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MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION

December 14, 2018

To: Chief Administrative Officers, Chief Financial Officers, Clerks,  
Treasurers and Tax Administrators

From: Carla Y. Nell, Vice President, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations

**Subject: 2018 Year-End Assessment Report**

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As part of our continued commitment to stakeholder engagement and information sharing with our municipal partners, we have prepared the attached **2018 Year-End Assessment Report**, which will be of interest to both municipal administration and elected officials. This report provides a high-level summary of MPAC's 2018 activities that are relevant to the municipal sector, and also two municipal level snapshots of the assessment changes unique to your municipality.

This report will also be provided to Municipal Clerks for submission to municipal councils in January 2019. In the interim, I encourage you to review the report and share any questions with your MPAC Municipal and Stakeholder Relations Regional Manager and/or Account Manager.

Happy Holidays,

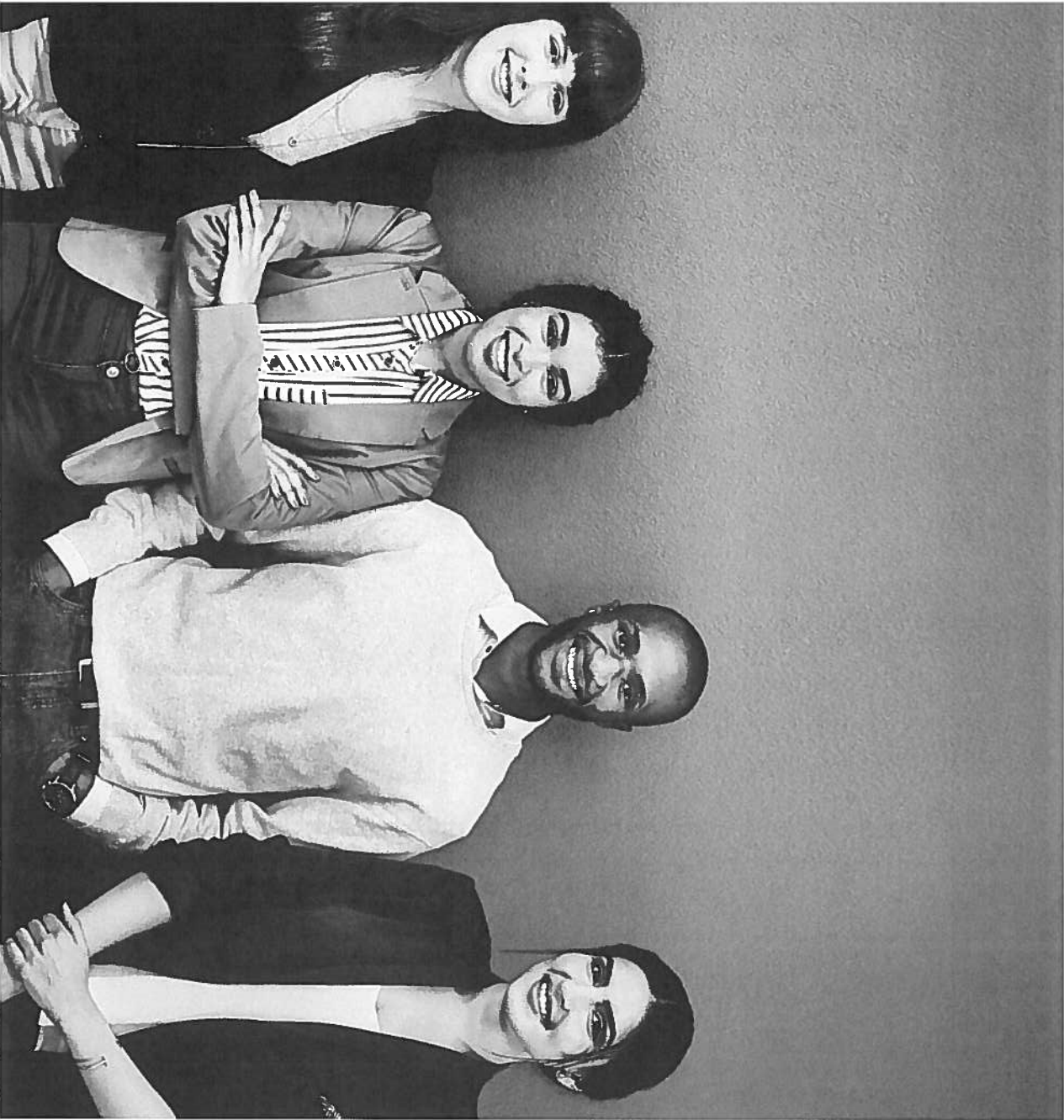
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Nell", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Carla Y. Nell  
Vice-President, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations

Attachments

**Copy** Regional and Account Managers





**2018  
YEAR-END  
ASSESSMENT  
REPORT  
FOR THE 2019  
TAX YEAR**

AS OF DECEMBER 2018

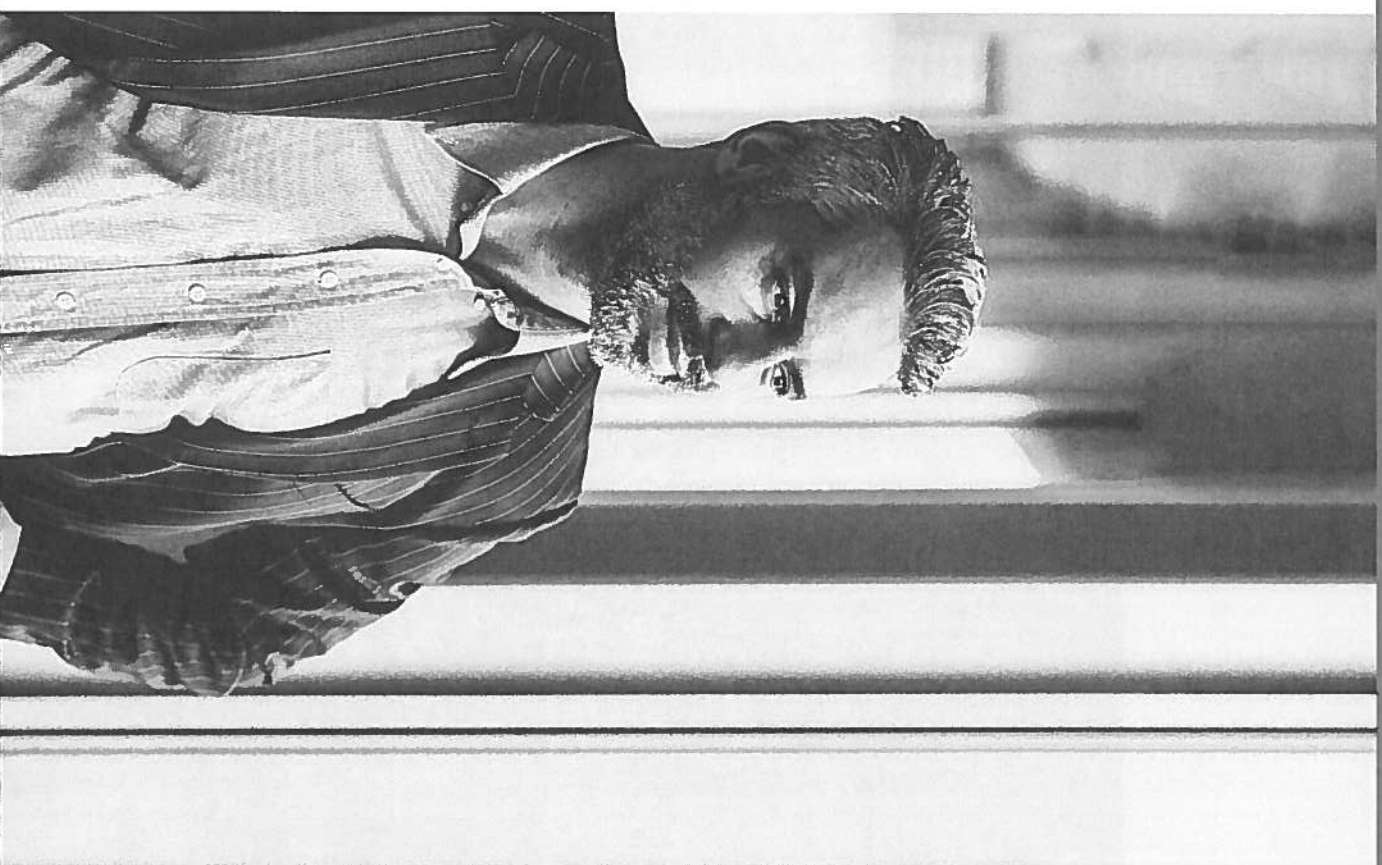


**MUNICIPAL  
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# About MPAC

**MPAC stands for Municipal Property Assessment Corporation,** and the MPAC team is made up of assessment experts who understand local communities and assess every property in Ontario. Our assessments provide the very foundation that municipalities use to base the property taxes needed to pay for the services we use every day.

As an independent, not-for-profit corporation, our assessments follow the *Assessment Act* and other legislation and regulations set by the Government of Ontario. We also have a Board of Directors made up of provincial, municipal and taxpayer representatives.

MPAC's expertise is in property assessment, customer service and technology. It is these components of MPAC's work that make our contribution to Ontario so valuable.

Learn more at:



[mpac.ca](http://mpac.ca)

MPAC is responsible for assessing more than 5 million properties in Ontario, of all types (residential, business and farms), representing \$2.78 trillion in property value. We take property assessment seriously because it's the part we play in helping to make the communities we all live in stronger.



# Introduction

Ontario municipalities rely on MPAC to provide expert opinions on the value of properties in our communities. We understand that turning these opinions into assessments goes beyond the determination of values. The work we do includes producing the products and services you require to understand, maintain and support your assessment base, such as property data, phase-in, classification, new assessment and appeals. The **2018 Year-End Assessment Report** provides an update on these items.

## The Property Assessment Cycle in Ontario

We update the assessment of every property in Ontario every four years to capture changes to properties and the real estate market.

While the effective valuation date of January 1, 2016 remains constant during the four-year cycle, we are responsible for providing an updated annual Assessment Roll to each municipality that includes:

- **Changes to property ownership**
- **Changes to state and condition of a property**
- **Updates to the assessed value and classification**
  - New construction, demolitions and consolidations
  - Requests for Reconsideration (RFR) and Assessment Review Board (ARB) decisions

In advance of the 2019 property tax year, we delivered more than 800,000 Property Assessment Notices to property owners across Ontario where there was a change in property ownership or value. Your municipality also recently received the **2018 Assessment Roll for the 2019 property tax year** and the electronic **Year-End Tax File**. This file includes the updates we made during 2018 to keep your Roll current.

## Purpose of This Report

We have prepared this report to assist you in understanding changes in your assessment base to inform ongoing budget and tax policy planning. The report also provides an update on the work we have undertaken over the course of 2018 to deliver an updated and stable Assessment Roll.

In addition, the report shares our plan for the next Assessment Update in 2020, which will provide property values for the 2021–2024 property tax years.

**Attached to this report are two municipal-level assessment snapshots:**

- 1. Assessment Change Summary**  
Provides the updated 2016 current value assessment (destination) and a comparison of the phased-in assessments for the 2018 and 2019 tax years
- 2. Assessment Base Distribution**  
Compares the distribution of the total 2018 and 2019 phased-in assessments and includes the percentage of the total assessment base by property class

Responsible for  
assessing and  
classifying more than

**5 MILLION**

properties in Ontario

Representing

**\$2.78T**

in property value

We delivered  
more than

**800,000**

Property  
Assessment  
Notices

# 2018 Highlights

Our assessments support the collection of nearly **\$20 billion in municipal taxes annually**. We understand how important our work is to you, which is why we offer a range of services that enables you to understand and employ those values. No two assessment bases are the same. As such, we understand the need to share insights and develop understanding with all municipalities about how markets and communities are changing.

## Maintaining Your Annual Assessment Roll

Having accurate and timely data is critical to the assessment process. Throughout the year, we complete regular quality control processes. Specifically, we review assessments and property classification changes received through:

- Building permits
- Vacancy applications
- Tax applications
- Subdivision plans

This ensures information is both current and accurate. This ongoing assessment work provides confidence that the information in your Assessment Roll is reliable and ready to support your budget and tax planning.

## New Assessment

In 2018, we delivered more than \$38 billion in new assessment to municipalities across the province. We successfully processed more than 85% of this new assessment within one year of occupancy. Timely processing of new assessment from new

construction or additions to existing property and accurate forecasting of new assessment were identified as key municipal priorities and are included in our Service Level Agreement with municipalities.

## New Assessment Forecasting

A significant change in 2018 was the presentation of the quarterly new assessment forecast and our commitment to capture a minimum of 85% of all new assessment within one year of occupancy, based on availability of information from your municipality.

The other important change in 2018 came from you, our municipal partners.

This year, we started delivering new assessment progress reports on a quarterly basis to support ongoing dialogue between MPAC and municipalities about current and future growth trends and to provide a better sense of future taxable amounts.

## 2018 NEW ASSESSMENT BY ZONE



We delivered more than **\$38 billion** in new assessment to municipalities across the province

From January 1 to October 31, 2018, MPAC completed a total of 27,917 Requests for Reconsideration

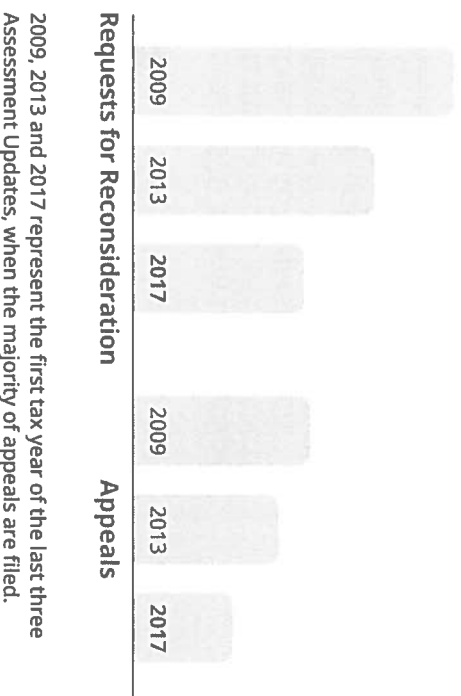
# Requests for Reconsideration and Appeals

Another important activity we continue to work on throughout the four-year assessment cycle is responding to and processing assessment changes because of Requests for Reconsideration (RfR) and **Assessment Review Board (ARB)** appeal outcomes. This information is applied to your Assessment Roll throughout the year as part of our ongoing efforts to maintain and deliver stable Assessment Rolls.

We continue to work closely with the ARB and other parties, providing impartial, expert opinions to support the appeal process.

We have seen a steady decrease in the number of RfRs and appeals; since 2009 the number of RfRs filed has decreased by 50% and the number of appeals has decreased by 40%.

We will continue to work with the ARB and other parties to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the appeals process, with the goal of reducing the time to resolve appeals.



## 2018 TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLETED APPEALS BY ZONE



We have seen a steady decrease in the number of RfRs and appeals since 2009



# Service Level Agreement (SLA)

The service levels in the SLA represent the most important MPAC deliverables as identified by you, our municipal partners. The SLA itself defines high performance standards in key service areas; outlines the roles, responsibilities and dependencies of both parties – reinforcing our shared accountability.

We implemented the SLA in 2017, and the end of 2018 marks a full year of measuring against these service levels.

In 2018, we also launched the SLA Reporting Tool in Municipal Connect to offer an at-a-glance snapshot to guide discussions around SLA objectives, help improve service delivery and promote shared accountability. At the end of our first year, MPAC is happy to report that we have met 96% of all service levels and have worked closely with municipalities, including remedial action, when service levels have not been met.

We have met  
**96%**  
of all service levels



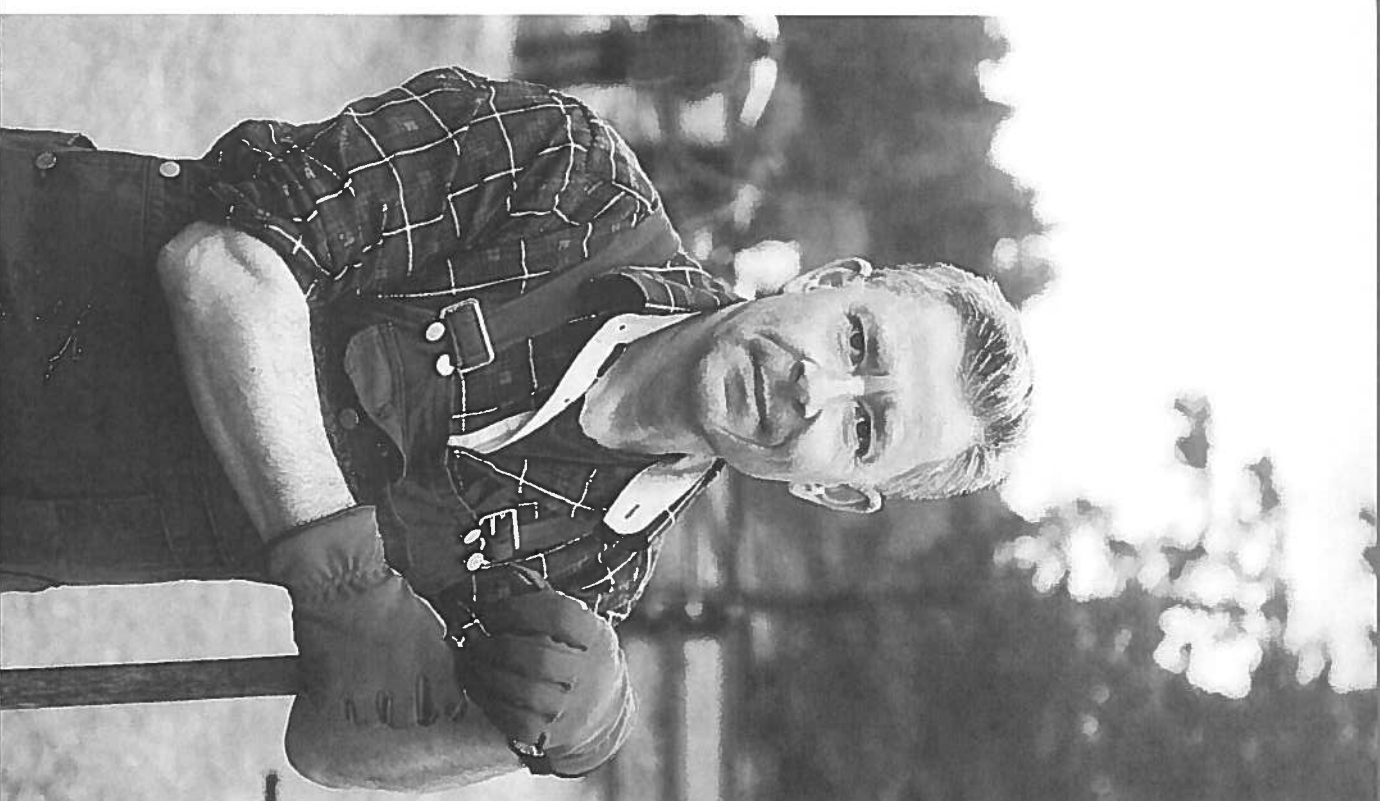
# Looking Ahead to the Next Assessment Update

A key change leading up to the **2020 Assessment Update** is the new valuation date of January 1, 2019, passed into legislation by the Province of Ontario. This is two years in advance of the first tax year to which the Assessment Update will apply. In the previous Assessment Update, the valuation date preceded the first tax year by one year.

The four-year phase-in program remains in place, meaning values will be effective for the 2021 to 2024 property tax years. As in the past, all assessment increases are phased-in over four years and assessment decreases are applied immediately.

The earlier valuation date increases the availability of data used to prepare valuations and will provide more time to consult and share preliminary market insights when our engagement activities begin in earnest in 2020.

This will enable MPAC and stakeholders to identify and resolve potential issues before the return of the Roll in December 2020.



# Conclusion

At the core of our new **2017-2020 Strategic Plan** is the theme “Valuing What Matters Most.” For municipalities, we value building the customer and municipal relationship. This means enhancing the transparency of new assessment forecasts, processing assessment adjustments in a timely way, ensuring traceability and transparency in our assessment valuation and methodology, and keeping stakeholders apprised of changes in the market that may impact property values.

