

February 12, 2024

BY EMAIL

Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A IAI Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Prohibition of Criminals from Municipal Council

At its Regular Council Meeting held on February 5, 2024, Council discussed the enclosed Town of Plympton-Wyoming resolution supporting Conmee Township entitled prohibition of Criminals from Municipal Council. Council supported the notion that local elected officials shall act with integrity, truth, justice honesty, transparency and should be disqualified from office upon conviction of a criminal offence.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R24-02-036

Moved By Councillor Verbeek Seconded By Deputy Mayor Shepley

That the correspondence dated January 15, 2024 from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding the Prohibition of Criminals be received and supported; and

That a letter of support be sent to Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, Conmee Township and local municipalities.

Carried



I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Joseph Malandruccolo

Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk

imalandruccolo@essex.ca

Enclosure

cc: Plymton-Wyoming

Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General

Conmee Township

County of Essex

Town of Amherstburg

Town of Kingsville

Municipality of Lakeshore

Town of LaSalle

Municipality of Leamington

Town of Tecumseh



The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario premier@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

January 15, 2024

Re: Prohibition of Criminals from Municipal Council

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 10th 2024 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council supported the resolution from the Township of Conmee regarding the Prohibition of Criminals from Municipal Council.

Motion 15

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

That Council support item 'j' of correspondence from the Township of Conmee regarding Requiring Pardons for Municipal Councillors with Criminal Records (Prohibition of Criminals from Municipal Council.)

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak

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Clerk

Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Attorney General - Doug Downey

Solicitor General - Michael Kerzner

Minister of Municipal Affairs - Paul Calandra

MPP - Kevin Holland

MPP / Leader of the Official Opposition – Marit Stiles

MPP and Critic of the Attorney General – Kristyn Wong-Tam

MPP and Critic of Solicitor General – John Vanthof MPP and Critic of Municipal Affairs - Jeff Burch

Association of Municipalities of Ontario Rural Ontario Municipal Association Northern Ontario Municipal Association

All Ontario Municipalities



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On December 19th 2023, Council passed the following resolution at its regular meeting:

RESOLUTION 2023-0247 Moved by Councillor Arnold Seconded by Councillor Halvorsen

WHEREAS duly elected Officials of a Municipality, or a Township are expected to be above reproach and to conduct themselves with integrity, truth, justice, honesty, transparency and courtesy.

AND WHEREAS there are people of dubious character who have a Criminal Record, having been convicted of a Federal Offence of any of the Federal Statutes of Canada, but not limited to the Criminal Code or Narcotic Control Act, who are currently on Council of a Municipality or have let their name stand for election for Mayor, Reeve or Councillor as a municipal candidate.

NOT WITHSTANDING the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Conmee lobby the Provincial Government to amend The Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record pardoned from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in municipal elections or holding office in municipal council

AND THAT an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a criminal offense and must resign

AND THAT Council of the Township of Conmee direct the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, Minister of Municipal Affairs Paul Calandra, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP and Leader of the Official Opposition Marit Stiles, MPP and Critic of the Attorney General Kristyn Wong-Tam, MPP and Critic of Solicitor General John Vanthof, MPP and Critic of Municipal Affairs Jeff Burch, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario



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Municipal Association, Northern Ontario Municipal Association, Thunder Bay District Municipal League, and all Ontario municipalities CARRIED