



# *The Corporation of the Town of Bruce Mines*

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May 14, 2026

Sent by email: [Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:Doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

Re: Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 – Schedule 7

At its Regular Meeting held on May 4, 2026, the Council of the Town of Bruce Mines reviewed the changes introduced through Schedule 7 of Bill 97, which amends the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

At that meeting, Council adopted a resolution expressing concern regarding these amendments and their impact on transparency and public access to information.

Enclosed is a copy of the resolution supported by Bruce Mines Council.

Sincerely,

Tarra Lapensee  
Deputy Clerk  
[info@brucemines.ca](mailto:info@brucemines.ca)  
705-785-3493

cc:

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario  
The Honourable Bill Rosenberg, Member of Provincial Parliament  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)  
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Patricia Kosseim  
All Ontario Municipalities

**WHEREAS THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1987, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1988; AND**

**WHEREAS THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (MFIPPA) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT IN 1990, COMING INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 1991; AND**

**WHEREAS BOTH ACTS PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH A LEGAL RIGHT OF ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT-HELD INFORMATION, REFLECTING THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH INFORMATION BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THERE IS A VALID REASON TO WITHHOLD IT; AND**

**WHEREAS THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO HAS REINFORCED THAT ACCESS TO INFORMATION IS “ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTHY FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY” AND TO TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND**

**WHEREAS BILL 97 (2026): PLAN TO PROTECT ONTARIO ACT (BUDGET MEASURES) RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT ON APRIL 24, 2026, INTRODUCING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RULES, INCLUDING NEW EXEMPTIONS FOR MINISTERS’ OFFICES; AND**

**WHEREAS RECORDS HELD BY THE PREMIER, CABINET MINISTERS, PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS, AND THEIR OFFICES ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS AND ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERED FOI-ELIGIBLE RECORDS; AND**

**WHEREAS COUNCIL IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 REPRESENTS A STEP BACKWARD FROM LONG-STANDING PROVINCIAL COMMITMENTS TO OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY;**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES FORMALLY EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN WITH THE PASSAGE OF BILL 97 (2026) AND FINDS THAT IT CONSTITUTES A REGRESSION FROM ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE; AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO TO REPEAL THIS PROVISION OF THE LEGISLATION; AND**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE PREMIER OF ONTARIO, DOUG FORD; THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ONTARIO, DOUG DOWNEY; THE MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, BILL ROSENBERG; THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO); THE FEDERATION OF NORTHERN ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES (FONOM); AND THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO, PATRICIA KOSSEIM, AND THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO.**