

Regional Municipality of Niagara

Provincial Ridesharing Legislation

Moved by Councillor Quirk
Seconded by Councillor Annunziata

Whereas the sharing economy is growing rapidly through new technology and apps;

Whereas ride-sharing through apps such as Uber and Blacride are increasing in popularity with, as an example, over one million Uber rides per month and growing in Ontario alone;

Whereas sharing apps are increasing in popularity and changing the way consumers choose regulated services, as an example, Uber is now operating in 40 different municipalities representing over seventy-five percent of Ontario's population; and

Whereas ride-sharing apps such as Uber and Blacride increasingly operate across municipal boundaries and a patchwork of local frameworks will cause confusion among consumers, law enforcement and regulators; and

Whereas provincial Bill 131 the Opportunity in the Sharing Economy Act (MPP Tim Hudak) and Bill 53 the Protecting Passenger Safety Act (MPP John Fraser) that seek to address ridesharing issues, have each passed Second Reading in the Ontario Legislature and are awaiting Legislative Committee public hearings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Council for The Regional Municipality of Niagara **CALL ON** the Province of Ontario to develop provincial ridesharing legislation including but not limited to:

- A. Engagement with affected Ontario municipalities, taxi companies, limousine services, insurance companies, law enforcement, consumers, ride sharing companies and drivers;
- B. Changes as needed to modernize the Insurance Act, the Highway Traffic Act, the Public Vehicles Act and any other relevant provincial legislation to enable consumer choice and empower people to make money from their personal vehicle through ride-sharing;
- C. Modern, consistent province wide consumer protection and public safety standards including ride-sharing insurance, driver qualifications and vehicle requirements.

D. Recommendations for relieving the outdated and expensive regulatory burden on taxis and limousines to enable them to fairly compete for customers and keep their costs down.

That this resolution **BE FORWARDED** to all municipalities in Ontario with the request that they consider indicating their support for this most important initiative; and

That passage of this motion **BE FORWARDED** to the Premier of Ontario, the Opposition Leader of Ontario, house leaders in the provincial legislature, local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Tim Hudak, MPP and John Fraser, MPP, and the Niagara Regional Police Services Board.

Carried