



The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

June 6, 2016

VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Kathleen O. Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Queen's Park, Rm. 281
Main Legislative Building
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne,

Please be advised that at its meeting held on May 24th, 2016, Amherstburg Town Council passed the following motion:

Resolution # 20160524-237 - That Council SUPPORT the Town of Shelburne's resolution regarding cutbacks to behavioral therapy for children affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes
Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Tracy MacCharles - Minister of Children and Youth Services
Alexander Bezzina – Deputy Minister
Hon. Eric Hoskins – Minister of Health
Taras Natyshak – MPP, Essex
Tracey Ramsey - MP, Essex
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities

Attached: Town of Shelburne's letter re: Cutbacks to Behavioral Therapy



TOWN OF SHELburnE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

No. __10__

Date: May 9, 2016

Moved by: Wade Mills

Seconded by: Dan Sample

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and

WHEREAS, Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) is the scientific process based on objective evaluation and empirically based interventions used to achieve meaningful, generalizable and enduring behavioural change. Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) is an application of the principles of ABA in an intensive setting used to affect behaviour change and improvement; and

WHEREAS, the current waiting list of children for Intensive Behaviour Intervention (IBI) is over 2,000 and more than 13,000 children await Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA); and

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario has announced it intends to discontinue IBI services to children over the age of four and provide a one-time payment to assist with services, thereby abandoning thousands who have been wait-listed for years; and

WHEREAS, there are two service models for affected children to be treated, 1) the Direct Service Offering (DSO) where children receive services directly from trained staff at Ontario's nine regional service providers, and 2) the Direct Funding Offering (DFO) where parents receive funding directly in order to purchase services; and

WHEREAS, the DFO model to provide services is used in Alberta, British Columbia and imminently Saskatchewan. Such a model is clinically rigorous and has been identified by the Auditor General of Ontario as being less expensive than Ontario's DSO model;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that a letter be sent to Hon. Tracy MacCharles, Minister of Children and Youth Services; Alexander Bezzina, Deputy Minister; Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health; and Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, requesting the Province to:

1. Amend its policy to one that will allow all children on the current waiting list to receive the IBI services promised them; and

2. Remove the age limit for IBI therapy and replace it with a program that provides ongoing IBI services based on need and individual development, not age; and

3. Ensure oversight by professionals and parents based on 'development progress' criteria and milestones; and

4. Adopt a Direct Funding Offering (DFO) model in lieu of the current Direct Service Offering (DSO) model;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities within the Province of Ontario.

CARRIED: K. Bennington

Requested Vote to be recorded

[X] Yes

[] No

Mayor Bennington

Yea

Nay

[X]

[]

Councillor Benotto

[X]

[]

Councillor Chambers

[Absent]

[]

Deputy Mayor Dunlop

[X]

[]

Councillor Egan

[Absent]

[]

Councillor Mills

[X]

[]

Councillor Sample

[X]

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