

June 6, 2022

Mayor and Council 318 Canborough St. Smithville ON LOR 2A0

Dear Mayor Bylsma and Members of Council,

I write to you as President of the Ontario Municipal Administrators' Association (OMAA) to offer on behalf of our members, congratulations to your Chief Administrative Officer, Bev Hendry, on her recent recognition at an OMAA Awards Event held on May 19, 2022.

Our Association has been in existence for over 60 years as an organization devoted exclusively to supporting the municipal Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) in Ontario. Collectively OMAA strives to enhance good governance by promoting leadership excellence and professional management in local government administration for municipalities throughout the province.

It is a pleasure to advise that your Chief Administrative Officer Bev Hendry was given special recognition by her colleagues on May 19. Each year we invite members to nominate their peers to acknowledge the efforts and accomplishments of individual Ontario CAOs.

Bev was nominated for this recognition by her CAO colleagues at The Township of Wainfleet and the Town of Pelham with the following explanation;

"Ms. Hendry has provided exemplary leadership to the Township of West Lincoln, with particular emphasis upon staff safety and morale throughout the Covid crisis. The community she serves came to both provincial and national prominence as an anti-vaccination, anti-mask mandate and pro-freedom convoy hot spot. The extremely strong emotions on both sides of the public divide required a calm, reasonable and empathetic municipal leader to steer a course that respected both sincerely held beliefs and kept staff and residents healthy and safe. The pressures placed on Ms. Hendry were severe and relentless; criticism harsh and unfair. Throughout this ordeal, Ms. Hendry has conducted herself with great dignity and her actions and comportment should be a model for all CAOs who are experiencing trying times."

OMAA is pleased to celebrate the achievement of your CAO and we thank you for the support provided by Council for your Chief Administrative Officer and the commitment to excellence in local administration and governance. Together we are all working towards superior local government in Ontario.

Sincerely,

David Calder OMAA President Chief Administrative Officer, City of Cambridge