

**Melinda Reith - Head, Clara, Maria**

From: "Noella Lebreton" <treasurer@xplor.net.com>
Date: February-20-13 8:49 AM
To: "HCM" <twpshcm@xplor.net.com>
Subject: Fw: AMO Breaking News: Speech From the Throne Emphasizes Action
From: communicate@amo.on.ca
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 6:45 PM
To: treasurer@xplor.net.com
Subject: AMO Breaking News: Speech From the Throne Emphasizes Action

TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE CLERK AND COUNCIL

February 19, 2013

BREAKING NEWS**Speech from the Throne Emphasizes Action on Economic Growth, Infrastructure,
Employment and Arbitration**

The Ontario Legislative Assembly opened its new session today with Lieutenant Governor David Onley delivering Premier Kathleen Wynne's government's first Throne Speech. The Speech from the Throne was wide-ranging in its subject matter and showed the government's willingness to find common ground with the Opposition parties to reflect the priorities of Ontarians.

Municipal governments will find the following items of particular interest.

Interest Arbitration: The government pledged "to build a sustainable model of wage negotiation that is respectful of both collective bargaining and a fair, transparent process for interest arbitration in Ontario." This is potentially positive news for municipal governments as AMO on behalf of its members and the Emergency Services Steering Committee has released last week a checklist for an accountable and transparent interest arbitration system that takes the fiscal and economic circumstances of a municipality as priority in looking at a total award. AMO took advantage of being at the House to press for early meetings to further advance the Board's work on this important matter.

Infrastructure: The Throne Speech noted the need for infrastructure investments as a foundation for economic productivity and quality of life. The government commits to addressing the need for improvements to rural roads and bridges, suburban transit and the solutions to gridlock in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Areas. To do so, the government wants to engage in a conversation with the people of Ontario, municipalities and the federal government to discuss the costs and funding options and supports for this infrastructure. AMO has noted the need for investments in municipal infrastructure, including roads and bridges, for some time. AMO has repeatedly called for increased, predictable investment in municipal infrastructure, and particularly roads and bridges, to ensure residents of our communities are able to participate in the modern economy.

The Speech also committed to ensuring that local communities will be engaged from the beginning in the location decisions of facilities such as energy plants, casinos and quarries to ensure the concerns of residents are addressed and communities are willing recipients. There were no specifics on how this might occur but AMO is anxious to begin discussions on what roles and responsibilities could look like.

The government will also take action to invest in trade corridors and build trading networks; ensure reliable, affordable energy across Ontario; and invest in access to the Ring of Fire.

Fair Society: The government intends to act on social assistance transformation, following the recommendations of The Commission on Social Assistance Reform to help the unemployed find a job and allowing social assistance recipients to keep more of their earnings in an effort to ensure their participation in the workforce. The government also proposes to work with private sector employers to increase participation of Ontarians with disabilities in the workforce.

The government also pledged to increase support for home care, expansion of mental health services and to create a seniors strategy to promote coordination of services and care providers including long term care homes.

Other Matters:

The government also pledged fiscal action to return the Province's debt-to-GDP ratio to pre-recession levels, restraining spending increases to below 1 per cent until the deficit is eliminated in 2017-18. AMO will be looking for the continued commitment to the upload agreement's phase-in and its timeline without change in the upcoming budget.

Summary: The Throne Speech provided a number of positive signals for change and we want to provide practical advice on how they can be achieved. AMO will keep members informed on initiatives related to the Throne Speech. In addition, AMO will be participating in upcoming pre-budget consultations and will share information with members on this too. The details of the government's fiscal priorities will become known in the Ontario Budget, expected in April.

Contact: Craig Reid, AMO Senior Advisor, creid@amo.on.ca , 416-971-9856 ext. 334.

PLEASE NOTE AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

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500,000 Canadians miss work each day because of a mental health issue.



VALLEY EFAP
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Doing Things A Little Differently How a manufacturer and a municipality start 2013

By: Jennifer Layman
 Jenn@ovbusiness.com

The lead story for this issue is actually a combination of two stories. The first, is about a business that is looking for innovative ways to increase their business, while offering others the chance to work with a world-class organization.

The second story is about the smallest, least wealthy municipality in Renfrew County, who has no debt has decided to reduce taxes to their residents by 4.22% this year. It makes you wonder that if they can do it, there isn't much excuse for the rest of us.

KI Is More Than Office Furniture

KI in Pembroke is an award-winning manufacturer of sheet metal products. They are most notably known for office equipment, filing storage and desk systems. What they also

do may surprise you. The company has opportunities for partners on sheet metal projects. What that

supported. KI has a 200-person workforce that works with brake press, on-site engineering, powder coat

Greg Wallace at: 613-735-5566. More on the company is available at www.ki.com

Head Clara Maria Has No Debt

The municipality of Head, Clara & Maria has no debt and reserves of \$926,742 at year end 2012.

For 2013 Council passed a budget that would reduce the municipal portion of taxes based on 2012 data. They decided to decrease the residential portion of municipal taxes owing per \$100,000 of assessed value by \$11.56 or 4.22%.

CAO Melinda Reith explains that "the municipality is in this position due to a conscious effort to plan for the future needs of the municipality by allocating small amounts to various reserves to avoid a large increase in taxes in any given year."

If you can dream it out of metal, we can probably make it.

