



THE CORPORATION OF THE

Municipality of Neebing

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Councillors
Curtis Coulson
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Brian Kurikka
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February 12, 2019

The Association of Municipalities of
Ontario
200 University Avenue
Suite 800-801
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 3C6

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association
c/o Bill Vrebosch, Zone 9 Representative
665 Oak St East,
& Apartment 414
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 9E5

**Attention: Pat Vanini, Executive
Director**

**Attention: Bill Vrebosch, Zone 9
Representative**

Re: Resolutions of Neebing Council respecting ROMA

Dear Ms. Vanini and Mr. Vrebosch:

Three members of our municipal council attended the ROMA conference in Toronto last month. Congratulations on a well-run event.

As you know, elections took place there for vacancies on the ROMA Board of Directors.

Our Council understands that Mayor Kevin Holland of Conmee, who ran in the election, came in second behind Councillor Bill Vrebosch, the incumbent, and that Mayor Holland lost by one vote. When a recount was requested, attendees were apparently told no recount could occur because all of the ballots had already been destroyed.

Our Council also understands that only persons in attendance at the conference can vote, and that every council member attending for any one municipality can cast his or her own vote.

Council feels that change is needed, as these rules are unfair, particularly to the small, rural communities of Northwestern Ontario, whose voices will never be heard if these rules continue.

Accordingly, Council passed two resolutions, and respectfully requests that these be considered by the Boards of BOTH the Association of Municipalities of Ontario AND the Rural Ontario Municipal Association.

The first resolution relates to the enormity of the size of Zone 9.

WHEREAS "Zone 9" as defined by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, comprises a large geographical area;

AND WHEREAS it is difficult for one person to effectively represent all of the municipalities in Zone 9 given its size;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that Zone 9 be divided into two different geographical zones; one for Northwestern Ontario and one for Northeastern Ontario;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to all of the municipalities in Zone 9 for their support;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, with an express request that it be placed on the table for discussion at an upcoming meeting, and a formal reply sent to the Municipality of Neebing.

Please note that Neebing has respectfully requested a formal reply after the Board considers this matter.

The second resolution relates to the election process.

WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association undertakes the election of its Zone representatives at its annual meeting, held in Toronto, in January;

AND WHEREAS almost one half of all of the municipalities in Northern Ontario's Zone 9 of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association have fewer than 1,000 population and do not have budgets that support attendance at this conference;

AND WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association does not allow voting by proxy;

AND WHEREAS the Rural Ontario Municipal Association allows voting by all registered delegates at the conference, meaning some municipalities have more than one vote;

AND WHEREAS these rules are unfair to northern Ontario municipalities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Rural Ontario Municipal Association limit the number of vote per municipality to one;

AND, FURTHER, THAT The Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing requests that the Rural Ontario Municipal Association allow municipal councils, by resolution, to give proxies to representatives of other municipalities attending the conference, to vote on their behalves;

AND, FURTHER, THAT this resolution be forwarded to all of the municipalities in Zone 9 for their support;

AND, FURTHER, THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, with an express request that it be placed on the table for discussion at an upcoming meeting, and a formal reply sent to the Municipality of Neebing.

Once again, please note that Neebing has respectfully requested a formal reply after the Board considers this matter.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests

Yours truly,



Rosalie A. Evans
Solicitor-Clerk
On behalf of Neebing Council

Resolution No. 2019-02-023 (Zone 9)
Resolution No. 2019-02-024 (Election procedures)

cc. All municipalities in Zone 9