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**For Information**

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**REPORT TITLE:     Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

**FROM:                 Kathryn Lockyer, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services**

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**OBJECTIVE**

To provide Government Relations Committee members with a high-level overview on the status of advocacy priorities, as outlined in Appendix I.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- This report highlights advocacy efforts undertaken by the Government Relations Committee (GRC) since the last meeting, held on October 17, 2019.
- This report provides an overview of progress on high priority Region of Peel advocacy positions, as well as next steps and potential opportunities related to these positions.
- In the current political climate, the Region will continue to be nimble and flexible in its approach to advocacy and intergovernmental relations.

**DISCUSSION**

This report supports the mandate of the Government Relations Committee (GRC) to develop, coordinate, implement and monitor government relations strategies, based on Regional Council endorsed advocacy positions. Over the course of 2019, there were significant shifts in the policy landscape, particularly at the provincial level, which created uncertainty and funding challenges for the Region. The GRC has worked to fulfill its mandate by pursuing various advocacy initiatives to address these challenges and advance Regional priorities by engaging with elected and departmental officials from the provincial and federal levels of government and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

In the appendix, *Region of Peel Advocacy Activity and Progress Report Table*, there is an update on 14 of the Region's priorities, providing highlights on current activity/progress since the last meeting of the GRC in October, as well as next steps and opportunities. Many of the priorities captured in this report have also been included in the Region's provincial and federal pre-budget submissions and will also be presented to GRC members, for their consideration, as part of the Region's strategy for the 2020 AMO Annual Conference.

It is important to note that this update is not inclusive of all the Region's advocacy positions but focuses on recent activity on priority issues. Given the current political environment, it is important that the Region remain nimble and responsive in its approach to advocacy, to address funding and policy changes that lead to challenges in how Peel delivers core programs and

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services. As one of the fastest growing municipalities in Canada, the Region of Peel continues to actively engage with its federal and provincial partners, as the Region depends on support from all orders of government to help address its critical priorities.

## **CONCLUSION**

This report is intended to support the GRC's efforts to advance the Region's interests at the federal and provincial levels of government and to provide an overview of recent progress advocating for Regional priorities. Additional issues impacting the Region and advocacy initiatives are expected to arise from time to time and may be addressed at the Committee's discretion.

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix I – Region of Peel Advocacy Activity and Progress Report Table

*For further information regarding this report, please contact Keith Medenblik, Manager, Strategic Public Policy and External Relations, ext.4777, [keith.medenblik@peelregion.ca](mailto:keith.medenblik@peelregion.ca).*

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*Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:*  
Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.



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N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer