

MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON
GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEES MEETING

RESOLUTION #

DATE: February 5, 2024

MOVED BY Mayor Foster

SECONDED BY Councillor

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 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 will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

And whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

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

And whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

And whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

And whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Clarington requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking, with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario; and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPPs, AMO and the Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA).