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December 14, 2023

SENT VIA EMAIL: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Comprehensive Review and Overhaul of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on December 13, 2023, passed the following motion regarding Comprehensive Review and Overhaul of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990:

Resolution No.: RC-2023-161

Moved by Deputy Mayor/Councillor JD Pachereva; Seconded by Mayor Easton

WHEREAS the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990*, and its regulations were established to provide a framework for managing emergencies and civil protection in Ontario and has remained largely unchanged for nearly 20 years; and

WHEREAS municipalities across the Province of Ontario are encountering a range of emerging situations that are diverse and increasingly complex that were not adequately envisioned when the *Act* was drafted; and

WHEREAS the evolving nature of emergencies, including but not limited to pandemics, cyber threats, climate-related events, mental health crises, and homelessness, requires a modernized and comprehensive legislative framework to empower municipalities to effectively respond and protect their communities;

WHEREAS the ability for municipalities to share emergency management resources and services (e.g., two or more municipalities sharing a Community Emergency Management Coordinator) is effectively impeded by restrictive language in the *Act* and regulations, which leads to inefficiencies, duplication of

efforts, and impediments to the ability of municipalities to maintain robust emergency management programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS the evolving nature of emergencies and crises requires an updated and comprehensive approach to ensure the *Act* effectively addresses modern challenges and address gaps in the current legislation; and

WHEREAS a thorough review and overhaul of the *Act* and its regulations will enhance the capacity of municipalities to prevent, mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from various unforeseen and emergent circumstances; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town of Lincoln Council urges the Province of Ontario to engage in a consultative process with municipalities, emergency management professionals, and relevant stakeholders to gather input and insights for the development of updated legislation that reflects the current needs and realities of local communities; and

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Town of Lincoln Council and its staff will actively collaborate with the Province of Ontario during the review process, providing necessary information, feedback, and expertise to contribute to the development of a robust and effective emergency management framework; and

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Town of Lincoln Council request the Provincial Government to undertake a comprehensive review and overhaul of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990*, and its regulations to better align with the current and future needs of municipalities in addressing emergent and evolving situations; and

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be communicated to the Provincial Government, emphasizing the urgency and importance of this undertaking in safeguarding the well-being and safety of our communities and Town of Lincoln Council encourages other municipalities to adopt similar resolutions in support of this critical initiative;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Treasury Board Secretariat, and Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, Niagara four MPs; Niagara's four MPPs; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Regional Municipality of Niagara and the 12 Local Area Municipalities in Niagara.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk
jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dk

C.c. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Treasury Board Secretariat
Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
Niagara Area MPs and MPPs
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Region of Niagara
Local Area Municipalities