



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

Date: November 26, 2025

Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

Resolution Number: 2025-345

Moved By: Mayor Gould

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

WHEREAS violent home invasions have increased in several regions of Ontario, creating growing fear and frustration among residents;

AND WHEREAS Ontario homeowners increasingly believe that current self-defence laws do not provide sufficient or clear protection for individuals who lawfully defend themselves and their families during violent intrusions;

AND WHEREAS rural residents often experience police response times that can exceed 30 minutes or more, leaving citizens without immediate protection when confronted with life-threatening emergencies;

AND WHEREAS the absence of "home invasion" as a distinct offence in the national Uniform Crime Reporting system prevents governments from understanding the true scale of this crime and responding appropriately;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has repeatedly called for strengthened homeowner protections, including consideration of castle-law-style provisions, and for the federal government to act;

AND WHEREAS residents expect all levels of government to take decisive action to address gaps that leave families vulnerable in their own homes;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Municipality of Calvin strongly supports the Province of Ontario's call for strengthened homeowner self-defence protections, including the adoption of clear and robust "castle law"-type provisions to ensure that law-abiding residents can protect themselves without fear of unjust prosecution.
2. Council calls on the Government of Canada to immediately prioritize reforms to the Criminal Code that strengthen and clarify the rights of homeowners who act in legitimate self-defence during violent home invasions.
3. Council demands that the federal government amend the Uniform Crime Reporting system to classify "home invasion" as a distinct criminal offence, allowing for accurate tracking, targeted enforcement, and informed public policy.
4. Council urges the Province of Ontario to take stronger action to monitor, publish, and improve police response times in rural and northern communities, and to ensure that residents are not left unprotected due to resourcing shortages.
5. Council encourages all Ontario municipalities to adopt similar resolutions to demonstrate a unified municipal voice calling for urgent reforms that protect citizens in their homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to:
The Prime Minister of Canada, The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.
The Premier of Ontario, The Attorney General of Ontario, The Solicitor General of Ontario,
MPP Vic Fedeli, and all Ontario municipalities.

Results: Carried

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of
Resolution No. 2025-345 passed by the
Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin
on the 25th day of November 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Trish Araujo', is written over a faint circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Trish Araujo
Deputy Clerk

Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

Agenda Item: Resolution – Background Report (Submitted by Mayor Gould)

Ontario Premier Doug Ford has repeatedly called for a review or adoption of "castle laws" in Canada, beginning June 16, 2025, and continuing in August and October of 2025. Premier Ford has emphasized that Ontario families must feel safe in their homes and that law-abiding residents should not face legal uncertainty when legitimately defending themselves from violent intruders.

Several urban and suburban regions, including York and Peel, have experienced a documented rise in violent home invasions and have established dedicated task forces to address this trend. In contrast, rural communities lack reliable statistics because "home invasion" is not recognized as a distinct offence under the national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system. As a result, these incidents are recorded under broader categories such as break-and-enter or assault, making it difficult to assess the true scale of the problem outside major urban centres.

Rural residents face additional vulnerabilities due to limited policing resources and significantly longer emergency response times, which can leave homeowners without immediate protection during life-threatening situations. These conditions highlight the need for clearer legal protections for homeowners, improved crime-tracking practices, and decisive action from both provincial and federal governments to enhance public safety.

Resolution: Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario

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