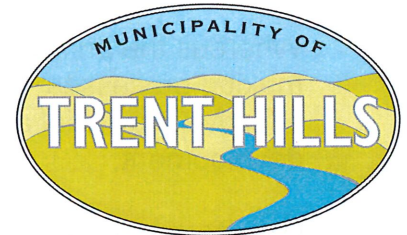


July 11, 2025

Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2



Come for a visit. Stay for a lifestyle.

Via Email: mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

Re: Correspondence dated May 1, 2025, from the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Strong Mayor Powers.

At its meeting of July 8, 2025, council considered the Correspondence dated May 1, 2025, from the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing re: Strong Mayor Powers and passed the following motion.

Motion No. THC-250708-12

Moved by Deputy Mayor Michael Metcalf

Seconded by Councillor Rob Pope

Whereas the Province of Ontario initially introduced Strong Mayor Powers in 2022 with the stated intent of expediting housing development across municipalities; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario arbitrarily expanded the Strong Mayor Powers legislation to include an additional 169 municipalities, including the Municipality of Trent Hills, in May 2025; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario have demonstrated a commitment to addressing the housing crisis through local planning approvals and community-led solutions; and

Whereas Strong Mayor Powers fundamentally alter local democratic governance by concentrating decision-making authority in a single individual, thereby weakening the role of elected Councils and disrupting the principles of collaboration and shared leadership; and

Whereas these powers may create uncertainty within municipal organizations, negatively affect staff morale, and risk undermining the trust that is fundamental to effective and transparent municipal governance; and

Whereas there are currently no provincial checks and balances or independent oversight mechanisms in place to ensure Strong Mayor Powers are being used appropriately and as intended, and the legislation itself has been described by some as "open to interpretation," creating a fundamental flaw in the responsible application of these potentially dangerous powers; and

Whereas the primary barriers to housing construction are not rooted in municipal decision-making processes, but in broader market conditions, infrastructure constraints, and the lack of effective provincial and federal policy supports to stimulate affordable and attainable housing development;

Now Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Trent Hills formally request the Province of Ontario to rescind the Strong Mayor Powers legislation in its entirety; and

That should the legislation not be repealed, that the Province immediately remove the Municipality of Trent Hills from the list of municipalities designated under the Strong Mayor Powers framework; and

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
- All Ontario municipalities for their information and support

Carried.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Municipality.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Crate', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Robert Crate
Mayor

cc: The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
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