

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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et du Logement**

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234-2024-2020

April 29, 2024

Township of Black River Matheson

And

Doug Bender, mayor@twpbrm.ca
Chantal Rondeau, ward1@twpbrm.ca
Keith Neal, ward2@twpbrm.ca
Dave Dymont, ward3@twpbrm.ca
Allana Schmidt, ward4@twpbrm.ca
Louise Gadoury, ward5@twpbrm.ca
Steven Campsall, ward6@twpbrm.ca

As was communicated to the Mayor and Council in my letter dated April 9, 2024, if council failed to hold a meeting and obtain quorum by April 26, 2024, I would exercise my authority under section 266(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* to declare all of the offices of the members of council to be vacant and to require a by-election be held to fill those seats in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

I am writing because the council of the Township of Black River-Matheson has been unable to meet due to the failure to obtain a quorum commencing on February 27, 2024, a period of over 60 days. It is the job of municipally elected councillors to ensure the continued provision of services for residents. This includes attending council meetings and filling council vacancies as soon as possible. The absence of meetings impedes decision-making and negatively affects local residents.

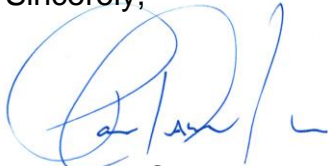
This letter notifies you that I have made the attached order using my authority under section 266 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, which declares all the offices of the members of the council to be vacant and requires a by-election be held in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

Kathy Horgan, Manager of Local Government and Housing for the Ministry's Northern Regional Office, has been appointed on an interim basis to exercise the duties and obligations of council.

I intend to make a subsequent appointment of an individual who will exercise the duties and obligations of council. An appointee will be in place until the by-election is complete, and a new council is in place. The appointee will exercise the duties and obligations of council in an accountable and transparent manner.

If you have questions about the order, please contact Bridget Schulte-Hostedde, Regional Director, Municipal Services Office- North at bridget.schulte-hostedde@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Calandra', written over a circular stamp or watermark.

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

cc: Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
John Vanthof, MPP Timiskaming-Cochrane
Chris Wray, CAO, Township of Black River-Matheson, cwray@twpbrm.ca
Cassandra Child, Clerk/Treasurer, Township of Black River-Matheson,
cchild@twpbrm.ca