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July 25, 2023

Chloe Senior, Clerk  
Oxford County  
21 Reeve St  
P.O. Box 1614  
Woodstock, On  
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Via e-mail – [csenior@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:csenior@oxfordcounty.ca)

Re: County of Oxford Resolutions - Homelessness Crisis and Opioid Crisis

At the Woodstock City Council meeting held on July 13, 2023, the following resolution was passed in response to your correspondence:

“Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario and that Council accepts that the responsibility to address these challenges rests with community stakeholders, partners and residents as well as federal and provincial governments and agencies;

Whereas the City of Woodstock recognizes the challenges of mental health, addictions, specifically opioids, and homelessness are complex issues that have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents of the City of Woodstock and surrounding areas within Ontario;

Whereas addressing and responding to these issues has placed extreme stress on all levels of municipal and non-municipal programs and services, including various not-for-profit organizations and provincially funded health services with the City of Woodstock and surrounding areas;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the City of Woodstock call on the federal and provincial governments to act on the following seven measures:

1. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
2. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;

3. Work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous, and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal;
4. Creation of a multi-sectoral task force to guide development of a robust provincial opioid response plan that will ensure necessary resourcing, policy change, and health and social system coordination;
5. Expanding access to opioid agonist therapy for opioid use disorder through a range of settings (e.g. mobile outreach, primary care, emergency departments, Rapid Access to Addiction Medicine Clinics), and a variety of medication options;
6. Providing a long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, including people with substance use disorders; and
7. Increasing investments in evidence informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighborhoods, beginning from early childhood;

And further, that a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of the Solicitor General; the Minister of Finance; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman; Oxford MP Arpan Khanna; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and all Ontario municipalities.”

Yours Truly,



Amelia Humphries  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/City Clerk

Cc: (via email)

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario - [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing of Ontario - [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of MCCSS - [MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca](mailto:MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health - [christine.elliott@ontario.ca](mailto:christine.elliott@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General - [michael.kerzner@ontario.ca](mailto:michael.kerzner@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance - [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)

Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer - [info@moh@ontario.ca](mailto:info@moh@ontario.ca)

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Oxford MPP - [ernie.hardemanco@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardemanco@pc.ola.org)

The Honourable Arpan Khanna, Oxford MP - [arpan.khanna@parl.gc.ca](mailto:arpan.khanna@parl.gc.ca)

Association of Municipalities Ontario – [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)