

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

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Tuesday, October 17, 2017				Report Date	Thursday, October 12, 2017			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
From Previous Meeting - Report #17/10/17/1104									

**Subject:**

Resolutions of support as directed by Council from its previous meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council adopt the following resolutions as directed at its meeting in September.

**Resolution #1**

**WHEREAS** the County of Renfrew has written to the Premier of Ontario expressing their continued support for the Sustainable Forestry in Algonquin Provincial Park;

**AND WHEREAS** residents of Head, Clara & Maria rely on this forestry for their livelihood and can attest to the sustainability of the processes currently used;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Province of Ontario consider the detrimental effects changes to the current practises would have on County residents and businesses and respectfully request that the province continue to support the long proven success of sustainable management of Algonquin Provincial Park's forests.

**Resolution #2**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria supports, promotes and encourages the responsible and fiscally accountable development of municipal Asset Management Plans and was completing this process long before it was mandated;

**AND WHEREAS** the proposed Municipal Asset Management Planning Regulation through the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure has been determined to be overly prescriptive and will cause unnecessary work for rural municipalities who are already hard pressed to meet the ever increasing burden of mandated regulatory processes with limited staff and stretched resources;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby request that the Ministry reconsider the continued and

increased regulation of small rural municipalities who have limited resources to meet the increased demands.

### **Resolution #3**

**WHEREAS** the revitalization of the economy of Eastern Ontario continues to be the primary objective of the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus (EOWC);

**AND WHEREAS** the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus Inc. in its Economic Development Strategy for Eastern Ontario has identified the necessity of improving mobile broadband and cellular networks as critical to propelling innovation and economic growth in all sectors of the regional economy including manufacturing, agriculture, and transportation services;

**AND WHEREAS** the EOWC and the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) have undertaken a detailed and comprehensive engineering analysis of the gaps in cellular coverage and capacity across the region;

**AND WHEREAS** that analysis demonstrated the existence of significant gaps in both coverage and capacity that is impacting public safety, economic growth and the quality of life for residents;

**AND WHEREAS** EORN, on behalf of the EOWC, has prepared a full business case to support improvement and expansion of cellular networks and mobile broadband services across Eastern Ontario;

**AND WHEREAS** establishing a Public Safety Broadcast Network (PSBN) for First Responders is a national imperative;

**AND WHEREAS** EORN is proposing the development of a Public Safety Broadcast Network pilot project covering Eastern Ontario to support a national network;

**AND WHEREAS** the EOWC has proven itself capable of designing, building and delivering a major telecommunications project on behalf of businesses and citizens of Eastern Ontario, Ontario and Canada;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Mara hereby strongly supports submission of The Eastern Ontario Regional Cellular Mobile Broadband Project as the region's highest economic development priority;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this Council requests the both MP Cheryl Gallant and MPP John Yakabuski work closely with the EOWC and EORN on this essential infrastructure project.

### **Resolution #4**

**WHEREAS** proposed changes to the *Municipal Act, 2001* would see in part and end to payments out of court for municipalities;

**AND WHEREAS** tax sale proceedings involve a significant amount of staff time which is an expense to a municipality and it is only fair that municipalities continue to be eligible for these payments out of court;

**AND WHEREAS** tax sale revenues assist municipalities with various other expenditures which to some extent alleviate the burden of the reduction of revenues of various Provincial grants/programs and the continual downloading of responsibilities onto small municipalities without associated funding;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the position and resolution of the Municipality of Killarney and appeal to the Minister of Municipal Affairs to reconsider the proposed changes to the Municipal Act which would claw back payment out of court for tax sale proceeds from municipalities and revert them to the province;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, MPP John Yakabuski, FONOM and AMO.

### **Resolution #5**

**WHEREAS** in a country as vast and sparsely populated as Canada, safe and efficient air transportation is essential to connecting families and communities and to continued economic prosperity;

**AND WHEREAS** Canada's airports are vital assets that contribute to the quality of life and economic growth in the cities, communities and regions they serve;

**AND WHEREAS** media reports indicate that the Government of Canada is actively considering selling Canada's airports to for-profit entities to achieve a one-time financial windfall;

**AND WHEREAS** the international experience in airport privatization has often resulted in higher fees and reduced services for travellers and airlines as a result of efforts to maximize return on investment;

**AND WHEREAS** such outcomes would negatively affect communities of all sizes across Canada by making air travel more expensive and reducing service;

**AND WHEREAS** the last decade has seen a massive increase in the number of Canadians using air travel to connect with loved ones, enjoy well deserved vacations and explore the country, or help create jobs;

**AND WHEREAS** any increase in fees on air travel resulting from the privatization of airports would constitute an unfair tax on Canada's middle class;

**AND WHEREAS** divestiture of airports to local not-for-profit authorities in 1994, led to massive user-financed investments in airport infrastructure which have given Canada an enviable network of world class airports;

**AND WHEREAS** the physical infrastructure of airports has been modernized, the governance system under which they operate has not kept up with the times and is now in urgent need of repair;

**AND WHEREAS** that situation would only be exacerbated in a privatized for-profit system;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the municipality of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria calls on the Government of Canada to renounce its push for the for-profit privatization of Canada's airports and clear the way for needed improvements to the current airport governance and financing system;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) bring this matter forward for emergency debate at the next meeting of its National Board of Directors.

### **Resolution #6**

**WHEREAS** the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal has forwarded a resolution for support concerning the downloading of enforcement responsibility for residential maintenance standards under Bill 7, with no corresponding funding, training or process;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the enclosed resolution and calls on the Government of Ontario and the Ministry of Housing to halt the download of enforcement responsibility for residential rental maintenance standards proposed in Schedule 5 of Bill 7, in light of the significant fiscal challenge each municipality will face to provide this service to the public in a cost effective manner;

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate entities for attention and action.

### **BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Correspondence and sample resolutions were included in the package for the September meeting and can be located online for review, if desired from the Agenda and Reports to Council page.

<http://www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca/download.php?dl=YToyOntzOjI6ImkljtzOjM6IjM2MCI7czoZoiJrZXkiO2k6MTI7fQ==>

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Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*