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**For Information**

**REPORT TITLE: Update on the Region of Peel’s Advocacy Priorities**

**FROM: Kathryn Lockyer, Interim 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 of this report, including, but not limited to impacts and opportunities highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- This report highlights advocacy efforts undertaken since the last meeting of the Government Relations Committee (GRC), held on October 15, 2020.
- 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.
- Collaboration and partnership have been critical to efforts aimed at supporting the Region of Peel’s emergency response and recovery, and in advancing other key regional priorities.

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**DISCUSSION**

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of ongoing efforts to meaningfully engage with all orders of government. The Region of Peel’s (“the Region”) response has been, and continues to be, framed with a collaborative approach to intergovernmental relations in support of Council-endorsed advocacy positions. The political landscape in 2020 required a nimble and responsive approach, which will continue throughout 2021 as efforts to contain the pandemic continue.

The Region of Peel Advocacy Activity and Progress Report Table in Appendix I of the report provides an update on key Regional priorities, including highlights on current activity/progress since the last meeting of the Government Relations Committee (GRC) in October, as well as next steps and opportunities. Many of the priorities captured in this report have also been leveraged through other advocacy opportunities, including the Region’s provincial and federal pre-budget submissions, quarterly meetings with local federal and provincial representatives, and other advocacy efforts.

A consistent and coordinated advocacy approach has been beneficial in securing support from Peel’s upper-level partners for the critical frontline services delivered by the Region. It is

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expected that this approach will be equally critical as all levels of government shift focus to the recovery phase of the pandemic.

### **CONCLUSION**

This report is intended to provide an update on 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 and upcoming activities. As all levels of government continue navigating pandemic response and plans for recovery, staff will continue to monitor emerging trends and key policy developments and provide updates to GRC members.

### **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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