



TRAVEL FOR FUN AND FUNDRAISING!

If you've found yourself wishing you could spend more time traveling during the upcoming year, look no further than this exciting opportunity and you'll be well on your way to a year filled with new adventures. A partnership has been forged between the Deep River and District Hospital Foundation and Brian Kendrick's team at TravelOnly which presents a better way to travel in 2016. You can explore the volcanic landscapes, coffee plantations, cloud forests and much more of tropical Costa Rica while benefitting our local hospital at the same time. Join *Collette* on this tour from November 10 – 18, 2016 and a minimum of \$150 per person will be generated for the Deep River and District Hospital Foundation. In order to increase the fundraising potential of this trip even more, Brian Kendrick will also make a gift for each traveller that he books.

Collette's 9-day guided tour begins in Costa Rica's colourful capital city of San Jose, and then journeys through the lush countryside to the Guancaste coffee region, then travels to encounter the incredible species of flora and fauna of the Monteverde Cloud Forest. Next, you'll venture into dazzling butterfly and hummingbird gardens, and perhaps take a zip-line tour if you are feeling adventurous. You will learn more about Monteverde's reforestation efforts during a visit to a tree nursery before moving on to Arenal for breathtaking volcanic views from a cruise on Lake Arenal. After, you'll enjoy a cooking demonstration and learn about the unique flavours of Costa Rican cuisine. Day seven will bring you to Cano Negro, a remote nature preserve that is home to the largest viewable selection of indigenous wildlife in Costa Rica. While in Cano Negro, you will embark on a guided river boat trip and end the day with an optional visit to one of the finest spas in the region. Before heading home, you will be able to discover the charming towns of Zarcero and Grecia, as well as the National Theatre in San Jose. For a more detailed daily description of this 9-day tour and costs, you can pick up a brochure from the DRDH Foundation or head to www.drdhfoundation.com to access an electronic brochure.

If you are interested in traveling and supporting the DRDH Foundation, but the dates or destination of the Tropical Costa Rica trip don't work for you, the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce is presenting an Irish Splendour tour from October 19 – 26, 2016. If you book a spot on the Irish Splendour tour, you may ask Brian to direct your fundraising dollars back to the DRDH Foundation. Both the Tropical Costa and Irish Splendour trips can generate funds for either the DRDH Foundation or the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce – you just have to choose which organization you would like to support. All funds generated for the Deep River and District Hospital Foundation will help to sustain the exceptional services offered at the Deep River and District Hospital through the purchase of vital capital equipment. FREE information sessions will be held for both the Costa Rica and Ireland tours at two (2) venues on March 16, 2016. The first session will be held at the Deep River Royal Canadian Legion (50 McElligott Drive) at 2:30 pm and the second will be held at the Pembroke Senior Citizen's Drop In & Activities Centre (42 Renfrew Street) at 6:30 pm.

Booking a different getaway with Brian Kendrick's team at Travel Only? Mention that you would like to support the DRDH Foundation and Brian will make a gift from any booking through his TravelOnly for Fundraising Program! For more information, contact Brian's team at (613) 635 – 7000 or bkendrick@travelonly.com.

YOU'RE INVITED

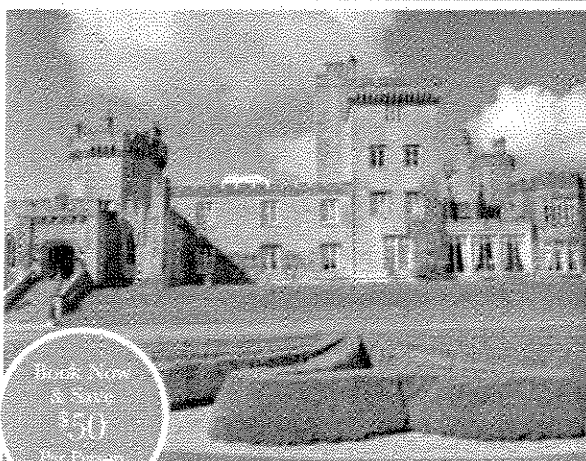
To Travel Presentations for 2 Fundraising Tours

Come join Brian Kendrick's TravelOnly and Collette Vacations

The Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce presents

Irish Splendour

October 19 - 26, 2016



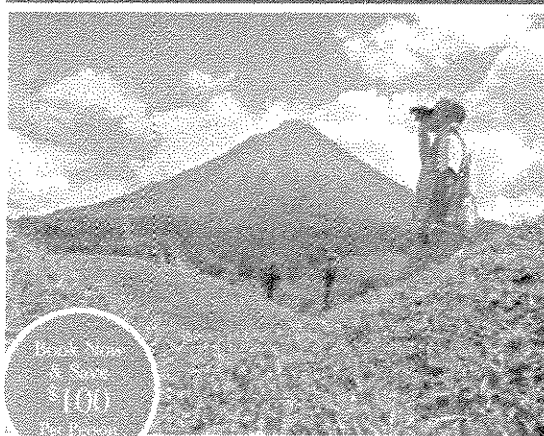
Book Now
& Save
\$50
Per Person

Deep River and District Hospital presents

Tropical Costa Rica

with Optional 3 Night Jungle Adventure Post-Tour Extension

November 10 - 18, 2016



Book Now
& Save
\$100
Per Person

FREE Information Sessions will be held for both tours

At two venues on March 16

2:30 pm at

Deep River Royal Canadian
Legion

50 McElligott Drive, DR

6:30 pm at

Pembroke Senior Citizen's
Drop In & Activities Centre

42 Renfrew St, Pembroke

For Pre-Registration **CALL TODAY!**

613-635-7000 x900

North Renfrew County Health Link Communiqué

Fiscal Year Update

The fiscal year of North Renfrew County Health Link is coming to a close. With that is the opportunity to look back on the first year of the implementation of North Renfrew County Health Link. We acknowledge the great support of our community partners. You have provided us with guidance and oversight through our Steering Committee, our Care Coordination Working Group and our various board and team presentations.

We especially want to acknowledge Renfrew County Paramedics, Champlain CCAC and Renfrew County Community Mental Health for providing staff members to be trained as Health Link Care Coordinators. And to our clinical partners who have trusted us to refer some of their most complex patients and clients, thank you as well.

We have exceeded our Year 1 target of initiating thirty Coordinated Care Plans (CCPs). Currently, we have 34 active patients, with 9 transitioned. In Year 2, the LHIN target for NRCHL is 120 initiated Coordinated Care Plans. This target is cumulative, so it will include our final Year 1 numbers.

North Renfrew County Health Link Accountability Framework

The challenge of Health Links is to coordinate care for the most complex patients within existing resources. With that in mind, our Steering Committee has adopted a sustainable framework which we think will meet this goal. (See figure 1 on page 2).

Virtual Team: Care Coordinators within individual organizations use the CCP template as a way to plan and deliver care for the patients they identify as Health Link patients. Internal care coordinators conduct this work, using mandatory templates and reporting. They form care teams around their particular patient. They act as the prime care coordinators for their particular patient. However, they have form a virtual interdisciplinary team of care coordinators from a range of different health and social service organizations.

