

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, November 18, 2016				Report Date	Monday, October 17, 2016			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
Support – AMO and Working to Close the Fiscal Gap - Report #18/11/16/1103									

Subject:

Resolution of support of AMO and their goal to close the fiscal gap in various sectors.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the following resolution.

WHEREAS AMO has completed considerable work in following up on the What’s Next Ontario? Project and wishes that every Ontario council be a part in recognizing the fiscal gap facing Ontario’s municipalities and seeking sector support for closing it;

AND WHEREAS recent polling, conducted on behalf of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario indicates 76% of Ontarians are concerned or somewhat concerned that property taxes will not cover the cost of infrastructure while maintain municipal service, and 90% agree maintaining safe infrastructure is an important priority for their communities;

AND WHEREAS a ten-year projection (2016 – 2025) of municipal expenditures against inflationary property tax and user fee increases, shows there to be an unfunded average annual need of \$3.6 billion to fix local infrastructure and provide for municipal operating needs;

AND WHEREAS the \$3.6 billion average annual need would equate to annual increases of 4.6% (including inflation) to province-wide property tax revenue for the next ten years;

AND WHEREAS this gap calculation also presumes all existing and multi-year planned federal and provincial transfers to municipal governments are fulfilled;

AND WHEREAS if future federal and provincial transfers are unfulfilled beyond 2015 levels, it would require annual province-wide property tax revenue increases of up to 8.35% for ten years;

AND WHEREAS Ontarians already pay the highest property taxes in the country;

AND WHEREAS each municipal government in Ontario face unique issues, the fiscal health and needs are a challenge which unites all municipal governments, regardless of size;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the Association of Municipalities of Ontario in its work to close the fiscal gap, so that all municipalities can benefit from predictable and sustainable revenue, to finance the pressing infrastructure and municipal service needs faced by all municipal governments.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As directed by Council at its October meeting.

Policy Impact:

As per policy.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

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