Council Agenda Item 10(a) – Consent Agenda

For the Regular Meeting of Council November 21, 2024

If you wish to separate an Item from the Consent Agenda, please contact the Municipal Clerk prior to the meeting so a resolution can be prepared for any item requiring debate.

- 1. Correspondence from John Veen re: School Busses
- 2. Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Response to the Minister of Finance's 2024 Fall Economic Statement.
- 3. County of Renfrew Resolution re: Funding of Child Welfare Agencies

Head Clara & Maria 15 Township hall Rd Stonecliffe ON K0J 2K0

the Clerk

Dear person

I am concerned about our School Busses we do not need You live in a community where all kids spent many hours in the school bus That is a waste of time of No Education I like Parents to speak up and organize a local school Here are some reasons I intent to submit to the NRT

School Busses

All together we can sing this new 3 part round and around

The School busses The school busses

We do not need them We do not need them

We need education We need education

School Busses Strike Why? Is there an other way?

We can look back to the time when there were no Busses but education This is good time to turn the clock back and keep the kids in its local community That means smaller local school that we used to have

Every village in the valley can start their own primary school These small school might have combined classes where older kids teach younger kids under supervision of a trained teacher The question is 'How do we bring education to the kids? Why do we lock our chidren for hours in a bus where they have NO EDUCTION We need PARENTS ACTION

To start talking about this you can Contact me and share ideas Some technical person is able to create a website where we can share John Veen <johnalbertveen@gmail.com>



Mr John Veen PO BOX 305

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Office of the County Warden



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October 30, 2024

The Honourable Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
7th Flr, 438 University Ave
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K8
Via email: MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

RE: Funding of Child Welfare Agencies

Dear Minister Parsa,

The Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew at their regular meeting on October 30, 2024, passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke have no financial obligations concerning the funding of Child Welfare agencies; and

WHEREAS the Financial Accountability Office in June 2024 identified issues with funding in the Child Welfare sector; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has experienced a funding cut of \$1.59 million, or 10.8%, over the past ten 10 years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County was provided planning allocations reflecting a further funding reduction of \$963,603 over the next two years; and

WHEREAS Family and Children's Services of Renfrew County has achieved administrative efficiencies as a multi-service agency, has implemented various cost mitigation measures, including reductions in staff and services, and has reached a point where further measures could negatively impact children at risk and their families; and

WHEREAS both the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke are committed to improving the health and safety of their residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke formally request the Province of Ontario to consult with and collaborate with Child Welfare agencies to develop an updated and equitable Child Welfare funding formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the newly developed funding formula be structured to ensure an equitable and proportionate distribution that meets the diverse, unique, individual, and complex needs of the communities and populations served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Warden of the County of Renfrew and the Mayor of the City of Pembroke be directed to write a letter to Minister Parsa expressing their concerns and request a meeting in the fall of 2024 or to submit a joint delegation request for the 2025 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference;

AND THAT this resolution be shared with Premier Doug Ford, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC), Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS), and local municipalities.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Peter Emon Warden

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

c. Premier Doug Ford

MPP John Yakabuski, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)

Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC)

Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus (EOMC)

Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS)

Renfrew County Local Municipalities



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Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Response to the Minister of Finance's 2024 Fall Economic Statement

October 30, 2024 - Eastern Ontario – The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) welcomes the Ontario Government's investment in municipalities and the services that they deliver as part of the <u>2024 Ontario Economic</u> <u>Outlook and Fiscal Review: Building Ontario for You</u>, announced today by Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy.

The Ontario Government's plan reduces the deficit and retains a path to balance the budget by 2026–2027. Compared to the 2024 Budget, Ontario is also projected to see both stronger growth in real GDP and employment in 2024.

A highlight for Eastern Ontario's small and rural municipalities includes an increase of \$100 million over the next two years to the <u>Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund</u> (OMPF). This will bring the OMPF funding to \$600 million by 2026. The OMPF is the Ontario Government's main general assistance grant to municipalities.

Infrastructure that enables housing and supports community vitality is the top priority for the EOWC. The EOWC's *Mind The Gap*: Municipal Infrastructure Policy Paper highlights that we are a growing economy that can grow more with strategic investments. The current reality for rural and small-urban Ontario communities across the region is that the municipal infrastructure deficit is growing and has deepened by 58% since 2011. The EOWC hopes to continue working with the Ontario Government to unlock long term, sustainable infrastructure funding that will work for Ontario's rural and small-urban municipalities.

Additionally, under our strategic priority of healthcare, the EOWC is pleased to see investments in the <u>Learn and Stay Grant</u> program. This will help train and retain family physicians in Ontario and increase overall access to primary care. The EOWC is currently partnering with the <u>Eastern Ontario Physician</u> <u>Recruitment Alliance</u> (EOPRA), which is a regional-municipal partnership of



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physician recruiters across Eastern Ontario working together to attract Canadians studying abroad as well as international doctors. This alliance supports our region's efforts to ensure people have timely access to primary care.

"On behalf of the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, I thank Minister Bethlenfalvy for the increased investment in the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund highlighted in the Fall Economic Statement. This \$100 million boost signifies the Ontario Government's recognition of the unique challenges faced by out 103 rural and small-urban communities. The funding will bolster essential services and also foster growth and resilience across our region," stated EOWC Chair Peter Emon.

About the EOWC

The EOWC Inc. is a non-profit organization advocating for 103 small urban and rural municipalities across Eastern Ontario. The EOWC covers an area of 50,000 square kilometres, serving 800,000 residents. For more than 20 years, the EOWC has gained support and momentum by speaking with a united voice to champion regional municipal priorities and work with the government, businesses, non-profit organizations, Indigenous leaders, the media, and the public.

Media Contacts:

Elected officials:

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Bonnie Clark, 2024 Vice-Chair, EOWC (Warden of Peterborough County) 705-927-4207 info@eowc.org



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