



Township of Brock Council Information Index

March 23 – March 27, 2020

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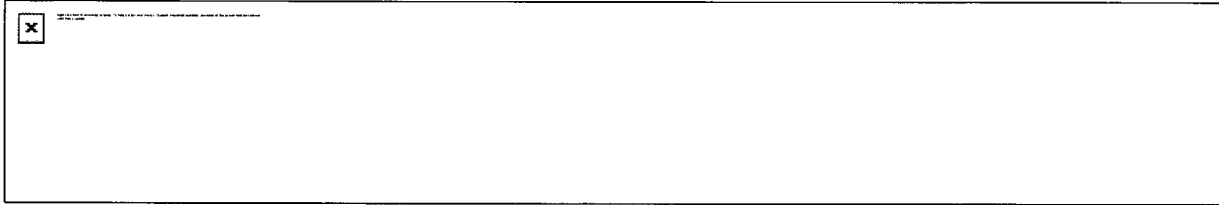
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Becky Jamieson

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 10:46 AM
To: Becky Jamieson
Subject: AMO Providing New Resources for Municipal Councils - COVID-19

Date:	24/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
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March 22, 2020

AMO Providing New Resources for Municipal Councils - COVID-19

AMO is developing additional resources for municipal councils as they respond to COVID-19.

Two new resources available now are:

- [Meetings Guidance for Heads of Council](#)
- [Council's Role of Communicating during COVID-19](#)

Ontario's new *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* provides flexibility in running Council meetings, presenting new and unanticipated considerations on leading and managing meetings. In collaboration with experts Nigel Bellchamber and Fred Dean, AMO has developed what this means for Councils and Heads of Council providing key considerations and strategies to guide you through enacting By-laws and managing under new and evolving conditions.

The second resource, developed for AMO by Redbrick Communications, highlights important reminders and strategies on how to lead an effective crisis communications.

Coming this week:

AMO On Topic Podcast: AMO will be releasing a PODCAST of important Q and A's to supplement these resources in the coming days.

Question Box Panel: AMO is assembling a panel of municipal experts to create a virtual Question Box for AMO members on the key issues facing municipal government. Details to follow.

Visit AMO's [COVID-19 webpage](#) for up-to-date information and resources.

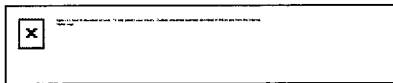
Email us at covid19@amo.on.ca with questions, ideas, feedback and suggestions.

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Meetings Guidance for Heads of Council COVID-19

Your Role as Leader

Life has become more complex.

As the Head of Council you are required to lead. You are expected to provide leadership to Council and your community every day. This is even more true in times of crisis. Members of Council and those in your community are looking to you for thoughtful and effective leadership in this time of crisis. You lead by example; you lead by decisive action to protect your residents; you lead by getting people working together.

Brief Summary of the Legislation

This week the Province has enacted Bill 187, *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*. This legislation makes changes to the quorum requirements in the *Municipal Act*. It authorizes every municipal council to amend its Procedure By-law after an emergency has been declared under the authority of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. The changes permitted will allow members to electronically attend council, committee and local board meetings and be counted in quorum.

This quorum provision will remain in effect for the duration of the declared emergency. Council has the discretion as to whether it intends to amend its Procedure By-law. Once amended, members may attend meetings electronically and be counted in quorum as your amended by-law permits. This applies to both open and closed meetings.

Your role as Chair of the meeting will change in some significant ways. Meetings will feel very

different. Keep in mind that these changes will apply to council, its committees and some local boards.

What is an “emergency”?

The definition is in the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. It reads,

“emergency” means a situation or an impending situation that constitutes a danger of major proportions that could result in serious harm to persons or substantial damage to property and that is caused by the forces of nature, a disease or other health risk, an accident or an act whether intentional or otherwise;”

What other rules change?

Bill 187 impacts the quorum requirements. Rules in the *Municipal Act* and the Procedure By-law continue. The expectation is the council will continue to be transparent in its decision-making.

Technological and Location Challenges with Electronic Participation

There is wide variation in technological capacity in Council Chambers, or other public locations where a meeting may be held.

Please note, the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* does not change the location of your meetings nor the ability of the public to attend. It primarily provides for local discretion to deal with quorum provisions for the duration of the declared Emergency.

The Procedure By-law still governs the location of the meeting, and the *Municipal Act 2001* the ability of the public to attend and observe. You can change the location by amending your procedure by-law, but the Act still prevails with respect to public attendance and notice of all meetings, open or closed.

Some Council Chambers, or other locations, will have the capacity for audio and video conferencing already. On the other hand, some may be limited to a single speakerphone. Most municipalities will be somewhere in between.

Practically, the meeting will at least have the Chair and the Clerk present in the Council Chambers.

All members of Council need to be able to participate equally, and the public in attendance (practicing appropriate distancing in accordance with local Board of Health guidelines) needs to be able to observe all that Council members can hear and see at the meeting. This Act does not change transparency requirements.

Any technology should be tested prior to a meeting and simplicity of operations for members is essential. The best advice is to start simple and as time passes, add sophistication if you can be sure the technology is reliable.

While audio recordings of meetings may not be a current practice, consider creating them and making them available on the municipal webpage in the spirit of transparency.

Your First Meeting with an Electronically Achieved Quorum

This meeting will require all of the formality provided by your procedure by-law if it is to be effective.

Members need to be recognized by the chair, speak within time limits and Council should not be debating or discussing matters without a motion duly moved and seconded before them. Your Clerk will be able to provide you with the relevant sections of your by-law.

Staff recommendations, crafted in the form of motions, should be presented for every issue that Council needs to consider and circulated in advance.

The Chair and the Clerk should rehearse as to how it is going to work. In a crisis, leaders need to be prepared and seen to be prepared.

Prepared for AMO by
Nigel Bellchamber and Fred Dean
March 21, 2020

We would appreciate your feedback as to what worked and didn't work in your first meeting(s) under the new rules so that we can reference them in future materials that we might send out. Email us at covid19@amo.on.ca.

Council's Role in Communicating COVID-19

Communication with the public and municipal employees is important right now. Good communication keeps people safe and healthy, it keeps your municipality functioning well, and it keeps your community calm and confident in your abilities.

Stay focused on the main problem.

There are two of them. The first problem is the need to keep people safe and healthy. That includes the public and your employees. The second problem is managing the economic challenges that COVID-19 presents. There will be many discussions about the many aspects of those two challenges. The more you stay focused on how all discussions relate to those core challenges, the more successful you will be.

Respond quickly. Last week, the World Health Organization's leading Ebola outbreak manager gave this advice on COVID-19, "Be fast. Have no regrets... Perfection is the enemy of the good when it comes to emergency management." If your communication is getting held up over debates about precise wording, or you're struggling to create infographics, you're wasting precious time. Two rookie communicators used Twitter to evacuate Fort McMurray safely, when everything around them was on fire. Use the tools you have, and the tools you know. A 60-second video can be shot and posted on social media in minutes. Facebook Live can deliver a virtual town hall from your desk, using a phone. Internally, you may need to look at ways to streamline approvals.

Frame and contain the crisis. In Canada, leaders are doing a great job of explaining what needs to be done and why: 'Practice social distancing. Just stay home. Wash your hands. Flatten the curve. We need to help our health care system manage the demand. Grocery stores will be open

and stocked.' When people are self-isolating in their homes, the crisis is contained. When they are panic shopping for toilet paper, it is not. Don't let side issues become the story. Frame and contain.

Provide clear and reliable information.

Municipal leaders have significant local networks. They should be using them to amplify and share messages from your municipality and other official sources. Retweet or share messages from your local health unit, your municipality, from the Ontario Government's official social media feeds, and from the Federal Government. Rumours, news reports, and public debates are unhelpful distractions. When Facebook pages get messy, sharing the latest quality information is far better than engaging in debate.

Demonstrate leadership and compassion.

The cooperation that we are seeing across Canada is actually amazing – and it is inspiring public confidence. Councils should take care to maintain that sense of teamwork. When you disagree, disagree well. When someone is yelling at you on Facebook, ask yourself what they are afraid of. Bad behaviour is often rooted in fear. Listen for it. Be helpful if you can. Find a way to be inspiring when disagreements arise.

Speak to what you know. Resist the urge to be all-knowing. There is a lot that we do not know. Share the information that you have confidence in. Direct people to the right experts. Make promises that you can keep (or beat).

Actions speak louder than words. Be consistent, to be credible. If the message is, 'remain calm, follow expert advice, and check in on neighbours,' your actions should include remaining calm, endorsing the advice of public health officials, and being good to your Council colleagues.

Expand your communications team. Your regular communications team was not made for this. They will be overwhelmed. Pull other resources to divide the load. If the library is closed and a librarian is great on Facebook, deputize that employee to monitor Facebook. Someone has to tackle Twitter, and Instagram, and media inquiries, content creation, and questions like 'what do we do next?' Depending on the size of your municipality, a properly resourced communications team requires about 3-10 people – times two or three shifts. Lots of services are shut down. Pull from that pool of available employees. No one will ever regret the communications skills they pick up and refine while helping to manage COVID-19.

Provide a clear spokesperson. The Head of Council has the role of being the voice of Council. They need to be listening carefully to make sure they are representing their Council well. Councillors should be sharing, supporting and amplifying those clear messages.

Plain language works best. Complicated, precise or technical language may give municipal managers comfort, but comfort usually comes at the expense of speed, clarity and effectiveness. You want messages that will easily ripple through family chats and Facebook groups.

Use positive language. Instead of, "I know you are scared. You are out of work and you are worried about how to pay rent." Say, "Stability is good right now. We want to help you if we can. Home is a good place for you right now and we are working to make staying at home easy for you."

Tend to internal needs and pressures.

There is a risk in believing your staff are awesome. They may be awesome at their jobs, but they are human. They have their own things to worry about right now. Tend to their needs, and they will do a better job of looking after others. Make a priority of communicating with them on a regular basis. That means talking, listening and taking good care of the team.

Avoid a defensive, "bunker" mentality.

People will lash out at you and be critical. They will expect you to deliver more than you possibly can. You will be second guessed and challenged. There will be long hours and frayed nerves. You must resist the temptation to be defensive, or to point fingers at others. Hunkering down and squabbling are terrible places to be.

Think about how you want to be remembered.

Someday COVID-19 and your leadership will be a faint memory. Most people will want to be remembered for being calm, helpful, caring, responsive, effective, decent, and well-coordinated. How do you want to be remembered? Write those words down and post them beside your phone. With respect to COVID-19, you will add 'kept people safe and healthy,' and 'helped our economy recover.' Those words should guide what you say and do today.

Prepared for AMO by
Redbrick Communications
March 21, 2020

We welcome feedback. Let us know what assistance we can provide, and let us know what communications approaches have worked well for you, so that we can share best practices and helpful approaches. Email us at covid19@amo.on.ca.

Becky Jamieson

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 8:37 AM
To: Becky Jamieson
Subject: COVID-19: AMO Update

Date:	24/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
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POLICY UPDATE

March 23, 2020

COVID-19: AMO Update

While it is only week-two of the declared state of emergency in Ontario, municipal councils and staff have been responding to, and preparing for COVID-19 for weeks and months, through the work of public health units, emergency planning, and the preparedness of front-line public safety and emergency responders.

AMO will continue to support its members by keeping you up-to date on available information, sharing and creating new resources, by helping to shape government policy and responses to the emergency, and by advocating for support for municipal government.

There were many important developments last week, including the passage of the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* to permit virtual participation in council meetings, and support supply chain effectiveness.

These follow important government action the previous week to stabilize public health finding.

On March 25, Finance Minister Rod Phillips will deliver an economic update rather than a provincial budget, and AMO will provide an immediate analysis for members. AMO is focused on critically important issues that require urgent action. In the wake of forgone tax, fee and transit revenues, municipalities will need adequate and timely financial assistance. Municipal employees, critical for many core functions, and to the response and management of the emergency, need support and protection. Municipal human services account for the most vulnerable and susceptible populations in the province and are under extreme pressure. Municipalities stand ready to channel needed federal and provincial economic stimulus into the economy through infrastructure investments and other means. Seasonal residents are putting pressure on small urban and rural resources. Broadband gaps challenge business continuity, enterprise and new education measures.

AMO is also looking at resources and potential collaboration to ensure municipal governments are ready to play their indispensable role in the economic recovery, and rebuilding prosperity in Ontario.

AMO is using strong, existing networks to stay on top of this emergency. We will make rapid adjustments to respond to quickly evolving situations. Our policy and membership teams are working directly with your subject matter experts and professional associations, coordinating critically important advice, information and action. Thank you for your Council's leadership, and the support of extraordinary municipal public servants.

We are keeping our [COVID-19 webpage](#) current and focusing on what's most relevant. AMO's covid19@amo.on.ca email will manage your questions, take your ideas, and facilitate your feedback.

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Lesley Donnelly

From: Brock Clerks
Subject: FW: AMO COVID-19 Update: Social Services Funding, Ontario Regulation 73/20

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 3:50 PM
To: Becky Jamieson <bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca>
Subject: AMO COVID-19 Update: Social Services Funding, Ontario Regulation 73/20

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
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POLICY UPDATE

March 23, 2020

AMO COVID-19 Update

Provinces Announces \$200 Million of Social Services Funding

As part of the ongoing COVID-19 response, the provincial government announced today \$200 million of funding for relief and to protect the health and safety of vulnerable people. The funding will flow through the 47 municipal government service managers and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSABs) that administer social services in two streams.

First, service managers will make local decisions about community funding to support COVID-19 responses. The funding will help municipal governments, DSSABs and social service providers to provide critical services such as homeless shelters, food banks, emergency services, and other community services. This could include hiring additional staff and implementing ways to promote social distancing and self-isolation to keep clients safe and healthy.

Secondly, funding will assist also individuals who do not qualify for supports under federal programs. An expanded Emergency Assistance program will be administered under Ontario Works. This includes assistance such as food, rent, informal child care and other services. In addition, increases discretionary benefits may be provided to persons in need who receive social assistance. Individuals can apply for assistance at [Ontario.ca/community](https://ontario.ca/community).

This funding announcement is welcome and needed. AMO will continue to work together with the government to assess and advise on community needs during this time.

Further details about implementation are being communicated to the 47 municipal service managers. More information is found in the [Ontario Newsroom](#).

AMO Contact: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, mjacek@amo.on.ca

Clarifying work continues on Ontario Regulation 73/20

AMO is also working with the province and municipal solicitors to get clarification on the intent and interpretation of [Ontario Regulation 73/20](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* that was released on March 20th.

The municipal sector has asked Ontario for a pause on all provincial statutes, regulations, rules, etc. that municipal governments must follow currently during this COVID-19 emergency. On the face of it, this regulation may provide the relief sought as broadly read. However, this is a complex legal area and caution in interpretation needs to be exercised at this time.

Once we have information to share on how to apply this regulation appropriately, we will share through an AMO update and on AMO's COVID-19 resources page.

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

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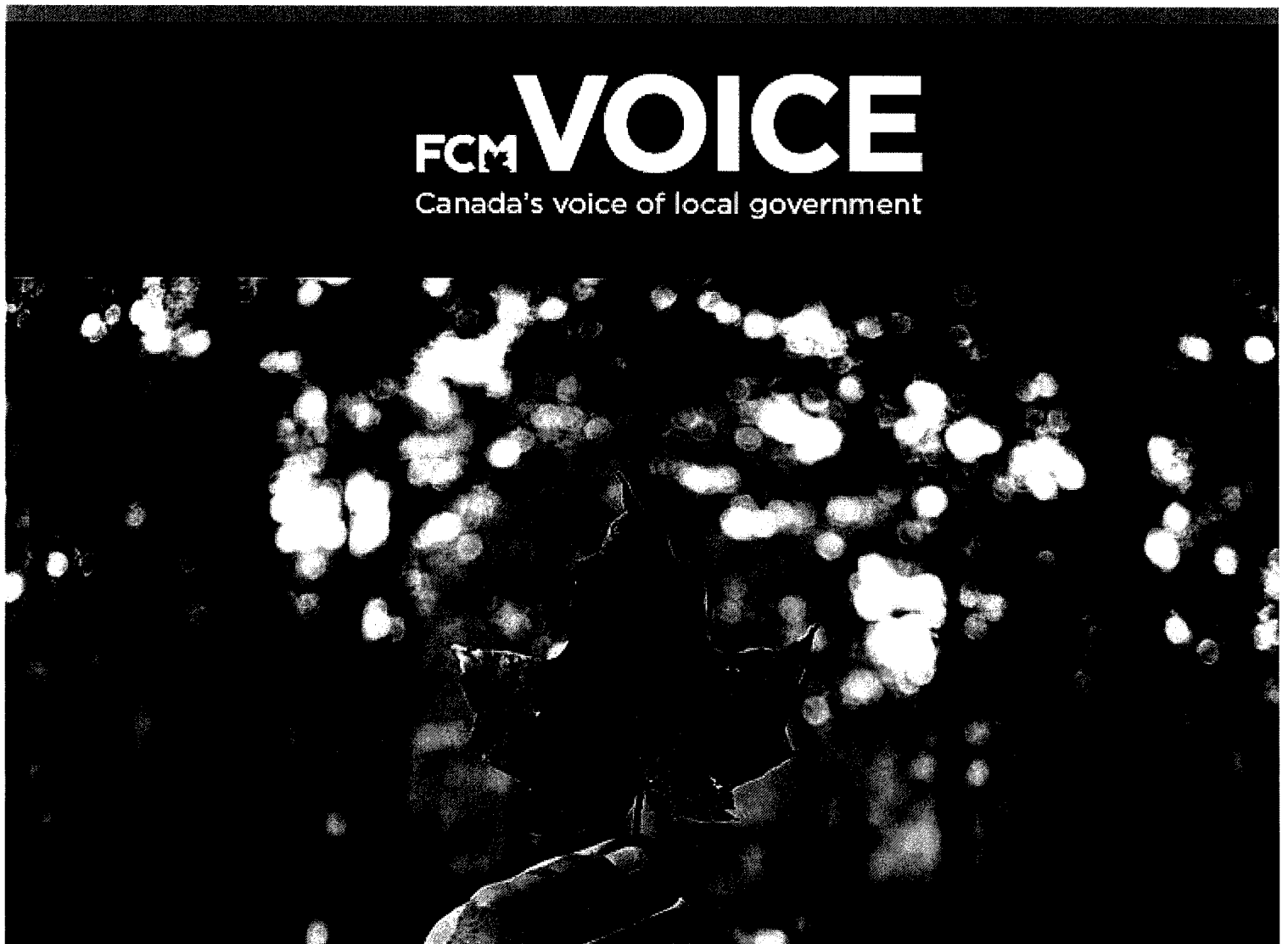
Lesley Donnelly

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 5:35 PM
To: Brock General
Subject: FCM Voice: Keeping you updated on COVID-19 | First Nations-municipal partnerships video | Email series: Fostering brownfield redevelopment | more

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
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FCM NEWS | March 23, 2020



Keeping you updated on COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented public health and economic challenge, and local leaders are on the front lines. To support your local responses, FCM is working on many fronts—from convening local expertise to coordinating with the most senior federal decision-makers. Over the coming weeks, we'll use FCM Voice to keep you up to date.

Here are the latest updates:

- **Last Wednesday the Prime Minister announced a comprehensive COVID-19 aid package—direct support for workers and families, as well as for small and medium-sized businesses.** It includes \$157.5 million through the Reaching Home program to support vulnerable Canadians facing special risks in our communities right now. We are actively engaging the federal government on additional interventions that will bring critical support to our cities and communities.
- **On Friday, the federal government announced key exemptions to COVID-19 travel restrictions** to permit some seasonal foreign workers to enter Canada (with strict quarantine protocols). This provides a critical lifeline to many farmers and food producers. This came a day after FCM's Rural Forum convened a virtual meeting to bring a rural lens to this pandemic, informing ongoing engagement with **Rural Economic Development Minister Maryam Monsef**.
- **BREAKING:** Hours ago, the federal government announced an additional \$5 billion aid package for farmers and food producers who are facing hardship due to the pandemic.
- **FCM has opened lines of communication with the Prime Minister's Office, Deputy Prime Minister's Office, and several key federal departments and agencies.** Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland is now connecting directly with FCM leadership through weekly calls about support that municipalities urgently need to keep Canadians safe and services running. Dialogue is ranging from replenishing supplies for frontline workers serving at-risk residents, to meeting challenges among municipalities exploring property tax deferral programs.
- **FCM is convening a wide range of municipal actors for a coordinated nationwide response.** Last week included key touchpoints with FCM's Executive Committee and with representatives of our provincial-territorial municipal associations. We also convened FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus with the Deputy Prime Minister to discuss federal interventions and flag urgent medical supply needs.
- **We've assembled a list of COVID-19 tools and resources for municipalities**—in consultation with FCM members, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and other federal agencies and departments. We'll update this list as new information becomes available, so be sure to check it regularly.

We're in this together. We'll continue to keep you updated, And as always, we urge everyone to follow the guidance of their provincial/territorial and local public health authorities.

NEWS

Watch: First Nations-municipal partnerships

The Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) helps First Nations and neighbouring municipalities create a shared vision for joint economic development. In this video, learn how two First Nations, two local townships, and one regional economic development corporation used CEDI’s #StrongerTogether approach to create a shared vision for joint economic development.

 **WATCH THE VIDEO**

Email series: Fostering brownfield redevelopment

Sign up for FCM’s microlearning email series, **Fostering brownfield redevelopment**. Designed to support municipal staff and elected officials when considering brownfield redevelopment opportunities, the series will deliver short weekly emails outlining key actions over eight weeks, from how to streamline your municipality’s approval process, to building partnerships with brownfield stakeholders.

 **SIGN UP TODAY**

Celebrating women elected officials

The Ann MacLean Award for Outstanding Service celebrates retired women municipal politicians who are leaders in their communities, and who have mentored other women to run for office. Can you think of someone who matches that description? Nominate them today and they could be recognized at FCM’s Annual Conference.

 **LEARN MORE**

Report: Sustainable land use practices in Canadian municipalities

Land use decisions profoundly influence the environmental, social and economic health of communities. This Green Municipal Fund report focuses on the main issues, strategic directions and best practices in the Canadian land use sector. From “complete streets” strategies to carbon-neutral mixed-use redevelopment, it identifies replicable “high impact” practices with major potential to increase land use sustainability, lower GHG emissions and provide triple bottom line benefits.

 **READ THE REPORT**

Deadline extended: Sustainable Communities Awards

There's still time to nominate your municipality for FCM's 2020 Sustainable Communities Awards. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact communities across the country, we are extending the deadline by one month to **Thursday, April 30, 2020** at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Individuals who intend to apply for the awards, but who will not be able to do so by the original deadline of March 31, should contact us to confirm their intent to apply.

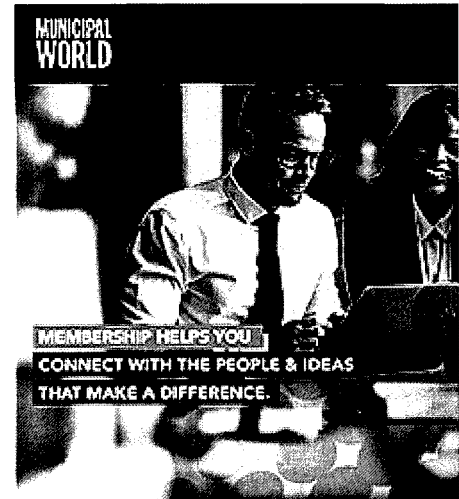
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FCM TWEETS

Mar 18: We welcome today's announcement on the federal #EconomicResponse Plan to Canada's COVID19 pandemic. FCM continues to work together with the federal gov't to ensure CDNs get the support they need in the weeks & months ahead. #CDNmuni #CDNpoli

Mar 20: Stay safe. Stay informed. Our COVID-19 resource page houses the latest provincial/territorial, federal and sector updates for #CDNmuni and residents. <http://bit.ly/COVIDinfoFCM>

Mar 21: Spring's arrival means Canada's ag supply chain now depends on the arrival of seasonal foreign workers. Opening that door, with strict quarantine protocols, is welcome news for rural #cdnmuni & farmers—& a whole country relying on them. Thank you for hearing us. cc:@marcomendicino

▶ **MORE**



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March 18th, 2020

The Honourable Jeff Yurek
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
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Re: Resolution to Support the Role of Conservation Authorities

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Centre Hastings at its regular meeting held on March 18th, 2020 passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Lower Trent Conservation Authority and the Quinte Conservation Authority along with other Conservation Authorities have been protecting people and conserving and restoring watersheds with local communities for over 50 years, and

WHEREAS municipalities must work together to ensure resilient and healthy watersheds for residents, and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities will be important partners in concrete and cost-effective initiatives to address the climate change,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of Centre Hastings supports the important role Conservation Authorities provide to local communities in delivering watershed management programs.

AND THAT the Municipality of Centre Hastings circulate that support to municipalities, conservation authorities and the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks in Ontario.

Jennifer Nielsen
Deputy Clerk

Lesley Donnelly

From: Brock Clerks
Subject: FW: Virtual Municipal Council Meetings - A Digital Meeting Management Solution

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 6:00 PM
To: Becky Jamieson <bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca>
Subject: Virtual Municipal Council Meetings - A Digital Meeting Management Solution

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
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DIGITAL GOVERNMENT

March 23, 2020

Virtual Municipal Council Meetings – A Digital Meeting Management Solution

Last week’s amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* now permit members of councils, local boards and committees at quorum to participate in open and closed meetings electronically during either a municipal or a provincial emergency. This will ensure that the ongoing business of municipal governments can continue without the need to meet in person, particularly given the requirements of social distancing to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

To assist members with implementing electronic meetings, AMO has partnered with a digital meeting management provider, eSCRIBE, to offer secure, cloud-based, paperless meeting management and livestreaming solutions. For members considering holding remote meetings electronically, eSCRIBE’s solutions offer elected officials and municipal staff the ability to participate on meetings from different locations and interact through the eSCRIBE platform. eSCRIBE solutions are also designed to increase transparency to citizens as well as drive operational efficiencies for municipal staff. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, eSCRIBE has developed streamlined onboarding and training methods which assure customers can be live within a week to ten days.

Smaller municipalities that are interested in eSCRIBE solutions may qualify for the Lite offering, specifically designed for smaller councils and committees. Funding through

the Municipal Modernization Program may apply to the purchase of an electronic meeting management platform.

Stay tuned for future AMO announcements on electronic remote meetings.

AMO encourages members to reach out to eSCRIBE to determine what solutions may be best suited for your needs. Contact Paul Mackin, Co-Founder and Vice-President of eSCRIBE, info@escribemeetings.com, or 1-888-780-5867.

For more information about the AMO-eSCRIBE partnership, please contact Nicholas Ruder, Research Advisor, AMO Enterprise Centre and LAS at nruder@amo.on.ca, or (416) 971-9856 x411.

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160 Livingston Avenue, P.O. Box 159, Grimsby, ON L3M 4G3
Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2015 | **Fax:** 905-945-5010
Email: skim@grimsby.ca

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

SENT VIA EMAIL

RE: Suspend Time-of-Use Electricity Billing

Please be advised that at the Special Council Meeting of March 18th, 2020, The Council of the Town of Grimsby passed the following resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sharpe; Seconded by Councillor Dunstall;

Resolve that during the circumstances of the COVID-19 outbreak, that the Council of the Town of Grimsby supports the Premier's recommendation to suspend time-of-use electricity billing; and,

That the Council of the Town of Grimsby request that the Ontario Energy Board suspend time-of-use electricity billing to support lower electricity bills for residents who may be isolating at home during the day, and to support businesses who continue to operate, via lower power rates during the day-time peak period; and,

That this time-of-use billing suspension take effect immediately until such time that the COVID-19 outbreak has been contained; and,

That this resolution be forwarded to:

- Premier Doug Ford
- MPP Sam Oosterhoff
- Ontario Energy Board OEB
- Ontario Municipalities
- Grimsby Energy Inc.

If you have any questions with regard to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Sarah Kim
Town Clerk

Lesley Donnelly

From: Brock Clerks
Subject: FW: EDCO's COVID-19 Update

Date: 25/03/2020

Refer to: Not Applicable

Meeting Date:

Action: null

Notes: CII

Copies to:

From: Economic Developers Council of Ontario <grow@edco.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Becky Jamieson <bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca>
Subject: EDCO's COVID-19 Update



Message to EDCO Members

There has not been a time in history that can compare to the current environment in the world. First, I hope all of you and your families remain healthy and safe. Thank you to the front-line workers that continue to serve our communities during this time. I think of our economic development community as front-line workers as they are the professionals that work with local businesses that are impacted significantly at this time.

The EDCO Executive Committee met last week to discuss course of action for EDCO. As you know, many of you have been very helpful in responding to some of our stakeholder surveys. We are appreciative of your contributions. The Executive felt that a survey from EDCO may be a little early given the everchanging environment. EDCO feels that our role will become more important as we begin to come out the other side of this crisis through resources for communities to recover from this crisis.

In the meantime, I have been in touch with several stakeholders, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and on several stakeholder calls with the Province. I attend now 3 x per week calls with the MEDJCT Industry Partners calls, participated with Minister Macleod on a Town Hall call, and now 2 x weekly calls with OBIAA and TIAO.

EDCO continues to communicate with colleagues across the country as well including the provincial associations and EDAC. On an international basis, regular contact with IEDC is also taking place.

EDCO created a Facebook Page for its members as a resource to have members share information. I encourage you to join the group and learn what your colleagues are doing in their communities. As resources become available, we are doing our best to communicate out through social media, our website and the Facebook group.

EDCO continues to operate safely within the guidelines set out by both the Federal and Provincial government with conference calls and staff working from their homes. We are maintaining regular business hours and services. If there is something you wish to discuss, I am a phone call or email away.

Stay safe!

Heather Lalonde, CEO
edco@edco.on.ca
(613) 362-3722

QUICK POLL: Has your community established deferred property tax due dates?

Latest Release:

[List of Essential Workplaces for Ontario in response to COVID-19.](#)

Stay Updated with EDCO at:

[Member Facebook Group](#) – where communities can share/exchange knowledge on what their communities are doing in response to COVID-19.

[COVID-19 Support & Resources Page](#)



Questions? Please contact:
Heather Lalonde at edco@edco.on.ca or 613-362-3722



Lesley Donnelly

From: Melissa Rosato <M.Rosato@lsrca.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 5:25 PM
To: jennifer.mitchell@york.ca; glenn.jackson@townofws.ca; cbaskin@town.uxbridge.on.ca; lbowers@scugog.ca; wbennett@newmarket.ca; jballantyne@king.ca; tathompson@georgina.ca; lhanna@eastgwillimbury.ca; jennifer.santos@durham.ca; cclubine@townofbwg.com; smackenzie-smith@aurora.ca; Brock Clerks
Cc: Susan Jagminas; Kristen Yemm
Subject: LSRCA Conservation Areas CLOSED, effective immediately

Date:	25/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	Website

Hello fellow communicators,

My name is Melissa Rosato, one of the Communications Specialist here at Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. I'm writing to inform and request your assistance in ensuring your residents are aware of the immediate closures of our Conservation Areas, effective March 24, 2020. Details below.

Our closure notice has gone out through a [media release](#) and posts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). All our COVID-19 updates can also be found here: www.lsrca.on.ca/Covid-19.

We greatly appreciate you disseminating this information through your channels.

If you have any questions at all, or if I can be of any other assistance, don't hesitate to let me know.

Details:

Effective Tuesday, March 24, 2020, all [Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Areas](#) are closed.

This includes the following:

Scanlon Creek - in Bradford
 Sheppard's Bush - in Aurora
 Thornton Bales - in King
 Rogers Reservoir - in East Gwillimbury
 Whitchurch - in Stouffville
 Durham Regional Forest – south and west of Uxbridge
 Beaver River Wetlands - between Uxbridge and Cannington

The full list of our 19 properties is here: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/enjoytheoutdoors/conservationareas>

We're asking residents to stay safe by observing our closures. Due to the non-essential nature of our conservation areas, we are no longer able to maintain trails, hazard trees and undertake other non-essential services during COVID-19. This difficult decision was made in support of legislation put in place by the province to stop the spread of COVID-19 and to keep our watershed residents as safe as possible throughout this trying time. We hope that taking these steps now means we can get back to enjoying these trails and green areas again soon.

We'll post any changes to this closure on our COVID-19 website (www.lsrca.on.ca/COVID-19), as well as on our social media channels. Thank you for your understanding as we all do our part to flatten the curve of this virus.

Many thanks,

Melissa Rosato, MES

Communications Specialist

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

120 Bayview Parkway,

Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 3W3

905-895-1281, ext. 120 | 1-800-465-0437

m.rosato@LSRCA.on.ca | www.LSRCA.on.ca

Twitter: @LSRCA

Facebook: LakeSimcoeConservation



Community Services

Legislative Services

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

March 24, 2020
File #120203

Sent via email: clerk@callander.ca

Elaine Gunnell, Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Callander
280 Main Street N., P.O. Box 100
Callander, ON P0H 1H0

Dear Ms. Gunnell:

Re: Request for Provincial Government to waive the restrictions on electronic participation in Council Meetings, at least for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of March 23, 2020 received your correspondence dated March 16, 2020 and supported the motion passed by the Council of the Municipality of Callander requesting the Provincial Government to waive the restrictions on electronic participation in Council Meetings, at least for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trusting this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours very truly,

Carol Schofield,
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk
cschofield@forterie.ca

- c.c. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario *Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca*
 The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing *Sent via email: steve.clark@pc.ola.org*
 Wayne Gates, MPP-Niagara Falls, Legislative Assembly of Ontario *Sent via email: wgates-co@ndp.on.ca*
 Sam Oosterhoff, MPP-Niagara West-Glanbrook, Legislative Assembly of Ontario *Sent via email: sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org*
 Jennifer Stevens, MPP-St. Catharines *Sent via email: JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca*
 Jeff Burch, MPP-Niagara Centre *Sent via email: JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca*
 Ontario Municipalities *Sent via email*

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

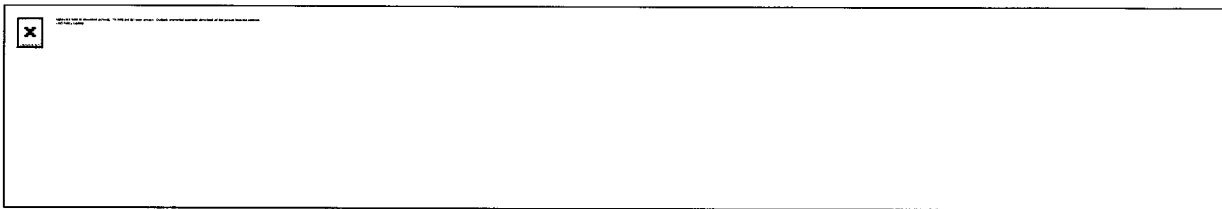
Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Becky Jamieson

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 6:21 PM
To: Becky Jamieson
Subject: March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

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March 25, 2020

March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update

Today the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Rod Phillips, delivered an economic and fiscal update at Queen's Park. The Minister noted this is a starting point; more will need to be done. At this time the government is responding to the immediate circumstances created by COVID-19. Longer term impacts on municipal governments and others are not yet fully understood.

In general, the government has outlined a \$17 billion plan to support Ontario's response to COVID-19. This includes \$3.3 billion for health care and \$3.7 billion for people and jobs in new direct spending. It also includes province-wide cash flow measures totalling \$10 billion in deferrals for provincial taxes and charges. This includes \$6 billion in deferral for business, \$1.9 billion in WSIB deferrals for employers, and \$1.8 billion in deferrals for the remittance of municipal education property tax payments. (See details below).

Highlights of a municipal interest include the following:

Property Taxation

Property Assessment Postponed – The provincial government is postponing the assessment update for 2021. Assessed values for 2021 will be based on the same valuation date as they are for 2020. There will be no financial impact for municipalities as a result of this postponement. MPAC will continue to update assessment rolls to reflect new construction. Technical details related to this postponement will be determined in the months ahead.

Education Property Tax Remittance Deferral – The provincial government is deferring the required municipal quarterly remittance of education tax collections by 90 days. The current remittance due March 31 remains unchanged. This will affect two future quarterly payments. The remittance which would have been due on June 30 is

now due on September 30. The payment which had been due September 30 is now due December 30. This measure supports single and lower tier Council decisions on property tax deferrals and the waiving of late penalties.

Health Care and Social Services

The government response includes an additional \$3.3 billion in funding for the health care system including \$75 million for personal protective equipment and critical medical supplies. Of municipal interest, this includes:

Municipal Service Managers and DSSABs – As previously announced this week, the government is providing \$200 million of assistance for homeless shelters, food banks, emergency services, other community services, and expanded discretionary to those receiving social assistance. As part of the \$200 million, emergency assistance will be provided to individuals not eligible for other income support programs.

Paramedic Services – Approximately \$80 million for ambulance and paramedic services.

Public Health – Recently announced increases to public health will now be extended into 2021. In total, the statement includes an additional \$100 million for public health.

Additional dollars are being provided to long-term care home for emergency capacity and virus containment.

Other - For municipalities responding to inquiries from business, the province has launched a toll-free line for questions related to workplaces and the province's emergency orders following recommendations by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health. That number is 1-888-444-3659.

WSIB- Providing up to \$1.9 billion in financial relief by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) allowing employers to defer payments for up to six months.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

AMO Contact:

Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, mwilson@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856, extension 323.

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Becky Jamieson

From: AMCTO | The Municipal Experts <amcto@amcto.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Becky Jamieson
Subject: Ontario 2020 Fiscal Update

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

View this email in your [browser](#).



[About AMCTO](#) | [Education & Events](#) | [Advocacy & Policy](#)



March 25, 2020

Ontario 2020 Fiscal Update

This afternoon, Finance Minister Rod Phillips released the provincial government's 2020 fiscal update, Ontario's Action Plan 2020: Responding to COVID-19.

The fiscal update totals \$17 billion that will go to support the healthcare system, the economy, and Ontarians amid the global COVID-19 pandemic. Of that \$17 billion, \$10 billion will be spent in tax and other deferrals and \$7 billion in new spending.

The spending would put the provincial deficit at \$20.5 billion, which is an increase from the 6.1 billion projected in the 2019 budget.

The update also projects a 0 percent increase in real GDP for 2020 and a 2 percent increase for 2021.

A full budget will be released by November 15th, 2020.

Major highlights from the update include:

- A one-time payment to families of \$200 per child up to 12 years old, and \$250 for children with special needs to help offset costs related to school and child care closures
- Temporarily doubling the Employer Health Tax Exemption resulting in a \$355 million cut in business taxes
- \$1.2 billion to the children's and social services sector, including \$600 million of annual funding to the Ontario Autism Program
- Doubling the Guaranteed Annual Income System support for low-income seniors for 6 months

Below are relevant items for Ontario's local governments:

- A total of \$3.3 billion will be invested into the health care sector with \$2.2 billion dedicated to COVID-19, including:
 - Investing \$935 million to the hospital sector, with \$594 million to increasing capacity and \$341 million providing an additional 1,000 acute care beds, 500 critical care beds, and 25 assessment centers at hospitals
 - Investing \$243 million in long-term care homes to increase their emergency capacity
 - Increasing public health funding by \$160 million to identify and contain COVID-19, such as increasing capacity for home and laboratory testing
 - Investing \$75 million to supply personal protective equipment and critical medical supplies to front-line staff
 - A \$1 billion contingency fund for the sector on any emerging needs related to COVID19

- Increasing funding by \$148 million for charitable and non-profit social services organizations
 - This includes food banks, homeless shelters, and emergency services
- Reducing the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) to \$501.9 million from \$505 million
- Introducing a Regional Opportunities Investment Tax that will give businesses a 10% refundable tax credit for certain investments made in regions outside of Ottawa and the Greater Golden Horseshoe
- Postponing the 2021 planned property tax reassessment. Assessments for the 2021 taxation year will continue to be based on the same valuation date that was in effect for 2020.
- Deferring the upcoming June 30 quarterly municipal remittance of education property tax to school boards by 90 days. The government says this will allow municipalities to provide property tax deferrals to residents and businesses whilst ensuring school boards receive their funding.

2020 Ontario Fiscal Update

News Release: Ontario's Action Plan Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19



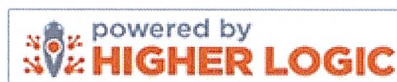
AMCTO | The Municipal Experts

2680 Skymark Avenue, Suite 610, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5L6

Tel: (905) 602-4294 | Fax: (905) 602-4295

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Becky Jamieson

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Becky Jamieson
Subject: AMO WatchFile - March 26, 2020

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

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March 26, 2020

In This Issue

- COVID-19 related proceeding suspensions.
- COVID-19 resources.
- AMO Podcast: Discussing meetings with electronic attendance.
- AMO Podcast: Communication guide for councils.
- AMO Virtual Panel: Guidance for electronic meetings.
- New AMO COVID-19 resource available.
- Main Street Revitalization Initiative project extensions and final report.
- Register for Blue Box Program update webinar - April 8.
- BEACON Digital Therapy - Innovative mental health care support.
- OSUM Annual Conference update.
- 2020 AMO Conference.
- Cancellation deadline extended for exhibitors to July 6 in response to Covid-19.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Capital Purchasing.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Procurement.
- ONE Investment - HISA rate update.

COVID-19 Update

Under EMCPA, the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) has frozen all proceedings; the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) will not have hearings until June 30th and all proceedings have been suspended. AMO's COVID-19 resource page will be adding other proceeding suspensions as they become known.

AMO COVID-19 Resources

AMO's COVID-19 Resources page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

Building on AMO's Meeting Guidance for Heads of Councils; AMO's Executive Director, Brian Rosborough sits down with municipal experts to dig deeper into how to

prepare for and manage electronic meetings.

AMO's Executive Director Brian Rosborough speaks with Brian Lambie, President of Redbrick Communications. AMO worked with Brian Lambie to create a Communication Guide for Councils to assist in their response to COVID-19.

Join AMO's municipal expert virtual Question Box Panel on Friday, March, 27 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern time) to discuss experiences and everything you need to consider in planning for and hosting virtual council meetings.

Redbrick Communications and AMO are compiling COVID-19 infographics for municipalities. Visit AMO's COVID-19 Resources webpage to download.

AMO Matters

In response to COVID-19 challenges, AMO may be able to provide project extensions to MSRI-funded projects, if requested. If your projects are complete, please submit the final report by May 15, 2020. Contact Adam Garcia with questions.

Register today for an AMO Webinar Update on the Blue Box Program, Wednesday, April 8 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm. For more information, contact Amber Crawford.

AMO is exploring partnerships to provide innovative ways of helping members support the mental health of their employees. Join us on March 26 at noon for a webinar where we will demonstrate how you can help your employees, and their dependents, easily access effective mental health care through BEACON.

Eye on Events

The OSUM Executive is pleased to announce that the this year's OSUM Conference has been moved to 2021 and will be held in Brant County. OSUM 2020 - *Springtime in Paris* - was cancelled due to COVID-19. Refunds for this year's event are being processed. Contact events@amo.on.ca.

AMO is monitoring all developments with COVID-19 and will be advising members of new developments if and when they emerge. Please contact Poonam Ruparelia with questions. Visit the AMO website for updates, details and registration information.

Recognizing how quickly things are changing in the environment of COVID-19, and in appreciation of our valued exhibitors, AMO is extending the cancellation deadline for exhibitors. We are committed to taking every step necessary to ensure the health and safety of those attending our conference. Exhibitor information can be found here.

LAS

Webinar April 8 @ 10am - Capital Purchasing using Sourcewell is part of the Municipal Group Buying Program. This offering lets municipalities access everything from heavy equipment to fire trucks to auction services. Join us to learn how this offering works on some of your biggest purchases. Register today.

Webinar April 22 @ 10am - Cooperative purchasing greatly benefits municipalities, but staff need to be confident they are getting the best value for tax dollars. Join us for an in-depth conversation on the procurement processes that make up our Municipal

[Group Buying Program. Register here.](#)

ONE Investment

HISA Rate Update: Due to the Bank of Canada's second interest rate cut in the month of March in response to the coronavirus, the Bank has reduced Prime Rate to 2.95%. New effective rate for HISA is 1.415% (based on Bank Prime Rate less 1.535%) as of March 17, 2020. For more information, [click here](#).

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

[AMO Watch File](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#) Tel: 416.729.5425

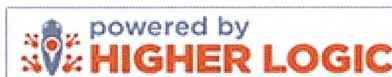
[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)

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Lesley Donnelly

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqué@fcm.ca>
Sent: March 25, 2020 2:18 PM
To: Brock General
Subject: FCM Communiqué: Important AC2020 announcement

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
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FCM March 25, 2020


COMMUNIQUÉ



Important AC2020 announcement

Dear members, delegates and partners,

After careful consideration—and with guidance from public health authorities—**FCM has made the decision to cancel our 2020 Annual Conference and Trade Show**, scheduled to take place June 4-7 in Toronto.

This is not a decision we take lightly. AC2020 was set to bring together more than 2,000 local leaders. Our annual conference is a wonderful opportunity for members to connect, learn, share and grow. FCM and the City of Toronto were set to put on a phenomenal show.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our top priority is protecting conference participants, the wider community and our health care system—while staying focused on supporting Canadians through this crisis. I know that all of you are doing the same in your own communities.

To address some key questions immediately:

- **All delegates and companions will receive full refunds.** Registered delegates will receive an email within a week with details on the refund process. (We'll also work with hotel partners to ensure room deposits are refunded.)
- **FCM's AGM and board elections:** We're exploring alternate ways to hold these critical events, and will share details on process and timelines as soon as they are available.

Our conference theme this year was ***We Deliver***. And right now, we are all focused on delivering solutions to a public health and economic crisis. As local leaders, we are squarely on the front lines. As FCM, we are helping to lead a nationwide response, coordinating with our federal partners and other stakeholders.

As much as I was looking forward to seeing you all in Toronto, we are doing exactly what our residents—and our country—need us to be doing right now. Because we're in this together.

Bill Karsten
FCM President



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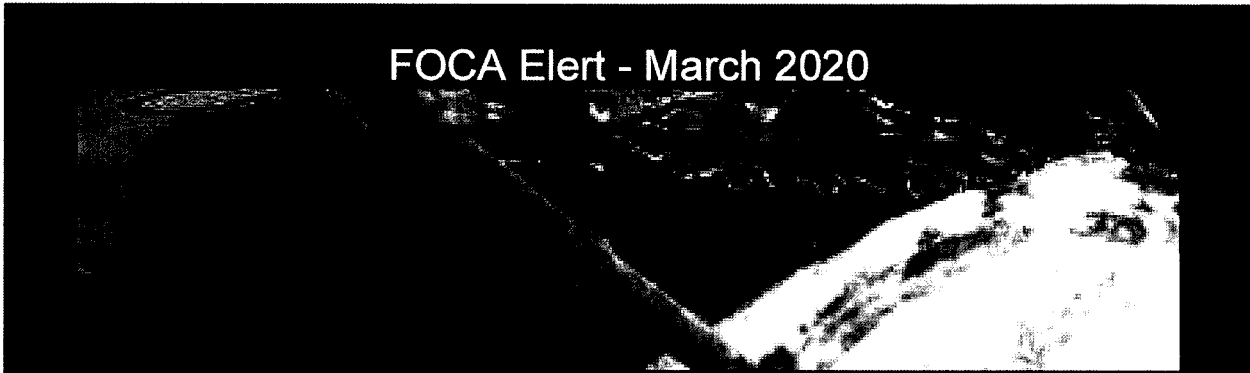
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Lesley Donnelly

From: Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations <communications@foca.on.ca>
Sent: March 25, 2020 3:57 PM
To: Brock General
Subject: Cottage Country updates in changing times

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
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FOCA Elert - March 2020

FOCA office update

In light of the ongoing pandemic, FOCA is abiding by the Ontario government order related to the closure of non-essential businesses, and has transitioned our staff away from our Peterborough office, as we all practice social distancing.

We will carry on serving our members digitally, during regular business hours. [Our contact information is here.](#) You can still leave phone messages, although email inquiries may be addressed more rapidly. At this time, FOCA is monitoring and re-evaluating all our operations, programs, and services, to ensue the safety of members, staff, volunteers and others, and so you can continue to receive the timely, valued information and programming you have come to expect from FOCA. We will keep you posted about any changes as this evolving situation develops.

We expect to be able to update you with important information by webinar in the coming weeks; our website remains active and filled with updates, and information will continue to be delivered in these Elert messages.

We know that community connections, together with responsible decision-making, will be key over the coming months for FOCA as an organization, as well as for each of your own waterfront communities. Keep in touch, and continue to share your questions, ideas, and inspirations!

Here's a quick video message to you, from FOCA's Executive Director:



Staying in Touch

Please encourage fellow members and waterfront neighbours to provide their consent to receive monthly Eleret messages like this, from FOCA. You can circulate this call-to-action:



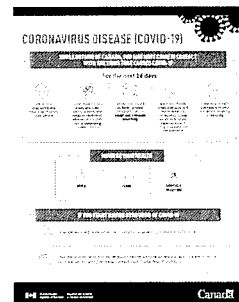
Get on the Eleret list for free cottage country updates from FOCA:
http://bit.ly/FOCA_Eleret

This is one of many member benefits that we hope you will highlight to fellow members. For more, visit: <https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>.

Sheltering at the cottage: an emerging discussion

Safety First

If you are a snowbird, or otherwise returning from travel abroad, Health Canada expects you to self-isolate for 14 days. Information is available online here: [Health Canada COVID-19 Information](#).



What if you own property in two places in Ontario, and want to relocate from one to the other, such as: shelter in place at your cottage? FOCA has heard from many members, partners, and municipal contacts over the past days about this issue. Many are concerned that any transiting increases the chance for spread of illness.

FOCA reminds members that our rural communities have reduced capacity to accommodate sudden changes in supply demands; put another way, cottage country isn't expecting you yet. Most of us wouldn't ordinarily open the cottage until nearer to the May long weekend. As we already know from our local grocery experiences, parts of the supply chain are under strain. Additionally,

rural hospitals have limited capacity, and you should consider where your health needs can best be met, in an emergency situation.

If you do relocate to your waterfront residence (or are there already), FOCA suggests the following:

- Connect with your lake association on social media (find many connections via [FOCA's Facebook page, here](#)). As always, these are the people who know your waterfront area best!
- Provision yourself for several weeks (with food, drinks, gas, hardware supplies, prescriptions) before leaving your off-season community, so that you will not need to make stops along the way. This is not the time for our usual credo to "buy local" in cottage country. As you would do anywhere at this time, should you urgently need anything from a retailer or pharmacy, you should call ahead to see if there are options for safe pickup or delivery.
- Continue to follow all the principles of social distancing at the cottage! Although cottage country is usually the place for relaxed rules, that cannot be the case anywhere for the foreseeable future. Cottages are often the gathering places for multiple households in an extended family; for now, and possibly for some time to come, that could put everyone at risk.
- Develop an exit plan with immediate family, in case you develop any indications of illness while at your waterfront property.
- As the clock slows down on our usually-hectic schedules, use this time to enjoy nature, cook, read, sing, dance, nap, and dream about dock-jumping time to come.

FOCA encourages our members and media partners to share these tips widely.

Advocacy & Policy Updates

OEB & Hydro One seasonal electricity rates

On March 12, 2020 the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) agreed with Hydro One (and FOCA) that their decision to implement fixed electricity distribution rates substantially **changes the circumstances and rationale for eliminating the seasonal rate class**. OEB will be considering their next steps "in due course." Follow this issue and get background about FOCA's work on the electricity file: <https://foca.on.ca/electricity-pricing/>

More Electricity News

In support of customers under budget pressure due to COVID-19, the Province of Ontario is reducing **peak hydro rates** for a period of at least 45 days. This \$162 million commitment will be funded by general tax revenues. The impact on your monthly bill will vary depending on your use, but will have limited impact for low-use customers, or those who are primarily off-peak users already. [Read the Globe and Mail article.](#)



OFF-PEAK

MID-PEAK



ON-PEAK

Time-of-use rates will be temporarily suspended.

Staying in Touch with Local Government

The [Municipal Emergency Act 2020](#), enacted March 19th, has changed quorum requirements under the Municipal Act: councils can electronically attend council, committee, and local board meetings and be counted in quorum. Learn more, including how the public can still participate by [reading this online update](#) and [Meeting Guidance](#) from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Conservation Authorities

In early March, FOCA attended several Provincial sessions to discuss the role of Conservation Authorities. FOCA has since further outlined our perspectives in a submission to the Province outlining our interests in watershed management, flood planning and management, and other local resource management needs. Read more on FOCA's webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/conservation-authorities-act-under-review/>

ONCA still on hold

FOCA received the following update about the **Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)** which we have been [monitoring for several years](#) on behalf of our member associations across the province. **Nonprofit Law Ontario** reports that the target for ONCA to come into force "is no longer early 2020" and that "most organizations should not make changes to comply with the ONCA yet, as certain rules have not been published." For more, visit: <https://nonprofitlaw.cleo.on.ca/>



Spring Bear Hunt Returns

A decision from the **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry** about the spring bear hunt was announced March 13, 2020 on the Environmental Registry posting: "*Ontario is establishing a regular spring black bear season, reducing seasons on the*



Bruce Peninsula and making other minor updates to black bear regulations."
Read more online, here: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1112>.

FOCA's Gold-level Sponsors



Event recap: FOCA AGM & Spring Seminar Member Summary & Video Recording Available

The **2020 FOCA Annual General Meeting of Members and Spring Seminar for Lake Associations** took place on March 7th. In addition to the annual business meeting, there were presentations on road salt impacts, invasive aquatic species, water quality monitoring in the Lake Partner Program, lake association risk management, and an overview of FOCA's recent work and emerging priorities. We were pleased to welcome our special guest, the Parliamentary Assistant (P.A.) to the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.



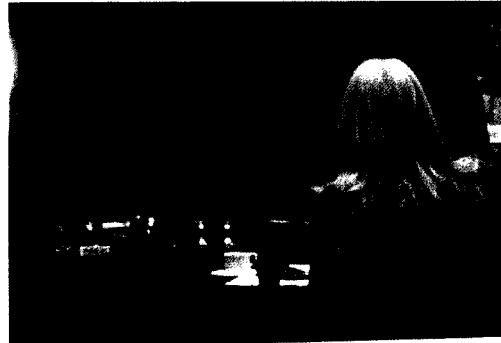
*P.A. Andrea Khanjin
and FOCA's Terry Rees*

We encourage members to review the **Event Summary** which includes links to download each of the slide presentations. Access the summary using your FOCA member web login on the event webpage:

<https://foca.on.ca/2020-agm-spring-seminar/>

Don't recall, or have, your member web login? Contact us and we will reply by email during business hours.

The full day was accessible by webinar, and the **video recording** of all the presentations is available. If you attended in person or by webinar, access to the video recording is included in your original registration price. **Missed the event, but still want to enjoy the video recording?** [Details are here.](#)



Lake Environments

Welcome to Spring, a time of ever-changing water levels

FOCA members should take note that shoreline properties can be faced with rapidly changing conditions as the snow melts, spring rains arrive, and ice cover on our lakes disappears. Monitor local flood advisory sources for current information on conditions near you. FOCA posts important links and related high water preparedness information here:

<https://foca.on.ca/high-water-flood-events-in-cottage-country/>



Concerns over Salt

FOCA has noted the growing concern about increasing levels of salt in our freshwater systems. The chloride levels in surface water have been analyzed using the samples from the Lake Partner Program over the last number of years, and other studies (including those on Lake Simcoe) are showing disturbing increases that harm aquatic health. Learn more, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/salt-in-our-freshwater-systems/>

Road salt – sodium chloride



7 million tonnes applied to roads and parking lots each winter in Canada

Starry Stonewort

Dr. Andrea Kirkwood, who spoke at the 2020 FOCA Spring Seminar about aquatic invasive species (see link to her presentation, in the Event Summary above), is also featured in the Starry Stonewort video available on the very-informative [Scugog Lake Stewards YouTube channel.](#)



Microplastics

The International Joint Commission (IJC) of Canada and the United States has released a report stating that microplastics in our waters are a possible source of **chemical contaminants**. Link to the IJC update from FOCA's webpage: <https://foca.on.ca/microplastics-at-alarming-levels-in-canadian-lakes-and-rivers/>

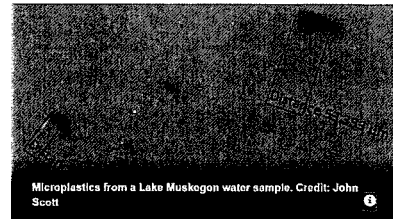


image: IJC.org; credit John Scott

Musings on the Scale of our Great Lakes

This interesting infographic has been hanging around in our Inbox for some time. Now seemed a good time to share it, especially for those who might have kids at home looking for some online research projects: pick a lake and find out more about it!



<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/worlds-25-largest-lakes/>

FOCA's Silver-level Sponsors

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GENERATION

Sono

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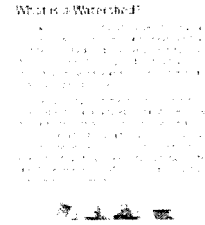
Cottage Life

TORONTO/MUSKOKA
GENERATORS

Regional Notices & Recent Events

Haliburton Shoreline Bylaw - Public Consultation

After a packed public meeting on February 26th, **Haliburton County** council announced they would undertake more public consultation on their draft shoreline preservation bylaw. [Read the Minden Times online coverage.](#)



For more about the importance of a naturalized shoreline, consult FOCA's publication: [A Shoreline Owner's Guide to Healthy Waterfronts.](#) (image at right is an excerpt)

Spring Cottage Life Show

CANCELLED (was scheduled for March 26-29, 2020).

FOCA is sorry to report that we won't be able to connect with members and friends as planned at the annual Spring Cottage Life Show. The show organizers released a statement: *"This is the first time in 27 years where the Spring Cottage Life Show in Toronto will not take place on its intended dates."*



SPRING COTTAGE LIFE SHOW
MARCH 26 - 29, 2020

Ottawa Cottage Life and Backyard Show

CANCELLED (was scheduled for April 17-19, 2020). More from the show organizers: the *"main priority is the health and safety of our attendees, exhibitors, partners and employees."*



OTTAWA COTTAGE LIFE & BACKYARD
SHOW
APRIL 17 - 19, 2020

Safe Quiet Lakes - Stakeholder Meeting

POSTPONED (was scheduled for April 20, 2020). Stay tuned for updates from [Safe Quiet Lakes.](#)



Proposed billboards along Ontario Highways

This topic has been raised by some of our members, and was part of a presentation about municipal engagement at the [2019 FOCA AGM and Spring Seminar](#), where concerns were discussed about visual distraction/pollution. The Province has recently made comments about possibly allowing further billboard expansion along Ontario's highways. To learn more and connect with others concerned about this issue, visit: <http://www.scenicontario.net/>



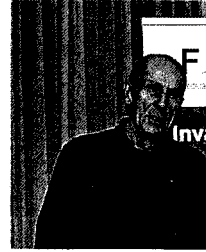
image: <https://twitter.com/meslin>

FOCA presents Awards

2019 FOCA Achievement Award Recipient: Farlain Lake Community Association

The discovery of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Farlain Lake, near Awenda Provincial Park, resulted in the association developing their Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Program. In 2019, the association received a \$200,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the Program. The Farlain Lake Community Association is committed to sharing their experiences and what they learn with other communities in Ontario.

<https://farlainlake.ca/>



Honourable Mention: Scugog Lake Stewards

The Scugog Lake Stewards have been dedicated to the health of Lake Scugog for many years. They have undertaken dozens of environmental projects, worked successfully with their Township, and carried out long-standing lake research and monitoring for invasive aquatic species including Eurasian Watermilfoil and Starry Stonewort.

<https://scugoglakestewards.com/>



Honourable Mention: Friends of Oak Lake

The Friends of Oak Lake, north of Belleville, formed as a result of a large hog manure spill that entered their lake in 2018. The incident inspired a group of residents to form the association in order to lobby municipal government for an environmental study and for funds to re-route the century-old sub-surface tile drain away from Oak Lake.

<https://www.friendsfoaklake.com/>



Find out more about the history of the FOCA Achievement Award, and how to **nominate YOUR great lake association for the next Award**, here:

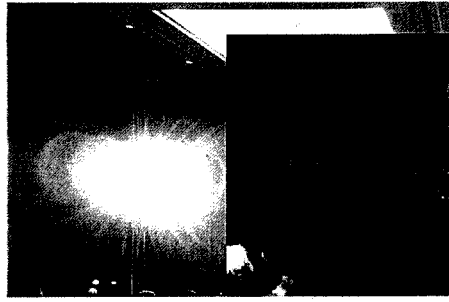
<https://foca.on.ca/member-services/foca-achievement-award/>

FOCA receives Award

OOWA Award

FOCA was honoured to be recognized on March 3rd at the Annual Convention of the **Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association (OOWA)** as "**Collaborator of the Year 2019-2020.**" Find out what we've been collaborating on:

<https://foca.on.ca/septic-systems/>



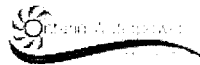
FOCA's Bronze-level Sponsors



SUNSPACE



Waterloo
GEOTECH



2019 FOCA Year in Review

Read about electricity pricing, the Lake Partner Program of water quality monitoring, and more about FOCA's recent work on behalf of waterfront Ontario. Please share this link with your members!

<https://foca.on.ca/2019-year-in-review/>

Government Relations & Effective Policy Work

FOCA works to ensure that waterfront projects and developments are in the best interests of waterfront communities.



Encouraging involvement

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.



Focusing on policies

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.



Success Story

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.



80 Million Saved

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.



2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

FOCA is...
Protecting Ontario's waterfront
from harmful projects.

Advancing Science into Action

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.



LPP Facts at a Glance

- 100% of LPPs are now being reviewed
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Did You Know?

FOCA has been successful in getting waterfront residents and businesses involved in the planning and development of waterfront projects. This has led to better projects that meet the needs of the community.

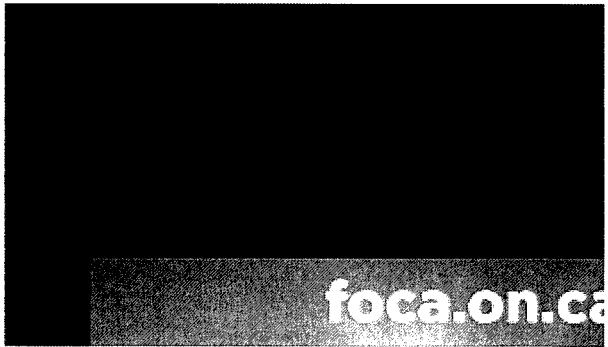
Materials for your Association Newsletters

In addition to FOCA's ongoing work on behalf of waterfront Ontario, our members have access to several specific benefits, offers and discounts from our partners and corporate sponsors. Review member benefits, here:

<https://foca.on.ca/member-services/benefits/>

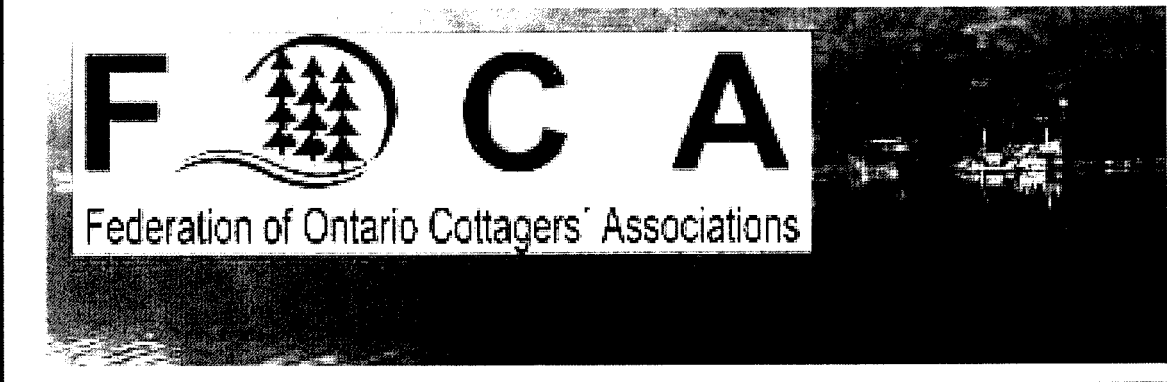
Member Associations: **Do all your members know about their FOCA benefits?** Use a reminder "ad" on your association website, or an upcoming Newsletter.

Could you use a short article about the value FOCA brings to your members? Contact the office for a draft article and/or a copy of the ad at the side.



In praise of Nature

From our families to yours: we hope you take this time to safely enjoy the best of Ontario's natural beauty.



FOCA
Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

**FOCA is the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations,
the voice of the waterfront for over half a century**

info@foca.on.ca | [705-749-3622](tel:705-749-3622) | <https://foca.on.ca>

Stay Connected with FOCA:



Didn't receive this message in your Inbox? Join thousands of Elert subscribers:
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FOCA believes everyone has the right to hear about issues that affect waterfront Ontario. Those who have an existing relationship with FOCA may receive email from us, based on principles of Express or Implied Consent in Canadian Anti Spam legislation. You can unsubscribe from Elerts at any time, using the 'Safe Unsubscribe' link below.

Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations,
#201 - 159 King Street, Peterborough, ON K9J 2R8 Canada

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Sent by communications@foca.on.ca in collaboration with



Lesley Donnelly

From: Brock Clerks
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting to Share Information

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Becky Jamieson <bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca>
Subject: COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting to Share Information

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)
Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list



March 26, 2020

**A Redbrick Communications and AMO Invitation to COVID-19 Communicators
Virtual Meeting to Share Information**

COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 10:30 AM Eastern Standard Time

Redbrick Communications and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) will hold a virtual expert panel discussion that provides an opportunity for communicators to connect with one another, share challenges and find practical solutions for managing COVID-19.

This call is open to any public sector communicators.

When: Tuesday March 31, 2020 at 10:30am – 11:30am Eastern Standard Time

Who: *Ivana Di Millo*, Communications Director for the City of Mississauga (pop. 800,000); *Rachael Wraith*, Manager of Corporate Communications for the Town of Ajax (pop. 120,000); *Mike Beitz*, Communications Manager for the Town of Stratford (pop. 30,000); *Jessica Linthorne*, Director, Strategic Initiatives at the Town of Saugeen Shores (pop. 14,000), and *Brian Lambie*, President of Redbrick Communications.

Where: Zoom Webinar: Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/676818550>

Or Telephone: Canada: 855 703 8985 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 676 818 550

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/abt31UcAJ0>

AGENDA

- **What have been your biggest challenges this week?**
- **What solutions can the panel and call participants offer to address each of these challenges? (Strategies, tactics, tools, apps, etc.)**
- **Do you have generic products that you can share, or examples that you think others should see?**
- **What comes next? What are you preparing for looking a week, or a month down the road?**

You can submit questions and challenges that you want help with to: Brian Lambie, Redbrick Communications, covid19@amo.on.ca

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



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before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

Wish to Adjust your AMO Communication Preferences ? [Click Here](#)



Lesley Donnelly

From: FCM Communiqué <communiqu@fcm.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Brock General
Subject: Nominations to FCM's Board of Directors

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

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FCM March 26, 2020



COMMUNIQUÉ



Nominations to FCM's Board of Directors

Dear FCM members,

Each year, FCM's members elect their Board of Directors at our Annual General Meeting, as part of the Annual Conference.

Please be advised that FCM's Annual Conference event will be cancelled this year due to the ongoing concerns about CONVID-19. For more information about the cancellation of the event, please visit [FCM's website](#).

FCM is currently exploring options for delivering our Annual General Meeting and Board of Directors election through alternate means. Further information on changes

to the election process and timelines will be communicated as soon as they are available.

In the meantime, candidates are encouraged to continue submitting their nominations as per the process described on [FCM's website](#).

We understand that all our members are busy with COVID-19 response efforts right now. We also understand that some of you may have difficulty passing resolutions to complete your nomination if your Council is not meeting due to COVID-19. Please rest assured that we will take these realities into consideration and ensure that all interested candidates have a reasonable opportunity to participate in this year's election.

Please do not hesitate to send any questions to elections@fcm.ca or call us at 613-907-6222.

Thank you

Tim Kehoe
Chief Elections Officer



This newsletter was sent to brock@townshipofbrock.ca.
To opt-out, follow this link: [Unsubscribe](#)

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Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3
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fcm.ca



Ministry of Finance
Office of the Minister

Ministère des Finances
Bureau du ministre



7th Floor, Frost Building South
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Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Telephone: 416-325-0400

7^e étage, Édifice Frost Sud
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
Téléphone: 416-325-0400

Date:	27/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	CII
Copies to:	

March 25, 2020

Dear Head of Council:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all the work you are doing as local leaders in protecting the health and well-being of your communities. I am also writing to provide an update on the government's plan to respond to COVID-19, and the actions that we will be taking to further protect Ontarians.

Today, I released *Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19 (March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update)*. The government's action plan is a first step in its response to COVID-19, and includes \$7 billion in additional resources for the health care system and direct support for people, jobs and employers. We will also make available \$10 billion in support for people and businesses through tax and other deferrals to improve their cash flow, protecting jobs and household budgets.

This \$17 billion response is a critical first step to ensure our health care system, communities and economy are positioned to weather the challenges ahead.

During this challenging time, I understand that municipal governments need to focus their attention on critical public health initiatives and other efforts to manage the local response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The government has received input from municipal leaders, including AMO's president, that the reassessment should be delayed to provide much-needed stability to property owners and municipalities. That is why the government will also be postponing the property tax reassessment for 2021. This means that assessments for 2021 will continue to be based on the same valuation date that was in effect for 2020, providing stability for Ontario's property taxpayers and municipalities.

The Province recognizes that many residents and businesses are facing challenges in making their scheduled property tax payments. I understand that many municipalities are considering or have already announced plans to allow their residents and businesses to defer their property tax payments.

.../cont'd

- 2 -

In order to support and encourage these actions, the government is deferring the property tax payments that municipalities make to school boards by 90 days. This is consistent with requests that we have heard from a number of municipalities.

Deferring the upcoming quarterly (June 30) municipal remittance of education property tax to school boards by 90 days will provide municipalities the flexibility to, in turn, provide over \$1.8 billion in property tax deferrals to residents and businesses. In addition, the government is also deferring the following quarterly (September 30) municipal remittance of education property tax to school boards by 90 days.

As we work with our municipal partners to help stop the spread of COVID-19, we are providing nearly \$250 million of direct support that will assist municipalities in their efforts.

Further details on the property tax measures noted above will be provided to your municipal treasurers shortly through a letter from Allan Doheny, Assistant Deputy Minister, Provincial Local Finance Division.

The government is taking steps to lessen the burden for families, businesses and communities. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with municipalities as we enhance our efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, protect public health, support Ontario businesses and to weather the challenges ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rod Phillips', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rod Phillips
Minister of Finance

- c: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Greg Orencsak, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Allan Doheny, Assistant Deputy Minister, Provincial-Local Finance Division,
Ministry of Finance