



November 29, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister

Sent via email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honourable Justin Trudeau,

Please be advised that Brantford City Council at its meeting held November 26, 2024 adopted the following:

12.2.9 Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT Brantford City Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and

- B. THAT Brantford City Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
- C. THAT this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and
- D. THAT copies of this resolution BE FORWARDED to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Larry Brock - Member of Parliament (MP) and Will Bouma - Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and
- E. THAT copies of this resolution BE FORWARDED to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours truly,



Chris Gauthier
City Clerk, cgauthier@brantford.ca

cc Premier Doug Ford
Ontario Minister of Finance
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Member of Parliament (MP) Larry Brock
Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Will Bouma
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
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Ontario Municipalities