



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.:

Title: Federal infrastructure funding not keeping pace with population growth

Date: April 15, 2024

Moved by: Councillor C. Somerville

Seconded by:

Item No.

WHEREAS, Canada is experiencing record population growth, having welcomed 1.25 million new Canadians last year alone;

AND WHEREAS According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) we need to build at least 3.5 million additional homes by 2030, and municipalities need to build or expand the infrastructure to accommodate this growth;

AND WHEREAS, FCM has estimated that the cost of the municipal infrastructure required support housing development is, on average, in the range of \$107,000 per unit;

AND WHEREAS According to Statistics Canada the cost of upgrade *existing* municipal infrastructure so that it is in a state of good repair is in the range of \$170 billion;

AND WHEREAS, Non-residential construction price inflation has risen by 29% since the end of 2020 and municipalities are facing soaring costs for infrastructure project without a corresponding growth in revenue;

AND WHEREAS Unlike federal and provincial revenue, municipal tax revenue has not increased in recent years along with inflation, economic growth or population growth;

AND WHEREAS Municipalities are facing a gap in federal infrastructure funding as the 10-year Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has come to an end, the Canada Community-Building Fund is being renegotiated and the Permanent Public Transit Fund is set to start in 2026;

AND WHEREAS The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides more than \$2.4 billion in annual capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism, and municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing critical core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, and cultural and recreational facilities;

AND WHEREAS the predictable nature of the CCBF has allowed communities like Halton Hills and the 1.8 Million dollars received annually by Halton Hills has positively allowed for long range planning for asset renewal and management;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Town of Halton Hills calls on the federal government to work with the Provinces, municipalities and all signatories of the CCBF to maintain the CCBF as a source of direct, predictable, long-term funding for local infrastructure priorities that allow the greatest flexibility;

AND FURTHER THAT the federal government commit, in Budget 2024, to the next generation of infrastructure programs, including a new program for water and wastewater infrastructure and an increase to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund;

AND FURTHER THAT that the federal government convene provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a “Municipal Growth Framework” to modernize the way that municipalities are funded in order to enable Canada’s long-term growth;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor be requested to write the Prime Minister, the Federal and Provincial opposition parties, Hon. Michael Chong PC MP, Premier Ford and Ted Arnott MPP on the importance of a flexible CCBF to Halton Hills and highlight some of the great work we have accomplished so far.

Mayor Ann Lawlor