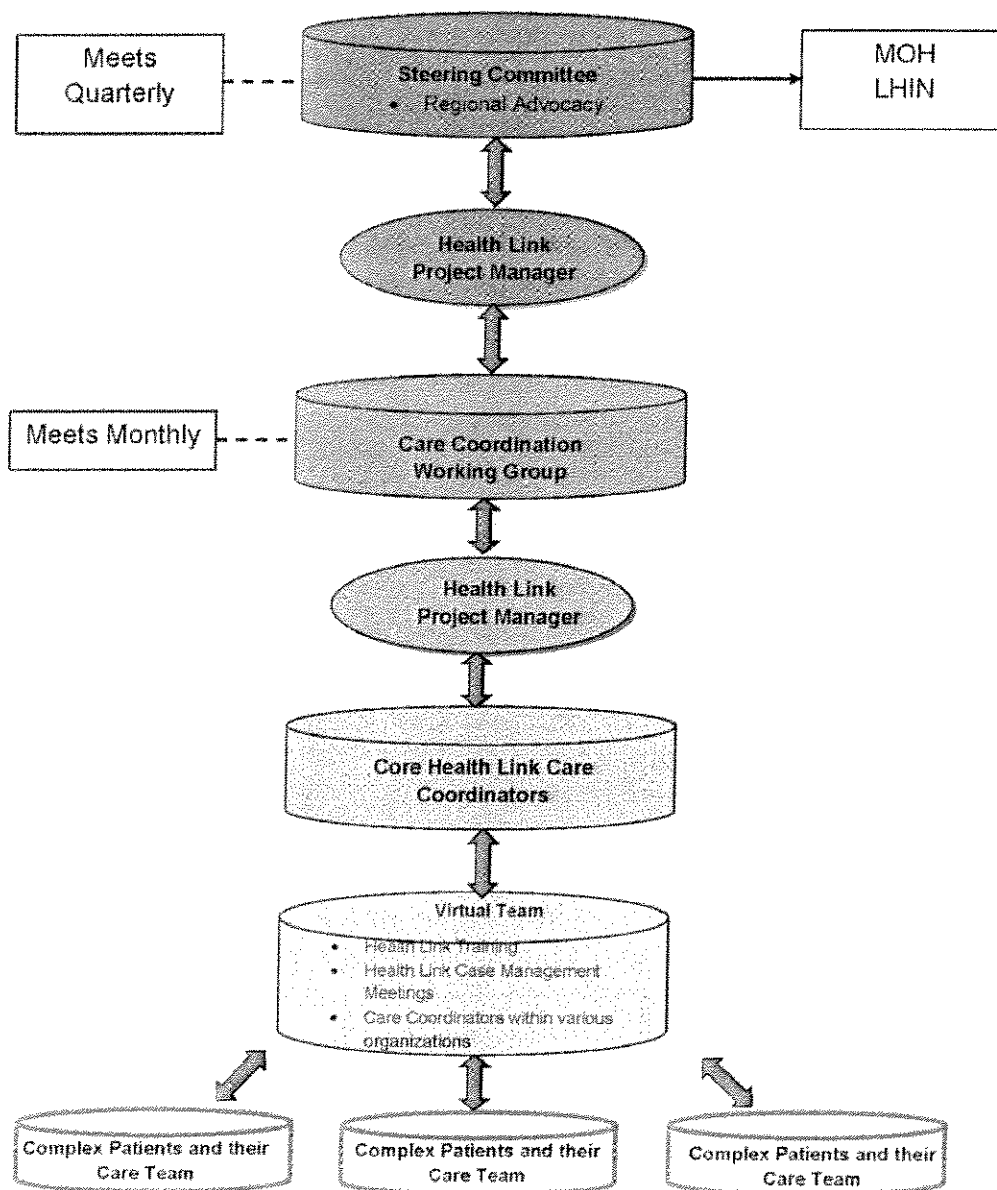
This virtual team uses the same template, uses the same electronic platform, and taps into the team's professional expertise. On a regular basis, the virtual team meets for face-to-face inservices to discuss common themes. This team has access to a smaller core team of Health Link Care Coordinators and the Health Link Project Manager.

Core Team: This core team of Health Link Care Coordinators work outside of their home organization. They handle complex patients who have been identified outside of participating organizations, perhaps through ER usage data or by virtue of being unattached patients. They also serve as patient advocates on behalf of the internal care coordinators, filtering and compiling requests for additional services for Health Links patients. They also work with the Health Link Project Manager to advocate for better local processes and resource allocation. They help with the training of internal care coordinators, and with the continuing education of those internal care coordinators.

Coordination Working Group: This group was formulated in Year 1 of NRCHL. Its mandate includes reviewing all operational details of Health Link care coordination and making recommendations to the Steering Committee.

Care Steering Committee: This group is responsible for the implementation of the Health Links model of care within the NRCHL geography.

Figure 1 NRCHL Accountability Framework



We look forward to adopting this model, learning at each step from our partners.

For more information on this exciting initiative, please contact Jennifer Kennedy, Project Manager:

Phone: (613) 732-3675, ext. 8740
 Fax: (613) 732-9986
Jennifer.Kennedy@prh.email

Melinda Reith

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From: Ron Higgins <[REDACTED]>
Sent: February 24, 2016 6:07 PM
To: Bob Kingsbury (Mayor); Bonnie Adams (Reeve Carlo/Mayo); Brian Campbell (Deputy Mayor Tay); Brian Stewart (Mayor Lanark); Frances Smith (Mayor); Garry Gruntz; Glenda McKay (Mayor); Henry Hogg (Addington); Jim Gibson (Head Clara Maria); Kim Love (Mayor); Shaun McLaughlin (Mayor); Tom Peckett (Mayor); Vivian Bloom (Mayor)
Cc: Allison Holtzhauer (CAO GM); Arlene Cox (Clerk Administrator Carlow/Mayo); Cathy Macmunn (CF); Cheryl Robson; Christine Reed (AH); Craig Kelley (CAO/Clerk MV); Diane Smithson (CAO MM); Lindsey Parkes (CAO/Clerk MB); Mackie McLaren (Horton); Matt Craig (CAO LH); Melinda Reith (CAO HCM); Michelle Mantifel (Clerk BLR); Pat Pilgrim (CAO HH)
Subject: OGRA ROMA Conference Summary

I just got back from the OGRA/ROMA conference and wanted to summarize our meetings, especially for those who could not attend. We met with Deputy Minister Torigian Community Safety and Correctional Services and we had a great discussion on the issues we identified in the OPP Funding Model. The meeting was limited to 15 minutes but we managed to have a ½ hour meeting with him and his team. Key points we stressed that we will get feedback on are;

- 1) Having direct input into the revision of the Police Services Act. We will probably do this through ROMA.
- 2) Municipalities now paying 38% of the OPP costs therefore we want direct participation in the budgeting process and some involvement in the high level management of OPP resources.
- 3) The services required for our small rural municipalities is not the same as urban centers and therefore the costs to police rural areas is much less.
- 4) the MPAC data is incorrect and the going back and recalculating the number of households is unfair and causing budgeting nightmares. This item really caught their attention

Questions we asked that we will await a response on are;

- 1) The OPP is a service provided by the Province and as such the OPP should be managed and funded by the Provincial coffers and not the municipalities, unless we enter into a contract with the OPP. Our question was "is the Province hiding the true cost of OPP by having the municipalities fund part of it, and if so is this part of a bigger scheme to download other services to municipalities so that it does not "appear" on the Provincial books?"
- 2) Are front line police officers being paid to perform administrative duties, as we suspect, for such things as data entry, break and enter investigations, escorting and securing crime scenes as a few examples? (I am using examples from the ROMA AMO meeting here which was held after this meeting)

We then met with the President Gary McNamara of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Chair Ron Holman of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) to introduce ourselves and agree on collaboration between us. We presented key issues like OPP, Cell, Broadband and grant funding. They asked us to also include waste management as one of our priorities as this is on the table as we speak.

Both organizations agreed that we can work together and use their position and voice with the government to get our voices heard with the Premier and her Ministers. Some key actions for us to work on and discuss at our next meeting are;

1. Write individual letters with regards to waste issues

2. Write an RMFEO letter with regards to waste issues
3. Start tracking and use historical data from the last 2 years to track tax arrears and tax sales. This may show the impact to rate payers on cost of downloading
4. Each municipality to provide an assessment of how downloaded costs have affected your asset management plans
5. Assess whether or not trailers are included in your assessments for OPP billing

The rationale for using letters versus resolutions is that resolutions are pretty much ignored but letters have a better chance of action. Advice provided by ROMA.

Hopefully we will have some information and guidelines from AMO and ROMA in regards to the above so we can discuss and coordinate our actions in this regard at our next meeting.

Action for ROMA and AMO is to work on better communications from their end to municipalities.

In summary we have the start to some positive working relationships with both these organizations.

For those who were in attendance if you want to add anything I may have missed or misinterpreted we can formulate a final report for our next meeting.