DAN MELLEN, GENERAL MANAGER OF KI PEMBROKE

means is if you need something manufactured from sheet metal, you could work with KI on that project. That aspect of their business is something they are promoting more often. The ability to work on additional projects mean that the 30 employees currently laid off might not have to be if the plant is busy enough.

"If you can dream it out of metal, we can probably make it," says General Manager Dan Mellen. "I believe there are opportunities out there."

Mellen's confidence is well

painting, turret punches and brakes, welding, assembly and more. They produce sheet metal products that are shipped internationally. They have a 180,000 square foot facility in Pembroke where they do the full process from raw materials to the finished product. They are the seventh largest furniture manufacturer in North America and compete with companies like Herman Miller, Hayworth and Hon. 90% of their products are exported.

If you have inquiries for KI, please contact Dan Mellen or

Eastern Ontario Development Program

Application Deadline: Thursday, March 1, 2013 at 4:00pm

Guidelines and applications are available online at: www.rccfdc.org. Applications may be submitted early.

For more information on this program, contact David Wybou at: 613-735-3951 ext.229.



Canada



Community Futures
 Development Corporation
 Renfrew County

2 International Drive, Pembroke | www.rccfdc.org | Ph: 613-735-3951 ext.229 | dwybou@bellnet.ca

Why Taxes Were Lowered in HCM

Reader request forwarded to municipality

In our last issue of Ottawa Valley Business, we noted that Head, Clara and Maria Township was reducing taxes this year. A reader requested that we follow up on that, so we asked CAO Melinda Reith to explain:

"Head, Clara and Maria (HCM) is a typical rural Ontario municipality in that we have a large sparsely populated area. Unique to "southern" Ontario however is the percentage of Crown land (90.52%) and the TransCanada Pipeline in our municipality that contributes substantially to our tax revenue. HCM has few "soft services" such as

recreational programs and youth services as our population, being substantially comprised of retirees, does not warrant that kind of service.

Head, Clara & Maria has the lowest taxes in the County and likely the fewest services for its ratepayers. Major costs are roads, disposal sites and administration. We do not have a fire department and we rely on the OPP for police services.

A number of years ago, Council decided to be proactive and increase taxes by small increments building up reserves to plan for eventual asset replacement and

to avoid huge increases in any given year. Council has made a conscious decision to avoid incurring debt. With limited capital expenditures, and consistent success in grant applications for major projects, it did not take long to have major capital assets repaired to an acceptable level with a long term plan in place for asset management.

Now, as assessed values along the Ottawa River and payments in lieu of taxes increase, and as reserves reach targeted goals Council is in a position to lower taxes, albeit marginally."

a matter of fact

Do Not Call

11,273,373

The number of telephone or fax numbers registered on the National Do Not Call List.

656,777

The number of complaints about telemarketing communications per month.

112

The number of active investigations, stemming from complaints, that took place in January 2013.

196

The number of citations issued to telemarketers in January 2013.

0

The cost to a consumer to sign-up on the Do Not Call List.

24

The time (hours) it takes for a phone number to be added to the Do Not Call List.

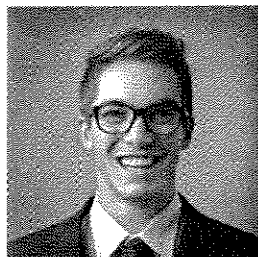
31

The number of days that telemarketers have to update their information so they don't contact someone who is registered with the Do Not Call List.

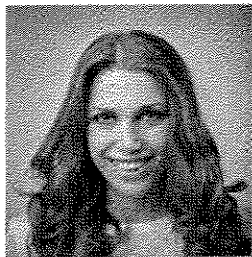
5

The length of time (years) that the registration of your phone or fax number is valid with the Do Not Call List before you need to re-register with them.

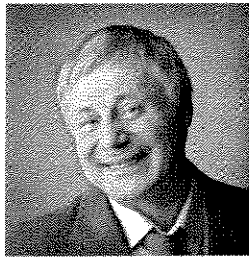
Source: CRTC



Is addicted to prescription drugs.



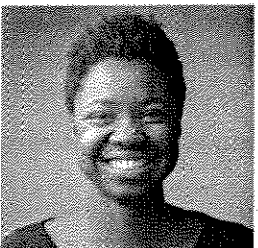
Doesn't know how she will pay student loans.



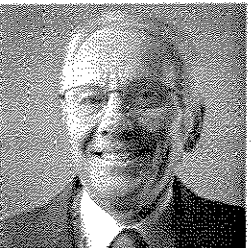
Still grieves the loss of his wife.



Her best friend is in an abusive relationship.



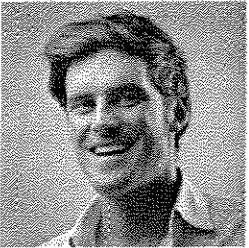
Is struggling to fit in with her new job.



Doesn't have enough savings to retire.



Her teenage daughter is pregnant.

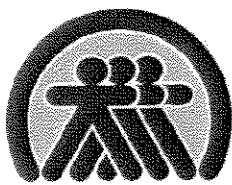


Has limited self-esteem from being bullied

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Valley Employee & Family Assistance Program
www.valleyefap.com | info@valleyefap.com
Phone: 613-732-2116 or 800-661-0340



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