

Kelly Lush

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 2, 2025 10:01 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: AMO Watchfile - October 2, 2025



October 02, 2025

In This Issue:

- AMO's Work-Learn Institute Municipal Talent Project.
- MECP best practices for Source Water Protection Program.
- Household Food Waste Prevention webinar.
- Mastering Crisis Communications for Elected Officials - October 8-9.
- 2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forum - Program details.
- AMO Trade & Tariff Forum: Understanding and planning for Ontario's economic future.
- Understanding your Cybersecurity Risks and How to Respond - October 21.
- Addressing growth through asset management.
- Blog - Solutions for Failing Water and Wastewater Infrastructure.
- Show me the money webinar.
- Fluorescent lamps phase-out - Is your municipality ready?
- MADD Canada releases recommendations for municipalities.
- Pembina Institute Guide on Granting Municipal Support Confirmations.
- OPPI's Fall Employer Readiness course.
- AdvantAge municipal councillors webinar: The Current LTC Environment.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

AMO is partnering with the University of Waterloo's Work-Learn Institute to explore how work-integrated learning (WIL) can support long-term municipal workforce development. If you are a municipal CAO or HR manager, [please share your experience working with student co-ops and interns.](#)

Provincial Matters

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is accepting applications to assist municipalities and First Nations communities to develop source water protection action plans. Applications can be submitted until October 31, 2025. Contact SourceProtectionFunding@ontario.ca for more information.

Federal Matters

[Register now](#) for Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) webinar series showcasing Waste Reduction and Management Division's Grant and Contribution funding recipients and their food waste prevention projects.

Education Opportunities

Crises aren't planned - but communication is. As a local leader, knowing how and when to respond is critical for stability in your community during a crisis. Join this workshop to develop, master and deliver your own messages with confidence. View full *Managing Communications through Crisis* details and register [here](#).

Instances and success of cyberattacks on municipalities are increasing – are you prepared? To effectively protect your municipality, elected officials must understand how to best prepare for a cyber incident. This training focuses on understanding potential risk, identify preventative actions, and define your role during an incident. View full *Cybersecurity for Municipal Councillors* training details and register [here](#).

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Join your colleagues and experts in discussion on building Ontario's economic future October 24 at Toronto's Sheraton Centre. Understanding that the economic and diplomatic consequences will continue for many years, AMO is assembling members and subject matter experts to plan today for a stronger and more stable Ontario. [Program information is now available](#). Register [here](#).

Join us next week on October 7th at 1 PM for a panel on [growth and asset management](#) and capital planning. Pose questions to municipal staff from Muskoka, Thunder Bay, Centre Wellington, and Minto. [Register here](#).

LAS

Much of the essential Ontario municipal water and wastewater infrastructure is in need of repair, and the costs are substantial, especially for the portions of the system that are the responsibility of private homeowners. [Read about an available solution](#) in our latest blog.

Municipal buildings account for a significant portion of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. [Show me the money webinar](#) on October 24 will explain the benefits of an energy focus while exploring and providing links to many sources of funding available to move your municipal projects forward.

Starting 1 January 2026, federal regulations will begin phasing out mercury-containing lamps, including fluorescent and HID lighting. How ready is your municipality? Join us for a free webinar on October 29 to learn more. [Register here to attend](#).

Municipal Wire*

MADD Canada has released their [Top 10 Report](#) outlining what municipalities can do to minimize impaired driving and support those impacted.

The Pembina Institute has released [Power Playbook Part 2](#), a step-by-step infographic guiding Ontario municipalities through the process of granting MSCs to energy development proposals and maximizing community benefits.

Looking for tools to support and invest in new hires? Register for OPPI's [Employer Readiness course](#). It includes an AMO supported employer handbook exploring HR best practices for retention and long-term success.

This [free AdvantAge webinar](#) on October 14 from 1-2pm will share insights related to long-term care governance and compliance for municipal councillors and their staff.

Careers

[Specialist, Labour Relations - City of London](#). Closing date: September 30, 2025

[Chief Administrative Officer - Toronto Police Service Board](#). Closing Date: October 29, 2025.

