

Hon. Patrice Barnes MPP for Ajax Suite 502 230 Westney Rd. S Ajax, ON L1S 7J5 Patrice.Barnes@pc.ola.org **TOWN OF AJAX** 65 Harwood Avenue South Ajax ON L1S 3S9 <u>www.ajax.ca</u>

| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
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| Date & Time Received: | January 31, 2024 8:15 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
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Sent by E-Mail

January 30, 2024

Re: Promoting Stable and Sustainable Municipal Finances

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on January 29, 2024:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility;

AND WHEREAS municipal expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth requires significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are tackling complex health and social challenges – including homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS ratepayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – are ill-positioned to fund the supports required by those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province is in the best fiscal position to invest in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and
- 2. A copy of this motion be sent to Patrice Barnes, MPP for Ajax, Durham Regional Council, all lower tier Durham municipalities, AMO, and Ontario Big City Mayors.

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 Corporate Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Mayor S. Collier Regional Councillor M. Crawford Durham Regional Council All Durham Region municipalities Association of Municipalities of Ontario Ontario's Big City Mayors