



Legislative Services
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February 11, 2025

Sent via email

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

RE: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

I am writing to advise you that at the Council meeting held on February 10, 2025, the Town of Newmarket Council adopted the following recommendations regarding the above referenced matter:

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and,

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and,

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and,

Whereas the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and,

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and,

Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents; and,



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Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved:

1. That Newmarket Town Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and,
2. That Newmarket Town Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and,
3. That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and,
4. That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and,
5. That copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Yours sincerely,

Emily Thomas-Hopkins
Legislative Coordinator

Copy:

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Tony Van Bynen, Member of Parliament for Newmarket – Aurora
Dawn Gallagher-Murphy, Member of Provincial Parliament for Newmarket – Aurora
All Ontario Municipalities
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)