



Ministry of Municipal Affairs / Ministry of Housing
Municipal Services Office North (Sudbury)
Provincial Update

AMCTO Zones 7 & 8, April 19, 2018

Important Notice

- Municipalities are responsible for making local decisions, including complying with any applicable statutes or regulations.
- This presentation is for information purposes only and is not a substitute for legal or other professional advice in connection with any particular matter. This presentation deals with complicated issues and concepts in a highly summarized fashion, and key details may not be included. The inclusion of municipal or other local examples in this presentation does not imply an endorsement by the Ministry.
- Users should verify the information that has been included from other sources prior to making decisions or acting upon it.

Outline

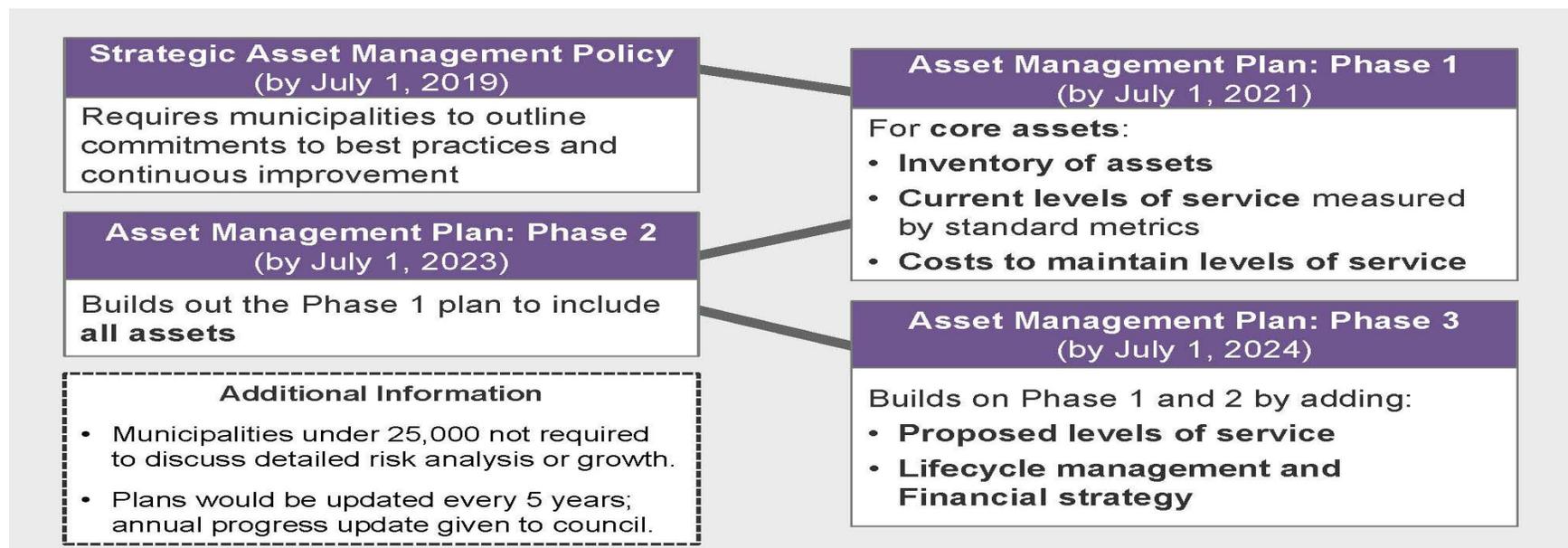
1. Local Government Updates & Reminders
 - Legislation Updates
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 - Current Grant Opportunities
 - Deadlines & Reminders
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Local Government Updates & Reminders

Asset Management Regulation

- A communication from Ministry of Infrastructure was sent on March 9, 2018 advising that a municipal asset management planning regulation was passed under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*.
- Questions about the content and requirements of the regulation should be directed to the Ministry of Infrastructure using the contact information provided in that communication.
- The full text of the regulation is available on eLaws at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r1758>

Asset Management Regulation Overview



Strategic Asset Management Policy

- All municipalities are required to develop and adopt a strategic asset management policy by July 1, 2019. The policy must include:



Asset Management Capacity Building

- To assist municipalities with the implementation of the regulation, the province is providing up to \$25 million to deliver tools and supports over the next five years.
- It is expected that this funding will support a range of initiatives, including:
 - communities of practice
 - targeted coaching
 - funding to help small communities meet the specific requirements of the regulation
- We also encourage municipalities to continue to leverage the great work already being done in the sector.

Asset Management -Next Steps

Spring 2018

- Announce initiatives supported by the \$25 million in tools and supports funding, including timelines and rollout.

2018-ongoing

- Work with municipal sector organizations like MFOA to help municipalities implement the regulation.
- MOI will participate in webinars and conferences and provide ongoing feedback opportunities to municipalities.

Bill 68 - Phased Implementation

The key themes of the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* were:

1. Accountability and Transparency
2. Municipal Financial Sustainability
3. Responsible and Flexible Municipal Government

The subsequent slides will set out key legislative changes included in the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017*.

These changes will come into force in phases, with some provisions already in force (as they came into force on Royal Assent) and many changes will come into force on days named by proclamation.

A phased approach to proclamation has been confirmed, which would bring certain amendments into force on January 1, 2018 and March 1, 2019, respectively.

Accountability and Transparency

Code of Conduct

- Require municipalities to establish codes of conduct for members of council and local boards.

Integrity Commissioner

- Require that municipalities provide access to an Integrity Commissioner.

New Integrity Commissioner Powers - Municipal Conflict of Interest Act Matters

- An Integrity Commissioner will have powers to investigate MCIA complaints from electors or persons demonstrably acting in the public interest.
- After completing an investigation, an Integrity Commissioner could decide to apply to a judge for a determination as to whether the member contravened the MCIA.
- If after investigating an MCIA complaint an Integrity Commissioner decided not to apply to a judge, the person making the complaint might do so.

Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Influence

- Prohibit a member from using his or her office to attempt to influence decisions or recommendation considered by municipal or local board employees and persons acting on delegated authority from council.

Written Disclosure of Interest

- When a member discloses a pecuniary interest, the member must file a written statement of the member's interest at the meeting, or as soon as possible afterwards.

Registry

- Establish and maintain a registry of statements and declarations of interests of members, available for public inspection.

Flexible Penalties

- Amendments provide that if a judge determines that a contravention occurred, the judge may do any or all of the following:
 - Reprimand the member or former member;
 - Suspend the member's remuneration for a period up to 90 days;
 - Declare the member's seat vacant;
 - Disqualify the member or former member during a period of not more than seven years; and/or
 - Require the member or former member to make restitution.

Responsive and Flexible Municipal Government

Section 270 Policies

- Requiring municipalities to establish policies re:
 - the relationship between members of council and the officers and employees of the municipality.
 - The manner in which the municipality will protect and enhance the tree canopy and natural vegetation in the municipality
 - pregnancy leaves and parental leaves for council members.

Community Safety and Well Being Plans

Description

- Ontario passed the Safer Ontario Act, a comprehensive public safety legislation package that will modernize Ontario's approach to community safety. It will improve police oversight, transparency and accountability, enhance civilian governance, respond to the needs and realities of Ontario's diverse communities and mandates local community safety and well-being planning.

What you should know

- Mandates municipalities to work with police services and local service providers in health care, social services and education to develop community safety and well-being plans that proactively address locally identified community risks
- Mandates municipal police service boards to participate in the planning led by municipalities, and to consider the community safety and well-being plan when developing their strategic plans
- Amendments to the Police Services Act (Part XI) related to community safety and well-being plans become effective on January 1, 2019.
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90p15#BK183>
- Ensures those in need will receive the right response, at the right time, and by the right service provider
- Improves interactions between police and vulnerable Ontarians by enhancing frontline responses
- Promotes collaborative partnerships between municipalities, police and other sectors
- The community safety and well-being planning framework will help to guide municipalities, First Nations communities and their partners as they develop their local plans. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has created a booklet that sets out the framework and a toolkit.
<https://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/sites/default/files/content/mcscs/docs/Booklet%203%20English%20accessible%20Final.pdf>

Education Property Tax Rates (Draft)

	2017 Rates	2018 Rates
Residential	0.179%	0.170%
BET Target	1.14%	1.09%
Commercial BET Ceiling	1.39%	1.34%
Industrial BET Ceiling	1.39%	1.34%

Eligible Investments and Related Financial Agreements Regulation

- A communication from the Minister of Municipal Affairs was sent on March 6 advising that a regulation came into force on March 1, 2018 under the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017*.
- The regulation provides eligible municipalities with access to investing in any security in accordance with the prudent investor standard and other requirements set out in the regulation.
- For municipalities that do not invest under this new standard, further regulatory changes provide broader investment authorities under the prescribed list of securities.
- The full text of the regulation is available on eLaws at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/970438>

Property Tax Administration-- Updates

Business Vacancy Rebate and Reduction Programs

- Bill 70, the Building Ontario Up for Everyone Act, 2016 provided municipalities increased flexibility in the administration of property taxes, specifically:
 - Vacant Unit and Reduction Programs;
 - Business Tax Capping Program;

What's Ahead

- Municipalities wishing to utilize the flexibility available to them under the rebate and reduction programs must submit details of proposed changes to the Ministry of Finance by August 1, 2018

Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA)

- Amendments to *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA)* (Royal Assent on December 8, 2016) include:
 - End to provincial enforcement role for residential rental maintenance standards (RRMS)
 - Transferring enforcement responsibility to municipalities not currently enforcing standards – RRMS typically found in municipal property standards bylaws
- MHO/MMA provided training to all affected municipalities between February and mid-April 2018.
- Municipalities not currently enforcing residential rental maintenance standards would begin doing so July 1, 2018
- Municipalities need to choose to either:
 - Adopt property standards by-laws under the authority of the Building Code Act, 1992 (BCA), that includes residential rental maintenance standards; or,
 - Enforce provincial Maintenance Standards contained in Ontario Regulation 517/06 under the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) (as of July 1, 2018). [Becomes the default approach if BCA approach not taken.]

Transient Accommodation Tax

- As of December 1, 2017, single- and lower-tier municipalities have the option of levying a tax on hotels and short-term accommodation. Upper-tier municipalities do not have the authority to implement the tax.
- If a municipality chooses to implement a tax, it is up to the discretion of the local municipality's council to design the transient accommodation tax, including the tax rate.
- The transient accommodation tax authority requires a municipality that chooses to implement such a tax to share a portion of the revenue with eligible not-for-profit tourism organization(s). The amount they have to share is based on whether or not there is an existing destination marketing fee within the boundaries of the municipality.
- Any revenues remaining after fulfilling this sharing requirement may be retained by municipalities for their own purposes.
- At this time, Ottawa, London, Toronto, Brockville, Cornwall, Kingston, Mississauga, Niagara Falls have approved a transient accommodation tax or have approved the tax in principle (subject to further research).

Municipal Elections

Key 2018 Election Dates

May 1	Nominations open and campaign period begins Registration period for third party advertisers begins Clerk to advise of preliminary spending limit estimate Last day for by-law passage adopting recount policy Last day to pass or amend a by-law to submit a question to electors
July 27	Nomination day (9 AM to 2 PM) Withdrawal of nominations permitted until 2 PM Last day to withdraw a question on the ballot
July 30	Nominations certified by 4 PM Acclamations declared after 4 PM Proxy vote certificates may be issued after 4 PM

Key 2018 Election Dates

July 31	Default date for MPAC to deliver the preliminary list of electors
August 31	If agreed to by MPAC and the clerk, the last day for MPAC to deliver the preliminary list of electors
September 1	Revision period for voters' list begins Voters' list reproduced for candidates and other authorized persons (if requested)
October 22	Voting day

March 29, 2019	Deadline for filing financial statements
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Election Resources

- e-Laws:
 - Municipal Elections Act, 1996
 - Municipal Act, 2001
 - Municipal Conflict of Interest Act
 - Education Act
 - www.e-laws.gov.on.ca
- MMA municipal elections website:
 - 2018 Voters' guide for Ontario municipal council and school board elections
 - 2018 Candidates' guide for Ontario municipal council and school board elections
 - 2018 Guide for third party advertisers – Ontario municipal council and school board elections
 - www.ontario.ca/MunicipalElections

Current Grant Opportunities

FCM Municipal Asset Management Program

- Funding for projects that help communities enhance their asset management practices. The goal of the program is to help municipalities make informed investment decisions for infrastructure assets, such as roads, buildings, water supply and sanitation systems, in order to deliver value for money while best serving citizens' needs
- FCM provides funding for up to 80 per cent of total eligible project costs, to a maximum of \$50,000. Projects must be completed within 11 months from funding approval notice.
- FCM accepts applications for MAMP projects year-round on a continuous basis; there are no deadlines to apply.
- <http://www.fcm.ca/home/programs/municipal-asset-management-program/funding-mamp.htm>

FCM Climate Change Capital Grants

- **Applications are accepted year round until January 31, 2020**
- Grant funding of up to \$1 million and more for climate change **capital projects** available for Canadian cities and communities of all sizes to help municipalities adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as flooding and drought, and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Communities can use the funding to upgrade, build, replace, expand or purchase and install fixed assets or infrastructure, such as buildings and treatment plants.
- https://fcm.ca/home/programs/municipalities-for-climate-innovation-program/climate-change-capital-project-grants.htm?utm_source=Twitter6_EN&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=MCIP_2017CapitalGrants

FCM Climate Change Plans and Studies Grant

- **Deadline: January 2020**
- Grant funding of up to \$175,000 is now available for climate change plans and studies for Canadian cities and communities of all sizes to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as flooding, drought and extreme temperatures.
- Municipalities can use the funding to develop plans and studies that identify opportunities to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change impacts. The grants also help communities assess the vulnerability of municipal infrastructure and assets, such as buildings and roads, to the impacts of climate change and develop response plans.
- <https://fcm.ca/home/programs/municipalities-for-climate-innovation-program/climate-change-plans-and-studies-grants.htm>

Green Commercial Vehicles Program

- The Green Commercial Vehicle Program (GCVP) is an incentive-based program for the commercial transportation sector, where incentives are provided upon proof of purchase as outlined below:
- For the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles such as electric, natural gas or diesel-natural gas dual fuel vehicles, incentive amounts range from 15-50% of the incremental purchase cost of an eligible vehicle as compared to an equivalent conventional fuel vehicle.
- For fuel saving devices, the incentive amount is 30-50% of the purchase and installation cost, of the aerodynamic device, anti-idling device or electric refrigeration unit. See the list of approved devices.
- <http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRD/R018053>

Mainstreet Revitalization Initiative

- **Allocations will be distributed through AMO**
- The \$26 million Main Street Revitalization Initiative will support capital improvements in small businesses, and generate strategic public investments in municipal and other public infrastructure that will benefit small businesses within Ontario's main street areas.
- Funding under the initiative will be allocated to municipalities based on population size. The following table provides the allocations for each eligible municipality, as determined by population size in the 2016 Census of Population.
- <http://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-PDFs/Policy-Updates/2018/OMAFRA-Provincial-main-st-allocation.aspx>

National Disaster Mitigation Program

- The National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) is a federal program that provides funding for flood mitigation projects. Projects can address any type of flood risk, such as riverine or urban flooding. Under this program, Public Safety Canada can fund up to 50% of project costs, to a maximum of \$1.5 million in federal funding per project.
- An eligible organization may submit one or more project proposals to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs by **September 14, 2018**.
- Previous proposals for flood mitigation projects in Ontario have had success under the NDMP. <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page14903.aspx>

Deadlines & Reminders

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund Reporting Requirements

- **Description**
- The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) is the Province's main transfer payment to municipalities. In 2018 alone, municipalities will benefit from more than \$2.6 billion in ongoing support through the OMPF, which is equivalent to 14 per cent of municipal property tax revenue in the province.
- **What you should know**
- Payments for municipalities that do not meet reporting obligations will be subject to holdback until documents have been filed. Municipalities must submit the following documents:
 - 2017 FIR by May 31, 2018; and
 - 2018 tax rate by-laws by September 30, 2018 (to MSO unless uploaded in OPTA).
- Please note that if these items are not filed, your municipality may not be eligible for some funding programs.
- If you require additional information regarding the OMPF, you may e-mail your inquiries and contact information to: info.ompf@ontario.ca.

Housing Updates & Reminders

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Portable Housing Benefit - Special Priority Policy (PHB-SPP)

Description

- The PHB-SPP is a housing assistance program that will help survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking access and find safe and affordable housing.
- Instead of households living in shelters or other precarious housing situations until a social housing unit becomes available, the PHB-SPP will provide survivors with the option to receive a portable housing benefit so they can immediately find housing anywhere across Ontario.
- The PHB-SPP program will be launched in April 2018 for recipients of the Survivors of Domestic Violence – Portable Housing Benefit (SDV-PHB) Pilot program who will be given priority access, and in July 2018 for all other applicants on a first-come, first-served basis.
- For further questions about the PHB-SPP, please email: housing.program.mah@ontario.ca

GreenOn Social Housing Program

Description

- On February 9, 2018, the Green Ontario Fund (GreenON) announced the GreenON Social Housing program for eligible social housing apartment buildings across Ontario. The program, which will be administered by the Housing Services Corporation (HSC), will invest \$25 million to support GHG-reducing retrofits in social housing apartment buildings across the province with less than 100 units.
- Existing programs are already supporting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction retrofits in large buildings with less than 100 units through the Social Housing Apartment Retrofit Program (SHARP) and Social Housing Apartment Improvement Program (SHAIP). GreenON Social Housing program will build on the success of these programs to cover smaller buildings.

Application Submission

- Service Managers submitted business cases to HSCorporation to support their requests for funding allocations. The deadline for submissions was **March 28, 2018.**

Homelessness Enumeration

- The *Promoting Affordable Housing Act* was passed December 6, 2016 and amends the *Housing Services Act, 2011* to require Ontario's 47 Service Managers to conduct an enumeration of persons experiencing homelessness in their service area.
- Service Managers are undertaking their first mandatory local homeless enumeration between March and May 2018, and every two years thereafter.
- Service Managers are required to share anonymous, client-level information for the core questions with the ministry within six months of completing their enumeration.



Development Charges Rebate Program

Description

- On April 20, 2017, the government announced its Fair Housing Plan, a comprehensive package of 16 measures to improve housing affordability, address demand, protect renters and buyers, increase the supply of housing, and improve information sharing.
- The Development Charges Rebate Program (the “Program”) is one of the measures to increase supply of housing, specifically purpose-built market rental development. The Program provides rebates for development charges and aims to reduce the construction costs of building market rental housing, particularly in those communities that are most in need of new purpose-built rental housing.

Funding

- Under the Program, up to a total of \$125 million over five years is available as rebates for development charges, starting with 2018-19.
- Notional allocations for fiscal years 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 (\$25 million each year for a total of \$75 million) will be announced in spring 2018 in accordance with provincial accounting and budgetary practices.

Innovation, Evidence & Capacity Fund (IEC)

Description

- The Ministry of Housing launched the 2018-19 Innovation, Evidence, and Capacity Building (IEC) Fund that will provide up to \$1 million total funding to address the varying levels of capacity amongst communities and to support local system transformation.

Funding

- The IEC Fund will provide grants of varying amounts up to a maximum of \$100,000 in 2018-19 for each approved proposal. Individual funding would depend on the type of project/initiative proposed.
- Through this fund, the Ministry's objective is to support short-term projects/initiatives lasting up to 12 months.
- Preference will be given to projects that build capacity on a broad scale (i.e. beyond one organization or community).

Submission of proposals

- Applicants should submit their completed application form in PDF format to IECFund@ontario.ca no later than **4:00 pm (EST) on Thursday, April 26, 2018**. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply before the deadline date.
- Any questions about the application process may be forwarded to IECFund@ontario.ca.

Housing and Homelessness Plan 5-Year Review

Description

- Service Managers must initiate the five-year review of their Housing and Homelessness plans by January 1, 2019.
- the ministry has committed to sharing with Service Managers resource material to help with the five-year review of Housing and Homelessness Plans. *The “Five Year Review of Housing and Homelessness Plan: A Guide for Ontario Service Managers”*, provides suggestions and resources to support Service Managers to complete the five-year review of their plans.
- the ministry will be hosting online webinar sessions in order to walk through the guide and provide Service Managers with an opportunity to ask questions regarding the guide and the five-year review process.
 - Western region: April 17, 2018 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm
 - Central region: April 18, 2018 9:00 am to 11:00 am
 - Northern regions: April 19, 2018 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
 - Eastern region: April 23, 2018 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
- For any specific questions during the review process, feel free to reach out to your ministry contact in the regional Municipal Services Office.

Planning Updates & Reminders

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Bill 139 Highlights

- Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139) received Royal Assent December 12, 2017
- Makes transformative changes to the land use planning and appeal system
- Repeals Ontario Municipal Board Act and replaces it with Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017
- Enacts the Local Planning Appeal Support Centre Act, 2017 which establishes a new independent agency
- Makes changes to the Planning Act and various other Acts

Bill 139 Highlights

- **Planning Act changes:**
 - provide more municipal control
 - provide a strong community voice for local land use decisions
 - protect public interests
- **Local Planning and Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017**
 - establishes Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) as the province-wide appeal body for land use planning matters
- **The LPAT:**
 - is an independent, dispute-resolution body
 - is governed by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act
 - reports administratively through Environment and Land Tribunals Ontario to the Ministry of the Attorney General
- **Local Planning Appeal Support Centre Act, 2017**
 - creates the Local Planning Appeal Support Centre (LPASC)
 - establishes LPASC as a new independent agency
 - gives LPASC the mandate to establish and administer a cost-effective and efficient system for providing support services to persons determined to be eligible for matters governed by the Planning Act that are under the jurisdiction of the Tribunal

Current Consultations

New Environmental Registry of Ontario Portal

- A beta version a new EBR portal is now available. Notices will be posted to the new portal moving forward.
- If you use the portal and have comments about the ease of use or features of the new design, please fill out the feedback survey.
- **New Registry:**
<https://ero.ontario.ca>
- **Redesign Feedback Survey:**
<https://ero.ontario.ca/page/redesign-feedback-survey>

Guidance to support implementation of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017: Application of the Intensification and Density Targets & The Municipal Comprehensive Review Process

- The Ontario Growth Secretariat is seeking feedback on two draft technical guidance documents that will help municipalities carry out a municipal comprehensive review, and meet the Growth Plan's intensification and density targets. The guidance will help municipalities achieve complete communities, compact urban form, and efficient use of infrastructure.
- Questions about the Draft *Guidance to Support Implementation of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017: Application of the Intensification and Density Targets & The Municipal Comprehensive Review Process*, including the consultation process, collection of information and access to the consultation documents may be directed to: placestogrow@ontario.ca.
- **Posting available at:** <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-2359>
- Submissions due: May 7, 2018

Agricultural Impact Assessment Guidance Document

- Agricultural impact assessments are now required under certain Provincial land use plans (Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017; Greenbelt Plan, 2017; Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, 2017; Niagara Escarpment Plan, 2017). OMAFRA is seeking input on a draft *Agricultural Impact Assessment Guidance Document* that outlines the conditions for completing an assessment.
- This draft technical document is intended to assist municipalities, qualified assessment professionals, aggregate producers, development proponents, landowners and other stakeholders in meeting provincial requirements for undertaking an agricultural impact assessment.
- The Guidance will help standardize agricultural impact assessment information and support best practices to mitigate impacts from development on agriculture.
- **Posting available at:** <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-2454>
- Submissions due: July 13, 2018



Municipal Resources

Frivolous and Vexatious Requests Fact Sheet

- Document prepared by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario
- This fact sheet explains what a frivolous or vexatious request is, what institutions should do when they receive this type of request, what a requester can do if an institution claims their request is frivolous or vexatious and the IPC's role in an appeal
- Includes information about requests that abuse the right of access, interfere with the operations of an institution, are made in bad faith, or are made for a purpose other than to obtain access
- Can be accessed at <https://www.ipc.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/fs-access-friv-vex.pdf>

Municipal Finance Resources

Common Language Guide to Municipal Financial Statements

- Explains key concepts, including:
 - Legislative requirements and reporting standards for municipal budgets
 - The four main components of municipal financial statements
 - Supplementary schedules and notes

Engaging the Community in Long-Term Financial Planning

- Outlines benefits of public engagement, explains why public engagement is part of the financial planning process, offers ideas and examples of strategies such as:
 - Online engagement tools
 - Participatory budgeting
 - Building trust with the public

Municipal Finance Resources Continued

Surplus and Debt

- Provides insight into the internal budget planning process for municipalities, including information on:
 - Budget planning methods
 - Types of budgets
 - Financial statements vs. budgets
 - Surplus and deficit and their relationship to budget planning and long-term financial planning

Unfunded Liabilities

- Explains how unfunded liabilities apply to municipal budgeting and why they are important to financial planning.

Municipal Finance Resources Continued

Investing Sustainably in Infrastructure

- Considers factors which have contributed to the current state of infrastructure (e.g. population patterns, climate change, service standards).
- Explains how asset management planning can help in making infrastructure investment decisions.
- Explores in greater depth the financing strategy component of asset management plans

Understanding Municipal Debt

- Outlines Ontario's regulatory framework for municipal borrowing, considers when debt "makes sense", offers a list of considerations for municipalities thinking about taking on debt

<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page15025.aspx>

Municipal Resource Guide to Leading Practices in Cost Savings

- Prepared by Western University's Local Government Program on behalf of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- Intended to provide municipal officials with a single-source of information about a range of current leading practices in cost savings in small and mid-sized Ontario municipalities
- Presents detailed profiles of 14 selected cases of leading practices in cost savings across a variety of service areas
- Also includes a list of 159 cost-savings recommendations from Municipal Service Delivery Reviews
- Can be accessed at <http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/urbancentre-reports/1/>

Ontario Ombudsman Tip Cards

- Documents prepared by the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman as a resource for municipalities and the public.
- [Fact Sheet](#) about municipal complaints to the Ombudsman outlines the authority of the Ombudsman and the process for making a complaint.
- Tip Cards for municipalities outline recommendations and best practices from the Ontario Ombudsman that municipalities can incorporate into policies
 - [Closed Meeting Best Practices](#)
 - [Closed Meeting Resolutions](#)
 - [Codes of Conduct and Integrity Commissioner](#)
 - [Local Complaint Processes](#)

Small Business Access

- Small businesses want to be focused on running and growing their business
- To make it easier for them, the Province has launched the Small Business Access Service
 - a “one-window service” that will provide resources online and over the phone to make it easier for small businesses to interact with the government and get the supports they need

Toll free: 1-888-999-5970

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/small-business-access>

Upcoming Events And Training

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Conference Dates

- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO): August 19-22, 2018
- Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA): January 26-29, 2019
- Ontario Goods Roads Association (OGRA): February 2019
 - **No dates for delegation requests have been set as yet.**
- Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO): June 10-13, 2018
- Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario (MFOA): September 19-21, 2018
- Association of Francophone Municipalities of Ontario (AFMO): September 19-21, 2018

Northern Clerks' Forum (Sudbury)

- On March 22, approximately 80 CAO / Clerks from across northeastern Ontario attended the MSO-North CAO / Clerks Forum
- Topics were presented by industry experts, that shared experiences and leading practices and included:
- Staff-Council Relations, Risk and Records Management, Accountability and Transparency, Policy and Website Management.
- We received positive feedback on the topics and format of the event, with all attendees showing interest in coming to a future CAO/Clerks Forum and many suggestions for new topics.
- A date has not been set for the 2019 Clerks' Forum.

2018 Northern (Sudbury) Treasurer's Forum

Agenda: We are working on some exciting topics for you which will be distributed in the summer. Please mark your calendars with the date of this event as you don't want to miss out on important finance updates and training. We will again include opportunities for interactive group discussions to share finance related leading practices and ideas using municipal data.

Date: November 14 and 15

Time: To be determined

Location: Lexington, Sudbury

- If you have a scheduling conflict please consider attending the Thunder Bay session November 14 and 15. Call the MSO if you would like additional details.

Northeastern Ontario Planning Authorities Technical Workshop

- Confirmed for September 26th-27th at the Lexington Hotel, Sudbury
- Agenda is under development, but as with previous years, it will focus on:
 - Technical Sessions on different types of Planning Act applications
 - Training on various planning policies and processes
 - We appreciate your ideas and suggestions (share them with your planner, assistant planner or the Workshop Chair)
- For those planning to attend, please note a block of 50 rooms has been set aside for a group rate discount (mention the MMA/Planning Authorities Workshop when reserving your room).
- Workshop Chair is: Lise Roy, Assistant Planner
lise.roy@ontario.ca / 705-564-6860

Questions?

Ministry of Municipal Affairs

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