

**From:** AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** May 29, 2025 5:25 PM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update – Province Introduces Bill 30



## Policy Update - Province Introduces Bill 30

### Province Introduces Bill 30, *Working For Workers Seven Act, 2025*

Yesterday, the Ontario government tabled its seventh [Working for Workers Act](#) (Bill 30). While the stated objective of supporting workers amidst potential job losses arising from the US-Canada trade dynamic is noted, one of its proposals raises significant concerns -- exempting Skills Development Fund Capital Stream-supported capital projects from the requirements of *The Municipal Act* and *The Planning Act*.

Earlier exemptions from municipal planning approvals, such as those related to public universities and "community service facilities" like K-12 schools, hospitals, and long-term care homes are aimed to expedite planning for public entities. Bill 30, however, marks a significant shift by:

- Extending expedited planning processes and exemptions from municipal authorities to private entities without the robust

accountability and regulatory frameworks that characterize broader public sector bodies, solely by virtue of their qualification to access a source of provincial funding with broad eligibility; and

- Going beyond exemptions to *The Planning Act* to include exemptions to *The Municipal Act*. These powers could allow for waivers from municipal bylaws, including those related to property tax, development charges, and other local requirements with no clear purpose or rationale.

The cumulative impact of what is now the proposed ability of four separate Ministers to override municipal land use planning and other authorities also raises significant concern by increasing the likelihood of unintended consequences and diffuse accountability. Currently before the legislature are proposals to provide powers to:

- The Minister of Infrastructure to use Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs) to override *The Planning Act* as part of Bill 17;
- The Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade to create Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to override *The Planning Act* and *The Municipal Act* as part of Bill 5; and
- The Minister of Labour, Immigration, Skills and Training to override *The Planning Act* and *The Municipal Act* for those in receipt of capital funding from the Skills Development Fund under Bill 30.

AMO continues to support the need for bold and innovative action to respond to unprecedented economic challenges. However, the threat of tariffs cannot be used to justify any and all proposals to override provincial and municipal laws. AMO will continue to analyze the proposal and seek opportunities to provide commentary to the legislature.

*An online version of this Policy Update is available on the [AMO Website](#).*

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**From:** AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** June 6, 2025 6:04 PM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Bill 46, Bill 10 and Supporting Public Safety Workers



## **Policy Update - Bill 46, Bill 10 and Supporting Public Safety Workers**

### **Bill 46, *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025***

Yesterday, the government tabled its newest red tape reduction bill. The bill and additional communications [backgrounder](#) include a number of initiatives of interest to the municipal sector including:

- Commitment to explore changes to strengthen the Strong Mayor Framework following the recent expansion to 170 more municipalities.
- Proposed amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* and *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to allow for online posting of annual municipal audited financial statements.
- Permitting DSSABs to apply for Infrastructure Ontario's Loan Program, a long-supported AMO initiative that will help build more local infrastructure.
- MAG and MMAH will explore opportunities for Landlord Tenant Board reform to reduce delays and backlogs at the Landlord and Tenant Board.
- Following Indigenous and stakeholder consultations, phased updates to archaeological assessment standards and guidelines to streamline reporting and shorten review timelines.
- Implementing changes to make it easier for municipalities to establish red light camera programs.
- Streamlining Community Safety Grant programs to make it easier for small and medium sized police services to access funding for public safety initiatives.



- Commitment to expect the Canada Disability Benefit from being counted as income for ODSP, Ontario Works, and Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities program recipients. AMO has advocated for this action.
- Speeding up permitting to secure land for mine development as well as committing to review the *Mining Act* mining leases term length.
- Commitment to explore municipally-administered private financing for clean energy projects, a voluntary tool supporting economic and housing growth.
- Committed to tabling a carbon management framework that will accelerate the use of new technologies to reduce industry's carbon footprint.
- Revisions to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*'s blue box requirements to cut producer costs (e.g., lower collection targets), improve data collection, and ensure small business collection continues.

### **Bill 10, *Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act*, Implications for Municipal Landlords**

[AMO sent a letter](#) to the government and a [submission](#) to provide advice about the implementation of *Bill 10, Protect Ontario Through Safer Streets and Stronger Communities Act, 2025*, specifically with respect to Schedule 8: *Measures Respecting Premises with Illegal Drug Activity Act, 2025*. Bill 10 was passed by the legislature. However, there is an opportunity to support the development of future regulations and guidance materials to landlords.