Rural Mayors' Forum of Eastern Ontario

<mailto:ruralfmfeo@gmail.com>

Twitter [@ruralfmfeo](#)

613-884-9736

[Facebook](#)





Melinda Reith

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: February 25, 2016 4:55 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - 2016 Provincial Budget

February 25, 2016

2016 Provincial Budget

Today the Honourable Charles Sousa delivered the 2016 Provincial Budget. Highlights for the municipal sector include the following:

- The government is projecting a deficit of \$5.7 billion in 2015-16 and \$4.3 billion in 2016-17. This is an improved fiscal picture from recent projections made in the Fall Economic Statement. The government remains committed to a balanced budget in 2017-18.
- The provincial government will continue to honour the upload agreement to 2018. Beyond 2018, the government will focus on investing in infrastructure.
- The budget reaffirms infrastructure announcements made by Premier Wynne earlier this week:
 - The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) will increase to \$300 million per year by 2018-19. Please see the AMO Member Update from earlier this week for more details.
 - The Connecting Links program will be increased by \$5 million in 2016-17 to total \$20 million. It will increase to \$30 million per year by 2018-19.
- Plans for the Power Dam Special Payment Program claw back have been permanently shelved. This is good news for the over 100 municipalities that host power dam facilities. AMO had also been seeking the inflationary indexing of these payments. Future funding will remain stable for 2017 and beyond.
- The government has responded to a request made by the City of Ottawa, supported by AMO and MFOA, to make technical adjustment to the provincially prescribed property tax rate calculation. This change is expected to have positive municipal fiscal impact resulting from in-year assessment changes.
- Allocations to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) remain unchanged in 2017 at \$505 million. AMO had been seeking inflationary and population change related increases of \$11 million.
- The government reaffirmed its commitment to cap and trade. It will generate \$1.9 billion annually starting in 2017-18 to fulfill climate change objectives. No further details are provided in the budget related to municipal eligibility for infrastructure investments that support active transportation, public transit, or lands that support reduced emissions. However, the budget provides for cap and trade proceeds of \$478 million in 2016-17 directed to investments in home and business energy efficiency, innovation funding, public transit and transportation infrastructure, and clean technology.
- \$178 million over three years is allocated to support Ontario's Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy. This includes:
 - the construction of up to 1,500 new housing units
 - \$2.4 million to pilot a new portable housing benefit for those fleeing domestic violence
 - new provincial funding for the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) by \$45 million over three years (\$15 million per year).
- Ontario Works social assistance rates will increase by 1.5%. This change will not affect municipalities until January 2017.
- The Province will design and implement a Basic Income pilot project. The Province will work with communities and other stakeholders to design and implement such a pilot.
- The budget reaffirms the 2014-15 three-year commitment to create 1,000 new housing spaces for people with mental health and addiction issues. This will include \$4 million for 248 supportive housing units in 2016-17.
- An additional \$85 million over three years will be provided to assist primary care teams to recruit and retain qualified inter-professional staff. This will help clinics to continue to provide services in rural, northern, and fast-growing communities.

AMO will continue its budget analysis in the days ahead and provide additional member updates as needed.

AMO Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, E-mail: mwilson@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 323.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Rural Community Vitality Measurement Initiative - DESCRIPTION

The Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) is leading a 30-month applied research and analysis initiative focused on deepening understanding of effective practices for quantifying rural civic engagement, social capital and community well-being. It will also demonstrate methods for municipal evaluation of community impacts and social return on investment.

The viability and economic success of small towns and rural communities is closely related to a number of intangible factors which are hard to measure but integral to municipal functions. The overarching goal of the initiative is to assist rural stakeholders by undertaking projects which enable information sharing, capture practitioner insights and lessons learned, and facilitate peer exchange of best practices surrounding these hard to measure aspects.

Funded by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the initiative includes seven research and knowledge transfer projects grouped under three themes. The projects will commence in May 2015 and conclude by August 2017.

Theme: Rural Municipal Leadership – Succession Planning

- Rural Councillor Profile
- Youth Civic Engagement Showcase

Theme: Showcasing Effective Measurement Approaches

- Tracking Citizen Participation and Engagement: Best Practice Resource
- Rural Case Studies of Social Return on Investment and Community Impact

Theme: Rural Quality of life and Community Well-being

- Rural Well-Being Reporting: Demonstration Project
- Small Area Data Guide as related to the *Focus on Rural Ontario* fact sheet series
- Rural Foresight Papers

ROI is looking forward to engaging stakeholder organizations and collaborating with key partners on each project. If you are interested in the above themes and projects and would like to learn more, please contact Norman Ragetlie, Director, Policy and Stakeholder Engagement by email at mcassidy@ruralontarioinstitute.ca or by phone at 519-826-4204.

The information contained in this document/report/website is provided solely by the Rural Ontario Institute for general information purposes only. The Government of Ontario is not responsible for the content or accuracy of content of the information contained in the document/report/website. The Government of Ontario makes no representations of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability or suitability of the information.

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Melinda Reith

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: February 22, 2016 5:06 PM
To: hmcclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - AMO Welcomes Increased Infrastructure Funding for Municipalities

February 22, 2016

AMO Welcomes Increased Infrastructure Funding for Municipalities

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, announced at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association - Ontario Good Roads Association Combined Conference today that the Province would triple funding under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) by 2018-19.

The Premier announced that the OCIF formula funding component will be doubled next year from \$50 million to \$100 million and increased ultimately to \$200 million within three years. The application portion of OCIF will also continue, increasing to \$100 million in year three.

"We welcome the commitment of dollars and the formula-based approach. As I said earlier today, municipal governments need support from the Provincial and Federal governments, both in terms of funding and planning for Ontario's infrastructure needs," said AMO President, Gary McNamara.

The Premier also announced that the Province would allow OCIF to be banked for up to five years to pay for larger projects and streamline applications to better reward good asset management by municipalities. Finally, the Connecting Links program will be increased to \$20 million next year and \$30 million in 2018-19.

AMO and Ontario municipalities have long sought to put provincial funding for infrastructure on a more sustained and predictable path. Increasing formula funding helps to acknowledge the progress municipal governments have made on asset management planning to understand funding priorities. Sustainable infrastructure funding supports local economies and quality of life across Ontario.

AMO Contact: Craig Reid, Senior Advisor, E-mail: creid@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 334.

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Melinda Reith

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From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: February 19, 2016 3:45 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Ontario Announces Transformation of Children and Family Programs

February 19, 2016

Transformation of Children and Family Services

Today, AMO's President Gary McNamara joined Premier Wynne, Deputy Premier Deb Mathews, and the Minister of Education Liz Sandals as the Province announced a new approach to transform child and family programs through the creation of Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres. These hubs are currently known as Best Start Child and Family Centres. The centres are intended to offer parents and children a range of early years programs, as well as local community services.

As part of the transformation, the Province is combining four child and family programs into one set of integrated services. These programs are:

- Ontario Early Years Centres
- Parenting and Family Literacy Centres
- Child Care Resources Centres
- Better Beginnings, Better Futures.

Some municipal governments and District Social Services Administration Boards have responsibility to deliver some of these programs. Further, all municipal service system managers play a leading role in local early years service planning which includes these programs.

Today's announcement is noteworthy for the municipal sector as it stated that municipal governments and District Social Services Administration Boards, that are already managing child care, will be transferred management responsibility for the delivery of programs and core services of Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres by 2018. The provincial government has committed that it will maintain its current investment in child and family programs and will develop a new transparent and responsive funding approach that will redistribute funding by 2018. AMO expects that the ongoing program costs will be 100% funded by the Province and not constitute a new cost-shared program.

Going forward, the Ministry of Education will work collaboratively with municipal governments, District Social Service Administration Boards, and the early years sector to facilitate this transformation in a way that works best for the children and families of communities across the diversity of Ontario. Enabling flexibility to meet local community needs will be the key to achieving best results and outcomes for residents. AMO will be involved in representing the municipal interest to make sure that appropriate governance and funding arrangements are put into place.

Further details are found in the Ontario government News Release "[Improving Access to Services for Young Children and Their Families](#)", and the document "[Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres: A Public Plan](#)."

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, E-mail: mjacek@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 Ext. 329.

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Melinda Reith

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: February 16, 2016 12:37 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO POLICY UPDATE - Ontario Announces Green Social Housing Retrofits

February 16, 2016

Ontario Announces Green Social Housing Retrofits

On Friday February 12th, the Ontario Government announced a targeted investment of \$92 million from the Green Investment Fund for social housing retrofits. The funding is part of the provincial effort to address climate change and will help municipal governments and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSAB) to green their social housing units while addressing capital repair backlogs. AMO welcomes this announcement as it will have multiple benefits such as helping a vulnerable population, reducing energy demand and greenhouse gases, and providing local jobs.

Of the funding, \$82 million is dedicated to retrofits of high rise social housing towers of 150 units or more across the province. \$10 million is earmarked to improve electrical efficiency in approximately 1300 social housing homes which are often located in smaller and rural communities. The Expressions of Interest deadline for municipal Service Managers and DSSABS to submit business cases under each program is Friday, March 11, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Municipal governments are important partners in Ontario's climate change agenda. Municipalities have long taken action to reduce energy demand, green their communities, provide transit and other transportation options to residents. AMO has called on the Province to enter a long-term partnership with municipal governments to invest in our communities to lower greenhouse gases and help communities adapt to a changing climate.

Further details are found in the Ontario government news release [Ontario Investing \\$92 Million to Create Jobs and Retrofit Social Housing](#).

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, E-mail: mjacek@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 Ext. 329.

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Melinda Reith

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: February 12, 2016 3:56 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO POLICY UPDATE - Policing Consultations Announced

February 12, 2016

Policing Consultations Announced

Today the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Honourable Yasir Naqvi, announced a plan to consult with the public on updating the *Police Services Act*. A link to the Minister's announcement is [here](#).

In addition, Ministry officials have advised AMO that they will also hold multiple one-day sessions across the province with municipal representatives, police service boards, health and social service providers, and community organizations. Today's announcement did not include any of these details but they are expected to commence soon.

AMO strongly believes in the need to advance the agenda of policing reform. Economics alone inform the need:

- 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; and
- For at least a decade, police spending has been growing at three times the rate of inflation.

A number of factors are driving high policing costs for individual municipalities. This includes the implementation of the new OPP billing model, interest arbitration, the labour relations framework and the standards imposed by legislation. While all of these issues are important and have a bearing on cost, the current consultation is centered on updating the *Police Services Act*. Similarly, municipal input to the upcoming consultations should be focused on legislative change. More specifically, municipalities and communities should consider the following fundamental questions:

- How do we want to be policed in the future?
- How can we improve the effectiveness and efficiency of this critical public service?

Last year AMO established a Policing Modernization Task Force to help answer these questions. The Task Force interviewed experts, reviewed the best academic research available and had thorough and lengthy discussions on specific issues about the future of policing. [The Report](#) has been downloaded over 5,500 times since its release in April 2015. It contains 34 recommendations centered on providing ideas and a vision for the future of how this critical public service can be delivered. These recommendations are divided into four themes: partnership, productivity, performance and personnel. [Additional policing material](#) and resources are available on AMO's website.

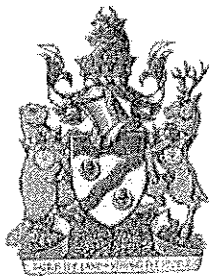
In the coming days, AMO will offer some additional members' briefings on key elements of the report and provide an opportunity for membership discussions to help inform municipal participation at the Ministry's consultations.

In addition, AMO will be doing the following:

- Reconvening AMO's Policing Modernization Task Force to consider some specific questions presented by the consultation;
- Continuing to participate at the Ministry's Future of Policing Advisory Committee;
- Discussions with the government at the AMO-MOU consultation table; and
- Providing further information to support municipal governments on various issues including police governance.

We encourage all councils to consider the AMO report's recommendations and to discuss municipal policing modernization priorities and legislative reform with the Minister, the Ministry, local MPPs, police service boards, local Chiefs of Police and Detachment Commanders, local police associations and the public.

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Regular Council Meeting Resolution Form

Date: February 22, 2016 No: RESOLUTION - 113-2016
 Moved by Councillor Brum Disposition: CARRIED.
 Seconded by Councillor Lang Item No: 9.2

Description: Paramedics - City of Ottawa & County of Renfrew

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS the hiring freeze in the City of Ottawa paramedic system is affecting the response times of our ambulance services in Renfrew County; **AND WHEREAS** in Renfrew County, paramedics said they are feeling the impact of the change; **AND WHEREAS** it has been noticed that long wait times are occurring for our local residents to be transported in an emergency situation; **AND WHEREAS** by Ontario law, units from the County's paramedic service must respond to emergency calls if they are closest; **AND WHEREAS** Renfrew County paramedic Chief Michael Nolan has advised "It leaves us significantly short in our own communities when we're responding into the City of Ottawa"; **AND WHEREAS** pulling back of emergency services resources in the City of Ottawa is affecting our Township as their neighbours to be the responding agency; **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Ottawa be petitioned to expedite hiring the required paramedics to alleviate the burden being placed on the County of Renfrew paramedic services; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be circulated to the City of Ottawa, all municipalities in Renfrew County, and the Provincial and Federal Ministries of Health for support.



 MAYOR

Recorded Vote Requested by:

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

	Yea	Nay
T. Peckett	_____	_____
B. Armsden	_____	_____
H. Lang	_____	_____
M. MacKenzie	_____	_____
S. Brum	_____	_____

Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated
 he/her/their seat(s),
 abstained from discussion and did not vote

Township of McNab/Braeside
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY



 Angela Young, Deputy Clerk

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The Corporation of the Township of Burpee and Mills

8 Bailey Line Road
Evansville ON P0P 1E0
Phone & Fax: 705 282 0624
E-mail: burpeemills@vianet.ca

Monday, February 22, 2016

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

To Whom It May Concern,

The Municipality of Burpee-Mills is seeking support in the form of a resolution forwarded to Premier Kathleen Wynne's office. Tax incentive programs are put in place to benefit all Ontarians. Unfortunately, the reality is that the cost to fund these programs is only absorbed by the municipalities where these designations are applied. We feel, what benefits all of Ontario, should be paid for by all of Ontario.

Yours Truly,

Ken Noland, Reeve
Township of Burpee and Mills



The Corporation of the Township of Burpee and Mills

8 Bailey Line Road
Evansville ON P0P 1E0
Phone & Fax: 705 282 0624
E-mail: burpeemills@vianet.ca

Monday, February 22, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne,

The Municipal Council of Burpee and Mills is very concerned that the Provincial Government continues to advocate that private conservation organizations purchase lands on Manitoulin Island. Under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP), these lands become designated "Tax Exempt" by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

To date, Burpee and Mills Township properties, assessed at approximately \$900,000.00, have been designated eligible for CLTIP tax exemption. There has been absolutely no consultation or regard for the municipality's ability to absorb the lost revenue. Our Municipality is now required to deal with this serious shortfall, while being forced to continue funding other programs originally created as Provincial responsibilities and then downloaded to the Municipalities. Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program, Agricultural Land Tax Incentive Program, and the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program cost the Municipality of Burpee and Mills over \$73,000.00 each year. This represents a 13% loss in annual tax revenue.

Nature Conservancy of Canada is presently negotiating purchase of an additional 160 hectares in Burpee Township. Our Municipality has reached a level of critical tax base erosion resulting from such tax reduced and tax exempt properties. Council is now prepared to challenge the eligibility of any such conservation lands for CLTIP designation.

Our Council requests that the Province assist this Municipality by:

- Requirement to pay fair taxes on all properties with conservation status designated under the CLTIP.
- Provision of Provincial "grants in lieu" for any land designations resulting from Provincial incentive programs.
- A moratorium on all further CLTIP designations on Burpee and Mills properties by the MNRF.

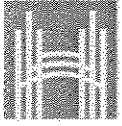
Our Council requests a meeting with you and appropriate Ministers to find a resolution to these financial shortfalls to our Municipality created by these incentive programs. A timely response, suggesting viable solutions, would be appreciated.

Yours Truly,

Ken Noland, Reeve
Township of Burpee and Mills

Cc: Gary McNamara, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Al Spaack, President, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

DISCLAIMER: This material is provided under contract as a paid service by the originating organization and does not necessarily reflect the view or positions of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), its subsidiary companies, officers, directors or agents.



City Hall, 71 Main Street West
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www.hamilton.ca

Office of the City Clerk
Physical Address: 71 Main Street West, 1st Floor
Phone (905) 546-4408 Fax # (905) 546-2095
E-mail: clerk@hamilton.ca

13

Hamilton

February 25, 2016

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on February 24, 2016, approved Item 6 of Planning Committee Report 16-003 which reads as follows:

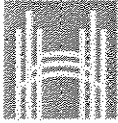
Moved by: Councillor Matthew Green
Seconded by: Councillor Judi Partridge

6. Amendment to Business Licensing By-law 07-170 to License Payday Loans Businesses (PED16039) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)

That City of Hamilton Business Licensing By-law 07-170 be amended in accordance with the draft By-law attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED16039, which has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, by creating a license category for Payday Loans Businesses, subject to approval of the following:

- (a) That a \$750 Annual Licensing Fee for administration, materials, inspections and enforcement be approved and added to the User Fees and Charges By-law;
- (b) That an additional .25 FTE to enforce and administer the Payday Loans Businesses License be approved based on 100% cost recovery and with no additional impact to the tax levy.
- (c) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable MPP David Oraziotti, Minister of Government and Consumer Services, formally requesting that the Province:
 - (i) make it a criminal offence to charge more than 30% interest per annum;
 - (ii) make loan flipping and excessive refinancing illegal and require a signature of the borrower for all changes to the terms of the loan;
 - (iii) institute interest and financing fee caps;
 - (iv) institute government mandated registrations for all loans and require all companies that provide loans and financing in Canada to register with the government;
 - (v) make it easier to report predatory lenders through a formal complaint process;
 - (vi) restrict how consumers can use payday loans through a transaction tracking system;
 - (vii) require payday lenders to take into account the borrower's ability to repay by limiting the amount lent to a portion of their net income;
 - (viii) lower the cost of defaulting on a loan by lowering the maximum default charge and by setting a total maximum monthly default costs;
 - (ix) apply debt collection rules to the purchasers of overdue debts; (currently Ontario's debt collection protection rules focus on collection agencies rather than the owners of debt; i.e. 3rd party collectors);
 - (x) that the Minister of Social Services, the Honourable Helena Jaczek, implement a livable social assistance rate and that restrictions be made on the usage of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability benefits for payday loans;
- (d) That copies of this resolution be sent to all municipalities in Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario.

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E-mail: clerk@hamilton.ca

14

Hamilton

February 22, 2016

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on February 10, 2016, approved Item 9 of Planning Committee Report 16-002 which reads as follows:

Moved by: Councillor Matthew Green
Seconded by: Councillor Jason Farr

9. Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Legislation

Whereas, on July 10th 2008 Hamilton City Council approved staff recommendations to support the Ottawa City Council resolution <http://www2.hamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/F2293672-7D0B-4A01-9E4D-6636A59B5B07/0/Jul07PED08152.pdf> ; and

Whereas, a number of Provinces have passed Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Acts; and

Whereas, these Acts provide for the investigation by a Provincial body of public complaints about properties where criminal activities take place which adversely affects the neighbourhood, and

Whereas, the Provincial body may, on the basis of its investigation, apply to a Court for an order enjoining the activities and/or closing a property for a period of time; and

Whereas, the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Bill 106 was introduced by the 1st session of the 39th parliament http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=2064, and carried over by prorogation in 2010 into the 2nd session of the 39th parliament as a private members bill put forward by Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Yasir Naqvi;

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That Council reaffirm its support for the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act* and send correspondence to the Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services the Honourable Yasir Naqvi requesting that the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act* be reintroduced as legislation with the provision that the Province adopt Manitoba's Public Safety Investigation Unit and all related costs;
- (b) That correspondence be sent to all municipalities in Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) notifying these parties of Council's position on the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*.

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February 22, 2016

RE: Municipal Planning Matters Involving Ontario Municipal Board

The Council of the City of Cambridge at its planning meeting held February 9, 2016 passed the following recommendation related to the decision making authority of the Ontario Municipal Board as it relates to municipal planning matters:

WHEREAS the City of Cambridge spends an incredible amount of resources and taxpayer money developing an Official Plan;

AND WHEREAS the Cambridge's Official Plan is ultimately approved by the Province;

AND WHEREAS it is within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to approve Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that better the community or fit within the vision of the City of Cambridge Official Plan;

AND WHEREAS it is also within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to deny Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that do not better the community or do not fit within the vision of the City of Cambridge Official Plan;

AND WHEREAS planning decisions may be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board ("OMB"), an unelected, appointed body that is not accountable to the residents of Cambridge;

AND WHEREAS appeals of OMB decisions are limited to questions of law, not the findings of facts in a case;

AND WHEREAS all decisions—save planning decisions—made by Municipal Council are similarly only subject to appeal by judicial review and such appeals are limited to questions of law;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT Cambridge City Council requests the Government of Ontario to limit the jurisdiction of the OMB to questions of law or process;

AND THAT the Government of Ontario be requested to require the OMB to uphold any planning decisions of Municipal Councils unless they are contrary to the processes and rules set out in legislation;



Legal & Legislative Services
Stephen M.A. Huycke
905-726-4771
shuycke@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way, Box 1000
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

February 2, 2016

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL TO:
kwynne.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of January 26, 2016
Re: Motion (a) Ontario Municipal Board Jurisdiction

Please be advised that this matter was heard by Council at its Council meeting held on January 26, 2016, and in this regard Council adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Town of Aurora spends an incredible amount of resources and taxpayer money developing an Official Plan; and

WHEREAS the Town's Official Plan is ultimately approved by the Province; and

WHEREAS it is within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to approve Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that better the community or fit within the vision of the Town of Aurora Official Plan; and

WHEREAS it is also within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to deny Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that do not better the community or do not fit within the vision of the Town of Aurora Official Plan; and

WHEREAS planning decisions may be appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board ("OMB"), an unelected, appointed body that is not accountable to the residents of Aurora; and

WHEREAS appeals of OMB decisions are limited to questions of law, not the findings of facts in a case; and

WHEREAS all decisions—save planning decisions—made by Municipal Council are similarly only subject to appeal by judicial review and such appeals are limited to questions of law;

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of January 26, 2016
February 2, 2016
Page 2 of 2

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT Aurora Town Council requests the Government of Ontario to limit the jurisdiction of the OMB to questions of law or process; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Government of Ontario be requested to require the OMB to uphold any planning decisions of Municipal Councils unless they are contrary to the processes and rules set out in legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Motion be sent to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Mr. Patrick Brown, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, Ms. Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party, and all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) in the Province of Ontario; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

The above is for your information and any attention deemed necessary.

Yours truly,



Stephen M. A. Huycke
Town Clerk

SMH/lb

Copy: The Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Mr. Patrick Brown, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party
Ms. Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party
All Members of Provincial Parliament in Ontario
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

**Invitation to Regional Consultation Sessions
Strategy for a Safer Ontario**

On February 12, 2016, we announced the launch of consultations for the Strategy for a Safer Ontario, the province’s new blueprint for effective, sustainable, and community based policing. For more information about the Strategy please visit Ontario.ca/safercommunities.

As part of these province-wide consultations, MCSCS staff are seeking your input into the development of the Strategy and would like to invite representatives from your organization to attend regional consultation sessions in your area to discuss:

- Community Safety and Well-Being plans, a new integrated and collaborative approach to community safety,
- Improving interactions between police and vulnerable Ontarians, including enhancing frontline responses to those in crisis,
- Modernizing what police do,
- Enhancing accountability and oversight of police services, and
- Training and education requirements for police officers.

There will be a total of 11 full-day facilitated regional consultation sessions:

Session	Date	Location
St. Catharines	February 26, 2016	Grantham Lion’s Club: 732 Niagara Street
Thunder Bay	March 2, 2016	North End Community Centre: 954 Huron Avenue
Timmins	March 4, 2016	Ramada Inn: 1800 Riverside Drive
Bancroft	March 9, 2016	Faraday Community Centre: 13 Lower Faraday Road
Windsor	March 17, 2016	Windsor International Aquatic and Training Center: 401 Pitt Street West
Stratford	March 18, 2016	Queen’s Inn: 161 Ontario Street
Toronto	March 22, 2016	YMCA: 20 Grosvenor Street
Brampton	March 23, 2016	Chris Gibson Community Centre: 125 McLaughlin Road North
Kenora	March 29, 2016	Lakeside Inn and Conference Centre: 470 1st Avenue Street
Sudbury	March 31, 2016	Steelworker’s Union Hall: 66 Brady Street
Cornwall	April 1, 2016	Benson Center Community Rooms: 800 7th Street West

Sessions will run from 9:00 am to 4:15 pm. The morning portion will be devoted to Community Safety and Well-Being, which will include discussion about the integration between the police and other community service providers, community safety planning

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

and police interactions with vulnerable individuals, such as those with mental health conditions or addiction issues.

The afternoon will cover the role of police within communities (e.g., the variety of services they provide and how this might be enhanced), police governance and civilian oversight (e.g., the role of police services boards) and training and education of police officers.

Representatives interested in attending a session in their area can RSVP by emailing MCSCSinput@ontario.ca. If you have any accessibility requirements (e.g. ramps, accessible washrooms, hearing/visual aids etc.), please notify the Ministry in your RSVP. 72 hours notice is required to accommodate.

Should a representative from your organization be unavailable to attend one of the regional sessions, an online discussion document is available at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/strategy-safer-ontario-public-discussion-paper> and can be submitted electronically to MCSCSinput@ontario.ca.

Thank you in advance for your valuable input into the development of this important strategy. We look forward to hearing from your organization.

Sincerely,

Yasir Naqvi
Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services

18

Melinda Reith

From: Robert Heil <[REDACTED]>
Sent: March 7, 2016 9:33 AM
To: [REDACTED] Wray, Robert Courchesne
 [REDACTED] Mayor Leslie
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
Cc: Paul Yeoman
Subject: Hydroelectric Power Dams and Structures
Attachments: AGENDA TCC Power Dams March 2 2016.pdf

To All Municipalities having Hydroelectric Power Dams or Structures within Your Jurisdiction.

- **A task force has been initiated**
- **This email provides all municipalities with an overview.**

On Wednesday, March 2, 2016, a telephone conference call was held with municipalities with power dams that had previously indicated support for a collaborative effort to study and report on taxation and grants for Hydroelectric Power Dams or Structures. For information a copy of the Agenda used for the conference call is attached. Municipal Tax Advisory Group completed its in-depth report citing numerous observations that are of concern and proposing several recommendations; one such recommendation is to create a focus or working group to review the most recent announcement in the Provincial Budget but more so to set in motion efforts for all municipalities with such structures to meet with the Minister to assist in the creation of proper policy and regulation to ensure stability and transparency. Despite the Provincial Budget announcement, there is still much to do. The following municipal representatives have volunteered to start off as the municipal working group to determine next steps, map out a course of action and then report to you.

ARNPRIOR TOWN	David Reid, Mayor
CORNWALL CITY	Leslie O'Shaughnessy, Mayor
MATTAWAN TOWNSHIP	Peter Murphy, Mayor
THE NORTH SHORE TOWNSHIP	Randi Condie, Mayor
WAWA MUNICIPALITY	Chris Wray, CAO/Clerk Treasurer
FAUQUIER-STRICKLAND TOWNSHIP	Robert Courchesne, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer
GREATER MADAWASKA TOWNSHIP	Allison Holtzauer, CAO Clerk/Treasurer

All 110 municipalities in Ontario need to work together with a common voice to produce an acceptable collaborative solution to guarantee reliable and stable revenue from power dam and structures. This is not an "ask" for money. It is an encouragement for you to signify your support for the efforts of the working group to prepare for a meeting with the Province and address the several issues outstanding. The Working Group will report to you. Please send the working group an email signifying your support for a meeting with the Province. A simple 'reply all' will go directly to them.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

**Hydroelectric Power Dams and Structures
Telephone Conference Call, March 2, 2016, 2:30 PM
Toll-Free call 1-855-331-8822; Conference ID 1545084**

AGENDA

1. Brief Overview of the 2016 Budget announcements:

- a. Same payments as in 2015 effectively means reduced payments based on time value of money.
- b. Currently eligible hydroelectric generating stations means what? What kind of formula or compensation for new and improved or enlarged?
- c. What are maintenance adjustments and is the Province aware of any decommissioning's; or new power dam plans?

2. Issues Outstanding:

- a. Inflationary changes to compensatory payments (since 2000, the Bank of Canada reports that inflation has risen on average 1.92% per year. Municipal taxes have in all likelihood kept pace and in some cases due to downloading and Provincial policy decisions have had to increase at a greater pace than 1.92%),
- b. Market value equivalency changes since 2000,
- c. Assessment valuation of dams and structures (essentially has not kept pace with market value updates):
 - i. Measure and correct formulae that negatively impact on municipal revenue streams for programs such as OCIF and OMPF,
- d. Market values of dams and structures in 2000 should probably be audited or confirmed as they may not have been correct at the time,
- e. Lobby for taxation model to provide greater stability and reliability.

3. Determination of next steps:

- a. Establish working group to prepare for further lobby efforts with the Province (suggest 4-6 key players that can work by conference call with a primary "project coordinator").
- b. Seek assistance of AMO.
- c. Private lobby organization?
- d. Build on the Green Paper and set times to proceed with implementation of the several recommendations in the paper.

1a

Melinda Reith

From: Robert Heil <Robert.Heil@municipaltaxadvisory.com>
Sent: March 3, 2016 12:48 PM
Cc: Greg Webb; Brad Dargel; Paul Yeoman
Subject: Municipal Connect Announcement
Attachments: 2016 03 03 Municipal Connect News Release FINAL.pdf

To Our Municipal Partners and Clients:

The attached news release and announcement concerns our parent company's agreement with MPAC for Municipal Connect. Since the Municipal Tax Advisory Group is a wholly owned subsidiary of iLOOKABOUT, I thought it would be an opportune time to "connect" the dots in respect of our relationship with the property assessment data. Over the course of the past several years iLOOKABOUT has exerted development effort in creating the Real Property Tax Analytics (RPTA) platform with a specific view toward assisting municipalities assess and validate the CVA associated with their non-residential property portfolio. The RPTA algorithm is proprietary to iLOOKABOUT which, is naturally dependent upon the data we license from MPAC to generate the results we, in turn, make available to municipalities. Our Assessment Roll based Analytic Reports, once in receipt of your approval to run them, utilize a combination of our licensed data, the RPTA software and your roll to identify properties which we believe may warrant your review.

Through a unique combination of analytical intelligence and multiple data sets, users of the system are empowered to view assessment and tax information in a new light and can readily test the accuracy and equity of values that form the basis of the property tax process. Designed in consultation with industry experts to bring transparency, integrity and equity to assessment and property tax analysis, RPTA represents the next generation in assessment and property tax review and management.

We are available at any time to assist you in the management of your assessment resources.

Robert (Bob) Heil,
Managing Director and Vice President



44 Crawford Crescent
P.O. Box 95
Campbellville, Ontario
L0P 1B0

Telephone: 289-270-2988
Toll Free: 1-888-552-9403
Cell phone: 905-246-3933
www.municipaltaxadvisorygroup.com

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iLOOKABOUT

March 3, 2016

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

iLOOKABOUT Executes Multi-Year Contract with MPAC

LONDON, Ontario, Canada –March 3, 2016 - iLOOKABOUT Corp. (TSXV:ILA) ("iLOOKABOUT" or "the Company") today announced it has successfully negotiated and executed a services agreement with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation ("MPAC") with respect to the channel delivery of its Municipal Connect™ 2.0 platform to MPAC's municipal clients in the Province of Ontario. More than 400 municipal stakeholders will now have access to their assessment data via a new and enhanced suite of tools and services.

The prototype of the new channel was first unveiled at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference in Niagara Falls in August 2015. The collection of feedback resulted in enhancements and new features which will be released to municipalities beginning in the second quarter of 2016. The multi-year agreement extends the Company's relationship with MPAC as the operating arm of the new service. Financial details were not disclosed.

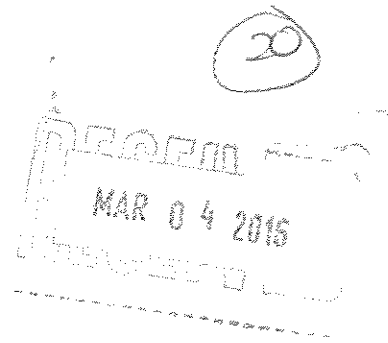
As the largest assessment jurisdiction in North America, MPAC is responsible for accurately assessing and classifying more than five million properties in Ontario in compliance with the *Assessment Act* and regulations set by the Government of Ontario. Having developed and deployed some of the most up-to-date technology and tools available in the property assessment industry, MPAC is uniquely positioned to provide municipal stakeholders with an unprecedented toolkit for access and analysis of assessment data. With more than two billion pieces of data in the MPAC property database, which is updated regularly using a variety of sources, an advanced yet intuitive toolkit is imperative to the delivery and understanding of the assessment roll.

