

Box 310, 315 George Street, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0 Tel: (519) 534-1400 Fax: (519) 534-4862

1-877-534-1400

April 23, 2021

Doug Downey Attorney General McMurtry-Scott Building 720 Bay Street, 11th Floor Toronto ON M7A 2S9

Dear Honorable Mr. Downey:

Re: Lottery Licensing to Assist Small Organizations

Small organizations are the foundation of rural Ontario. Thousands of hours of selfless volunteerism are logged each year by organizations who may not necessarily be considered not-for profit or charitable. That doesn't mean that they don't contribute to our communities; small organizations cook for the homeless, clean up parks and flower beds, read to young people, teach life skills to young adults, organize parades, put on concerts...the list goes on.

Many of these small organizations are not eligible to receive a lottery license. This makes it impossible for them to continue to be successful as their fundraising capabilities are extremely limited.

Through this correspondence, we request that you give serious consideration to instituting an additional level of lottery licensing which would enable small organizations to obtain a lottery license. Those who are not able to sustain a non-profit or charitable status could still receive a lottery license if their proceeds benefit the community. Thresholds could be placed on the prize values and perhaps even the number of events which could be held in a calendar year.

We hear over and over again about the hardships in our community and we know that there are organizations who have the ability to help and are not permitted to. Understanding this, Council adopted a resolution seeking your consideration.

R-226-2021

It was Moved by J. Kirkland, Seconded by K. Durst and Carried

That staff are directed to contact the Ministry responsible for Alcohol and Gaming of Ontario to seek their assistance in implementing an additional level of licensing which would permit small organizations to hold fundraisers as a method of sustaining our community and organizations;

And further that all municipalities in Ontario are sent this resolution to seek their assistance in lobbying the Ministry.

We look forward to your consideration of our request.

Yours very truly,

Angie Cathrae Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

519-534-1400 ext 122

Tol Free 1-877-534-1400

angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

cc: MPP Bill Walker, All Ontario Municipalities



Corporate Services Department Clerk's Division

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 · www.portcolborne.ca

т 905.835.2900 ext 106 **г** 905.834.5746

E amber.lapointe@portcolborne.ca

April 26, 2021

Honourable Patty Hajdu Federal Minister of Health 705 Red River Road, Suite 3 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1J3

Sent via E-mail: Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: **Resolution – Cannabis Licensing and Enforcement**

Please be advised that, at its meeting of April 12, 2021, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

> That correspondence from the Township of Brock regarding Cannabis Licensing and Enforcement, be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference. Your favourable consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Amber LaPointe City Clerk

Health Canada ec:

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Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Vance Badawey, MP Niagara Centre Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre Board Members, Niagara Police Services Board Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of The Township of Brock 1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10 Cannington, ON LOE 1E0 705-432-2355

March 2, 2021

The Honourable Patty Hajdu Minister of Health Canada Via email: Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca Health Canada Ottawa, Ontario via email: hcinfo.infosc@canada.ca

Dear Honourable Madam:

Re: Cannabis Licencing and Enforcement

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Brock, at their meeting held on February 22, 2021 adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Number 22-2

MOVED by Michael Jubb and SECONDED by Cria Pettingill

WHEREAS the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-45 (the Cannabis Act) to create the foundation for a comprehensive national framework to provide restricted access to regulated cannabis, and to control its production, distribution, sale, importation, exportation, and possession;

WHEREAS the police have not been given lawful authority to lay charges under the Cannabis Act to appropriately respond to violations of Health Canada Registrations and Licenses;

WHEREAS there is no direct communication or dedicated effort to provide a communication channel between Municipal government staff or Police Agencies for dealing with Health Canada Registrations and Licenses;

WHEREAS the Township of Brock has not been consulted by Health Canada prior to the issuance of licenses for properties not in compliance with municipal zoning by-laws;the future;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Brock requests that Health Canada:

- 1. Require Federal Licenses and Registrations for Designated Growers to conform with local zoning and control by-laws;
- 2. Ensure local authorities are provided with notification of any licence issuance, amendment, suspension, reinstatement or revocation within their region;

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact the Township at 705-432-2355.

- 3. Provide dedicated communication with local governments and Police services;
- 4. Provide lawful authority to Police agencies to lay charges when registered or licences operations grow in excess of their registration or licence through Health Canada; and,
- 5. Provide enforcement support and guidance to local municipalities for dealing with land use complaints relating to Cannabis.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Brock will forward this motion by email to the following partners: All municipalities in Ontario; the MP and MPP of Haliburton–Kawartha Lakes–Brock; the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food; and the Durham Region Police Services with the request that the Federal government enact legislation to better support local governments with land use management and enforcement issues as they relate to Cannabis Production and Processing.

MOTION CARRIED

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

Becky Jamieson Municipal Clerk

BJ:dh

cc. The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, Ontario – christine.elliott@ontario.ca

The Honourable Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scottco@pc.ola.org

Jamie Schmale, MP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - Jamie.schmale@parl.gc.ca The Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – minister.omafra@ontario.ca

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food - Marie-Claude.Bibeau@parl.gc.ca

Inspector Ryan Connolly, DRPS - northdivision@drps.ca Ontario municipalities



Community Services

Legislative Services

April 27, 2021 File #120203

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Sent via email: caroline.mulroney@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Honourable and Dear Madam:

Re: Township of The Archipelago - Road Management Action on Invasive Phragmites

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of April 26, 2021 received and supported correspondence from the Township of The Archipelago dated April 9, 2021 requesting the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to communicate the strategy on mapping (detecting sites) and controlling invasive Phragmites on provincial highways, the specific highway management plans and results by each MTO region and each highway in the region and work in coordination with the Township of The Archipelago and requests all levels of government to consider funding support to aid the Township of The Archipelago in managing invasive phragmites.

