



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Resolution # RC26118	Meeting Order: 7
Moved by: <i>Cathy Cannon</i>	Seconded by: <i>[Signature]</i>

**WHEREAS** municipal fire services in Ontario operate under legislative authority established by the Province through statutes, regulations, codes, and prescribed standards governing training, equipment, certification, inspection, and operational requirements; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities are responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance with these provincially mandated requirements primarily through local property taxation; and;

**WHEREAS** current provincial fire service grant programs are available to both full-time and volunteer fire departments across Ontario and are distributed through competitive application processes that may not fully reflect the differing financial and administrative capacities of urban and rural municipalities, highlighting the need for a more balanced approach to funding that supports all fire services equitably; and

**WHEREAS** volunteer firefighters represent approximately 70–75% of firefighters in Ontario, protecting the majority of communities across the Province and, particularly in rural areas, are frequently the first emergency responders to arrive on scene ahead of other emergency services; and

**WHEREAS** other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services, receive stable and predictable provincial funding contributions or cost-sharing arrangements; and

**WHEREAS** the absence of a comparable and stable funding model for fire services creates a structural imbalance between provincial regulatory authority and municipal financial responsibility; and

**WHEREAS** reliance on competitive funding creates budget uncertainty, limits long-term financial planning, and may not reflect the actual operational needs of fire services, contributing to instability, reduced preparedness, and the reduction of services within a critical emergency response sector; and



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WHEREAS stable and predictable funding is essential to maintain emergency preparedness, firefighter safety, service sustainability, and equitable protection for residents regardless of municipal size or tax base;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Wawa supports the resolution passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming calling upon the Province of Ontario to transition the current practice of competitive provincial fire service grant programs into a permanent, stable, and predictable non-competitive provincial funding program that supports municipalities in meeting provincially legislated fire protection requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this funding be structured to provide equitable and predictable annual support for operational readiness and training costs associated with volunteer, composite, and full-time fire departments across Ontario; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the annual value of this funding be reviewed and adjusted to more appropriately reflect the level of provincial funding support currently provided to other provincially regulated emergency services, including policing and paramedic services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to:

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, Ontario Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Bill Rosenburg MPP Algoma Manitoulin, The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General, The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario.

RESOLUTION RESULT	RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL