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February 9, 2024

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Attn: Minister Paul Calandra
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

RE: Township of Ramara Resolution 2024.24
Request for Province of Ontario and AMO Social and Economic Prosperity
Review to Promote the Stability and Sustainability of Municipal Finances

Dear Minister Paul Calandra,

At their regular meeting on January 29, 2024, the Council of the Township of Ramara passed the following resolution:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND THAT staff circulate it to MPP Jill Dunlop, applicable Ministries, and Ontario Municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory; however, if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Connor CMO, AOMC

Director of Legislative Services & Community Services / Clerk

Cc. MPP Jill Dunlop

Via email: Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org