Attached please find a copy of the Township of The Archipelago's correspondence dated April 9, 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.

Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

uf Schofuel

cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

Attach

c.c.

The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks jeff.yurekco@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada ec.minister.ec@canada.ca

Christopher Balasa, Manager, Maintenance Management Office Christopher.balasa@ontario.ca

Wayne Gates, MPP, Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca

MPP Norman Miller. Norm.miller@pc.olg.org

Maryann Weaver, Municipal Clerk, Township of The Archipelago mweaver@thearchipelago.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities



Toronto Star by Kristen Rushowy, Jul 2/19



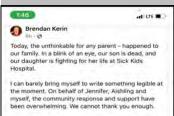












Shea is alive because of the first responders' speedy and professional actions. We are grateful to the Cobourg OPP, the Northumberland Hills Hospital, and the Trauma team at Sick Kids have given our family a sliver of hope.

All I can say at the moment, Shea needs all of our prayers and thoughts. She is still very much in a precarious situation.

Cormac was the most beautiful boy a parent could wish for. The thing to know about Cormac was how much he cared about others. He loved his school, teachers, classmates, friends and teammates. Please know how much he loved you. I can't bring myself to say much more at the moment, it is too much.

We are aware of how far this is affected people and the pain and hurt this has caused. In particular, our concern for their school classmates and staff, teanmates and friends.

We ask that you keep our bus driver and the innocent children on the bus at the time in your thoughts and prayers. Amy will need all the support we can give











*Note: in this report, click on images/links to read more details or watch videos.

Help us Keep Busing as Safe as Possible; Keep Kids off Highspeed Roadways.

April 15, 2021

The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education 438 University Ave, 5th Floor, Toronto, ON M7A 1N3 Dear Minister Lecce:

Ontario School Busing is in the news... but not for the right reasons! UPS can do it, garbage trucks, snow plows, fire trucks, ambulances can provide driveway service, but schools can't? Remember when school children were picked up by school bus at their driveway? Now private road, cul-de-sac and dead-end road kids are losing long-time neighbourhood school bus pickups. Student Transportation Services (STS) citing "for safety" school buses cannot do, 3-point-turns, back-ups, or access private roadways even though they have been for years!

Children are being dropped on highspeed thoroughfares and high trafficked intersections and this is more-safe? Minister Lecce, Adam died at a driveway highway pickup. Cormac died just before





Christmas '20 accessing his bus at the base of a hill (see Dad's public facebook post above). Where bus stops are located is important. Parents around the province feel sick with fear and worry for their dead-end road kids whose bus stops are being moved to higher trafficked high-speed

roadways. Further, **Dead-End Road Kids are expected to walk upwards of 1-2km twice daily** (caregivers 4x), in morning dark, on narrow road shoulders (no sidewalks). **Parents reporting employment and housing at risk** due to losing senior caregivers who can't walk to new highspeed stops. Parents now having to beg off work daily to drop off/pick up children to avoid safety hazards of then walking alone on highways unsupervised. This puts their employment at risk. Secondary School Youth reporting long distance stops impacting their ability to log back in for afternoon classes, affecting grades.

STS advised parents road improvements are responsibility of municipalities, yet municipalities don't own land adjacent to roadways needed to create 77m bus turnarounds, nor have \$ millions necessary to create turnarounds, so STS keep moving long-time neighborhood pickups to highspeed common stops.

1) Parents request exceptions to allow 3-point turns or backing up where absolutely necessary to provide safer service to dead-end and private road kids, that policies be amended to reflect.



"Something good has to come from this and that something good would be:
no child was killed and no more incidents happen," (Brother Pierre talking Feb 11/20
about 20 year agony of his little 5-yr old brother Adam's death on Highway Bus Stop.)
Don't let this be the life for Durham families. Let's do everything possible!



For Durham Region alone, this change in busing policy means 178 dead end roads are not accessed by Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS), impacting 386 students and their families in Durham Region alone (DSTS letter Dec '20)! How many children live on private cottage roads, dead end roads or cul-de-sacs around the province affected by this?

<u>Durham Dead End Road Kids' Video</u> re: Durham District School Board Bus Stop Changes (Ajax, Brock, Clarington, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, Whitby)

<u>Watch Parents' Video</u> Fearful of Trillium Lakelands District School Board's Bus Stop Change (Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, Muskokas)

Police report filed when daughter was nearly hit by a car. Mother reports "being thrown around like a baton" trying to get answers. "I am looking for a voice who can help me show TLDSB, that it's common sense not to ask children to stand in an intersection, on an S bend of a busy high traffic area." Kids stand in snow covered ditch or on road shoulder to wait for bus. No other space. "I need a voice who understands that keeping your children safe is a mother's job... Help me fight to keep my children safe. I pray daily that our voices will be heard."

(Mom Tammy Mitchell Lakelands School District).

