nrltc.ca

May 12, 2017

Township of Head, Clara and Maria General Delivery Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

Attention: Ms. Melinda Reith, Clerk



Dear Ms. Reith:

Enclosed please find five copies of the announcement of the North Renfrew Long-Term Care Centre's Annual General Meeting, which will be held on May 31st of this year.

Please provide a copy to the Mayor and all members of Municipal Council. We invite all Council members and your constituents to attend this Meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

KIM RODGERS Administrator

KR:mc

Enclosure - 5

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