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February 21, 2014

C03-C14-06

Randy Hillier, MPP Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox & Addington
4 Market Square
Napanee, ON K7R 1J3

Dear Mr. Hillier:

Re: Introduction of Municipal Recall Election Legislation

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 11, 2014 and in this regard Council adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS there are few means to remove an elected official from office other than through the election process; and

WHEREAS the time between municipal election periods has grown to four years; and

WHEREAS significant damage can be caused in a four-year period should an elected official act to the detriment of the municipality; and

WHEREAS it is not the most effective use of time for municipal representatives to police one another through Codes of Conduct and Integrity Commissioners; and

WHEREAS the penalties that can be imposed through Codes of Conduct are relatively minor; and

WHEREAS there is a problem with Codes of Conduct and Integrity Commissioners being used for political purposes; and

WHEREAS Codes of Conduct have proven ineffective in curtailing detrimental behaviour; and

WHEREAS establishing Codes of Conduct and employing Integrity Commissioners can be an expensive endeavour; and



WHEREAS the detrimental behaviour of some elected officials reflects poorly upon all elected officials, especially if they are not held accountable for this behaviour; and

WHEREAS it is incumbent upon all elected representatives to maintain a high standard of integrity; and

WHEREAS Progressive Conservative MPP Randy Hillier has introduced a Private Member's Bill to introduce recall elections for provincially-elected officials but omits municipally-elected officials.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Town of Aurora formally requests that the Government of Ontario consider the implementation of recall legislation for municipally-elected officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to every municipality in the province of Ontario for endorsement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to every Member of Provincial Parliament in the province of Ontario.

The above is for your information and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours truly,



Warren Mar,
Director Legal & Legislative Services/Town Solicitor/Acting Town Clerk

WM/rm

Copy: Every Municipality in Ontario
Every MPP in Ontario
Mr. Geoffrey Dawe, Mayor, Town of Aurora
Mr. Paul Pirri, Councillor, Town of Aurora