

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Government has passed the *Patients First Act*, which is to help patients and their families obtain better access to a more local and better integrated health care system;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province has stated a commitment to improving the patient experience and delivering higher-quality health care;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province wishes to improve local connections between hospitals; primary care providers; inter-professional health care teams; public health; and home and community care to ensure a better patient experience and improved transitions between services;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province wishes to improve accountability to better ensure the people of Ontario have access to care when they need it;

**AND WHEREAS** the small and medium sized hospitals located throughout Ontario provide vital core hospital services, including acute care inpatient, emergency, diagnostic and surgical services;

**AND WHEREAS** the continued delivery of those core services at Ontario's small and medium sized hospitals is crucial to the long-term sustainability and economic vitality of Ontario's smaller communities;

**NOW THEREFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ONTARIO SMALL URBAN MUNICIPALITIES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that the changes being implemented to Ontario's health care delivery system:
  - 1.1. Maintain appropriate funding to continue the provision of the full range of core hospital services, including acute care inpatient, emergency, diagnostic and surgical services, that are provided by Ontario's small and medium sized hospitals.
  - 1.2. Do not negatively impact access to hospital and other health care services and the overall quality of care in Ontario's smaller communities.
  - 1.3. Recognize the unique and important role that small and medium sized hospitals, including both single and multi-site facilities, have in promoting economic development and creating sustainable communities in Ontario.
2. That the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that appropriate capital funding is provided to Ontario's small and medium sized hospitals so that short and long-term capital plans are implemented efficiently and effectively without the requirement for excessive funding from Ontario's small and medium sized municipalities.
3. That the Province of Ontario be requested to ensure that Ontario's capital planning process for hospitals leverages the significant municipal investments made in local infrastructure; respects the importance of municipal plans and policies; and recognizes the following items as key factors to be evaluated by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care:
  - 3.1 Land use planning legislation and policies, including but not limited to, the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. P.13, the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014, and local and regional Official Plans;
  - 3.2 Community economic impacts of any long-term plans for hospitals;
  - 3.3 The ability to raise the funds required for sustainable hospital services;
  - 3.4 Operational and cost impacts of any long-term plans for hospitals on both the lower and upper-tier levels of government, including cost implications on Emergency Medical Services (EMS); water treatment services; sanitary sewer services; transit services; etc.; and
  - 3.5 Direct impact on local health care service providers.
4. That this resolution be circulated to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); member municipalities of the Small Urban Municipalities Executive Committee; member municipalities of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party; the Liberal Party of Ontario; the New Democratic Party of Ontario; and the Green Party of Ontario.