Through greater collaboration between MPAC and municipalities, we remain committed to continuously improving our service, and we encourage you to share your feedback with us on the delivery of our products and services.

Your local **Municipal and Stakeholder Relations team** is available to support you with any of our products or services. Please contact your Regional Manager, Account Manager, or Account Support Coordinator if you have any questions or would like more information about this report.







MUNICIPAL  
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## APPENDIX 1

### Assessment Change Summary by Property Class United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

The following chart provides a comparison of the total assessment for the 2016 base years, as well as a comparison of the assessment change for 2018 and 2019 property tax year by property class.

Property Class/Realty Tax Class	2016 Full CVA	2018 Phased-in CVA	2019 Phased-in CVA	Percent Change 2018 to 2019
R Residential	50,045,200	45,330,106	47,687,654	5.2%
C Commercial	11,357,600	11,251,264	11,304,432	0.5%
I Industrial	11,100	10,750	10,925	1.6%
P Pipeline	107,184,000	101,474,500	104,329,250	2.8%
T Managed Forests	333,000	232,600	282,800	21.6%
(PII) R Residential	8,248,300	7,501,861	7,875,080	5.0%
(PII) C Commercial	8,353,300	7,816,350	8,084,825	3.4%
(PII) I Industrial	361,800	361,800	361,800	0.0%
E Exempt	18,838,700	18,706,250	18,772,475	0.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204,733,000</b>	<b>192,685,481</b>	<b>198,709,241</b>	<b>3.1%</b>



## APPENDIX 2

### Assessment Base Distribution Summary by Property Class

#### United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

The following chart provides a comparison of the distribution of the total assessment for the 2016 base year, and the 2018 and 2019 phased-in assessment which includes the percentage of the total assessment base by property class.

Property Class/Realty Tax Class	2016 Full CVA	Percentage of Total 2016 CVA	2018 Phased-in CVA	Percentage of Total 2018 CVA	2019 Phased-in CVA	Percentage of Total 2019 CVA
R Residential	50,045,200	24.4%	45,330,106	23.5%	47,687,654	24.0%
C Commercial	11,357,600	5.5%	11,251,264	5.8%	11,304,432	5.7%
I Industrial	11,100	0.0%	10,750	0.0%	10,925	0.0%
P Pipeline	107,184,000	52.4%	101,474,500	52.7%	104,329,250	52.5%
T Managed Forests	333,000	0.2%	232,600	0.1%	282,800	0.1%
(PIL) R Residential	8,248,300	4.0%	7,501,861	3.9%	7,875,080	4.0%
(PIL) C Commercial	8,353,300	4.1%	7,816,350	4.1%	8,084,825	4.1%
(PIL) I Industrial	361,800	0.2%	361,800	0.2%	361,800	0.2%
E Exempt	18,838,700	9.2%	18,706,250	9.7%	18,772,475	9.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204,733,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>192,685,481</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>198,709,241</b>	<b>100%</b>



999 Cecelia Street  
Pembroke, ON K8B 1A4  
Phone: (613) 732-8419  
Email: [trans@onthebus.ca](mailto:trans@onthebus.ca)

January 18, 2019

Wilfred Lamure  
Road Superintendent  
Townships of Head, Clara & Maria  
15 Township Hall Road  
Stonecliffe, ON K0J 2K0

Dear Mr. Wilfred Lamure:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to you and your staff that keep our roads clear. As General Manager of the Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium, I am routinely interested in the ability of our school bus drivers to safely transport the kids in Renfrew County to and from school daily and your contribution to that does not go by unnoticed.

To that end I recently attended 2 site meetings one at Mackey Creek Road and the other at Harvey Creek Road and took notice of the wonderful job your roads crew did in clearing the turn-arounds in these areas. The turn-arounds were ploughed in a nice and wide manner thereby allowing a 40' school bus to turn around easily in either of the locations.

To all of you who work tirelessly in the harsh and cold winter conditions to make our roads safe for our school bus drivers and the kids in Renfrew County, thank you!

Kind Regards,

Robert B. White  
General Manager

.....the journey of a thousand miles begins with one step

**Crystal Fischer**

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**From:** AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** January 15, 2019 1:38 PM  
**To:** hcminfocfischer@gmail.com  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Province's "Regional Review" to be Limited

January 15, 2019

## **Province's "Regional Review" to be Limited**

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark, announced today that this review is limited to nine (9) upper tiers and their constituent lower tiers in:

- Waterloo Region
- Niagara Region
- Halton Region
- Peel Region
- York Region
- Durham Region
- Oxford County
- Simcoe County
- Muskoka District

The focus is to be on governance/decision-making and service delivery. The Province has appointed two advisors who are to provide advice/recommendations back to the province this summer. They are:

- Michael Fenn – a former Ontario Deputy Minister, previous municipal chief administrator in several Ontario cities, and founding CEO of Metrolinx.
- Ken Seiling – former Chair of Waterloo Region who held that position since 1985 and prior as a councillor and Mayor in Woolwich.

Each jurisdiction is to receive information on the consultation. Last August, the Minister began informal discussions, wishing to hear from people about how this system of governance is working recognizing it was established in the 1970s.

