WHEREAS Home Care Service is an essential service in rural Ontario in assisting in the well-being of seniors and individuals with physical and mental disabilities;

AND WHEREAS Roy Romanow, Head of the Royal Commission of the Future of Health Care in Canada in 2002 dubbed Home Care Services "the next essential service";

AND WHEREAS Home Care Service responds to the needs of the patients and assists children, parents, spouses and siblings and the broader community by supporting quality of life and ensuring quality health care so that citizens can continue to participate in and contribute to the economic and social life of their community;

AND WHEREAS the Personal Support Workers that provide the home care service create a climate that promotes the optimal physical, social and emotional well being of their clients;

AND WHEREAS the need for Home Care Service in Renfrew County is so great that the Personal Support Workers that provide this essential service are overburdened with the amount of clients that they are only able to provide 2 hour visits to their clients;

AND WHEREAS Home Care Service clients require a minimum of 4 hours of attention per visit;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley is seeking support from all municipalities and request that they forward a resolution of support to their local MP, Premier Dalton McGuinty, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and the County of Renfrew to ensure an increase in funding for additional Personal Support Workers to be hired to relieve the stresses related to a shortage of staff;

AND FURTHER THAT Personal Support Workers providing Home Care Service be required to provide a minimum of 4 hours of service per client visit which, not only benefits the client, but also allows the primary caregivers the opportunity to maintain a level of normalcy in their daily lives.

CARRIED.

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