



**THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS**

**Resolution No.:**

**Title: Provincial-Municipal Funding**

**Date:** March 25, 2024

**Moved by:** Mayor A. Lawlor

**Seconded by:** Councillor C. Somerville

**Item No.**

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WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure – as examples, the reconstruction of Eighth Line is estimated to cost \$83 Million and the Gellert Recreation Centre Phase 2, \$26 Million;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and property taxpayers are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises and also being asked to help finance local healthcare facilities which are provincial responsibilities;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize provincial facilities and income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity to fund the necessary infrastructure to support growth. For example, the Town of Halton Hills has a current infrastructure investment funding gap averaging \$26.8 million per year. The Town's ten-year capital forecast is \$607 Million, with over half that amount directly related to growth and a significant funding gap is projected to persist;

AND WHEREAS recent provincial changes to development charges have resulted in municipal revenue losses, while the Provincial Government's commitment to ensuring municipalities are kept whole for any impact of their ability to fund housing infrastructure has not materialized;

AND WHEREAS, Halton Regional Council has recently endorsed a resolution requesting a new fiscal framework (New Deal) for Halton to address the funding shortfall for cost shared health and social services programming, the shortfall in development charge revenues, and to ensure critical water and wastewater infrastructure is adequately funded to keep pace with growth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town of Halton Hills Council supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's call for a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review with the Provincial Government to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor write to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing outlining support for AMO's call for a social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, Halton's MPPs & MPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Halton's Municipalities for their information.

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Mayor Ann Lawlor