



June 15, 2020

Andrew MacLeod, President
Postmedia Network Inc.
365 Bloor Street East
Toronto, Ontario M4W 3L4

Dear Mr. MacLeod,

At the Regular Council Meeting of June 1st, the Council of the Town of Essex reviewed the attached correspondence from the Town of Tecumseh which requested that the decision to permanently close Shoreline Week and other local community weekly newspapers be revisited. As a result of their review the following resolution was passed,

Moved By Councillor Bowman
Seconded By Deputy Mayor Meloche

(R20-06-187) That correspondence from the Town of Tecumseh to Postmedia Network Inc., dated May 14, 2020 requesting that they reconsider their decision to permanently close Shoreline Week and other local community weekly newspapers in an effort to preserve an open forum for accountability and transparency in local government and continue to facilitate community engagement; and to consider the introduction of alternative models to maintain local news coverage, be received and supported; and

That a letter of support be sent to Postmedia Network Inc.

Carried

Local newspapers help provide a strong source of local news and vital communication to area residents and the permanent closure of community newspapers may have a serious detrimental impact with respect to informing residents of news and events in small and rural communities, and ensuring a community voice for discussion on local decisions. The Town of Essex supports the Town of Tecumseh's resolution and respectfully requests that Postmedia Network Inc. reconsider this decision.



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Auger", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert W. Auger, L.L.B.
Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
Ext. 1132
Email: rauger@essex.ca

RWA/lam

Enclosure

c.c. Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk
Town of Tecumseh
Email: lmoy@tecumseh.ca



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

May 14, 2020

Postmedia Network Inc.
365 Bloor Street East
Toronto, Ontario M4W 3L4

Attention: President, Andrew MacLeod

Dear Mr. MacLeod,

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, May 12, 2020, gave consideration to a motion put forth by Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti, requesting reconsideration of the permanent closing of the Shoreline Week and its sister community weekly newspapers owned by Post Media Inc.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

“Whereas community newspapers, including Shoreline Week, provide the only print source of local coverage and information in their communities, and facilitates pride and a sense of community that residents and businesses are proud of;

And Whereas the Shoreline Week maintains a strong readership and a valuable media source that residents go to for their local news;

And Whereas the Shoreline Week often provides the only voice for residents to facilitate involvement on local issues that ultimately shape our community, or to celebrate and acknowledge the Town's rich history, businesses and its people;

And Whereas community newspapers fulfill a major gap in local news coverage, where media coverage originating from larger municipalities is minimal or scarce;

And Whereas the permanent closure of operations for Shoreline Week, and other community newspapers will have a devastating effect on informing residents of news and events in small and rural communities, and shut down a community voice for discussion on local decisions;

And Whereas community newspapers are vital communications to area residents by municipalities and marketing tool for businesses in small and rural communities;

Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved that the permanent closure of **Shoreline Week and its sister** community weekly newspapers owned by Postmedia Network Inc. will hinder the ongoing efforts of the Town of Tecumseh to effectively reach and inform all residents of key Council decisions that affect their community and opportunities to participate in local community events;

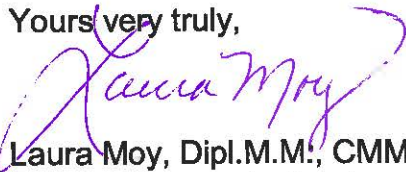
And that Postmedia Network Inc. reconsider their decision to permanently close Shoreline Week and other local community weekly newspapers in an effort to preserve an open forum for accountability and transparency in local government and continue to facilitate community engagement;

And that Postmedia Network Inc. consider the introduction of alternative models to maintain local news coverage in communities such as Tecumseh, such as continuing online community newspapers with portals such as those provided by Metroland Media Group;

And further that this resolution **be circulated** to Postmedia Network Inc. president Andrew MacLeod, and area municipalities for support.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of Tecumseh Council's request.

Yours very truly,



Laura Moy, Dipl.M.M., CMMIII HR Professional
Director Corporate Services & Clerk

LM/kc

CC: Town of LaSalle, arobertson@lasalle.ca
Town of Leamington, bpercy@leamington.ca
Town of Kingsville, jastrologo@kingsville.ca
Town of Lakeshore, knewman@lakeshore.ca
Town of Amherstburg, pparker@amherstburg.ca
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