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Town of Aurora  
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March 6, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Premier's Office, Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

**Delivered by email**  
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of February 27, 2024  
Member Motion 8.2.7 - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing  
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend  
Gymnasium Use**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its meeting held on February 27, 2024, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

**Whereas the Town of Aurora recognizes the importance of fostering community engagement and providing recreational opportunities; and**

**Whereas schools are funded by local taxpayers; and**

**Whereas school gymnasiums serve as valuable amenities that can enhance recreational activities for residents; and**

**Whereas existing school board policies/procedures do not prioritize municipal residency within their allocation of the use of space; and**

**Whereas the school board charges a premium rate to use the schools on weekends causing a barrier for the Town or local organizations to afford;**

- 1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That this Council requests the Province and the Minister of Education to assist in making school board facilities available to local municipalities on a priority, at a cost recovery rate; and**
- 2. Be It Further Resolved That Council requests the School Boards within the jurisdiction of the Town of Aurora to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town for the shared use of school gymnasiums on evenings and weekends; and**
- 3. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this request be sent to the relevant School Boards, expressing the Town's interest in establishing a collaborative agreement for evening and weekend gymnasium access; and**

- 4. Be It Further Resolved That the Town staff is directed to collaborate with the School Boards in drafting the terms and conditions of the MOU, ensuring clarity and fairness in the shared use of these facilities; and**
- 5. Be It Further Resolved That upon reaching an agreement, the MOU shall be presented to Council for review and approval; and**
- 6. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party, Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and**
- 7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Michael de Rond  
Town Clerk  
The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

MdR/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: York Region District School Board  
York Catholic District School Board  
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education  
Marit Stiles, Leader of the Ontario New Democratic Party  
Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party  
All Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
All Ontario municipalities



## 8. Standing Committee Reports

**Moved by** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded by** Councillor Gaertner

That the Standing Committee Reports, items 8.1 and 8.2, be received and the recommendations carried by the Committee approved, with the exception of sub-items 8.1.7, 8.1.8, 8.2.1, 8.2.4, 8.2.6, and 8.2.8, which were discussed and voted on separately as recorded below.

Yeas (6): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (1): Councillor Kim

**Carried (6 to 0)**

## 8.2 General Committee Meeting Report of February 20, 2024

### 8.2.7 Member Motion - Mayor Mrakas; Re: Request for Amenity Sharing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with School Boards for Evening/Weekend Gymnasium Use

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7. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration of support.

**Carried**