A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO DECLARE A MORATORIUM ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL WIND TURBINES (IWT's) UNTIL SCIENCE-BASED AND PEER REVIEWED REGULATIONS THAT ENSURE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELL-BEING HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED AND THAT THE PROVINCE RESTORE LOCAL PLANNING POWERS TO THE MUNICIPALITY REGARDING RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

WHEREAS there is a need to lessen our use and dependency on fossil fuels and increase our sustainability through responsible development of renewable energy resources and conservation;

AND WHEREAS the ruling by Ontario's Environmental Review Tribunal (July 18, 2011) regarding the Chatham-Kent Breeze industrial wind development owned by Suncor Energy stated that evidence showed with respect to human health, there are some risks and uncertainties associated with wind turbines that merit further research;

AND WHEREAS a report published by the Australian Senate Committee (The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms, 2011-06) recommended that the Commonwealth Government initiate as a matter of priority thorough, adequately resourced epidemiological and laboratory studies of the possible effects of wind farms on human health;

AND WHEREAS the *precautionary principle* (which the 2008 Ontario Ministry of the Environment Statement of Environmental Values requires to be part in its decision making to protect human health and the environment) states if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm, then in the absence of scientific consensus that the action or policy is harmful, the burden of proof that it is not harmful falls on those taking the action;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's regulations do not cite any scientific proof that 40 db(A) hourly-average value used as a basis for setbacks in rural areas is sufficient to guarantee the health and well- being of the people in the proximity to these facilities and give no consideration to the Low Frequency component of the noise emissions;

AND WHEREAS more than 70 municipalities throughout Ontario have passed resolutions, motions and bylaws expressing concerns with the Green Energy Act (2009);

AND WHEREAS The Green Energy Act (2009) has excluded municipalities from acting in any direct way to address concerns relating to public interests in comprehensive municipal planning, public health, infrastructure expansion and environmental assessment and thereby limits the ability to manage the impacts of industrial wind power projects directly within the community;

AND WHEREAS Lambton Shores residents have voiced concerns about the density of the IWT's proposed in Lambton Shores;

AND WHEREAS Lambton Shores residents have told councilors that they do not believe that Ontario's regulations are sufficient to protect their health and well-being or to prevent the devaluation of their properties;

AND WHEREAS any property devaluation will have a undesirable effect on the tax base and hence on Lambton Shores' sustainability;

AND WHEREAS there is now supportable evidence that Ontario does not have the most stringent IWT standards in North America as proclaimed by the Ontario Ministry of Environment;

AND WHEREAS the numerous IWT projects proposed for Lambton Shores are bordered by Lake Huron to the west and the Ausable River to the east. Included in this area are numerous conservation areas, two Important Bird Areas (the Thedford Flats and the Port Franks Forested Dunes); and the Pinery Provincial Park consisting of 2,532 ha (6,330 acres);

AND WHEREAS the Pinery Provincial Park, the largest protected forest in southwestern Ontario, is home to over 325 bird and 60 butterfly species, and supplies habitat for many endangered species. The Thedford Flats is an internationally recognized staging area for tundra swans. The Port Franks Forested Dunes, located on the Mississippi Flyway, acts as an important migratory route for many bird species, including several threatened and endangered species; and there is growing concern for the long term effects that IWT'S may have on these species;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Lambton Shores requests that the Province of Ontario declare a moratorium on all current and future projects for on-shore and off-shore development of wind-energy facilities until it has commissioned properly-designed independent third-party scientific research into the long-term effects, released the findings for public comment, and has incorporated those comments to enact science-based maximums for wind-facility emissions, and for electrical emission from all related electrical facilities, and can therefore guarantee to Council's satisfaction that the health and well-being of the Municipality's human and animal populations are protected from the direct and indirect negative effects of being in proximity to those IWT facilities.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the municipality of Lambton Shores requests local authority to be restored to pre GEA levels to allow the local government to mitigate impacts of renewable energy projects within the community.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to –

Premier of Ontario
Ontario Minister of Health
Ontario Minister of Environment
Ontario Minister of Energy
Ontario Minister of Natural Resources
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Lambton County Council
MPP Maria Van Bommel
MP Bev Shipley
Lambton County Federation of Agriculture
And the local media