

February 1, 2021

Sent by E-mail
sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

Honourable Sylvia Jones
Solicitor General
18th Floor - 25 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

Re: Community Safety & Well-Being Plan - Extension Request

Dear Solicitor General Jones,

The Township of Asphodel-Norwood is participating in a regional Community Safety & Well-Being Plan (CSWB) plan with the City of Peterborough and the eight (8) lower-tier municipalities located within the County of Peterborough. The decision to develop a joint plan was derived after consulting with our municipal neighbours. Our vision for a long-term tool that addresses the unique needs of our area while supporting safe, healthy, and sustainable communities by moving away from reactionary, incident-driven responses and re-focusing on proactive, collaborative initiatives to take the strain off the emergency response system is shared by all of our municipal partners; as the success of our community is dependent upon each and every individual's well-being.

Preparations are underway, but the response efforts needed to manage the COVID-19 outbreak have taken priority and an unprecedented amount of time, energy, and resources. A meaningful CSWB Plan requires extensive public consultation and engagement in order to prepare a document that is both comprehensive and in alignment with the legislative intent. Given the current political climate and the ongoing effects of the pandemic, a deadline extension for the completion and adoption of a CSWB Plan would be the most appropriate course of action. The Township appreciates the extension previously granted from January 1, 2021 to July 1, 2021, but humbly asks the Solicitor General consult with municipalities before prescribing a new deadline.

With that in mind, I put forward the following resolution for your consideration:

WHEREAS the Police Services Act, 1990, was amended on January 1, 2019 to mandate every municipality in Ontario to prepare and adopt a Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing introduced the Municipal Emergency Act, 2020 to assist municipal governments and local boards during the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS the protective measures municipalities have put in place to protect their communities, Councillors, and staff members include eliminating face-to-face meetings, closing municipal offices, and directing staff to work from home; and

WHEREAS Bill 189, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020 was passed to amend various acts to support municipal, policing, and community partners during the pandemic;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that while these measures are imperative and necessary, they impose undue hardship on municipalities to meet provincial deadlines such as the completion and adoption of a Community Safety & Well-Being (CSWB) Plan prior to July 1, 2021. The Council of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood calls upon the Solicitor General to review the imposed deadline for municipalities to complete and adopt a Community Safety & Well-Being (CSWB) Plan in consultation with local governments to address the unique challenges facing individual regions.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our request. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you require any further information.

Sincerely,



Candice White, CAO/Clerk/Treasurer
Township of Asphodel-Norwood

Cc: Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
All Ontario Municipalities in Ontario