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March 3, 2021

Premier Doug Ford

By email only premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford:

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the March 2, 2021 Howick Council meeting:

Moved by Deputy Reeve Bowman; Seconded by Councillor Hargrave: Whereas, the Province of Ontario has announced that as of March 31, 2021 the Gravenhurst campus of the Ontario Fire College will be permanently closed; and Whereas, the Province of Ontario announced plans to modernize and expand access to firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how to obtain firefighter training in the absence of the Ontario Fire College campus; and

Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario on how firefighter training in Ontario will be modernized and expanded; and Whereas, there has been no clear plan communicated by the Province of Ontario regarding the costs or funding for modernized and expanded firefighter training in Ontario; and

Whereas, the Township of Howick is a small rural municipality that operates a volunteer fire department to provide fire protection;

Now therefore, be it resolved that Council respectfully request a clear plan be communicated that establishes how the Province intends to modernize and expand firefighter training ensuring equal access to all municipal fire departments in Ontario, and as well, present a plan for funding to subsidise and or regulate the cost for firefighter training in the Province of Ontario. Carried. Resolution No. 59/21

If you require any further information, please contact this office, thank you.

Yours truly,

Carol Watson

Carol Watson, Clerk Township of Howick

Cc Solicitor General Sylvia Jones Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson Ontario Fire Marshal Jon Pegg Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Mark McDonald AMO President Graydon Smith All Ontario Municipalities