

Staci Landry, Deputy Clerk
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November 10, 2023

Via Email

Hon. Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building
11th Floor, 720 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9
Doug.Downey@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Downey:

Re: Support for Township of McKellar's Resolution respecting a Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*

City Council, at its meeting held on November 6, 2023, considered the above-noted matter, and passed Resolution No. R-231106-006 as follows:

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on the November 6, 2023 Consent Agenda respecting a Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*, City Council requests that:

- 1. Staff send a letter to the Attorney General, in support of the resolution from the Township of McKellar; and**
- 2. The letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, M.P. and M.P.P. for Bruce-Grey Owen Sound, and all Ontario municipalities."**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Staci Landry".

Staci Landry
Deputy Clerk

Encl. Township of McKellar – Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*

cc: Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Alex Ruff, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
Rick Byers, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
All Ontario Municipalities



Township of McKellar

701 Hwy #124, P.O. Box 69, McKellar, Ontario POG 1C0

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October 19, 2023

Hon. Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Bldg 11th Flr, 720 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Sent via email: Doug.Downey@ontario.ca

RE: Call for an Amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006*

Dear Mr. Downey,

At the Regular Meeting of Council held on October 17, 2023, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar carried the following resolution:

Resolution No. 23-671

Moved by: Councillor Kekkonen

Seconded by: Councillor Zulak

WHEREAS Metroland Media Group has sought bankruptcy protection and will cease the print publication of its weekly community newspapers across Ontario, moving to an online-only model; and

WHEREAS Neil Oliver, Chief Executive Officer and President of Metroland Media Group, said the 71 Metroland community publications will be digital only going forward; and

WHEREAS the *Legislation Act, 2006* provides a definition of “newspaper” which applies to every Ontario Act and Regulation, as in a provision requiring publication, means a document that, (a) **is printed in sheet form**, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and (b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest; (“journal”); and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required to follow publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

WHEREAS communities such as the West Parry Sound Area cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations as the Parry Sound North Star news publication is no longer being printed in sheet form and there are no other local news publications fitting the definition of “newspaper”; and

WHEREAS some small, rural, Ontario Municipalities may not have the means to bring an application to the Court to ask for directions and approval of an alternate manner of providing notice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of McKellar does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the *Legislation Act, 2006* to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP, Graydon Smith; The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); CEO and President of Metroland Media Group, Neil Oliver and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

Regards,



Karlee Britton
Deputy Clerk
Township of McKellar
deputyclerk@mckellar.ca
(705) 389-2842 x5

cc:

Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO)
Neil Oliver, CEO & President, Metroland Media Group
All Ontario Municipalities