

THAT Council endorse and pass the following proclamation, as amended;

WHEREAS, outdoor lighting is needed for a variety of purposes to the benefit of our community including: enabling people to undertake work or recreational activities at night; facilitating the safety and security of persons and property; emphasizing features of architectural or historical significance; and advertising and promoting locations, products and services or calling attention to commercial premises by way of area lighting or signs; and

WHEREAS, dark sky compliant outdoor lighting practices will preserve, protect and enhance our community's use and enjoyment of the natural environment of the night by: eliminating hazardous and annoying glare from poorly designed light fixtures; reducing light trespass by installing light fixtures in locations that prevent light from unnecessarily falling outside the boundaries of the property on which a light fixture is installed; and minimizing light pollution from unnecessary and inappropriate use of lighting fixtures which result in the degradation of the night-time environment; and

WHEREAS, dark sky compliant outdoor lighting practices will conserve energy and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Bruce Peninsula is a unique location in North America where people can still experience the wonders and benefits of the dark night sky and preserving this will ensure the quality of life, good health, safety and economic well-being of its residents and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Bruce Peninsula is increasingly becoming a popular "Natural Retreat Destination" for tourism and is already designated by UNESCO as a "World Biosphere Reserve" and protecting and encouraging the appreciation of the dark night sky is in keeping with the spirit of these initiatives; and

WHEREAS, proclaiming the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula a "Dark Sky Community" will protect our night-time environment and promote our community identity; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality is prepared to lead by example and is committed to improving where necessary, by retrofitting or replacement, all municipal lighting to ensure dark sky compliance; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality shall, through the review of future exterior lighting within Site Plans and Subdivision Agreements and by

the education of all property owners to the benefits, encourage the use of dark sky compliant practices for exterior lighting;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula hereby proclaims this Municipality as being a "Dark Sky Community"; and

THAT this Municipality formally request that the County of Bruce include a dark sky policy within their Official Plan to ensure compliance by all future developments and also encourage all other Bruce County municipalities to consider adopting similar proclamations; and

THAT this proclamation be forwarded to the Provincial and Federal Governments and UNESCO for their information and future support and recognition of this position.