"I'm afraid it will be too late before they do anything." News story reports family had one vehicle leaving mom with no choice but to walk 3 children (including baby

had one vehicle leaving mom with no choice but to walk 3 children (including baby in stroller) to new dangerous bus stop. Bus used to pick up on private road since '09 but now TLSB has denied request to keep safer private stop. "Every morning Katie walks with three young children to the bus stop... she fears they're going to get hit. "It's a blind





"We don't take responsibility for children, they are the parents' responsibility up until they get to the bus stop and on the bus," says Catherine Shedden, District Manager, TLDSB

"The Governance Committee concluded that the DSTS Transportation
Policy has been applied... the decision is final and not subject to further
consideration. Accordingly, no further action will be taken on this
matter," says Kelly Mechoulan, CAO of DSTS
(Response to Grandfather trying to get his 4-vr-old granddaughter's

(Response to Grandfather trying to get his 4-yr-old granddaughter's bus stop off 80km intersection and back to dead end road.)

2) Parents request exceptions to allow indemnification agreements to access private land for bus turnarounds, to keep bus stops safer and closer to prescribed 800m distance away.



<u>Dad speaks to Council Dec '19</u> explaining "My kids have had 10 opportunities to be killed!" at new Highway 60 common stop. Used to be picked up on dead-end Millar Hill Road. Now bus passed by speeding cars potentially hitting kids in morning dark while boarding. Even though Limberlost Forest and Wildlife Reserve has offered their entrance for a bus turnaround, TLDSB says can't use private land unless they donate it for bus turnaround. (*Dad Kevin Miller*, Lake of Bays)



A tractor-trailer nearly plowed into the back of kids' bus stopped on highway. STSCO had moved bus stop to Highway 7 where speed limit is 80km, to avoid dead-end Leanne Avenue. "Buses don't typically go down dead-end roads... but with the...increased traffic, STSCO recognized change needed." "It was really traumatic watching (oncoming semi-truck) because there was nothing we could do." (Parents Lisa & Matt Couture, Peterborough)



- 3) Parents request "Bus Stop Ahead" warning signage be required to notify oncoming traffic prior to STS moving common stop to main roadway. Durham parents on Dead-End Roads Jack Rabbit Run & William's Point, whose children being moved to base of hill on Regional Road 57, tried to get bus stop warning signage installed, but DSTS said not warranted.
- "Bus stop has been on Jack Rabbit Run for years...I have two small boys ages 4.5 and 6. I live over 1.5km from Reg Rd 57. There's no possible way we can walk that far twice daily! Multiple vehicles, parents, and children congregating... There's no parking, no shoulders... I'm a Registered Nurse in critical care. I know accidents can happen without warning! Please take residents' concerns seriously! I work shift work so my elderly mother takes children to bus, but now will not be impossible! How will I support my family (if I have to leave work to pick them up)?" (Mom Cara Tunney, Registered Nurse Critical Care, Scugog)
- "My work takes me around province. Puts all responsibility of taking kids (2- and 4-yearolds) to highway on my wife. What drives me crazy is that it's been possible for a bus to make a three-point turn in the past... why isn't a smaller bus not a possibility?" (Dad Steve Anning on Video, Hydro One Safety Officer, Scugog)







- * cars stopped on hill behind bus,
- * 1 car trying to turn right around bus,
- * 1 car honking because came over hill and cars stopped behind bus,
- * ALL parents screaming because another car came around William's Point bend and almost ran over kids boarding! Kids scared... How can this be safe? Imagine if there were snow or ice on hill?"

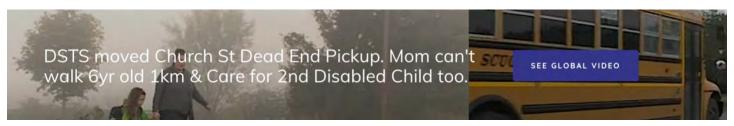
"Please explain Mrs. Mechoulan how you are going to deal with a child getting hit by a car and all of us parents have continued to tell DSTS how unsafe it is?"

(Mom Laura Turnbull, Feb '21 Email to Trustee Morton & DSTS CAO Mechoulan)

4) Parents request STS be comprised of solutions like taxis, public transit, mini-buses or vans, worked into funding formula so doesn't negatively impact STS funding stats. Other options could be incorporated not just full-size buses that can't navigate dead-end roads. Why not use new Durham Transit On-Demand?

"We were informed Friday that the bus stop is again, at Cartwright and Church intersection. This is an unsafe stop for any child... Vehicles are always speeding

(over 80km/hr) not to mention when there's a problem on 7A, they detour through that intersection. Our neighbours are appalled DSTS refuses to send a bus down our road. All their children were picked up at the ends of their driveways. The road is in the best shape it's ever been. Wilma (Wotten Regional Councillor) had commented that she used to ride the bus that came down this



road. In 2017, the town came out and met with DSTS to look at areas where the bus could turn around. Nothing ever came of it (don't own enough land there to build turnaround). We now have 6 children who live on this road, ages 4-13. None of the families are okay with the current bus stop, only one is using it (while they fight DSTS)." (Mom of Disabled Child, Krista Ormsby, Scugog)



Parents being told busing policy is schoolboard's but they say it's STS's, but STS say busing changes are schoolboard governance & policy of Ministry of Transportation, meanwhile Ministry of Education says it's "transportation consortia that administer policies". Parents are spinning in circles trying to figure out who to talk to, since STS not responding to their concerns!

Parents reporting frightening near accidents/deaths to Trustees, School Boards, STS, but continue to be advised "it's the parents' responsibility to get children to bus stop safely", and are forced to appeal to councils, press, make videos, yet appeals largely unresolved and unknown liabilities mounting.

