

The Corporation of Loyalist Township P.O. Box 70, 263 Main Street Odessa, ON K0H 2H0

January 16, 2019

t: 613-386-7351 f: 613-386-3833 www.loyalist.ca

Ken Peterson Provincial Planning Policy Branch Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing 777 Bay Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5 Michael Helfinger Intergovernmental Policy Coordination Unit 900 Bay Street, Hearst Block Toronto, Ontario M6H 4L1

Dear Mr. Peterson & Mr. Halfinger:

Re: Proposed Bill 66 – Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018 Environmental Registry No. 013-4239 and 013-4293

On behalf of the Township, the writer would like to thank the Ministry for reviewing options to stimulate economic opportunities.

The Council of Loyalist Township reviewed a staff report regarding the Proposed Bill 66 on January 14<sup>th</sup> and authorized that staff forward comments below to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing. Please note that comments are focused on Schedule 10 of the proposal (Open for Business By-law) and the corresponding regulation.

It should be understood that changes to the Planning Act are only part of the equation and in order to achieve a holistic solution, the entire approval process for an employment use needs to be examined.

In that vein, if the Province wants to reduce red tape, in order to attract employers, there is not "a one size fits all" approach and solutions should be considered that are flexible enough to respect regional diversity. Some ideas include:

- 1. Have the Province create a business portal where all provincial approvals are handled, essentially like Service Ontario for businesses, and to assign a team to assist these companies.
- 2. Provide grant money to the company, municipality and/or utility to improve required infrastructure, whether this be water, wastewater, electrical, gas, etc.
- 3. Provide start-up training funding for companies to assist with the recruitment and training of new employees.
- 4. Where an environmental assessment is required to facilitate the required infrastructure, that this process be streamlined.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Yours truly,

Murray Beckel, M.C.I.P. R.P.P. Director of Planning & Development Services