



— **OBCM** —
Ontario's Big City Mayors

Motion on Support for Regional Innovation Centre Funding

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward (Chair) - Burlington

Whereas there are 17 Regional Innovation Centres located across Ontario in 15 of OBCM member municipalities; and

Whereas Regional Innovation Centres (RICs) contribute to Ontario's economic development by supporting local startups and entrepreneurs to create high-quality jobs in well-paying sectors; and

Whereas RICs support critical businesses throughout the province, such as advanced manufacturing, agri-tech, information technologies, digital media, and life sciences; and

Whereas the economic development generated and supported by RICs promote sustainable, thriving and complete communities throughout the province; and

Whereas RICs are in the process of renewing funding agreements with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade – agreements which have been frozen for the past 13 years.

Therefore be it resolved that Ontario Big City Mayors request that the Province continue to fund RICs and increase annual amounts in line with inflation and population growth.

And further that a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade
- MPP Effie J. Triantafilopoulos, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- MPP Andrew Dowie, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Stephen Rhodes, Deputy Minister for Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade
- Anne Bermonte, Assistant Deputy Minister, Innovation and Economic Partnerships Division, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade