Corporation of the Township of Fauquier-Strickland



20 Doyon Street P.O. Box 40 Fauquier, ON POL 1G0 Telephone: (705) 338-2521

August 9, 2022

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Attn: Mac Bain, Executive Director
615 Hardy Street
North Bay, ON
P1B 8S2

Re: Delayed Ontario One Call Locates – Impact on municipalities and development

On behalf of the Township of Fauquier-Strickland, I would like to voice my great concern regarding the lengthy wait times by Ontario One Call to respond to and complete locates. The municipal office is receiving complaints, on a steady basis, from property owners and contractors who are obligated to delay their projects due to missing locates.

The Township has also been impacted and are unable to move forward with small and major projects for the same reason. Further to inquiries, administration is reporting that wait time is approximately 4 weeks to receive all locates. I find this unacceptable as it is leading to work being undertaken without compliance with a high risk of causing serious injuries and damages to underground infrastructure that can lead to outages and undesired service interruptions.

Northeastern Ontario has a very short period for construction. Frost comes out of the ground in mid-June only to have snow on the ground again in October. This being said, it is very discouraging to see that the municipality, property owners and contractors have to wait such a long time to advance construction projects. Many are forced to cancel or delay their projects until next year due to the lack of time remaining before the snow hits the ground.

This problem is extremely concerning to Council as we are seeing a direct impact on municipal infrastructure projects, road repairs, etc.

We ask that municipalities, contractors, and residents in Northern Ontario express and share their concerns about the excessive wait times for locates and to highlight the negative impact that it has caused in order to call on the provincial government to streamline and advance development in a safe and cost-effective manner for residents, businesses and communities

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that they serve. Immediate action is required as it is unacceptable to allow any further delays in receiving and completing locates.

Sincerely,

Mayor Madeleine Tremblay

cc. Highway 11 Corridor Municipalities

Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

Ontario One Call

GTel, subsidiary of OEC