"We're exceptionally pleased to have extended our 'Software as a Service' solution to deliver applications and data to help facilitate and support MPAC's requirements," stated Jeff Young, iLOOKABOUT's President and CEO. He continued by stating, "We are extremely appreciative of MPAC's expression of confidence in our technology and people and look forward to extending our long relationship."

About iLOOKABOUT

iLOOKABOUT is a data analytics and visual intelligence company focused on real property, serving primarily the property assessment, property taxation, municipal, insurance, and appraisal sectors, both public and private, in North America. iLOOKABOUT's origins are with its StreetScape imagery and web-based geographic information system ("GIS") application, GeoViewPort™, which federates property related data and enables desktop review of properties. iLOOKABOUT has integrated powerful data analytics and workflow management applications into GeoViewPort to create service offerings uniquely customized for its clients. These new offerings include Real Property Tax Analytics ("RPTA"), Realty Tax Management ("RTM") and Confirm My Assessment. To augment the Company's technology based offerings, real estate consulting services are also now provided, with a focus on the Property Tax and Valuation sectors.

Headquartered in London, Ontario, Canada, iLOOKABOUT's common shares are traded on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol ILA.



Noella LeBreton
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk
United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria
15 Township Hall Road
Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

February 29, 2016

Dear Noella,

2016 is a special year for us at REALTAX—we're celebrating 20 years in business.

Back in 1996 REALTAX consisted of 1 person. Today there are 14 of us on the team, and we have the privilege of serving almost 200 municipalities.

Late last year I asked the team what we should do to commemorate this very special year. The answer came quickly and unanimously—we wanted to give back. We wanted to make a difference to people in communities across Ontario. We wanted to participate in, or create, initiatives that we would all be proud to be a part of. Then the ideas really started to flow!


After much thought and discussion, here's what we've decided to do to mark our 20 years in business:

- Provide 20 children from across Ontario who are undergoing treatment for cancer, and 20 parents, with field-level tickets to Blue Jays games. We're doing this through an organization called POGO*, the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario.
- Provide substantial financial support to POGO
- Participate in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's *Big Bike Ride*
- Participate in the MS Society's *MS Walk*
- Support *Inn from the Cold* with a financial contribution and donations of clothing and gift cards
- Participate in the *Adopt-a-Family* holiday initiative, December 2016

If you would like to view the progress of our giving back campaign, please visit realtax.ca/giving-back.

20 years is a long time for a company to thrive and prosper. We've been very fortunate, and we have a lot to be thankful for. We know that our success is the result of people like you who trust us to help recover their municipality's tax arrears. So, on behalf of our team, I want to thank you very much for supporting REALTAX. And we're really looking forward to the next 20 years!

Sincerely,



Jeff Oberman
President and Founder

*For information about the outstanding work that POGO does across Ontario, please visit POGO.ca.

LEGAL MATTERS

POINTS OF INTEREST FOR MUNICIPAL LEADERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

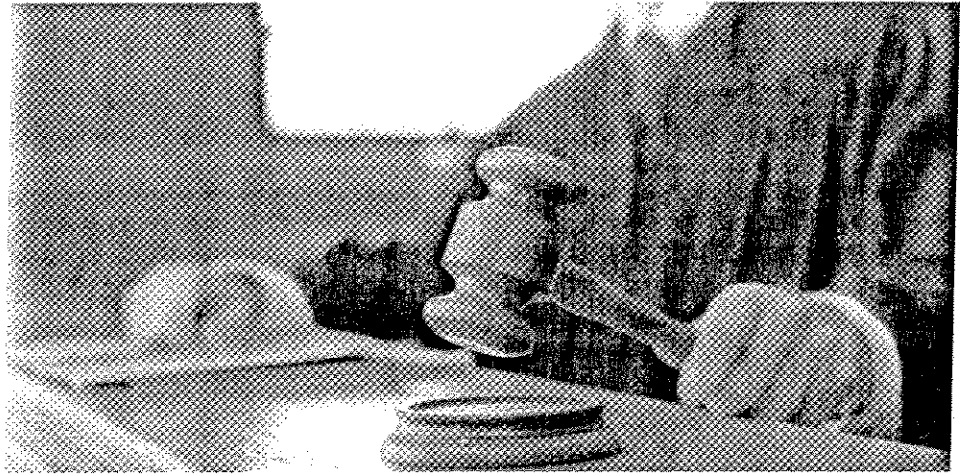
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY EXCEEDS ITS JURISDICTION

A recent Divisional Court decision clarifies the jurisdiction of conservation authorities related to development that may affect flooding. The Gilmors purchased a plot of land in Amaranth Township with a garden shed, a shed and a driveway on it. They wished to build a home on the land, but the property the Gilmors purchased was within a floodplain regulated by the Nottawaska Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA).

The NVCA has authority to "grant permission" for development, if in their opinion, the conservation of land or the control of flooding would not be affected. When the Gilmors applied for permission from the NVCA to develop on the lot, they were denied. The Gilmors ultimately appealed this decision to the Divisional Court.

The Divisional Court found that neither the *Conservation Authorities Act* nor the NVCA Regulation prohibit development generally. The NVCA Regulation contained a fairly standard provision that no person may develop certain lands without a permit. The NVCA could grant a permit if, "in its opinion, the control of flooding ... will not be affected by the development". Therefore, only development that affected the control of flooding could be prohibited, regulated or subject to a permit.

CONSERVATION continued page 2 >



BILL 73 – PLANNING ACT AMENDMENTS PASSED

We reported on the proposed changes to the *Planning Act* contained in Bill 73, the "Smart Growth for our Communities Act", in the Summer 2015 Edition of *Legal Matters*. The Bill has now been passed and a few amendments are in full force and effect, with most awaiting Proclamation.

Highlights of the amendments that will be proclaimed include:

- Section 2 of the *Planning Act* now includes an additional matter of provincial interest for decision makers to consider: the promotion of built form that is "well designed, encourages a sense of place, and provides for public spaces that are of high quality, safe, accessible, attractive and vibrant". It will be interesting to see how "high quality, attractive and vibrant" especially are interpreted; both by municipalities and the Board.
- There is a moratorium on amendments to Official Plans and zoning by-laws within 2 years of passing a new OP or comprehensive zoning by-law. A similar moratorium is imposed for minor variance applications within 2 years of passing a site specific zoning amendment. The intent is to prevent changes to newly approved policy, but the effect may be to hinder legitimate applications and the ability of a municipality or land owner to make administrative corrections or respond to changing circumstances.

Council may waive this moratorium, but it requires a separate decision of council (which may be site specific, specific to a class of applications or of general application). In our opinion, it would have been preferable to give municipalities the authority to prohibit amendments when enacting approvals, rather than enacting a blanket prohibition and requiring a waiver.

BILL 73 continued page 2 >

The NVCA relied on an internal policy which spoke to safety risks associated with developing in a floodplain to justify prohibiting development. The legislation does not allow a conservation authority to expand its jurisdiction to prohibit development simply by adding considerations of public safety into an internal policy. Refusing development was beyond their jurisdiction because there was no effect on flooding associated with the development. The proposed development was to locate the house itself outside the floodplain and the only development within the floodplain was the access driveway, which NVCA argued posed a risk because the driveway would be flooded. The Court found that there was no actual risk associated with the driveway in the circumstances and flood control was not impacted by the development. The NVCA could consider safety as that is a legitimate factor in flood risks, but they could not create jurisdiction to refuse development where the actual control of flooding was not affected by the development.

The court left open the possibility that cumulative impacts might be valid criteria to consider, but on the specific facts of the case there was no reasonable prospect of cumulative impacts occurring.

The court awarded costs to the Gilmors on "the high end" for a case of this nature and complexity, for a total of \$33,175.71.

