

From: Ted Comiskey
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 9:20 AM
Subject: IMPORTANT - Update For Demand the Right Coalition

Good afternoon

Municipal governments, like yours, have achieved an important milestone. In late November, Environment Minister Rod Phillips stated that “municipalities will have a say in the siting of landfills” – as part of his “Made in Ontario Action Plan”, <https://prod-environmental-registry.s3.amazonaws.com/2018-11/EnvironmentPlan.pdf>.

This is a major achievement for the Demand The Right Coalition of Ontario Municipalities (currently 70 municipalities strong), which includes your municipality.

Here’s what we need you and your municipality to do next:

1. The Ontario Government has asked for comments on the Plan. Please click on this link <https://t.co/ai1NsoBXT0>. It will take you directly to the proposed plan. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the COMMENT section. You have until January 28th to provide your comments – **ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE MUNICIPALITIES WITH THE RIGHT TO APPROVE NEW LANDFILLS, NOT JUST A “SAY”**.
2. If you have a Twitter account, go to our campaign’s Twitter page @landfillapproval. All municipalities, mayors, and Councillors are encouraged to follow us and use the hashtag #demandtheright and #onpoli.
3. Re-affirm your municipality’s commitment to landfill approval rights by introducing and approving a revised Demand The Right Motion (attached). Email the revised motion to rod.phillips@pc.ola.org, your local MPP, and forward a copy to info@demandtheright.ca.
4. Join us at ROMA on January 29th, 7:30am for a special breakfast event. We hope to gather as many of the Demand The Right municipal leaders together as possible to update you on our progress. Let’s show the government how important this legislation is!

Sincerely

Ted Comiskey
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MOTION
COUNCIL FOR THE [INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]

MUNICIPALITIES CALL ON PROVINCE TO ENSURE ITS “MADE-IN-ONTARIO ENVIRONMENT PLAN” INCLUDES MUNICIPAL “RIGHT TO APPROVE” LANDFILL DEVELOPMENTS

WHEREAS municipal governments in Ontario do not have the right to approve landfill projects in their communities, but have authority for making decisions on all other types of development;

AND WHEREAS this out-dated policy allows private landfill operators to consult with local residents and municipal Councils, but essentially ignore them;

AND WHEREAS Ontario’s proposed “Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan” states that the province will grant municipalities a “greater say in siting of landfills”;

AND WHEREAS municipalities already have exclusive rights for approving casinos and nuclear waste facilities within their communities, whether to host cannabis retail in their communities, AND FURTHER that the province has recognized the value of municipal approval for the siting of power generation facilities;

AND WHEREAS the recent report from Ontario’s Environmental Commissioner has found that Ontario has a garbage problem, particularly from Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) waste generated within the City of Toronto, where diversion rates are as low as 15%;

AND UNLESS significant efforts are made to increase recycling and diversion rates, a new home for this Toronto garbage will need to be found, as landfill space is filling up quickly;

AND WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are quietly being identified and targeted as potential landfill sites for future Toronto garbage by private landfill operators;

AND WHEREAS other communities should not be forced to take Toronto waste, as landfills can contaminate local watersheds, air quality, dramatically increase heavy truck traffic on community roads, and reduce the quality of life for local residents;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should be considered experts in waste management, as they are responsible for this within their own communities, and often have decades’ worth of in-house expertise in managing waste, recycling, and diversion programs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have the exclusive right to approve or reject these projects, and assess whether the potential economic benefits are of sufficient value to offset any negative impacts and environmental concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** calls upon the Government of Ontario, as part of its “Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan” to formally entrench the right of municipalities to approve or reject landfill projects in or adjacent to their communities;

AND THAT in the case of a two-tier municipality, the approval be required at both the upper-tier and affected lower-tier municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** encourage all other municipalities in Ontario to consider this motion calling for immediate provincial action;

AND THAT the MOTION adopted by Council be forwarded to the DEMAND THE RIGHT COALITION OF ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES.