

Resolution for Endorsement by Other Municipalities

WHEREAS under the *Municipal Act*, Ontario municipalities have the authority and responsibility to advance and protect the “economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality” and the “health, safety and well-being of persons”;

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has designated Ontario municipalities to have responsibility to establish official plans that meet or exceed provincial standards for managing and directing physical change and effects on the social, economic, built and natural environment;

WHEREAS CN Rail has declared that the Province of Ontario and the Halton Municipalities (the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton and the Town of Oakville) and Conservation Halton have no regulatory role whatsoever with respect to a proposed truck/rail development that will have a direct impact on the economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality and health, safety and well-being of residents;

WHEREAS the Halton Municipalities and Conservation Halton recognize that railways are a matter of federal jurisdiction, but assert that truck-rail developments have non-rail aspects that engage multiple areas of provincial and municipal government regulatory responsibility;

WHEREAS the Halton Municipalities and Conservation Halton have commenced a Court Application to confirm their legitimate regulatory role in respect of the CN development;

WHEREAS CN’s position that its proposed truck-rail development falls exclusively under federal jurisdiction, if upheld, would create a regulatory gap that would prevent the Province of Ontario, the Halton Municipalities and Conservation Halton from discharging their statutory responsibilities, and leave CN Rail, a for-profit company, to self-regulate on matters that engage provincial and municipal responsibilities; and

WHEREAS irrespective of the merits of CN’s proposed development, CN’s interpretation of jurisdiction over this development, if upheld, would be detrimental to all provinces and municipalities that contain existing or proposed developments that engage matters of federal, provincial and municipal regulatory interest;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT the [insert municipality name] endorse the principles that:
 - a. there must be a cooperative approach to all developments that engage federal, provincial and municipal regulatory matters.
 - b. the existence of federal regulation over a development does not preclude and may require provincial and municipal regulation of the proposed development to avoid regulatory gaps.
2. THAT the [insert municipality name] calls on the Government of Ontario to join the court Application of the Halton Municipalities.