



February 1, 2018

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6
Email: amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association
200 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6
Email: roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities

Re: Offering School Property to Municipalities

Dear Sir/Madam,

At its regular council meeting of January 15, 2018, Essex Town Council discussed the ongoing issue of school closures throughout Ontario. These school closures in many cases result in properties that are left as vacant and unused for substantial periods of time and this often results in properties that not only become eyesores for the affected communities but as well often have further negative impacts on the social and economic development of that community and its municipality.

Many municipalities might be interested in purchasing these properties for development and sustainment as a hub in their community. However the feasibility of this certainly becomes more daunting and for some municipalities even impossible when municipalities that are interested in purchasing must first (pursuant to current regulations) purchase these properties at fair market value with taxpayer dollars and then may need to spend further taxpayer monies in order to retrofit and/or remediate the building (s) on these properties.

Given the fact that these properties were already originally purchased and developed into schools using taxpayer dollars we ask that consideration be given to the fact that the taxpayers should not again have to purchase these properties at fair market value if the intent



is for the particular Municipality to develop and/or sustain these properties for the betterment of its community.

As a result of the discussion the following resolution was passed by Essex Town Council at its January 15, 2018 regular meeting:

Moved by Councillor Bondy
Seconded by Councillor Voakes

(R18-01-013) That the Town of Essex send a request to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), ROMA and all other municipalities in Ontario requesting that when schools boards make decisions to close schools, that they have to offer the building to the local municipality for a dollar.

Carried

Council believes that providing the opportunity to purchase the buildings for a dollar would give municipalities a meaningful opportunity to ensure that these properties remain a key hub for social and economic development in their respective communities.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Auger".

Robert Auger, L.L.B.
Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Town of Essex
Email: rauger@essex.ca

RA/lm

2

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: Nancy Rose
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 10:19 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject:

om

Mayor Reid and Council

It is my understanding that someone has made a very serious accusation regarding my character. The rumour mill does run rampant in this area, so if this is just gossip please excuse me. It has been brought to my attention that I have been accused of "attacking" one of our local councillors. I certainly hope this is not the case.

If this is indeed the case, I feel it only fair to notify you, as I am a straight forward individual with the utmost transparency, I had procured legal council prior to the council meeting of January 23rd and presented the list of questions I wanted to present. As many members of this community feel the need to hide behind the threat of legal actions, I felt it necessary to protect myself. My lawyer found my questions to be respectful and on point as a concerned tax payer. I have since presented her with the audio of the council meeting of said date. Again, she found nothing malicious on my part and completely respectful in my approach. Although she did question the motives of other individuals that she heard.

I informed her that there were possible accusations of me attacking a councillor who I have known and worked with for many years. She was gravely concerned about this and informed me, that should this be true, I could consider legal action.

I am not the type of person that makes threats nor feels that everything needs to be settled with legal council. I do however feel that people should have the courage to confront someone when they feel they have been wronged. The intent of this letter is to not only inform you of my previous actions, but to also encourage others to choose more wisely with whom they choose to confide in and to choose their words more carefully. Making an allegation toward a decorated Military veteran, of "attacking" someone, is something that should not be taken lightly.

I certainly hope that some day, all this ugliness will be behind us, and that we can get back to making this the amazing community it can and will be!

Respectfully,
Nancy Rose

(3)

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From:
Sent:
To:

Cc:

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Subject:

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February 20, 2018

Township of McNab-Braeside
2508 Russett Drive, RR#2
Arnprior, Ontario
K7S 3G8

Attn. The Honorable Tom Peckett, Mayor, by email
The Honorable Brian Armsden, Deputy-Mayor, by email
The Honorable Heather Lang, Councilor, by email
The Honorable Mark MacKenzie, Councilor, by email
The Honorable Scott Brum, Councilor, by email

**Re: CPR Right-of-Way Dispute – Document #1
Question of Authority**

Dear Mayor Peckett,
Deputy-Mayor Armsden,
Councilmember Lang,
Councilmember MacKenzie
Councilmember Brum,

This CPR right-of-way was a **private** corridor used for the purpose of a railway, through private property. The conversion from a railway right-of-way to a trail is a deviation from original purpose. The trail would basically be a “commercial” corridor rammed through residential area.

Zero consultation with the actual “stakeholders”, the private property landowners who will be negatively affected by a public throughfare. This is not the McNab/Braeside commercial district / tourism area. The K&P trail is aligned with this area. Calabogie & Burnstown are already well established as McNab/Braeside tourism district. The village of Braeside does not even offer any possibility of revenue (whether gasoline or sundries) since the closure of Robbins.

What benefit is there to McNab/Braeside in allowing this trail to go through in its present location?

A commercial corridor in this area is a major change / deviation from existing use. Why were the landowners not consulted? Is it not normal practice to give the opportunity to vote / give opinion on whether to allow such a use? This is standard practice under common law.

Many ratepayers in Renfrew County are opposed to yet another trail, our services are dwindling and taxes are increasing, it seems but a pipe dream to think this trail would bring any more financial benefit, in particular to M/B, when it does not even traverse our tourism district.

Why is Renfrew County so eager to push this through, even continuing to flippantly dispose of an additional \$20,000 towards a legal battle instead of respecting the fact that local municipalities are responsible to their ratepayers? A municipality is a government, elected to represent & make decisions on behalf of it’s residences and ratepayers, in addition to ensuring it’s operations are not only efficient, but focused on addressing the local public interest. Head, Clara & Maria council are the epitome of good governance, yet they are under attack by an upper tier governance. Is this how M/B and all other lower tier municipalities are to be regarded by the County? Are you, being the people chosen per democratic election by us, the ratepayers, content with having no say in local issues? Do you believe that the privileged few in a position of power should usurp local authority by means of utilizing our own money against us to enforce their will upon local municipalities and ratepayers? This is a very dangerous precedence, leaning toward communism.

We beseech you, **our local council, our local authority**, to write a letter to Renfrew County and all lower tier municipalities, supporting the position of HCM, in that local governance is the true representation of our democratic, common law society.

Additionally, we entreat you to come to our private residential cottage community location, to see for yourselves first hand that this is no place for a public commercial corridor.

We implore you to consider the negative long term ramifications of allowing this “top down” force of governance to prevail, as well as the fact that the end result of supporting a commercial

trail through our residential area will be of monumental financial cost to the landowners, and ultimately, this township.

Will you submit to a vote to support Head, Clara and Maria in their declaration of providence over local municipal matters?

Will you please take some time to personally view our legacy property that has been in Stewart possession prior to the formation of MacNab Township itself?

Thank you kindly for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Valerie Kohlsmith
On behalf of the Chat's Lake Stewarts (1818)

613.255.7718 (cell)

4

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: Crystal Fischer <hcminfocfischer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 2:24 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: FW: Attention County and Municipalities
Attachments: Potts letter July 28.pdf

Do you received these emails?