The legislation has implications for residential and commercial landlords, including municipalities and District Social Service Administration Boards of community housing, supportive housing and potentially emergency shelters for the homeless. It would hold landlords to account for illegal drug trafficking and production in their buildings.

AMO supports increased public safety measures to better protect tenants in buildings addressing illegal and predatory behaviour. However, we want to ensure that there are no unintended consequences, no undue burdens and risks to municipal landlords. Further consultation is called for to address these concerns.

### **Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant Application Now Open**

Warrior Health has now launched their [digital portal](#) and [grant applications](#). Warrior Health is a partnership between the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Wounded Warriors Canada to provide public safety personnel and their families with specialized services and supports. Warrior Health includes free core services and fee-for-service programs that public safety organizations can purchase. Grant applications are now open until June 27. Please email [mh.secretariat@ontario.ca](mailto:mh.secretariat@ontario.ca) if you have any questions.

Learn more about Warrior Health at the AMO Conference where Matthew Pegg, Warrior Health's COO will be featured as part of a plenary session on Innovative Approaches to Supporting Mental Health, Addictions and Supportive Housing.

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**Kelly Lush**

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**From:** AMCTO | The Municipal Experts <amcto@amcto.com>  
**Sent:** June 10, 2025 9:35 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** Advocacy Update: Meeting with Minister Flack at the 2025 Conference

A recap of our meeting with Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in Windsor, Ontario

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## Advocacy Update

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

June 10, 2025

## AMCTO Board Members Meet with Minister Flack at 2025 Conference

On Monday June 9, AMCTO Executive Director, David Arbuckle, President Paul Shipway, Vice President Danielle Manton, Past President Stephen O'Brien and AMCTO policy and government relations staff met with Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Robert Flack and Windsor-Tecumseh MPP Andrew Dowie. This was the first opportunity to meet with the minister since his appointment in March.

In addition to the meeting, we were pleased that Minister Flack attended our 2025 AMCTO Conference, providing opening remarks to delegates.

Together we discussed:

- AMCTO's willingness to collaborate on updates to the *Municipal Elections Act* and the need for the Act to be modernized before the 2030 elections.
- Continuous improvements to accountability and transparency frameworks including within Bill 9, *Municipal Accountability Act, 2025*, especially with respect to municipal staff protections.
- Support at the cabinet table for modernization of the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA).
- Workplace culture, recruitment and retention challenges resulting from the expansion and implementation of strong mayor powers.

Our conversation was productive and the minister was open to collaboration. Some takeaways from the conversation:

- On strong mayors, we asked for clarification of the recent announcement (see below) on strong mayors within the Red Tape Reduction Package. The minister communicated that while strong mayor powers are here to stay, he wants to listen and learn and have constructive conversations on areas of improvement.
- The minister recognized that updates to the *Municipal Elections Act* would need to come after the 2026 cycle and expressed his willingness to work towards modernizing the Act to make it more responsive and streamlined for voters, candidates and administrators.
- On the proposed Bill 9, *Municipal Accountability Act*, we plan to attend Standing Committee hearings, which the minister also encouraged, and expressed willingness to receive feedback.

## Strong Mayor Announcement in Red Tape Reduction Package

With respect to strong mayor powers, the Government introduced Bill 46, *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025* — the annual red tape reduction bill on June 4, 2025.

In the **backgrounder**, the Government signaled that it is “exploring changes in response to the most recent expansion of the strong mayor framework” that saw an additional 170 municipalities given the powers.

At the time of the announcement, we clarified with the ministry that there were no immediate legislative or regulatory changes to the framework. However, we understood that the package presents an opportunity to provide feedback to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing about the strong mayor powers in their communities to inform any future action. That was confirmed by the minister during our meeting.

## Next Steps

Our team has already been compiling a new list of implementation questions and other comments for the ministry related to our opposition of the powers and concerns as they apply to municipal staff (including the chief administrative officer) **just as we had back in 2023**.

As an Association, we continue to advocate for the municipal profession and continue making progress on our **Issue Profile** on behalf of members. We were pleased to have this opportunity to speak with the minister. We will continue to engage the ministry and broader provincial Government over the coming months including at the 2025 AMO Conference where we have made delegations requests.

For more information or questions, please **contact our policy and advocacy team** and subscribe to our **policy blog** for the latest policy updates.

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**AMCTO | The Municipal Experts**

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**Sent:** June 12, 2025 10:01 AM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** AMO Watchfile - June 12, 2025



June 12, 2025

**In This Issue:**

- Get access to MIDAS!
- Ontario launches Trade-Impacted Communities Program.
- BPS energy reporting deadline July 1.
- Health and Safety Water Stream fund.
- Nominations open for Medal of Distinction in Public Administration.
- Understanding and Managing Gen Z Potential in the Municipal Workplace webinar.
- Ontario's premier municipal event - AMO 2025 Conference - Register today.
- AMO Guide to Delegation Meetings: Be prepared for your ministerial delegations.
- AMO Trade and Tariff Forum - October 24.
- New episode! AMO/OMAA webinar series on the Mayor-CAO Relationship.
- Upcoming AMO education workshops on leadership.
- Learn about our latest service.
- Foundations for a Municipal Investment Strategy training.
- Asset management and work order software.
- Reducing Winter Salt Limited Liability webinar.
- Warrior Health Digital Portal and Grant application now open!
- OurCare survey open until July 9.
- Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program coming to Ontario.
- Careers.

**AMO Matters**

MIDAS - the [Municipal Information & Data Analysis System](#) - provides access to the Financial Information Returns (FIRs) data to all Ontario municipalities. MIDAS converts FIR data into meaningful reports and identifies multiple year trends. For access, municipal elected officials and municipal staff can email [MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca](mailto:MIDASAdmin@amo.on.ca).

**Provincial Matters**

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade is [providing up to \\$40 million](#) to support communities and local industries facing economic challenges arising from ongoing trade disruptions.

Municipalities must submit 2024 energy reports to the Ministry of Energy and Mines by July 1. Learn how Ontario's BPS Energy Reporting Program can save energy and money: [Report energy use in BPS buildings | ontario.ca](#)

Intake is open for Ontario's new Health and Safety Water Stream fund to help municipalities and First

Nations build, repair and expand aging water infrastructure. [Apply now!](#)

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 AMO and featured panelist business development officer, University of Toronto Scarborough, Madhur Kishore for this insightful webinar to equip municipal leaders with the tools and strategies needed to effectively engage, motivate, and retain Gen Z talent. [Register for this free June 26 webinar here.](#)

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

AMO's [Guide to Delegation Meetings](#) outlines best practices to help AMO members get the most out of your delegation meetings. You will find advice on the full delegation process, from submitting your request for a delegation, preparing, participating and following-up after your successful meeting.

AMO is holding a forum for its members, key stakeholders and partners to provide a reliable assessment of tariff and trade disruptions and their impact on Ontario municipalities and business sector. Forum discussion and content will include identifying measures to address and mitigate these impacts. This future facing event is an opportunity to build new alliances and relationships across impacted sectors in support of strong and effective economic advocacy. [Register here.](#)

Building on the strong interest and success of our first session-*The Mayor-CAO Relationship: Building a Foundation for Success*-AMO and OMAA invite you to the second event in this vital leadership series. Session two focuses on the Mayor-CAO dynamic when disaster strikes. [Register here for the free June 24 webinar.](#)

AMO has two upcoming June workshops focused on enhancing leadership skills on strategic thinking and planning as well as community engagement. For more details including dates and times [click here.](#)

### LAS

Our new program partner, [HealthPRO Canada](#) supports municipalities in meeting their healthcare responsibilities through trusted group purchasing contracts in: nutrition and prepared food products, pharmacy and medications, clinical supplies, and pharmacy innovation.

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.

Our partnership with Streetscan continues to evolve - learn more about the improved [Asset Management and Work Order Software](#) available to help municipalities operate more efficiently. [Contact Tanner](#) for more information.

### Municipal Wire\*

[Partners in Project Green](#) invites municipal staff and elected officials to [register for a webinar on June 24](#) explaining how municipalities and businesses can reduce chloride pollution of freshwater sources.

The [Warrior Health](#) program to provide supports for public safety personnel is now open! Public Safety Organizations can also [apply for grants](#) to support fee-for-service programs until June 27.

OurCare is undertaking [a survey](#) to understand people's experiences of primary care. The survey is open until July 9 and elected officials are encouraged to share with their residents.

Small and mid-sized Ontario municipalities are invited to [submit an expression of interest](#) to participate

in Quest Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator program by June 13.

### Careers

[Director of Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(REDI\) - City of Kitchener](#). Closing Date: June 23, 2025 by 6:00pm.

[Supervisor, Facilities Management - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: June 24, 2025.

[Co-ordinator-Workplace Modernization Projects - Peel Regional Police](#). Closing Date: June 23, 2025.

[Senior Financial Planning Analyst - City of Orillia](#). Closing Date: June 27, 2025.

[Chief of Staff to the Mayor - City of Cambridge](#). Closing Date: July 10, 2025.

[Manager of Community Safety - Sankofa Square](#). Closing Date: July 3, 2025

[Director of Finance/Deputy CAO - Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley](#). Closing Date: Friday, June 27.

[Senior Financial Analyst 2, Financial Services - Region of Durham](#). Closing Date: June 27, 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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**Sent:** June 19, 2025 10:01 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** AMO Watchfile - June 19, 2025



June 19, 2025

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- Reduce employee group benefits costs.
- Provide sewer and water protection for homeowners.
- DUC's naturalized stormwater and habitat solutions for municipalities.
- Elected officials encouraged to attend LTC Engagement Day.
- Pembina Institute Guide on Assessing Energy Projects.
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Session two focuses on the Mayor-CAO dynamic when disaster strikes. [Register here for the free June 24 webinar.](#)

### **LAS**

Our [Group Benefits Service](#) partners with Mosey & Mosey to help municipalities of all sizes save hundreds of dollars each year. Contact them today to customize a plan that works for your staff and elected officials.

Residential property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the buried water and sewer lines that run from the municipal connection to the exterior of their home. Learn how you could help them save money through our [Sewer and Water Line Warranty](#) program.

### **Municipal Wire\***

Ducks Unlimited Canada's Conservation PRO team [has resources available for municipalities](#) to turn stormwater facilities into natural assets and provides habitat restoration services on land and water.

The [Ontario Long Term Care Association's LTC Community Engagement Day](#) is on September 12, 2025. This annual event invites elected officials to visit long-term care homes in their communities. Contact [info@oltca.com](mailto:info@oltca.com) to learn more.

The Pembina Institute has released the first installment of its [Power Playbook](#) series which supports Ontario municipalities in navigating the IESO's ongoing long-term electricity procurements and assessing energy development proposals.

[Partners in Project Green](#) invites municipal staff and elected officials to [register for a webinar on June 24](#) explaining how municipalities and businesses can reduce chloride pollution of freshwater sources.

The [Warrior Health](#) program to provide supports for public safety personnel is now open! Public Safety Organizations can also [apply for grants](#) to support fee-for-service programs until June 27.

OurCare is undertaking [a survey](#) to understand people's experiences of primary care. The survey is open until July 9 and elected officials are encouraged to share with their residents.

### **Careers**

[Economic Partnership Advisor - City of Toronto](#). Closing Date: June 24, 2025

[Director, Legal Services - City of Kingston](#). Closing Date: July 13, 2025

[Deputy Clerk - Town of Midland](#). Closing Date: July 1, 2025.

[Supervisor, Enforcement Services - City of Vaughan](#). Closing Date: July 2, 2025.

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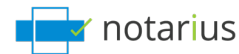
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**Sent:** June 19, 2025 2:20 PM  
**To:** info@huronkinloss.com  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update – Response on Bill 17, Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan



## **Policy Update - Response on Bill 17, Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan**

### **AMO's Response on Bill 17 – *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act***

AMO has [submitted comments](#) to the province on legislative changes made under Bill 17, which was fast-tracked through the legislature and has received Royal Assent.

The legislation incorporates several joint recommendations from AMO and the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) regarding development charge (DC) modernization. Bill 17 contrasts significantly with the broad, across-the-board reductions introduced by Bill 23, offering instead a framework for changes with details to be developed through further consultation. AMO supports this collaborative approach, as it provides municipalities a valuable opportunity to apply their expertise and shape effective on-the-ground

implementation. AMO will structure further collaboration with the municipal sector and OBHA to advise government on successful implementation. Advice will focus on these elements of the DC regime included in the bill for later regulatory implementation, which modernize calculations and their transparency:

- Merging DC service categories for credit purposes
- Defining a local service
- Deferring payment of DCs for residential developments
- Limiting recoverable capital costs
- Prescribing methodologies for calculating the benefit of new infrastructure to existing development, and
- Various measures to increase transparency

The ongoing housing crisis and challenging development market create an imperative for the province to act quickly. AMO will need to be nimble, working quickly and efficiently with our sector and home builders to influence regulations. We will jointly develop initial advice to support broader subsequent municipal engagement.

In our Bill 17 comments and in its broader advocacy, AMO continues to call on the province for predictable, sustainable, and adequate funding for municipal infrastructure to support unprecedented growth, address aging assets, and increase climate resilience.

AMOs' comments on Bill 17 also included implementation advice on other elements including:

- Planning regime changes, e.g. expanding as-of-right permissions, how to determine what constitutes a complete planning application, considerations for relying on stamps by certified professionals, etc.



- A recommendation that the new Minister of Infrastructure's Minister's Zoning Order authority for transit-oriented communities is only used in collaboration with municipalities, including securing a formal council resolution
- Balancing the standardization and streamlining of building approvals with a strong green building and energy efficiency standards, and
- Recommending ongoing engagement with the municipal sector in support of provincial consultations announced with the bill on new water and wastewater services governance and technology as well as road construction standardization.

### **Province Releases Integrated Energy Plan for Ontario**

The Minister of Energy and Mines has released Ontario's first [Integrated Energy Plan](#) which outlines the province's vision to meet energy demand while prioritizing affordability, reliability, energy security, and clean energy. This plan gives municipalities a framework to inform local decisions about energy projects, and reinforces the role of municipalities in the energy system. The plan reflects [AMO's advocacy](#) to the province on energy including committing to:

- Continuing to ensure project proponents in competitive electricity procurements are required to obtain a supportive municipal council resolution for new projects, and encouraging projects to provide meaningful local benefit agreements
- Maintaining a mix of energy sources including renewable electricity, nuclear, hydroelectric, natural gas, and low-carbon fuels to balance the goal of a clean energy supply with flexibility for residents and businesses to use the energy type that fits their needs

- Ensuring reliability and affordability, particularly in rural and northern communities, including through expanded electricity transmission infrastructure
- Working with local distribution corporations (LDCs) to modernize the electricity distribution grid including identifying new infrastructure funding approaches, and technology to ensure residents can connect and access electricity when and where they need it

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**Kelly Lush**

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**From:** AMCTO | The Municipal Experts <amcto@amcto.com>  
**Sent:** June 26, 2025 11:08 AM  
**To:** Kelly Lush  
**Subject:** AMCTO Legislative Express

Spring Legislative and Policy Updates

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## Legislative Express

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affecting Ontario municipalities

June 26, 2025

### In this issue...

- [Introductions and Highlights](#)
- [Policy Spotlight](#)
- [Policy Updates](#)

- Bills and Lawmaking

## Introduction & Highlights

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The Legislative Assembly of Ontario has risen for the summer, after completing a very busy and shortened legislative session. Sitting from April 14 until June 6, the Government introduced several new bills and reintroduced several bills from the last legislative session that ended early due to the election call. This includes the introduction of the **provincial budget**, an **annual housing-related omnibus bill**, a **red tape reduction bill**, and the reintroduction of **legislation to update municipal accountability frameworks**.

Following the provincial election in February, Premier Ford unveiled a **new cabinet** with several ministerial changes on key files affecting the municipal sector and our advocacy. We were pleased to have an **introductory meeting** with Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Rob Flack, at our 2025 conference and look forward to continuing to work with his ministry on important files. This includes working with Minister Flack towards a comprehensive review of the *Municipal Elections Act* (MEA), something we have called for in **our 2024 submission**.

We look forward to continued engagement with the Government and have requested delegation meetings with several ministers at the 2025 AMO Conference this August to advance our **Issue Profile**.

## Policy Spotlight

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Harassment and incivility continue to be topics of discussion in the municipal sector and we continue to see news stories of high-profile cases of harassment and incivility. We've heard from

you, our members, of increasing confrontational relationships with members of council and members of the public.

In response to this, we have developed a survey to collect more concrete data on instances of harassment and incivility. We want to better understand the experiences of municipal professionals and provide further recommendations and solutions to the Province. Provide your feedback by **Friday, July 11** to support our advocacy efforts on this important issue.

**COMPLETE THE SURVEY**

## Policy Updates

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While legislative proceedings will not be returning until October 20, we expect this summer will continue to be busy with legislative business.

The Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy will be meeting to consider *Bill 9, Municipal Accountability Act, 2025*. Public hearings will be held throughout July, and we have applied to make an oral presentation to highlight our position.

There are also several regulatory consultations ongoing including:

- A **proposal** for updates to the notaries and commissioners application program. Comments are due **July 24**.
- A **proposal** to introduce administrative penalties for contraventions of prescribed provisions of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act* or its regulations. Comments are due **July 28**.

We welcome any comments, concerns or feedback you may have on these items – **please email us by July 7, 2025**.

We anticipate that the Government may make an announcement in the coming months related to its “intent to consult with municipal partners to help drivers pay outstanding traffic tickets or fines by streamlining the collection process”, as stated in the previous budget announcement. To ensure we are in the best position to respond, **please contact us** with any feedback or questions you may have.

Within the red tape reduction package, it is noted that the Government will be “exploring changes to strengthen the strong mayor framework in response to the most recent expansion of the strong mayor framework”. This presents an opportunity to provide feedback to and seek clarity on several aspects of the legislation.

## **OMERS Governance Review**

On June 13, 2025, President Danielle Manton and AMCTO staff met with Robert Poirier, Special Advisor for the OMERS Governance Review. As members will know, AMCTO has long advocated that the management/non-union cohort of OMERS members, as the second largest contributing group (of which AMCTO members are a part) should be represented on the OMERS Sponsors Corporation. As part of the ongoing review, we had the opportunity to share feedback with Mr. Poirier and his team. Our recommendations include:

1. A seat at the OMERS Sponsors Corporation board table for Management/Non-Union plan members. We are prepared to support and facilitate a candidate selection process in collaboration with other municipal staff associations who may also represent this group in order to ensure that the voices of the cohort are heard at a decision-making level.
2. OMERS should play a more active and engaged role in promoting the benefits of a career in the municipal sector in recruitment, retention and workforce development spaces. We believe this is as critical to the sustainability and growth of the OMERS pension plan as other measures and mandates.
3. Related, to assist OMERS stakeholders (including AMCTO) in their recruitment and retention efforts, amendments to legislation should be made to authorize OMERS to share more useable data and information. OMERS collects valuable data and information that

would be beneficial to share with stakeholder groups as part of efforts to build a more resilient municipal administration.

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## Bills & Lawmaking

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### *Bills Passed & Government Bills:*

**Bill 2, *Protecting Ontario through Free Trade within Canada Act, 2025*** (Royal Assent Received) - Relevant sections include Schedule 6, which amends the *Ontario Labour Mobility Act* (OLMA) to make it easier for workers moving from provinces with reciprocal measures to be certified to work in Ontario. The OLMA lists municipal governmental regulatory authorities - public acts as per the *City of Toronto Act* and the *Municipal Act*. Municipal staff may need to review relevant procurement bylaws in conjunction with the new measures and ensure that any other policies or bylaws in place that relate to the regulation of occupations are consistent with the Act.

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**Bill 5, *Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025*** (Royal Assent Received) - This omnibus legislation makes changes to development approvals and local regulations, such as allowing the designation of "special economic zones" including geographic areas and "trusted proponents" or project exemptions from provincial legislation and regulations, and from municipal or local board bylaws. These zones are governed by the enacted

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*Special Economic Zones Act, 2025*, which provides authority to the Lieutenant Governor in Council (i.e., cabinet) to designate such an area. Municipal staff in zones designated under the Act may have to assess the local impacts to determine which bylaws may be set aside.

**Bill 6, *Safer Municipalities Act, 2025*** (Royal Assent Received) -

This reintroduced Bill provides municipalities with more authority to manage encampments and keep parks clean and safe. It amends the *Trespass to Property Act*, providing additional penalties for trespassing. The Bill also re-introduces the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act* that allows police officers and other provincial offences officers to direct individuals to stop using illegal substances or to leave public spaces and issue tickets or make arrests for non-compliance. There are likely budgetary and operational impacts with this, including related to bylaw enforcement and the increased use of the *Provincial Offences Act* court system.

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**Bill 9, *Municipal Accountability Act, 2025*** (Referred to Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy) - This Bill reintroduces the *Municipal Accountability Act*, which was initially introduced in the last session of the legislature. It makes changes to Ontario's accountability framework for municipalities including allowing for a regulation for prescribed codes of conduct and providing a framework for the removal of office.

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**Bill 17, *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*** (Royal Assent Received) - This omnibus legislation proposes changes to the *Development Charges Act*, *Building Code Act*,

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*Planning Act* and other legislation to transit projects. Particularly relevant for our members is changes to development charges.