[Physician Recruitment and Engagement Specialist - City of Quinte West](#). Closing Date: October 17, 2025

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

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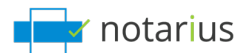
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Kelly Lush

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 3, 2025 1:05 PM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Response to OPP Cost Recovery Model, Continued Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, and Consultation on Aggregate Resources Act Program



AMO Policy Update – Response to OPP Cost Recovery Model, Continued Automated Speed Enforcement Advocacy, and Consultation on *Aggregate Resources Act* Program

Top Insights

- The province’s review of the OPP cost recovery model has resulted in new regulatory amendments to municipal payments for OPP policing, but no long-term solutions to growing cost pressures.
- AMO releases updated resources to support member advocacy on Automated Speed Enforcement.
- AMO supports efforts to modernize the aggregate management framework with the condition that the province strengthen inspection and enforcement.

Regulatory Amendments Made to Amount Payable by Municipalities for OPP Policing

Earlier this spring, the Ministry of the Solicitor General conducted a review of the OPP cost recovery model. AMO provided feedback in a [letter](#) to Minister Kerzner as part of this review. Recently, the Ministry announced regulatory

amendments to [Ontario Regulation 413/23: Amount Payable by Municipalities for Policing from Ontario Provincial Police under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*](#). The amendments are now in effect and will inform the 2026 annual billing statements, which are expected in November.

In a letter to impacted Heads of Council, the Ministry has committed to:

- An 11% cap on the increase in policing costs owed by municipalities for the 2026 calendar year, and
- Lowering the threshold for qualifying for calls for service and overtime discounts to lower costs for municipalities three or more standard deviations above the average. This new threshold will apply to the 2026 billing year and future years.

Unfortunately, these changes do not provide a long-term solution to the growing policing cost pressures municipalities across Ontario are facing. In addition, preliminary analysis suggests that very few municipalities will benefit from the lower threshold levels. AMO is reviewing the amendments closely to determine their impact on municipalities and will continue to update our members as we prepare a response to the government.

AMO Continues to Advocate for Speed Cameras as an Evidence-Based Road Safety Tool

Last week, the Premier announced that he intends to introduce legislation to prohibit the use of municipal automated speed enforcement. AMO will continue advocating on behalf of the municipal sector that these tools work to reduce speeds and their use should be a local decision.

AMO has updated our communications tool kit to support municipalities in continued advocacy, including a social media toolkit ([Images](#) and [Canva Templates](#)) a template [council resolution](#), [MPP letter](#), and [key messages](#).

We will also be sharing a survey with municipalities that have ASE programs to ensure we have the best data available to support evidence-based advocacy.

AMO Responds to Provincial Consultation on Modernizing the Aggregate Management Program

AMO has [submitted comments](#) in response to the Ministry of Natural Resources [proposing to modernize](#) the delivery of the *Aggregate Resources Act* (ARA) program. The proposal is intended to streamline and provide clarity

on requirements of the aggregate management program by updating, combining, and removing outdated and inaccurate policies.

AMO supports, in principle, efforts to modernize Ontario's aggregate management framework with the condition that efforts are also taken to modernize and strengthen inspection and enforcement in parallel.

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

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Kelly Lush

From: AMCTO | The Municipal Experts <amcto@amcto.com>
Sent: October 8, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: Advocacy Update: Calling for Amendments to Bill 9 and an Update on Strong Mayor Powers

An update on our advocacy initiatives

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Advocacy Update

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

October 8, 2025

Working with Other Staff Associations to Stand Up for Municipal Staff and Speaking with One Voice on Strong Mayor Powers

We have two updates to share with members regarding our advocacy work regarding Bill 9: Municipal Accountability Act and strong mayor powers implementation.

Joint Letter: AMCTO Working with Other Staff Associations to Stand Up for Municipal Staff

As a follow up to [our presentation](#) and [written submission](#) to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy regarding Bill 9, *Municipal Accountability Act*, we are continuing

to advocate for municipal administrative leaders and staff. We are proud to collaborate with the Association of Road Supervisors (AORS) on the following joint letter to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing calling for amendments to Bill 9 ahead of the legislature resuming on October 20.

