



Motion to Support the City of Toronto's Request to the Federal Government for Assistance with Shelter Space

Mayor Cam Guthrie (Past-Chair) - Guelph

Whereas cities across Ontario are dealing with an affordability crisis that is impacting housing supports and shelter access while dealing with an unprecedented increase in refugee and asylum claimants along with a homelessness crisis, municipal services are not equipped to handle and;

Whereas Ontario municipalities have been working together for months with other orders of government, local agencies, and community partners to co-ordinate initial supports, expanding services when there has been an influx through emergency shelter systems and other wraparound supports and;

Whereas Ontario's Big City Mayors have previously requested that the federal government increase funding and programs to address the systemic capacity issues municipalities across Ontario are facing.

Therefore if be resolved that Ontario's Big City Mayors support Toronto City Council's request that:

- the federal government take urgent action to address the shelter crisis including funding and operationalizing emergency accommodation at federal sites, including federal armouries, and funding and operationalizing a regional refugee reception centre
- the federal government ensures that the funding through the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) is allocated based on the number of refugee and asylum claimants requiring support in each municipality or region
- the federal government increases the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit allocations across Ontario, including matching recent provincial and municipal program increases with \$6.67 million in funding for 2023.

And that OBCM requests that the federal government also address the homelessness crisis by funding and operationalizing emergency accommodations at federal sites, including where feasible at federal armouries in municipalities across the province.



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

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

- Honourable Marc Miller - Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
- Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan - Minister of Emergency Preparedness
- Honourable Bill Blair - Minister of National Defence
- Honourable Sean Fraser – Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- Honourable Doug Ford - Premier of Ontario
- Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- Honourable Paul Calandra - Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Regional Chair, Karen Redman, Chair of the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO)
- Councillor Colin Best, President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Mayor Scott Pearce, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)