

Dear Colleagues,

Recently we had the opportunity to speak with Zorra Mayor Marcus Ryan and Thames-Centre Deputy-Mayor Kelly Elliott regarding concerns around school site planning, closures, and redevelopment, as part of a larger effort happening in our smaller neighbouring centres.

As a result, we see an opportunity for London to be a good partner with our neighbours while also bringing forward concerns that are also relevant to large urban centres. As recently as May 25th, 2021 the issue of school block planning and student accommodation was raised at council in relation to an item coming forward from a Planning and Environment Committee item on a development proposal.

Therefore, as a step toward better information sharing and planning for all affected parties, we are requesting your support for the following:

That Council in principle resolves the following actions be taken;

- 1. Include in the City's Strategic plan a school retention, shared use partnerships, and land repurposing policy and advocate accordingly;*
- 2. Maintain ongoing membership in the Community Schools Alliance (CSA);*
- 3. Support, through resolution, the CSA's endorsement of the Rural and Northern Education Fund (RNEF) as an appropriate differentiator and funding model for rural and northern schools, recognizing the importance of this for our regional partner municipalities;*
- 4. Recommend that the TVDSB and LCDSB review their policies for capacity planning and pupil accommodation reviews to formally recognize the importance and value to our neighbouring communities of rural and single school community schools;*
- 5. Request communication and notification on an ongoing basis of all relevant School Boards of any areas of study considering possible consolidation, closure, additions, or new builds within the City of London;*
- 6. Request annual planning reports from all relevant School Boards for all City of London schools and compare municipal growth forecasts and school board(s) growth forecasts identifying discrepancies, particularly in relation to municipal infill and neighbourhood revitalization targets.*

Sincerely,



Shawn Lewis, Councillor
Ward 2



Phil Squire, Councillor
Ward 6