



Town of Arnprior
Regular Meeting of Council: March 11th, 2024
Correspondence Package Number A-24-MAR-04

Recommendation:

That the Correspondence Package Number. A-24-MAR-04 be received, and that the recommendation(s) outlined be brought forward for Council's consideration.

Action Items:

1. **Resolution for Support – Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) – Municipal Equipment Operator Course**

That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) as information;

Whereas municipal public works departments across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities, ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

Whereas if it was not for our municipal public works employees maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

Whereas municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause the levels of service that municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

Whereas there is currently no province-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

Further That Council calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

Further That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

2. Resolution for Support – Township of Perry – Amend Blue Box Regulation re Ineligible Sources

That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Township of Perry as information;

Whereas under *Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box*, producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only; and,

Whereas 'ineligible' sources which producers are not responsible for include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations such as shelters and food banks; and,

Whereas should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior requests that the Province of Ontario amend *Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box* so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources; and

Further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

3. Resolution for Support – Town of Lincoln – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Town of Lincoln as information;

Whereas libraries and museums serve as multi-faceted, community hubs for the populations that they serve and provide a variety of essential services including, but

not limited to, material lending, children's programming, public access to the internet, social engagement, preserving our local history and stories, and as spaces for educational and community events; and

Whereas provincial funding for public libraries has not increased for over 25 years and library revenues are primarily derived from their local municipalities, user fees and donations which limits the ability of libraries to ensure long-term stability in times of high inflation, technological change and increasing demands on libraries due to population growth; and,

Whereas funding for community museums through the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) has stagnated for over 15 years which limits the ability of small community museums to bolster staffing, increase service delivery and support their communities; and

Whereas the Arnprior Public Library and Arnprior and District Museum act as inclusive community hubs and their operations are critical to the health and vibrancy of our community in addition to contributing to regional tourism, social inclusion and participation, community well-being, skill building and learning;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior urges the Government of Ontario to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums in recognition of the role that these institutions play as community hubs that contribute greatly to the economic, cultural and social foundations of rural communities across Ontario; and

Further that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of the Tourism, Culture and Sport; the MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).



AORS
PROMOTING **KNOWLEDGE**. PURSUING **EXCELLENCE**

January 8, 2024

Dear Head of Council, Deputy Head of Council and Councillors,

Your local Public Works department provides invaluable services within your community. Without the dedicated public works employees that you are fortunate to have, many basic functions in your community would not be able to happen. Without maintained roads, your emergency services (police, fire, and ambulance) would not be able to respond to calls, school buses could not run to get children to school, and your residents would not be able to leave to work, school, appointments, children's extra-curriculars and any other activity important to them. Additionally, as you work with the provincial government to tackle the housing crisis, your communities require more core infrastructure to handle the growth. For the health and safety of our communities it is important we keep our Public Works department staff complement full, and well trained.

Public Works departments across the province have already begun to feel the impacts of labour shortages, and as we will begin to see many retirements across the province, the shortage will become even more exasperated. From a recent survey that AORS completed with public works departments from across Ontario, we know that 91.5% of respondents will be hiring entry level positions in the next three to five years. However, we are already seeing the start of the labour shortage. From our survey, we found that 70% of respondents already reported getting less than five applications for entry level positions when posted, and the top three challenges municipalities are currently facing is a lack of applicants, applicants that do apply not meeting the required qualifications and municipalities having to compete with private sector positions.

Over the last year, AORS has been dedicating much of our advocacy to encouraging youth to consider careers in public works through career fairs, local government presentations to students, developing printed resources for guidance counsellors and much more. AORS has also been working closely with Fanshawe College Corporate Training Solutions to develop a Municipal Operator Course that would train potential municipal equipment operators to come to your municipality with the basic knowledge they need to begin maintaining your core infrastructure. This would be the first course of its kind that would attract potential students from across the Province of Ontario. To fund this endeavor, AORS has applied for a Skills Development Fund through the Province's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades. We are reaching out to you for your support in our application and your advocacy to the province on why having more – and qualified – applicants to our public works departments are so imperative.