5) Parents request Kid KPI "Key Performance Indicator" be included for future Ministry "Effectiveness & Efficiency Follow Up Reviews", establishing benchmarks for responsive problem solving for kids & parents' busing concerns, and this be a factor to receive funding. Viktoria says DSTS, "senseless bureaucratic approach must change." There's more to busing than business.

"DSTS picked a community stop but my kids only ones taking bus? ...which drives right by our house? How does 40-minute walk sound four times a day with a 2 and 4-year-old?"

(Mom Viktoria Brown, Scugog '17 Focus Magazine Appeal to DSTS)

We need a "Kid" KPI, where high-level service is rewarded. Rui Webster who's lost both his legs, uses prosthetic limbs to walk, yet DSTS won't move bus stop 160 feet to accommodate. "The bus stop was just a couple of houses down the street from him...however busing contractor changed routes...Rui has to cross intersection to reach (new) bus stop (more traffic)... snow plows deposit large banks of snow... Twice last week, Rui slipped and fell... "We just want bus stop put back where it was or to assign Rui to another bus that still goes past our house – either of these things are easy to do," Kurt says. The busing contractor has steadfastly refused to change route. School district has refused to budge as well." (Parents Kurt & Melissa Webster, Ajax)

Dad chases truckers speeding past stopped school bus on Hwy11 while kids boarding, to report to OPP!

<u>Transports blowing by stopped school buses on area highways a regular occurrence</u>. "It's so stressful. It's awful. Every morning I stress out and every afternoon when I know (transport trucks) are coming back." (Mom Cara Smetana, Martin River Nipissing)



6) Province provide "Parent Portal" for ongoing busing feedback of their STS, so families and kids can review/provide comments, especially during Ministry STS reviews and revisions to funding.

Provincial funding for student transportation is projected to be more than \$1 billion and Ministry routinely has "Effectiveness and Efficiency Follow-Up Reviews" of STS which is the vehicle of STS funding.

Ontario Government announced January 27, 2020 they'd improve student transportation experience by reviewing funding formula to achieve more efficient and accountable system, reviewing three goals of: 1) equity, 2) fiscal responsibility, accountability, and 3) evidence-based decision making.

Government is establishing a Student Transportation Advisory Group meeting with Parliamentary Assistant and Ministry staff, to hear from STS sector partners expertise, experience and ideas. Parents and children should be included in this review. Given busing is supposed to be for the children, why not give parents and kids a say?

7) Province have GPS tracking software to notify parents where children are when dropped off/picked up, giving evidence of safety.

On behalf of Durham Dead End Road Kids, and William's Point Cottager's Association, we hope our website, videos, and this report help explain. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Ofhezilerich

<u>Deborah Kiezebrink</u>, Scugog Ward 4 Councillor <u>dkiezebrink@scugoq.ca</u>



Brent Clemens, <u>WPCA</u> President <u>bclemmy@aol.com</u>

and <u>Wilma Wotten</u>, Scugog Regional Councillor & Deputy Mayor <u>wwotten@scugog.ca</u>

MBurg

and Michelle Burg, WPCA Board Director <u>michelle.j.burg@gmail.com</u>

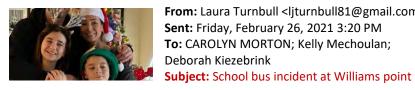
cc: Premier Doug Ford, Honorable Stephen Lecce (Minister of Education), Honorable Caroline Mulroney (Minister of Transport), Durham MPP Lindsey Park, Durham Region, all Ontario Municipalities, ROMA, OGRA, and AMO.





This car came round William's Point bend and nearly ran over kids accessing bus! Parents yelling "Stop, stop!" Kids scared... Cars coming over hill honking...





From: Laura Turnbull < ljturnbull81@gmail.com> Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 3:20 PM To: CAROLYN MORTON; Kelly Mechoulan; Deborah Kiezebrink

Good afternoon Mrs. Mechoulan,

I am beyond upset that this continues to happen, this is the first time I finally got it on camera, unfortunately I did not get the car behind the bus because it was so unsafe I cared more for the kids then the pictures, the details of the drop off are as follows:

- parents waiting at the side of Williams point for the bus to arrive 2:54
- bus shows up lights on kids begin to come off bus
- two cars stopped on the hill behind the bus
- as kids coming off bus, car comes around bend on Williams point road and almost runs them over!
- all parents begin yelling "Stop, Stop!" so the kids stop, car stops...
- bus closes doors and carries on
- the first car behind the bus wants to turn right on to Williams point but has to wait for the children to clear so the second and then third car start hammering on their horns so they can get by because they just came up over the hill and a car is parked
- the kids all stop walking again because they don't know what's going on with all the horns and they are scared.

How can this be safe? If this bus stop continues, please explain to me Mrs. Mechoulan how you are going to deal with the situation when one of these kids gets hit by a car and all of us parents have continued to tell the bus transportation company how unsafe it is. This is completely unacceptable and please let me remind you it's a sunny dry day, I can't even imagine if it were raining or snowing or ice. I will continue to film and take pictures of this very concerning situation. Laura

From: KELLY MECHOULAN <kelly.mechoulan@dsts.on.ca>

Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 6:04 PM

To: Laura Turnbull; CAROLYN MORTON; Deborah Kiezebrink

Cc: DAVID WRIGHT

Subject: RE: School bus incident at Williams point

Dear Ms. Turnbull,

Thank you for letting us know about the driver at the intersection. Although, DSTS has confirmed with the bus driver that no vehicle has gone through the bus flashing lights at the Regional Road 57 and Williams Point Road, our Safety Officer has reached out to Durham Regional Police to request surveillance in the area at the time of drop off and pick up at the bus stop location.

