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March 30, 2021

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Room 281
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Re: Capacity limits for restaurants and other businesses impacted during Covid-19 pandemic.

Dear Premier Ford;

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of the Township of Muskoka Lakes Council held on March 10, 2021, the attached Resolution Number C-3-03/10/21 was passed requesting the Provincial Government to review and reconsider the capacity limits for restaurants across the Province, and to introduce capacity limits for other businesses being impacted during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to your reply.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Cheryl Mortimer".

Cheryl Mortimer,
Clerk

Encl.

cc. MPP Norm Miller, Parry-Sound Muskoka
Dr. Charles Gardner, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Municipalities

Attachment
/k



COUNCIL MEETING

Agenda Item 7.b.

Date: March 10, 2021

C- 3 -10/03/21

MOVED BY: Mayor Harding

SECONDED BY: Councillor Mazan

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario passed O. Reg. 263/20, Rules for Areas in Stage 2 under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020;

AND WHEREAS Schedule 2, Subsection 1(7) states that the total number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors in the establishment must be limited to the number that can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the establishment, and in any event cannot exceed 10 patrons;

AND WHEREAS restaurants throughout the Province are facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the amount of patrons being turned away is impacting the overall experience of the restaurants;

AND WHEREAS many restaurants fluctuate in size and would be able to accommodate more than 10 patrons, while maintaining a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the establishment;

AND WHEREAS the inequity of establishing a capacity limit of no more than 10 patrons for larger restaurants continues to impact the financial viability of the restaurants during this difficult time:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Muskoka Lakes hereby requests that the Provincial Government review and reconsider the capacity limits for restaurants across the Province to be based on the size of the square footage of the seating area instead of a flat occupancy;

AND FURTHER THAT the concept of introducing capacity limits for other businesses listed in Schedule 2 of O. Reg. 263/20 being impacted by the constant uncertainty of their operations during this pandemic including restaurants, personal care services, resorts, camps, fitness and recreational amenities, churches, etc. be considered while in lockdown status;

AND FURTHER THAT this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and all Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit municipalities.

RECORDED VOTE:	NAYS	YEAS
COUNCILLOR BRIDGEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR EDWARDS (Deputy Mayor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR HAYES (Acting Deputy Mayor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR JAGLOWITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR KELLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR MAZAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR NISHIKAWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR ROBERTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
COUNCILLOR ZAVITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MAYOR HARDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTALS	_____	_____
Recorded Vote Requested by: _____		

DEFEATED

CARRIED

[Signature]
MAYOR