

To: Regional Clerk

From: Councillor Ip

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Motion for consideration at Public Health and Social Services Committee:

A Call to the Provincial Government to End Homelessness in Ontario

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS underinvestment and policy choices of successive provincial governments are significant contributors to the homelessness crisis;

WHEREAS the Auditor General's 2021 report found that the funding allocation model for homelessness is incorrect and results in several municipalities, including Niagara Region, being underfunded by the province to address homelessness;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service, and health solutions from government;

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity, or tools to address this complex challenge; and

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Niagara Regional Council **CALL** on the Provincial Government to urgently:
  - a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
  - b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
  - c. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal; and
  
2. That a copy of this motion **BE SENT** to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.