

VIA EMAIL

November 19, 2014

Mike Wallace, MP, Burlington
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, MP Halton
Terence Young, MP, Oakville
The Honourable Michael Chong, MP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Eleanor McMahon, MPP, Burlington
Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP, Halton
Kevin Flynn, MPP, Oakville
Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Brad Woodside
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, Jayson Myers

Please be advised that at its meeting held Wednesday, November 19, 2014, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: "Buy American" Provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

WHEREAS cities and communities across Canada support free and fair trade between Canada and the United States;

AND WHEREAS bilateral trade between Canada and the United States amounts to over \$600 billion per year in economic activity, significantly contributing to Canada's long-term economic competitiveness;

AND WHEREAS many of the most important supply chains and industry linkages that fuel our respective economies are inexorably linked;

AND WHEREAS provisions, such as 'Buy American' requirements, which serve to inhibit this important economic partnership directly affects the economic prosperity of our country, our businesses and our communities;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills and Halton Region showed leadership in 2009 by passing resolutions calling on the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments of Canada to push back against unfair U.S. legislation;

AND WHEREAS organizations like Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters estimate that thousands of manufacturing jobs are continuously at risk from continued Buy American provisions being proposed across the United States;

AND WHEREAS Halton companies were directly impacted as jobs were lost due to the Buy American provisions being inserted into projects receiving federal and municipal funding;

The Regional Municipality of Halton

AND WHEREAS Canadian cities and communities are committed to open and fair trade with American governments and businesses;

AND WHEREAS recent agreements between Canada and the United States have recognized the critical economic linkages between our two countries, fostering secure, predictable trade and investment environments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all municipalities be requested to express support for free, fair and reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada and support the principle that any restrictive 'Buy American' provisions in U.S. legislation are contrary to that spirit of free trade;

AND THAT the Region of Halton call on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to support and work with the Government of Canada, the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters and other stakeholders in their efforts to urge the United States Congress and state governments to abstain from the use of 'Buy American' provisions;

AND THAT FCM be requested to write to the U.S. National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors urging them to also support the spirit of this resolution and the spirit of free trade, so that businesses and industries on both sides of the border can compete for contracts in the fairest and most efficient manner;

AND THAT the Regional Chair write to the Prime Minister, the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the Liberal Party advising them of Regional Council's position and enclosing a copy of Regional Council's resolution in this regard;

AND THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Regional Council's resolution to all Ontario municipalities requesting that they endorse and support Halton's position and to Halton MP's, MPP's, FCM and the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters for their information.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services.

Sincerely,



Kathy Kielt
Deputy Clerk and Supervisor of
Council & Committee Services

c. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services