

**Municipal Clerks Office Township of Douro-Dummer,**

Hello Ms. Chait,

I am requesting that this email and copy of the sample AMO resolution is added to your next council agenda as a matter of urgency. If you could also forward this correspondence to Mayor Watson and Council in the meantime, in case they have any questions and would like to reach out to me, that would be appreciated. **If your municipality subsequently endorses a motion, it would be very helpful if you could notify us by emailing a copy of the resolution to [thewomenofontariosayno.team@gmail.com](mailto:thewomenofontariosayno.team@gmail.com)** Thank you!

**Dear Mayor Watson, Deputy Mayor Nelson, Councillor Watt, Councillor Johnston and Councillor Vervoort**

**Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement:**

This request is from The Women of Ontario Say NO. A grassroots advocacy effort comprised of individuals, organizations, and community groups. We are committed to ensuring that locally elected officials are held accountable for violence and harassment in municipal workplaces. This advocacy stems from a number of egregious cases throughout the province including Ottawa, Barrie, and Mississauga. You can learn more on our website [THE WOMEN OF ONTARIO SAY NO \(squarespace.com\)](https://thewomenofontariosayno.com)

**Many councillors will know that on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, the government voted down Bill 5 – The Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act. We are aware of 160 municipalities that endorsed their support for Bill 5. In 2021, the Association of Municipalities Ontario recommended changes to strengthen municipal codes of conduct for elected officials. . [Codes of Conduct, Changes to Visible Fees, and Fees Charged to Beverage Producers | AMO](#) Those recommendations to strengthen legislation have still not been implemented.** We are calling on your municipality to be an active and engaged voice in your own workplace safety and that of the municipal staff by joining those 160 Ontario municipalities in holding municipally elected representatives accountable for violence and harassment.

- **We are therefore asking council to pass the attached motion of March 27, 2023, issued by AMO, calling for government legislation on this issue.**

- **We are requesting the motion include the communication that this legislation be prioritized for the fall of 2023 given the urgency of this issue.**
- **We are asking that a letter expressing support for the motion be sent to: The Premier, Local MPPs, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, AMO and local municipalities.**

We are counting on you as leaders to ensure your municipal workplace is safe and that there is basic human rights protection for all persons. This cannot wait any longer. This legislation needs to move ahead without any further delay.

Thank you in advance for being open to advocating for legislative change that will help ensure workplaces and community spaces are safe for everyone!

Sincerely,

Diane Noble

On Behalf of

The Women of Ontario Say NO