



Corporation of the Town of Mattawa

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July 27, 2022

Honourable Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General
25 Grosvenor Street, 18th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

Dear Hon. Kerzner:

Council of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of July 25, 2022 approved Page No. 148 of Resolution Number 22-60, which stated:

***"WHEREAS** the Ontario Amber Alert is a warning system that quickly alerts the public of a suspected abduction of children who are in imminent danger;*

***AND WHEREAS** the goal is to broadcast as much information about the child, the abductor and suspect vehicles as quickly as possible so that the public can respond with any relevant information that might lead to the child's safe return;*

***AND WHEREAS** people are encouraged to share the Amber Alert with as many people as possible. If a child or vulnerable person is abducted, spreading the information quickly is critical to their safe return;*

***AND WHEREAS** an Amber Alert makes the Public aware to keep an eye out for the child, vulnerable person, suspect and the vehicle described, in the alert. If they spot them, try to gather as many details as they can, including the specific location where they saw them, the time, the direction they were travelling in and any other identifying details that will help to locate them;*

***AND WHEREAS** an Amber Alert gives citizens instructions to call 9-1-1 or the phone number included in the alert immediately if they have a trip or sighting related to an Amber Alert;*

An Amber Alert will only be activated if:

- The police have confirmed that an abduction has taken place; and*
- There is reason to believe the victim is in danger of serious physical injury, and there is information available that, if broadcast to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the victim.*

AND WHEREAS it is essential to remember that an Amber Alert is not always appropriate in every circumstance and that their continued effectiveness depends on ensuring that they are only used in cases that meet the above criteria;

AND WHEREAS the recent tragic death of 11 year old Draven Graham showed that the Amber Alert System is flawed when it comes to vulnerable children who can go missing but are not abducted;

AND WHEREAS at the time this motion was written, there have been almost 75,000 citizens who had signed a petition on Change.Org requesting that a Draven Alert be created;

AND WHEREAS it is clear that there needs to be an addition to the alert system to allow for law enforcement to send out an alert for vulnerable children who go missing under circumstances that do not involve abduction but are at serious risk of injury or death.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Town of Mattawa endorse the following:

1. ***THAT*** the Minister of the Solicitor General and the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police, as well as the Premier's Office, be requested to make the necessary changes to the Amber Alert system and create a new alert called the Draven Alert, which will protect vulnerable children who have not been abducted but are at high risk of danger, injury or death and alert the public that they are missing; and
2. ***THAT*** this motion be sent to all municipalities across Ontario and the Association of the Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for endorsement."

Trusting this is acceptable.

Yours truly,



Amy Leclerc
Clerk/Revenue Services Clerk

AL/bb

c.c. Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Commissioner Thomas Carrique, Ontario Provincial Police
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities