



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH-WEST OXFORD
R. R. # 1, Mount Elgin, ON N0J 1N0
312915 Dereham Line
Phone: (519) 877-2702; (519) 485-0477
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July 17th, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Todd J. McCarthy
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford and Minister McCarthy,

Re: Request for Changes to the *Pesticides Act* to Permit the Use of Pesticides in Playground Areas for Weed Management

I am writing to inform you that, at their meeting held on July 14, 2026, the Council of the Township of South-West Oxford passed a resolution advocating for changes to the Pesticides Act to allow for the use of pesticides in playground areas for weed mitigation.

WHEREAS the Ontario *Pesticides Act* and Ontario Regulation 63/09 (Cosmetic Pesticides Ban) restrict the use of herbicides for cosmetic weed control in playground areas;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Township of South-West Oxford recognize the importance of maintaining safe, clean, accessible, and well-maintained recreational spaces for everyone;

AND WHEREAS playgrounds are valued public recreational spaces that enhance the health, well-being, and enjoyment of residents;

AND WHEREAS the Township is responsible for the ongoing maintenance, inspection, and upkeep of playgrounds, including costly surfacing materials, and despite regular maintenance and manual weed removal, weed growth within and around the playground area continues to present ongoing maintenance challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Township of South-West Oxford respectfully request that the Province of Ontario consider amending the *Pesticides Act* and Ontario Regulation 63/09 (Cosmetic Pesticides Ban) to permit the



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controlled use of pesticides for weed management in playground areas, with any application being carried out by qualified and authorized individuals in accordance with all applicable provincial legislation, product requirements, and safety measures.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Denny Giles'.

Denny Giles
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Township of South-West Oxford

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities