



# Town of Petawawa

Legislative Services  
1111 Victoria Street  
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The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable David Piccini  
Minister of Labour, Immigration,  
Training and Skills Development  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
400 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

The Honourable Rob Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca) [minister.mlitsd@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mlitsd@ontario.ca) [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

May 6, 2026

**RE: Protecting Municipal Public Works Staff and Contractors**

Dear Honourable Doug Ford, Honourable David Piccini, and Honourable Rob Flack:

Please be advised that at its meeting of April 13, 2026, Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa adopted the following motion in support of municipal public works staff and contractors:

Council-In-Committee Meeting – April 13, 2026

**Moved by James Carmody**

**Seconded by Karen Donovan**

Whereas municipal public works employees and contracted service providers are responsible for maintaining critical infrastructure including roads, sidewalks, bridges, drainage systems, and winter maintenance operations that are essential to public safety and emergency response; and

Whereas during significant weather events and emergencies, these workers act as frontline responders, ensuring routes remain open for ambulances, fire services, police, school transportation, and the travelling public; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are reporting an increase in harassment, threats, intimidation, and dangerous interference from members of the public directed at municipal workers and subcontractors while they perform their duties; and

Whereas these behaviours have included verbal abuse, threats of violence, obstruction of equipment, and actions that delay or disrupt winter maintenance and emergency response operations, placing workers and the broader public at risk; and

Whereas interference with municipal operations during storms and emergencies jeopardizes service levels, delays critical response times, and creates significant occupational health and safety risks; and

Whereas the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) has formally called on the Province of Ontario to strengthen legislative protections, enforcement support, and consequences for those who threaten or obstruct municipal public works staff and contractors;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petawawa supports the calls to action advanced by the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to improve protections for municipal public works workers and subcontractors; and

Be it further resolved that the Province of Ontario be requested to introduce legislative and enforcement measures that:

- Recognize municipal public works workers and contractors as essential service providers during declared significant weather events and emergencies;
- Deter and penalize interference, threats, harassment, or obstruction of municipal operations; and
- Provide clear direction and support to police services to proactively respond to these incidents;

And be it further resolved that a letter conveying Council's support for these measures be sent to:

- The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Billy Denault, MPP, Renfrew Nipissing Pembroke, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and neighbouring municipalities for their consideration.

**Carried**

The Town of Petawawa respectfully requests that the Government of Ontario introduces legislative and enforcement measures to protect municipal public works staff and contractors. We look forward to your favourable reply.

Sincerely,



Dawn Recoskie, CMO, Dipl.M.A.

Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

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cc: Billy Denault, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, [billy.denault@pc.ola.org](mailto:billy.denault@pc.ola.org)  
The Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, [admin@aors.on.ca](mailto:admin@aors.on.ca)  
Renfrew County Municipalities