



# *Municipality of Killarney*

August 15, 2025

Premier Doug Ford

Email Only: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier Ford:

**Re: Requesting Support regarding Challenging Strong Mayor Powers**

Attached hereto is Resolution #25-286 that was passed by the Council of the Municipality of Killarney at their Regular Meeting held August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

The Municipality of Killarney supports the resolution passed by the Town of Fort Erie on June 23, 2025, which endorses Resolution No. 129-2025 from the Township of Rideau Lakes on May 22, 2025, which calls upon 444 municipalities to collect and coordinate action and seek legal and constitutional experts to challenge the Strong Mayors Powers.

We look forward to your favorable reply regarding this request.

Sincerely,

**THE MUNICIPALITY OF KILLARNEY**

(Mrs.) Angie Nuziale,  
Administrative Assistant

*cc: Town of Fort Erie  
Township of Rideau Lakes  
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
V.O.I.C.E.*

Word: Letters-Challenging Strong Mayor Powers-15-08-2025

**Main Office:**

32 Commissioner Street  
Killarney, Ontario  
P0M 2A0

Tel: 705-287-2424

Fax: 705-287-2660

**E-mail:**

[inquiries@municipalityofkillarney.ca](mailto:inquiries@municipalityofkillarney.ca)

**Public Works Department:**

1096 Hwy 637  
Killarney, Ontario  
P0M 2A0

Tel: 705-287-1040

Fax: 705-287-1141

**website:**

[www.municipalityofkillarney.ca](http://www.municipalityofkillarney.ca)



*The Corporation of the Municipality of Killarney*  
*32 Commissioner Street*  
*Killarney, Ontario*  
*P0M 2A0*

MOVED BY: Nikola Grubic

SECONDED BY: Mary Bradbury


**RESOLUTION NO. 25-286**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Killarney supports the resolution passed by the Town of Fort Erie on June 23, 2025, which endorses Resolution No. 129-2025 from the Township of Rideau Lakes on May 22, 2025 which calls upon 444 municipalities to collect and coordinate action and seek legal and constitutional experts to challenge the Strong Mayors Powers;

**FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to all those noted in the resolutions passed by the Town of Fort Erie and the Township of Rideau Lakes.

Resolution Result	Recorded Vote		
	Council Members	YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARRIED	Mary Bradbury		
<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEATED	Robert Campbell		
<input type="checkbox"/> TABLED	Dave Froats		
<input type="checkbox"/> RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Nikola Grubic		
<input type="checkbox"/> PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Michael Reider		
<input type="checkbox"/> WITHDRAWN	Peggy Roque		

I, Candy Beauvais, Clerk-Treasurer of the Municipality of Killarney do certify the foregoing to be a true copy of Resolution #25-286 passed in a Regular Council Meeting of The Corporation of the Municipality of Killarney on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025.

  
Candy K. Beauvais  
Clerk-Treasurer



## Legal and Legislative Services

June 24, 2025

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

Honourable and Dear Sir:

**Re: The Corporation of the Township of Rideau Lakes Resolution – Strong Mayor Powers**

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of June 23, 2025, received and supported correspondence from Township of Rideau Lakes dated May 22, 2025, calling upon 444 municipalities to collect and coordinate action and seek legal and constitutional expert to challenge the Strong Mayor Powers.

Attached please find a copy of Township of Rideau Lakes correspondence dated May 22, 2025.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Ashlea Carter,  
Acting Manager, Legislative Services/Town Clerk  
[acarter@forterie.ca](mailto:acarter@forterie.ca)

AC:dlk  
Encl.

c.c.: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)  
MPP's [jburch-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jburch-qp@ndp.on.ca); [wgates-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:wgates-qp@ndp.on.ca); [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org); [jstevens-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:jstevens-qp@ndp.on.ca)  
AMO; [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)  
Rideau Lakes: [mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca](mailto:mtruelove@rideaulakes.ca), [councillorpbanks@rideaulakes.ca](mailto:councillorpbanks@rideaulakes.ca)  
Municipalities of Ontario

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Mailing Address:

