

AMAZON'S SECOND HEADQUARTERS

Mover: Matthew Shoemaker

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WHEREAS Amazon is looking to establish a second headquarters in North America and has put out a Request for Proposals for interest parties to consider; and

WHEREAS Amazon has listed the following criteria as some of the ideal criteria for the development of their second headquarters:

- Proximity to population centres
- Proximity to international airport
- Proximity to major highways
- Access to mass transit
- Up to 100+ acres of greenfields
- Access to labour
- Quality of Life; and

WHEREAS Sault Ste. Marie is within a 1-hour flight of international airports in both Toronto and Detroit; and

WHEREAS Sault Ste. Marie is also within a 1-hour flight of large population centres such as Toronto and Detroit; and

WHEREAS Sault Ste. Marie has easy access to both the Canadian and American markets through its proximity to both the Trans-Canada Highway and the US Interstate system, specifically, I-75 which runs along the entire length of the continental United States, as well as access to the entire North-East and Mid-West markets through Great Lakes shipping, and access to both the Canadian and US rail systems; and

WHEREAS public transit is readily available or could be made readily available for any location in Sault Ste. Marie; and

WHEREAS Sault Ste. Marie has many options for potential sites that could house a 500,000 square foot building; and

WHEREAS, working with Sault College, Algoma University and Lake Superior State University, the labour market for the required work force could be ready for whatever Amazon's needs were; and

WHEREAS, the quality of life in Sault Ste. Marie is second-to-none, including access to recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, boating, camping, skiing, cross-border shopping, easy access to any destination in the world through the Sault Ste. Marie Airport and the Chippewa County Airport; and

WHEREAS the City of Sault Ste. Marie has not faced the severe weather and unpredictability faced elsewhere by communities along the Atlantic Ocean coast or the Gulf of Mexico coast;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff, in conjunction with the Economic Development Corporation, review Amazon's Request for Proposal documents for a second headquarters and submit a proposal to Amazon for Sault Ste. Marie to be the host city for their project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, should staff consider it appropriate, that Sault Ste. Marie Ontario and Sault Ste. Marie Michigan consider making a joint-bid to be sister-hosts for Amazon's second headquarters.