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# Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association

RECEIVED  
JUN 29 2015

June 10, 2015

Members of Council,

This correspondence has been prepared in response to enduring communication matters pertaining to lower tier municipal fire protection service providers within Renfrew County. The correspondence provided is sent as a collective declaration on behalf of municipal fire chief's, who are responsible to the council of the municipality that appointed him or her.

In emergency services, a communications system directly impacts on the ability of a fire department to provide effective fire protection services to the municipality. Effective communications contribute to a safer working environment for emergency responders and contribute to the timely response to the public; in addition to reducing intervention time thereby reducing injuries, loss of life and property due to fires and other emergencies.

Current fire communications services are provided by the Renfrew Central Ambulance Communications Centre by means of contract between the County of Renfrew and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The communications infrastructure (hardware) is provided and managed by the County of Renfrew Public Works & Engineering department while the contract is administered by the Director of Emergency Services.

In 1997, Renfrew County was provided with a 9-1-1 emergency call service for those requiring Police, Fire or Ambulance services. All call taking, paging and dispatching for municipal fire services was modified to be provided by a single communications agency. The County of Renfrew has been responsible for the communications service contract (with MOHLTC); owns the communications infrastructure; and manages the maintenance of the communications equipment. Lower tier municipalities are invoiced by the County of Renfrew for each fire call/dispatching service as well as an administration fee equally shared by all municipalities.

The Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' have identified concerns with the current communications infrastructure and are apprehensive with the effectiveness of the communications system and potential impacts to worker and public safety, inserting significant liability onto municipalities. Some infrastructure concerns include: lacking redundancy (a single failure resulting in loss of emergency communications); age of infrastructure; deficient interoperability (mutual aid incidents); inability to provide information and data digitally during emergencies; poor reception/dead zones; and walk over situations by fire departments during simultaneous incidents. In addition to the county owned and managed communications infrastructure, individual municipal fire departments maintain tactical communication equipment owned and managed by each

Fire Chief Guy Longtin, Chair  
613-432-2811  
613-432-0703 (fax)  
glongtin@town.renfrew.on.ca

c/o Renfrew Fire Department  
127 Raglan Street South  
Renfrew, Ontario K7V 1P8

respective municipality which are currently compatible with the County of Renfrew communications system.

In November 2004, a presentation was made to the County of Renfrew Health Committee where many of the communications challenges were identified at that time.

In 2013 at the request of Michael Nolan, Director of Emergency Services for the County of Renfrew, Murphy & Associates Emergency Management Consulting undertook an analysis of the currently contracted and deployed Emergency Communications systems and calls for service, specifically for the Fire Departments who serve the public in The County of Renfrew.

A summary of conclusions and recommendations from the Murphy document stated *"There is factual and evidential information both historically and currently that identified the Radio System Infrastructure as the most prominent and imminent risk for a catastrophic single point of failure for Fire and Emergency Services in the County of Renfrew."*

To the best of our knowledge this "Communication Services and Recommendations of Operational Improvements" Document # 14-001 (January 2014) was never presented to Renfrew County Council.

As a comparison, other eastern Ontario counties have advanced fire service communications for lower tier municipalities including the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville and Lanark County. The United Counties of Leeds & Grenville communications infrastructure incorporated a digital simulcast and paging system that was instated in early 2014. The Lanark County infrastructure included an analogue simulcast repeater system that was completed and operational in 2010.

Municipalities considering communications improvements to their own tactical communication equipment should consider that not all equipment is compatible. There are voice and data platforms which may limit compatibility especially if there are proprietary features. Future upgrades to communications infrastructure should be coordinated county wide to ensure complete interoperability by all.


In conclusion, it is the collective opinion of the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs that:

- a) Municipal Fire Departments in Renfrew County currently operate radio equipment that is compatible with the current communication service delivered by the MOHLTC and the County of Renfrew.
- b) That issues in regards to redundancy, interoperability and preventative maintenance need to be addressed immediately.
- c) Current expenditures by municipalities for radio equipment for Fire Departments must be compatible with any consideration of a new system to be implemented by the County.

- d) That the County of Renfrew and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care assume any liability for failure of the existing radio communication system from the Central Ambulance Communication Centre to the municipal Fire Department.

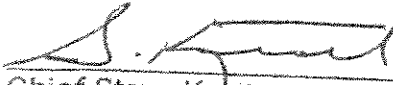
We stress the importance of having resilient communications infrastructure for the effectiveness of notification, response and operations involving emergency situations within the county. The identified communication matters have been long outstanding, leaving undue risk and liability to municipalities.

Sincerely,



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Chief Guy Longtin  
Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association, Chairperson



---

Chief Steve Knott  
Communications Committee, Chairperson



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Chief Dan Herback  
Renfrew County Mutual Aid Coordinator

- c.  
CAO's, Mayors & Reeves & Fire Chiefs.  
Val Anderson at Renfrew CACC,  
M. Nolan, S Boland, J Hutton at County of Renfrew



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**Certified Resolution**  
**Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association – Communication Matters**

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Arnprior has reviewed the attached letter from the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs Association expressing concerns regarding emergency communication services, and

WHEREAS fire communications services within the County of Renfrew are provided by the Renfrew Central Ambulance Communications Centre by means of a contract between the County of Renfrew and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, and

WHEREAS in 2013 an independent expert concluded that "there is factual and evidential information both historically and currently that identified the Radio System Infrastructure as the most prominent and imminent risk for a catastrophic single point of failure for Fire and Emergency Services in the County of Renfrew", and

WHEREAS other eastern Ontario counties have taken steps to improve emergency communications services for lower tier municipalities including the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville and Lanark County, and

WHEREAS lower tier municipalities are invoiced by the County of Renfrew for each fire call/dispatching service as well as an administration fee equally shared by all municipalities.

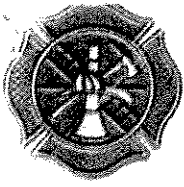
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Arnprior hereby requests that the County of Renfrew, acting as the lead on behalf of all impacted lower tier county municipalities, take all necessary steps to implement immediate changes in order to bring emergency communications services to a state of the art system in a similar manner as taken by other eastern Ontario counties, and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to Renfrew County Council and its CAO, as well as all Renfrew County lower tier Councils, CAOs, Clerks and Fire Chiefs.

This is to certify that the above is a true copy of Resolution Number 200-15 passed by unanimous consent at a duly called meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015. Given under the hand of the Deputy Clerk and under the corporate seal of the said Municipality this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

  
Michael Wildman, Deputy Clerk/CAO

WHERE THE RIVERS MEET



# Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association

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June 10, 2015

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Sincerely,



Chief Guy Longtin  
Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association, Chairperson

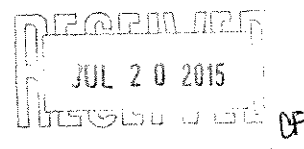
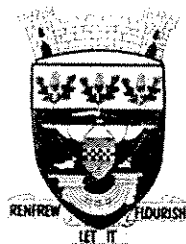


Chief Steve Knott  
Communications Committee, Chairperson



Chief Dan Herback  
Renfrew County Mutual Aid Coordinator

- c.  
CAO's, Mayors & Reeves & Fire Chiefs.  
Val Anderson at Renfrew CACC,  
M. Nolan, S Boland, J Hutton at County of Renfrew



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RENFREW**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - 7 - 2A**

Moved By: Councillor Windle

Seconded By: Councillor Sidney

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Town of Renfrew has reviewed the attached letter from the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs Association expressing concerns regarding emergency communication services; and

**WHEREAS** fire communications services within the County of Renfrew are provided by the Renfrew Central Ambulance Communications Centre by means of a contract between the County of Renfrew and the Ministry of Health and long Term Care; and

**WHEREAS** in 2013 an independent expert concluded that "there is factual and evidential information both historically and currently that identified the Radio System Infrastructure as the most prominent and imminent risk for a catastrophic single point of failure for Fire and Emergency Services in the County of Renfrew"; and

**WHEREAS** other eastern Ontario counties have taken steps to improve emergency communications services for lower tier municipalities including the United Counties of Leeds & Grenville and Lanark County; and

**WHEREAS** lower tier municipalities are invoiced by the County of Renfrew for each fire call/dispatching service as well as an administration fee equally shared by all municipalities.

**THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Renfrew hereby requests that the County of Renfrew, acting as the lead on behalf of all impacted lower tier county municipalities, take all necessary steps to implement immediate changes in order to bring emergency communications services to a state of the art system in a similar manner as taken by other eastern Ontario counties; and

**THAT** this resolution be forwarded to Renfrew County Council and its CAO, as well as all Renfrew County lower tier Councils, CAOs, Clerks and Fire Chiefs.

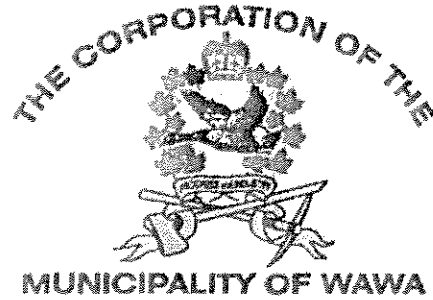
- CARRIED -

I, Jennifer Charkavi, Deputy Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Renfrew, do hereby certify this to be a true and complete copy of Resolution No. 2015 - 7 - 2A, passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Renfrew at its meeting held the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

DATED at Renfrew, Ontario  
this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July 2015.

  
Jennifer Charkavi





Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services  
 25 Grosvenor St, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Toronto, ON M7A 2H3

Attention: Mr. Oscar Mosquera – Manager, Program Development Section

August 4, 2015

Dear Mr. Mosquera:

Re: Safer Communities – 1,000 Officers Partnership (1,000 Officers) Program

We are in receipt of your letter dated July 8, 2015, addressed to Mayor Ron Rody, Chair of the Wawa Police Services Board.

On behalf of the Municipality of Wawa, I would like to express our deep dissatisfaction and concern with the subject matter of your letter and the manner in which it was done. Notwithstanding the information received from Stephanie Leonard during a telephone call on July 23, 2015, there remain a number of points for which we seek clear explanation.

1. In 2010, and after an extensive costing process, the Municipality of Wawa agreed to move from a *Section 31 (Police Services Act)* community being policed by the Wawa Police Service to a *Section 10 (Police Services Act)* community through a contract with the Ontario Provincial Police. At the time of the agreed to amalgamation, the Wawa Police Service employed ten (10) uniformed officers and in fact employed eleven (11) uniformed officers in 2009. It was the decision of the OPP and not the Municipality, to only employ seven (7) of the uniformed officers post amalgamation. The balance of the requirement was made up through the use of pre-existing officers within the Detachment.

*How can the Ministry now hold the Municipality of Wawa accountable for not meeting its obligations in the subject agreement through an action, over which Wawa had no control?*



2. During the costing process, Wawa was very adamant about seeking answers about continued participation in the 1,000 Officer Program. Council was assured that participation in this program would continue.

***Can the Ministry please provide an explanation as to this apparently inaccurate information?***

3. The receipt of your letter is only several days after the Municipality of Wawa signed a new contract that will not expire until 2020.

***While it may seem like a coincidence, can the Ministry please confirm if discussions were held with the OPP concerning the new contract prior to the issuance of the subject letter?***

4. Your letter states; "A recent review of the 1,000 Officers Program has revealed that as a result of the new Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) billing model, OPP-policed municipalities are no longer able to identify the number of sworn officers dedicated to policing their municipality". You should be aware that the issue of this program was brought up on several occasions during the billing reform consultations.

***Can the Ministry please explain why the actions contained in this letter were never revealed during the consultations on the new billing reform model?***

5. The letter further states; "as the most recent numbers available are from December 2014, the Ministry will use these going forward to determine funding to OPP policed municipalities." This sentence in the letter conflicts with the former paragraph (noted above).

***Can the Ministry please explain how the numbers could possibly be used going forward to determine funding to OPP policed municipalities when the new billing reform model cannot determine the number of officers dedicated to a given municipality?***

6. In 2011, the Province of Ontario started the implementation of the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario. One of the common principles throughout the plan is communication and consultation. While the 1,000 Officer Program may not be directly linked to the Growth Plan, the principle of consultation would certainly apply.

The Municipality of Wawa passed its 2015 Budget in May. A component of that budget was of course the revenue received from the 1,000 Officer Program. Your letter effectively removes \$52,500 (April to December) from the 2015



Budget forcing us to find those savings from another program to the detriment of our community. While the “*order of magnitude*” of this amount may not seem significant to the Ministry, you should note that it represents 1.31% of our municipal levy. This is significant for 2015 with the effect increasing to 1.75% in 2016 and beyond.

***Given the financial effect on our annual budget, can the Ministry please provide an explanation for the lack of consultation in this matter with either the Wawa Police Services Board or the Municipality of Wawa, particularly in light of the fact that the cancellation comes late in the year and after the passage of the Municipal budget?***

7. It is unfortunate that your letter of July 8, 2015 makes no reference to the Agreement executed between the Ministry and the Municipality of Wawa. To that end, we would point out that *Article 12 – Termination of Notice* states as follows:

*“The Ministry may terminate the Agreement at any time upon giving at least sixty (60) days’ Notice to the Recipient and the Board.”*

The Article goes on to describe the consequences of such a termination, the least of which is the costs for the recipient to wind-down the program. Given that the subject letter provides a retroactive cancellation that is in excess of ninety (90) days prior to the issuance of the letter, it is clear that the Ministry is in direct contravention of that Article in the Agreement.

Notwithstanding the above, I would also draw your attention to *Article 26 – Circumstances Beyond the Control of Either Party*. It is our opinion that the subject matter contained in your letter with respect to the cancellation of the program is covered by the Article in that they (the subject matter) constitute a *Force Majeure* event under Article 26(1) of the Agreement.

We note that the Agreement contains an enumerated list of what *Force Majeure* includes setting out a number of examples, but the use of the word “*includes*” generally introduces a non-exhaustive list. Any reasonable person would most certainly apply this to the interpretation of Article 26.2. Article 26.4 expressly states it is subject to Article 14.1(e) which provides that an “*Event of Default*” is a *Force Majeure* event lasting 60 days or more. We are of the opinion that a reasonable interpretation of the *purpose* of both Articles 26.4 and 14.1(e) is that the 60 day period applies only where the remedy to the *Force Majeure* lies with a *Party*. Clearly, and in this case, the *Force Majeure* “*cause and remedy*” are both entirely beyond Wawa’s control.

4...



***Will the Ministry please provide confirmation that it intends to honour the executed Agreement?***

8. Further to our previous points and to the manner in which we have now been excluded from this program , I would draw your attention to a decision by the *Supreme Court of Canada* in November 2013; *Bhasin v. Hrynew*. In that unanimous seven (7) judge decision, Justice Thomas Cromwell wrote as follows:

*"In my view, it is time to take two incremental steps in order to make the common law less unsettled and piecemeal, more coherent and more just. The first step is to acknowledge that good faith contractual performance is a general organizing principle of the common law of contract which underpins and informs the various rules in which the common law, in various situations and types of relationships, recognizes obligations of good faith contractual performance. The second is to recognize, as a further manifestation of this organizing principle of good faith, that there is a common law duty which applies to all contracts to act honestly in the performance of contractual obligations."*

***Can the Ministry please reply as to how it interprets its actions as "good faith" in this instance?***

On behalf of the Municipality of Wawa, we thank you for your consideration in this matter and anxiously look forward to your response.

Best Regards,



Chris Wray, AMCT  
CAO / Clerk-Treasurer

Cc: Mayor and Council  
Wawa Police Services Board  
Mike Mantha – MPP  
S. Leonard - MCSCS  
L. Davis – Contract Analyst, OPP  
NESMG  
ROMA  
AMO  
FONOM  
NOMA  
Ontario Municipalities  
Ontario Growth Secretariat



12

Ontario Provincial Police



Police provinciale de l'Ontario

*J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes*  
Commissioner      Le Commissaire      File #: 614-00

June 26, 2015

Mayors / Reeves  
Ontario Municipalities

Dear Mayor / Reeve

As Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), I take this opportunity to inform you that, effective June 29, 2015, Superintendent M.M. (Marc) Bedard will assume the role of Commander of the Municipal Policing Bureau (MPB).

During his 25-year career with the OPP, Superintendent Bedard has developed excellent professional skills and advanced leadership and communication abilities. In his role as Director of Provincial Communications and Applications Support, Communications and Technology Services Bureau (CTSB), he championed a number of successful initiatives, including Civilian Data Entry implementation and the Citizen Self-Reporting Project, while continuing to look for efficiencies and service delivery enhancements for front-line officers and the citizens of Ontario. You may be assured that Superintendent Bedard will work diligently with municipal stakeholders to ensure transparent communication and efficient and sustainable police service delivery.

I would like to congratulate Superintendent R.A. (Rick) Philbin on his promotion to Chief Superintendent and appointment as Commander of the CTSB. Since the implementation of the MPB, Superintendent Philbin has been working closely with many of you to assist with the transitioning to the new billing model and ensuring that your perspectives and needs are brought forward to OPP Senior Management and Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) representatives. He has demonstrated exceptional qualities as Commander of the MPB and his hard work, dedication and commitment to innovation and efficiency will continue to serve the OPP and the people of Ontario in his new role.

I also take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding with the implementation of the new billing model. Over the past year, the OPP and the MCSCS have been working closely with you to facilitate your transition and to ensure that the commitment to a transparent, fair and more simple billing model is met.

13

**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

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**From:** "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Date:** August-13-15 4:15 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** Policing Update: Minister Announces Consultations on a New Legislative Framework

August 13, 2015

## **Policing Update: Minister Announces Consultations on a New Legislative Framework**

Today the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Honourable Yasir Naqvi, announced a plan to consult on updating *the Police Services Act*.

The current legislative framework for policing in Ontario dates back to 1990. It has not been changed significantly in twenty-five years. The Minister announced that the consultation will seek input on how to:

- Enhance accountability and strengthen civilian governance of police services boards as well as how to ensure police oversight bodies are effective and have clear mandates.
- Improve interactions between police and vulnerable Ontarians, including enhancing frontline responses to those in crisis.
- Clarify police duties, modernize training programs and deliver services using a range of public safety personnel.
- Develop a provincial framework for First Nations policing to ensure equitable and culturally responsive policing for the province's First Nations communities.

Further information about consultation dates and how the public (and municipalities) can provide their feedback on the new strategy will be available in the coming weeks.

In April, AMO President Gary McNamara provided the Minister with a copy of AMO's Policing Modernization Report. The Report contains 34 recommendations, with ideas and a vision for the future of how this critical public service can be delivered. Two of the report's three priority recommendations are captured by the Minister's announcement. They include:

- Improve the quality of the existing governance and civilian oversight system.
- Make legislative changes to permit the greater transfer of specific functions to civilians or other security providers where appropriate.

More details regarding the Ministry's consultations are expected within days. The Minister will be addressing municipal delegates at AMO's upcoming AGM and Annual Conference in Niagara Falls on Wednesday, August 19, 2015.

AMO fundamentally believes in the need to advance the agenda of reform. This imperative is driven by the undeniable need to ensure that all Ontario communities can afford policing, along with all the other public programs and services that keep people not only safe, but healthy.

28/08/2015

Ontarians currently pay the highest policing costs in the country. Per capita policing costs in Ontario are \$320 per year, well above the national provincial average of \$259. For at least a decade, police spending has been growing at three times the rate of inflation.

AMO supports this discussion and encourages municipal participation. Modernized legislation has the potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in Ontario.

Links:

The Minister's announcement: <http://news.ontario.ca/mcscs/en/2015/8/province-developing-a-new-strategy-for-a-safer-ontario.html>

AMO's Policing Modernization Report: <http://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-PDFs/Reports/2015/AMO-Policing-Modernization-Report-Final-2015-04-27.aspx>

AMO President's Speech to the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards: <http://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-Content/Speeches/2015/AMO-President-s-Remarks-at-OAPSB-Conference.aspx>

AMO President's Speech on Policing at the OSUM Conference: <http://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-Content/Speeches/2015/AMO-President-s-Remarks-at-2015-OSUM-AGM.aspx>

**AMO Contact:** Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, [mwilson@amo.on.ca](mailto:mwilson@amo.on.ca) 416.971.9856 ext. 323.

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## Municipal POA Courts Cost Recovery

08/14/2015

Ministry of the Attorney General Announces 50% Increases

The Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) has announced that it will increase costs for municipal government *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) Courts administration to offset increased Ministry costs for Justices of the Peace (JP) services and oversight of transfer agreements. AMO understands that these increases will be effective January 1, 2016 and represent significant increases. The changes were announced in letters to municipal courts administrators and to their Heads of Council on August 13, 2015.

### Contact

Craig Reid  
 Senior Advisor  
[creid@amo.on.ca](mailto:creid@amo.on.ca)  
 T 416.971.9856 ext. 334  
 TF 1.877.426.6527  
 F 416.971.6191

AMO understands that the increased costs for municipal governments will come from two areas:

- A 50% increase in the costs per hour for JP services, from \$200/hr to \$300/hr to reflect salary and benefit increases for JPs; and
- A 50% increase in the cost of monitoring the agreements with municipalities that transfer POA courts to local governments to reflect 100 % of the cost for this activity (MAG has not been recovering all costs previously).

Compensation for members of the judiciary is set by an independent panel and is not subject to approval by the province or municipal governments. JP costs increases represented in this announcement are well above inflation.

Municipal governments use the POA fine revenue to help with their budget bottom line. This fiscal hit will impact 2016 budgets. AMO believes these changes could be better timed or phased-in to coincide with anticipated enhancements to the collection of POA fines that will allow license plate denial and pursuit of fines on out of province vehicles. These system changes are anticipated within the next two years. POA fines help to support other municipal services and cost increases will have an impact on service provision at the local level.

Municipal governments operating POA courts are advised to examine potential budget impacts for 2016.

AMO Contact:

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[MIDAS](#)



15

**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

**From:** "Minister Ted McMeekin" <minister.mah@ontario.ca>  
**Date:** June-05-15 12:01 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@XPLORNET.COM>  
**Subject:** Letter from Minister McMeekin

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor  
 Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
 Tel. 416-585-7000  
 Fax 416-585-6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)

777, rue Bay, 17e étage  
 Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
 Tél. 416-585-7000  
 Téléc. 416-585-6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)



MIN2015-66671

Your Worship  
 Mayor Jim Gibson  
 Townships of Head, Clara and Maria  
 15 Township Hall Road  
 Stonecliffe ON K0J 2K0

Dear Mayor Gibson,

I am pleased to announce that the Government of Ontario, led by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, will be reviewing four pieces of municipal legislation – the Municipal Act, the City of Toronto Act, the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, and the Municipal Elections Act. I am writing to inform you of our plans for consultation because we understand the importance of engaging with municipalities during these reviews.

As you may know, in 2004 to 2006, the government undertook reviews of the Municipal Act and the City of Toronto Act in close consultation with the municipal sector. These reviews led to significant amendments to the Municipal Act and provided the City of Toronto with its own legislation. Since the amendments to the Municipal Act and the City of Toronto Act came into effect in early 2007, all municipalities have access to broad powers to pass by-laws within their jurisdiction.

The purpose of the reviews is to help ensure municipalities have the powers and flexibility they need to effectively and creatively serve their communities. We want to ensure our local governments remain strong, financially-sustainable and accountable.

This process will integrate the reviews of the Municipal Act, City of Toronto Act, and Municipal Conflict of Interest Act to examine key, cross-cutting issues of interest to the government, municipalities, and Ontarians. The government is proposing key themes and questions to help identify priority areas and opportunities for exploring change during consultation.

25/08/2015

As part of the Municipal Elections Act review we want to make sure that the rules governing how municipal leaders are elected are clear and simple, and reflect how modern campaigns and elections should be run. The review will also explore how we could give municipalities the option of using ranked ballots in their elections as an alternative to the current system.

Your municipality may be interested in each of these acts broadly, or in one or more specific subjects. We are interested in hearing from you and your council colleagues about which areas of the acts are working, and where improvements to the legislation can be made as we continue to build strong, vibrant communities across Ontario.

I welcome your municipality's comments through written submissions or resolutions which may be sent by e-mail to [municipalreview@ontario.ca](mailto:municipalreview@ontario.ca) or by regular mail to:

Municipal Legislation Review  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Local Government Policy Branch  
777 Bay Street, 13th Floor, Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Please note that your submission may be summarized and shared with the public as part of the consultation process.

We are requesting your comments on the Municipal Elections Act review within the 60 day consultation window. We are expediting this review to ensure that any changes to the legislation, if passed, will be completed and in place so that municipalities that wish to consider ranked ballot elections have sufficient time to prepare before the 2018 election.

I recognize councils may meet less frequently as summer begins and that you may wish to submit your comments on the reviews by resolution. For that reason, we will receive municipalities' comments on the Municipal Act, City of Toronto Act and Municipal Conflict of Interest Act review until October 31, 2015.

In addition, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be collecting comments on the legislation through online discussion guides. The discussion guides provide additional detail about the legislation under review, and provide opportunities to comment directly on one or more topics of interest.

The discussion guide for the integrated review of the Municipal Act, City of Toronto Act, and Municipal Conflict of Interest Act can be accessed at [ontario.ca/provinciamunicipalreview](http://ontario.ca/provinciamunicipalreview). The discussion guide for the separate review of the Municipal Elections Act is at [ontario.ca/municipalelections](http://ontario.ca/municipalelections).

I encourage you and your council colleagues to make your residents, staff, and stakeholders aware of the resources available online and the opportunities to comment as part of these reviews.

Over the summer, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be working to collect, organize, and begin analysis on what we heard from Ontarians and our municipal sector partners.

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Please accept my best wishes.

## **First Nations, Ontario Agree to New Political Accord**

*Milestone Agreement Signals Positive Step in Reconciliation Efforts*

June 17, 2015 5:35 P.M.

Today the Chiefs of Ontario and the Government of Ontario agreed to an historic political accord that will guide the relationship between First Nations and the province.

Building on a proposal presented by the Chiefs of Ontario, the accord outlines political commitments by First Nations and Ontario, serving as a guide to positive working relationships between the parties.

The accord recognizes First Nations have an inherent right to self-government and commits the Province and the Chiefs of Ontario to work together on shared priorities that improve the lives of First Nations people.

The political accord will be signed at a later date by First Nations leaders, including newly elected Regional Chief Isadore Day, and Premier Kathleen Wynne.

### **QUOTES**

" This political accord shows that there is a spirit of openness and a willingness from both our government and First Nations to work together to achieve common goals. Negotiating this accord has been a very positive experience. I look forward to continuing to work with the First Nations in Ontario, guided by this significant agreement."

- David Zimmer

Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

" I am pleased that the First Nations and Ontario have renewed their relationship. This accord recognizes that First Nations and Ontario must work together to address the pressing needs of our communities. I look forward to working with Ontario in the spirit of the accord."

- Isadore Day

Ontario Regional Chief, Chiefs of Ontario

### **QUICK FACTS**

- Prior to contact with Europeans, First Nations were independent nations. The treaties they made with the Crown reflect a mutual commitment to working together on areas of common interest and mutual benefit.

- Treaties are the legally binding agreements that set out rights and responsibilities and guide relationships among First Nations and the federal and provincial governments.
- Ontario is covered by 46 treaties and other agreements, such as land purchases by the Crown signed between 1781 and 1930.

## LEARN MORE

- [Chiefs of Ontario](#)
- [Learn more about treaties in Ontario.](#)

---

**Scott Cavan** Minister's Office

scott.cavan@ontario.ca

416-314-6212

**Flavia Mussio** Media Contact

Flavia.Mussio@ontario.ca

416-314-9455

**Jamie Monastyrski** Communications, Chiefs of Ontario

jamie.monastyrski@coo.org

807-630-7087

**Available Online**

**Disponible en Français**



## **Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

---

**From:** "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Date:** August-20-15 3:06 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** AMO POLICY UPDATE - Government Announces New Disaster Recovery Assistance Programs

August 20, 2015

### **Government Announces New Disaster Recovery Assistance Programs**

Earlier this week at the AMO Conference in Niagara Falls, the Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, unveiled changes to the way the Province will help assist municipal governments and individuals recover from the impacts associated with natural disasters. The Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP) will be retired and replaced by two new programs: a Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance program and a Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians program. The design and delivery of the new programs will have implications on how municipal governments plan for and recover from disaster events.

The Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance program will:

- Help municipal governments address eligible emergency response costs and repairs to damaged property and infrastructure such as roads, bridges and public buildings; and
- Provide an extended four month timeframe for a municipality to assess the damage and costs of the natural disaster and request provincial assistance. Under ODRAP, municipal governments had 14 days to assess damage and request assistance from the Province.

The Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians program will:

- Provide assistance to individuals, small businesses, farmers and not-for-profit organizations that have experienced damage to, or loss of, essential property as a result of the disaster;
- Be directly administered by the Province; and
- Municipal governments will no longer be required to appoint volunteer Disaster Relief Committees to fundraise for matching provincial assistance, but they may choose to continue to fundraise on their own.

Municipal governments have been requesting the government to make the private and public components of ODRAP more clear, transparent and streamlined. These new programs will help municipal governments focus efforts on disaster response and recovery in the wake of an event. Further information on the eligibility criteria and requirements for the new programs will be made available by early 2016. AMO looks forward to the release of these details and will provide a further update to the membership once this information is provided.

The eligibility requirements of ODRAP funded repairs to damaged municipal infrastructure to pre-disaster condition only. AMO would like to see funding assistance extended beyond this requirement so that municipal governments can better prepare critical infrastructure for the effects from climate change and natural disasters.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing launched their review of ODRAP last fall as part of the direction in the Minister's mandate letter. Municipal governments, through several forums including AMO's ODRAP Review Task Force, participated and provided input during these consultations.

25/08/2015



Municipality of Tweed

# Disaster Relief Committee

255 Metcalf St., Postal Bag 729  
Tweed, ON K0K 3J0  
(613) 478-2535

June 10, 2015

Dear Members of Council

In April 2014, serious flooding around Stoco Lake and adjoining waterways resulted in thousands of dollars' worth of damage to local homeowners and businesses. The destructive waters forced residents to temporary shelters and many were faced with major renovations once they were able to return.

At the request of the Municipality of Tweed, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing declared the region a "Disaster Area" for the purpose of the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program. Under ODRAP, the province will top up funds raised to the amount that is needed to pay eligible claims at 90 per cent up to a maximum of 2:\$1 ratio.

A volunteer committee has been set up to spearhead the local fundraising effort. A tentative target of \$40,000 has been set to provide assistance to homeowners whose essential property has been damaged in the flood.

The Tweed area is predominately rural in nature and is not densely populated. For that reason, we know that the \$40,000 goal is a challenge but one we are confident in reaching. Our fundraising campaign recently began and results are encouraging. For your information, I am enclosing a copy of our brochure.

On behalf of the Tweed Disaster Relief Committee, I am asking municipal councils across the province to support our fundraising efforts by making a donation to this worthy cause. Contributions in any amount will be gratefully accepted.

Cheques should be made out to; Tweed Disaster Relief Committee and mailed to the Municipality of Tweed, 225 Metcalfe Street, Tweed On K0K 3J0.

If you require additional information, please contact Betty Gallagher, Municipality of Tweed, at (613) 478-2535.

With our sincere thanks,

  
Shelly Reed,

Chairperson, Tweed Disaster Relief Committee

**Make a Donation Today!**

Donations are eligible for a tax receipt, issued by the Municipality of Tweed.

I would like to make a donation

\$10  \$20  \$50

\$100  Other

Date

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

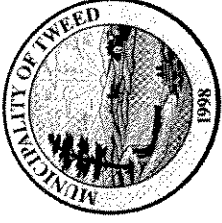
Please make cheques payable to:  
Municipality of Tweed Disaster Relief Committee

*Thank you for your support!*

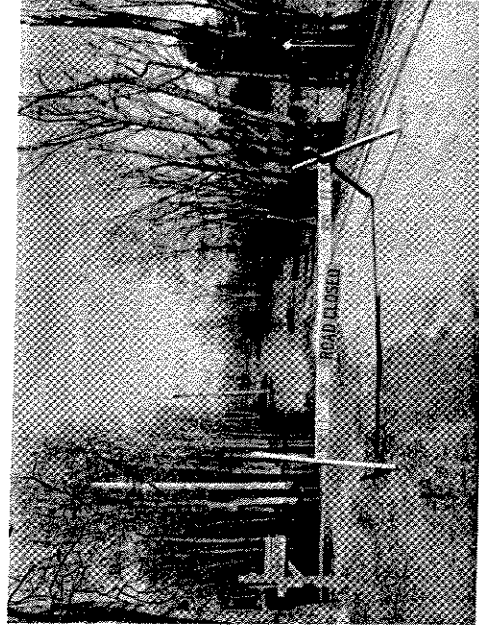
**Claims Approvals**

Applications for funding assistance for the flood of 2014 have been completed and submitted to the Project Manager and the Disaster Relief Committee.

Claims have been adjudicated and eligible residents are awaiting relief funding through the Ontario Disaster Assistance Relief Program (ODRAP)



Municipality of Tweed  
**Disaster Relief Committee**



**Request for Support**

Municipality of Tweed  
**Disaster Relief Committee**

78-2535

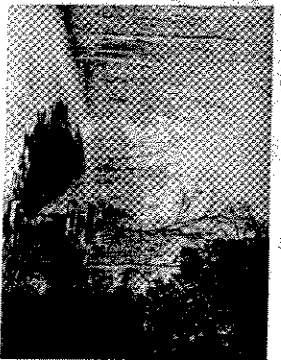
## Disaster Relief

The Municipality of Tweed Disaster Relief Committee has been formed to respond to community need after the severe flooding in the spring of 2014 in Tweed and surrounding areas.

This committee has been appointed in accordance with the Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs.

Following an assessment by the Ministry of Municipal Housing and Affairs, the Municipality of Tweed Disaster Relief Committee has set a tentative financial goal to raise \$40,000 which we are seeking to raise by October 2015.

For every dollar that we raise, the province will top up the required funds in a 2:1 ratio.



## Request for Support

The Municipality of Tweed Disaster Relief Committee is appealing to businesses, municipalities and community organizations and members to provide financial assistance in support of the 2014 Flood victims.

