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Ontario
Provincial
Police

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provinciale
de l'Ontario



Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

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File number/Référence: 600

Thursday, August 14, 2014

Good afternoon.

This afternoon, Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services will be hosting a province-wide media teleconference to announce that the proposed new OPP billing model has been approved by Cabinet and will be implemented, beginning January 1, 2015.

At the upcoming Association of Municipalities (AMO) Conference, the Minister and members of the OPP's Municipal Policing Bureau will be hosting two information sessions to provide details of the new billing model.

The Minister will be writing each of the municipalities today to personally invite you to attend one of the two sessions. Please watch for that email from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

If you are unable to attend either of the information sessions, the OPP will be organizing regional sessions across the province. We will be communicating directly with impacted municipalities this fall to provide details.

We look forward to seeing you in London and continuing to work with you as we move toward implementation of the new billing process.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.A. Philbin".

R.A. (Rick) Philbin
Superintendent
Bureau Commander
Municipal Policing Bureau
Ontario Provincial Police

Melinda Reith - Head, Clara, Maria

From: "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Date: August-14-14 1:41 PM
To: <twpshcm@xplornet.com>
Subject: AMO Members' Policy Update - OPP Billing Model Announcement

August 14, 2014

Members' Policy Update: OPP Billing Model Announcement

After much municipal and provincial consultation and discussion, Minister Yasir Naqvi, Ministry of Community Services and Correctional Services (MCSCS), released the framework of the new OPP Billing Model today. This responds to a 2012 recommendation of the Provincial Auditor General for a simplified, more transparent cost-recovery method that addresses the issues of a billing method that has resulted in municipalities paying different rates.

We are told that the new OPP billing model, to be in effect January 1, 2015 will be a base cost and call for service formula with the following elements:

- A base service cost that each of the 324 OPP-serviced municipalities will pay plus the cost of the actual calls for service.
 - Base service costs will be an estimated 60% of what a municipality will pay (i.e. fixed costs).
 - Base service costs will be calculated on a per property basis for households, including seasonal and business properties including commercial and industrial properties.
- The calls for services costs are estimated to be about 40% of what a municipality will pay (i.e. the variable cost) and will be based on the individual municipal usage level. Much greater detail about the type of calls for service will be included on the municipal bills to increase transparency. This will assist municipalities and the police community to look at ways to reduce these variable costs.
- Transition will be phased in over 5 years for both cost increases and decreases to municipalities:
 - \$40 per property cap on increases per year for those with an increase.
 - Decreases will be graduated over the 5 years for those with a decrease.

AMO anticipates that the majority of municipal OPP bills are expected to be between \$200 -\$400 per property based on 2015 estimates.

MCSCS has advised AMO that it engaged a third party auditor to review the split between provincial and municipal OPP costs, the evidence for the proposed split between base and calls for services, and the appropriateness of a per property approach compared to other possible billing approaches considered.

Over the coming weeks, additional MCSCS/OPP information about the new billing model will be available including:

- Two information sessions at the AMO conference on Sunday August 17 and Monday the 18th;

- For those municipalities not attending the AMO conference, regional information sessions will be organized soon, and
- OPP officials will be meeting with each of the 324 OPP serviced municipalities in the early fall to discuss the financial and operational details of the new billing model.

Link for provincial announcement: [New OPP Billing Model for Municipalities](#)

AMO Contact: Monika Turner, Director of Policy, mturner@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 318

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.

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New OPP Billing Model for Municipalities

New Model is Fairer, More Transparent and Easier to Understand

NEWS

August 14, 2014

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is introducing a fairer, more transparent billing model for the municipalities it serves across the province.

The new model, which takes effect Jan. 1, 2015, reflects input from the Auditor General and municipalities to more fairly and transparently distribute policing costs.

The model includes two components: base policing costs such as crime prevention, proactive policing, officer training and administrative duties, and cost for reactive calls for service. Base policing will account for approximately 60 per cent of the bill, reactive calls will account for approximately 40 per cent.

