

February 24, 2022

Re: Item for Discussion – Hospital Capital Funding

At its meeting of February 23, 2022, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motions 22-PD-014, regarding the Item for Discussion – Hospital Capital Funding, as follows:

“WHEREAS healthcare funding is a provincial and federal responsibility;

AND WHEREAS from 2009 to 2020 a total of \$415.4 million has been transferred from municipal operations to fund and build provincial hospitals:

AND WHEREAS remaining long-term commitments to hospitals stand at \$117.5 million (as of 2020), which will also be financed from municipal operations;

AND WHEREAS a hospital is one of many public services that contributes to healthy communities;

AND WHEREAS municipal contributions to provincial hospitals takes away from the resources available for other municipal services that contribute to the health and well-being of residents;

AND WHEREAS a community’s total contribution to local hospitals also includes the donations made by benevolent individuals, groups, and businesses along with municipal contributions;

AND WHEREAS a community’s required local share is to pay 10% of capital construction costs and 100% of the cost of equipment, furniture, and fixtures, which includes medical equipment with big ticket prices: MRI machines, CT scanners, and x-ray machines;

AND WHEREAS this translates to a 70% provincial share and 30% local share (individuals, groups, businesses, and municipalities) of the overall cost of provincial hospital operations and capital projects;

AND WHEREAS the adoption of the “design-build-finance” hospital construction model (also known as alternative financing and procurement or P3 projects), has increased local share amounts because they now include the costs of long-term financing;

AND WHEREAS equipment replacement needs are increasingly frequent and increasingly expensive with average equipment lifespan of just ten years;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario has highlighted the “local share” of hospital capital contributions as a major issue in its 2022 Pre-Budget Submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge calls for a provincial re-examination of the "local share" hospital capital calculation methodology, to better reflect the limited fiscal capacity of municipalities, and the contributions to health care services they already provide to a community;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities."

In accordance with Council's direction I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk