

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Thursday, June 13, 2013				Report Date	Monday, June-10-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Change in Election Law and Head of Council Report #13/06/13/1201									

Subject: Council support for amendments to Ontario Election Law and the election of the Head of Council for small municipalities.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council pass the attached resolution providing for amendments to the current process of electing Heads of Council for small municipalities.

WHEREAS the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria has discussed the situation of having few members of the public run for political office and losing a viable candidate in a contest for Head of Council;

AND WHEREAS in any contest there is only one winner with the non-elected candidates being refused a seat when they may have received more votes than some of those running for Council or where there were only 3 candidates for the 4 remaining seats on council;

AND WHEREAS a solution may be to amend current laws to allow all seats to be elected at large and have a Head of Council elected by the five members after the general election;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to lobby the province to request that they reconsider the existing election rules so that smaller municipalities may benefit from utilizing the services of the few interested individuals who run for Council who receive the most votes.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Self Explanatory. Council has discussed this issue and would like to attempt to make changes which would benefit many small municipalities who find it difficult to attract and retain viable candidates for Council.

Options/Discussion: Various and to be discussed.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: None for Council.

Policy Impact:.. None, ultimately would amend provincial elections legislation.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith