



CANTON
d'Opatatika
TOWNSHIP

Paul Branconnier
Mayor, Township St.Charles
2, King St. East, P.O. Box 70
St.Charles, Ontario P0M 2W0

September 4, 2024

Dear Mayor Branconnier,

Re: Letter of Support to the Municipality of St.Charles

On behalf of the Township of Opatatika, I am pleased to offer a letter of support towards the Municipality of St. Charles following the initiatives to request the Province of Ontario to commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

Whereas nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 Billion a year; and whereas municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation; and whereas unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure; and whereas municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises; and whereas inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity; and whereas property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can not afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need; and whereas the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities; and whereas municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

The Township of Opatatika sees great value and benefit for the residents of Opatatika and the province by undertaking with AMO a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review.

Thank you for your coordination of this application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jacques Dorval
Mayor, Township of Opatatika
50, Government road
Opatatika, Ontario P0L 1Z0