**Katja Awender**

**From:** John Mascarin <jmascarin@airdberlis.com>
**Sent:** October 15, 2025 2:14 PM
**To:** Jennifer Marshall; Renee Ainsworth
**Subject:** RE: Closed Session Meeting - Opinion: Strong Mayor Powers re Barrie Annexation Proposal

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Jennifer and Renee,

I have now had an opportunity to review both the Goodmans and Faskens communications.

Both letters essentially support the legal opinion that we have provided, albeit in a more succinct manner.

Both letters express that the Davies Howe communication places too narrow an interpretation and application of the statute and regulation, and both note the specific wording of the provincial priority powers in s. 284.11.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 which refers to something that "**could potentially** advance" a prescribed provincial priority.

John

**John Mascarin**
**Partner Certified Specialist (Municipal Law: Local Government & Land Use Planning and Development)**

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**Aird & Berlis LLP** | Lawyers
Toronto | Vancouver

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**From:** Jennifer Marshall <jennifer.marshall@springwater.ca>
**Sent:** October 15, 2025 1:25 PM
**To:** John Mascarin <jmascarin@airdberlis.com>; Renee Ainsworth <Renee.Ainsworth@springwater.ca>
**Subject:** RE: Closed Session Meeting - Opinion: Strong Mayor Powers re Barrie Annexation Proposal

Hi John,

We have received two more unsolicited legal opinions on the topic in the last day. They have been added to our Regular Meeting agenda (open session) for information which I have linked below. We don't expect you to weigh in on these but thought you may be interested in reading them as a just in case Council references them tonight.

**Correspondence from Goodmans LLP dated October 14, 2025 re: City of Barrie and Township of Springwater – Proposed Boundary Adjustment Potential Use of Strong Mayor Powers**

**Correspondence from Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP dated October 14, 2025 re: Barrie Boundary Adjustment Proposal and Strong Mayor Powers**

Regards,

Jennifer Marshall, AMP (She/Her)
Clerk
Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON L9X 1A8
P. 705-728-4784 Ext. 2042

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**From:** John Mascarin <jmascarin@airdberlis.com>
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2025 12:45 PM
**To:** Renee Ainsworth <Renee.Ainsworth@springwater.ca>
**Cc:** Jennifer Marshall <jennifer.marshall@springwater.ca>
**Subject:** RE: Closed Session Meeting - Opinion: Strong Mayor Powers re Barrie Annexation Proposal

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Renee,

Please find attached my opinion on the above-noted matter as requested.

I confirm that I will be in attendance at 5:30 p.m. today for the closed session discussion with Council.

John

**John Mascarin**

**Partner Certified Specialist (Municipal Law: Local Government & Land Use Planning and Development)**

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**From:** Renee Ainsworth <Renee.Ainsworth@springwater.ca>
**Sent:** October 14, 2025 4:20 PM
**To:** John Mascarin <jmascarin@airdberlis.com>
**Cc:** Jennifer Marshall <jennifer.marshall@springwater.ca>
**Subject:** Closed Session Meeting

Hi John,

I am confirming that your presentation of the legal opinion during tomorrows closed session will be at 5:30pm. Mr. Annibale will be presenting at 5, so in case we go over time, myself of Jenn will email you to let you know when to join the meeting. Jennifer will send over the connection details tomorrow morning.

Thank you,

Renée Ainsworth, Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director
of Corporate Services
Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON L9X 1A8
P. 705-728-4784 Ext. 2026
F. 705-728-6957

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