



THE TOWNSHIP OF
WOOLWICH

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March 8, 2022

Prime Minister of Canada
Hon. Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

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

Honorable Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

RE: Resolution Passed by Woolwich Township Council – Mental Health Supports

This letter is to inform you that the Council of the Township of Woolwich endorsed the following resolution at their meeting held on March 7, 2022:

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Woolwich (the "Township") has been an annual funding partner of Woolwich Counselling Centre to support local mental health counselling; and

WHEREAS Woolwich Counselling Centre is part of the broader Counselling Collaborative of Waterloo Region, a community-based partnership between six community counselling service providers within Waterloo Region; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on individuals and families, both globally and locally, including immediate and ongoing mental health concerns; and

WHEREAS the Township is aware that there has been an average 39% increase in total client referrals, which includes a 71% increase in child and youth referrals, for government funded programs in 2021 across member organizations of the Counselling Collaborative of Waterloo Region, which has led to difficulty for the member organizations to keep up with the demand in terms of bringing on new qualified staff to support the substantial increase in local client needs; and

WHEREAS the Township believes local needs for mental health supports and difficulties in responding to this increased need is indicative of a broader issue across Ontario and is expected to continue in the future; and

WHEREAS the current provincial funding model for mental health support is fragmented across several ministries and programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Woolwich requests that the Government of Canada ensure appropriate and sustained funding is transferred to provinces for mental health purposes in their 2022 budget; and

THAT the Council of the Township of Woolwich requests the Government of Ontario to provide stable, reliable and predictable funding for mental health organizations in their 2022 budget; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Federal Minister of Finance, the local Member of Parliament, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and other municipalities in Ontario.

Should you have any questions, please contact Alex Smyth, by email at asmyth@woolwich.ca or by phone at 519-669-6004.

Yours truly,



Jett Smith
Municipal Clerk
Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich

cc. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
Tim Louis, MP Kitchener-Conestogo
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ontario Minister of Finance
Mike Harris, MPP Kitchener-Conestogo
Association of Municipalities in Ontario (AMO)
Municipalities in Ontario