The car at the stop sign can not legally turn into the bus lights, and the bus driver has been instructed to block as much of the intersection at time of stopping as possible.

DSTS will continue to monitor the bus stop with the bus operator and driver. The current bus stop location is the closest available bus stop location, the next closest available bus stop location is on Regional Road 57 at Park Street.

If you would prefer to use this bus stop location please let me know and DSTS staff will facilitate the change in bus stop location for your family.

Sincerely, Kelly Mechoulan **Durham Student Transportation Services**



AUG 7/20 Laura wrote to Durham District Schoolboard Trustee Carolyn Morton, who is also the Chair of the DDSB Governance Committee:

"Good morning, I might not be the first time you are hearing a complaint regarding this but I haven't heard of anything changing so I wanted to voice my concern as well.

My house received a letter from the Durham Bus Transportation (DSTS)... starting this school year the bus would no longer come down the road. I am located end of William's Point 2.4 km from Highway 57 the new pick up. There is no possible way in good weather (let alone bad weather) my kids are going to be able to make it down there and back, so that leaves me no choice now but to drive them.

Due to Covid if I have to already drive them down the road I might as well drive them right to the school. However upon review of the back-to-school guidelines, I see that the board is discouraging parent drop offs as the area is not built for that many cars.

I can completely understand this, but honestly now that they took the bus away, I'll have no choice. I also would like to know what the guidelines are distance wise as a tax payer for children to receive a bus pick up?

There are kids even further past me down Jack Rabbit Run that also will no longer get bus service. Are we not entitled to bus service after a certain mileage away? Also I would like to complain that the bus has been travelling past my house for over 14 years that I've lived here with the same turn around so why now?

I understand times right now are challenging for all. I just can't sit back and say it's ok that they don't have a bus anymore knowing I pay my taxes and they had one every other year. Any guidance regarding this would be much appreciated."

Laura

From: Carolyn Morton (Trustee)
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 5:59 PM

I am sorry, but I have no authority to change decisions made by the CEO of DSTS. That would be out of my hands.

Sorry, Carolyn

Minister Lecce, who should this mom and others like her go to, who have authority to help?

Minister Stephen Lecce Please Give Safe Stop - Not Highway 57!

February 18, 2021 | Durham Dead End Road Kids, Education Access, Parents Advocation, School Bus Safety



I am writing on behalf of the deeply concerned parents and community members of Williams Point. Monday, February 8, 2021 was the first pick up and drop off at the new bus stop located on the highway. Most parents found alternative measures to get their children to school as they are not willing to risk their children's physical safety by having them congregate at the bottom of a blind hill with no signage, sidewalks, or designated waiting area. Those who did send their children by bus were frightened. Other families have decided to move their children to online schooling, being forced to make a choice between their children's physical safety and their mental health. Our parents are losing sleep regarding this ongoing dispute particularly following the death of a student in Port Hope December 2/2020. Read news story. Support the Kerin family here.



Toronto Sun Reports: Cormac Kerin, 12, along with his sisters, Aishling and Shea, 10. Cormac was killed and Shea critically injured after they were struck by a vehicle while waiting for their school bus on Dec. 2/20 in Port Hope.

The parallels that can be drawn between the two bus stops are uncanny and downright terrifying to the parents of 22 kids who are expected to stand in the middle of an intersection on a highway at the base of a hill in winter to board the bus...



New Durham Highway 57 Common Stop where school bus stopping isn't visible until reaching crest of hill. Dangerous for Scugog Dead End Road Kids. Keep safer side road stops until turnaround can be built.

I would like to share with you direct quotes and feedback we have received from our community to better illustrate:

- *"There is no stop sign here and the bus is stopping on the bottom of a blind hill where visibility is impossible. The snow and ice makes this dangerous spot even more dangerous. There are no sidewalks and cars are speeding in this area. As a critical care nurse, I am very concerned that this change was made and ultimately puts our children's lives at risk."
- * "Pick up and drop off spot at the HWY 57 and William's Point Intersection is not an appropriate alternative. It isn't safe, it's not

suitable for family routines and not good for overall community. The proposed stop is on the downhill side of a blind hill, where vehicles are often travelling well over the posted speed limit. This is very similar to the spot in Northumberland County where a boy tragically lost his life at a school bus stop just this school year. Again, add snow, ice or slippery conditions to this situation and it becomes even more unsafe."

* We made the difficult decision to move our daughter to online. We cannot take this risk for something that should be as simple as getting to school safely. The impacts this will have on her mental health keep me up at night."

We understand that representatives from the Township of Scugog have subcontracted engineers to survey and create a design for a 77 metre turnaround for the bus at the location where it previously did a 3-point-turn, at Jack Rabbit Run and William's Point intersection. This is a very private and safe location and close for families who's children have disabilities to access. Our community has rallied together offering to donate land from our park if need to be construct a bus turnaround, to start a fundraising campaign, volunteer time, and some have even offered to build the bus turnaround themselves if need be, anything to keep our children safe.

