



## Notice of Motion

Subject: Request to Reduce Use of Road Salt  
Member of Council: Councillor D. Maskell  
Meeting Motion Considered At: February 24, 2026 Town Council Meeting

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### PROCEDURAL PROCESS:

In accordance with Section 51.3 of the Procedure By-law, as amended, notices of Motion received in between a Committee agenda deadline and its agenda addendum deadline, or before a Council agenda deadline shall be placed on the agenda as a notice of motion for consideration at the next scheduled relevant meeting.

Notices of Motion delivered to the Clerk in accordance with the above section may be considered as a motion at the same meeting through the passage of a majority vote as a proposed agenda amendment, immediately prior to, or immediately after the notice of motion is before Council or Committee at the meeting.

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### MOTION:

**Whereas** road salt is a known toxic substance designated under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act because of tangible threats of serious or irreversible environmental and health damage from road salt; and

**Whereas** salt levels in Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes have increased with urban growth and its requisite expansion of the road network which has affected municipal drinking water sources and aquatic life; and

**Whereas** in the official plan of Caledon, *Future Caledon*, Section 2.3.3, commits the Town to "protect, restore and enhance natural features and areas, and water resource systems to be healthy, sustainable and resilient"; and

**Whereas** the Ontario and Canadian governments have taken many actions over the past 25 years including setting water quality guidelines, developing voluntary codes of practice, signing the Canada-Ontario Great Lakes Agreement, and holding workshops, yet still the salt problem continues to grow; and

**Whereas** numerous situation analyses have recommended salt solutions involving liability protection, contractor certification, government-approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) and salt management plans; and



**Whereas** increased numbers of slips and falls claims, and other injury/collision claims related to snow and ice, are resulting in salt applicators overusing salt beyond levels considered best practices; and

**Whereas** unlimited contractor liability is making it difficult or expensive for snow and ice management contractors to obtain insurance coverage, resulting in contractors leaving the business, thereby making it difficult for municipalities and private owners to find contractors; and

**Whereas** the Snow and Ice Management Sector (SMS) of Landscape Ontario is working with the Ontario government to institute a limited liability regime for snow and ice management, including enforceable contractor training/certification and government-approved BMPs for salt application; and

**Whereas** many Ontario municipalities have Salt Management Plans, but these often require updating due to improved science and better salt management practices now available.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Town of Caledon urge the Province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially-endorsed standard BMPs for snow and ice management; and
2. The Town of Caledon urge the Province of Ontario to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and
3. Council ask Town Staff to review the Town's current Salt Management Plan and to actively investigate methods and alternative products to reduce the use of road salt, as much as possible, while maintaining safety on roads, parking lots and sidewalks; and
4. This motion be sent to all municipalities, the Region of Peel, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Conservation Ontario, the Ontario Municipal Water Association, MPP Sylvia Jones, Minister Todd McCarthy (MECP), Attorney General Doug Downey, and Premier Doug Ford.