



**West Nipissing Ovest**

**Joie de vivre**

The Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing  
La Corporation de la Municipalité de Nipissing Ovest  
101-225, rue Holditch Street, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 1T1

P/T (705) 753-2250 (1-800-263-5359)  
F/TC (705) 753-3950

June 17, 2025

The Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queens Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A4  
Via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Attn: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Dear Mr. Ford,

**Subject: Strong Mayor Powers – Municipality of West Nipissing**

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At its meeting of June 17, 2025, the Council for the Municipality of West Nipissing considered the recently expanded Strong Mayor Powers granted to an additional 169 municipalities across Ontario.

Following a review of the legislation and a discussion of its potential impacts, Council wishes to express its opposition to this legislative framework. West Nipissing, along with many other municipalities, believes that the Strong Mayor Powers undermine the fundamental principles of local democracy, transparency, and collaborative decision-making, which are essential to effective municipal governance.

The Municipality of West Nipissing takes pride in its inclusive, community-driven approach to leadership, where all members of Council contribute meaningfully in shaping the municipality's future. The legislated concentration of executive powers in the office of the Mayor runs counter to these values and traditions.

While Council acknowledges that the legislation is currently in force, we respectfully urge the Province to reconsider its implementation. We further recommend that any structural changes of this magnitude be preceded by robust consultations with municipalities, residents, and key stakeholders to ensure that local governance continues to reflect the democratic will of the communities it serves.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Council remains available for further dialogue and would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns in greater detail.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Thorne-Rochon  
Mayor, Municipality of West Nipissing

cc: AMO, ROMA, FONOM, Local MPP



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June 17, 2025

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor – 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Via email: [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

Attn: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Mr. Flack,

**Subject: Strong Mayor Powers – Municipality of West Nipissing**

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Sincerely,

Kathleen Thorne-Rochon  
Mayor, Municipality of West Nipissing

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**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST NIPISSING**

**Council - Committee of the Whole**

**Resolution #** 2025-214  
**Title:** Authorize Resolution & Letter to the Minister - Strong Mayor Powers  
**Date:** June 17, 2025

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**Moved by:** Councillor Roland Larabie  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Georges Pharand

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has expanded Strong Mayor Powers to an additional 169 municipalities across the province;  
**AND WHEREAS** the Municipality of West Nipissing values a democratic, collaborative approach to municipal governance in which all members of Council are equal participants in the decision-making process;  
**AND WHEREAS** Council believes that the Strong Mayor Powers undermine democratic accountability, diminish transparency and centralizes excessive power in a single elected official;  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Municipality of West Nipissing does not support the implementation of Strong Mayor Powers within its jurisdiction;  
**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Council directs the Mayor to send a letter to Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing communicating this position;  
**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), and the local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for their information and support.

**CARRIED**