From: grant tysick [mailto:grant.tysick@renfrew.ca]
Sent: February 26, 2018 11:50 AM
To: warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca; admin@eganville.com; rmcgee@deepriver.ca; info@laurentianhills.ca; email@petawawa.ca; kbulmer@renfrew.ca; info@admastonbromley.com; blrtownship@xplornet.com; admin@greatermadawaska.com; twpshcm@xplornet.com; mmclaren@hortontownship.ca; info@lvtownship.ca; info@madawaskavalley.ca; info@mcnabbraeside.com; info@whitewaterregion.ca; hcminfocfischer@gmail.com
Subject: Attention County and Municipalities

C/o Renfrew County and Municipal Councils,

Dear Councils further to the email of February 19,2018 in regards to the Conflicts of Interest that surround Kirby Whiteduck, we would hope that from Kirby Whiteduck signing a Agreement In Principle with his boss Minister Bennett of Indian Affairs to the Memorandum signing with the County on behalf of Algonquins would be considered illegitimate.

Also in regards to the 7000 people who have been collected for a Moose tag in Algonquin Park, including the nine individuals at the table claiming to represent non Status Algonquins, we also know that cannot be true from the Supreme Court of Canada decision we have provided, as Councils are aware Governments do not Negotiate and Litigate against at the same time, or does anyone else.

To further bring to Councils attention is the fact that these 7,000 people have never been properly identified as Algonquins, or have they ever been acknowledged as Beneficiaries to the Algonquin treaty until this day, in a letter dated July 28, 2016 which I have attached four months after the Agreement In Principle was voted on. Mr Potts will confirm this himself in the last Paragraph of the letter sent by him, as we have always stated to the public, Mr Potts put the cart before the Horse, so in regards to any vote outside the Community of Pikwakanagan, we would also hope Councils would find that issue illegitimate as well. as 7000 individuals were not legal participants.

Meegwetch,
Chief Grant Tysick

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: Crystal Fischer <hcminfocfischer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 3:25 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: FW: Algonquin Trail
Attachments: 010185_e (1).doc

From: grant tysick [[mailto:](#)]
Sent: February 5, 2018 12:34 PM
To: hcminfocfischer@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Algonquin Trail

Very sorry Melinda I see the MTO law was not attached

From: grant tysick <grant-tysick@hotmail.com>
Sent: February 5, 2018 12:23 PM
To: hcminfocfischer@gmail.com
Subject: Algonquin Trail

C/o CAO Melinda Rieth,

As advised the Algonquins have not been properly Consulted in regards to the Algonquin trail, so I have attached decisions in regards to Accommodation of non Status Communities such as the Kinouchepirini, as well as the Ministry of Transportation laws that exempt Aboriginal people of Canada from trail permits.

Meegwetch,
Chief Grant Tysick

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: Crystal Fischer <hcminfocfischer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 3:24 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: FW: C/o CAO Melinda Rieth and Council

From: grant tysick [<mailto:grant-tysick@hotmail.com>]
Sent: February 8, 2018 2:54 PM
To: hcminfocfischer@gmail.com
Subject: C/o CAO Melinda Rieth and Council

Dear Melinda and Council below is a letter sent by me to the Daily Observer in regards to failed Accommodation of the Algonquin trail, which will be in tomorrow or Saturdays paper, the Algonquins would hope that your Township would not only Accommodate but provide assistance to deal with the situation we find ourselves, in regards to this new Algonquin Trail where the Ontario Federation of Snowmobiles will have to take part in, as well as any ATV Clubs.

Meegwetch,
Chief Grant Tysick

In regard to the article on how the township of Head Clara Maria feels it wasn't consulted regarding how the Algonquin Trail is moving forward, there are others who also feel the commitment to consult was not fulfilled - and those commitments take more than Kirby Whiteduck in a picture with Bob Sweet.

Renfrew County has known for a while that consultation with municipalities is not only required but also the Algonquin people, and so far we have not seen any accommodation agreements that would protect Algonquin rights on the Algonquin Trail. Those rights have been infringed upon in the past in regards to being bugged about snowmobile trail passes when a regulation under the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act exempts Aboriginal people from requiring the trail pass.

For years now as a chief in this territory I have been caught up in many disputes between the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' wardens and four-wheeler clubs with members of this community and other Algonquins who are exempt from needing any pass on treaty and traditional lands, so it is time this confusion was cleared up. Algonquins want to see this in any accommodation agreement.

There is an Ontario Court of Appeal decision that requires consultation and accommodation of the Algonquin people on unceded Algonquin land, and to this day we have not seen any accommodation agreement that would protect further harassment of Algonquins using this new trail.

Grant Tysick
Chief Kinouchipirini First Nation

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: Crystal Fischer <hcminfocfischer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 3:24 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: FW: Minister Praises Renfrew County
Attachments: Daniels-en (1).docx; OntarioNegotiatortoBrian Crane letter.pdf

From: grant tysick [<mailto:grant-tysick@hotmail.com>]
Sent: February 19, 2018 1:17 PM
To: hcminfocfischer@gmail.com
Subject: Fw: Minister Praises Renfrew County

Dear CAO Melinda and Council,

This morning below we addressed your Warden Mrs Murphy in regards to Fridays paper, and ask that Council take notice to this email also, the only ones who are being further misled in regards to this land claim and this illusion of nine non status Communities involved, is the people you represent, not the Algonquin people, the Algonquins are fully aware of why Mayors signed Confidentiality forms in 2013, as they say a picture paints a thousand words Council, where did the other nine disappear to in your Memorandum of Understanding.

Meegwetch,
Chief Grant Tysick

From: grant tysick <grant-tysick@hotmail.com>
Sent: February 19, 2018 11:56 AM
To: warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca; admin@eganville.com
Subject: Minister Praises Renfrew County

Dear Mrs Murphy

I am responding to the article in the paper on Friday with Kirby Whiteduck, first of all we would like to thank the County for exposing what they signed Confidential agreements for in 2013 with yourself included Mrs Murphy.

Also as you are aware there has been only one Community in Negotiations with Canada not ten, and that Community voted No to what you seem to be moving forward with, that being acknowledging them as a Municipality when they voted to remain as they are with there Rights in tact the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan.

I also have attached a Supreme Court of Canada decision that confirms Governments have not Negotiated a day with any non status Algonquins, for it was only April 14, 2016 that Canada was made to recognize non status Algonquins, also we have the letter from Brian Crane to Mayor Pine that explain exactly what the County is moving forward with, without the Consent of that Community, if I were a party to this and signing

documents with Kirby while he is going to Court next Monday with his Community, I would carefully take a look what the definitions of Genocide were before I supported any document that was going to bring about the destruction of that group when there Consent was NO.