There is no question that conservation authorities perform an invaluable role in protecting the natural environment. This case highlights the growing opposition to regulation of private property, and those opposed to such regulation will attempt to use this decision to argue that conservation authorities' have little or no jurisdiction. It is important to understand the limits of this case and support conservation authorities role in environmental protection, development and land use planning. ❏

- After receiving a notice of appeal from a non-decision, an approval authority may now issue a notice that contains certain information (prescribed by regulations that have not been drafted as yet). The notice must be provided to all persons or public bodies that made a written request to be notified of the approval authority's decision. Twenty days after this notice is provided, no other person or public body will be entitled to appeal the non-decision. This will not prevent other persons from seeking party status at the appeal.
- An approval authority will now be restricted from approving any part of a lower-tier's adopted official plan that does not, in the approval authority's opinion, conform with the upper-tier official plan. This includes conformity with any new upper-tier official plan or conformity with an amendment made to the upper-tier official plan that was adopted no more than 180 days after the lower-tier municipality adopted its plan.
- Municipalities can now ask for alternative dispute resolution after certain appeals are filed, and delay preparing the Board record for 90 days. This change has the potential to reduce the burden on staff and also allow for a resolution before the appeal is placed in the Board system.
- Every official plan must now contain a description of the measures and procedures for informing and obtaining the views of the public in respect of proposed official plans (and amendments), zoning by-laws (and amendments), plans of subdivision and consents to sever. Adding procedures for informing the public regarding other types of *Planning Act* approvals will remain discretionary.
- When issuing decisions on official plan amendments, zoning by-law amendments, minor variances, consents, and plans of subdivision municipalities will now be obliged to explain the effect of written and oral submissions received with respect to their decision on the application. We question how detailed this obligation must be and what impact, if any, the explanation will have on appeals?
- The OMB will now have regard for the material that was before council when it failed to make a decision (subdivision and re-zoning). This will allow the Board to consider more directly comments from the public that were before council, as well as the material (or absence of material) from the applicant. In practical terms, the Board must still conduct a full hearing and its decision will be based on all of the evidence presented at that hearing, whether or not it was material that was also available to council. This change is unlikely to have any meaningful impact on appeals.
- The four part test for a minor variance will remain unchanged. However, the amendments introduce additional criteria to be prescribed by regulation (no draft has been prepared as of yet) and authorize individual municipalities to establish their own criteria by by-law.

The effect of these changes will be to ultimately allow each municipality in Ontario to create its own additional minor variance test. The extent and impact of this change will be determined in large part on the content of the provincial regulation that provides prescribed criteria to which a minor variance must conform.

- Mandatory planning advisory committees will now be required for upper tier and single tier municipalities, with at least one member from the community on the committee.

There are a number of positive steps contained in the amendments. Some of the amendments have the potential to add unnecessary cost and effort to process planning applications/appeals and others should improve certainty. The impact of some of the changes cannot be predicted without seeing the detailed regulations. As our municipal clients work through these changes and we see how it impacts the day to day work of land use planning we will report back. ❏

FREE-RIDERS BEWARE

Cottage roads are often maintained by local residents who form volunteer committees and organizations for the benefit of all property owners on those roads.

A local Brockville Area Private Road Association sued one of its members for refusing to pay dues for the upkeep of a private cottage road. The non-paying member argued that they had not paid their dues since 2008 because there were no receipts provided, they were not satisfied with the maintenance, they received no notice of association meetings and there was no private road liability insurance.

The Small Claims Court Judge was unimpressed with these arguments and found the member was in the wrong. Since the association was only formed in 2013, it was understandable that some processes took some time to develop – receipts were now available on request and the association was developing a better meeting notification system. The judge held that it was illogical to argue that payment was withheld because the maintenance or liability coverage was substandard. Obviously, the withholding of funds would make it more difficult for the association to maintain roads and purchase insurance policies. The court held that the non-paying residents were unjustly enriched, but unfortunately for the road association, the claim was limited to two years. The recovery for non-payment of upkeep fees prior to that period was barred by the Limitations Act.

This case highlights the well-known problem with private road associations; those who enjoy the benefits but refuse to pay. There is little a municipality can (or should) do about these private disputes. Legal tools exist to solve the problem, but they require cooperation of the members, which as this case illustrates is not always possible. ■

WHEN DOES THE PROFIT OF THE SON FOLLOW THE FATHER?

A Vaughan Councillor's son was part of a team of lawyers retained to appeal a site plan in the City of Vaughan. Settlement was reached, and before the City voted on whether or not to accept the offer the Councillor applied to the Ontario Superior Court for a declaration that he was not breaching the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA) by voting on this offer to settle. The trial judge found there was a conflict and the Councillor appealed.

The Ontario Court of Appeal held that the lower court failed to properly apply section 4 of the MCIA, which allows a councillor to participate, notwithstanding his family member's pecuniary interest, if the councillor's interest is "so remote or insignificant in its nature that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence" the councillor. The Court of Appeal articulated that a pecuniary interest is defined and interpreted very broadly to capture a wide sphere of activity; this is necessary to promote the purpose of the Act and ensure councillors are not improperly influenced. The broad definition of pecuniary interest is balanced by the exemptions found in section 4.

In this case, the pecuniary interest of the son was truly remote or so insignificant that a reasonable person would not consider it to be capable of influencing the father. In deciding that the councillor's interest was remote and insignificant, the court considered: his many years as a faithful councillor, that he was acting in good faith, that he was vigilant in attempting to disclose his conflict, that the matters of the site plan were of major public interest to his constituents, that he derived no compensation from his son's involvement, and his son's continued employment was not contingent on the specific appeal.

This case, along with the recent Amaral decision that was decided on a similar basis, gives important guidance to councillors about where to draw the line. This site plan was of such importance to his constituents that the councillor went to great lengths to ensure he could participate. Most council members need not go this far. Our recommendation is that getting a legal opinion as to the potential for a conflict of interest is in most cases sufficient.

If you are interested in receiving copies of these cases, please let us know. ■

FIRE CODE ORDERS NOT BAD FAITH

Fire inspection reports were completed on two residential apartment buildings owned by Norquay. The most significant demand in these reports was to modify the fire alarm systems so that they would be louder, since they did not meet the audibility requirements set out in the Office of the Fire Marshall (OFM) guidelines. When Norquay did not voluntarily modify the systems, the Fire Department issued an inspection order. Norquay appealed the inspection orders to the OFM, and then to the Divisional Court. The fire department withdrew its orders before the matter could be heard in the Divisional Court.

Norquay then took the litigation one step further and commenced a civil action against the Fire Department for negligence in the exercise of statutory duties and misfeasance in a public office. Norquay argued that the inspector ought to have obtained a legal

WHO'S WHO ...



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Tony Fleming is a partner in the Municipal and Land Use Planning and Development Groups. The Law Society of Upper Canada has recognized Tony as a Certified Specialist in Municipal Law. Tony provides advice to municipalities and private sector clients on all aspects of land use planning and development as well as environmental law.

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opinion before issuing inspection orders, that they acted without authority, and did so when they knew their guidelines were not enforceable. The court found that the Fire Department did owe a duty to Norquay to act in good faith in their public decision making, but that they met that duty. The inspectors had no obligation to obtain a legal opinion before issuing the orders; they acted properly in seeking guidance from the OFM.

Norquay also alleged that the inspectors were deliberately enforcing a guideline beyond their statutory authority, the orders were issued before getting a legal opinion, and that the Fire Department withdrew from the appeal in order to avoid the judicial review of the Divisional Court. The court held that it is not misfeasance when a fire department does not seek legal counsel before issuing orders, and that if they were incorrect in issuing the order, the error was made in good faith. The decision to withdraw from the appeal was not done to "evade" judicial review – it was done to avoid expenses. The case was dismissed and the court awarded costs against Norquay. While the court found that obtaining legal advice wasn't necessary, doing so would have clearly avoided some, if not all, of the expense of litigation. ■

6th Annual GreenProfit Conference - March 21, 2016

Tony Fleming will be speaking at the GreenProfit conference in Kingston.

This is the 6th annual conference and will include presentations and Panel discussions on:

- economic development opportunities in the energy sector
- negotiating community benefit Agreements
- the future of solar power in Ontario
- Rural communities and renewable energy
- energy storage in Ontario

If you are interested in attending register at www.greenprofit.com

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