Municipality of Tweed  
Disaster Relief Committee  
255 Metcalf St., Postal Bag 729  
Tweed, ON K0K 3J0  
(613) 478-2535

## Community Support

Many fundraising efforts are underway and will be announced as events are finalized.

Special thank you to The Insurance Bureau of Canada who has started our fundraising efforts off with a notable donation of \$5,000.

The financial needs of the Municipality of Tweed's Disaster Relief Committee continue to require further support to reach the goals set forth.



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Ministry of  
Natural Resources and Forestry  
31 Riverside Drive  
Pembroke, ON  
K8A 8R6

Ministère des  
Richesses naturelles et des forêts  
Telephone: (613) 732-3661  
Facsimile: (613) 732-2972



Ontario

July 29, 2015

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, ON  
K0J 2K0

Dear Sir/Madam:

Later this summer, Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. will be applying herbicides to selected Crown land forested areas. The herbicide will be applied from the air using helicopters. This project is part of the Crown land forest management program and is necessary to ensure the successful regeneration of harvested and naturally depleted areas on the Ottawa Valley Forest. The herbicide is applied to temporarily slow the growth of broad-leaf vegetation, and give a growing advantage to conifer seedlings.

Additional information about this proposed project is provided in the notice on the back of this page.

If you need more information or to view the Aerial Spray Project Plan, please contact Liz Cobb or Krista Watters as indicated in the notice.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Jones  
Resources Management Supervisor  
Pembroke District

JJ/fg

# INSPECTION

AUG 04 2015

## Inspection of Approved Aerial Herbicide Spraying Ottawa Valley Forest

The Ontario **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)** invites you to inspect the MNRF-approved aerial herbicide spray project. As part of our ongoing efforts to regenerate and protect Ontario's forests, selected stands on the **Ottawa Valley Forest** (see map) will be sprayed with herbicide to control competing vegetation, starting on or about **September 1, 2015**. The herbicides Forza and Garlon XRT, Pest Control Product registration #26401 and #28945 will be used.

The approved project description and project plan for the aerial herbicide project is available for public inspection at the Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. Office and on the MNRF public website at [ontario.ca/forestplans](http://ontario.ca/forestplans) beginning **August 1, 2015** until **March 31, 2016** when the annual work schedule expires. Ontario Government Information Centres at 400 Pembroke Street East, Pembroke and 316 Plaunt Street South, Renfrew provide access to the Internet.

Interested and affected persons and organizations can arrange an appointment with MNRF staff at the MNRF District or Area Office to discuss the aerial herbicide project.

For more information, please contact:

**Liz Cobb**

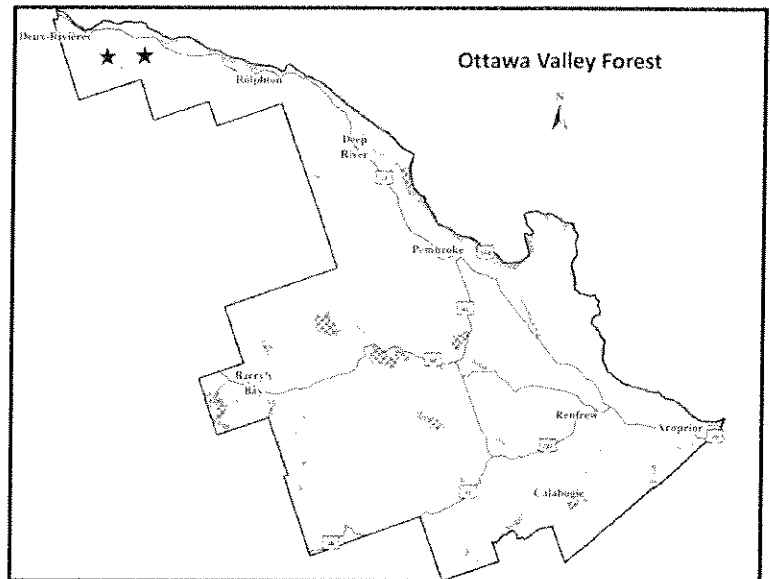
Ottawa Valley Forest Inc.  
195 Brazeau Road, RR#3  
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W4  
tel: 613-735-1888

**Krista Watters**

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
31 Riverside Drive  
Pembroke, ON K8A 8R6  
tel: 613-732-5597

or call toll-free: 1-800-667-1940 and ask to be forwarded to one of the contacts above.

Renseignements en français : Joffre Cote 613 258-8214





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July 27, 2015

Mayor Jim Gibson  
United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, Ontario  
K0J 2K0

Dear Jim:

I wanted to give you a heads up on an issue on which Stantec Consulting Ltd., our environmental/regulatory consultant, will be contacting the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria (the Township).

Our Ontario mining leases give us ownership of the mineral and surface rights within the proposed site of the Bissett Creek Mine except for rights with respect to unopened township road allowances. Some these allowances go through the proposed tailings management facility and other mine infrastructure (see attached map). Northern Graphite will be requesting that the Township lease these allowances to us for in the order of 21 years as the surface rights are critical to the proposed development.

A development agreement may be needed and it will exempt the Township of all liability, ensure that the area is returned to the Township in the same or better condition, and will state that all costs of the agreement and road allowance upgrades will be the responsibility of Northern Graphite.

Normally the consideration for such a lease is nominal as municipalities want to stimulate economic development and receive its associated benefits, and because it is highly unlikely the road allowance would ever be required for the Township's own purposes given their location. However, once Northern Graphite is ready to proceed with development of the mine, it would be prepared to fund a small project for the benefit of the Township and its residents. Perhaps you could come up with some suggestions in this regard.

Best Regards

Greg Bowes, CEO

Cc: Craig Johnston, Lindsay Frith, Stantec Consulting



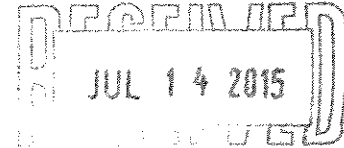


Ministry of  
Natural Resources and Forestry  
31 Riverside Drive  
Pembroke, ON  
K8A 8R6

Ministère des  
Richesses naturelles et des forêts  
Telephone: (613) 732-3661  
Facsimile: (613) 732-2972



July 09, 2015



**Open Invitation for Those Interested in the Second Phase of Forest Management Planning in  
Ottawa Valley Forest**

RE:

**OTTAWA VALLEY FOREST 2011-2021 Forest Management Plan**  
**REVIEW of DRAFT PLANNED OPERATIONS for PHASE II 2016-2021**

On behalf of the planning team comprised of representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), the Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. (OVFI), Locals Citizens Advisory Committee and representatives of the Algonquins of Ontario, I would like to remind you of opportunities to contribute to Phase II of the forest management planning process. We appreciate your participation up to now and look forward to your continued interest and planning input.

Since our last update on February 23, 2015 the planning team has completed the detailed operational planning and prepared a draft plan for Phase II operations. As you might recall, Phase II of the 2011-2021 Forest Management Plan for the Ottawa Valley Forest covers the planning period from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2021. The focus during this phase is on the preparation, review and approval of planned operations, including harvesting, renewal and tending operations, as well as road construction. Any approved operations that were not completed during the first five-year term are approved for implementation during the second five-year term, with no further planning requirements.

It is our understanding that you have an interest in forest management planning for the Ottawa Valley Forest. We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to review the draft planned operations for the second five-year term of the 2011-2021 Forest Management Plan. Attached to this letter is a copy of the newspaper advertisement that will be published prior to this stage of public consultation which outlines opportunities for this review. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Ildiko Apavaloae, Regional Planning Forester with Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 705-755-3225 or by e-mail at [ildiko.apavaloae@ontario.ca](mailto:ildiko.apavaloae@ontario.ca)

For more information feel free to contact Ildiko Apavaloae (Project Manager, MNRF) or Nick Gooderham (Plan Author, OVFI) (see newspaper ad for contact information).

Sincerely,

Bruce Mighton  
A/District Manager  
Pembroke District

# REVIEW

## Ottawa Valley Forest Management Plan Review of Draft Planned Operations for Phase II (2016–2021)

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. and the Pembroke District Local Citizens Advisory Committee (LCAC) invite you to review and comment on the Phase II (2016–2021) Draft Planned Operations of the 2011–2021 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Ottawa Valley Forest.

You will have the opportunity to review and comment on:

- The draft planned harvest, renewal and tending operations and access roads for the second five-year term;
- The MNRF's preliminary list of required alterations.

You will also have an opportunity to contribute to the background information used in planning.

Comments from the public will be considered in revisions to the draft planned operations.

### How to Get Involved

The draft planned operations and the draft planned operations summary will be available on the MNRF public website at [ontario.ca/forestplans](http://ontario.ca/forestplans) and at the Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. office, during normal office hours by appointment for a period of 30 days from **July 13, 2015** to **August 12, 2015**. They can also be viewed at the Ontario Government Information Centre in Toronto and ServiceOntario counters in Pembroke and Renfrew that provide Internet access.

Meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCAC can be requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

#### Ildiko Apavaloae

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry  
300 Water Street  
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7  
tel: 705-755-3225

#### Nick Gooderham

Ottawa Valley Forest Inc.  
195 Brazeau Road, RR# 3  
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W4  
tel: 613-735-1888

#### Don Stewart

Local Citizens Advisory Committee  
tel: 613-687-6689  
e-mail: danjss@hotmail.com

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the *Forest Management Planning Manual (2009)*. The last possible date to seek issue resolution with the MNRF Regional Director is **September 12, 2015**.

### Stay Involved

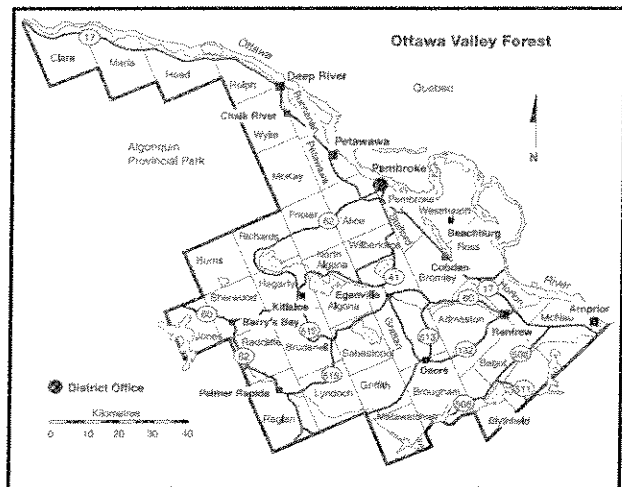
The preparation of the draft detailed operations for the second five-year term (Phase II) has been completed. Following receipt of comments, the draft planned operations will be revised and the final planned operations will be available for inspection.

There is a final opportunity to inspect the planned operations before they are implemented during the inspection of the MNRF-approved planned operations (**Stage 3**) which is tentatively scheduled for **November/December 2015**.

The approval date of the planned operations for the second five-year term is tentatively scheduled for **October 27, 2015**.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*. Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; however, your comments will become part of the public consultation process and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to send you further information related to this forest management planning exercise. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Heath Finlay at 705-755-5568.