AMO will monitor the review process, which needs to be open and transparent. It is important that during the review process, the work of the affected municipal governments is not destabilized.

While this review does not include any other municipal jurisdictions or structures, and AMO is not involved in the specific reviews, it will keep an eye on any potential sector wide implications that the advisors' recommendations may have for service delivery generally.



**Crystal Fischer**

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**From:** hcmrecsrauche@gmail.com  
**Sent:** January 7, 2019 10:33 AM  
**To:** Crystal Fischer  
**Subject:** FW: 2018 Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant Update 20Dec2018

**From:** OPP MPB Financial Services Unit (OPP) <[OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@opp.ca](mailto:OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@opp.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 20, 2018 12:14 PM  
**To:** [hcmrecsrauche@gmail.com](mailto:hcmrecsrauche@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** 2018 Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant Update 20Dec2018

Good afternoon,

We are pleased to advise we received notice yesterday the Ministry has authorized release of the remaining 2018 Court Security Prisoner Transportation grant. Ontario Shared Services has received instruction to issue the outstanding grant credits and we expect the credits to be processed within next few days.

Please see below the update from the Ministry's Public Safety Division:

As you know, public safety is a top priority for this government and we are committed to providing our frontline police and their municipal partners with the tools, resources and financial supports they need to protect our communities. This is why we are pleased to inform you that we are proceeding with payments under the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program for 2018.

This decision comes after a province-wide review of government expenditures. A second phase of the review is underway. The government's first responsibility is and will always be to protect the lives of Ontarians. However, given the time of fiscal constraint, we will continue to review our grants programs to ensure they align with government objectives, meet tangible outcomes and are effective in reducing crime-related activity in Ontario. This continued process of reviewing expenditures will inform service delivery planning as part of the multi-year planning process.

We appreciate your on-going patience throughout this process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at [OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@OPP.ca](mailto:OPP.MPB.Financial.Services.Unit@OPP.ca).

**If you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats, please let me know.**



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## North Renfrew Dementia Friendly Communities Initiative

Sponsored by

The North Renfrew Long Term Care Centre

Supported by

The Alzheimer's Society of Ottawa and the Ottawa Valley

Many people with dementia live well in the community for quite a long time. However, dementia may make participating in activities and staying involved more difficult. People with dementia and caregivers tell the Society that stigma, as well as social and physical barriers, can make it more difficult to get around and to feel supported in their communities. However, with a little bit of information, a lot of compassion and your help, there is an opportunity to create positive change.

Through this initiative, a training course with an instructor will provide you with the information while you provide the compassion and help.

### **The training course will provide**

- An understanding of the impact of the disease on behavior and communications
- Communication strategies
- The impact of the physical environment on behavior
- Feedback from those with the disease and their caregivers

### **The course will utilize**

- videos
- written and digital material
- extensive references

## Introduction to Dementia Friendly Communities

People living with dementia have much experience, skills and knowledge to contribute to their communities and should have opportunities to do so.

It is estimated that close to 228,000 Ontarians are currently living with dementia. As Ontario's population ages, it is expected that these numbers will rise to 255,000 people in 2020 and over 430,000 people by 2038. While dementia is most common among people over the age of 65, almost seven per cent of dementia diagnoses in Ontario are made in people between 40 and 65 years old. Additionally, about 60 percent of people diagnosed with dementia are women.

Dementia is a leading cause of dependency and disability among seniors and most people with dementia have two or more chronic health conditions.

When compared to individuals without dementia, people living with dementia visit a doctor more frequently, have a higher number of prescriptions, and are twice as likely to visit an emergency department or be hospitalized for preventable issues.

Dementia is a brain disorder characterized by impaired cognitive functioning that can affect learning and memory, mood and behavior, as well as the ability to conduct daily activities and high level functions such as self-managing other chronic conditions.

Most experts agree that a certain amount of cognitive decline can be expected with normal aging. However, it is important to emphasize that dementia is not a part of normal aging; it is a chronic, progressive and ultimately fatal disease.

While the costs associated with dementia are increasing dramatically, perhaps more important is the right for people with dementia to be able to live well. There is the human right that all older people have to the highest attainable standard of health. What is perhaps even more challenging for people living with dementia than the cognitive challenges is the stigma they face as a result of dementia.

Stigma is something which causes an individual to be classified by others in an undesirable way. Stigma causes individuals and organizations to behave in ways that are unhelpful, emphasizing the symptoms of the disease rather than supporting the abilities that people living with dementia have. The resulting social isolation and lack of stimulation causes disability beyond that caused by the condition itself.

The dementia friendly community model is not about changing the person and getting them to fit in, but is, instead, about altering the social, attitudinal, architectural, and physical environments in which people living with dementia live to be responsive and adapt to situations. Dementia-friendly communities focus on inclusion and coming together of communities to challenge the current status quo, often characterized by the exclusions and marginalization of people living with dementia, and the reinforcement of social isolation and ongoing inequalities.

A dementia friendly community is a place where people living with dementia are supported to live a high quality of life with meaning, purpose and value.

