

The Regional Municipality of Halton

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED BY REGIONAL COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019:

WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 66, an Act to restore Ontario's competitiveness by amending or repealing certain Acts; and

WHEREAS, Schedule 10 of the proposed legislation would amend the Planning Act to allow municipalities to pass "open-for-business planning by-laws"; and

WHEREAS, the Bill would allow such by-laws to override important planning, water, agricultural and environmental protections contained in 2009, Clean Water Act, 2006, and the Greenbelt Act, 2005; the Places to Grow Act, 2005 and other provincial legislation; and

WHEREAS, Halton Region works in partnership with the local municipalities to advance a strong, integrated approach for planning that considers advancing growth and economic development that is coordinated with infrastructure delivery and is fiscally responsible; and

WHEREAS, Halton Region and its local municipalities have worked collaboratively through established planning frameworks to ensure there are hundreds of hectares of vacant, designated employment lands and strategic growth areas across the Region ready to accommodate development.; and

WHEREAS, Bill 66 and the Open for Business By-Law introduce a number of changes that could undermine Halton's integrated planning system and the Region's unique role in ensuring that growth and economic development are coordinated and supported; that complete communities are achieved through planning outcomes; and that infrastructure can be provided in an efficient and cost-supportive manner;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT Halton Region does not support provisions in Schedule 10 of Bill 66, that amend, repeal or override the Clean Water Act, 2006, and the Greenbelt Act, 2005, and the Toxics Reduction Act, 2009; and

THAT the approval of a Bill 66 by-law for a lower municipality must require the review and approval of the upper tier municipality; and

THAT the approval of a Bill 66 by-law clearly requires that the integrity of the Greenbelt and source water protection be achieved; and

THAT this resolution be distributed to: the leaders of all parties represented in the Legislature; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; all Halton MPP's, all Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

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