



VIA EMAIL

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Corporate Services Department
Legal Services
Office of the Regional Clerk
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville, ON L6M 3L1

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Stephen Crawford, MPP, Oakville
The Honourable Zee Hamid, MPP, Milton
Natalie Pierre, MPP, Burlington
Joseph Racinsky, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP, Oakville North-Burlington
Margot Cragg, Executive Director, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO)
Mike de Rond, Clerk, City of Burlington
Valerie Petryniak, Town Clerk & Director, Legislative Services, Town of Halton Hills
Meaghen Reid, Director, Legislative & Legal Services/Town Clerk, Town of Milton
William Short, Town Clerk, Town of Oakville
Association of Municipalities of Ontario, c/o Resolutions@amo.on.ca

Please be advised that at its meeting held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, the Council of The Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Call for Continued Election of the Regional Chair

WHEREAS the Halton Regional Chair has been directly elected by residents of Halton Region since 2000;

AND WHEREAS the election of the Regional Chair has provided an important element of democratic accountability in Halton and a public mandate for the position;

AND WHEREAS on April 2, 2026, the Provincial Government introduced Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, which would allow the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to appoint Regional Chairs in Durham, Halton, Muskoka, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo, York, and the Warden in the County of Simcoe;

AND WHEREAS in connection with the introduction of Bill 100 the Provincial Government indicated it intends to provide such appointed Chairs with “Strong Chair” powers akin to the existing “Strong Mayor Powers” provided for in the Municipal Act, 2001 following the 2026 municipal election;

AND WHEREAS providing “Strong Chair” powers to Provincial appointees shifts regional decision-making to individuals not chosen by local voters and weakens democratic accountability;

AND WHEREAS under the direction of the Provincial Government, the Halton community moved to elections for the position of Regional Chair, which is a democratic process that has been in place for 26 years;

AND WHEREAS Halton Region has continued to be an effective, efficient and well-managed upper-tier municipal government which has consistently maintained a AAA/Aaa credit rating, supported significant growth as one of the fastest growing communities in Canada, and provided high-quality and fiscally responsible programs and services;

AND WHEREAS Halton Region has continued to work collaboratively with the Provincial Government to deliver on shared priorities including housing and infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the next municipal election for the 2026-2030 term of council will take place on October 26, 2026, and the term of office for the next Regional Chair and Council begins on November 15, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Halton Regional Council reaffirm its preference for the continued direct election of the Regional Chair, ensuring that the Chair remains accountable to the people and reflects their interests;

AND THAT Halton Regional Council reaffirm its ongoing commitment to collaboration with the Province and governance practices that support collaborative decision-making and accountable leadership;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Halton's MPPs, Halton's Local Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO).

Sincerely,



Graham Milne
Regional Clerk
Graham.Milne@halton.ca