



Motion requesting the Provincial Government implement the Blue Ribbon Panel's report and recommendations for the Post-Secondary Sector

Mayor Dorothy McCabe – Waterloo

Whereas Ontario's post-secondary institutions are facing unprecedented financial pressures, including the lowest per-student funding in the country, an ongoing tuition freeze, and reduced international student revenues;

Whereas post-secondary institutions have already made significant spending cuts, impacting the programs, research, and student supports needed to fuel Ontario's economy and workforce;

Whereas Ontario funds its post-secondary sector at the lowest level in Canada for universities and colleges and Ontario's per-student funding is significantly below the Canadian average and has even fallen further behind other provinces in recent years due to declining provincial funding and stagnant tuition fees and

Whereas the 2024/2025 funding from the provincial Sustainability Fund and the \$100M allocation related to the over-enrollment in STEM programs is one-time funding that does little to address the ongoing declining operating funding challenge, and

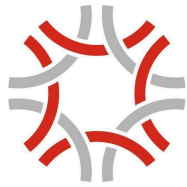
Whereas these pressures threaten Ontario's ability to produce the skilled graduates, research, and innovation on which our economy depends, and

Whereas the cost to the province of attracting a highly educated and skilled workforce in the future will far exceed the much-needed investments in education and training required today, and

Whereas Ontario is facing growing economic pressures, including tariffs, trade disruptions, rising costs, and shifting global supply chains, and now more than ever needs a strong foundation of homegrown research, innovation, and talent to maintain its competitiveness and resilience;

Therefore be it resolved that the Ontario Big City Mayors call on the Province to accelerate the implementation of the recommendations in the Blue Ribbon Panel report, commissioned by the province, specifically, advance its review of the post-secondary funding model, increase operating grant levels, and ensure institutions have the resources necessary to continue delivering high-quality education and research that is required to enhance Ontario's competitiveness, economic prosperity and effective transition to the "one Canadian economy",

And that a copy of this motion be sent to:



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

- The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
- The Hon. Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security
- The Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Alan Shepard, Chair, Ontario University Council
- Alan Harrison, Chair, Blue Ribbon Panel on Post-Secondary Education on Financial Sustainability