

February 28, 2023

**Via email only**

To: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
[minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
[doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)  
The Honourable Dave Smith, MPP Peterborough-Kawartha  
[dave.smithco@pc.ola.org](mailto:dave.smithco@pc.ola.org)  
The Honourable Michelle Ferreri, MP Peterborough-Kawartha  
[michelle.ferreri@parl.gc.ca](mailto:michelle.ferreri@parl.gc.ca)  
Curve Lake First Nation  
[audreyp@curvelake.ca](mailto:audreyp@curvelake.ca)  
The Association of Municipalities Ontario  
[amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

**Re: Oath of Office**

Please be advised that during their Regular Council meeting held February 21, 2023, Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. **R2023-119**

Moved by Councillor Franzen  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor  
Armstrong

**Whereas** most municipalities in Ontario have a native land acknowledgement in their opening ceremony; and

**Whereas** a clear reference to the rights of Indigenous people is the aim of advancing Truth and Reconciliation; and

**Whereas** Call to Action 94 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada called upon the Government of Canada to replace the wording of the Oath of Citizenship to include the recognition of the laws of Canada including Treaties with Indigenous Peoples; and

**Whereas** on June 21, 2021 an Act to amend The Citizenship Act received royal assent to include clear reference to the rights of Indigenous peoples aimed at advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action within the broader reconciliation framework; and

**Whereas** the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada outlines specific calls to action for municipal governments in Canada to act on, including education and collaboration;

**Therefore be it resolved that** Council request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the following changes be made to the municipal oath of office: I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada including the Constitution, which recognizes and affirms the Aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples; and further

**That** this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), all Ontario municipalities, MPP Dave Smith, MP Michelle Ferreri, Premier Doug Ford and Curve Lake First Nation.

Carried.

Sincerely,

Mayor and Council of the Municipality of Trent Lakes

Cc: All Ontario municipalities