We would ask that you consider passing the following motion:

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as

emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that (INSERT MUNICIPALITY NAME) supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND THAT, (INSERT MUNICIPALITY NAME) calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, (INSERT MUNICIPALITY'S NAME)'s Member of Provincial Parliament (INSERT LOCAL MPP NAME) and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

We appreciate your on-going support and should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact AORS for all things municipal public works!

Best regards,



John Maheu
AORS Executive Director



Dennis O'Neil
AORS Member Services Coordinator



Christie Little
AORS Training and Programming Coordinator



Kelly Elliott
AORS Marketing and Communications
Specialist



Township of Perry

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February 26, 2024

Via Email

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

**RE: Request to the Province to Amend Blue Box Regulation for
'Ineligible' Sources**

At their last regular meeting on Wednesday February 21, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following:

"Resolution #2024-52

Moved by: Paul Sowrey

Seconded by: Jim Cushman

Whereas under Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box producers are fully accountable and financially responsible for their products and packaging once they reach their end of life and are disposed of, for 'eligible' sources only;

And Whereas 'ineligible' sources which producers are not responsible for include businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks;

And Whereas should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible' sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, and processing of the recycling, assuming 100% of the costs;

Be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue

Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from all sources;

And further that Council hereby request the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

And further that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, and to all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried."

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bm', is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Beth Morton
Clerk-Administrator

BM/ec

c.c. Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
All Ontario Municipalities



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BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1
905-563-8205

February 28, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: Premier@ontario.ca

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

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 26, 2024, passed the following motion regarding an Urgent Need for Increased Funding to Libraries and Museums in Ontario:

Resolution No: RC-2024-23

Moved by Mayor Easton; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

WHEREAS the provincial funding for public libraries is currently based on population levels from 25 years ago, which fails to reflect the substantial growth and changing needs of our communities. The Town of Lincoln Council wishes to draw your attention to the "Overdue" report of 2023 from the Canadian Urban Council, which emphasizes the pivotal role libraries play in various aspects of community life, including knowledge distribution, culture, health, reconciliation, belonging, and our democracy; and

WHEREAS libraries, situated at the heart of our communities, serve as multifaceted institutions catering to diverse needs. They provide essential services such as access to culture and information, refuge for those experiencing domestic violence, election information centers, job search facilities, health clinics, language learning centers for newcomers, and spaces for educational and community events. Despite their vital role, public libraries in Ontario have not seen an increase in provincial funding for over 25 years, leading to a decrease in the value of the province's investment by over 60%; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to

consider increasing provincial funding for Ontario's public libraries to address critical shared priorities and community needs. While over 90% of library funding comes from local municipal governments, provincial operating funding is crucial for providing stability to library budgets, especially in times of inflation, technological changes, and increasing demands on libraries as community hubs; and

WHEREAS the Town of Lincoln Council would like to bring to the Provincial Government's attention the pressing need to increase the funding envelope for the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG). The Town of Lincoln currently receives \$25,000 annually, the maximum amount through this grant, but the funding envelope has remained stagnant for over 15 years. This limitation hampers the ability of community museums to offset increasing operational expenses, impacting their role in preserving and promoting local stories, attracting cultural tourists, supplementing school curriculum, and contributing to vibrant and vital communities; and

WHEREAS the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre is a community hub critical to the health and vibrancy of our community. An increase in CMOG funding will enable our museum to continue its valuable service to the community, creating a sense of place, attracting cultural tourists, and preserving local stories that define our unique identity; and

WHEREAS Cultural institutions, particularly museums, play a vital role in shaping and preserving our community's identity. They contribute to tourism, social participation, senior well-being, skill-building, and learning. As the largest government funder for most of Ontario's smaller museums, municipalities create value in their communities through the work of these institutions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Lincoln Council urges the Provincial Government to support increasing funding to both public libraries and community museums. Recognizing these institutions as national assets and strategically investing in their potential will contribute significantly to renewing post-pandemic social cohesion, economic well-being, and community resilience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Province, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Niagara Region, the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara and all municipalities of Ontario for endorsement.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Julie Kirkelos

Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Premier of Ontario
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ann-Marie Norio, Clerk, Niagara Region
Local Area Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities