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## AMO Watchfile - April 3, 2025

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From AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Date Thu 2025-04-03 10:02 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



April 03, 2025

- AMO's Guidance Resources on Electricity Procurements.
- Progress in Asset Management: Growth webinar.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Conversation on voter turnout, community engagement, and incivility at 2025 OSUM.
- Register for AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum - June 11, 2025.
- Join your colleagues at the AMO 2025 Conference.
- Opportunity to showcase your products and services at AMO 2025 Conference.
- Human Rights-Based Approach to Municipal Planning: May 8 virtual workshop.
- Advanced Strategies for Elected Officials to Master Conflict Relationships.
- Municipal Codes of Conduct: Essential to Good Governance: Virtual workshop.
- Boost resilience with the All-Risk Municipal Grant.
- Foundations for a Municipal Investment Strategy training.
- Facility assessments available through Canoe.
- Upcoming Net Zero Workshop register today.
- AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program.
- Call for participation: Zoning Changes Solutions Lab.
- Ontario Geothermal Association conference.
- Careers.

### AMO Matters

AMO has [developed resources](#) to help municipal decision makers considering electricity generation and storage projects protect residents, sensitive lands, and municipal finances while securing local benefits and supporting growth.

A panel of municipal practitioners will discuss how to integrate growth and housing considerations into long-term asset management planning. [Register for today's session](#) at 12 PM.

### Provincial Matters

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate a colleague](#) from your municipality by June 27,

### Education Opportunities

Join small urban leaders at the OSUM Conference in discussion about solutions to reversing current political and cultural trends: drop in voter turnout, contracting of municipal community outreach and civic engagement, and an increase in incivility. [Registration is open](#) and you can book your accommodations [here](#).

Registration is open for the AMO Rural Healthy Democracy Forum, in the Municipality of Mississippi Mills.

Partnering with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), this full-day event will bring together municipal and sector leaders, academics and experts for insightful discussions on the state of democracy in rural Ontario. [Register today!](#)

AMO 2025 is the premier opportunity to connect with your colleagues, provincial government, and suppliers for municipal services - all in support of your work as a locally elected official. [Register for AMO 2025](#) and [book your accommodations today](#).

Reach out to learn more about Exhibitor and Sponsorship opportunities for the 2025 conference in the City of Ottawa August 17-20. Our event provides you exposure to over 3,000 of Ontario's municipal leaders representing Ontario's 444 municipalities and a \$68 billion sector. Both the of these opportunities sell out fast. Click [here](#) to download the Exhibitor Package and [here](#) for the Sponsorship Package.

Learn how municipal planning can be enhanced by understanding impacts on human rights. This workshop provides insight into municipal decision making on policies and services that reflect the needs of the whole community and are legally sound. [Register for the May 8 Human Rights Based Approach to Municipal Planning workshop](#).

AMO's [Advanced Strategies for Elected Officials to Master Conflict Relationships](#) (NCR 2.0), building on the Navigating Conflict Relationships, will take you to the next level of in understanding and navigating relationships. This workshop will prepare attendees for difficult conversations that are guaranteed to lead to a positive conclusion and relationship.

AMO Education has developed a course that helps and guides municipal leaders in: developing or revitalizing existing codes of conduct. This work shop will assist in establishing buy-in or ownership at council on expectations on of ethical behaviour and how to ensure adherence, how to address and manage breaches and the role of Integrity Commissioners as a supporting resource. [Register for the May 14 Municipal Codes of Conduct workshop](#).

## **LAS**

Investing in Municipal Risk Resiliency - LAS and IPE are proud to promote the [All Risk Municipal Grant](#). This initiative recognizes and supports innovative risk management practices within Ontario municipalities.

Take some time to enhance your understanding of municipal investments. This [new on-demand training](#), which is perfect for municipal finance staff, will review the *Municipal Act* investment regulation, discuss current municipal finance challenges, and overview investment options available to the municipal sector.

Need a facility assessment to meet your Asset Management Plan requirements? The [Canoe Procurement Group's](#) approved supplier, [Roth IAMS](#) makes this process simple. [Contact Sarah](#) to learn more.

Build a net zero energy facility that will impact the bottom line of your organization. Join us for a [1-day in person workshop](#) on May 14 in Middlesex Centre (includes a tour of Canada's [Coldstream Net Zero Fire Hall](#)). Space is limited, so [register early](#).

## **Municipal Wire\***

The [AMCTO-Mitacs Municipal Innovation Internship Program](#) is a program that matches Ontario municipal governments with post-secondary students studying in Ontario. Municipalities can submit their project proposal(s) for consideration by May 9. The internship program will take place from January-August 2026.

Smart Density has received funding from CMHC Solutions Lab to assist municipal planning teams in [updating zoning policies](#) to enable affordable housing development on faith-based properties. Contact [info@smartdensity.com](mailto:info@smartdensity.com) to access Solutions Lab support.

The Ontario Geothermal Association is hosting a [conference May 21-22](#) with sessions about municipal geothermal programs. Municipal delegates can receive 20% off registration with discount code AMO.

## **Careers**

[Executive Director - Ontario Municipal Social Services Association \(OMSSA\)](#). Closing Date: April 22, 2025.

[Licensed Mechanic - Town of Oakville](#). Closing Date: April 13, 2025.

[Manager, Professional Practice & Client Experience - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: April 9, 2025.

[Finance Coordinator, Budget and Final Planning - City of Kawartha Lakes](#). Closing Date: April 6, 2025.

[Director of Legislative Services/Clerk - Township of Tiny](#). Closing Date: April 18, 2025.

[Communications Manager - Bruce County](#). Closing Date: April 14, 2025.

[Government Relations Manager - Bruce County](#). Closing Date: April 14, 2025.

[Director, Strategy Transformation and Organizational Performance - City of Richmond Hill](#). Closing Date: April 20, 2025.

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#### 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!

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#### AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

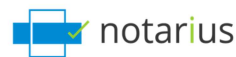
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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

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## Update on AMO's Advocacy on Development Charges

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From Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario <no-reply@mfoa.on.ca>

Date Fri 2025-04-04 3:57 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



Hello ,

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## Municipal & Development Sector Collaboration on Development Charges Reform

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This email is to provide MFOA members with an update on new AMO advocacy on development charges, and a communication they sent to their members today.

Please feel to reach out to Colin Macdonald ([colin@mfoa.on.ca](mailto:colin@mfoa.on.ca)), or Karen Nesbitt at AMO ([knesbitt@amo.on.ca](mailto:knesbitt@amo.on.ca)) with any questions.

Ontario's housing crisis persists, with housing starts continuing to lag. All partners in Ontario's housing system – including municipalities and developers – must do their part and find new ways to increase housing supply.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) evolving approach to this important issue is informed by:

- Ontario's persistent housing supply shortage, exacerbating affordability challenges. Tariffs and trade measures could continue to impact housing starts, creating additional urgency.
- Municipal development charges (DCs) and planning approvals continue to be unfairly blamed for the crisis. Both federal and provincial governments have committed to reducing DCs.
- A shifting approach to development sector advocacy. In January, the Ontario Home Builders Association (OHBA)/BILD released a [study](#) that recognized DCs as essential for growth, and advocated for targeted DC modernization as opposed to blanket reductions.

To build momentum for constructive and informed progress, AMO and OHBA have partnered to call for DC reform that is mutually agreeable. AMO and OHBA [wrote to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#) to identify preliminary areas for reform to be considered collaboratively by homebuilding, provincial, and municipal partners. A cross-sector expert working group could recommend targeted and measured DC reform aimed at reducing housing production barriers and increasing clarity and predictability around DCs.

AMO consulted municipal finance experts to identify potential areas for reform. While the letter initiates the desired discussion, much work remains to be done. AMO has invited the Municipal Finance Officers' Association (MFOA) and their DC expert table to support discussion. Their participation will be key in assessing impacts on municipal property taxes and user fees, informing recommendations that promote affordability by considering the total cost of homeownership.

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## Our Sponsors

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**Contact Us:**

Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario  
2169 Queen Street East, 2nd Floor  
Toronto, Ontario, M4L 1J1  
Tel.: (416) 362-9001  
Fax: (416) 362-9226

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## AMO Policy Update - New Advocacy on Development Charges, Buy-Canadian & Buy-Ontario Initiatives, and Codes of Conduct

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From AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Date Fri 2025-04-04 2:38 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



# AMO Policy Update – New Advocacy on Development Charges, Buy-Canadian & Buy-Ontario Initiatives, and Codes of Conduct

## Municipal & Development Sector Collaboration on Development Charges Reform

Ontario's housing crisis persists, with housing starts continuing to lag. All partners in Ontario's housing system – including municipalities and developers – must do their part and find new ways to increase housing supply.

AMO's evolving approach to this important issue is informed by:

- Ontario's persistent housing supply shortage, exacerbating affordability challenges. Tariffs and trade measures could continue to impact housing starts, creating additional urgency.
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AMO consulted municipal finance experts to identify potential areas for reform. While the letter initiates the desired discussion, much work remains to be done. AMO has invited the Municipal Finance Officers Association (MFOA) and their DC expert table to support discussion. Their participation will be key in assessing impacts on municipal property taxes and user fees, informing recommendations that promote affordability by considering the total cost of homeownership.

## Results of AMO Survey on Municipal Procurement from US

To help inform policy discussions around banning US suppliers from participating in government procurement, AMO has conducted a survey of municipalities regarding non-construction procurement and is releasing [a summary of the survey results](#).

Municipalities reported that over 98% of their procurement is from companies with Canadian addresses, but many of those businesses are integrated with the US market. US procurement was primarily for goods and services without Canadian alternatives, and needed to deliver essential services including:

- IT and communications products
- Emergency services equipment and medical supplies
- Heavy machinery and vehicles
- Health and safety including chemicals and equipment for water treatment.

AMO will continue to provide guidance to the province on how municipalities can support provincial buy-Canadian and buy-Ontario initiatives without impacting essential service delivery.

## AMO Advocacy on Code of Conduct Legislation

[AMO wrote to Minister Flack](#) urging the government to reintroduce code of conduct legislation with two recommended amendments:

- **Removal of office vote requirement should be adjusted from unanimous to a supermajority (2/3 vote).** A vote to remove an elected municipal official from office is different than a regular council vote and should have a higher threshold, but given the other checks and balances built into the process a unanimous vote is too high a threshold.
- **The legislation should include a progressive range of discipline options for integrity commissioners.** The province should use the penalty framework established under the *Education Act* in 2023, including censure of a member,



barring attendance at meetings, barring a member from sitting on committees,  
and barring a member from being chair or vice chair of committees

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## Advocacy Update: Expansion of Strong Mayor Powers

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From AMCTO | The Municipal Experts <amcto@amcto.com>

Date Wed 2025-04-09 2:17 PM

To Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>

Update on the latest Ontario Government announcement regarding strong mayor powers

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



[About AMCTO](#) | [Professional Growth](#) | [Advocacy & Policy](#) | [Network & Community](#)



## Advocacy Update

Learn more about our work as we advocate on behalf of AMCTO members

April 9, 2025

## Expansion of Strong Mayor Powers

Today the Ontario Government [announced that it will be expanding strong mayor powers](#) to the heads of council of an [additional 169 municipalities](#) effective May 1, 2025. This represents single and lower tier municipalities with municipal councils of six members or more.

This change will be made through a regulatory amendment to O. Reg. 530/22 which is [available for comment](#) until April 16. Unlike previous expansions of the regulation, it does not appear that municipalities will be required to commit to a housing pledge in order to be granted the powers.

While the government continues to justify the expansion of strong mayor powers as a tool to build housing, there is no evidence to suggest this legislation has any impact on the number of housing starts in municipalities that have been granted the powers.

Alternatively, [our research](#) indicates that strong mayor powers have blurred the political-administrative authority between the roles of head of council and chief administrative officers (CAOs), threatening the neutrality of the public service and politicizing local government leadership. As an Association, we [continue to voice our opposition](#) to strong mayor legislation, calling specifically for the removal of the authority of heads of council to directly hire or terminate any municipal staff, including the CAO.

We know that this announcement represents additional administrative and operational burden for our members. Our policy and advocacy team will be continuing to monitor the expansion of this legislation and its impacts on affected municipalities and staff across the province. As an Association, we are committed to providing support to you, our members, and those municipal staff who may be affected. Please stay tuned for further information to come.

For more information or questions, please [contact our advocacy team](#).

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**AMCTO | The Municipal Experts**

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(905) 602-4294 | [amcto.com](http://amcto.com)

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## AMO Watchfile - April 10, 2025

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From AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Date Thu 2025-04-10 10:06 AM

To Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>



April 10, 2025

- AMO's Guidance Resources on Electricity Procurements.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Limited space available for AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum: June 11.
- AMO's Municipal Trade and Tariff Forum: June 6 in Toronto.
- Join your colleagues at the AMO 2025 Conference.
- AMO 2025 Conference trade show - selling out fast!!!
- Leveraging Resources for Results in Affordable Housing - OSUM Conference 2025.
- Human Rights-Based Approach to Municipal Planning: May 8 virtual workshop.
- Understanding Competing Human Rights: May 13 virtual workshop.
- Strategies for Elected Officials to Master Conflict Relationships virtual workshop.
- Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 line-up.
- Meet Canoe's newest Canadian supplier: Home Hardware.
- On April 15, unlock savings with our new partnership with HealthPRO Canada.
- April 28: Pioneering digital change in small communities: Insights & Experiences.
- BPS energy reporting season is underway.
- Group Benefits webinar recording.
- Boost resilience with the All-Risk Municipal Grant.
- Upcoming Net Zero Workshop register today.
- May 7 webinar: Investing in an uncertain market: The Prudent Investor's Playbook.
- Shaping your community's energy future workshop.
- Careers.

### AMO Matters

AMO has [developed resources](#) to help municipal decision makers considering electricity generation and storage projects protect residents, sensitive lands, and municipal finances while securing local benefits and supporting growth.

### Provincial Matters

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate a colleague](#) from your municipality by June 27,

### Education Opportunities

Partnering with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum will bring together municipal and sector leaders, academics and experts for insightful discussions on the state of democracy in rural Ontario. [Register today](#) as there is **limited space available**.

In this unprecedented time, AMO is holding a forum on tariff and trade disruptions, their impact on Ontario municipalities and business sector, and how municipalities and business can seize new opportunities to

improve economic resiliency and mitigate the impact of tariffs. [Register today.](#)

AMO's 2025 Annual Conference is back in Ottawa. In this unprecedented time, coming together with municipal and provincial and key sector partners is more important than ever. [Register for AMO 2025](#) and [book your accommodations today.](#)

Connect with over 3,000 of Ontario's municipal leaders representing Ontario's 444 municipalities and a \$68 billion sector at the AMO 2025 Conference in Ottawa this August. Click [here](#) to download the Exhibitor Package and [here](#) for the Sponsorship Package. Limited space available.

Join your colleagues in hearing how the Town of Collingwood is turning challenges into bold actions to transform housing options in their community. [Register for OSUM 2025 Conference today.](#)

Land use planning is a complicated matter. AMO's workshop provides an opportunity to consider planning decisions from a human centred approach and issues you may not be aware of. [Register for the May 8 Human Rights Based Approach to Municipal Planning workshop.](#)

AMO and Hicks Morley have developed training to support municipal elected officials and council in understanding their obligations related to human rights and understanding how to manage seemingly competing human rights. [Register for this important Competing Rights May 13 workshop.](#)

Advanced Strategies for Elected Officials to Master Conflict Relationships is the next step for elected official to master handling more complex situations. If you completed AMO Education's Navigating Conflict Relationships workshop, [register today](#) to explore how to prepare for difficult conversations with tools for positive results.

ROMA in partnership with the Minister of Rural Affairs, are happy to share the 2025 Teeny Tiny Summit line-up. These compelling events are designed with innovation in mind for Ontario's rural communities. Registration and information is available for the Summit in [Manitouwadge](#) and [Prince Edward County.](#)

## LAS

Home Hardware stores are locally owned and genuinely Canadian. They are also [Canoe Procurement Group's](#) newest vendor for building supplies. For your hardware and lumber needs, shop local! [Contact Carol Crystal](#), VP Merchandise at Home Hardware to learn more.

You are invited to a free webinar on April 15: [Introduction to HealthPRO Canada: Partnering for Better Healthcare & Lower Costs](#), which will help you gain a deeper understanding on how you can enhance healthcare services in your municipality while driving substantial cost reductions.

Small and rural municipalities face unique challenges in digital transformation, from limited resources to the need for solutions tailored to their communities. [Join a fireside chat](#) with our Barrier-Free Website service partner and municipalities that will share their experiences leading their municipalities through the redesign and launch of new websites. Whether you're a municipal leader, IT professional, or policymaker, this discussion will provide actionable takeaways to help guide your own digital journey.

The BPS Reporting season is in full swing. Municipalities must report their 2024 energy consumption by July 1 under [O.Reg 25/23](#). Contact [bpssupport@ontario.ca](mailto:bpssupport@ontario.ca) for more information. If you are an [EPT subscriber](#), this information can be easily downloaded from our software and uploaded to the portal. If you also use our [natural gas](#) or [electricity programs](#), this data has been automatically imported into EPT - no data entry required.

Check out our recent [Group Benefits webinar](#) to learn about the advantages and cost savings opportunity with the LAS Group Benefits service, including updates about what is driving the cost of employee group benefit plans.

Investing in Municipal Risk Resiliency - LAS and IPE are proud to promote the [All Risk Municipal Grant](#). This initiative recognizes and supports innovative risk management practices within Ontario municipalities.

Build a net zero energy facility that will impact the bottom line of your organization. Join us for a [1-day in person workshop](#) on May 14 in Middlesex Centre (includes a tour of Canada's [Coldstream Net Zero Fire Hall](#)). Space is limited, so [register early.](#)



## ONE Investment

In a time of continuing market fluctuation and political change, investors should maintain a thoughtful long-term investment strategy. [Join us on May 7](#) for a timely update on current market challenges/opportunities, both nationally and internationally, with time for discussion with PH&N Institutional, investment manager for ONE's Prudent Investment offering.

## Municipal Wire\*

Pollution Probe and QUEST Canada are hosting workshops on April 23 and 30 to develop a framework to ensure rural and remote communities can benefit from low-carbon energy innovation. [Register online!](#)

## Careers

[Director, Information Technology Services - The District Municipality of Muskoka](#). Closing Date: April 23, 2025.

[Manager, Financial Planning and Policy - The District Municipality of Muskoka](#). Closing Date: April 16, 2025.

[Executive Director of Pollution Control/ Deputy City Engineer - City of Windsor](#). Closing Date: May 16, 2025.

[General Manager, Community Safety & Wellness - Haldimand County](#). Closing Date: April 25, 2025.

[Planning Program Supervisor, Growth Policy & Analysis - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: April 25, 2025.

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## About AMO

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## AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

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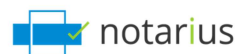
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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

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## Municipal Codes of Conduct: Essential to Good Governance

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From AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>

Date Wed 2025-04-09 10:02 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



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## ***Municipal Codes of Conduct: Essential to Good Governance***

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Municipal Codes of Conduct are extremely valuable for local councils to establish a general standard to ensure that all Members of Council share a common basis for acceptable conduct, and to which all Members are expected to adhere to and comply with.

As AMO and municipalities await provincial direction, your Association has developed a course that helps and guides municipal leaders in:

- developing or revitalizing your existing code of conduct,
- establish buy-in or ownership at council,
- developing expectations on ethical behaviour and how to ensure adherence,
- how to address and manage breaches, Integrity Commissioners as a supporting resource and so much more.

This training will be delivered by a leading Ontario lawyer in the municipal sphere including in that of integrity commissioners.

**Space is limited.** See full workshop details [here](#).

**Date:** May 14, 2025

**Timing:** 10:00am -12:00pm

**Location:** Virtual Event

- \$485 +HST(Individual registration only. For group rates, contact events@amo.on.ca)
- \$75 +HST cancellation fee

Register Here

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## 2025 Membership Special Offering

AMO has grown its education offerings, recognizing this, for 2025 we are offering half price registration fees for all workshops above the first two registration. If you are eligible contact Lora Tigno at [ltigno@amo.on.ca](mailto:ltigno@amo.on.ca).

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Inquires: [events@amo.on.ca](mailto:events@amo.on.ca)

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## AMO Policy Update - Expanding Strong Mayor Powers, Improving Ambulance Procurement

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From AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Date Thu 2025-04-10 12:08 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



# AMO Policy Update – Expanding Strong Mayor Powers, Improving Ambulance Procurement

## Province Expanding Strong Mayor Powers

Yesterday, the province [announced the expansion of strong mayor powers](#) to another 169 municipalities as of May 1, 2025. The extension of the additional authority is intended to assist with delivering on provincial priorities, including building more homes, transit and infrastructure across Ontario.

Strong mayor powers were originally introduced in 2022 and then expanded in 2023. At the time, the AMO Board did not take a position on strong mayor powers but expressed openness to the idea. It did express concerns with some aspects of the legislation – particularly those affecting public administration – and recommended public consultation before continued expansion of the new powers to additional municipal councils. AMO also expressed concern with the provision eliminating the need for majority council support for certain decisions related to provincial priorities.

As the most trusted order of government, AMO knows municipalities can be counted on to exercise new powers accountably and in the best interests of the public and the communities they serve.

## Improving Ambulance Procurement in Ontario



AMO has been a vocal advocate that the cost and timelines to get ambulances on the road are putting Ontarians at a disadvantage. The province is taking action to address these concerns and has certified a Canadian manufacturer to produce ambulances for the Ontario market. Ontario's municipalities are proud to deliver paramedic services across the province. More competition in the market will help ensure communities can deliver high-quality emergency care on time and cost effectively for years to come.

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*This Policy Update is also on the [AMO Website](#).*

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**Correction: AMO Policy Update – response to the Speech from the Throne and launch of health sector survey**

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From AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Date Wed 2025-04-16 7:47 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



## **AMO Policy Update - AMO responds to the Speech from the Throne and launches health sector survey**

*Correction: This Policy Update now contains the correct list of points under the Bill 2 section.*

### **AMO Responds to the Speech from the Throne**

Yesterday, the Lieutenant Governor delivered the Speech from the Throne, opening the first session of the 44th Parliament of Ontario.

Key commitments relevant to the municipal sector include:

- Removing inter-provincial trade barriers to recognize inter-provincial labour force credentials and improve free trade within Canada.
- Advancing mega-projects like pipelines, railways, highways, airports, seaports while at the same time committing to “historic” investments in housing-enabling municipal infrastructure
- Investing in other transportation infrastructure including a tunnel under Highway 401, expanding subway and GO train service, and resuming the Northlander passenger train.
- Introducing new legislation to expedite approvals processes for the Ring of Fire and other areas likely to have multiple critical deposits while building new processing capacity in Northern Ontario.

- Further streamlining environmental assessments and evolving Conservation Authorities' role.
- Investing in energy production, transmission and storage, including new nuclear capacity.
- Working with municipalities to lower Development Charge fees. Also standardizing and increasing transparency in Development Charge fees, study requirements, and Building Code permit approvals.
- Re-introducing encampment legislation and using whatever legal tools might be needed to end encampments.
- Connecting all Ontarians to primary care within the next four years and invest billions in hospital and long-term care expansion.

AMO will continue to closely review all proposed legislation and new government announcements for municipal impacts. In particular, AMO will continue work with the provincial government on key municipal interests, including:

- New investments in municipal infrastructure and social housing as the best ways to stimulate the economy and save Ontario jobs.
- Predictable and sustainable long-term funding sources for municipal infrastructure, including development charges.
- Determining how requirements to use Ontario and Canadian construction materials will impact municipal infrastructure projects.

## **AMO Launches Municipal Health Survey**

Building on the successful release of our homelessness report earlier this year, AMO is continuing to expand our focus on evidence-based advocacy with the launch of a survey to understand the challenges municipalities face around access to health.

We know many municipalities are filling gaps in the health care system with significant investments from the property tax base. To better understand this evolving challenge, AMO is conducting a survey of Ontario municipalities about the specific contributions you are making to health services in your communities.

Heads of Council and municipal treasurers have received an email with more information shortly. The success of the project is dependent upon the gaining insights from all municipalities in Ontario. For more information about the project, please contact Daniela Spagnuolo, Policy Advisor at [dspagnuolo@amo.on.ca](mailto:dspagnuolo@amo.on.ca).

## **Intake Launch for \$175M Health and Safety Water Program**

The province is launching [Health and Safety Water Stream](#) applications on April 17. This infrastructure program aims to address aging water infrastructure and protect communities from extreme weather events. AMO and MOI will be hosting webinar for the municipal sector to support strong applications in the coming weeks. This is one of the few provincial infrastructure programs that focuses on asset renewal.

## Ontario Introduces Procurement Restriction Policy

The province has released a [Procurement Restriction Policy](#) which applies to provincial ministries, agencies, Ontario Power Generation, the IESO, and broader public sector organizations subject to the BPS Procurement Directive. This policy requires affected organizations to exclude US businesses from procurements unless the procurement cannot be delayed, and a US business is the only viable source for the good/service. Notably, subsidiaries of US businesses are captured by this policy if they have fewer than 250 full-time employees in Canada.

While this policy does not apply to municipalities, it is responsive to AMO's call for the province to provide clarity on the intent and scope of the province's approach to banning US suppliers from government procurement.

## Ontario Introduces Bill 2 – *Protect Ontario Through Free Trade Within Canada Act*

On April 16, Premier Ford was joined by Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston and New Brunswick Premier Susan Holt [to announce the introduction of a bill](#) intended to reduce inter-provincial trade barriers, and make it easier for skilled workers from other provinces to work in Ontario. The proposed legislation would:

- Remove Ontario's exceptions under the Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- Enable mutual recognition of goods and services regulated by other provinces and territories as acceptable for sale and use within Ontario
- Remove labour mobility barriers to allow skilled workers – including health care workers - certified in other provinces and territories to begin work in Ontario “as of right” while completing a streamlined registration process

The province will also begin consultations to allow American health professionals such as doctors and nurses to work in Ontario under the same “as of right” rules. As part of the announcement, Minister Fedeli announced a new \$50 million [Ontario Together Trade Fund](#) to help Ontario's businesses re-shore critical supply chains, and develop new markets.

AMO will continue to work closely with the province to ensure that Ontario's residents, communities, and industry leave this time of uncertainty even stronger and more economically resilient.

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*This Policy Update is also available on the [AMO Website](#).*

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## AMO Policy Update – Spring Policy Priorities

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From AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>

Date Wed 2025-04-23 6:40 PM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



## AMO Policy Update – Spring Policy Priorities

### AMO 2025 Pre-Budget Update: New Economic Reality Demands Partnership and Strategic Investment

The global landscape and our economic conditions have fundamentally changed since AMO launched its [2025 Pre-Budget Submission](#) in January. We now face an unprecedented threat to our economy and sovereignty, and overcoming it requires a strong and united front. Today, AMO is pleased to announce its [2025 Pre-Budget Update](#) which calls for a stimulus investment in municipal infrastructure of \$3.45 billion annually over the next five years to:

- keep in-flight municipal capital projects on track,
- accelerate planned municipal infrastructure projects, and
- develop and repair up to 20,000 new social housing units in communities across Ontario.

This work is supported by a [new macroeconomic analysis report](#) that AMO commissioned from Oxford Economics. The report provides insights into the impacts of tariffs on Ontario, its industries, and its municipalities' finances, helping municipalities navigate uncertain times. The report also models the positive impacts of stimulus, providing a basis for AMO's updated pre-budget submission.

Ontario's municipalities are strongest when they speak with one voice. AMO has provided [key messages and social media cards](#) to help interested members amplify its stimulus request in the face of economic downturn.

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*This Policy Update is also available on the [AMO Website](#).*

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\*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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## AMO Watchfile - April 24, 2025

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From AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>

Date Thu 2025-04-24 10:03 AM

To info@huronkinloss.com <info@huronkinloss.com>



April 24, 2025

- AMO's Guidance Resources on Electricity Procurements.
- NEW Health and Safety Water Stream fund - webinar.
- 2025 Senior of the Year nominations.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Join the timely conversation on democracy: AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum.
- Join your colleagues at the AMO 2025 Conference.
- Submit your application for the PJ Marshall Awards.
- Before you know it, it's August! AMO 2025 Conference trade show selling out fast!
- Teeny Tiny Summits 2025 line-up - Registration is open.
- AMO Trade and Tariff Forum - June 6.
- OSUM Conference 2025: Rebuilding our Political Culture.
- Planning for people in your community: May 8 virtual workshop.
- Net Zero Workshops: Spaces still available.
- Homelessness Encampments and Human Rights Webinar.
- Modernization of Rail Proximity Guidelines.
- Workshop: Shaping your community's energy future.
- Ontario Bike Summit.
- Careers.

### AMO Matters

AMO has [developed resources](#) to help municipal decision makers considering electricity generation and storage projects protect residents, sensitive lands, and municipal finances while securing local benefits and supporting growth.

### Provincial Matters

Apply for Ontario's new [Health and Safety Water Stream fund](#) to help municipalities and First Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. [Register for the April 29](#) informational webinar.

The Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility invites municipalities to submit nominations for the [2025 Senior of the Year Award](#) which honours a local senior's contributions to the community. Submit nominations by April 30.

Nominations are open for the Lieutenant Governor's Medal of Distinction in Public Administration, Ontario's highest honour for public service. [Nominate a colleague](#) from your municipality by June 27,

### Education Opportunities

Partnering with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), AMO's Rural Healthy Democracy Forum will bring together municipal and sector leaders, academics and experts for insightful discussions on the

state of democracy in rural Ontario. [Register today](#) as there is **limited space available**.

AMO's 2025 Annual Conference is back in Ottawa. In this unprecedented time, coming together with municipal and provincial and key sector partners is more important than ever. [Register for AMO 2025](#) and [book your accommodations today](#).

The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Award celebrates municipal governments in Ontario that implement new and innovative ways to make public services, facilities, and infrastructure better for Ontarians. View full details [here](#).

Connect with over 3,000 of Ontario's municipal leaders representing Ontario's 444 municipalities and a \$68 billion sector at the AMO 2025 Conference in Ottawa this August. Click [here](#) to download the Exhibitor Package and [here](#) for the Sponsorship Package. Limited space available.

ROMA in partnership with the Minister of Rural Affairs, are happy to share the 2025 Teeny Tiny Summit line-up. These compelling events are designed with innovation in mind for Ontario's rural communities. Registration and information is available for the Summit in [Manitouwadge](#) and [Prince Edward County](#).

In this unprecedented time, AMO is holding a forum on tariff and trade disruptions, their impact on Ontario municipalities and business sector, and how municipalities and business can seize new opportunities to improve economic resiliency and mitigate the impact of tariffs. [Register today](#).

Join the OSUM Executive and your municipal colleagues in a thought provoking and timely discussion on the current influences and dynamics of leadership. Hear from Jordan Simmons, Co-Founder and CEO of Nominee on *The Canada We Want: Reflections on the Path Forward*. [Register for OSUM 2025 Conference today](#).

Land use planning is a complicated matter. This workshop equips councillors with the skills and knowledge necessary to secure funding, build community trust, ensure legal compliance, drive local economic growth and more. [Register for the May 8 Unlocking Opportunity through Understanding Human Rights Based Approach to Municipal Planning workshop](#).

## **LAS**

Discover how municipalities can cut energy costs and save money by transitioning to net zero buildings at the [Coldstream Net Zero Fire Hall](#) workshop on May 14 ([in-person](#)) and June 18 ([virtual](#)). Don't miss a building walkthrough a net zero fire hall.

## **Municipal Wire\***

AMO is supporting a webinar hosted by the Canadian Urban Institute and The Shift about applying a human rights lens to homeless encampments. To participate on April 30th at 12 noon, please [register](#) in advance.

The Railway Association of Canada is updating the [2013 Proximity Guidelines](#) to enhance safety, sustainability, and community well-being in rail adjacent developments. [Provide your feedback](#) though their survey on the guidelines.

Pollution Probe and QUEST Canada are hosting workshops on [April 30](#) to develop a framework to ensure rural and remote communities can benefit from low-carbon energy innovation.

The [Ontario Bike Summit](#), Canada's largest cycling and active transportation conference, will be in Windsor from May 27-29. Be inspired by success stories including enhancing infrastructure and design, citizen safety and economic development.

## **Careers**

[Project Coordinator, Zero Emission Mobility - City of Brampton](#). Closing Date: May 12, 2025.

[Manager of Development Services - King Township](#). Closing Date: May 20, 2025.

[Economic Development Officer - County of Simcoe](#). Closing Date: May 9, 2025.

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## 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!

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## AMO Contacts

[AMO Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

[Conferences/Events](#)

[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

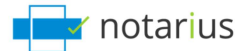
[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#)

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

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