In closing as you are also aware Kirby Whiteduck is not only an Agent of Canada but an Employee of Canada and a director on a Corporation owned by Canada, with those kinds of Conflicts of Interest, the only ones being mislead are the people you claim to Represent, not Algonquins, so any Memorandum signing with Kirby, is you Negotiating with yourselves, not with Algonquins

Meegwetch,
Chief Grant Tysick



**ALGONQUIN NEGOTIATION REPRESENTATIVES AIP/TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND ONTARIO**

July 28, 2016

Allan James Bowers
2106 Petawawa Blvd.
Pembroke ON K8A 7G9

Dear Allan James Bowers,

Subject: The Agreement-in-Principle

I am writing to you once again as the Principal Negotiator and Senior Legal Counsel for the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO). As you know, a ratification vote was held earlier this year to determine whether Algonquin Voters supported continued negotiations based upon the proposed Agreement-in-Principle (AIP). In that vote, over 90 percent of the Voters who participated voted to approve the proposed AIP between the AOO and the Governments of Ontario and Canada while also authorizing and directing the Algonquin negotiation team to negotiate the terms of a proposed Final Agreement, which will then be subject to a further ratification vote.

However, a separate referendum vote was held by the Chief and Council of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation and in that vote, a majority of the members who participated voted against the signing of the AIP, largely due to concerns about the self-government component of the negotiations. As a result, the Chief and Council undertook discussions not only with their members, but also with the Governments, and sought clarification on certain issues of concern to the First Nation's membership. Based on those consultations and discussions, the Chief and Council have decided to support the signing of the proposed AIP.

Consequently, I am pleased to report that the Algonquin Negotiation Representatives on July 21, 2016, and in accordance with their Terms of Reference dated September 26, 2005, have agreed to sign the proposed AIP. Arrangements for the signing of the AIP are currently being discussed with the Governments of Ontario and Canada. Meanwhile, the Algonquin negotiation team continues to work on your behalf. Our immediate focus over the next few months will be developing a draft final Beneficiary Criteria, developing a Constitution and planning the steps required to move towards a modern-day Treaty for the Algonquins of Ontario. We look forward to continuing to report on our progress towards those goals.

Yours very truly,

Robert J. Potts
Principal Negotiator and Senior Legal Counsel
Algonquin Treaty Negotiations

5



The Missing Link Snowmobile Club Inc.

Ontario #19314078
270 Loon Valley Lane
Stoney Creek, ON
M0J 2K0

To: HCM Council & Staff

March 15, 2018

RE: Recent Statements by Mayor Reid and Staff

The snowmobile club is actively seeking clarification on the following points:

In a recent letter to Terry Vaudry, the clerk states "We have since the middle of 2017 repeatedly asked for consultation with the County and the club. We have not received either."

The club would like to remind council and staff the original intent was for the snowmobile club to present trail options for discussion with local stakeholders at a public meeting in early September. Instead, the scope of this public meeting was changed without council approval and the snowmobile club was informed their opportunity to speak was at the planned deputation on September 15th, at which time the club discussed trail options going forward. Despite the fact council and the clerk were not supportive of the club's recommendations, can you please advise the club of other repeated attempts for consultation with the club?

At the County council session of January 31st, Mayor Reid is quoted as saying "If the snowmobile club would meet and agree to terms that those people could abide by, this issue would go away."

The snowmobile club is specifically asking council and staff to advise what these terms are since they certainly have not been communicated to the club, nor has there been any request to meet with the club.

The snowmobile club looks forward to your response.

Respectfully,

The Missing Link Snowmobile Club

(6)

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 11:03 AM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Guidance on Traditional Land Acknowledgement Statements

March 15, 2018

GUIDANCE ON TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENTS

This resource was developed by AMO's recently created Indigenous Relations Task Force. Members have requested supports on creating a traditional land acknowledgement statement for their municipal government. The intention of this resource is therefore to provide guidance to interested municipal governments on how to draft a statement for their jurisdiction.

WHAT ARE TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENTS?

Traditional land acknowledgement statements are increasingly being used in Canada by governments, schools, post-secondary institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other civil institutions as a practice of reconciliation aimed at recognizing the traditional or treaty territories of Indigenous peoples. The statements are typically made at the introduction of meetings, gatherings, events, or presentations. Some are featured on organization websites or event description pages. They are commonly modelled after Indigenous protocols.

While municipal governments should be mindful that inaccurately acknowledging entities and territories may have legal implications, land acknowledgement statements are best interpreted as a venue for recognizing what is known of past Indigenous usage and occupancy of a land. Interested municipalities are advised to create statements specific to their jurisdictions based on legally recognized treaty or traditional lands or to opt for a high-level general statement.

TIPS FOR CREATING YOUR MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROTOCOL:

- Research the history of the land within and in proximity to your municipal boundaries, including treaties, active land claim litigation and Indigenous histories. This information will be useful in helping you craft a statement.
- Some of the history of specific areas may be complex and different sources could be contradictory. In these instances, it may be better to opt for a more general statement rather than trying to be specific.
- If your municipality has an Indigenous Relations or Reconciliation committee or if you have an Indigenous Advisory Council, you may find it useful to have this body help you create your municipal government's land acknowledgement statement.

- Municipal governments do not have to craft a land acknowledgement statement on their own. Engage and work with local First Nations, Métis, Indigenous organizations and community champions in your area. Advice from these groups may be useful in helping you develop a land acknowledgement protocol for your municipal government. Some may have also developed template acknowledgement statements for external use.
- Focus on your current neighbours and Indigenous residents with an eye towards acknowledging past usage and occupants. Remember that in some cases, First Nations communities may not be located on their traditional lands.
- Once your statement has been drafted, remember that it may be viewed as political. Some may critique the acknowledgement protocol your municipal government has created. While you may find it useful to consider their input and view the statement as a living document, do your best and remember that your municipality may not be able to make everyone happy.
- Some municipal governments with existing land acknowledgement protocols have implemented a trial period (e.g. 6 months) for their statement to allow Indigenous community members an opportunity to provide feedback.
- Determine which type of meetings and events you might wish to begin using your land acknowledgement statement to make sure it continues to be meaningful. You may also wish to consider whether you want to have a traditional land acknowledgement statement on your municipality's website.
- To avoid traditional land acknowledgement statements being used superficially and without an appreciation for their cultural meaning, some municipal governments have provided municipal elected representatives and staff with cultural awareness training before implementing the use of a statement.
- Some municipalities invite Indigenous Elders or leaders to participate in introduction protocols at civic celebrations or official events to bring greetings on behalf of the local Indigenous community. Sometimes this approach is used instead of a land acknowledgement statement.

EXAMPLES OF STATEMENTS USED IN ONTARIO:

City of Guelph – Used at the beginning of Council meetings, civic celebrations, official events

"As we gather, we are reminded that Guelph is situated on treaty land that is steeped in rich Indigenous history and home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit people today. As a City, we have a responsibility for the stewardship of the land on which we live and work. Today we acknowledge the Mississaugas of the [New] Credit First Nation on whose traditional territory we are meeting."

For more information: [City of Guelph Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

Government of Ontario – High-level statement

"[Insert name of city/town] is located on the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples dating back countless generations. I want to show my respect for their contributions and recognize the role of

treaty making in what is now Ontario. Hundreds of years after the first treaties were signed, they are still relevant today."

Carleton University (Ottawa) – Suggested scripts to be used before the start of university events

"We/I would like to acknowledge the Algonquin nation whose traditional and unceded territory we are gathered upon today." Or, "We/I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin nation."

For more information: [Carleton University Territory Acknowledgement](#).

University of Toronto – Used in specific university ceremonies

"(We) wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land."

For more information: [University of Toronto Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land](#).

TOOLS AND RESOURCES:

Canada

- The Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System (contains interactive maps of treaties and claims as well as other relevant information, including Community Profiles, Agreements, and Court Cases): [Government of Canada Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System](#).
- The Consultation and Information Service: [Government of Canada Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System \(ATRIS\)](#).
- On reconciliation: [Government of Canada Reconciliation](#).

Ontario

- On Treaties in Ontario: [Government of Ontario Treaties](#).
- On the Province's approach to reconciliation: [The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples](#).

AMO Contact: Leslie Muñoz, Policy Advisor, lmunoz@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 367.

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

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

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



7

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 6:02 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: Main Street Revitalization – funding update
Attachments: Main Street Revitalization Allocations.pdf

This week, AMO signed an agreement with the Province to administer its \$26m Main Street Revitalization Initiative for Ontario’s lower and single-tier municipalities (except for the City of Toronto). This initiative ensure investment in communities’ main street/downtown areas to support small businesses.

AMO is pleased to announce that our administrative efficiencies mean that 413 municipalities will receive about 4% more than originally indicated in January when the program was announced by the province. The final allocations, compared to the original estimate, is attached.

Funding will follow a model similar to the Federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) so there is no application process. Municipal governments will need a by-law authorizing it to sign a funding agreement with AMO. As with the GTF, treasurers are the administrator of this contract. Municipalities will need to identify the program category, the project(s), anticipated results and estimated cost when council deals with the agreement by-law. Please send this project information to AMO by sending an email to mainstreets@amo.on.ca.

AMO will be distributing your municipal agreement the week of March 19th. Watch for it – it will be an electronic delivery from one of AMO’s staff – Brittany Ardiel. It’s critical that the funding agreement by-law be put on Council agendas as soon as possible to avoid potential municipal lame duck provisions, particularly for any 2018 projects.

What projects qualify?

The funding can be used to support revitalization efforts related to energy efficiency, accessibility, aesthetics and marketability. There will be two program categories:

1. Implementing priorities under existing Community Improvement Plans (includes grants for renovations, retrofits and structural improvements); and/or,
2. Funding for municipal improvements that will support main street businesses, such as signage, streetscape improvement and marketing plan implementation.

Municipalities can fund projects in one or both categories.

Information on eligible projects and cost along with reporting requirements will be in a Guide that accompanies the funding agreement. Please read it. Like the GTF accountability framework, municipalities will need to demonstrate due diligence around project progress, financial controls and risk management. Individual projects should include plans to promote and communicate the benefits, just as we do for the GTF.

AMO looks forward to working with all of you to ensure Ontario municipalities can put this funding to work in support of our main streets.

AMO Contact: Pat Vanini, Executive Director, pvanini@amo.on.ca, 416.971.9856 ext. 316.

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



8

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From:
Sent:
Cc:

Subject: Guidance Note - Ontario Regulation 380/04 Training Requirements
Attachments: Training Requirement Guidance 2018-02-06 Final.pdf; Training Requirement Guidance 2018-02-06_FR Final.pdf

Good Afternoon CEMCs,

Please find attached an updated Guidance Note which details the training required by the Chief, Emergency Management for Emergency Management Program Coordinators (otherwise known as CEMCs), and for members of Municipal Emergency Control Groups (MECGs), as per O.Reg. 380/04.

You will notice that the training required for CEMCs has not changed. However, the training required for MECGs has changed significantly. As had been discussed at all of the Fall Sector Meetings, the Chief, Emergency Management has amended the training required for MECGs to detail the specific areas that MECG members must have an adequate level of training in. At the same time, the minimum time requirement for MECG training has been removed. Both of these amendments will ensure that MECG members are knowledgeable about the areas that they need in order to lead a municipality through an emergency, but provides freedom in how this training is conducted, and allows municipalities to determine how much time is actually required to ensure an adequate level of training.

Tools to support these updated training requirements will be distributed by the end of this month, including an updated EMCPA Compliance Guide. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about these training requirements, please contact your sector Field Officer.

Thank you.

Chris Pittens, CD ABCP
Program Manager
Emergency Management Field Operations
Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management
(647) 329-1193 (office)
(416) 559-4106 (cell)
Chris.Pittens@ontario.ca



If you have any accommodation needs, or require this email in a different format, please let me know.

Ministry of
Community Safety and
Correctional Services

Office of the
Fire Marshal and
Emergency Management

25 Morton Shulman Avenue
Toronto ON M3M 0B1
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Ministère de la
Sécurité communautaire et
des Services correctionnels

Bureau du
commissaire des incendies et
de la gestion des situations d'urgence

25, avenue Morton Shulman
Toronto ON M3M 0B1
Tél. : 647-329-1100
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February 6, 2018

GUIDANCE NOTE: 2018-01-01

Re: ONTARIO REGULATION 380/04 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

This guidance note is issued under the provisions of Ontario Regulation 380/04 (O.Reg.380/04). It is the responsibility of every municipal emergency management program coordinator, and Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) to follow the Chief, Emergency Management Ontario's guidance as set out in subsection 10. (2) and subsection 12. (3) of O.Reg. 380/04. These training requirements are effective January 1, 2018.

Background

Training requirements are set out by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM) for all municipalities responsible for an emergency management program in the province of Ontario under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) and it's supporting Ontario Regulation 380/04:

- The emergency management program co-ordinator shall complete the training that is required by the Chief, Emergency Management Ontario. O. Reg. 380/04, s. 10 (2).
- The members of the municipal emergency control group shall complete the annual training that is required by the Chief, Emergency Management Ontario. O. Reg. 380/04, s.12 (3).

Guidance

Emergency Management Program Coordinators

Municipal emergency management program coordinators, as designated by their municipality under O Reg 380/04 s. 10 (1), will complete the following courses offered by the OFMEM, within one year of their appointment as emergency management program coordinator.

- EM 200 – Basic Emergency Management
- EM 300 – Community Emergency Management Coordinator Course
- IMS 100 – Introduction to Incident Management System (available online)
- IMS 200 – Basic Incident Management System

Emergency management program coordinators that have already completed this training will not be required to repeat it. Notwithstanding the fact that O. Reg. 380/04, s. 10 (2) speaks specifically to the emergency management program coordinator, it is recommended that those appointed as alternate emergency management program coordinators also complete this training.

The EM 240 – Note Taking course is also a valuable course which can assist in ensuring that proper and appropriate records are maintained during an emergency. Although this course is not required, it is strongly recommended for those who have a responsibility during a municipal emergency to maintain records on behalf of the municipality.

Details of OFMEM's training courses can be accessed by following the link to "Take Training" from our website www.ontario.ca/emo.

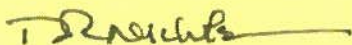
Municipal Emergency Control Group Members

In addition, all members of the MECG, as designated under O Reg 380/04, s. 12, are required to annually demonstrate an adequate level of training in each of the following areas:

- Knowledge of all of the components of the municipal Emergency Management program, including, but not limited to the municipal HIRA and Critical Infrastructure list;
- Knowledge of their municipality's Municipal Emergency Plan, including their roles and responsibilities, and those of organizations which may have a role in response;
- Knowledge of the procedures used to activate and operate under the Municipal Emergency Plan;
- Knowledge of the notification procedures used to notify members of the MECG when the Municipal Emergency Plan is activated; and
- Knowledge of the location, communications infrastructure and technology in their municipal Emergency Operations Centre.

The OFMEM encourages municipalities to strive to conduct training which goes beyond the requirements listed above. OFMEM Emergency Management Field Officers are highly experienced with the planning and delivery of appropriate MECG training. This could include making suggestions for appropriate topics for this training, facilitating the sharing of training materials that may have been successfully used in other municipalities, or with the delivery of some of the training components.

In order to request this type of assistance, contact your assigned EM Field Officer directly, or contact AskOFMEM@ontario.ca for assistance.



Ross Nichols
Fire Marshal and Chief, Emergency Management

Federal Budget 2018: Highlights

The Federal Budget 2018, *Equality + Growth: A Strong Middle Class*, was presented by the Hon. Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, on February 27, 2018. [FCM's statement](#) responding to Budget 2018 can be found online. Below are key highlights of Budget 2018 with relevance for FCM and local governments. A full analysis will follow in the coming days.

Housing

- Budget 2018 increases the amount of loans available through the Rental Construction Financing Initiative from \$2.5 billion to \$3.75 billion over the next three years. A component of the National Housing Strategy, the initiative is intended to enable the construction of more than 14,000 new rental units for modest- and middle-income households.
- Budget 2018 commits funding to support housing strategies that respect the distinct needs of Indigenous communities, including:
 - \$600 million over three years to support housing on First Nation reserve communities as part of a 10-year First Nations Housing Strategy that is being developed with First Nations.
 - \$400 million over 10 years to support an Inuit-led housing plan in the Inuit regions of Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and Inuvialuit.
 - \$500 million over 10 years to support the Métis Nation's housing strategy.

Cannabis

- Through Budget 2018, the federal government proposes to add a new excise duty framework for cannabis to the *Excise Act, 2001*. Budget 2018 confirms that 75 per cent of the taxation revenues from the excise tax will flow to participating provinces and territories, with the federal government receiving the remaining 25 per cent.
- Budget 2018 signals that it is the federal government's expectation that a significant portion of the 75 per cent of cannabis excise tax revenue flowing to provinces and territories will go to local governments to address their costs related to cannabis legalization.
- The federal government will also allocate \$62.5 million over five years to support community-based organizations to undertake public education and awareness related to cannabis.

Opioids

- Building on investments to support the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy in 2017, Budget 2018 proposes an additional \$231.4 million over five years, starting in 2018-19, to address the opioids crisis including:
 - One-time emergency funding of \$150 million in 2018-19 that will be distributed to provinces and territories to expand access to a range of evidence-based treatment options.
 - An additional \$26 million to Health Canada to support a public education campaign to address stigma against people who use opioids, as well as expand the Substance Use and Addictions Program, which provides financial support to innovative and best practice-based programs responding to drug and substance use issues in Canada.
 - \$16 million to the Public Health Agency of Canada over five years and \$1 million to Statistics Canada in 2018-19 to improve surveillance, data collection, reporting and analysis of public health data and inform evidence-based strategies to address the opioid crisis.
 - \$33 million over the next five years to Canada Border Services Agency to improve border surveillance through additional tools to detect and identify fentanyl and other substances before entering Canada.
 - \$6 million over five years to Public Safety Canada to address the opioid crisis.
- Additionally, Budget 2018 proposes \$200 million over five years and \$40 million per year ongoing to for culturally appropriate addictions treatment and prevention services in First Nations communities, including services to address opioid use.

Investing in Canada infrastructure plan

- Budget 2018 reiterates the federal government's commitment to invest over \$180 billion over 12 years in infrastructure through the Investing in Canada infrastructure plan. These investments include the funding that will be delivered through integrated bilateral agreements currently being negotiated between the federal government and provinces/territories, as well as national programs like the *Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund*.
- The funding profiles for these infrastructure investments have been updated by the federal government to reflect when the federal government anticipates receiving claims from funding recipients for eligible costs.
- Budget 2018 indicates that combined investments of \$32 billion have been approved so far.



Rural, northern and remote priorities

- Budget 2018 proposes funding of \$100 million over five years for the Strategic Innovation Fund, with a particular focus on supporting projects that relate to low Earth orbit satellites and next generation rural broadband. These satellites have the potential to provide Canadians living in rural and remote areas with significantly improved access to Internet and wireless services at more affordable prices.
- The budget also proposes to provide \$250 million over two years to Fisheries and Oceans Canada to renew its network of small craft harbours and work with municipalities where investments and divestitures can enhance local communities.

Poverty Reduction

- To strengthen the collection and dissemination of poverty data across the country, the federal government will invest \$12.1 million over five years starting in 2018-19 and \$1.5 million per year thereafter.

National Pharmacare

- Budget 2018 announces the creation of an Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare. The Council has been tasked with recommending options for a national pharmacare program to the Minister of Health and the Minister of Finance. Council members, the consultation process and timelines are to be determined.

Reconciliation

- Budget 2018 announces investments intended to help close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, including by providing:
 - \$4.14 billion over five years for health, culture, employment and housing.
 - \$4.76 billion over five years for rights and self-determination efforts, such as by strengthening Indigenous institutions and community capacity.

Public Safety

- Budget 2018 also commits significant new funding to improve RCMP operations, including:
 - \$80 million in 2018–19 to reinforce existing RCMP policing operations and to support the recruitment and training of new RCMP cadets.
 - \$116.0 million over five years, and \$23.2 million per year ongoing, to the RCMP to support the creation of the National Cybercrime Coordination Unit.
 - \$80.5 million over five years, starting in 2018–19, with \$17.7 million per year ongoing to support the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy.
 - \$60.2 million over five years, and \$9.5 million per year ongoing, for the RCMP to renew radio systems in four divisions: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and the National Capital Region.
 - \$21.4 million over five years, starting in 2018-19, to support the mental health needs of its officers.



- The federal government is also establishing the Initiative to Take Action Against Guns and Gangs to tackle gun and gang activity in Canada. The budget commits to providing \$327.6 million over five years, starting in 2018–19, and \$100 million per year ongoing, to this initiative.

International Trade

- Budget 2018 signals the government's intent to pursue greater trade diversification through new markets, with \$75 million over 5 years dedicated to enhancing trade discussions with South American and Asian countries. Budget 2018 highlights trade relations with a number of global partners, including the Canada- European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement and the signing of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, as well as continued negotiations on North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) modernization.
- In response to the ongoing softwood lumber dispute with the United States, Budget 2018 commits to continued efforts to seek a long-term softwood lumber agreement with the U.S, as well as committing \$191 million over five years, starting in 2018–19, to Global Affairs Canada and Natural Resources Canada to support softwood lumber jobs including pursuing trade dispute resolution through litigation under the World Trade Organization and the NAFTA dispute settlement mechanisms.

Modernizing federal environmental assessments

- As announced in early February, Budget 2018 includes \$1 billion over five years to support the modernization of federal environmental assessments. This will support the proposed new Canadian Impact Assessment Agency (to replace the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency), the Canadian Energy Regulator (to replace the National Energy Board), increase scientific capacity in federal departments and agencies, improve regulatory efficiency at Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada, and increase opportunities for public participation.

Gender lens

- Budget 2018 applied GBA +, a specific gender-based analysis, to all policy, program and investment announcements made in the budget, considering the different impacts and intersections of gender and other identity factors (e.g. ethnicity, age, income, sexual orientation, etc.). It also introduced a Gender Results Framework that provides indicators across six pillars to measure progress against equality.
- Budget 2018 made a number of policy, program and investment commitments throughout the budget to that support gender equality and apply GBA+. Key program announcements include a pay equity regime for the federally regulated sector, which will be tabled in the fall, and a new EI parental sharing benefit that provides an additional five weeks of benefits when both parents share parental leave.



10

Melinda Reith, Head, Clara & Maria

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 5:40 PM
To: hcmclerkmreith@gmail.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Canada-Ontario Sign Infrastructure Program Agreement

March 14, 2018

Canada-Ontario Sign Infrastructure Program Agreement

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Phase 2

The Bilateral Framework Agreement (IBA) was signed today. It outlines the terms and conditions for \$11.8 billion in federal funding over the next 10 years. Ontario’s contribution is \$10 billion, which is in addition to other infrastructure funding programs such as OCIF.

The Canada Infrastructure Program has four (4) funding streams:

Public Transit	Green	Community, Culture and Recreation	Rural & Northern Community
<i>Federal</i> \$8.3 b	\$2.8b	\$407m	\$250m
<i>Provincial</i> 6.8 b	\$2.3b	\$335m	\$206m

Generally, the sharing ratios are 40-33-27% (federal, provincial and municipal) with some variation. Each funding stream is profiled over 10 years.

We understand that municipal governments will want to know more about federal eligibility requirements and we will provide more details on the IBA as soon as possible. We do know that the Agreement is framed on a project approvals process and outcomes reporting which is the case with Phase 1.

Since the Public Transit fund is based on a population and ridership formula, we understand that these municipal governments will receive information on the federal and provincial contributions shortly.

The Province’s News Release [Backgrounder](#) contains information on expected outcomes when a project is completed. This will give you some immediate insight on type of projects as municipal governments start to contemplate how the funding might help.

Again, more details including when and how projects can be submitted will emerge over the coming weeks.

AMO Contact:

Monika Turner, Director of Policy, mturner@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856 ext. 318.

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

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

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

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





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BY E-mail
March 13th, 2018

Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services
Strategic Policy, Research and Innovation Division
25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1Y6

Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services,

RE: Proposal #18-CSCS002- Comments Due Date: March 11, 2018

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior at their March 12th, 2018 Regular Meeting of Council passed the following resolution:

That Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior receive the correspondence from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association.

Whereas the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services requesting comments on the proposed regulations under The Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA), 1997, including amendments to Mandatory Training and Certification for Firefighters and Mandatory Risk Assessments to inform the delivery of fire protection services; and

Whereas the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association met to discuss the proposed regulations, and drafted a letter detailing their comments.

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior supports the letter submitted by the Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association and its content, as well as the letters submitted by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) in response to the proposed legislation; and

Further That this letter be circulated to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Premier Kathleen Wynne, the Office of the Fire Marshall and Chief, Emergency Management Ontario, Cheryl Gallant, MP, John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew County Council and CAO, and all local Councils, Fire Chiefs and CAOs in Renfrew County.

• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •



ARNPRIOR

**105 Elgin St. West
Arnprior, ON K7S 0A8**

**tel 613 623 4231
fax 613 623 8091**

**arnprior@arnprior.ca
www.arnprior.ca**

If you have any other comments, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kaila Zamojski, Town of Arnprior
Deputy Clerk
613-623-4231 ext. 1818

• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •



Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association

February 12, 2018

Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
Strategic Policy, Research and Innovation Division
25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Proposal #18-CSCS002 – Comments Due Date: March 11, 2018

The Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association met on February 7th, 2018 to discuss the proposed regulations under The Fire Protection and Prevention Act (F.P.P.A.), 1997;

1. Mandatory Training and Certification for Firefighters
2. Mandatory Risk Assessments to inform the delivery of fire protection services.

Consisting of mostly rural communities, Renfrew County has a vested interest in ensuring that any and all changes to our fire services reflects not only the needs of our communities but also the capabilities of our communities to implement and effect the changes. Having reviewed these proposed changes and the Technical Table Personnel, it is our stance that rural volunteer communities were not fairly represented at this Table and the voices required were not heard.

Our concerns are put forward as always with the best interests of our service, firefighters and communities in mind and we respectfully ask that you give our concerns serious consideration.

In order for the fire service representatives to have sufficient time to meet with their community leaders and to study the ramifications of these changes on our service's finances and operations, we ask that the consultation period be extended. Each municipality is unique and will need time to clearly identify how achievable the Mandatory Certification will be and the additional training costs it will create.

Fire Chief Corwin Quade, Chair
613-756-2747
613-756-0553 (fax)
firechief@madawaskavalley.ca

c/o Madawaska Valley Fire Department
P.O. Box 1000
85 Bay Street
Barry's Bay, Ontario K0J 1B0

Our Recommendations are as follows:

1. That the consultation period be extended to June 29, 2018 to allow municipal councils and their fire services to study the necessary funding and operational issues and prepare a detailed input paper.
2. That the requirement for Mandatory Certification be changed to reflect only Mandatory Training and Qualification to allow the training and testing to be completed within the community by the trained members of each department and Certification remains optional.
3. That any proposed regulation does not come into effect until January 1st, 2022 to allow sufficient time for the Grandfathering process.
4. That the O.F.M. must ensure timely access to free on-line training and testing for all departments.
5. That the Province provides funding to municipalities to cover the extra costs if these regulations are implemented in whole or in part.
6. That the internship program of 24 months be expanded to include all applicable areas and positions including Fire Inspectors and Officers.
7. That a model comparable to the Province of Quebec Student Guide be adopted.
8. That Table 1 be revised to include wording that ensures future updates to N.F.P.A. standards are implemented by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (A.H.J.) as standards are updated, published, and testing/skills are made available.

All of the Renfrew County fire departments currently train to the N.F.P.A. standards and feel this is sufficient for our needs. Placing Mandatory Certification from an outside entity adds another “unrequired” step and undue stress, hardship and financial strain on already strained fire budgets and volunteer fire fighters. The Technical Table and the Province need to recognize that these steps are unnecessary and should only remain as optional to the fire fighter.

The F.P.P.A. recognizes that each municipality is unique in that each is given the right to set their level of service. The Province and the O.F.M. should not be implementing changes which will impose any mandatory requirements on municipal fire departments unless all costs are covered by the Province in perpetuity.

The Province and the O.F.M. have proven in the past that the Grandfathering process is an arduous task that is overly time consuming and that they do not have the process or the resources available to complete it in a timely manner. If the process is to again be undertaken, they must ensure that enough time is provided to the municipalities and that sufficient support is also provided to the department to enable them to complete the process accurately and on time. Allowances must be made for extenuating circumstances in Grandfathering beyond the final date.

The Province and the O.F.M. have also proven that Certifying the firefighters is an arduous and time consuming task. Back logs and lack of Proctors is the normal expected process. Considering past experience, we do not see how the O.F.M. expects to be able to certify all fire fighters in a timely manner if this becomes mandatory and is no longer optional.

We respectfully submit this letter through the Renfrew County Fire Chief's Association Chair and expect that our recommendations and positions are given careful consideration prior to any implementation of new regulations associated to the provision of fire services in Ontario.

Respectfully yours,



Chief Corwin Quade, Chair
Renfrew County Fire Chiefs' Association.

/lec

Sent via e-mail: marie-france.lalonde@ontario.ca
registryfeedback@ontario.ca

March 7, 2018

The Honourable Marie-France Lalonde
Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
George Drew Building, 18th Floor
25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y6

RE: Comments on Draft Fire Regulations (Proposal No: 18-CSCS002 & 18-CSCS004)

Dear Minister Lalonde:

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), representing municipal governments who are the employers and funders of fire services in Ontario, would like to provide our comments on three draft regulations to the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* (FPPA), that were recently released by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS):

1. Firefighter Certification;
2. Community Risk Assessment; and
3. Public Reports.

Municipal governments are in general supportive of the efforts to modernize the FPPA and enhance the professionalism of the Fire Services that serve Ontario communities. MCSCS established the Fire Safety Technical Table (Table) in January 2017, to provide advice to the Ministry on current and future fire safety challenges and opportunities, identify priorities for action, and support the development of evidence-based recommendations that will enhance fire safety in Ontario.

Since the Table was established, AMO has been attending these monthly meetings with the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (OAFC), Toronto Fire Services, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association, and the Fire Fighters Association of Ontario, to provide informed input to your Ministry officials on minimum standards for professional fire service qualifications. There was not always consensus at the Table; however, there were active discussions. The Table's input was considered by MCSCS staff towards the development of these draft regulations, for your final review and approval.

Local elected officials across Ontario share in the Province's commitment to keep our communities safe by providing public and firefighter safety, and are interested in finding ways to modernize fire service delivery in this province. However, as the sole funders of fire

services in Ontario, we are recommending that the Ministry adopt key amendments to these proposed regulations before they are finalized as well as providing explicit provincial implementation resources and measures.

We are very concerned about the fiscal impacts of these proposed regulations and would ask for a public provincial commitment, prior to these regulations receiving approval, for adequate financial funding for implementation so that they do not become an unfunded mandate. We understand that MCSCS will be surveying fire services shortly to get a better handle on the resource needs for successful implementation, particularly with respect to the draft Firefighter Certification regulation, however, we need an upfront commitment from the Province that appropriate funding will be provided.

We are also very aware that many small municipalities will not be able to maintain a viable volunteer fire service if the proposed Firefighter Certification regulation is instituted, even if provincial funding is provided to assist implementation. These volunteer firefighters are deeply committed to their communities, however, the imposition of mandatory training and examination requirements may demand too much for too little return from them. These municipal governments will likely soon face the hard and public discussion of what fire services, beyond the FPPA required fire safety public education and fire prevention, can be realistically provided to their community.

We, along with the OAF, are asking that the draft Public Reports regulation be put on hold until an overhaul of the Ontario Standard Incident Reporting (SIR) is completed through the Table. Further, the current draft Public Reports regulation is not drafted well, has ambiguous language within it, and appears to be setting service level expectations for volunteer fire service response times (either within a composite service or a volunteer) as if they were full-time urban fire services. It is a municipal government's responsibility to set the level of fire services, including reporting standards. This draft regulation has been a challenging matter at the Table with a very short time for consideration and discussion. We are asking you directly that this proposed regulation not be approved at this time, even if some of the language is clarified in the next few weeks.

Further, we are frustrated and disappointed to see that MCSCS is proposing that medical response times by municipal fire services are included in the draft Public Reports regulation. AMO's and municipal governments' strong opposition to the provincial proposal to have fire-medical pilots is well known. The inclusion of medical responses in the draft regulation could be seen as a back-door measure to provide additional support for a fire-medical program in Ontario. It is exceedingly problematic that this draft regulation includes an Advanced Life Support response time for fire when this doesn't currently exist in Ontario along with a different AED onsite response than is legislatively required for paramedics, fire services, and citizen responses. We would respectfully demand that no medical response times are included in a future Public Reports regulation for municipal funded fire services.

As you will hear from our municipal members and the OAF, implementing these fire regulations will take substantial effort, time, and financial resources to ensure that they can comply with the legislation by the proposed commencement dates. While the proposed

Firefighter Certification regulation does state that some of the mandatory certification to be required for only new hires, it is our concern that there is great liability risk to a municipal government if it does not certify to the new mandatory standard for all categories of fire operations.

Therefore, AMO is asking that provincial liability indemnification be provided legislatively to accompany these draft regulations. This indemnification should be in place for all municipal governments who comply with these new regulations at least 12 months before the Firefighter Certification regulation comes into force. We understand that the Province of Quebec provided such indemnification as a quid pro quo for the requirement of mandatory certification of fire service personnel.

This is essential protection as throughout this exercise the Table has not received information on what the gap might be between those fire personnel that are, or could be, certified and those that will need to receive immediate training in order to be able to be certified by the time the regulation comes into force. For these reasons, we are asking for the certification regulation not to come into force until at least January 2020. We know that the Ministry staff have tried to gather this information, however, the gap analysis is not available. Therefore, current final decisions cannot be evidence-based, rather they need to be done from a risk mitigation perspective.

We do thank the Ministry for its commitment to make sure all the training and associated examinations related to the mandatory Firefighter Certification regulation will be provided at no charge to the municipal fire service. That said we do need new financial resources to cover the expected staffing costs for training that this new regulation will require.

We also ask that grandfathering provisions associated with this mandatory certification are made as broad as possible. In the ideal state, grandfathering should be re-opened with updated eligibility, so all current fire service personnel could be grandfathered to their current level. At a minimum, grandfathering should be re-opened to all fire services as those who could have been certified in 2014, when voluntary, should have every opportunity to be certified now.

In closing, we are asking for the proposed Public Reports regulation not go forward at this time and the following key amendments or provincial commitments, prior to the proposed Firefighter Certification and the Community Risk Assessment regulations, be approved:

- Provincial commitment to fund new firefighter certification costs so that it is not an unfunded mandate for municipal governments;
- The Province provide, in legislation, liability indemnification for all municipal governments who certify their firefighters to the standards in the Firefighter Certification regulation and that this is done at least 12 months before this regulation comes into force;
- The proposed Firefighter Certification regulation does not come into force any earlier than January 1, 2020;

- Technical amendments to the draft Firefighter Certification Community Risk Assessment as per the attached appendix as well as those provided in the OAFC submission;
- The draft Public Reports regulation be held and not approved until Ontario's Standard Incident Response (SIR) framework, system improvements, and implementation strategies are discussed and consensus is achieved at the Table; and
- Medical responses are not included in any future reporting requirements for municipal funded fire services.

