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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2019 1:24 PM

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**Subject:** Regional Governance Review - Special Advisors

Good morning.

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Georgina adopted the attached motion at its May 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting concerning the Government of Ontario's announcement of a review of Ontario's eight regional municipalities, the County of Simcoe and other lower-tier municipalities. The Town of Georgina endorses the effectiveness of the current two-tier municipal governance structure, with continued exploration and implementation of furthering efficiencies and partnerships, as has existed between York Region and our partner York local municipalities since 1971.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration of Georgina Town Council's position on the Regional Governance structure.



**Carolyn Lance**

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# GEORGINA

## The Corporation of the Town of Georgina May 15, 2019

Moved by Mayor Quirk, Seconded by Councillor Neeson

### **RESOLUTION NO. C-2019-0329**

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has announced a review of Ontario's eight regional municipalities (Durham, Halton, Muskoka District, Niagara, Oxford County, Peel, Waterloo, York), the County of Simcoe and their lower-tier municipalities by appointed Special Advisors;

AND WHEREAS the provincially appointed Special Advisors are to provide advice and develop recommendations for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the purpose of improving governance, decision-making and service delivery in the eight regions and Simcoe County and their lower-tier municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario informed its members last August that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing began informal discussions on regional governance review, wishing to hear from municipalities about how this system of governance is working, recognizing it was established in the 1970s;

AND WHEREAS the provincially appointed Special Advisors have included within the scope of their review, consideration of moving to single-tier municipalities or amalgamating existing municipalities;

AND WHEREAS neither York Region, nor the nine area municipalities, have requested a review of the current regional governance structure;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Georgina, York Region and the other York area municipalities would receive greater benefit from a review of provincial permitting/approvals and municipal government powers and authority under the Municipal Act;

AND WHEREAS the regional government review including new single tier municipalities or amalgamations was not ever discussed during the recent provincial election by the Premier or our local Members of Provincial Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Georgina is well managed and efficient and having gone through its own review and reduction from seven to five wards over 20 years ago and currently is one of the smallest Council in York, with only seven elected members (including a Mayor, Regional Councillor and five ward Councillors);

AND WHEREAS the Town of Georgina welcomes all opportunities to improve both Regional and local municipal service delivery and achieve greater efficiencies and cost savings for all Georgina and York taxpayers and rate payers;

AND WHEREAS York Region's municipal structure provides for Regional services throughout all local York municipalities, resulting in cost-effective, quality services that respond to the needs of the local municipalities and citizens, such as Children's and Court Services, Housing, Long Term Care, Paramedic and Police Services, Public Health, Social Assistance, Public Transit, Water and Waste Treatment, to name a few;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Georgina has demonstrated its fiscal responsibility by delivering direct and accountable services through shared service agreements and partnerships with other municipalities in an effort to realize efficiencies through economies of scale for cost effective delivery of services such as the Northern Six (N6) Waste Collection Contract; Animal Shelter and Control Services, Shared Procurement Opportunities, Audit Services, Insurance Coverage, Human Resources Training and Fire Protection Agreements, plus an enhanced collaboration/shared services with the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation with respect to Fire Protection and Fireboat purchase; as key examples;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT it is recognized and factual that York Region was formed, effective January 1, 1971, at which time resulted in the consolidation of fourteen (14) former municipalities (previously under 'York County') into nine (9) new municipalities;

AND THAT the Council of the Town of Georgina endorses the effectiveness of the current two-tier municipal governance structure, with continued exploration and implementation of furthering efficiencies and partnerships, as has existed between York Region and our partner York local municipalities since its inception in 1971;

**AND THAT the Town of Georgina and its actively engaged citizens value the distinct identity of their community of communities, and are committed to being proud hosts and stewards of the Greenbelt and Lake Simcoe;**

**AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities of York Region, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPP's and made publicly available.**