

**From:** Ted Comiskey [mailto:mayor@ingersoll.ca]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 06, 2018 12:55 PM  
**To:** christopherraynor@york.ca; Day, Kim  
**Subject:** mayor of Ingersoll request for delegation

Hello Mr. Raynor. My name is Ted Comiskey mayor of Ingersoll Ontario. I have been travelling across Ontario talking with committees and councils on the subject of municipalities having the right to say yes or no to landfills. The motion has been excepted and passed by more than seventy (70) municipalities across this province. MPP for Oxford, Ernie Hardeman, now Min. of Agriculture and Rural Affairs presented a private members bill that received unanimous vote upon second reading before the Provincial Election brought it to a halt. Environment Minister Phillips has been brought up to date through our delegation at AMO. Yesterday the Regional Municipality of Durham on a recorded vote unanimously moved the motion to next week's Council meeting for acceptance. I am emailing you to request delegation status at your September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. I can forward my presentation upon request and If further information is required please do not hesitate to contact me. I hope to see you soon. Take care. Ted

Ted Comiskey  
Mayor  
Town of Ingersoll  
(519)485-0120  
[mayor@ingersoll.ca](mailto:mayor@ingersoll.ca)

**BRIEFING NOTE**  
**CAMPAIGN TO GIVE ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES THE RIGHT TO APPROVE**  
**LANDFILL DEVELOPMENTS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this briefing note is to provide background information on an emerging issue for municipalities, and a campaign to change provincial legislation that would give municipalities the right to approve (or reject) future landfill developments in their communities.

**OVERVIEW**

Ontario has a garbage problem, and it could be coming to a community near you.

According to a 2017 report from the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO), the waste that is generated by the ICI sector alone – that is downtown office buildings (like Toronto), factories, institutions, etc – is over 6.7 million tonnes each year.

To put that into context, that’s enough garbage to fill Toronto’s Rogers Centre seventy-four times.

Because Ontario’s landfills are filling up quickly, and as the U.S. border tightens, several new mega dumps will be needed to take this unwanted garbage – and soon.

**THE ISSUE**

Under Ontario’s current Environmental Assessment legislation, municipal governments do not have the right to approve (or reject) landfill developments in our communities. Whether a municipality wants it, or not, makes little difference.

Municipalities have the right to approve most developments in their communities. In fact, municipalities have “exclusive authority” to approve:

- Casino gaming facilities, O.Reg 81/12
- Nuclear waste storage, via the federal NWMO’s siting principles

As well, Ontario recently passed Bill 139, which gives municipalities *additional* authority and autonomy to make decisions for their communities, while replacing the OMB.

**WHICH COMMUNITIES ARE BEING TARGETTED?**

Municipalities that have quarry or mining operations (440 sites), or landfills (880 sites) are the most likely targets, but any municipality – from the 905 belt to the U.S. border – is a potential host for this garbage, whether they like it or not. Several “mega dumps” will need to be approved in the very near future to accommodate the volume of waste that is coming.

The current system allows private landfill operators to essentially ignore the concerns of local residents and municipal Councils. The existing system is based on a 1950’s view of municipalities. We believe this needs to change.

## **THE CAMPAIGN: A MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

It is time Ontario passes legislation that gives municipalities the right to approve landfill projects.

The “Demand the Right Campaign”, involves municipal leaders across Ontario, and is calling on all provincial political parties to commit (before the June election) to passing legislation that will give municipalities the right to approve landfill development.

Campaign highlights include:

- 30+ municipalities have formally approved a motion in their Councils, calling on the Province to act (about two dozen motions are in the works towards approval);
- 150 municipal leaders have signed a petition, calling on the province to act;
- nearly 8 out of 10 Ontarians feel municipalities should have a say in whether they host landfills, according to a recent Ontario poll found;
- Significant media coverage of the campaign since it launched a few months ago (see attached); and,
- Several efforts have been made by the NDP and PCs to change the law, including amendments to Bill 139 (defeated), and the introduction of a Private Member’s Bill.

## **OUR ASK**

We believe municipalities should have the right to approve or reject landfill projects, and assess whether the potential economic benefits are of sufficient value to offset any negative impacts and environmental concerns, in addition to successfully completing an environmental assessment.

Landfills are going to be part of Ontario’s future – the issue is that municipalities **MUST** have the right to say yes or no to these types of projects.

If you believe municipalities should have the right to approve landfill projects, then please join our campaign.

Please consider the attached Motion (which several other municipalities have passed), and call on your local MPP and candidates to support this issue.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

To learn more, or to join our campaign, please visit: [www.demandtheright.ca](http://www.demandtheright.ca)



**MOTION  
COUNCIL FOR THE  
[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]**

**MUNICIPALITIES CALL ON PROVINCE FOR “RIGHT TO APPROVE”  
LANDFILL DEVELOPMENTS**

WHEREAS municipal governments in Ontario do not have the right to approve landfill projects in their communities, but have authority for making decisions on all other types of development;

AND WHEREAS this out-dated policy allows private landfill operators to consult with local residents and municipal Councils, but essentially ignore them;

AND WHEREAS proposed Ontario legislation (Bill 139) will grant municipalities additional authority and autonomy to make decisions for their communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities already have exclusive rights for approving casinos and nuclear waste facilities within their communities, AND FURTHER that the province has recognized the value of municipal approval for the siting of power generation facilities;

AND WHEREAS the recent report from Ontario’s Environmental Commissioner has found that Ontario has a garbage problem, particularly from Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) waste generated within the City of Toronto, where diversion rates are as low as 15%;

AND UNLESS significant efforts are made to increase recycling and diversion rates, a new home for this Toronto garbage will need to be found, as landfill space is filling up quickly;

AND WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are quietly being identified and targeted as potential landfill sites for future Toronto garbage by private landfill operators;

AND WHEREAS other communities should not be forced to take Toronto waste, as landfills can contaminate local watersheds, air quality, dramatically increase heavy truck traffic on community roads, and reduce the quality of life for local residents;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should be considered experts in waste management, as they are responsible for this within their own communities, and often have decades’ worth of in-house expertise in managing waste, recycling, and diversion programs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities should have the exclusive right to approve or reject these projects, and assess whether the potential economic benefits are of sufficient value to offset any negative impacts and environmental concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** calls upon the Government of Ontario, and all political parties, to formally grant municipalities the authority to approve landfill projects in or adjacent to their communities, prior to June 2018;

AND THAT in the case of a two-tier municipality, the approval be required at both the upper-tier and affected lower-tier municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** encourage all other municipalities in Ontario to consider this motion calling for immediate provincial action.