



TOWN OF GRIMSBY

NOTICE OF MOTION

INTRODUCTION DATE: October 16, 2023

SUBJECT: Costing of Greenbelt Changes

REQUESTED BY: Councillor DiFlavio

Whereas, the Town of Grimsby has incurred significant legal, consulting, and staff time costs of approximately \$82,000 as a direct result of the pressure placed upon the Town by the provincial government to reach agreements with developers and make decisions related to changes in the Greenbelt Act; and

Whereas, this pressure included deadlines set by the Minister of Housing, which, if not met, would have resulted in decisions being made without the municipality's involvement; and

Whereas, the municipality had to allocate resources, including the Town's solicitor and consultants, as well as a substantial amount of staff time to address these matters, impacting our regular municipal operations and projects; and

Whereas, the Town of Grimsby had initially anticipated that all costs incurred would be offset by fees associated with the developments affected by the changes to the Greenbelt; and

Whereas, the recent changes in the Greenbelt Act, which reinstated all lands in the Town of Grimsby into the Greenbelt, have effectively eliminated the opportunity for the Town to recoup these expenses through the anticipated development fees, thus exacerbating the financial impact on the municipality; and

Whereas, the financial burden borne by the Town of Grimsby is a direct consequence of actions taken beyond the municipality's control; and

Whereas, the Town of Grimsby seeks financial reimbursement to alleviate the incurred costs and to ensure fiscal responsibility and fairness;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Grimsby formally requests financial reimbursement from the provincial government for the legal, consulting, and staff time costs, approximately \$82,000, incurred due to the pressure exerted by the provincial government and developers regarding changes in the Greenbelt Act; and

Further, be it resolved that the Town of Grimsby communicates this request to the provincial government and to our member of provincial parliament, emphasizing the need for accountability and fairness in addressing the financial consequences imposed on the municipality; and

Further, be it resolved that the CAO and the designated team be authorized to engage in negotiations with the relevant parties to pursue the reimbursement of these and any future costs related to the changes to the Greenbelt Act and report back to Council; and

Finally, be it resolved that the Town of Grimsby will actively pursue all available avenues to recover these costs **upon the report of staff**, taking into account the best interests of our community and its financial well-being.

I acknowledge that this Notice of Motion will be given consideration at the November 6, 2023 Council meeting.