We have requested that DSTS explore alternatives that could be available such as committing to send the mini-buses like before, having a parent or a second bus driver act as a spotter for the bus driver to turn around safely. We are aware that Councillor Kiezebrink sent letters to DSTS, our School Board Trustee Carolyn Morton, and Norah Marsh, Director of Education just last week, requesting that the bus stop remain in place in our community until the end of the school year so we can work tougher towards providing a suitable solution and allocate the appropriate amount of time and resources to have the solutions executed.

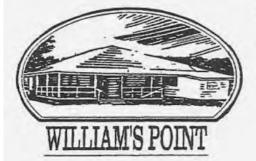
Each of our solutions, letters, and requests, have been dismissed as not possible. DSTS actions have made it clear that there is no intention to collaborate, have open dialogue or to work to resolve our very valid concerns. They have only restated what the policy is, in any email, meeting, or letter; that it's the parents' responsibility to get the children to the bus stop safely, that roadways are the municipality's responsibility, that it's not a hill, not a highway, that sight lines are met and "bus stop ahead" signage is not required (but we wonder where the measurements were taken from because the bus driver stopped mid-hill as it's the only place to stand for the students).

Parents and community members are asking when will DSTS be open and transparent with us? When will our concerns be responded to? Some parents have written letters or emails only to still receive no reply. How is this an acceptable practice of a Tax Funded Agency to simple ignore the very people who pay their taxes that provide the funding? Our families and members feel abandoned and ignored due to our rural status.

Minister Stephen Lecce, our elected Councillors (Ward Councillor Deborah Kiezebrink and Regional Councillor Wotten) have done everything they can think of to assist us. We are now asking that they engage you to investigate not only our concerns for our children's safety but how unfairly this community feels this matter has been handled by DSTS.

We wish to thank you in advance for your assistance and advocacy both on our behalf and on behalf of every Dead-End Road Child in Durham facing this same circumstance. Thank you for taking our concerns seriously and thank you to our Councillors for being safety ambassadors within Scugog Township.

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Sincerely,

Michelle Burg, WPCA Director

cc. Brent Clemens, WPCA President

READ BLOG POST:

https://durhamdeadendroadkids.ca/blog-to-minister/f/minister-stephen-lecce-please-give-safe-stop---not-highway-57

Good Day,

This letter is to inform whomever can resolve this catastrophe.

My name is Curtis Sewards and live at 3250 Beacock rd., Nestleton, Ontario. LOB 1LO. I am being told that my granddaughter is to walk 1.4 km to highway 57 to the bus stop. My granddaughter is 4 and just started JK. Her mother has no car or drivers license, so both would have to walk. They would have to leave about 45 minutes before pick up, which would be in the dark during the winter months. Beacock is a dirt road and has no sidewalks or lights. This is extremely dangerous for such a cute kid.

4 years ago, I was told a similar situation, which meant my grandson would have to walk the 1.2 km to the pick-up point. The reason was it was not safe for the bus to turn around. After taking measurements, the driveway beside mine is 25 feet wide and at least 50 feet long going to a work shop. I discussed this problem with my neighbor and he had absolutely no problem with the bus turning around.

The transportation safety inspector from the bus company came to my house and spoke with said neighbor and the bus started coming with no incidence for the 2 years my grandson was here. I have also had my own 2 children bused to school for their 14 years of public-school education.

Now I am being told someone has determined no bus should turn around on a private driveway? I am not sure where this came from but my house is on a public road well maintained and plowed. I might add the grader, snowplow and garbage trucks easily use Beacock rd. If the bus company is not allowed to send the big bus, send the small one but Avrie deserves an education.

This is a problem created with the decision about bus turning, with no plan for the children. I was never consulted about the losing access to education for anyone living at my house. *Please* solve this, do it for the kids!

If any further information is required, I am always available.

Curtis Sewards 905-926-8251



April 28, 2021

Minister Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Sent via email to: minister.edu@ontario.ca

Re: Bus Stops on Dead End Roads

Dear Minister:

At the last regular Council meeting of the Township of Scugog held April 26, 2021, the above captioned matter was discussed and I wish to advise that the following resolution was passed:

That Dead-End Road delegations be received: from parents, <u>video</u>, site <u>www.durhamdeadendroadkids.ca</u> and attached correspondence and;

Whereas Dead-End Road kids (cul-de-sacs, private roads) busing being moved from long-time residential to highspeed (some 80km) common stop pickups; percentage of 830,000 Ontario bused students impacted as Student Transportation Services (STS) citing buses shouldn't access private roads, do 3-point-turns, or back up; kids expected to walk 1-2km twice daily (caregivers 4x) in morning dark, on narrow road shoulders, with no "bus stop ahead" warning signage;

Whereas Parents report employment/housing at risk. Must leave work to drop off/pick up children to avoid safety hazards of kids walking on highways unsupervised; secondary school youth reporting education at risk as missing class/affecting grades; children with disabilities not helped like double amputee who needs stop moved 160ft; parents told it's their "responsibility to get kids to bus safely";

Whereas Parents being told busing policy is schoolboard's, but they say it's STS's, who say it's Governance Committee or Ministry of Transportation, but Ministry of Education say it's "transportation consortia who administer policy"; and trustee, governance say cannot change policies, so parents appealing to police, press, & councils re dangers then; oncoming car killed 12-yr-old Cormac and injured sister while waiting at newly relocated bus stop at the base of a hill;

Whereas STS have advised road improvements are responsibility of municipalities, yet municipalities don't own needed land, nor have \$ millions to create 77m bus turnarounds, meanwhile;