More importantly, the very nature of cognitive decline and its impact on decision making and participation in daily living by people living with dementia, creates a recipe for stress now and into the future. People with dementia face extraordinary challenges self-managing their general health and chronic conditions due to problems with memory, perceptions of symptoms, decision-making and expressive language. Potentially treatable chronic conditions become exacerbated in the presence of dementia. The destabilizing effect of dementia on other chronic diseases has been called the “dementia domino effect”.



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2611 Nootka St  
Vancouver, BC V5M 3M4



Email: [hcminfocfischer@gmail.com](mailto:hcminfocfischer@gmail.com)

January 24, 2019

**\*\*LEASE RENEWAL NOTICE\*\***

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

Attention: Melinda Reith, Municipal Clerk & CAO and Tammy Stewart, Reeve

Dear Melinda and Tammy:

**Re: LEASE RENEWAL NOTICE – 1<sup>st</sup> Extended Term**  
**Lease made May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, between Townships of Head, Clara and Maria and Bell Mobility Inc.**  
**(the "Lease")**  
**Bell Site: W3783 KLOCK**  
**Location: Lt 23 Con B Clara, Lt 24 Con B Clara, Lt 25 Con B Clara, Head & Maria, Stonecliffe, ON**

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As the current term of the above referenced Lease will **expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**, we are pleased to inform you that Bell Mobility intends to maintain its tenancy on this property for the operation of a cellular base station.

Accordingly, your Lease will be **automatically renewing** for the **five (5) year** period commencing **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024** as per the terms of the Lease.

Please note that this is a courtesy reminder only and the Lease remains in full force and effect in accordance with the terms of the original agreement.

Bell would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support as an integral part of its wireless network. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Bell Mobility's Landlord Relations Specialist by telephone at 1-800-667-5263, or by email to [bmresi@bell.ca](mailto:bmresi@bell.ca).

Sincerely,

Wendy Coles, Medallion Wireless  
For Bell Mobility Inc.  
Email: [wendelyn.coles@bell.ca](mailto:wendelyn.coles@bell.ca)



**NEWS RELEASE****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 28th, 2019

## **County of Renfrew Has Dialogue with Province on 417 Expansion** **County Delegation Meets with Senior Ministry Staff at ROMA Conference**

**TORONTO, ON:** On Sunday January 27<sup>th</sup>, a delegation from Bonnechere Valley and the County of Renfrew, met with MPP Kinga Surma, Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Transportation, Jeff Yurek, along with senior staff from the Premier's Office and the Ministry of Transportation. The delegation comprised of County of Renfrew Warden Jennifer Murphy, Chair of the Highway 17 Extension Advisory Committee Peter Emon, and municipal staff spoke with MPP Surma and discussed that Premier Ford has been supportive of the extension/expansion project since day one of his campaign. They reminded those in attendance that the Premier visited Renfrew to see the highway first-hand, and to announce his candidacy with MPP John Yakabuski at his first stop on the campaign trail.

The delegations formal request centered on getting the project started, and to show some real construction progress to the people of Renfrew County in the very near future. The delegation also reminded the Province that connecting links like Hwy 132, Hwy 60 and Hwy 41 are important links to an expanded 417. These links will promote growth in the region that supports economic development, tourism and improves this key transportation link to large employers in the County. This conversation built on previous requests dating back several years under both the previous government and this government as recently as last fall to move the project west from Scheel Drive to Bruce Street near Renfrew.

MPP Surma expressed that she is very familiar with the region, having grown up in the City of Ottawa. She said she is very excited to take the delegation up on its invitation to visit Renfrew County in her official capacity to see the growth that is possible with the extension of 417 west of Scheel Drive. She also was interested on hearing more about the challenges that come with only two lanes serving the largest geographic County in the Province and Northern Ontario.

The Province clarified that they were very aware of the project, as MPP John Yakabuski continues to be a huge champion, and that he makes everyone aware of the importance of moving ahead on this expansion. The Province indicated that they are currently reviewing their capital budget plans, and should be able to get back to the County shortly with more information. In addition, the Province thanked the delegation for their continued communication, and looks forward to further discussions regarding this project.

Warden Jennifer Murphy shared this comment; *"This was a productive meeting, and I am pleased with the Province's acknowledgment of the County's significant contributions to discussions with regards to expansion of the highway. We are encouraged that MPP Surma is looking to visit our area to see firsthand the impact this project will have on our County."* The Warden continued on by saying, *"We have had several meetings in recent years with both Provincial and Federal Government Officials, and we are pleased to have been able to meet with the MPP Surma, today; we look forward to ongoing discussions regarding the next phases of the highway expansion project."*

-30-

**For More Information Please Contact:**

Paul Moreau	Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk of the County of Renfrew	613-735-7288
Michael Barber	Media Relations/Grants Coordinator, County of Renfrew	613-735-7288



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**Crystal Fischer**

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**From:** Debbi Grills  
**Sent:** January 27, 2019 3:45 PM  
**To:** Crystal Fischer  
**Subject:** Please add to Correspondence for February 21st Council Meeting

Received by email January 18, 2019

Subject: Letter to Council re. Res. 17/01/19/011

Dear Mayor Grills and Council,

Please accept my sincere "thank you" for the reversal of the decision, made by some members of the previous council, that forced me to pay approximately \$857 for a legal opinion that I did not solicit. Your decision marks one of the preliminary steps to re-establish the position of HCM Council as a true representative for the voting public's voice in municipal government.

Since I have already received \$400, as a show of support, from a number of sympathetic residents through the kind action of Councillor Villeneuve, I would like to return same amount to HCM. In the light of Council's decision I consider the \$400 as excess payment and request it be returned (pending Council's approval) as a donation to our public library.

After some thought I chose our public library in recognition for its dedication to the general public in the form of various social events as well as a library service. All of this has been provided by a dedicated core of volunteers, chaired by Marlene Gibson; kudos to them all. For 10 years or more I served on the library board and observed, first hand, the work required to provide a library service and more to or local residents.

In closing, I must comment on the amazing change I observed at your meeting on January 17th.

Congratulations to Mayor Grills and all members of Council who conducted the meeting in a professional manner and introduced an atmosphere of congeniality lacking in the last few months prior to the election. May you continue in good health with the dedication demonstrated to date.

Respectfully,

David Foote

Mayor Debbi Grills

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

10

**Crystal Fischer**

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**From:** Dawn Recoskie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** February 7, 2019 10:00 AM  
**To:** Crystal Fischer  
**Subject:** FW: Town of Petawawa Cannabis Resolution  
**Attachments:** 02.05.2019.Town of Petawawa Cannabis Resolution.pdf

**From:** Dawn Recoskie [REDACTED]

**Sent:** February-07-19 8:43 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Town of Petawawa Cannabis Resolution

Colleagues:

Please find attached a resolution from the Town of Petawawa in support of cannabis legislation amendments. The Town of Petawawa respectfully requests your support and consideration of this resolution.

Sincerely,  
**Dawn Recoskie**, CMO, Dipl.M.A.  
Deputy Clerk  
Town of Petawawa  
1111 Victoria Street  
Petawawa, ON K8H 2E6

T: [REDACTED]  
F: [REDACTED]

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

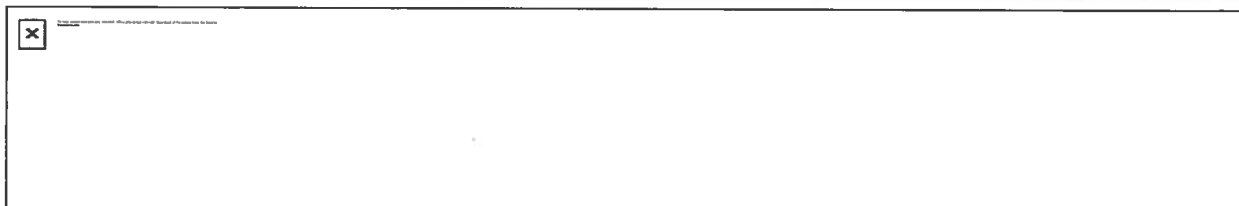


## Crystal Fischer

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**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** February 1, 2019 3:01 PM  
**To:** hcminfocfischer@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Message from AMO President on Provincial Joint and Several Liability Review

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February 1, 2019

Dear Heads of Council,

At the recent Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference, Premier Doug Ford announced the province will be launching a joint and several liability review. Liability reform represents a longstanding municipal request. Details on the nature and timing of this review and its accompanying public consultation are expected shortly.

Also known as the 1% rule, joint and several liability obliges a municipal government (which could be only 1% at fault) to pay a claimant's entire judgment in cases where other respondents are unable to pay a court ordered award. This rule means municipal governments often become the targets of litigation. It pushes municipalities to settle out of court to avoid long-drawn-out litigation for amounts that may be excessive. At the local level, this diverts property taxes away from public services to pay expensive insurance premiums or self-insurance costs. If this situation continues, efforts to limit liability exposure by scaling back public services (or activities like tobogganing in public spaces) will only continue.

Another challenge is that joint and several liability has narrowed municipal insurance choices. In 2016, the Ontario Municipal Insurance Exchange (OMEX), a not-for-profit insurer, announced that it was suspending underwriting operations citing, in part, "the impact of joint and several liability on municipal claim settlements". Less choice fuels cost.

Municipal advocacy on this issue in no way intends for injured parties to be denied justice or damages through the courts. Rather the key considerations are the inequity of how much "deep pocket" defendants are paying and the need to find a reasonable balance. Many common law jurisdictions around the world have adopted legal reforms to limit exposure and restore balance. Other countries and the vast majority of state governments south of the border have adopted forms of proportionate liability instead

Outside Ontario, others have recognized municipalities should not be insurers of last resort.

In February 2014, MPPs from all parties supported a motion calling on the province to reform joint and several liability. Nearly 200 municipal councils also supported the motion introduced by Randy Pettapiece, MPP for Perth-Wellington, which called on the government to implement a comprehensive, long-term solution.

Building on the foundation of previous AMO work, we are assembling a group of municipal lawyers and risk managers to support municipal participation in this review. If you have a staff member or ideas that could contribute to this effort, please contact AMO Senior Advisor Matthew Wilson at [mwilson@amo.on.ca](mailto:mwilson@amo.on.ca).

For more background, please see [AMO's Liability Reform paper](#) or view our [Managing the Cost of Risk](#) insurance survey results. Further information will be shared in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Jamie McGarvey  
AMO President  
Mayor, Town of Parry Sound

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