## **TOWN OF AJAX**



65 Harwood Avenue South Ajax ON L1S 3S9 <u>www.ajax.ca</u>

The Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
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Sent by E-Mail

November 29, 2023

Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date &	November 29, 2023
Received:	3:39 pm
Original To:	CIP
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Notes/Comments:	

## Re: Support for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on November 27, 2023:

**WHEREAS** the bulk of government funded programs for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) end at age 18 in Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** families supporting a loved one with ASD are often forced to make the difficult decision between expensive private day programs and leaving the workforce to provide care;

**AND WHEREAS** getting out of the home and connecting with others can alleviate social isolation, improve mental and physical health, and lead to an overall better quality of life;

**AND WHEREAS** Autism Home Base, based in Bowmanville and with weekly drop-ins at McLean Community Centre in Ajax, provides supports and services to 191 Durham Region families, or more than 450 participants, five days a week;

**AND WHEREAS** by supporting programs for adults with ASD, the Government of Ontario can achieve its goal of keeping patients healthy in their communities and out of hospitals, as noted in the Ministry of Health's 2022-2023 Strategic Plan;

## NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Ajax Council formally requests that the Government of Ontario provide core funding for organizations providing programs, care, and services for adults with ASD, including Autism Home Base, as part of the 2024 Provincial Budget; and

A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Health Sylvia Jones, Minister Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo, Ajax MPP Patrice Barnes, the Region of Durham, the lower tier Durham municipalities, local school boards, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and Autism Ontario.

**CARRIED** 

If you require further information please contact me at 905-619-2529 ext. 3342 or Jason.McWilliam@ajax.ca.

## Sincerely,

Jason McWilliam

Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor S. Lee

Councillor L. Bower

Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance

Hon. Michael A. Tibollo, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

Patrice Barnes, MPP for Ajax

Region of Durham

All Durham Region municipalities

Local school boards

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

**Autism Ontario**