



April 30, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Mr. Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton
bob.bailey@pc.ola.org

Re: Strong Mayor Powers

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming at its Regular Council meeting on April 30th, 2025, passed the following motion:

Motion #14


Moved by Kristen Rodrigues
Seconded by Alex Boughen

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario announced on April 9th, 2025, that it will extend “**Strong Mayor Powers**” to an additional 169 Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Province only accepted comments on the government’s intentions until April 16, 2025 with the new powers set to begin on May 1, 2025;

AND WHEREAS the timeline for feedback from municipal councils was unreasonably short, especially when considering many of the impacted councils generally only meet one to two times monthly, with the added staff time required to prepare reports and provide more detailed information on the impact of the provincial legislation;

AND WHEREAS the intent of the legislation is to build more homes faster, The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), which has been tracking the use of strong mayor powers since they were first introduced in Toronto and Ottawa in 2022, said there is no evidence

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to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housings starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers;

AND WHEREAS the new powers include the ability to set budgets, veto bylaws, pass bylaws with just one-third of their council's support, appoint senior civil servants, and solely delegate and oversee the CAO position, which further erodes the lines of an elected official's position and impairs the ability of council to work as a whole on behalf of the community;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the council for the Town of Plympton-Wyoming fully supports the existing electoral process under which the residents duly elected all council members and value a collaborative and council-driven approach to decision making without impairment on any members of council;


AND FURTHER That Council respects the province's intent, but the imposition of Strong Mayor Powers results in an erosion of the democratic process and further deteriorates the promotion of diversity in municipal representation;

AND FURTHER The Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming is formally opposed to the use of Strong Mayor Powers and requests that the province repeal the Strong Mayor Powers Legislation all together as a matter of upholding the democratic rights of all elected officials;

AND FURTHER, that in the absence of a repeal, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council requests that the province allows municipalities the option to formally decline as a matter of record with the province.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.



Sincerely,
Dianne Gould-Brown
dgould-brown@plympton-wyoming.ca
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario