

The Corporation of the City of Kenora Council Resolution



Resolution No. 21

Moved by Ryerson

Seconded by [Signature]

June 14, 2016

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Whereas in the 2016 Ontario Budget, the government of Ontario has suspended current intake of applications to the Rural Economic Development Program and has indicated that it plans to integrate the program into the Jobs and Prosperity Fund; and

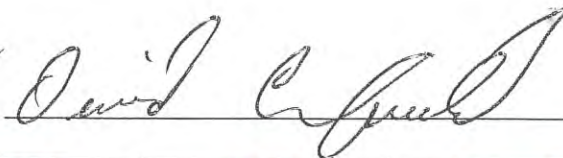
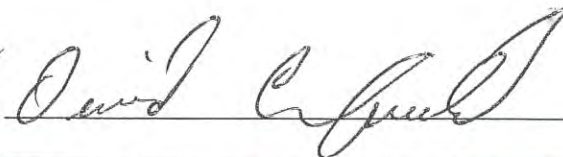
Whereas the Jobs and Prosperity Fund is narrowly focused and is restricted to private sector organizations and industry partners, which prevents access to funding for rural municipalities and others who formerly benefitted from the Rural Economic Development Program. The emphasis on large projects that meet either of minimum \$5 million or \$10 million in eligible project costs thresholds, will significantly restrict benefits from this fund; and

Whereas in contrast, the Rural Economic Development Program supported a number of capacity building projects including but not limited "Business Retention and Expansion" and "Downtown Revitalization" projects and Economic Development Strategic Planning projects for small rural municipalities who were looking to improve their local economy; and

Whereas because the Jobs and Prosperity Fund is not specifically designated for rural areas, that that funds from this program will likely favour more urban areas of the province;

Now Therefore be it Resolved that the Council of the City of Kenora asks the Province of Ontario to reconsider the suspension and the integration of the Rural Economic Development Program into the Jobs and Prosperity Fund with the view to ensuring that the Rural Economic Development Program stays as an intricate funding program of the Province that will support capacity building and foster economic growth in rural municipalities in Ontario; and further

That this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting that they endorse and support this resolution and communicate their support to the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Defeated \_\_\_\_ Carried ✓  
Mayor  
or A/Mayor

| Recorded Vote       | AYE | NAY | Dec. of Interest | Absent |
|---------------------|-----|-----|------------------|--------|
| Councillor Goss     |     |     |                  |        |
| Councillor McMillan |     |     |                  |        |
| Councillor Reynard  |     |     |                  |        |
| Councillor Roussin  |     |     |                  |        |
| Councillor Smith    |     |     |                  |        |
| Councillor Wasacase |     |     |                  |        |
| Mayor Canfield      |     |     |                  |        |

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