This letter is a necessary call to action as **no meaningful changes have been made** to the legislation. Despite our previous advocacy along with thoughtful recommendations from other municipal associations, elected officials, municipal legal experts, integrity commissioners, and members of the public, further amendments are required to adequately address municipal staff safety and ensure proper workplace codes of conduct.

In particular, we remain concerned about the limited protections available to municipal staff. Our letter highlights the following amendments our collective groups would like to see:

1. **Whistleblower Protection** – Staff who report misconduct must be able to do so without fear of reprisal, job loss, or further harassment.
2. **Independent Oversight** – Establish a provincial integrity commissioner panel to adjudicate egregious cases, ensuring consistency, fairness, and independence from local political pressures.
3. **Threshold for Removal** – If council is to retain authority, the current requirement for unanimous support should be replaced with a more reasonable two-thirds majority.
4. **Workplace Discrimination** – Explicitly include discrimination as a code of conduct violation, recognizing it as a form of abuse.
5. **Proportional Penalties** – Expand available sanctions to include a more progressive range, including suspension, removal for egregious acts, and ineligibility to re-run for two terms, with mandatory disclosure of past removal when seeking office.
6. **Automatic Leave for Criminal Charges** – Any member of council charged with assault should be placed on leave until their case is resolved, and if convicted, be automatically removed from office.
7. **Integrity Commissioner Standards** – Require minimum qualifications, training, and consistency in the role, and provide integrity commissioners with clear authority to dismiss frivolous or vexatious complaints.
8. **Duty to Report** – Codify responsibility across councils and staff to report harassment, discrimination, or violence to ensure safe workplaces are everyone's responsibility.

[READ OUR LETTER](#)

We maintain that municipal workplaces must be safe, respectful, and harassment-free as expected and supported by standards for all other workplaces in Ontario. We will continue to advocate for the protection of municipal staff through the regulatory process associated with this legislation.

Letter to MMAH Seeking Guidance and Clarity on Strong Mayor Implementation

As you may recall, [we wrote to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in June 2025](#) seeking guidance and further clarity on several aspects of the strong mayor legislation. This included questions on important matters such as the interplay between strong mayor powers and restricted acts and multi-year budgeting.

While we have received the Ministry's response, it was disappointing to not receive answers to our specific questions. Their letter indicates that they are reviewing feedback and inquiries that they receive as [part of their review of the framework](#).

As an association, we will continue to look for ways to bring forward your concerns regarding implementation and advocate for legislative clarity.

We continue to support our members in implementing strong mayor legislation by holding monthly drop-in sessions and hosting a shared resource library. We will also be updating our research on strong mayor use in municipalities across Ontario in the coming months. Please stay tuned for more information.

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



AMCTO | The Municipal Experts

5090 Explorer Drive, Suite 510, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 4T9

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October 09, 2025

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- MECP best practices for Source Water Protection Program.
- Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's new, free workshop series is for you.
- 2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forum - Program details.
- AMO Trade & Tariff Forum: Understanding and planning for Ontario's economic future.
- Understanding your Cybersecurity Risks and How to Respond - October 21.
- 10% discount for AMO members - Catalyst Municipal Cyber Range Program.
- Upcoming Webinar: Cyber Safe Elections.
- Blog: Solutions for Failing Water Infrastructure.
- Unlock incentives & funding for your energy projects.
- Fluorescent lamps phase-out - Is your municipality ready?
- Western University Local Government Awards of Excellence .
- Frameworks for Success - Employer Readiness Course (FOR EMPLOYERS).
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Provincial Matters

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The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is accepting applications to assist municipalities and First Nations communities to develop source water protection action plans. Applications can be submitted until October 31, 2025. Contact SourceProtectionFunding@ontario.ca for more information.

Education Opportunities

Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities is designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. This workshop series is being offered at no charge in two streams: those considering re-election in 2026 and a second for first-time candidates who want to explore whether elected office is right for them. [Full details and registration information here.](#)

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LAS

The TMU Catalyst Municipal Cyber Range Program is specifically designed to prepare municipal IT staff for real-world cyberattacks. The immersive simulations are led by an experienced cybersecurity trainer, giving participants practical skills they can immediately apply. [AMO members receive 10% off](#) with code "AMO10" at registration.

