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November 18, 2016

Maryann Weaver, Clerk The Township of the Archipelago 9 James Street Parry Sound, ON P2A 1T4

Dear Ms. Weaver,

RE: Improving Ontario's Intensive Therapy funding/service for Children with Autism

At their regular meeting of November 7th, 2016, Council of the Town of Pelham received the Township of the Archipelago resolution for Improving Ontario's Intensive Therapy funding/services for Children with Autism and endorsed the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Town of Pelham endorse and support the resolution from the Township of the Archipelago regarding improving Ontario's Intensive Therapy Funding/Services for children with Autism.

A copy of the original resolution is enclosed for your information. On behalf of Council, thank you for this important correspondence.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs.) Namey J. Bozzato, Dipl.M.M., AMCT

Town Clerk

/jm Encl.

C.C.

Hon. Michael Coteau. Minister of Children and Youth Services

Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister

Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

All Ontario municipalities

From the Clerk's Department





The Corporation of

THE TOWNSHIP of The Archipelago

9 James Street, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 1T4 Email: mweaver@thearchipelago.on.ca Phone: 705-746-4243 ext. 301 • Fax: 705-746-7301

October 20, 2016

Hon. Michael Coteau Minister of Children and Youth Services 14th Floor 56 Wellesley Street West Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S3

RE: Improving Ontario's Intensive Therapy funding/services for Children with Autism

Please be advised that this matter was heard by Council at its Council meeting held on October 14, 2016, and in this regard Council adopted the following resolution:

16-169

Moved by Councillor Lundy Seconded by Councillor Frost

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

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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. Michael Coteau, Minister of Children and Youth Services; Nancy Matthews, 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 to 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 process' 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.

Regards,

Maryann Weaver

Clerk

Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister CC Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health Hon, Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

All Ontario Municipalities