This eliminates the large differences in the amounts municipalities were charged and provides municipalities with better data so they can understand the types of calls for police service in their community and direct crime prevention strategies.

The new model will be phased in over a period of up to five years to allow municipalities time to adjust their budgets.

A fair and transparent OPP billing model is part of the government's plan to invest in people, build stronger communities and make sure Ontario remains one of the safest places in North America.

QUOTES

"Updating the OPP billing model is about making it fairer, more transparent, and easier to understand. This new model helps ensure that costs to municipalities served by the OPP are shared fairly while enabling communities to direct their crime-prevention efforts towards saving money and keeping their communities safe."

— Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services

"The new billing model is a positive step toward achieving greater equity and transparency in OPP municipal policing cost-recovery. It will address concerns brought forward by the Auditor General of Ontario and many of our municipalities. We are moving in the right direction with this model."

— J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes, OPP Commissioner

QUICK FACTS

- The OPP provides policing services to 324 Ontario municipalities.
- The current OPP billing model was introduced in 1998 and has not been updated in 17 years.
- The OPP acted on the [Auditor General's 2012 report](#) in revising the billing model.
- The average per property cost for OPP services in 2015 is estimated to be \$355, compared to an average of \$787 (estimated) for self-policed municipalities.

LEARN MORE

[New OPP Billing Model \[link to backgrounder\]](#)

Jonathan Rose, Minister's Office, 416-325-8282
Sgt. Pierre Chamberland, Ontario Provincial Police, 705-329-6878
Brent Ross, Communications Branch, 416-314-7024

ontario.ca/safety
Disponible en français

New OPP Billing Model

August 14, 2014

After months of study, planning and community engagement, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) will be implementing a new billing model to recoup the cost of providing policing services to municipalities. The new model will take effect on Jan. 1, 2015, and be phased in over a period of up to five years to allow municipalities time to adjust their budgets.

Details of the new OPP Billing Model

- The new model recognizes that all municipalities require a base level of police service and sufficient front-line policing to ensure the safety and security of their communities.
- Under the new model, the bills will be split between base costs and calls for service.
- Base costs, which include services such as routine patrols, crime prevention, RIDE programs and proactive policing, will now make up approximately 60 per cent of the bill. Billing for base costs ensures that municipalities contribute equally towards the cost of having well-equipped, professional, highly trained front-line members ready to answer calls for service.
- A call for service will make up the remaining 40 per cent of the bill. Calls for service usually involve the attendance of an officer or officers at the scene of an occurrence such as a motor vehicle collision. The charge for reactive calls for service will vary among municipalities because such charges will be calculated annually, based on the municipality's individual usage levels.
- The former billing model relied heavily on calls for service to calculate costs that resulted in a wide variation between similar communities. The new billing model will be fair and transparent, and will reduce the wide range in costs for OPP-policed municipalities. The new model will be revenue neutral with no additional money coming to the province because of this change.
- The purpose of the new model is to work toward the recovery of policing costs in a way that is equitable for all municipalities.

Benefits of new OPP Billing Model:

- This addresses the Auditor General's recommendations and long-standing municipal requests to develop a fairer, more transparent billing model.
- A much smaller variance in per property costs across municipalities.
- Provision of information about types and volume of calls for service, allowing municipalities to better design crime reduction and prevention strategies.

- Ensure all communities share the cost of infrastructure, supervision, administration and front-line policing necessary to be available to respond to calls for service and provide adequate proactive policing.
- Provide greater budgeting certainty for municipalities.
- The old billing system for OPP services was developed 17 years ago and has resulted in some municipalities subsidizing others. In fact, there were some cases in which municipalities were paying \$6 per property while others paid \$805 per property (based on actual 2013 costs).
- By ensuring all municipalities contribute to the base cost of policing, the proposed billing model reduces the variation between municipal policing costs.
- The new model will be phased in over a period of up to five years with annual caps on changes in policing costs that occur as a result of the new billing model, providing stability and predictability for both taxpayers and municipalities.
- Increases in police costs as a result of the new billing model will be capped at approximately \$40 per property a year. Decreases will range from \$18 per property in year one, to \$96 per property in year five of the phase-in.
- Municipalities will continue to be responsible for any increases in the cost of policing outside of the new billing model.

OPP Billing Model Consultation Process:

- On Aug. 22, 2011, representatives from more than 20 municipalities made a joint delegation at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference to the Ontario government to express concerns relating to the calculation of OPP policing costs, particularly the large variation in per household costs between similar municipalities.
- In December 2012, the Auditor General of Ontario recommended that the OPP seek ways to simplify, and make more transparent, its cost-recovery methods while also addressing large variations in policing costs.
- The province committed to finding solutions for this issue at the August 2013 AMO conference.
- Ontario directed provincial officials and the OPP to develop a new billing model that was fair, transparent and would reduce wide variances in costs for OPP-policed municipalities.
- In fall 2013, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services held 14 engagement sessions across all five OPP regions to consult municipalities on a proposed billing model. 229 municipalities attended the sessions. The feedback was used to develop the new billing model.
- In March 2014, AMO convened the OPP Billing Steering Committee to review key items related to the OPP billing review.

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File number/Référence: 600

August 18, 2014

Good morning

Further to my e-mail dated Thursday August 14, 2014, I am pleased to advise that the OPP has scheduled regional information sessions for municipalities. These sessions are designed for municipalities that were unable to attend our Billing Model information sessions at Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference in London on August 17 and 18, 2014.

Municipalities attending the regional sessions will have the opportunity to see the presentation given at the AMO conference and receive the same information provided to the attending delegates.

Please note that financial information specific to each municipality will be communicated to all OPP policed municipalities in September and will not be available at the information sessions.

A list of the scheduled information session is located below.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
WEST REGION		
Thursday August 21, 2014	1 to 3 pm	Wellington County OPP Detachment 6725 Wellington County Rd 109, Palmerston, ON
NORTH WEST REGION		
Monday August 25, 2014	1 to 3 pm	Best Western Hotel & Conference Center 349 Government St., Dryden, ON
Tuesday August 26, 2014	1 to 3 pm	La Place Rendez-Vous 1201 Idylwild Main, Fort Frances, ON
Wednesday August 27, 2014	1 to 3 pm	Valhalla Inn 1 Valhalla Inn Road, Thunder Bay, ON



Date: August 15, 2014

To: Community Stakeholders

Re: Energy East Pipeline Open House

450 – 1st Street S.W.
Calgary, AB
Canada T2P 5H1

Tel.: 1.855.895.8750
Fax: 1.855.895.8751
Email: EnergyEast@TransCanada.com

Good morning,

Just a reminder, TransCanada will be hosting an important event in your area on Thursday, August 28, 2014.

Energy East Open House in Cobden

When: Thursday, August 28, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Where: Cobden Agricultural Hall, 43 Astrolabe Road, Cobden.
Who: The event is open to the public.

In order to give local officials the opportunity to discuss the project in more depth with TransCanada subject-matter experts, TransCanada welcomes the **mayors and chief administrative officers (or their delegates)** of the region to a **private open house tour starting at 3:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP with myself by Monday, August 25, 2014 at nguay@ascentum.com.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any comments or questions related to the Energy East Pipeline Project or to this message.

Regards,

Nathalie Guay



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→ Harper Government launches program to bring high-speed Internet to an additional 280,000 Canadian households

News Release



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Harper Government launches program to bring high-speed Internet to an additional 280,000 Canadian households

Connecting Canadians program will provide 98 percent of Canadian households in rural and remote regions of Canada with greater access to broadband Internet

July 22, 2014 – Ottawa – Industry Canada

From the last spike in the Canadian Pacific Railway to the opening of the Northwest Passage, Canada has worked ceaselessly to meet the great challenge of overcoming our vast distances and forging bonds between communities and regions to unite the country. In today's digital economy, Canadians live in an increasingly connected world where access to the Internet is essential to create jobs, realize economic opportunities, and link Canadians to online services as well as far-off family members and friends.

Industry Minister James Moore today announced the launch of Connecting Canadians—the Government of Canada's plan to bring high-speed Internet to 280,000 Canadian households currently without Internet or with slower access. Between now and 2017, the Government will invest up to \$305 million to extend access to broadband Internet at speeds of 5 megabits per second (Mbps) to 98 percent of Canadian households, mainly in rural and remote communities. In the weeks ahead, Canadians and Internet service providers (ISP) are invited to visit the new Connecting Canadians website to offer their input on communities that could be eligible to receive funding.

This \$305-million investment will provide incentives for the private sector to invest in wireless and wireline Internet services in areas of the country that previously did not have access to high-speed Internet services. This will create thousands of new investment opportunities by breaking down barriers to entrepreneurship and connecting businesses in rural areas to the rest of Canada.

Quick facts

- Connecting Canadians delivers on the Harper Government's commitment in Economic Action Plan 2014 to bring high-speed Internet to an additional 280,000 Canadian households in rural and remote regions of the country.
- The maps on the Connecting Canadians website were developed to obtain feedback from Canadians, ISPs, and provincial and territorial governments across the country to identify those communities that are most in need of investment for greater access to high-speed Internet.
- Information about communities considered in need and eligible for funding will be made public this fall, followed by a call for applications from ISPs.
- Companies interested in participating in Connecting Canadians will be invited to submit applications for projects this fall. The first projects are expected to be announced in spring 2015.

Quote

"As we move toward Canada's 150th birthday in 2017, our government is proud to launch a new program that will connect 280,000 Canadian households to high-speed Internet. Connecting Canadians is about ensuring that Canadians, whether they live in urban centres or remote regions of the country, have access to the latest wireless technologies and high-speed networks at the most affordable prices possible."

– James Moore, Minister of Industry

Related products

- [Backgrounder: Connecting Canadians](#)

Associated link

- [Connecting Canadians website](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [@industrycanada](#)

Contacts

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Date Modified:

2014-07-22



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August 01, 2014

Open invitation to individuals interested in the second phase of forest management planning in Algonquin Park.

**Subject: Algonquin Park Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan
Review of Draft Planned Operations for Phase II - 2015-2020**

On behalf of Ontario Parks (MNR), the Algonquin Forestry Authority (AFA) and the Algonquin Park Local Citizens Committee (LCC), you are invited to review the Draft Planned Operations for the second five-year term of the 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan for the Algonquin Park Forest. The review extends from August 5 - September 5, 2014.

The Draft Planned Operations document includes details on the planned harvest, renewal and tending operations and access roads for the second five-year term (2015-2020). The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) preliminary list of required alterations is also available for your viewing. The newspaper ad on the reverse provides details on where to view this information.

We encourage the public to take an active interest in this planning process and hope you take the opportunity to review this document. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Lisa Lamont, Park Clerk with Ontario Parks by phone 613-732-5551 or by e-mail at lisa.lamont@ontario.ca. For more information feel free to contact Joe Yaraskavitch, Park Forester with Ontario Parks or Gordon Cumming, Plan Author with the AFA (see newspaper ad for contact information).

Sincerely,

Jay Nichols
Zone Manager
Algonquin Zone

RECEIVED
AUG 05 2014

5

Cc: "Christine Leduc"
Attach: OFIA - 2014 - JULY - letter to Min Mauro re June 15 mtg summary.pdf
Subject: OFIA - FORESTRY AND AMO 2014

RE: Summary of OFIA's July 15th meeting with Minister Mauro – Ring of Wood – companies need affordable accessible fibre, less ESA policy/red tape and a building code that aligns with the National Building Code

Dear Municipal Leaders,

As you prepare for your AMO convention in London on August 17th, I thought I would share with you the attached OFIA letter that summarizes the discussions our member companies had with Minister Mauro on July 15th regarding the potential opportunities for Ontario's renewable forest products sector and how by working together, we can grow the sector and its greenest workforce. In the past two years, Ontario's forest products sector has put an additional 2 million cubic metres of wood back to work resulting in 2100 new greenest workforce jobs (see attached letter). At this very positive meeting, OFIA discussed the following issues with the Minister:

1. World needs Wood – Ontario's RING OF WOOD opportunity – if you need copies of the OFIA's "the World Needs Wood" document, please just let us know.
2. Tenure – Ontario Wood is working
 - Liberal Commitment letter – *"implement tenure modernization in a manner that is consistent with protecting and creating jobs as well as maximizing the use of Crown fibre to strengthen Ontario's economy."*

- Minister Gravelle's Principles Document and Minister Oraziotti's December 2013 letter
- OFIA's August 2013 tenure map - where wood is working – let it work

3. ESA

- CFSA/ESA Panel – update
- Liberal Commitment letter: *"Before this election, the Wynne government was actively reviewing the CFSA and the ESA, with the goal of removing redundancies where the two Acts overlap. Where approved forest plans have followed specific rules and conditions, we no longer require them to apply for additional ESA permits."*
- Implementation remains a challenge on the landscape eg. Ottawa Valley/Renfrew County – seasonal activity now. OFIA has initiated discussion with SAR Branch regarding American Ginseng/Blandings Turtle
- Caribou Conservation Plan – CCP – 2014 Fall review

4. Competitiveness Measures

- Forest Access Road Program – Liberal Commitment – 2014 budget provides \$38 M – *"if re-elected, we would increase road funding to approximately \$60 M for 2015-16 and for 2016-17."*
- Poplar and White Birch stumpage
- Electricity

5. Building Code Amendments

- Can amendments to Ontario's Building Code align with BC and National codes: performance based - the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) will be supporting a mid-rise code package, into the 2015 model National Building Code of Canada, that allows for the use of performance based one-hour fire rated stairwells and elevator shafts (this is the BC's code).
- Right now – Ontario's proposed changes EXCLUDE the use of wood in stairwells – can government remove "non-combustible in the proposed amendments

If you have any questions or require more detail on any of these items, please contact Christine Leduc or myself at any time.

All the best,

J
Jamie Lim
President & CEO
Ontario Forest Industries Association
416-368-6188
www.ofia.com



July 30, 2014

Hon. Bill Mauro
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Suite 6630, 6th Floor,
Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1W3

Private and Confidential

RE: Make Ontario Competitive to Guarantee Growth of Ontario's Renewable Forest Products Sector

Dear Minister Mauro,

On behalf of the Ontario Forest Industries Association (OFIA) Board of Directors, I would like to thank you and your team for taking the time to meet with us on July 15, 2014.

We were pleased to share with you the OFIA's "The World Needs Wood" document as well as two recent maps outlining where Ontario's wood is presently working and where OFIA's members are operating and managing renewable fibre. The Directors at the meeting represented the full spectrum of forestry companies operating in Ontario and the one thing they all have in common is the need for an affordable and accessible fibre supply.

As you explained, since your 2003 election, you have witnessed the impacts of the recession first hand and understand that there is still room to grow the sector, a sentiment reinforced in the Liberal Party's June 2nd, 2014 letter which stated, *"a Wynne Administration will fully support our forestry industry in utilizing the full available harvest (29 million m³/year), and commit to reviewing the harvest levels if the forestry industry achieves a full harvest."*

The recent economic downturn saw the demand for Crown forest resources decrease from a high of 24 million m³ in 2002/2003 to a low of 10.5 million m³ in 2009/2010. Today, after years of hardship, the forest industry has increased harvesting and is currently at levels of over 14 million m³ which is up from the 12,600,000 m³ harvested in 2012-13. The increased harvest levels have resulted in an additional 2,100 direct green jobs for the province. (NRCan, The State of Canada's Forests: Annual Report 2013) This is evidence of Ontario's forest products sector's recovery.

