

October 1, 2018

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Room 281, Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Premier's Office  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email:  
premier@ontario.ca

Honourable and Dear Sir:

**Re: The Right of Passage  
Our File No. 35.11.2**

The following resolution, approved by the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting on August 27, 2018, was endorsed by the Council of the City of St. Catharines at its meeting held September 24, 2018:

**Whereas** the people of Ontario are blessed with the Great Lakes and miles of diverse waterfront, and

**Whereas** the waters of the Great Lakes constitute the largest reservoir of fresh water in the world, and

**Whereas** the value of these waters as a life-sustaining resource can best be understood and appreciated by the public if it has access to the waterfront along the shoreline of the Great Lakes, and

**Whereas** MPP's for Niagara Falls-Fort Erie-Niagara-on-the-Lake have presented Private Member's Bills (The Right of Passage Bills) to ensure public walking rights along Ontario's Great Lakes shoreline, and

**Whereas** none of these Private Member's Bills have been passed by the Ontario Legislature, and

**Whereas** now, more than ever, the right of the public to walk along the Great Lakes shoreline should be confirmed by statute;

**Now therefore be it resolved,**

**That:** Council of the Town of Fort Erie calls upon the Premier, Doug Ford, to present and enact government legislation, The Right of Passage Act, to:

- a) Ensure that the public has the right to walk along all Great Lake shorelines between the water's edge and the high water mark,

- b) Require removal by property owners of all fences running vertical to the shoreline distance of no less than 10 feet from the water's edge and any other obstructions to the public's right to walk the shore,
- c) Permit public access to the Great Lakes shoreline only via public lands, such as parks, road allowances or easements, and
- d) Prohibit the public from any activity on privately owned waterfront, other than a right to walk along the shoreline, and further

**That:** A copy of this resolution be delivered to the Premier, The Honourable Doug Ford, for action and to the MPP's and MP's in Niagara, the Clerk of the Niagara Region and of the area municipalities for information and support

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk  
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk  
:em

cc: Chris Bittle, MP-St. Catharines, Sent via email: [chris.bittle@parl.gc.ca](mailto:chris.bittle@parl.gc.ca)  
Vance Badawey, MP-Niagara Centre, Sent via email: [vance.badawey@parl.gc.ca](mailto:vance.badawey@parl.gc.ca)  
Rob Nicholson, MP-Niagara Falls, Parliament of Canada, Sent via email: [rob.nicholson@parl.gc.ca](mailto:rob.nicholson@parl.gc.ca)  
Jennifer Stevens, MPP-St. Catharines, Sent via email: [JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca)  
Wayne Gates, MPP-Niagara Falls, Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Sent via email: [wgates-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:wgates-co@ndp.on.ca)  
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP-Niagara West-Glanbrook, Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Sent via email: [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)  
Jeff Burch, MPP-Niagara Centre, Sent via email: [JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca)  
Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Niagara Region, Sent via email: [Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca)  
Niagara Local Area Municipalities Sent via email