Renseignements en français : Joff Cote au 613 258-8214



Ministry of  
Transportation

Office of the Minister

Ferguson Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
77 Wellesley St. West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1Z8  
416-327-9200  
www.ontario.ca/transportation

Ministère des  
Transports

Bureau du ministre

Édifice Ferguson, 3<sup>e</sup> étage  
77, rue Wellesley ouest  
Toronto (Ontario)  
M7A 1Z8  
416-327-9200  
www.ontario.ca/transports

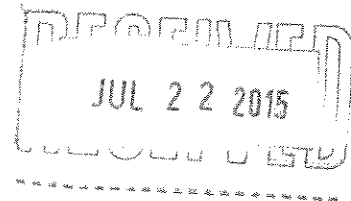
21



M2015-941

JUL 17 2015

Mr. Jim Wilson, MPP  
Simcoe-Grey  
Room 381, Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A8



Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria Council resolution about the four lane expansion of Highway 17 through Renfrew County. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

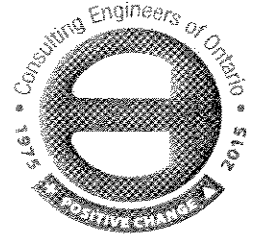
The ministry appreciates the importance of expanding Highway 17 including the 34 kilometres of planned freeway from Arrnprior to west of Renfrew. The first phase, from Ottawa Road 29 to Division Street, was completed in 2012. Construction of the second phase to Scheel Drive started in 2014 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2016. Currently, the ministry is purchasing property for the future phases from Scheel Drive to west of Renfrew. The timing for construction of these future phases is subject to completion of design and property acquisition, receipt of environmental approvals, relocation of utilities and the availability of funding.

For the 80 kilometres of highway corridor from Renfrew to Petawawa, the ministry would need to complete preliminary design, environmental assessment (EA) studies and likely acquire more property to update the 1970s expansion plan. Staging of the work will be reviewed with future studies and we will be reviewing council's suggestion to consider expansion of the highway from west to east.

A route planning and EA study, followed by a preliminary design study, property acquisition and environmental approvals, would be required west of Petawawa, where the ministry does not own the property for a future freeway. We will continue to plan and prioritize key improvements to the existing highway in advance of expansion. We will also continue to work with the County of Renfrew and all municipal stakeholders to help prioritize the need for future studies for Highway 17 as provincial planning priorities are determined.

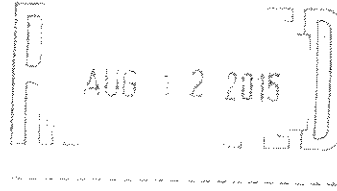
Based on the above, and when the feasibility and timing of future expansion is known, the ministry will be in a better position to consider approaching the federal government to assist with delivery and funding this expansion work.

2a



August 4, 2015

Ms. Melinda Reith  
Clerk  
Township of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Rd  
Stonecliffe, K0J 2K0



Dear Ms. Reith,

As more infrastructure projects in Ontario are delivered using alternative delivery methods, a growing number of consulting engineering firms are working directly with the Government of Ontario and its agencies.

Despite these projects often being large and complex involving multiple parties in planning, design, construction, financing and operations, until now there has not yet been a universal process developed and implemented to address different types of potential conflict of interest or unfair advantage (COI/UA) situations. As a result, the consulting engineering industry has faced substantial challenges in delivering its projects.

As the association advocating for the business interests of about 200 consulting engineering firms in the province, Consulting Engineers of Ontario has published the *The Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Consulting Engineering Services in Ontario*. This document will help both consulting engineering industry and public sector clients better address and make informed decisions when confronted with COI/UA situations. A lack of standard guidelines has been hindering all parties from resolving instances of COI/UA in a timely manner, consequently delaying projects.

A consistent use of these guidelines will not only help reduce significant costs burdening public sector clients, it will also ensure all parties benefit from the minimization of COI/UA situations.

CEO has produced these guidelines so that all public sector clients can consistently address situations of COI/UA while working with consulting engineering firms. This will allow the province's best engineering talent to continue playing its important role in delivering large-scale infrastructure projects and thereby best serving the interests of the people of Ontario.

A downloadable PDF version is also available at [www.ceo.on.ca](http://www.ceo.on.ca).

Should you have any questions about this document, please contact David Zurawel, Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations of Consulting Engineers of Ontario, at [dzurawel@ceo.on.ca](mailto:dzurawel@ceo.on.ca) or 416-620-1400.

Warm regards,

Barry Steinberg, M.A.Sc., C.E.T., P.Eng.  
Chief Executive Officer



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Perth-Wellington Constituency Office  
Stratford, Ontario

**Randy Pettapiece, MPP**  
Perth-Wellington

July 21, 2015

Melinda Reith  
Clerk  
Township of Head, Clara and Maria  
15 Township Hall Rd  
Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

Dear Ms. Reith:

**Re: Resolution for Fairness in Provincial Infrastructure Funds**

I am writing to inform you of my upcoming private member's resolution in the Ontario legislature and to formally request your support. It reads as follows:

*That, in the opinion of this House, the government should guarantee that government-held ridings and opposition-held ridings be given equal and transparent consideration on infrastructure funding, and that when funding decisions are made, should guarantee that all MPPs, whether in government or opposition, be given fair and equal advance notice of the official announcement.*

The basis for my resolution is simple: When municipalities apply for provincial infrastructure funding, you should expect that your application would be evaluated based on merit. You should expect that it would be evaluated promptly, based on well-defined and transparent criteria. Finally, you should expect that the decision to approve your application would never depend on your MPP's political stripe.

There is, after all, no such thing as Liberal, PC or NDP infrastructure money; there is only *public* money. That money comes from taxes that we all pay; everyone in the province should expect a similar quality of infrastructure and services, regardless of where they live.

Because municipalities rely on provincial partnerships to fund critical infrastructure projects, the consequences of provincial funding decisions can be far-reaching. The provincial government must respect this partnership and ensure that government and opposition-held ridings are given equal consideration when it comes to infrastructure investment decisions. Too often, however, there is at least a persistent perception that public infrastructure dollars have, in at least some cases, been directed according to politics and not according to need.

.../2



Having served as a municipal councillor, I know that the process to apply for infrastructure funding is a major—and sometimes frustrating—undertaking. It often entails significant red tape and investments of staff time and resources. Before making those investments, municipalities need some assurance that, based on clear criteria, your application has a reasonable chance of success. You also need to know that your MPP will advocate on your behalf and, most importantly, decision-makers will be receptive to that advocacy no matter if the MPP serves in government or opposition.

The final section of my resolution deals with infrastructure announcements themselves. These announcements must, I believe, be depoliticized in order to address the perception that opposition-held ridings are disadvantaged—or worse yet, being punished—for voting against the government.

**If your municipality supports the intent of my resolution, I would encourage you to consider passing a formal resolution to support it.** If your Council decides to proceed in this way, I would appreciate receiving a copy of your resolution as soon as possible. Debate on this resolution is scheduled for October 8, 2015.

I would appreciate your views on this matter, and your own experience in your municipality concerning access to provincial infrastructure funds. If you have any feedback on this issue, or if you require any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me at 519-272-0660 or by email: [randy.pettapiececo@pc.ola.org](mailto:randy.pettapiececo@pc.ola.org).

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Randy Pettapiece".

Randy Pettapiece, MPP  
Perth-Wellington

(24)

**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

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**From:** "Hardeman, Ernie" <ernie.hardeman@pc.ola.org>  
**Date:** June-11-15 12:33 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** Update and request for comments

As you may know the spring session of the Ontario Legislature ended last week. It has been a busy session with a number of items that impact municipalities.

*Bill 73, the Smart Growth for our Communities Act*, which amends the *Planning Act* and *Development Charges Act*, has started second reading debate. This debate will continue in the fall before the bill goes to committee. Before that happens I would appreciate hearing any concerns you have with the bill or receiving a copy if you sent a formal submission to the government regarding the bill.

As you know, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is consulting until July 27<sup>th</sup> on changes to the *Municipal Elections Act*, including allowing ranked ballots and limiting third party advertising. As well, they have launched consultations on *Municipal Act* and *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* which end on August 7, 2015. If you provide comments for any of these consultations I would appreciate receiving a copy.

I know that having these consultations at the same time, as well as the land use planning review impacting a number of municipalities, is straining resources. Even if you are not preparing a formal submission for all these issues I would appreciate any comments and concerns you can share.

I also wanted to give you an update on my private members bill, the *Housing Services Corporation Accountability Act*. As you know this bill would give social housing providers the ability to purchase natural gas and insurance at the best price, rather than forcing them to purchase through the Housing Services Corporation. The bill passed second reading, but is currently stuck at the standing committee on social policy. I will continue to push the government to move it forward so the money going into social housing is used effectively and not misused.

Closer to the AMO conference I will be in touch with more details about delegations, but we will be holding meetings and a reception again this year. I would be happy to meet with you to talk about opportunities and challenges.

As always, if I can be of assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford  
PC Critic for Municipal Affairs and Housing

12/06/2015

25

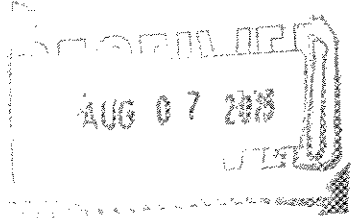
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DEEP RIVER



P.O. BOX 400 • 100 DEEP RIVER ROAD • DEEP RIVER, ON K0J 1P0

Tel: 613-584-2000 • www.deepriver.ca • Fax: 613-584-3237

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
JOAN LOUGHEED



July 30, 2015

Ms. Melinda Reith, CAO/Clerk  
United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, ON  
K0J 2K0

Dear Ms. Reith:

On behalf of the Town of Deep River and the Housing Advisory Committee, thank you for your help with the Seniors' Housing Survey.

Your support in the survey distribution and pick-up provided invaluable contributions to the committee. Your efforts extended our outreach, resulting in an excellent response rate. For some, it added to the workload and your patience is very much appreciated.

Your participation made this survey a truly regional initiative, highlighting an issue we can continue to tackle together in the future. We are hopeful that it will be well received by funders and developers.

Thanks again.

Yours Sincerely,

Joan Lougheed  
Mayor

Monica Mulvihill  
Chair, Housing Advisory Committee



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News Release

## Ontario Connecting More Seniors with Their Communities

### Government Doubles Funding for the Seniors Community Grant Program

June 25, 2015 10:00 A.M. | Office of the Premier

Ontario is helping more seniors stay engaged with their communities by doubling the investment in the Seniors Community Grant Program from \$1 million to \$2 million.

Premier Kathleen Wynne made the announcement today at the Finnish Canadian Seniors Centre. Ontario celebrates Seniors' Month in June to recognize the many contributions of seniors. This year's Seniors' Month theme is Vibrant Seniors, Vibrant Communities.

The 2015 Seniors Community Grant Program will provide funding to 367 not-for-profit community projects that foster volunteerism, social inclusion and community engagement for seniors. This investment will help over 73,000 seniors across the province stay active with computer and financial literacy programs, healthy eating and exercise, and local cultural appreciation events. The funding is part of Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors.

This increase in funding is a reflection of the program's success. In 2014, over 43,000 seniors were supported by 179 projects funded through the Seniors Community Grant Program.

Providing support and opportunity for seniors is part of the government's four-part plan to build Ontario up. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

#### Quick Facts

- June marks the 31st annual Seniors' Month in Ontario.
- Reduced social contact, or social isolation, has been associated with a lower quality of life for seniors and can also lead to poor health and depression.
- As of 2015, for the first time, people over the age of 65 accounted for a larger share of the population in Ontario than children under the age of 15.

