



Norfolk County Office of the Mayor

January 22, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Jeff Yurek
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

The Honourable Steve Clark
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON
M5G 2E5

Dear Premier Ford and Honourable Ministers,

Re: Endorsement St. Catharines Resolution Bill 197

At their meeting of January 19, 2021 Norfolk County Council approved Resolution No. 6 of the Council-In-Committee meeting of January 12, 2021 endorsing the resolution of St. Catharines respecting Bill 197 which reads as follows:

Res. 6

WHEREAS Schedule 6 of Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 considers amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act relating to municipal autonomy and the principle that municipalities can veto a development outside their municipal boundary in an adjacent municipality; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 empowers multiple municipalities to 'veto' development of a landfilling site within a 3.5 km zone inside the boundary of an adjacent municipality; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 establishes a dangerous precedent that could be expanded to other types of development; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 compromises municipal autonomy and the authority of municipal councils to make informed decisions in the best interest of their communities and municipal taxpayers; and

WHEREAS amendments in Schedule 6 could cause conflict in the effective management of landfill sites, put significant pressure on existing landfill capacity, and threaten the economic activity associated with these sites;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That Norfolk County calls upon the Government of Ontario (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020, to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and that the 'host' municipality be empowered to render final approval for landfills within their jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPP's., the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) and the Western Wardens Caucus;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities.

Your attention to this issue is appreciated.

Yours Truly,



Mayor Kristal Chopp
Norfolk County

cc. Toby Barrett- MPP Haldimand-Norfolk
Diane Finley – MP Haldimand-Norfolk
Association of Ontario Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities
Western Ontario Wardens Caucus