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December 1, 2021

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

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on November 22, 2021, passed the following resolution regarding fire safety measures:

"WHEREAS the Government of Ontario, in December 1975, enacted the Ontario Building Code for the purpose of regulating the construction of new, safe buildings within the Province of Ontario; and,

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario, in November 1981 enacted the Ontario Fire Code for the purpose of maintaining the life safety systems of all buildings within the Province of Ontario; and,

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario, in November 1983 began the process of amending the Ontario Fire Code to include Retrofit provisions, for the purpose of providing a minimum level of life safety for those existing buildings which had not been built under the provisions of any version of the Ontario Building Code; and,

WHEREAS the government of Ontario, in October 1992 amended the Ontario Fire Code Retrofit provisions, for the purpose of providing a minimum level of life safety to buildings classed as low rise residential (9.5); and,

WHEREAS October 2021 marks twenty-nine (29) years since the requirements outlined by Retrofit 9.5 have been substantially updated; and,

WHEREAS this lack of currently appropriate standards for self-closing devices on suite doors and positive latching on exit stairwell doors has led to significant serious injuries, deaths, long term dislodgement of residents, and significant unnecessary insurance loss due to allowed building deficiencies;

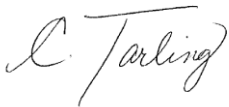
THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener urges the government of Ontario to direct the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office – Technical Services, to undertake an immediate review of that portion of the Ontario Fire Code known as Retrofit Section 9.5;

THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener urges the Government of Ontario to, as expeditiously as possible, amend the Ontario Fire Code Sentence 9.5.2.8.(1) to require self closing devices on all suite closures (doors) within low rise residential buildings: and,

THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener urges the Government of Ontario to, as expeditiously as possible, amend the Ontario Fire Code Sentence 9.5.3.3.(3) to require that closures (doors) entering exit stairwells be equipped with both self-closing devices and positive latching; and,

THEREFORE IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and, all other Ontario municipalities."

Yours truly,



C. Tarling  
Director of Legislated Services  
& City Clerk

c: Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario Municipalities