

In accordance with the notice and submission deadline requirements of Sections 18.1 (b) and 11.3, respectively, of Niagara Region's Procedural By-law, the Regional Clerk received from Councillor Sendzik a motion to be brought forward for consideration at the February 25, 2021 Council meeting respecting Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020.

Whereas Schedule 6 of Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 considers amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act relating to municipal autonomy and the principle that municipalities can veto a development outside their municipal boundary in an adjacent municipality;

Whereas Bill 197 empowers multiple municipalities to 'veto' development of a landfilling site within a 3.5 km zone inside the boundary of an adjacent municipality;

Whereas Bill 197 establishes a dangerous precedent that could be expanded to other types of development;

Whereas Bill 197 compromises municipal autonomy and the authority of municipal councils to make informed decisions in the best interest of their communities and municipal taxpayers; and

Whereas amendments in Schedule 6 could cause conflict in the effective management of landfill sites, put significant pressure on existing landfill capacity, and threaten the economic activity associated with these sites.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That while the Region of Niagara supports the Act's open-for-business approach, the municipality **CALLS** upon the Government of Ontario (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MOECP) to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020, to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and that the 'host' municipality be empowered to render final approval for landfills within their jurisdiction;
2. That a copy of this motion **BE FORWARDED** to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local M.P.Ps., and the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) and;
3. That a copy of this resolution **BE FORWARDED** to all Ontario municipalities with a request for supporting motions to be passed by respective Councils and copies of the supporting motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament, and the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO).