



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Committee of the Whole

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: December 7, 2015

Subject: Report CSD15-023
AMO'S Proposed Cap and Trade Program Funding

Purpose

A report to inform Council of AMO's Proposed Cap and Trade Program Funding for municipal climate change programs.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CSD15-023 dated December 7, 2015 of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

That a letter be sent to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, outlining the City of Peterborough's support of AMO's Proposed Cap and Trade Program Funding, specifically that:

That the City of Peterborough supports the collaboration of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Union of Quebec Municipalities to enhance support of municipal climate action in our provinces;

To help meet reduction targets and to reduce emissions in our communities and improve resilience in local economies, we call on you to work in partnership with local governments and:

- Give municipalities adequate, stable and long-term funding resources to invest in greenhouse gas reduction initiatives in our communities such as public transit and active transportation, public and private building energy efficiency; water conservation, planning development and other programs;
- Recognize municipal projects that reduce greenhouse gases for offset credits in Cap and Trade programs;
- Provide dedicated funding for climate change adaptation to help municipalities provide resilient infrastructure to keep our economies and communities functioning and productive; and
- Provide tools to help facilitate and transfer knowledge regarding greenhouse gas reduction and climate adaptation projects.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with adopting Report CSD15-023.

Background

On November 25, 2015, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UQM) signed an agreement to collaborate on climate action. Jointly, the Associations requested that both provinces and the federal government provide resources and funding to local municipalities to reduce greenhouse gases and build resilient communities.

With the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) currently underway in Paris, a global agreement on how to tackle climate change is an expected outcome. Provincial and Federal climate change direction is anticipated. Ontario has already announced it will implement a Cap and Trade program to price GHG emissions that has been integrated with Quebec and California as part of its long-term climate strategy.

AMO and UQM want their provincial governments to provide funding from the Cap and Trade programs for municipal GHG reduction projects, recognize a range of municipal projects for offset credits to increase investment in low carbon technologies, and provide the tools and resources to support municipal climate action.

AMO members are encouraged to support the call by passing a resolution to the provincial government.

Summary

Funding from Ontario's Cap and Trade Program would stimulate municipal GHG reduction projects and provide the tools and resources to support municipal climate action.

Submitted by,

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Director of Community Services

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