



Community Services

Legislative Services

May 30, 2023

File #120203

Sent via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: The Regional Municipality of Waterloo - Request Province to Protect the Privacy of Candidates and Donors on Nomination Papers and Financial Statements – Municipal or School Board Election

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of May 29, 2023 received and supported correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Waterloo dated April 24, 2023 requesting the Province to protect the privacy of candidates and donors by removing the requirements for their street name, number and postal code to be listed on publicly available forms.

Attached please find a copy of the City of Cambridge correspondence dated May 10, 2023.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Ashlea Carter, AMP

Deputy Clerk

acarter@forterie.ca

AC:dlk

Attach

c.c. The Regional Municipality of Waterloo RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasures of Ontario amcto@amcto.com
Ontario Public School Boards' Association inquiry@opsba.org
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association sandrews@ocsta.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
Niagara Region

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

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Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

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REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

150 Frederick Street, 2nd Floor
Kitchener ON N2G 4J3 Canada
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April 24, 2023

Area Members of Provincial Parliament
Sent via email

Dear Area Members of Provincial Parliament:

Re: Councillor J. Erb Notice of Motion

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their regular meeting held on April 19, 2023, approved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act requires all individuals wishing to be a candidate in a municipal or school board election to file Nomination Paper - Form 1 with the municipal clerk;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act requires all candidates who sought election to a municipal council or school board to file Financial Statement – Auditor's Report Candidate – Form 4 with the municipal clerk;

AND WHEREAS Form 1 requires candidates to provide their qualifying address;

AND WHEREAS Form 4 requires candidates to list the name and home address of any donor contributing over \$100.00

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act specifies that these documents are not protected by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and requires the municipal clerk to make Form 4 available on a website;

AND WHEREAS there has been concern expressed about those who hold public office and those who support them that they have been the subject of unnecessary attention and excessive scrutiny;

AND WHEREAS the requirement to publish the personal home address of donors to specific candidates may discourage individuals from

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MAY 29 2023

BY COUNCIL

engaging in the democratic process to elect municipal and school board politicians.

THEREFORE, BE RESOVLED THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo calls on the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Ontario to protect the privacy of candidates and donors by removing the requirement for their street name, number and postal code to be listed on publicly available forms.

AND FURTHER THAT for verification purposes, the addresses of all candidates and all donors over \$100 be submitted to the municipal clerk on separate forms that are protected by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will not be published.

AND FINALLY, that this resolution be forwarded to the Area Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, and all Ontario municipalities.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Rebekah Harris, Research/Administrative Assistant to Council, at RHarris@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519-575-4581.

Regards,



William Short

Regional Clerk/Director, Council and Administrative Services

WS/hk

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario
Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
Ontario municipalities