February 7, 2017

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, and The Honourable Charles Sousa,
Premier of Ontario Minister of Finance
Legislative Building 7 Queen’s Park Crescent
Queen’s Park 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

Re: Carbon Tax Credits for Municipalities

Dear Honourable Premier and Minister:

Please be advised that, at its meeting held on February 1, 2017, the Neebing Municipal Council passed the following resolution for your consideration:

Res. No. 2017-01-027

Moved by: Councillor Butikofer
Seconded by: Councillor Shott

WHEREAS there are Provincial programs, including the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program, and Provincial legislation which exempts some privately owned land parcels from all or some of the otherwise applicable municipal property taxes;

AND WHEREAS Ontario’s municipalities bear the costs of these programs by having to provide services to these lands without receiving any revenue to defray the costs of those services;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is in the process of implementing a system of carbon taxes and carbon tax credits;

AND WHEREAS certain lands, such as vacant forested or cleared lands, may be eligible for carbon tax credits;

AND WHEREAS the benefit of a carbon tax credit may, at no expense to the Province, defray some or all of the costs to Ontario’s municipalities for servicing tax exempt land;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Corporation of the Municipality of Neebing respectfully requests the Premier, the Minister of Finance and the Legislature, when considering the policies associated with carbon taxes and carbon tax credits, to accrue any carbon tax credits applicable to tax-exempt private properties within Ontario municipalities, to the Municipality in which the land is situate, rather than to the property owner;

AND THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier, the Minister of Finance, AMO, NOMA, the Thunder Bay District Municipal League; and all Ontario Municipalities for consideration and support.

Neebing Council respectfully requests a formal, written response.

All of the above is respectfully submitted.

Yours truly,

Rosalie A. Evans
Solicitor-Clerk

cc. Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Attention: Pat Vanini, Executive Director
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, ON M5H 3C6

Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association
Attention: Kristen Oliver
P.O. Box 10308
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T8

Thunder Bay District Municipal League
c/o Beth Stewart
R.R.#1
Kakabeka Falls, Ontario
P0T 1W0

All Ontario Municipalities (by email only)