Regular Meeting of Council

Monday, December 13, 2010

Following Public Meeting

Municipal Office Council Chambers, Kenilworth

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

	<u></u>		Page I of I
		AGENDA ITEM	PAGE NO.
J.	<u>OT</u>	HER/NEW BUSINESS	
	3.	Resolution Re: "Farmland Tax Program" and "Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program"	

Resolution

WHEREAS the 'Farmland Tax Program' and the 'Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program' are designed by the Ontario Government to support lower food costs and protect forests for recreational and environmental purposes;

AND WHEREAS the Farm Tax Rebate Program and the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program were previously funded in full by the Ontario Government yet are now funded mainly by municipalities through the municipal property tax base;

AND WHEREAS rural municipalities are being forced to absorb the loss of 75% of the property tax revenue from their farmland and managed forest properties while all residents of Ontario have a vested interest in maintaining lower-cost foods and protecting forests;

AND WHEREAS the farm tax rebate program provides lower-cost foods across the province, as well as the economic benefit of provincial exporting and is truly an income-redistributive program with province wide significance and should not be financed from local property taxes which results in those who are supposed to be benefiting from the program, actually paying for the program;

THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of Ontario calculate the Farmland and Managed Forest component of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) so that all municipalities receive full provincial reimbursement of their lost property tax revenue on farmland and managed forest properties, while land-owners maintain the streamlined process and the 25% ratio currently in place;

AND FURTHER that this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, local MPPs, all Ontario municipalities and any other individual or association as deemed appropriate.