

## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.:

Title: Economic Development

**Date:** October 28, 2024

Moved by: Councillor D. Keene

Seconded by: Councillor C. Somerville

Item No.

WHEREAS the Town of Halton Hills Council's Strategic Plan priority includes creating and supporting a Thriving Economy where Halton Hills is showcased as a prime investment destination, where employment land development is expedited, and where new non-residential investment is attracted:

AND WHEREAS the Town has in place comprehensive Economic Development & Tourism and Foreign Direct Investment strategies to advance Halton Hills' long-term economic prosperity;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Halton Hills has a dedicated team of Economic Development professionals;

AND WHEREAS the continued attraction of non-residential investment is critical to the Town's ability to attract quality local jobs, expand non-residential assessment and increase municipal revenue growth;

AND WHEREAS the increased municipal revenue generated through economic development activity is critical to the Town's ability to effectively and efficiently deliver municipal services;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Halton Hills has a diverse mix of employment areas and commercial centres that support a robust and diversified economy;

AND WHEREAS, achieving and supporting a thriving economy requires an ongoing commitment to the implementation of applicable economic strategies and initiatives, to match community growth and to be resilient to changing economic conditions;

AND WHEREAS, aligned with its Strategic Plan, the Town of Halton Hills Council has a key role in supporting, encouraging and fostering local economic growth for the benefit of the community, and to ensure that Halton Hills is a great place to live, work and invest;

AND WHEREAS the Town's Premier Gateway employment area is a thriving business park that has been recently expanded, creating a significant economic growth opportunity;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills is poised to experience significant population growth over the next two decades;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Halton Hills needs to be growth-ready, economically competitive, and focus on its target economic development sectors in order to maximize future economic development opportunities and community benefits;

AND WHEREAS, building on prior investment tours hosted by Economic Development with international businesses, Invest Ontario and a Federal Trade Commissioner, to help capture additional major economic development opportunities and further elevate Halton Hills' profile and brand, the Town would benefit from additional and/or expanded economic development initiatives, and more direct assistance and ongoing involvement by the Federal and Provincial governments;

AND WHEREAS the Town's neighbouring municipalities in Halton and Peel Regions are actively involved in developing and maintaining direct relationships with Federal and Provincial government leaders, including Ministers;

AND THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Halton Hills Council request the Mayor to send a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada; Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry; Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development; Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario; Premier of Ontario; Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; Minister of Energy and Electrification; Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; and Halton MPs and MPPs; and representatives of Invest in Canada and Invest Ontario, inviting them to attend an in-person economic development familiarization tour showcasing Halton Hills as a prime investment destination;

AND FURTHER THAT Town staff be directed to develop and deliver an additional comprehensive economic development tour program, along with supporting materials, for senior federal and provincial government officials to showcase Halton Hills as a prime investment destination, at the earliest possible ime, while recognizing existing workplans and resource availability.
Mayor Ann Lawlor