



Motion Requesting that the Provincial Government Increase the “Heads and Beds” levy for Ontario Municipalities

Mayor Dorothy McCabe - Waterloo

Whereas the Heads and Beds levy program was established in 1987 as a payment-in-lieu of property taxes to compensate municipalities for the cost of services - transit, roads, sewers, parks, recreation, arts and culture) provided to post-secondary students, public hospitals and correctional facilities in our communities,

Whereas, despite frequent and ongoing requests of the provincial government to increase this levy by CPI annually, the current rate of \$75 per bed for municipalities has been in place since 1987 and in 2024 terms, the Heads and Beds levy should be at least \$165 per bed,

Whereas Ontario's municipalities continue to face significant financial pressures, and

Whereas post-secondary institutions, public hospitals and correctional facilities in our municipalities play a significant role in enhancing our vitality, economic development opportunities, talent attraction ability and are an essential component of our community;

Therefore be it resolved that to reflect the escalated costs of service delivery, infrastructure and inflation, the province - at a minimum - increase the “Heads and Beds” levy for municipalities with post-secondary institutions, hospitals and correctional facilities to \$165 per bed and annualize this levy to ensure it keeps pace with ongoing costs.

And that a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
- The Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities
- The Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- MPP Mike Harris, Kitchener-Conestoga
- Alan Shepard, Chair, Ontario University Council
- Alan Harrison, Chair, Blue Ribbon Panel on Post-Secondary Education on Financial Sustainability