Because a predictable source of affordable and accessible fibre is so critical to the sector's recovery, we appreciated your acknowledgement of the 2012 Tenure Principles document as well as the December 2013 Tenure Direction letter and your endorsement of the tenure reform direction outlined in these documents.

In addition to the tenure reform file, the Directors asked for your help with Endangered Species Act (ESA) policy. We conveyed the importance of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR&F's) active review of the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) and ESA, with the goal of removing redundancies where the two acts overlap and asked for meaningful consultation during the process and also, expressed our readiness to assist your team in the province's 2014 review of the Caribou Conservation Policy.

Furthermore, the Directors described how the implementation of ESA policy is causing serious access issues and in many cases is reducing the amount of available industrial fibre. As an example, some members expressed concern that areas that are ready to be harvested are not allowed any landings inside the cut blocks due to turtle policies. And as was explained, turtles happen to be abundant in this specific region. But because of provincially listed species and resulting provincial wide policies, harvesting contractors are idle and mill inventories are below approved planned levels. Companies that have been operating in Ontario for five and six generations are very concerned that if we continue down this path, we will not have any harvesting contractors left because they cannot live on six months or less of work per year.

With your active support, these unintended consequences of the ESA can be addressed.

We hope to work with you to ensure that ESA policy is pragmatic, takes into consideration the size of the province and regions where a listed species may actually be thriving, and considers the social economic impact that the implementation of ESA policies will have on the 260 communities that rely on Ontario's renewable resource for their well-being. To this end, the OFIA has been attending COSARRO meetings and presenting on today's forestry practices, but we continue to ask for your leadership with this file.

On the topic of competitiveness measures, we welcomed your confirmation of future funding levels for the Forest Roads Program recognizing that primary and secondary resource access roads are the foundation for economic development in Northern and Rural Ontario. During this conversation, we discussed electricity and stumpage rates acknowledging the importance of ensuring Ontario can compete with surrounding jurisdictions. We agreed that having current data is critical and made a commitment to provide you with recent competitiveness data that can substantiate future efforts.

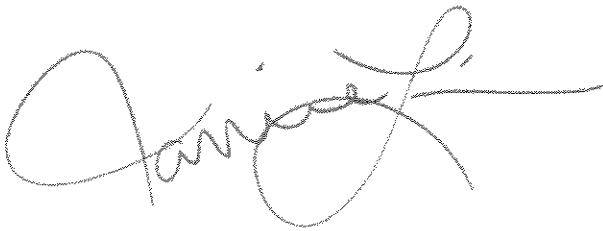
Your support for amending Ontario's building code to level the playing field for all building materials used in mid-rise construction has always been appreciated. At the meeting, we asked if you could follow up with Minister McMeekin at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to ensure Ontario's amendments align with the National Building Code amendments. Presently, Ontario's proposed amendments would exclude wood systems in stairwells. The National Building Code amendment will NOT exclude wood systems but rather introduce a performance based standard for stairwells allowing for the use of today's innovative wood systems and addressing safety concerns.

In closing, there are huge opportunities to grow the sector and maximize the benefits to Ontarians from our Crown resources. With your leadership, we believe we can work together to find solutions to provincial challenges that may directly impede a full recovery of Ontario's renewable natural resource – forestry.

Again, thank you for taking the time to meet with the companies that are putting Ontario's wood to work, creating over 150,000 direct and indirect greenest workforce jobs and effectively managing Ontario's forests for future generations.

