



West Nipissing Ouest

Joie de vivre

The Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing
La Corporation de la Municipalité de Nipissing Ouest
101-225, rue Holditch Street, Sturgeon Falls, ON P2B 1T1

P/T (705) 753-2250 (1-800-263-5359)
F/TC (705) 753-3950

June 17, 2025

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor – 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Via email: rob.flack@pc.ola.org

Attn: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Mr. Flack,

Subject: Strong Mayor Powers – Municipality of West Nipissing

At its meeting of June 17, 2025, the Council for the Municipality of West Nipissing considered the recently expanded Strong Mayor Powers granted to an additional 169 municipalities across Ontario.

Following a review of the legislation and a discussion of its potential impacts, Council wishes to express its opposition to this legislative framework. West Nipissing, along with many other municipalities, believes that the Strong Mayor Powers undermine the fundamental principles of local democracy, transparency, and collaborative decision-making, which are essential to effective municipal governance.

The Municipality of West Nipissing takes pride in its inclusive, community-driven approach to leadership, where all members of Council contribute meaningfully in shaping the municipality's future. The legislated concentration of executive powers in the office of the Mayor runs counter to these values and traditions.

While Council acknowledges that the legislation is currently in force, we respectfully urge the Province to reconsider its implementation. We further recommend that any structural changes of this magnitude be preceded by robust consultations with municipalities, residents, and key stakeholders to ensure that local governance continues to reflect the democratic will of the communities it serves.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Council remains available for further dialogue and would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns in greater detail.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Thorne-Rochon
Mayor, Municipality of West Nipissing

cc: AMO, ROMA, FONOM, Local MPP