

# Woolwich Township Build it Right the First Time Motion

Draft #1 April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets of 30% by 2030, and emissions from buildings represented 22% of the province's 2017 emissions,

WHEREAS all Waterloo Region municipalities, including the Township of Woolwich, adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets of 80% below 2012 levels by 2050 and endorsed in principle a 50% reduction by 2030 interim target that requires the support of bold and immediate provincial and federal actions,

WHEREAS greenhouse gas emissions from buildings represent 45% of all emissions in Waterloo Region, and an important strategy in the TransformWR community climate action strategy, adopted by all Councils in Waterloo Region, targets new buildings to be net-zero carbon or able to transition to net-zero carbon using region-wide building standards and building capacity and expertise of building operators, property managers, and in the design and construction sector,

WHEREAS buildings with better energy performance provide owners and occupants with lower energy bills, improved building comfort, and resilience from power disruptions that are expected to be more common in a changing climate, tackling both inequality and energy poverty;

WHEREAS while expensive retrofits of the current building stock to achieve future net zero requirements could be aligned with end-of-life replacement cycles to be more cost-efficient, new buildings that are not constructed to be net zero ready will require substantial retrofits before end-of-life replacement cycles at significantly more cost, making it more cost-efficient to build it right the first time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to include energy performance tiers and timelines for increasing minimum energy performance standards step-by-step to the highest energy performance tier in the next edition of the Ontario Building Code, consistent with the intent of the draft National Model Building Code and the necessity of bold and immediate provincial action on climate change;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to adopt a more ambitious energy performance tier of the draft National Model Building Code as the minimum requirement for the next edition of the Ontario Building Code than those currently proposed;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario provide authority to municipalities to adopt a specific higher energy performance tier than the Ontario Building Code, which

would provide more consistency for developers and homebuilders than the emerging patchwork of municipal Green Development Standards;

THAT Council request the Province of Ontario to facilitate capacity, education and training in the implementation of the National Model Building Code for municipal planning and building inspection staff, developers, and homebuilders to help build capacity; and

THAT this resolution be provided to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to area MPPs, and to all area Municipalities.