

June 27, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier@ontario.ca

Re: Support Bill 5

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, at its regular meeting held on June 26, 2023, passed the following resolution:

Whereas Council has previously approved the development of a Municipal Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Strategy.

Whereas this Council previously passed a motion in support of Bill 5.

Whereas a safe and respectful workplace is a basic expectation of all Ontarians and a part of our DEIJ Strategy.

Whereas serving our communities in a leadership role is a privilege and a responsibility.

Whereas all council members agree to follow a Code of Conduct when they are sworn into office.

Whereas AMO, other municipal organizations such as ROMA and OBCM and 84 municipalities have lent their support to making changes to improve and has now requested more direct support from Municipal Councils.

Whereas democracy suffers when the public loses confidence in their representatives and institutions.

Whereas improving local public discourse will improve public confidence in local government and increase respect for our municipal institutions and the work we do.

Therefore, the Municipality of Chatham-Kent supports the recommendations made by AMO,

That the

- Codes of Conduct should be updated to include workplace safety and harassment policies
- Codes of Conduct should have an escalating enforcement mechanism through administrative monetary penalties that recognize local circumstances
- Integrity Commissioners should have better, standardized training to improve consistency of decisions across the province in the most egregious cases, such

as harassment or assault, municipalities should be able to apply to a judge to remove a sitting member if recommended by an Integrity Commissioner

- A member removed under this process should be unable to sit in another election during the term of office removed and the subsequent term

That the Municipality of Chatham-Kent continues to urge the Ontario Government to table and pass legislation to make these changes as soon as possible.

That Administration be directed based on AMO's request to set up meetings with our local MPP's before the AMO Conference in August to request that the Government of Ontario introduce legislation to enact our recommended changes.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Smith at ckclerk@chatham-kent.ca

Sincerely,

Judy Smith, CMO
Director Municipal Governance
Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

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Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local MPPs
Ontario Municipalities