



Motion

Subject: Bill 100 and Protection of Local Democratic Authority
Member of Council: Councillor D. Sheen
Meeting Motion Considered At: April 21, 2026 Planning and Development
Committee Meeting

PROCEDURAL PROCESS:

In accordance with Section 52.1 of the Procedure By-law, as amended, the Clerk shall place deemed completed notices of motions on the specified relevant meeting agenda as a motion for Council or Committee consideration at meetings with a Motion agenda heading outlined in Part 39 of this by-law.

MOTION:

Whereas Bill 100, the Better Regional Governance Act, 2026, would give the Province an ongoing role in appointing “strong regional chairs,” including in Peel, and in determining regional council composition and voting rules; and

Whereas the Town of Caledon is a rapidly growing municipality with unique rural, agricultural, and environmental characteristics that require locally informed planning, governance, and accountability; and

Whereas Caledon already operates under a strong mayor framework that is expressly tied to advancing prescribed provincial priorities, and Bill 100 would extend a similar provincially aligned model to the regional level above Caledon; and

Whereas, even as planning and roads responsibilities are downloaded to the Town, key structural levers that influence Caledon’s long term growth – including a provincially appointed regional chair, provincially regulated water and wastewater servicing, and a provincially approved Official Plan – remain outside the direct control of future Caledon councils; and

Whereas strong mayor style and strong chair style powers can both empower office holders aligned with provincial priorities and constrain those who seek to change direction, raising concerns that local democratic outcomes can be effectively managed from above; and

Whereas municipal professional associations have cautioned that such powers can politicize the senior municipal public service and undermine its neutrality and professionalism, and there remains significant uncertainty and concern among residents in Caledon and across Ontario about the concentration of authority in a single office and the sidelining of councils;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Caledon states its opposition to Bill 100 in its current form; and



That Council calls upon the Government of Ontario to amend Bill 100 to protect municipal and regional autonomy, maintain the authority of locally elected councils over their own governance structures, and safeguard a non partisan municipal public service; and

That the Government of Ontario be urged to reconsider the model of provincially appointed “strong regional chairs” with strong mayor style powers and instead ensure that regional leadership remains selected by and accountable to their councils; and

That the Government of Ontario be further urged to undertake meaningful consultation with municipalities and residents, including through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and directly with affected municipalities such as the Town of Caledon and the Region of Peel, before implementing changes to municipal governance and related servicing structures; and

That this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister responsible for the legislation, the local Members of Provincial Parliament, AMO, CAMA, AMCTO, the Region of Peel, all Ontario municipalities through AMO, and local media outlets, to reflect community concerns and clearly communicate the Town of Caledon’s position.