



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

April 25, 2025

By Email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford

By Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

**Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal
Affairs and Housing**

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, April 22, 2025, passed the following resolution regarding its April 15, 2025 Letter sent to Ontario's Regulatory Registry on the proposed May 1, 2025, expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, a copy of which is enclosed.

At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

Motion: RCM - 114/25

Moved by Councillor Alicia Higgison
Seconded by Councillor Tania Jobin

"That the agenda Communication item regarding the Town of Tecumseh and its opposition to the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers **be circulated** to the Premier of Ontario, the local MPPs, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, and all municipalities".

Carried

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh's action on the matter.

Yours very truly,

Robert Auger, LLB
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

RA/ja
Attachment

1. Town of Tecumseh Resolution- Strong Mayor Powers dated April 15, 2025
- cc.
- County of Essex
 - Town of Amherstburg
 - Municipality of Lakeshore
 - Municipality of Leamington
 - Town of LaSalle
 - Town of Essex



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

April 15, 2025

Ministry to Municipal Affairs and Housing

Via Email to the Ontario's Regulatory Registry

Re: Letter of Resolution – Proposed May 1, 2025, expansion of Strong Mayor Powers to the Town of Tecumseh

At its April 15, 2025, Special Council meeting called in response to the April 9, 2025, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing news release on the proposal to expand Strong Mayor Powers to 169 additional municipalities, the Council of the Town of Tecumseh provided the following comments with the unanimous passage of the following resolution:

“Motion: SCM – 19/25

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bachetti

Seconded by Councilor Jobin

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario, through O. Reg. 530/22 under the Municipal Act, 2001, has designated the Town of Tecumseh as a “Strong Mayor” municipality, granting the enhanced powers of Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act to its Head of Council effective May 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing news release announcing the proposal to expand Strong Mayor powers to 169 additional municipalities on April 9, 2025, indicated a one-week consultation deadline for municipal comments on the proposal to be submitted to Ontario's Regulatory Registry by April 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS without the benefit of a more thorough consultation process and suitable period of time for feedback on the proposed expansion of Strong Mayor powers, the proposal is a disservice to the very communities they impact; and

WHEREAS Strong Mayor Powers alter the balance of governance at the local level, undermining the role of our duly elected members of Council in decision-making and weakening the fundamental democratic principles of majority vote and majority rule; and

WHEREAS the Town of Tecumseh has had a long and successful history of local governance based on collaborative and effective leadership built upon a foundation of Council debate and reaching consensus on decisions for its community; and

WHEREAS the Town of Tecumseh being a smaller community, has thrived with these collaborative, transparent, and accountable processes without the need for an expansion of

Strong Mayor Powers in order to serve Provincial Priorities and act in the best interests of its residents; and

WHEREAS given the long history of the Town of Tecumseh as a collaborative Council, the extension of Strong Mayor powers to the Town of Tecumseh may serve to instead counteract the stated purposes of the Strong Mayor Power legislation by disrupting what have been successful democratic processes and by undermining the important role that each Council member provides for its citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Tecumseh Town Council formally opposes the proposed expansion of Strong Mayor Powers as announced on April 9, 2025 and further requests that the proposed amendments to O. Reg 530/22 to expand Strong Mayor Powers to Additional Municipalities NOT include the Town of Tecumseh and respectfully requests that the Town of Tecumseh be removed from the list of municipalities so designated under the Strong Mayor legislation;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon circulation that the Clerk be authorized to send and upload a copy of this resolution together with a letter of resolution to Ontario's Regulatory Registry by the April 16, 2025, deadline for comments on the proposal.

"Carried."

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Auger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Auger, LL.B.
Director Legislative Services & Clerk