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie  
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6  
Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: [www.forterie.ca](http://www.forterie.ca)



**TOWNSHIP OF RIDEAU LAKES  
Special Council Meeting**

**RESOLUTION**

129-2025

**Title:**

Councillor P. Banks: Proposed Motion re: Strong Mayor Power Legal Challenge to Province

**Date:**

Thursday, May 22, 2025

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**Moved by** Councillor P. Banks

**Seconded by** Councillor Dunfield

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has unilaterally imposed “Strong Mayor Powers” on numerous municipalities without democratic consultation or local consent, overriding the will of almost 50 municipal councils and communities;

**WHEREAS** these powers centralize authority in the office of the mayor, undermining the longstanding principles of democratic, council-based decision-making and the equal voice of ward councillors who represent diverse and distinct communities within a municipality;

**WHEREAS** the imposition of Strong Mayor Powers has particularly harmful implications for rural municipalities, which often have part-time mayors who may now feel there is neither the need nor the financial capacity to hire and retain full-time, independent, and professionally qualified Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), undermining the critical role of senior staff in providing non-partisan, expert advice and ensuring stable, accountable local administration;

**WHEREAS** in such municipalities, these powers threaten to erode the role and independence of professional administrative staff, including CAOs, whose accountability to the full council is essential for transparent, well-managed local government, raising concerns that a single elected official may unilaterally direct, override, or dismiss senior staff without the benefit of full council oversight;

**WHEREAS** the Township of Rideau Lakes, representing a small rural community, has taken a leadership role by committing financially toward a collective advocacy, legal, and communications effort to defend local democracy and resist the imposed governance framework;

**WHEREAS** over 50 municipalities across Ontario have already expressed formal opposition to Strong Mayor Powers, and growing support from across regions—including Newmarket and other urban and rural communities—demonstrates the broad, nonpartisan resistance to this undemocratic model;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Council formally reaffirms its opposition to the imposition of Strong Mayor Powers and requests to opt out of this governance model, reaffirming our commitment to democratic, council-based governance and equal representation for all residents.

2. Council highlights the unique risks and negative consequences for municipalities, where part-time elected officials and resource-constrained administrations are especially vulnerable to disruptions in effective and accountable governance.
3. Council directs that a copy of their resolutions be included in the publicly documented list of municipalities that oppose Strong Mayor Powers.
4. Council further directs that this resolution be sent to all 444 municipalities in Ontario as a strong call to collective, coordinated action against this top-down provincial policy.
5. Council commits to contributing financial support to the shared effort initiated by the Township of Rideau Lakes, recognizing the importance of standing together to protect democratic local governance in every municipality, large or small.
6. Once a coordinated effort is established among all 444 municipalities, we, as a collective, should seek out a legal and constitutional expert to challenge the Ford government's 'strong mayor' powers. These powers undermine the democratic rights of councillors and may violate constitutional principles of local governance and representation.

**Carried**



Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: August 5, 2025 No: RESOLUTION - 329-2025  
Moved by Councillor Kevin Rosien Disposition: CARRIED  
Seconded by Councillor Robert Campbell Item No: 17.2

Description: V.O.I.C.E. - Council Members Opposed to Strong Mayor Powers

**RESOLUTION:**

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has imposed "Strong Mayor Powers" on municipalities without broad consultation or consent;


**AND WHEREAS** over 120 municipalities have passed resolutions opposing these powers and requested their removal, some as early as 2023;

**AND WHEREAS** strong mayor powers concentrate authority in one office, undermining democratic governance, council collaboration, and transparency;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities are most effective through shared leadership and local decision-making;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Township of McNab/Braeside opposes the imposition of strong mayor powers;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Billy Denault, MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario and Councillor Paula Banks, Township of Rideau Lakes.

  
MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:

	Yea	Nay
Mayor Lori Hoddinott	_____	_____
Deputy Mayor Scott Brum	_____	_____
Councillor Kevin Rosien	_____	_____
Councillor Robert Campbell	_____	_____
Councillor Jill Campbell	_____	_____

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated  
he/her/their seat(s),  
abstained from discussion and did not vote