**Bill 24, *Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2025*** (Royal Assent Received) - This is the budget Bill, which has a significant focus on the economy and impacts of US tariffs.

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**Bill 25, *Emergency Management Modernization Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) - This Bill amends the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* with various changes regarding emergency management governance, roles and responsibilities. It also amends the *Ministry of Community and Social Services Act* to authorize the Minister to issue directive to prescribed entities to provide community and social services.

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**Bill 30, *Working for Workers Seven Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) - This Bill aimed at protecting workers amends several pieces of legislation. Of particular interest for municipalities, the Bill provides the Lieutenant Governor in Council with the authority to make regulations that impose limits or conditions on the power of a municipality, such as bylaws with respect to development, building, or re-development of projects for training and skills development purposes.

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**Bill 45, *Peel Transition Implementation Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) - This Bill amends the *Municipal Act* to transfer jurisdiction over highways and public utilities collecting storm water from the Region of Peel to the City of Mississauga, City of Brampton and Town of Caledon. It gives the Minister the authority to make related regulations effective July 1, 2026, transfer jurisdiction of waste collection from the region to the lower-tier

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municipalities effective January 1, 2026, and protect the Crown and municipalities from certain liabilities related to the transition. It also amends the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act* to provide that the Minister may appoint the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator and up to four Deputy Facilitators and fix their terms of reference. The subsection is amended to change the number of Deputy Facilitators that the Minister may appoint from four to six.

**Bill 46, *Protect Ontario by Cutting Red Tape Act, 2025***

(Ordered for Second Reading) - This omnibus Bill contains several legislative amendments that would impact municipalities. Of note, it proposes to amend the *City of Toronto Act* and *Municipal Act* to remove the requirements to post audited financial statements in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.

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*Private Members Bills:*

**Bill 16, *Sacred Spaces, Safer Places Act, 2025***

(Ordered for Second Reading) - Introduced by Liberal Member, John Fraser, this Bill proposes to prohibit certain activities in an access zone for a religious institution, which includes advising or dissuading a person to refrain from accessing the institution.

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**Bill 21, *Protect Our Food Act, 2025***

(Ordered for Second Reading) - Introduced by Green Leader Mike Schreiner and Independent Member Bobbi Ann Brady, this Bill proposes to establish the Foodbelt Protection Plan Advisory Committee to make recommendations that would ensure the preservation and enhancement of a geographically continuous land base. It also proposes to amend the *Planning Act* with respect to land that is

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zoned for prescribed agricultural uses so that the land cannot be rezoned, and the uses permitted on the land cannot be changed unless an Agricultural Impact Assessment has been carried out. This restriction applies to a municipality passing a zoning bylaw and to the Minister making a Minister's Zoning Order.

**Bill 28, *Homelessness Ends with Housing Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) - Introduced by Liberal Member Lee Fairclough and Green Member Aislinn Clancy, this Bill provides that the Government must design, implement and maintain a homelessness elimination strategy that aims to eliminate homelessness within 10 years.

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**Bill 35, *Captive Wildlife Protection Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) Introduced by Liberal Members Karen McCrimmon and Lucille Collard this re-introduced Bill creates a licensing scheme to operate zoos in Ontario, something that our Association has [previously supported](#).

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**Bill 48, *Uploading Highways 174 and 17 Act, 2025*** (Ordered for Second Reading) - Introduced by Liberal Member Stephen Blais, this Bill proposes to upload Ottawa Road 174 and County Road 17 to the jurisdiction and control of the Ministry of Transportation.

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## Resources

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### **\*NEW\* Treasurer's Legislative & Regulatory Responsibilities Resource**

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting members in understanding their legislative and regulatory duties, we are proud to release the [Treasurer's Legislative and Regulatory](#)

**Responsibilities Resource.** This resource provides a comprehensive overview of what treasurers in Ontario are required to do under various statutes, along with identifying the circumstances where other governments or organizations are required to provide treasurers with information. Developed in response to member requests and validated with input from treasurers, this guide aims to help finance departments understand their statutory obligations. While we strive for accuracy, members are encouraged to review this resource and share any missing details by emailing our advocacy team for inclusion in future updates.

### **Advocacy & Policy Resources for Members**

As an AMCTO member, you have access to additional policy tools and resources available on our website. Sign in to view the latest reports, guides, research papers and more.

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## Municipal Monitor

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**The Human and Financial Cost of Homelessness in Ontario**

By Michael Jacek and Alicia Neufeld





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