Whereas Ontario Transportation Funding is \$1 billion; Jan 27/20 Ministry said they'd improve student transportation, review funding formula; and given STS gets their funding by scoring well in reviews, and given Ministry establishing "Student Transportation Advisory Group" to hear STS sector expertise, experience and ideas;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Scugog requests:

THAT exceptions to allow 3-point turns or backing up where necessary, to provide safer service to dead-end and private road kids, that policies be amended to reflect; when not possible;

THAT exceptions to allow indemnification agreements to access private land for bus turnarounds to keep bus stops safer and closer to prescribed 800m distance; when not possible;

THAT "Bus Stop Ahead" warning signage be required to notify oncoming traffic, prior to STS moving common stop to main roadway;

THAT STS be comprised of solutions like mini-buses, vans, taxis, or public transit, worked into funding formula so doesn't negatively impact STS funding stats;

THAT Kid KPI "Key Performance Indicator" be included for Ministry "Effectiveness & Efficiency Follow Up Reviews", establishing benchmarks for responsive-problem-solving for kids & parents' busing concerns, and this be an STS factor to receive funding;

THAT Province provide "Parent Portal" for ongoing busing feedback of their STS, so families and kids can review/provide comments, especially during Ministry STS reviews and revisions to funding;

THAT Province have GPS tracking software to notify parents when children picked up/dropped off, and

THAT this motion be distributed to Premier Doug Ford, Honorable Stephen Lecce (Minister of Education), Honorable Caroline Mulroney (Minister of Transport), Durham MPP Lindsey Park, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, all Durham MPPs, Durham Region, all Ontario Municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Should you require any further information in regard to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure Services at 905-985-7346 ext.149.

Yours truly,

Becky Jamieson

Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

Attachments

cc: Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure Services

Premier of Ontario, Honourable Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

Honorable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transport minister.mto@ontario.ca

Durham MPP Lindsey Park lindsey.park@pc.ola.org

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott laurie.scott@pc.ola.org

All Durham MPP's -

Rod Phillips, MPP Ajax

Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby

Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa

Lindsey Park, MPP, Durham

Rod.phillips@pc.ola.org

Lorne.coe@pc.ola.org

Jfrench-QP@ndp.on.ca

Lindsey.park@pc.ola.org

Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

Laurie.scott@pc.ola.org

Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge

Peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, Durham Region clerks@durham.ca

All Ontario Municipalities

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) <u>roma@roma.on.ca</u>

Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) <u>info@ogra.org</u>
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) <u>amo@amo.on.ca</u>



November 2 2020

Curtis Sewards 3250 Beacock Road, Scugog, Ontario LOB 1L0

Re: Email to Durham Student Transportation Services Governance Committee

Dear Mr. Sewards,

This letter is in response to your written request for reconsideration of transportation arrangements, received via email on September 30, 2020.

Your correspondence related to a request for a closer bus stop on Beacock Road was forwarded to Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) in accordance with Section 7.3 of the procedure outlined under the heading *Request for Reconsideration of Transportation Arrangements* within the DSTS Transportation Policy. Your request was reviewed at the most recent Durham Student Transportation Services Governance Committee meeting held on October 28, 2020.

The Governance Committee concluded that the DSTS Transportation Policy has been applied and administered appropriately in your situation. As outlined in the DSTS Transportation Policy, Section 3.5, "in circumstances where buses cannot gain access, students may be required to walk further to bus stops..." beyond the 800 meters. Additionally Section 7.2 outlines, "DSTS reserves the right to determine if the roadway is suitable for travel, given road conditions and necessary space requirements factoring turn radius of large school vehicles." DSTS has determined that Beacock Road where you reside does not have adequate roadway to safely turn around a school bus vehicle and the closest available school bus stop location is at Beacock Road on Regional Road 57.

As noted in the DSTS Transportation Policy, the decision of the Governance Committee is final and not subject to further consideration. Accordingly, no further action will be taken on this matter by DSTS or the Governance Committee.

Sincerely,

Kelly Mechoulan Chief Administrative Officer, DSTS

cc: Chairperson and Trustee, DDSB
Director of Education, DCDSB
Director of Education, DDSB
Chairperson and Trustee, DCDSB





April 21, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

We are deeply concerned about there no longer being a bus route on our dead-end street with the safety concerns that it raises for the future of our two children. My wife and I have two young children, a daughter starting school in September and a son who will be starting 2 years behind her. We're not

the only ones impacted... The Williams Point Cottagers Association is quickly growing and the number of children on the street is steadily increasing. These concerns only multiply the further away the residence is down the street from the new bus stop.

The loss of the long-time bus route on William's Point Road will force my wife to walk our daughter to the top of our street and will also force her to bring our son along 2.2km (twice daily) as my work requires that I am often on the road very early or on call while working around the province for the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development and there would be no supervision for him in that time period. You can imagine the difficulties this would present for her. Tying into this, if the snowplow is no longer coming down the street early enough to accommodate for the bus route, you can envision how difficult it would be for two young children walking through unplowed streets with no sidewalk in the morning dark, as well as sharing roads with commuters on their way to work.

Though it breaks our hearts, we will have to consider leaving our beautiful community as this once proposed bus stop change has now become reality.

The challenges and safety concerns this presents for what seems like a minor issue of a three-point turn for the bus as compared to the frightful alternative of children walking up to 2.2 kilometres to reach a bus stop that impedes live traffic coming down a blind hill should really be reconsidered.

