



May 21, 2025

Honourable Premier Doug Ford Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Via Email: rob.flack@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Flack,

Re: Opposition to Strong Mayor Powers - Proposed Amendments to O. Reg. 530/22

Please be advised that at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, May 20, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren passed the following resolution respecting the matter referenced in the above subject line:

Whereas on April 9, 2025, the Government of Ontario (hereafter, the "Province"), led by Premier Doug Ford, announced a proposal to expand by "Strong Mayor Powers" as provided for by Part VI.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to the heads of council in 169 additional municipalities, effective May 1, 2025;

And whereas Strong Mayor Powers erode the democratic process and have fundamentally altered the historic model of local governance, which has existed for almost two centuries, by:

- providing the head of council with the authority to unilaterally give direction and make certain decisions without a consensus from a majority of the members of council; and,
- creating a power imbalance by providing the head of council with special powers that other members do not generally have.

And whereas the Province is undermining the local governance model and municipal independence by attempting to advance its priorities through municipalities and downloading its responsibilities to the same.

Now therefore be it resolved that:

- The Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren ("Council") **opposes** the expansion of Strong Mayor Powers, as announced on April 9, 2025;



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- That Council **directs** the CAO/Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; All Four Local MPPs; AMCTO, AMO and All Ontario Municipalities

We thank you for your attention to this matter and urge you to respect the democratic wishes of our Council and community.

Sincerely,

Kim Morris, CAO
The Corporation of the Municipality of
Markstay-Warren

Cc: The Honourable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)
Regional Members of Provincial Parliament
All Ontario Municipalities
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)