We trust that the Ministry appreciates the rationale behind why these key amendments are needed, and will recognize the significant burdens and impacts these regulations will have, especially on small, rural and northern municipalities if the fiscal, risk management, timing, and technical aspects are not resolved well.

For these reasons, further consultation with AMO and the municipal sector is needed before finalizing the regulations to ensure that these can be implemented successfully. We look forward to meeting with you soon to discuss these draft regulations.

Sincerely,



Lynn Dollin
AMO President

cc: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs

- (d) participate in and foster activities that enhance the economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality and its residents.”

12

With such responsibilities, the head of council has a prominent and highly public profile. Many citizens within your municipality will have high and often varied expectations for the head of council. The head of council must find a way to balance these expectations.

Nevertheless, decisions of the municipality are made by council as a whole. Generally, the head of council does not have any more power than any other member of council to make decisions on behalf of the municipality.



ROLE OF THE COUNCILLOR

As a councillor, you have three main roles to play in your municipality: a representative, a policy-making and a stewardship role. These roles may often overlap. You will be called on to consider and make decisions on issues that will sometimes be complex and controversial. Many of those decisions will have long-term consequences for your municipality that extend beyond your four-year term of office, and should be made in the context of your municipality's directions for the long-term health and welfare of your community.

* Representative Role

Looking back to section 224 of the Act, you will see that the representative role of council is clearly indicated in legislation. At first glance, the representative role appears to be fairly simple and straightforward. But what does it involve?

On the one hand, you were elected by your constituents to represent their views when dealing with issues that come before council. However, your constituents have many views and opinions, and you cannot represent all of them all of the time.

On the other hand, election to office requires you to have a broader understanding of the issues. With many issues you will have to consider a variety of conflicting interests and make decisions that will not be popular with everyone. You may wish to use your judgment and base your decision on the best interests of the municipality as a whole.

In practice, there is no single, correct approach to the representative role and on many issues you may find that you fall somewhere between the two opposing viewpoints. You will quickly develop a caseload of citizen inquiries that will need to be investigated and, if possible, resolved. You may attract these inquiries because of your background and interests or because of the issues in your particular ward if your municipality operates with a ward structure.

Understandably, you will want to try to help your constituents. However, be sure to familiarize yourself with any policies or protocols that your municipality may have for handling public complaints and inquiries. Although you may want to find some way of helping, remember to consult municipal staff.

There may also be circumstances where decisions are made by designated staff who operate at arm's length from the municipality, and where it could be inappropriate for elected officials to interfere or be seen to be interfering. Examples of this would include decisions made by the fire chief, the chief building official or the medical officer of health.

A councillor who has made promises that cannot be kept may lose credibility with the public and strain the working relationship with staff. If your municipality does not have a policy for handling public inquiries, complaints, and frequently asked questions, you may want to consider working with council and staff to develop such a policy.

✂ Policy-Making Role

Policies provide direction for municipal operations. Policy-making is another key council responsibility identified in section 224 of the Act.

Many council decisions are routine, dealing with the ongoing administration of the municipality, but others establish general principles to help guide future actions. Those are often considered policy decisions. Some policies can be specific, such as a bylaw requiring dogs to be kept on leashes in public areas, and others can be broader and more general, such as approval of an official plan.

How is Policy Made?

Policy-making may involve a number of steps that requires council to:

- identify an issue that needs to be dealt with;
- reach agreement on the facts of the issue and the objectives to be met;
- give direction to staff to research the issue, identify the available options and report back to council with recommendations;
- consider the information provided by staff, taking into account demands on time, funding and other issues;
- make a decision based on the best course of action available and adopt a policy;
- direct staff to implement the policy; and
- work with staff to evaluate the policy and to update or amend it as required.

In many cases council refers a policy issue to a committee of council to take advantage of the committee's expertise in a particular area or to reduce council's work load. A committee of council may follow the same steps outlined above in making policy or making recommendations back to council.

In practice, however, policy-making is sometimes less orderly because of:

- a rapidly changing environment, the complexity of issues facing local government, and the difficulty in singling out problems that require more immediate attention;
- differing and sometimes strongly held views by stakeholders and members of the public;
- the lack of time to identify all possible alternatives and to conduct detailed research and analysis;
- the legal and financial limits on what council may do; and
- the complexity of implementing policies and developing ways to monitor and evaluate them.

Council is the primary policy-making body of the municipality. The administration is responsible for carrying out council's policy decisions. The two roles are distinct, but there can be much overlap. Although staff is responsible for implementing a policy, your council may wish to develop appropriate reporting mechanisms to help ensure that the policies are being carried out as intended, and as effectively as possible.

* Stewardship Role

Council's objectives are to ensure that the municipality's financial and administrative resources are being used as efficiently as possible. The public has come to expect the successful completion of these responsibilities from council. To refer back to section 224 of the Act, part of your role, together with the rest of council, is to ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of council and to maintain the financial integrity of the municipality. All of this can be promoted through good policy and monitoring practices.

There is a fine line between council's overall stewardship of the municipality and the administration's management of day-to-day activities. Generally, council monitors the implementation of its approved policies and programs, but the practical aspects of its implementation and administration are a staff responsibility.

Several things should be done before council can monitor and measure the municipality's administrative effectiveness and efficiency. With input from municipal staff, council may wish to:

- define corporate objectives and set goals and priorities;
- establish clear administrative practices;
- provide specific guidelines and directions to staff on the applications of those policies;
- delegate appropriate responsibilities to staff to the extent such delegation is permitted under municipal legislation;
- establish a personnel management policy that emphasizes the recruitment, hiring, evaluation, training and development of staff;
- ensure that policies with respect to most operations of the municipality are in place, with special note to mandatory policies required by the Municipal Act, 2001;
- establish a policy and procedure for staff to report to council on administrative activities;
- develop protocols for the flow of information between council and staff; and
- consider establishing a protocol for sharing approaches with other local governments and Aboriginal communities that share a common interest in community health, culture and economy.

To be effective in this stewardship role, council should be satisfied that policies are in place on staff reporting requirements and processes to help ensure that:

- policies adopted by council are being implemented;
- staff are administering services and programs as council intended;
- rules and regulations are being applied correctly and consistently ; and
- funds are being spent only as authorized, and the municipality's resources (financial and otherwise) are being used as efficiently as possible.

Establishing and following such policies and guidelines helps council leave the day-to-day details for staff to manage. Council is freer to:

- deal with exceptional situations;
- concentrate on ensuring that policies are current; and
- listen to issues raised by the public and represent the broader community interest.

Accountability and Transparency

Accountability and transparency are a priority in maintaining public trust in council and in the management of your municipality. Section 224 of the Act explicitly includes ensuring the accountability and transparency of the