



**The Corporation of the  
Municipality of Mississippi Mills**

**Council Meeting**

**Resolution Number** 080-22

**Title:** Information List #05-22 Town of Bracebridge Resolution re: Joint and Several Liability Reform

**Date:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022

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**Moved by** Councillor Holmes

**Seconded by** Councillor Dalgity

**WHEREAS** municipal governments provide essential services to the residents and businesses in their communities; and

**WHEREAS** the ability to provide those services is negatively impacted by exponentially rising insurance costs; and

**WHEREAS** one driver of rising insurance costs is the legal principle of “joint and several liability”, which assigns disproportionate liability to municipalities for an incident relative to their responsibility for it; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has the authority and responsibility for the legal framework of “joint and several liability”; and

**WHEREAS** the Premier of Ontario committed to review the issue in 2018 with a view to helping municipal governments manage their risks and costs; and

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Review was conducted in 2019 with AMO and municipalities fully participating; and

**WHEREAS** the results of the Provincial Review have not been released and municipalities are still awaiting news of how the Attorney General will address this important matter; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of municipal governments has provided recommendations in their document “Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs” to align municipal liability with the proportionate responsibility for incidents and capping awards; and

**WHEREAS** The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has written to the Attorney General in support of the abovementioned recommendations provided by AMO;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the Municipality of Mississippi Mills calls on the Attorney General of Ontario to work with municipal governments to put forward a plan of action to address “joint and several liability” before the end of the government’s current term.
2. That the Municipality of Mississippi Mills supports the seven (7) recommendations contained in the AMO submission “Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs” to re-establish the priority for provincial action on this issue.
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Attorney General, the Honourable Doug Downey; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark; AMO President, Jamie McGarvey, AMCTO President, Sandra MacDonald; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

**CARRIED**

I, Casey Munro, Deputy Clerk for the Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution enacted by Council.



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Casey Munro, Deputy Clerk