

Dear Minister Calandra :

The Council of the Corporation of Tay Valley Township at its meeting on February 27th, 2024 adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #C-2024-02-28

MOVED BY: Andrew Kendrick

SECONDED BY: Greg Hallam

“WHEREAS, Metroland Media Group has sought bankruptcy protection and will cease the print publication of its weekly community newspapers across Ontario, moving to an online-only model;

AND WHEREAS, Neil Oliver, Chief Executive Officer and President of Metroland Media Group, said the 71 Metroland community publications will be digital only going forward;

AND WHEREAS, the Legislation Act, 2006 provides a definition of “newspaper” which applies to every Ontario Act and Regulation, as in a provision requiring publication, means a document that, (a) **is printed in sheet form**, published at regular intervals of a week or less and circulated to the general public, and (b) consists primarily of news of current events of general interest; (“journal”);

AND WHEREAS, Ontario Municipalities are required to follow publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

AND WHEREAS, communities such as Tay Valley Township cannot comply with publication requirements in Provincial Acts and Regulations as the Metroland Media Group news publication is no longer being printed in sheet form and there are no other local news publications fitting the definition of “newspaper”;

AND WHEREAS, some small, rural, Ontario Municipalities may not have the means to bring an application to the Court to ask for directions and approval of an alternate manner of providing notice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of Tay Valley Township does hereby request the Provincial government to make an amendment to the Legislation Act, 2006 to include digital publications as an acceptable means of publication and notice requirements for Provincial Acts and Regulations;

AND FURTHER, requests the support of all Ontario Municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT, this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Lanark Frontenac Kingston MPP, John Jordan; The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO); CEO and President of Metroland Media Group, Neil Oliver and all Ontario Municipalities.”

ADOPTED