#### Additional Resources

- Find Seniors' Month events in communities across Ontario

27

**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

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**From:** "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Date:** July-14-15 4:30 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - AMO's Submission to Update of Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy

July 14, 2015

## AMO's Submission to the Provincial Consultations on the Update of the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy

AMO has outlined the need for the Province to renew its strategy in a manner that will both sustain the existing housing system and expand it further to meet the needs of Ontarians. The renewal of the provincial strategy provides an opportunity to create a more robust effort to provide safe, secure, suitable, and adequate affordable housing options ranging from social housing to rental to home ownership. This is vital as affordable housing contributes to the economic, social, and healthy well-being of Ontario's communities and the Province as a whole.

This Members' Update is being circulated to all of AMO's member municipalities and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSABs). AMO's submission contains recommendations relevant to all upper and single tier municipalities as well as DSSABs that fund, administer, and deliver housing programs. There are also recommendations that concern lower tier municipal governments such as proposed changes to the *Planning Act*.

For your information, please find AMO's submission to the recent provincial consultations on the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy (the "strategy").

Please distribute within your organization to Councils, DSSAB Boards, and the relevant staff involved in housing policy, planning, and administration.

AMO is continuing to work with the provincial government to review the recommendations contained in the submission. While the consultation period has now closed, AMO's member municipalities and DSSABs are encouraged to write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to support of AMO's policy recommendations regarding housing. Correspondence can be sent to the provincial government via email to: [housingstrategy.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:housingstrategy.mah@ontario.ca).

If there are any questions or comments, please contact Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, at [mjacek@amo.on.ca](mailto:mjacek@amo.on.ca) or 416.971.9856 ext. 329.

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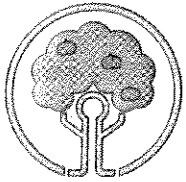
**PLEASE NOTE:** AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator, and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order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

**DISCLAIMER:** Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

**OPT-OUT:** If you wish to opt-out of these email communications from AMO please click [here](#).

15/07/2015

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*Renfrew County and District Health Unit*  
"Promoting Healthy People in a Healthy Environment"

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June 2015

Dear Municipal Representative,

Renfrew County and District Health Unit's vision is to have "Optimal health for all in Renfrew County and District". To this end, we are continuing to work on reducing people's exposure to second-hand smoke in the community. Research indicates there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke, even outdoors. Every year, smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke contributes to the deaths of 13,000 Ontarians.

Recently, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care enacted legislation to further help reduce the burden of disease and death in Ontario due to smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2015, smoking is no longer permitted on bar and restaurant patios or within 20 metres of public children's playgrounds or public sports fields (such as soccer and baseball fields) and surfaces (such as tennis and basketball courts).

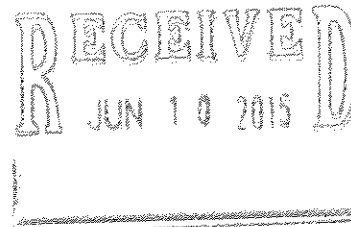
Some municipalities have also taken it upon themselves to pass local by-laws to include no smoking on municipal properties not included in the new provincial legislation; for example, no smoking on beaches, in parks without play structures and on trails.

Renfrew County and District Health Unit encourages your municipality to follow suit and develop no-smoking policies that would prohibit smoking in similar outdoor settings, and create no smoking areas that help to protect the health of residents and visitors to Renfrew County and District, if your municipality has not already done so. Health Unit staff are available to consult with you and offer suggestions to assist you in moving forward to create these no smoking areas. Additional no smoking signs are available that you can post to indicate the no smoking areas (see attached samples). For assistance or to request signs, you may contact me as outlined below.

Thank you for considering this request to make more outdoor spaces in Renfrew County and District smoke-free, and thereby help to improve the health of Renfrew County and District residents and visitors to the area.

Sincerely,

Diana Brooks R.N., B.Sc.N.  
Public Health Nurse  
Renfrew County and District Health Unit  
613-735-8651 Ext. 567  
dbrooks@rcdhu.com



# Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces

## SAMPLE SIGNAGE

(Attachment to June 2015 letter from Renfrew County and District Health Unit)



Size: 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" X 17<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" or 30<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cm X 45 cm



Size: 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" X 17<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" or 30<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cm X 45 cm



Size: 4" x 4" or 10 cm X 10 cm



**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

**From:** "Community Schools Alliance" <chair@communityschoolsalliance.ca>  
**Date:** June-24-15 1:33 PM  
**To:** "Melinda Reith" <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** Community Schools Alliance - Join Us!

[Web Version](#) | [Update preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

[Forward](#)



**Community Schools Alliance**

399 Ridout St. N.  
London, Ontario  
N6A 2P1

[www.communityschoolsalliance.ca](http://www.communityschoolsalliance.ca)

An open letter to all elected municipal officials and staff:

The Community Schools Alliance continues to advocate for a closer working relationship between school boards and municipal councils. Both represent the same taxpayers, both **should** regard our schools as critically important components of our public infrastructure and both **should** work together to ensure our communities are well served by those schools.

For several years the Community Schools Alliance has spoken out about changes that are needed to protect our schools and to protest changes that threaten them.

We believe some recent initiatives of the Ontario government are good ones.

- The announcement of the Premier's Advisory Group on Community Hubs (<http://www.ontario.ca/communityhubs>) to develop a framework for adapting existing public assets, including schools, to become community hubs is a step forward.
- Recent changes to the Grant for Student Needs, the 'funding formula' for schools, has been amended to change the qualifications required for schools to be deemed 'isolated' and therefore to qualify for special 'top-up' grants. Unfortunately, top-up grants for non-isolated schools are being phased out.
- A new Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline that encourages the formation of more facility partnerships by ensuring more transparent communications with community organizations has been introduced.

More changes are needed and the Community Schools Alliance is committed to advocating for those changes. To better enable us to do this work, the Community Schools Alliance has made changes of its own. A new constitution has been adopted (you can see it on our website <http://www.communityschoolsalliance.ca>) and a new executive has been elected. The names of our executive members are listed below.

To be effective with our advocacy, we need research, resources and your support. Please consider becoming a member of the Community Schools Alliance as an organization, as individuals or both. [An application form for membership with a membership fee schedule is available here.](#) The initial membership fee will cover the period until August, 2016.

[Please join us !](#)

**The greater our numbers, the stronger our voice!**

Yours truly,



Doug Reycraft  
Chair, Community Schools Alliance

**Executive Members**

Mayor Alan Barfoot  
Georgian Bluffs

Councillor Carol Lowery  
Temagami

Councillor James Collard  
Niagara-on-the-Lake

Warden Gerry Marshall  
Simcoe County

Warden Denis Doyle  
Frontenac County

Councillor Don Murray  
Huron-Kinloss

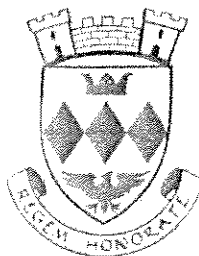
Deputy Mayor Patricia Greig  
Northern Bruce Peninsula

Councillor Marcus Ryan  
Zorra

Mayor Lucy Kloosterhuis  
Oliver Paipoonge

Mayor Brian Smith  
Wasaga Beach

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE



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SMITHS FALLS, ON K7A 4W6  
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FAX: (613) 283-3112  
www.township.montague.on.ca

June 3, 2015

The Honourable Lisa Raitt,  
Federal Minister of Transport

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Re: Community Mailboxes

Dear Minister Raitt,

Further to a decision made by Montague Township Council at its meeting of Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, in support of the City of Hamilton and the Town of Aurora's opposition to the installation of community mailboxes, I am requesting that Canada Post immediately cease the installation of community mailboxes and adhere to its Five-Point Action Plan requirement to engage in full and meaningful consultation with all stakeholders, including the Township of Montague and its residents.

For your reference, I attach Montague's Resolution:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Township of Montague endorse the City of Hamilton's opposition to the elimination of home mail delivery and installation of community mailboxes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct the Reeve to send a letter, copied to Members of Parliament, Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, and all Ontario municipalities, that requests the Federal Minister of Transport, who oversees Canada Post, to require Canada Post to halt installation of community mailboxes immediately and adhere to its Five-point Action Plan requirement to engage in full and meaningful consultation with all stakeholders, including the Township and its residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to develop appropriate standards to require Canada Post to apply for permits with an appropriate fee that reflects the resources required and costs incurred by the Township to install and maintain community mailboxes in established neighbourhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff bring back a bylaw for Council's enactment at an upcoming Council meeting

I look forward to your response at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

Reeve B. Dobson,  
Township of Montague

CC: All Members of Parliament  
All members of provincial Parliament  
All Ontario Municipalities

**Subject:** Power Dam Program Progress

Good Afternoon:

Much time has gone by since I have provided any type of an update. This is mostly because, regrettably not much has changed. I do note however, that MOF has arranged a conference call involving the staff people for next week. A draft agenda has been prepared and was sent to all participants. It is not lost on me that the AMO Conference is only ten (10) days after that call. To that end, I think that we need to keep in mind the following as we move towards the call:

1. Wawa has requested a meeting with the Minister of Finance on this issue. We suspect that the Minister won't meet with us and we will again be granted a meeting with the PA which will result in very little progress. We hope that other communities who have been negatively affected by this draconian policy have also requested meetings.
2. Members of Wawa's Council were told by the Premier at the FONOM Conference in May that the issue of the power dam compensation was going to get fixed.
3. At a session by MPAC at the FONOM Conference, I was able to ask MPAC about the progress that had been made on again assessing the power dams. I was told, as was the entire room, that MPAC had

made little if any progress as the Ministry of Finance was telling them that the information they (MPAC) required was proprietary in nature and could not be provided. This is information on revenues etc. that I had previously requested, receiving the same response. I could only shake my head and wonder if there are other "forces" at work here.

4. We must remember that it was not just the power dams that were previously taxable, it was also the poles and wires. The MOF has conveniently not discussed this issue.
5. At this point, I am not aware that any affected community has received any notification that the proposed claw back has been either delayed or terminated. This means that notwithstanding any information from MOF next week, the claw backs will move ahead. Given all the other cuts to payments from the Province (OMPF) this will be a devastating blow to our community – how about yours?
6. There was no mention at all in the spring budget of power dams or the Compensatory Payment Program. Puzzling?
7. We have received no advance information on the Compensatory payment for 2015. We assume (and I guess we will find out next week) that the payment will be made in August as it has been for the last few years and also be absent of any adjustments of Cost of Living. If these payments are to continue, the payment schedule has to change.
8. In the absence of any complete change by the Province, we should think again about a brief meeting at AMO followed by more questions at the Ministers' Forum (Bear Pit).
9. This matter was re-introduced to the ROMA Board and at the last meeting of the Board the members did request that staff provide an update on the progress by the Province at the next Board Meeting.

That is about all the information that I have at this point. If anyone has additional information to share please send it along. Otherwise, I await your comments on item number 8.

