



May 31, 2019

Office of the Chair
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville, ON
L6M 3L1

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

Dear Premier Ford:

RE: Bill 108 – Proposed More Homes, More Choice Act

I am writing to share with you Regional Council's position with respect to Bill 108.

In its current state, Bill 108 contains wide-ranging, disruptive changes that will have significant negative implications for Halton Region and its Local Municipalities. These changes are being proposed without sufficient detail and without an opportunity to engage with the Province on how to most effectively advance changes to advance new housing supply while reflecting sound local housing growth, community planning and financial sustainability principles. It is our position that extensive consultation and collaboration with Ontario municipalities must take place before any changes are advanced. In this regard, at its meeting on May 22, 2019, Regional Council endorsed the following resolution opposing Bill 108:

WHEREAS the legislation that abolished the OMB and replaced it with LPAT received unanimous – all party support; and

WHEREAS all parties recognized that local governments should have the authority to uphold their provincially approved Official Plans; to uphold their community driven planning; and

WHEREAS Bill 108 will once again allow an unelected, unaccountable body to make decisions on how our communities evolve and grow; and

WHEREAS on August 21, 2018 Minister Clark once again signed the MOU with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, which recognizes that "Public policy issues are complex and thus require coordinated responses..." and that "The Municipal Act, 2001 provides that the Province of Ontario endorses the principle of regular consultation between Ontario and municipalities in relation to matters of mutual interest"; and

WHEREAS the MOU sets out that "Ontario is committed to cooperating with its municipal governments in considering new legislation or regulations that will have a municipal impact"; and

Regional Municipality of Halton

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WHEREAS Bill 108 will impact 15 different Acts - Cannabis Control Act, 2017, Conservation Authorities Act, Development Charges Act, Education Act, Endangered Species Act, 2007, Environmental Assessment Act, Environmental Protection Act, Labour Relations Act, 1995, Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017, Municipal Act, 2001, Occupational Health and Safety Act, Ontario Heritage Act, Ontario Water Resources Act, Planning Act, Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Regional Municipality of Halton oppose Bill 108 which in its current state will have negative consequences on community building and proper planning; and

THAT The Regional Municipality of Halton call upon the Government of Ontario to halt the legislative advancement of Bill 108 to enable fulsome consultation with Municipalities to ensure that its objectives for sound decision making for housing growth that meets local needs will be reasonably achieved; and

THAT a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party, John Fraser, Interim Leader of the Liberal Party, Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Green Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario;
And

THAT a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

We thank you for your consideration to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Carr', written in a cursive style.

Gary Carr
Regional Chair

cc – The Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party
John Fraser, Interim Leader of the Liberal Party
Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Green Party
All MPPs in the Province of Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario municipalities