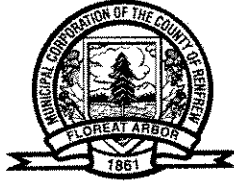


COUNTY OF RENFREW



OFFICE OF THE  
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August 27, 2014

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne  
Premier of Ontario  
Room 281, Main Legislature Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Wynne:

Please be advised that at a meeting of Council of the Corporation of the County of Renfrew on August 27, 2014 the following resolution was adopted:

*WHEREAS in December 2000, the Province of Ontario passed the Continued Protection for Property Taxpayers Act, (Bill 140);*

*WHEREAS the Continued Protection for Property Taxpayers Act, among other matters, exempted certain hydro-electric stations and poles and wires from municipal taxation as of January 1, 2001;*

*WHEREAS the Continued Protection for Property Taxpayers Act removed the right and authority of affected municipalities across the Province to levy property tax notices to hydro-electric stations, poles and wires, representing significant taxable property assessment;*

*WHEREAS the Province of Ontario replaced the above noted rights and authority to tax hydro-electric stations, poles and wires with a compensatory payment, known as the Power Dam Special Payment Program, equivalent to the taxes levied on the subject structures in 2000;*

*WHEREAS the amount of payments under the Power Dam Special Payment Program were adjusted for the Consumer Price Index in some but not all years, an adjustment which did not keep pace with either changes in municipal taxation rates or costs;*

*WHEREAS the above noted changes resulted in an unfair shift in taxation to the remaining property assessment base, more specifically to residents and businesses alike;*

*WHEREAS upon exempting from municipal property taxation, hydro-electric stations, poles and wires that had been subject to such taxation, the Province of Ontario amended the Electricity Act, 1998 requiring the owners of the subject structures to then pay to the Province of Ontario a Gross Revenue Charge (GRC) of three components:*

- *A property tax component payable to the Minister of Finance*
- *A property tax component payable to the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation*
- *A water rental component payable to the Minister of Finance;*

*WHEREAS in July 2014, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 14, Building Opportunity and Securing Our Future Act (Budget Measures) which phases down or decreases the Power Dam Special Payment Program for hydro-electric stations, poles and wires by 23.53% by 2017, starting in 2015;*

*WHEREAS the reduction in the Power Dam Special Payment Program will result in a reduction of annual revenues for affected municipalities by 2017;*

*WHEREAS District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSAB's) that use the proceeds of the Power Dam Special Payment Program as part of their funding formula will also be directly affected, thereby affecting municipalities who do not participate in the Power Dam Special Payment Program;*

*WHEREAS many municipalities are already struggling as a result of accelerated cuts to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), the unknown aspects of a new OPP Billing Model, the elimination of the Connecting Link Program and other cuts;*

*WHEREAS as a result of reductions in the Power Dam Special Payment Program, affected municipalities may not be able to meet their fiduciary obligations;*

*WHEREAS the reduction in the Power Dam Special Payment Program is punitive in nature;*

*WHEREAS the Power Dam Special Payment Program is very small when compared to the multi-billion dollar annual budget of the Province of Ontario yet the impact of the decreased funding is devastating for affected municipalities;*

*WHEREAS affected municipalities will have to increase property tax rates to the remaining property assessment base (assessment in some cases which is decreasing) to compensate for the loss of revenue or be forced to significantly compromise municipal services;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the County of Renfrew request that the Government in the Province of Ontario reverse the decision to decrease funding to the Power Dam Special Payment Program;*

*FURTHER that the Province of Ontario also be requested to annually increase the amount of funding by the amount of any change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to compensate for the increase in municipal costs;*

*AND FURTHER that a copy of the Resolution be sent to the Premier of the Province of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, John Yakabuski, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), and all local municipalities in the County of Renfrew.*

Your government's positive response to this resolution would be appreciated. If you have any questions pertaining to the resolution or would like to discuss this matter in further detail, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Peter R. Emon, Warden  
County of Renfrew  
warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

PRE:rmg

- c: Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance  
Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC)  
All Local Municipalities in the County of Renfrew  
Municipality of Wawa

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## RENFREW COUNTY SELECTED FOR HEALTHY KIDS COMMUNITY CHALLENGE FUNDING

09/24/14

### FOUR YEARS OF FUNDING TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIVING TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN OUR COUNTY

(PEMBROKE ON): Renfrew County will be participating in The Healthy Kids Community Challenge delivering local programs and activities that will support children and youth to be more active and healthy.

Over the next four years, Renfrew County and 44 other selected communities will receive resources from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care including funding, training, guidance and social marketing tools to help promote healthy eating, physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices for children and youth like adequate sleep.

This new program is a key part of Ontario's Healthy Kids Strategy. The strategy is a cross-government initiative launched to promote children's health focusing on: healthy start, healthy food, and healthy active communities.

Chair of Social Services Committee, County of Renfrew, Reeve Donald Rathwell had this to share, "This funding will make a direct and long-lasting impact on the health and well-being of children and youth in our communities. I look forward to working with all our partners to make positive change happen."

"Obesity and being overweight are common disorders affecting about 25% of youth aged 12-17 years in Ontario. In Renfrew County and District, this rate is even higher at 35%. Through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge, Renfrew County and District Health Unit will continue to work with our community partners to promote healthy living with a goal of improving behaviors such as healthy eating and physical activity among children and youth living in Renfrew County", said, Dr. Maureen Carew, Officer of Health, Renfrew County Health Unit.

County of Renfrew Warden Peter Emon echoed these comments with, "The Healthy Kids Community Challenge funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care allows vital programming and education to reach out into our communities. This funding ensures that babies get the best start in life, it helps families make informed and healthier food choices, and it brings focus on physical activity and the importance of good rest for children and youth."

The application for funding was submitted in March by the key partner organizations comprised of the County of Renfrew, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, and the City of Pembroke. The funding of 1.1 million dollars divided over four years will have a county wide positive effect on the lives of children and youth.

If you would like more information, please contact:

Judy Mulvihill Manager Child Care Services, County of Renfrew 613-732-4100

Michael Barber Media Relations/Grants Coordinator, County of Renfrew 613-735-7288