If you or any member of your team have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the OFIA at any time.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamie Lim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jamie Lim
President & CEO
Ontario Forest Industries Association
Home of CLA Grading and Inspection

cc. Ms. Stevie O'Brien, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNR&F)
Mr. Josh Arnold, Policy Advisor, Minister's Office (MNR&F)
Municipal Stakeholders
OFIA Board of Directors

6

Melinda Reith - Head, Clara, Maria

From: "AMO Communications" <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Date: August-18-14 4:31 PM
To: <twpshem@xplornet.com>
Subject: AMO POLICY UPDATE -- Permanent Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund and Building Canada Fund -- Small Communities Fund Announced

August 18, 2014

Permanent Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund and Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund Announced

Today Premier Kathleen Wynne announced infrastructure funding for municipalities under the permanent Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund (BCF-SCF). These programs will flow \$100 million annually (OCIF) and \$272 million from each of the federal and provincial governments (SCF) to municipal infrastructure projects. Ontario intends to identify Small Communities Fund projects jointly with the new permanent Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund. This will streamline the process for eligible applicants and help expedite program delivery.

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

After consultation with municipalities, the \$100 million annual OCIF fund was announced in the 2014 Ontario Budget for critical infrastructure in small, rural and northern municipalities. The OCIF funding delivers on some longstanding municipal needs by offering permanent and predictable infrastructure funding to municipalities. Half of the OCIF funding will be allocated by formula for municipal priorities. Municipalities are eligible for OCIF funding if they have 100,000 or fewer residents; have more than 25 per cent rural residents; or are located in Northern Ontario. The program will be reviewed in three years with an objective of moving to full formula-based funding.

OCIF Formula Funding

- \$50 million formula-based funds will support critical municipal road, bridge, water and wastewater projects and can also be used for asset management planning.
- Formula allocations are based on municipal fiscal ability and municipal infrastructure stock. Allocations include a base amount and will be confirmed by letter in September.

OCIF Application Funding

- \$50 million in application based funds for eligible municipalities of up to \$2 million for critical roads, bridge, water and wastewater projects identified under asset management plans.
- Expressions of interest are due by September 19, 2014. Communities will be notified of the results of the pre-screen in October. Full applications for communities that pass the pre-screen will be due in December. Final funding announcements will be in early 2015.
- The OCIF program will be reviewed in 3 years with the objective of moving to full formula-based funding over time as critical projects are addressed and asset management plans are in place.
- This will place the onus on municipal governments to complete and expand their asset management planning so that they are in place to guide infrastructure investments.

The OCIF funding responds to AMO's call for permanent provincial funding for municipal road, bridge and other infrastructure for small, rural and northern municipalities since 2011. The funding also begins to address local

20/08/2014

government requests for predictable formula allocations linked to asset management plans to address local priorities.

Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund (BCF-SCF)

The Premier also announced the intake of funding applications under the BCF's Small Communities Fund. The BCF provides \$14 billion nationally for infrastructure. The SCF sets aside \$1 billion for communities across Canada with under 100,000 residents.

In Ontario, the SCF will deliver \$544 million of cost shared provincial and federal funding to municipalities. With municipal contributions added, the fund will dedicate over \$800 million to local infrastructure. Municipalities will be able to submit two project proposals – one for OCIF and one for BCF-SCF.

BCF-SCF Eligible project categories:

- • Public transit
- Drinking water
- Wastewater
- Solid waste management
- Green energy
- Innovation
- Connectivity and broadband
- Brownfield redevelopment
- Disaster mitigation infrastructure
- Local and regional airports
- Short-line rail
- Short-sea shipping
- Highways and major roads

AMO understands that BCF Provincial/Territorial Infrastructure Component funds are still under discussion between Ontario and Canada and information will be released at a later time. The \$4 billion BCF National Infrastructure Component is also available to municipalities now. Information can be found on Infrastructure Canada's [Building Canada Plan website](#).

Municipalities are encouraged to read the [program guide](#) released by the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure to begin the application process for these programs. Letters outlining OCIF formula-based allocations will be delivered next month.

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

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