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August 28, 2023

Amended

Delivered via email - premier@ontario.ca

Premier Doug Ford
Queen's Park
Legislative Building,
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Doug Ford

Re Regional amalgamation of West Parry Sound area municipalities

On August 24, 2023, the Council of the Municipality of Whitestone passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2023-405

Moved by: Councillor Joe Lamb

Seconded by: Councillor Brian Woods

WHEREAS the Mayors of Parry Sound and Seguin met with MPP Steven Clark and MPP Graydon Smith on August 3, 2023 to discuss opportunities associated with Regional amalgamation of West Parry Sound area municipalities; and

WHEREAS the Mayors of the West Parry Sound District met on August 10, 2023 in the Seguin offices to discuss Regional amalgamation; and

WHEREAS it is our understanding that the province has stated that no municipality will be forced to amalgamate with any other municipalities without permission and agreement; and

WHEREAS there was discussion of an independent third-party study of shared services and governance of the seven (7) area municipalities which may be funded by the Province; and

WHEREAS this study was to include asset management, shared services, human resources, taxation, by-laws etc.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Whitestone has no interest in amalgamating with any other area municipalities as we see no economic benefit to amalgamation which would only result in higher taxes and reduced services for Whitestone rate payers; and

THAT the Municipality of Whitestone has no interest in participating in any of the suggested studies with the other area municipalities as we view this as a 'slippery slope' leading to amalgamation; and

THAT this motion be circulated to the West Parry Sound area municipalities, MPP Steven Clark, MPP Graydon Smith and Premier Doug Ford.

Recorded Vote: requested by Councillor Nash

	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN
Councillor, Janice Bray			
Councillor, Joe Lamb	X		
Councillor, Scott Nash	X		
Councillor, Brian Woods	X		
Mayor, George Comrie		X	
			Carried

Regards,

Michelle Hendry
Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk
MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE

- cc Township of Archipelago (mmartin@thearchipelago.ca)
- Township of Carling (kmcllwain@carling.ca)
- Municipality of McDougall (lwest@mcdougall.ca)
- Township of McKellar (clerk@mckellar.ca)
- Township of Seguin (cjeffery@seguin.ca)
- Town of Parry Sound (rjohnson@parrysound.ca)
- Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Steve Clark, MPP (steve.clark@pc.ola.org)
- Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry, Graydon Smith, MPP (Graydon.Smith@pc.ola.org)

Regards,



Michelle Hendry
Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk
MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE