



July 15, 2026

**BY EMAIL**

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: Potential Changes to School Board Governance Structures**

At its Regular Council Meeting held on July 6, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence dated June 16, 2026 from the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa regarding Potential Changes to School Board Governance Structures.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

**R26-07-317**

Moved By Councillor Hammond  
Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

**That** the correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Potential Changes to School Board Governance Structures, be received and supported; and

**That** a letter from the Town of Essex be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Education, the Ontario Ombudsman, Greater Essex County District School Board, Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Anthony Leardi, MPP Essex.

**Carried**



I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Malandruccolo".

Joseph Malandruccolo  
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk  
[jmalandruccolo@essex.ca](mailto:jmalandruccolo@essex.ca)

Enclosure

cc. Paul Calandra, Minister of Education [paul.calandra@pc.ola.org](mailto:paul.calandra@pc.ola.org)  
Ontario Ombudsman [info@ombudsman.on.ca](mailto:info@ombudsman.on.ca)  
Greater Essex County District School Board [feedback@publicboard.ca](mailto:feedback@publicboard.ca)  
Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board [servicedesk@wecdsb.on.ca](mailto:servicedesk@wecdsb.on.ca)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Anthony Leardi, MPP Essex [Anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org](mailto:Anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org)  
Municipality of Wawa [ybedard@wawa.cc](mailto:ybedard@wawa.cc)



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

|                                                                                                |                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Resolution # RC26130                                                                           | Meeting Order: 4                                                                                   |
| Moved by:<br> | Seconded by:<br> |

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario is considering potential changes to school board governance structures, including the possible elimination of elected school board trustees;

**AND WHEREAS** elected trustees play an important role in representing local communities, providing accountability, and ensuring that the unique needs and priorities of students, families, and residents are reflected in educational decision-making;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities in Northern Ontario and rural regions face distinct challenges related to geography, transportation, population distribution, and access to educational services that require strong local representation within the education system;

**AND WHEREAS** any significant changes to school board governance should be informed by meaningful consultation with affected stakeholders, including municipalities, school boards, parents, educators, and community members across Ontario;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa supports the request of the Durham District School Board regarding school board governance and calls upon the Province of Ontario to undertake a comprehensive, province-wide consultation process prior to making any decisions regarding changes to school board governance, including the potential elimination of elected trustees;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Province of Ontario ensure that any future governance model maintains strong local representation and reflects the diverse needs of communities across the province, including Northern and rural municipalities;



**The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**RESOLUTION**

**AND FURTHER THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Education, the Ontario Ombudsman, the Durham District School Board, the Near North District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, the Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the local Member of Provincial Parliament, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

| RESOLUTION RESULT                   |                             | RECORDED VOTE     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----|----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CARRIED                     | MAYOR AND COUNCIL | YES | NO |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DEFEATED                    | Mitch Hatfield    |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | TABLED                      | Cathy Cannon      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)   | Melanie Pilon     |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED | Jim Hoffmann      |     |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | WITHDRAWN                   | Joseph Opato      |     |    |

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.**

☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

| MAYOR – MELANIE PILON | CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                       |                       |

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