Chris



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**CLERKS/ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**  
Administration Centre  
10 Wellington St. E.  
Alliston, Ontario

Web Address: [www.newtecumseth.ca](http://www.newtecumseth.ca)  
Email: [cmaher@newtecumseth.ca](mailto:cmaher@newtecumseth.ca)  
Phone: (705) 435-3900  
or (905) 729-0057  
Fax: (705) 435-2873

June 26, 2015

The Honourable Premier Wynne  
Legislative Building  
Queens Park  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne:

**RE: MOTION – ELECTRICITY RATES**

This is to advise that at the Council meeting held on Monday, June 22, 2015, that a motion to endorse the resolution of North Stormont was ratified (as attached), and staff were directed to forward a letter in support of Council's position to the Premier, the Ministers of Finance, Economic Development, Tourism, Energy, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, all Ontario Municipal and Regional Councils, and MPP Jim Wilson.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Anne Maher, CMO  
Clerk/Director of Administration Services

Copy: Premier Kathleen Wynne  
Minister of Finance Charles Sousa  
Minister of Energy Bob Chiarelli  
Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure Brad Duguid  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport Michael Coteau  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Jeff Leal  
MPP Jim Wilson  
All Municipal Councils  
All Regional Councils

**Electricity Rates**  
**Adopted by Town of New Tecumseth Council**  
**June 22, 2015**

2015-175

Moved by Councillor Jebb  
Seconded by Councillor Whiteside

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the verbal report of Councillor Jebb be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the following resolution, as introduced by Councillor Jebb be adopted;

WHEREAS the cost of electricity for Ontario manufacturers averages 10 cents a kWh and is less than 7.5 cents in the USA and under 7 cents a kWh in New York, Illinois, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina and Indiana, and under 6 cents a kWh in Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the cost of electricity for farms averages 18 cents a kWh in Ontario and less than half that in Quebec, Manitoba, and Ohio and many competing US states;

AND WHEREAS the high cost of power contributes to low investment in Ontario manufacturing, increased unemployment, reduced home markets for Ontario farm products and difficulties for young people starting and sustaining their working lives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of New Tecumseth endorse the resolution of North Stormont and ask the Government of Ontario to examine the proposal for Farm and Industrial Electricity Rates made by the Canadian Cement Association, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Ontario Construction Secretariat, Canadian Foundry Association, Canadian Plastics Industry Association, Quinte West Manufacturers' Association and Northumberland Manufacturers' Association and enact that proposal, or a reasonable modification of it, with a view to returning competitive electricity rates to Ontario farms, industry and all hydro users, to renew a key part of the foundations for business and employment opportunity in Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipal and regional councils in Ontario requesting that they endorse and support this resolution and communicate their support to the Premier, and her Ministers of Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Energy, Agriculture and Rural Affairs and MPP Jim Wilson.

CARRIED

Ministry of Energy

Office of the Minister

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hearst Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto ON M7A 2E1  
Tel.: 416-327-6758  
Fax: 416-327-6754

Ministère de l'Énergie

Bureau du ministre

4<sup>e</sup> étage, édifice Hearst  
900, rue Bay  
Toronto ON M7A 2E1  
Tél. : 416 327-6758  
Télééc. : 416 327-6754

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June 18, 2015

Mr. Jim Gibson  
Reeve  
Townships of Head, Clara and Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe ON K0J 2K0

RECEIVED  
JUN 29 2015

CF

MC-2015-1014

Dear Reeve Gibson:

I am writing today to provide you with an update on the initiatives the Ontario government is taking to give municipalities more information and control around local energy planning.

Our government remains committed to building a cleaner energy system in Ontario in a way that respects communities and builds on their collective success. To do that, we know municipalities need a strong voice in the development of energy projects and we continue to take steps to make that happen.

As we continue to implement Ontario's 2013 Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP), we have made important changes to increase the role of municipalities in the development of energy projects. I believe that these initiatives and activities demonstrate the Ontario government's desire to work with municipalities on energy issues.

### **Regional Electricity Planning**

Regional planning is a key feature of the 2013 LTEP. In December, I noted that changes introduced by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) in 2013 formalized the regional electricity planning process by ensuring that transmitters, distributors and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) work closely to identify solutions for regional electricity needs and encourage greater municipal involvement and public participation.

I encourage you to visit the IESO's website at <http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/power-planning/regional-planning> or Hydro One's website at [www.hydroone.com/regionalplanning/Pages/home.aspx](http://www.hydroone.com/regionalplanning/Pages/home.aspx) to learn more about current and upcoming regional planning activities and view a map of Ontario's electricity regions.



To make sure their voices are heard, municipalities will continue to be asked to actively participate in electricity planning and siting activities, in particular where integrated plans – which consider conservation first, before generation, transmission and/or distribution options – are being developed.

Planning is already underway or complete in 14 of Ontario's 21 electricity regions. Planning in the remaining seven regions will be undertaken by 2018, and all regions will be assessed every five years, or sooner as needed.

As of April 2015, the IESO has released eight integrated plans where needs were identified. The IESO may have already engaged your municipality as it develops integrated plans. This presents an opportunity to work directly with the IESO, key electricity stakeholders and the public to contribute to regional-level planning and identify the right solutions for your communities. Alongside this co-ordinated work, I would encourage you to continue planning for your local electricity needs, working with your local distribution company and other partners to do so.

### **Municipal Energy Plans**

In the 2013 LTEP, the province committed to putting conservation first. Putting conservation first means ensuring conservation is the first resource considered before building new generation and transmission facilities, wherever cost-effective. Conservation is the cleanest and cheapest energy resource and it offers consumers a way to mitigate their energy bills.

To continue our efforts to put conservation first, our government is supporting local community energy planning and engaging municipalities through the Municipal Energy Plan (MEP) program.

Launched in 2013, the MEP program supports municipalities' efforts to better understand their local energy needs, develop plans to meet their goals, and identify opportunities for energy efficiency and clean energy. Municipal Energy Plans are voluntary and look at all energy uses throughout a community including the residential, commercial, transportation, institutional and industrial sectors. This differs from the mandatory Broader Public Sector Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan requirements for municipally-owned buildings under Ontario Regulation 397/11.

For more information about Ontario Regulation 397/11, please see the Broader Public Sector Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plans section below.

MEPs will help municipalities:

- assess the broader community's energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- identify opportunities to conserve, improve energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions;
- consider impact of future growth and options for local clean energy generation; and
- support local economic development.

I recently sent a letter to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario clarifying that the MEP program is available to all Ontario municipalities, including large single tier and regional municipalities. The program offers two funding streams:

1. Development of a New Municipal Energy Plan: Successful applicants will receive 50 per cent of eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$90,000.
2. Enhancement of an Existing Energy Plan: Successful applicants will receive 50 per cent of eligible costs, up to a maximum of \$25,000.

The province is currently funding nine municipalities under the MEP program.

Guidelines and the application form are available at [www.energy.gov.on.ca/en/municipal-energy/](http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/en/municipal-energy/).

### **Broader Public Sector (BPS) Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plans**

Starting in 2013, municipalities and other BPS organizations were required by regulation to:

- report their annual energy consumption and GHG emissions to the province and make that information publicly available; and
- develop five-year energy conservation and demand management plans and make those plans publicly available.

The development and implementation of these plans will help municipalities:

- reduce their energy consumption and GHG emissions;
- free up resources for core activities;
- support the development of a MEP; and
- demonstrate leadership in sustainability.

All BPS organizations, including municipalities, developed their first CDM Plans in 2014 and should be working toward implementing the energy conservation and demand management measures identified in those Plans. In 2014, 90 per cent of Ontario's municipalities reported their annual energy consumption and GHG emissions and nearly 80 per cent developed CDM Plans. Those that did not develop plans are encouraged to do so to benefit from improved energy management.

Municipalities are currently working to report their 2013 energy consumption and GHG emissions to the Ministry by July 1, 2015. A number of resources including webinars, videos, guides and tools have been created to help support reporting. Ministry staff have been in touch with officials in your municipality to ensure they are aware of the regulation's reporting requirements and the resources available to help meet the reporting requirements. Questions about the regulation and its reporting requirements can be sent to [BPSSupport@ontario.ca](mailto:BPSSupport@ontario.ca).

Should you wish to speak with ministry staff about the MEP program or the BPS reporting requirements, please feel free to contact Jennifer Block, Director, Conservation Programs and Partnerships Branch, Ministry of Energy by email at [jennifer.block@ontario.ca](mailto:jennifer.block@ontario.ca) or by phone at 416-212-9267.

## **Renewable Energy**

Building clean, reliable and affordable energy in a way that respects communities is a top priority for Ontario. The province is working with municipalities and renewable energy project developers to help ensure that cost-effective and well-supported projects are developed.

We're doing this by providing municipalities with a stronger voice in the development of large renewable energy projects.

The IESO consulted extensively with the public, municipalities, Aboriginal communities and other groups on the design of the new Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) program. The LRP's mandatory engagement requirements are intended to facilitate early relationship-building between the developer and the local community, ensuring local needs and considerations are taken into account before a proposal is even submitted. To meet these requirements, a project developer must develop a community engagement plan, and hold at least one public community meeting and at least one meeting with the local municipality.

The LRP program also includes rated criteria points for Aboriginal participation and community engagement over and above the mandatory requirements. This points-based system is intended to promote relationship building between the developer and the local municipality, and to provide additional opportunities for communities to raise local needs and considerations. Proponents that can show they have a combination of municipal support, agreements in place with the municipality, and the support of abutting property owners would receive points to increase their likelihood of success in the competitive process.

Information on the LRP program can be found on the IESO's website at [www.ieso.ca/lrp](http://www.ieso.ca/lrp).

The LRP program improves the Feed-In Tariff (FIT) program, developed in 2009. We're encouraging municipalities to be active participants in FIT, which last year offered more than 300 contracts to projects that had municipal or public sector entity participation.

Municipalities, local distribution companies, universities, colleges, schools, hospitals, long-term care homes, social housing projects and individuals are also eligible to participate in the microFIT program. By the end of 2014, more than 20,000 microFIT projects were online.

More information on the FIT and microFIT programs can be found at <http://fit.powerauthority.on.ca/>.

## **Energy East**

On October 30, 2014, TransCanada PipeLines Limited filed its application with the National Energy Board (NEB) to develop its proposed Energy East pipeline, which would carry Alberta crude oil across Ontario into Québec and onward to New Brunswick.

The project would have a total length of approximately 4,500 kilometres. As currently proposed, the project involves converting, from natural gas to oil service, one pipeline of the TransCanada Mainline that runs across the prairies and Northern Ontario to North Bay and on to Cornwall. In addition, there would be new oil pipeline construction in Alberta, Ontario (east of Cornwall), Québec and New Brunswick. Within Ontario, there would be approximately 1,928 kilometres of natural gas pipeline converted to oil service and 106 kilometres of new build oil pipeline.

On April 2, 2015, TransCanada wrote a letter to inform the NEB it will make amendments to its Energy East application. The letter indicated that TransCanada will no longer build a marine oil storage terminal and export facility at Cacouna, Québec and was looking at alternatives. In a separate news release dated April 2, 2015, TransCanada also indicated the Cacouna alteration would contribute to the project's in-service date being revised to 2020, a delay of almost two years.

Also, on April 2, 2015, TransCanada filed a letter with the NEB indicating that the company may be amending its Eastern Mainline Project application at a future date. As currently proposed, the Eastern Mainline Project is 245 kilometres of new natural gas pipeline between Markham and Cornwall. With Energy East's conversion of existing natural gas pipeline capacity to oil service, the Eastern Mainline Project is needed to ensure gas customers in eastern Ontario remain adequately supplied. Changes to the scope of the Eastern Mainline Project may have implications for Ontario natural gas consumers.

The NEB is currently reviewing TransCanada's application to determine the completeness of the filing. The letters filed by TransCanada on April 2, 2015, suggest that the NEB may not be in a position to make a determination on completeness prior to the fourth quarter of 2015. Once the NEB completes its review of the application, it will issue a Hearing Order. The Hearing Order will detail the NEB's regulatory process and timelines. The NEB will then have 15 months to complete the hearing and provide its recommendations to the Federal Cabinet, which will have three months to review and make the final determination.

The people of Ontario have important interests at stake in the proposed Energy East project and the province has applied to intervene in the NEB's regulatory process for both Energy East and the related Eastern Mainline Project.

