CLERK'S OFFICE
MARY REMMIG, ACTING CLERK
Municipality of North Grenville

June 4, 2025

Please be advised that, at their regular meeting on June 3, 2025, Council of the Municipality of North Grenville adopted the following resolution:

Title: Bill 5: Protecting Ontario By Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025
Date: June 3, 2025

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has introduced *Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025*, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning policies, including replacing the Endangered Species Act with a new framework that reduces protections for at-risk species, and enabling the creation of Special Economic Zones that may override local planning authority and environmental oversight;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of North Grenville supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be done in a way that upholds environmental responsibility and maintains the integrity of local planning processes;

AND WHEREAS Bill 5, as proposed, weakens safeguards for natural heritage systems, threatening biodiversity, and diminishing the authority of municipalities to manage growth in accordance with local needs and official plans;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of North Grenville urges the Government of Ontario to recommit to upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples as affirmed in Canadian law through the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and engage in transparent inclusive consultations with Indigenous Nations and civil society before tabling new development legislation;

AND WHEREAS Special Economic Zones would allow the Province to unilaterally override municipal decision-making by exempting Special Economic Zones from Municipal By-laws;

AND WHEREAS the use of Special Economic Zones to bypass local deliberation on proposed projects may not deliver on the promise of supporting economic growth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Municipality of North Grenville:

1. Opposes all provisions in Bill 5 that reduce environmental protections and Ontario's proud legacy of protections of endangered species, that override the rule of law and that nullify Municipal planning authority;

2. Urges the Province of Ontario to support housing and infrastructure development in ways that align with sound environmental planning and wildlife protection and empower municipalities with appropriate planning tools;

3. Urges the Province of Ontario to conduct robust consultation on Bill 5: Protecting Ontario By Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025;

4. Urges the Province of Ontario not to use Special Economic Zones to exempt projects from By-laws that impacts revenue including development charge By-laws, property tax By-laws, or fees and charges By-law;

5. Requests the Province of Ontario consider the feedback submitted for Bill 5 by the Associations for Municipalities in Ontario (AMO) which highlights protecting Municipal autonomy and fiscal sustainability and Ontario's Environment and Indigenous Cultural Heritage; and,

6. Directs that a copy of this resolution be sent to:

    - The Minister of Energy and Mines;
    - The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
    - The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;
    - The Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism;
    - The Premier of Ontario;
    - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and,
    - All Ontario Municipalities.

The above resolution, adopted by the Municipal Council, is forward for your information and action as required.

Thank you,

Mary Remmig
Acting Clerk

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE
285 COUNTY ROAD 44, PO BOX 130, KEMPTVILLE, ON K0G 1J0 T(613)258-9569 EXT 219 F(613)258-9620
clerk@northgrenville.on.ca