



Community Services

Legislative Services

March 23, 2021

File #120203

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Niagara Region – Amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of March 22, 2021 received and supported correspondence from the Niagara Region dated March 4, 2021 requesting the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and the “hosts” municipality be empowered to render final approval for landfills within their jurisdiction.

Attached please find a copy of the Niagara Region’s correspondence dated March 4, 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

Attach

c.c.

The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks jeff.yurekco@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing steve.clark@pc.ola.org

Jeff Burch, MPP, Niagara Centre jburch-gp@ndp.on.ca

Sam Oosterhoff, MPP, Niagara West sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org

Jennifer Stevens, MPP, St. Catharines JStevens-co@ndp.on.ca

Wayne Gates, MPP, Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario mturner@amo.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities

Mailing Address:

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**Administration**

Office of the Regional Clerk

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March 4, 2021

CL 4-2021, February 25, 2021

DISTRIBUTION LIST***SENT ELECTRONICALLY*****Re: Schedule 6, Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020**

Regional Council, at its meeting held on February 25, 2021, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Schedule 6 of Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 considers amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act relating to municipal autonomy and the principle that municipalities can veto a development outside their municipal boundary in an adjacent municipality;

WHEREAS Bill 197 empowers multiple municipalities to 'veto' development of a landfilling site within a 3.5 km zone inside the boundary of an adjacent municipality;

WHEREAS Bill 197 establishes a dangerous precedent that could be expanded to other types of development;

WHEREAS Bill 197 compromises municipal autonomy and the authority of municipal councils to make informed decisions in the best interest of their communities and municipal taxpayers; and

WHEREAS amendments in Schedule 6 could cause conflict in the effective management of landfill sites, put significant pressure on existing landfill capacity, and threaten the economic activity associated with these sites.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That while the Region of Niagara supports the Act's open-for-business approach, the municipality **CALLS** upon the Government of Ontario (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MOECP) to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020, to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and that the 'host'

municipality be empowered to render final approval for landfills within their jurisdiction;

2. That a copy of this motion **BE FORWARDED** to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local M.P.P.s., and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) and;

3. That a copy of this resolution **BE FORWARDED** to all Ontario municipalities with a request for supporting motions to be passed by respective Councils and copies of the supporting motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament, and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

In accordance with the resolution, it is respectfully requested that your municipality consider passing a supporting resolution to be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament, and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

CLK-C 2021-043

Distribution List:

All Municipalities in Ontario