Given the significance of TransCanada's proposal and to ensure Ontarians have the opportunity to express their views, I asked the OEB to engage with municipalities, First Nation and Métis communities, stakeholders and the public to ensure this project is safe for the people of our province and the environment and beneficial for our economy, and to complete a report based on their findings.

We initiated the OEB process to hear directly from all interested Ontarians. In addition, technical experts engaged by the OEB will help inform Ontario's position on critical matters such as pipeline safety and environmental impacts, and the impact Energy East will have on Ontario's natural gas consumers. The province's perspective on Energy East is that the reliability and pricing of Ontario's natural gas supply and ensuring the public safety of Ontarians are non-negotiable issues.

The consultation phase of the OEB's process has concluded. The OEB held meetings with communities along the pipeline route in 2014 and 2015. Stakeholder Forums were also held to get a broader perspective on issues like pipeline safety, natural gas market impacts, and the environment. Written submissions from interested parties were due to the OEB on April 24, 2015. The final reports of the technical advisors hired by the OEB have been posted on the OEB's website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/html/oebenergyeast/EEindex.cfm#.VT6YTZTXIdU](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/html/oebenergyeast/EEindex.cfm#.VT6YTZTXIdU).

At this time, it's anticipated that the OEB will deliver its final report on Energy East to me in the second quarter of 2015. Ultimately, the OEB report will help inform Ontario's position on Energy East.

We have made these important changes to increase the role of municipalities in the development of energy projects so that, together, we can fulfil the vision of the 2013 LTEP. I look forward to continuing to foster a strong working relationship with your municipality on our shared priorities and interests.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Chiarelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Bob Chiarelli  
Minister



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July 31, 2015

To Municipal Councils in the Province of Ontario

**Re: Opposed to the Sale of Hydro One**

The Council of the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen has resolved their support for the resolution passed by the County of Peterborough calling on the Provincial Government to halt the sale of any part of Hydro One; to maintain Hydro One as a wholly owned public asset for the benefit of all Ontarians; and to strengthen Hydro One by investing in the next generation of workers and upgrading aging infrastructure.

Members of Council offer their full support for the following resolution passed by the County of Peterborough and have directed that their support be circulated to all municipalities in the Province of Ontario:

*WHEREAS the public electricity system in Ontario is a critical asset to the economy and generates significant revenue for municipal and provincial governments and gives Ontario a competitive advantage; and*

*WHEREAS experience in other jurisdictions shows that privatization typically means consumers pay more for electricity; and*

*WHEREAS some Ontario municipalities have examined possible sales or mergers of their local distribution companies, and have decided not to sell to Hydro One or the private sector; and*

*WHEREAS the privatization, partial or whole, of electricity will lead to higher rates and less control; and*

*WHEREAS the sale of shares in Hydro One will provide a short-term financial gain for the province in exchange for a much larger long-term financial loss; and*

*WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has no mandate from voters to sell any part of Hydro One and that such mandate should only be pursued through a public referendum asking Ontarians for their vote of Yes or No with regards to the sale of any part of Hydro One;*

*NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that The Corporation of the County of Peterborough call on the provincial government to:*


- Halt the sale of any part of Hydro One, and maintain Hydro One as a wholly public asset for the benefit of all Ontarians;*
- Strengthen Hydro One by investing in the next generation of workers and upgrading aging infrastructure;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER resolved that the County of Peterborough communicate this resolution to the Premier, with copies to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy, area MPP's and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER resolved that The Corporation of the County of Peterborough work through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Electricity Distributors Association to express their opposition to the privatization of Hydro One.*

Thank you for your consideration and support in this matter.

On behalf of the Council of the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen,



Glenn Girven  
Clerk

Cc The Premier of Ontario  
The Minister of Finance  
The Minister of Energy  
M.P.P. Jeff Leal  
Association of the Municipalities of Ontario



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AUG 18 2015

August 12, 2015

Mayor Jim Gibson  
Townships of Head Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, Ontario K0J 2K0

Dear Mayor Gibson:

AMCTO (Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario) recognizes the importance of celebrating the achievements of our members. To this end, AMCTO annually recognizes its members - in 10 year increments - for longstanding commitment to the Association and to the municipal profession. A certificate recognizing each member's years of service to AMCTO has been forwarded to them directly.

This year in your municipality, we acknowledge the commitment of the following valued member(s) of your staff:

Melinda Reith                      10 years

We ask you to assist us in recognizing the individual(s) for their ongoing support for the Association and for the part they continue to play in helping to improve the municipal profession and in making AMCTO the leading organization in fostering and sustaining municipal excellence.

Our sincere gratitude to you for your continued support for these valued AMCTO members and dedicated employees of your organization. We trust that your municipality has tremendously benefited from their membership in AMCTO and we are confident that it will continue to do so.

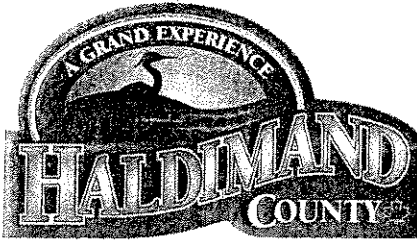
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Wray", written in a cursive style.

Chris Wray, AMCT  
President

cc: Chief Administrative Officer





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July 10, 2015

The Honourable Charles Sousa  
Minister of Finance  
7 Queen's Park Crescent, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

And

The Honourable Ted McMeekin  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Dear Sirs:

RE: Vacancy Rebate Program

Please be advised that on June 22, 2015, Haldimand County Council adopted the following resolution:

*WHEREAS a Vacancy Rebate Program, as defined under Section 364 of The Municipal Act and Ontario Regulation 325/01, allows for property tax relief to be granted to eligible business properties when vacant for a minimum of 90 consecutive days;*

*AND WHEREAS Haldimand County does not believe that the Provincial legislation intended that local taxpayers bear the cost of a business/collective bargaining strategy when such "vacancy" is caused by a labour disruption, such as an employee lockout/strike;*

*AND WHEREAS a recent interim decision by the Assessment Review Board to allow for a vacancy tax rebate under these circumstances is precedent setting, unless overturned on appeal;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Finance and Minister of Municipal Affairs be requested to review this legislation from a public policy perspective, to ensure that businesses are not eligible for a reduced property tax burden if the claimed "vacancy" is a result of a labour disruption;*

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following for their support:

- M.P.P. Toby Barrett
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (and for circulation to all member municipalities)
- City of Toronto
- Municipal Finance Officers Association
- Ontario Municipal Tax and Revenue Association
- Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers
- Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
- Ontario Federation of Labour
- Canadian Labour Congress

Should you require further information, please contact Karen General, General Manager, Corporate Services at 905-318-5932 x 6321.

Yours truly,



Evelyn Eichenbaum  
Clerk

EE/tc

cc M.P.P. Toby Barrett  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
City of Toronto  
Municipal Finance Officers Association  
Ontario Municipal Tax and Revenue Association  
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers  
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation  
Ontario Federation of Labour  
Canadian Labour Congress  
Mark Merritt, Treasurer, Haldimand County  
Karen General

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**Head, Clara, Maria - M. Reith**

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**From:** "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Date:** July-06-15 5:06 PM  
**To:** <twpshcm@xplornet.com>  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Municipal Payments for 2015 Blue Box Steward Obligation

July 6, 2015

## Municipal Payments for 2015 Blue Box Steward Obligation

On June 30, 2015, Stewardship Ontario (SO) sent the first 2015 payment to municipalities who provide the Blue Box Program for their residents. For individual municipal payment amounts see [WDO - Blue Box Program](#) and click on "2015" under heading "Municipal Funding" on right hand column. Packaging and printed paper producers and stewards are represented by SO. To satisfy their responsibility to fund 50% of the net cost of the Blue Box Program, SO makes cash payments to municipalities on a quarterly basis.

The determination of the Blue Box Steward Obligation has been challenging in 2014 and 2015. Annually, the Municipal Industry Program Committee (MIPC) comprised of members of AMO and City of Toronto and SO, is required to determine the Steward Obligation for the Blue Box Program.

Last year the 2014 Steward Obligation was determined by arbitration and resulted in the municipal Blue Box Programs receiving an additional \$15.6 million for that year ([Blue Box Arbitration Decision - Analysis and Next Steps](#)). This year SO and the municipal representatives on the Municipal Industry Program Committee (MIPC) could not agree again on the determination of the 2015 Blue Box Steward Obligation. The municipal MIPC members said the arbitrator's approach which he suggested for 2015 should be used again. SO disagreed. MIPC was directed into a mediation process by the Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) Board in April 2015.

In mid-June the mediation between SO and AMO/City of Toronto was concluded as there was no common ground between parties' interpretations on how to determine the Steward Obligation. AMO and City of Toronto subsequently wrote letters to the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), asking for a ministerial regulation that would clarify how the Obligation should be set and calculated for 2015 and future years to avoid annual disputes until new legislation is in force.

On June 16, 2015 Minister Murray wrote to WDO and stated that:

- WDO has the authority to determine payments to individual municipalities and that they should do so without delay.
- WDO should take the steps necessary to determine the payments for 2015 and in subsequent years where the MIPC is unable to achieve consensus on the payments.
- SO is expected to make such payments as required under the Blue Box Program Plan by which it is governed.
- Pending the determination of the final 2015 payments, SO should make quarterly interim payments to municipalities starting June 30, 2015.
- WDO should determine an appropriate methodology for cost containment using all available information.
- WDO should report back to the Minister by September 30, 2015.

07/07/2015

At WDO's Board Meeting on June 17, 2015 the following direction was provided to MIPC:

- The 2015 Steward Obligation will be calculated using the methodology set out in the 2014 arbitration decision of The Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C.
- This determination results in a total 2015 Steward Obligation of \$114,600,548 to be paid by SO through quarterly instalments commencing on June 30, 2015. Of this:
  - \$2,000,000 is to be directed to the Continuous Improvement Fund;
  - \$6,945,011 is the in-kind contribution; and
  - \$105,655,537 is to be paid out in cash to Ontario municipalities.
- In addition, WDO will establish a Panel to submit recommendations to WDO on a methodology to apply cost containment principles to the determination of the annual Blue Box Steward Obligation, and to submit recommendations regarding the in-kind program, to address the concerns raised by the arbitrator.
- The Panel will be appointed by WDO and will consist of five members: AMO/City of Toronto may recommend one panel member, and SO may recommend one panel member for WDO's consideration. WDO asked that AMO/City of Toronto and SO submit their panel member recommendation no later than July 3, 2015.
- The Panel will consult with stakeholders and submit recommendations to WDO on a methodology for applying cost containment principles by September 11, 2015.
- The Panel will also consult with stakeholders and submit recommendations to WDO on recommendations concerning the in-kind program by September 11, 2015 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The MIPC AMO/City of Toronto representatives provided a jointly determined panel member to WDO by July 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is encouraging that WDO has included the in-kind program in this review as the municipal sector has been long asking for changes to the in-kind program which were imposed upon municipalities in 2005 and which the Arbitrator stated were "extremely unfair to municipalities".

AMO is requesting clarification from WDO on the terms of reference for the Panel regarding cost containment as per the Minister's direction as opposed to payment containment.

Further, AMO member updates will be provided regarding the Blue Box Program once the WDO review has provided advice to the MOECC Minister by September 30<sup>th</sup> as well as new waste management legislation expected this fall.

**AMO Contact:** Dave Gordon, Senior Advisor Waste Diversion, e-mail: [dgordon@amo.on.ca](mailto:dgordon@amo.on.ca), 416.971.9856 ext. 371.

**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.

**DISCLAIMER:** Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

07/07/2015