

August 26, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) / Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Joint Resolution Campaign on Physician Shortage

At its meeting of August 26, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-149, regarding the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) / Ontario Medical Association (OMA) Joint Resolution Campaign on Physician Shortage, as follows:

“WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years;

AND WHEREAS it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years;

AND WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, paramedicine, and other investments;

AND WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022;

AND WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada;

AND WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in Bracebridge and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.”

In accordance with Council’s direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,



Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

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