



Ontario
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

ERNIE HARDEMAN, M.P.P.

Oxford

March 26, 2018

Al Strathdee

Town of St. Marys

175 Queen St. E, Box 998

St. Marys, ON N4X 1B6

Queen's Park Office:
Room 413, Legislative Bldg.
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A8

Tel. (416) 325-1239
Fax (416) 325-1259

Constituency Office:
12 Perry Street
Woodstock, Ontario
N4S 3C2

Tel. (519) 537-5222
Fax (519) 537-3577

Dear Mayor Strathdee,

I am writing to let you know that I recently introduced a private members' bill which would give municipalities the authority to decide whether or not they would be willing to receive a landfill. I have enclosed a copy for your information and comments. I believe municipalities should have a say in the location of something that would have such a lasting impact on their community.

As you know, today municipal governments can decide where a Tim Hortons should go, but they can't decide where something as significant as a landfill should go. That doesn't make sense.

Currently, only the Ministry of the Environment approves a new landfill, but Bill 16, *Respecting Municipal Authority Over Landfilling Sites*, would ensure that waste companies are required to have approval from the municipality as well before they can move forward with the landfill placement.

I know that this authority has been requested by a number of municipalities. The Mayor of Ingersoll requested this legislative change during a committee hearing on Bill 139 last fall at Queen's Park. Since then, nearly 30 municipalities have passed resolutions of support and another 150 municipal leaders have signed petitions to demand this right.

I would appreciate hearing your comments on the bill and any support you can offer. For your convenience I have enclosed a sample resolution of support.

Thank you for your consideration. As always please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman, MPP
Oxford



Draft resolution

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 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 WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are quietly being identified and targeted as potential landfill sites;

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 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]** supports *Bill 16, Respecting Municipal Authority Over Landfilling Sites Act* introduced by MPP Ernie Hardeman and 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

AND FURTHER THAT the **[INSERT NAME OF MUNICIPALITY]** send copies of this resolution to MPP Ernie Hardeman and all municipalities.