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Mayoral Decision MD-2026-01a

January 16, 2026

RE: Veto of Confirmation By-Law 08-2026 Pertaining to Motion 114-2025

WHEREAS Section 284.11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of a by-law could potentially interfere with a prescribed provincial priority, the head of council may veto the by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Province has prescribed provincial priorities by making O. Reg. 580/22: *Provincial Priorities* pursuant the *Municipal Act, 2001*;

I, Arie Hoogenboom, Mayor of the Township of Rideau Lakes, hereby exercise my authority pursuant to subsection 284.11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to veto the following By-Law passed by Council:

Township of Rideau Lakes By-Law 2026-08, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on January 5, 2026, to the extent such By-Law adopts, ratifies, and confirms Council's direction in Motion 114-2025 to proceed with tendering for the Municipal Office Infrastructure project.

For greater clarity, all other aspects of By-Law 2026-08 shall be deemed to have been approved in writing pursuant to the *Municipal Act, 2001* on the 5th day of January, 2026.

I hereby provide my rationale for utilizing the strong mayor powers to veto a local by-law that authorizes staff to tender the Municipal Office Infrastructure project:

1. Location Misalignment

The renovation is not in a designated hamlet or village where provincial policy encourages intensification and housing growth. Investing in this site does not leverage opportunities for residential development or mixed-use planning.

2. Missed Opportunity for Growth Corridors

Provincial priorities emphasize directing investment to areas that can stimulate housing and economic development. This project does not advance those objectives because it is isolated from growth corridors and lacks infrastructure to support new housing.

3. **Better Alternatives Exist**

Relocating municipal facilities to a serviced village or highway corridor could align with provincial housing priorities by enabling adjacent residential development.

This is the **fourth veto** on this matter, reflecting my consistent position that the project does not align with provincial priorities and lacks sufficient justification given competing needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arie Hoogenboom', written in a cursive style.

Arie Hoogenboom
Mayor