



The Corporation of the City of Temiskaming Shores
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Resolution

Provincial decision regarding alcohol sales in convenience stores and locations that sell fuel to drivers, and the development of a comprehensive provincial alcohol strategy

Resolution No. 2024-332

Moved by: Councillor Whalen

Seconded by: Councillor Wilson

Whereas excessive consumption of alcohol has a negative impact on many communities because of detrimental health effects, road safety, and other harms; and

Whereas the number of cases of individuals driving under the influence are increasing in Ontario, and the Timiskaming District has recently seen its highest rate ever for impaired driving infractions with 10 in April of 2024; and

Whereas jurisdictions with broader access to alcohol have higher rates of driving under the influence and crashes associated with alcohol; and

Whereas alcohol causes at least seven types of cancer and is a risk factor for, disease, disability and premature death, and is a direct cause of 4,300 deaths and 195,000 emergency department visits per year in Ontario; and

Whereas alcohol related emergency department visits increased 18 percent after the introduction of alcohol sales in grocery stores in Ontario; and

Whereas 35 percent of youth in grades 10 and 11 in the Timiskaming District have indicated that they consumed alcohol at 13 years or younger; and

Whereas 49 percent of youth in grades 10 and 11 in the Timiskaming District have been drunk at least once in their life; and

Whereas alcohol related harms cost the Ontario economy 7 billion dollars a year; and

Whereas alcohol is a factor in many domestic, sexual and physical assaults in Ontario; and

Whereas most tax revenue generated by the sale of alcohol goes to the province yet the costs and harms that are alcohol related are borne by the municipalities in the form of policing and social services and public health costs.


Therefore be it resolved that Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores requests the Government of Ontario reverse their decision to allow alcohol to be sold in more locations and implement the following recommendations:

1. Permit municipalities to opt out of retail alcohol expansion;
2. Grant municipalities the powers to use zoning to determine where new alcohol retail locations are acceptable;
3. Not permit alcohol sales within 150 m of schools, daycares, or substance use facilities;
4. Prohibit the sale of Alcohol at gas stations;
5. Require health warning labels on all alcohol containers;
6. Dedicate a portion of provincial alcohol revenue to addressing alcohol related harms; and
7. Develop and implement a comprehensive provincial alcohol strategy, in partnership with municipalities, that prioritizes health and safety and considers the costs associated with alcohol consumption.

Further that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General; the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming Cochrane; AMO; FONOM; ROMA; Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA); Timiskaming Health Unit (Planet Youth Timiskaming); Temiskaming Shores OPP Detachment Board; and all Ontario Municipalities.

Carried

Certified True Copy
City of Temiskaming Shores



Logan Belanger
Municipal Clerk