If you force parents to drive their children to the bus stop, not only will it congest narrow roadways during commuting hours, but it will also increase emissions from idling vehicles. In many cases this is not even a possibility for parents who would be unable to modify their hours of work to accommodate this. The possible economic impact of having to put off working to accommodate an amended bus route seems very inconsiderate to taxpayers who I guarantee will see no decrease in their taxation in response to the change.

I hope I have provided enough information to allow for thorough debate into this issue and I do hope that the safety of the children residing on Williams Point Road is considered the paramount concern by the school board and the **Durham Student Transportation Services**. I strongly urge you to reconsider this change.

We are available to discuss our concerns further at <u>Steven_Anning@hotmail.com</u> and <u>KaylaAllen1992@hotmail.com</u> or by phone at 647-302-3720 and 647-215-0450. We hope you reach out.

Sincerely,

Concerned Parents Residing at 15 Williams Point Road, Steven and Kayla Anning





Community Services

Legislative Services

April 27, 2021 File #120203

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of April 26, 2021 passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed a resolution on October 21st, 2019 identifying that 1,100 private water wells were in operation in the Town of Fort Erie, of which 75% were used for domestic purposes including human and livestock consumption, and

Whereas the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie further identified in that resolution that Council requires the protection of water in the aquifer supplying water to those wells from contamination as the result of any remediation of Pit One owned by the Port Colborne Quarries in the City of Port Colborne, and further

Whereas Report No. PDS-23-2021, approved by Council on March 22, 2021, identified that while the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, The Regional Municipality of Niagara and Local Area Municipalities work together to protect source water, these plans do not generally apply to private servicing, and

Whereas Report No. PDS-23-2021 further identified efforts undertaken by the Town of Fort Erie through available provincial planning policy, regulation and legislation to protect source water within the Town of Fort Erie without any explicit ability to designate source water protection for private services, and

Whereas on July 28, 2010, through Resolution 64/292, the United Nations General Assembly explicitly recognized the human right to water and sanitation and acknowledged that clean drinking water and sanitation are essential to the realization of all human rights, and

.../2

Whereas it would be desirable to ensure that those in our community who rely on wells and other private servicing for clean drinking water are afforded the same source water protection as municipal drinking water systems;

Now therefore it be resolved,

That: The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie recognizes and acknowledges that clean drinking water and sanitation are basic human rights and essential to the realization of all human rights, and further

That: The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie requests that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks consider legislative changes that would permit the expansion of source water protection to aquifers and private services, and further

That: This resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Wayne Gates, MPP Niagara Falls, Jeff Burch, MPP Niagara Centre, Jennifer Stevens, MPP St. Catharines and Sam Oosterhoff, MPP Niagara West, and further

That: This resolution be circulated to all Conservation Authorities and Municipalities in Ontario for their endorsement and support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.

Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk

cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

c.c.

The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks jeff.yurekco@pc.ola.org

Jeff Burch, MPP, Niagara Centre <u>iburch-qp@ndp.on.ca</u>

Sam Oosterhoff, MPP, Niagara West sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org

Jennifer Stevens, MPP, St. Catharines JStevens-co@ndp.on.ca

Wayne Gates, MPP, Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca

Ontario Conservation and all Ontario Conservation Authorities: kgavine@conservationontario.ca; bhorner@abca.ca; kfurlanetto@crca.ca; generalmanager@catfishcreek.ca; @cloca.com; mvytvytskyy@hrca.on.ca; deb.martindowns@cvc.ca; tim.pidduck@crowevalley.com; tbyrne@erca.org; llaliberte@grca.on.ca; karmstrong@grandriver.ca; t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca; Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca; mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com; elizabeth@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca; cullen@lsrca.on.ca; tammy@lakeheadca.com; imaxwell@lprca.on.ca; mark.peacock@ltvca.ca; kelly.vandettte@ltc.on.ca; beard@mvca.on.ca; David.Vallier@mattagamiregion.ca; smcintyre@mvc.on.ca; csharma@npca.ca; carl.jorgensen@conservationsudbury.ca; brian.tayler@nbmca.ca; dhevenor@nvca.on.ca; dlandry@otonabeeconservation.com; bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca; richard.pilon@rrca.on.ca; sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca; istephens@svca.on.ca; cbarrett@ssmrca.ca; acoleman@nation.on.ca; bmcdougall@scrca.on.ca; John.MacKenzie@trca.ca; annettt@thamesriver.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities



April 30, 2021

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier Room 281 Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford.

Please be advised that at the Brantford City Council Meeting held April 27, 2021, the following resolution was adopted:

Request - Province of Ontario withdraws its prohibition on golfing and any other outdoor recreational activities

WHEREAS COVID-19 restrictions have had significant impacts; and

WHEREAS many forms of socializing, recreation and sport have been curtailed; and

WHEREAS the game of golf can be enjoyed while maintaining proper social distancing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of The City of Brantford recommends:

- A. THAT The Province of Ontario withdraws its prohibition on golfing and any other outdoor recreational activities which can be enjoyed while maintaining proper social distancing; and
- B. THAT the City Clerk BE DIRECTED to forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario; Will Bouma, MPP, Brantford-Brant, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Ontario Big City Mayors; and the list of other Municipalities in Ontario.

Yours truly,

Tanya Daniels
City Clerk

tdaniels@brantford.ca

cc MPP Will Bouma, Brantford-Brant
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Big City Mayors
All Ontario Municipalities

Phone: (519) 759-4150 Fax: (519) 759-7840 www.brantford.ca