



Office of the Commissioner

Corporate Services

Memorandum

FOR INFORMATION

To: Regional Council
Meeting Date: **October 26, 2023**
From: Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk
Re: **2023 Regional Governance Review Update**

On [September 13, 2023](#), the new Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requested the Chair of the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy to "...consider commencing a study to review and evaluate local governance structures and service delivery in these areas to ensure that they are providing effective and accountable government, particularly when it comes to getting more homes built. Specifically, he indicated this study could shed light on the following questions:

- Is two-tier government in these regions supporting or hindering the construction of new homes and the provision of effective local governance more generally?
- Are there responsibilities and services that could be combined, amended or moved from one level of local government to another, or combined among existing local governments to support the construction of new homes and the provision of effective local governance more generally?
- Is the municipal governance structure within each of these regions supporting the construction of new homes and the provision of effective local governance more generally?
- Could any changes to regional governance enhance local services and/or provide better value to tax payers?"

The following day, at the [September 14, 2023](#) Committee of the Whole meeting, a report from the Chief Administrative Officer entitled '*Provincial Review of Regional Government – 2019 Summary & 2023 Preparedness*' was considered. This report detailed the process followed during a previous provincial review of regional government in 2019, which included establishing a Governance Task Force, and passing a resolution supporting the current two-tier government model. Consideration of the report was deferred until more details were available from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

On [October 19, 2023](#), the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy provided a Notice of Hearings on the 'Study of Regional Governance,' which indicated a public meeting will be held on November 6, 2023 in Barrie. Persons interested in making presentations at that meeting need to register by October 30, 2023 and written submissions can be made up until the meeting date.

It is expected that additional hearings will occur in other subject regions. Once more certainty around the consultation process is released, the '*Provincial Review of Regional Government – 2019 Summary & 2023 Preparedness*' report will be brought forward for consideration.

For more information on this memo, please contact Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71300. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk



Erin Mahoney
Chief Administrative Officer

October 25, 2023
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