

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JANUARY 21, 2008

ONE CENT NOW! CAMPAIGN

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends:

1. That the resolution from the City of Owen Sound regarding the One Cent Now! Campaign be adopted by Council;
2. That this resolution be forwarded to the City of Vaughan's MP and MPP's; and
3. That this resolution be forwarded to the Region of York and the municipalities within York Region.

Economic Impact

N/A

Communications Plan

N/A

Purpose

To demonstrate Vaughan's support for the One Cent Now! Campaign through the endorsement of the attached resolution.

Background - Analysis and Options

The City of Owen Sound adopted a resolution expressing its support for the transferring the equivalent of one cent of the GST to municipalities. GST is collected on most sales. In 2007 it was collected at a rate of six cents on every dollar. The Federal Government has indicated its willingness to reduce the revenue it receives from the GST. Municipalities are therefore requesting that one cent of the six cents be directed towards municipal infrastructure.

It is felt by the One Cent Now! Campaign would deliver about 5 billion dollars per year to municipalities from coast to coast to coast.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

Strengthen relationships with other government authorities and agencies and providing funding for infrastructure.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

Regional municipalities would also benefit from the One Cent Now! Campaign.

Conclusion

By adopting the resolution from the City of Owen Sound, the City of Vaughan will have expressed support for the efforts of the One Cent Now! Campaign with the objective of transferring the equivalent of one cent of the GST to municipalities.

Attachments

Resolution from the City of Owen Sound.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco
Councillor, Ward 4



Owen Sound

CV49-07

"WHEREAS a recent gathering on the steps of Parliament in support of the One Cent NOW! Campaign took place as an expression of support for transferring the equivalent of one cent of the GST to municipalities across the nation, and

WHEREAS in recent years the Federal and Provincial governments have downloaded costs to municipalities and reduced funding in areas of infrastructure to municipalities making the request for COMRIF funding competitive, and

WHEREAS the Federal government, effective January 1, 2008 has reduced the GST to 5%, and

WHEREAS it is felt by the One Cent NOW! Campaign that lost capital that would have been gained from the GST could be regained and distributed to municipalities for infrastructure projects and would deliver about 5 billion dollars per year to municipalities from coast to coast to coast,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound hereby supports the One Cent NOW! Campaign, and further

THAT funding gained from the One Cent NOW! Campaign be disbursed to municipalities to support local infrastructure, and further

THAT this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Steven Harper; The Honourable Jim Flaherty, Federal Minister of Finance; the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities; Larry Miller, M.P., Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, seeking their support of the efforts of municipalities in gaining funding toward local infrastructure, and further

THAT this resolution be copied to Premier Dalton McGuinty; The Honourable Dwight Duncan, Provincial Minister of Finance; The Honourable David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Bill Murdoch, M.P.P., Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound; and Mayor David Miller, City of Toronto, and further

THAT this resolution be copied to Stéphane Dion, Leader of the Federal Opposition Party and John Tory, Leader of the Provincial Opposition Party, and further

THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario through an AMO broadcast seeking support of municipalities to gain funding for local infrastructure projects."

Contact Information:

Marion I. Koepke, C.M.O.
City Clerk
City of Owen Sound
808 2nd Avenue East
Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 2H4
Phone (519) 376-1440 ex 221
Fax (519) 371-0511
E-mail mkoepke@e-owensound.com

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