

Clerk's Department

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October 22, 2024

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Hon. Rob Flack

Sent by Email: <u>Rob.Flack@pc.ola.org</u>

RE: Request for Support – Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Please be advised at its meeting held on October 21, 2024, Council of the Township of Clearview passed the following resolution supporting the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe's request that the Province consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit:

Moved by Councillor Beelen, Seconded by Councillor McArthur, Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby support the motion from the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe requesting that the Province, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Drain Loan Limit to a minimum of \$100,000; and,

That Council direct staff to send this support motion to the Honourable Rob Flack -Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Sasha Helmkay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) All Ontario Municipalities



March 22nd, 2024

The Honourable Lisa Thompson Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 11th Floor 77 Grenville St. Toronto, ON M5S 1B3

RE: Township of Adelaide Metcalfe – Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Dear Minister Thompson,

On March 18, 2024, the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS farm drainage is of paramount importance in Ontario due to its significant impact on agricultural productivity and sustainability. Effective drainage systems help mitigate waterlogging, control soil moisture levels, and enhance soil structure, thereby optimizing growing conditions for crops;

WHEREAS improved drainage also facilitates timely field operations, reduces erosion, and minimizes nutrient runoff, contributing to environmental conservation efforts;

WHEREAS Ontario's diverse agricultural landscape, where weather variability is common, well-maintained drainage systems play a crucial role in ensuring stable yields, economic viability, and long-term resilience for farmers across the Province;

WHEREAS the Tile Loan Drainage Act, R.S.O 1990, c. T.8 allows for the borrowing of money for the purpose of constructing drainage works;

WHEREAS the maximum annual limit for these loans, unchanged since 2004, is currently set at \$50,000.

WHEREAS costs for Tile Drainage has increased markedly since 2004;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe requests that the Province through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Loan limit to a minimum of \$100,000.

AND THAT this resolution be circulated the Honourable Lisa Thompson – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario municipalities.