

City of Kawartha Lakes - Municipal Resolution

WHEREAS the Greenbelt Plan provides permanent protection for ecologically and hydrologically significant landscapes, working in tandem with Source Water Protection Plans and the Provincial Policy Statement to guide sustainable land use;

WHEREAS the Greenbelt Plan is designed as an agriculture-forward land use framework, intended to permanently protect prime farmland, reduce speculative pressure, and support Ontario's food security and rural economies;

WHEREAS municipalities face increasing pressure from growth, aggregate extraction, and climate-related risks, and require strong, enforceable tools to protect water, farmland, and natural heritage for future generations;

WHEREAS this Council supports initiating dialogue with the Province, Indigenous Nations, and community stakeholders to explore opportunities for expanding Greenbelt boundaries and strengthening its policies in alignment with local planning goals and environmental needs;

WHEREAS the 2015 Coordinated Land Use Planning Review recommended expansion of the Greenbelt into key hydrological areas, such as moraines and headwater systems, to further safeguard water and ecological health;

WHEREAS the Greenbelt Act, 2005 requires a review of the Greenbelt Plan at least every 10 years, and the next mandatory review must begin in 2025, presenting a timely opportunity for municipalities to shape the future of protected lands and policies in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council supports the exploration of opportunities to expand and strengthen Greenbelt protections.
2. Council calls on the Province of Ontario to collaborate with municipalities, Indigenous Nations, and stakeholders in identifying and protecting additional lands of ecological, agricultural, and hydrological significance.

3. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, local MPP(s), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and other relevant stakeholders.