

Municipalité de
Municipality of

mATTICE-
vAL CÔTÉ



Sac postal / P.O. Bag 129, Mattice, Ont. P0L 1T0
(705) 364-6511 -- Fax: (705) 364-6431

December 11th, 2018

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Office of the Minister
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON
P5G 2E5

Attention: Honourable Steve Clark, Minister

Honourable Minister,

Re: Paragraph 4 of the Declaration of Office

Section 232 of the *Municipal Act, 2001 (Ontario)* provides that a person cannot take a seat on the council of a municipality until he or she takes the declaration of office on the form established by the Minister for that purpose.

In its current version, the declaration of office contains a statement whereby newly elected members of Council promise and declare their faith and allegiance to the Queen. Said statement is considered by many as irrelevant to the current political state of affairs, while many others find it simply offensive.

The Municipality of Mattice – Val Côté recently passed the enclosed resolution requesting that your Ministry amend paragraph 4 of the Declaration of Office in order to address these very legitimate concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Marc Dupuis
Mayor

Encl. Resolution no. 18-190

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Meeting no. 18-15

Resolution no. 18-190

Date: December 10th, 2018

Moved by: Daniel Grenier

Seconded by: Steve Brousseau

WHEREAS the requirement for members of municipal Council to be faithful and to bear true allegiance to the Queen is considered by many to be outdated and representative of a different era, and;

WHEREAS said requirement can go against or be contrary to an individual's culture, principles and beliefs, and;

WHEREAS said requirement presents an obstacle for some individuals who would have otherwise been willing to run for Council and serve at the municipal level of government;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and its Minister modify the wording of paragraph four of the Declaration of Office to make it more inclusive and representative of the times, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ministry consider replacing paragraph four of the Declaration of Office with the following wording: "I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to my country, Canada, and to its three founding nations", and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, to our provincial and federal parliament representatives, Guy Bourgouin and Carol Hughes, and to all Ontario municipalities.

Carried ☒ Defeated ☐ Deferred ☐

Mayor, Marc Dupuis
Presiding Officer

Recorded Vote
(unanimous unless indicated below)

Name	Yeas	Neas	Abstention
Dupuis, Marc			
Brousseau, Steve			
Grenier, Daniel			
Lemay, Richard			
Malenfant, Joyce			

Certified by: Guylaire Coulombe
Guylaire Coulombe, CAO/Clerk