

September 27, 2023

to Whom it May Concern

Re: Support for Motion RE: Guaranteed Livable Income

At the meeting of September 26, 2023, the Council of the County of Brant adopted the following resolution in support of the September 5th resolution passed by the Town of Grimsby on Guaranteed Livable Income :

“Whereas the Canadian livable wage for the Brant—Niagara—Haldimand—Norfolk Region, two years ago was determined to be \$19.80. This was \$6000 above the annual income of a minimum wage employee; and

Whereas County of Brant residents on programs such as Ontario Works, receive targeted fixed monthly incomes of \$733, and ODSP recipients receive \$1376; and

Whereas at the current Ontario minimum wage rate, a person working 37.5 hours per week will earn approximately \$2,500 monthly (before tax); and

Whereas the median rent for one bedroom in the County of Brant as of 2022 was \$1143.90 a month, and the County of Brant does not have current AMR for September 2023; and

Whereas rent is considered affordable, when it is less than 30% of income. In the County of Brant, rent is approximately 156% of Ontario Works, 83.13% of Ontario Disability Support Services, 45% of minimum wage full-time (before tax), and 90% of minimum wage part time; and

Whereas an annual 2.5% allowable rent increase can be combined with an additional 3-6.5% capital investment increase, raising the cost of rental housing another minimum of \$110 monthly; and

Whereas the recent report by the County of Brant Policy Planning and Corporate Strategy departments determined that the County of Brant has serious shortfalls in both affordable and attainable housing supply;

Therefore be it resolved the County of Brant supports the resolution shared by the Town of Grimsby; and

Be it further resolved that The County of Brant circulate correspondence to Ontario municipalities encouraging them not only to collect data of their housing and poverty statistics, but also to examine their pending economic vulnerability as a result; and

Be it further resolved that The County of Brant encourage these same municipalities to join the County of Brant in advocating on behalf of our communities with this data, and by writing a letter to the Prime Minister, Premier, and local politicians calling for a united effort in establishing a Guaranteed Livable Income program.”

Respectfully,

Alysha Dyjach
Director of Council Services, Clerk
County of Brant