LAS' Sewer and Water Line Warranty Service partner, SLWC, explains how [aging drinking water and wastewater systems present significant challenges](#) for municipalities. The blog paints an opportunity for municipalities to offer optional support for homeowners.

Join us on November 4th, 2025 for a live panel discussion on how municipalities can protect residents and election infrastructure from digital threats. Experts will share practical strategies for citizen education, cybersecurity best practices, and navigating cyber insurance. [Register Now](#).

Has your energy efficient project ever been delayed or deferred due to lack of funding? [Check out this free webinar](#) on October 24 to discover how to access thousands of dollars in energy incentives and rebates. [Registration is now open](#).

Starting 1 January 2026, federal regulations will begin phasing out mercury-containing lamps, including fluorescent and HID lighting. How ready is your municipality? Join us for a free webinar on October 29 to learn more. [Register here to attend](#).

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Careers

[Project Manager, Policy Planning - Township of King](#). Closing Date: October 15, 2025.

[GIS and Asset Management Coordinator - Township of Southwold](#). Closing Date: October 15th, 2025

About AMO

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Kelly Lush

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 10, 2025 9:49 AM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Criteria for Special Economic Zones, Natural Gas Expansion Program Advocacy, Updated Energy Project Guidance for Municipalities, Opposing Bill 30 at Standing Committee



AMO Policy Update – Criteria for Special Economic Zones, Natural Gas Expansion Program Advocacy, Updated Energy Project Guidance for Municipalities, Opposing Bill 30 at Standing Committee

Top Insights

- AMO will submit feedback to consultations on the province’s proposed criteria for Special Economic Zones, calling on the province to require municipal support of proposed projects.
- AMO supports Ontario’s Natural Gas Expansion Program, especially to provide rural, remote and northern communities with clean, reliable and affordable energy. More broadly, AMO continues to call for a balanced approach to energy infrastructure growth that meets local needs, prioritizes cost transparency, and incentivizes clean energy.
- AMO’s Municipal Electricity Procurement Toolkit has been updated, and a new tool is available to help municipal officials evaluate proposed energy projects against locally determined criteria.
- AMO looks forward to commenting on Bill 30 as part of its upcoming Standing Committee process to express our opposition to the Bill’s proposal to exempt Skills Development Fund Capital Stream recipients

from the *Planning Act* and exempt them, in full or part, from the *Municipal Act*.

Ontario Consulting on Criteria for Special Economic Zones

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade [is consulting](#) on proposed criteria for the government to designate Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and eligible projects and proponents including:

- Limiting SEZs to only the geographic area necessary for projects likely to deliver significant, long-term economic benefits like job creation, trade diversification, or community benefits.
- Requiring proponents to have a track record of complying with Ontario laws, demonstrate Indigenous engagement, and requiring Minister's approval before projects change ownership.

AMO has [previously called](#) for SEZs to only be used with municipal support and will be commenting on the proposal, requesting that the province include a formal requirement for a project to have the support of the host municipalities, confirmed through a municipal support resolution.

AMO's Natural Gas Expansion Program Advocacy

In [comments provided](#) to the Ministry of Energy and Mines on [their consultation](#) about the Ontario Natural Gas Expansion Program (NGEP), AMO continued to advocate for a balanced approach to energy growth. AMO supports the use of the NGEP in the short-term to deliver affordable, reliable energy and to support growth and economic resilience. This is especially important in rural, remote, and northern communities where building energy infrastructure can be cost prohibitive. At the same time, transparency in costs should be prioritized as the regulatory system changes so consumers can make informed decisions about what fuel sources meets their needs. Similarly, the growing cost of responding to severe climate events should be considered when determining the financial cost of energy infrastructure.

New Energy Project Guidance for Municipalities

AMO has updated its [Municipal Energy Procurement Toolkit](#) to better support municipal decision making on energy projects proposed for their communities. Updates include:

- More details about the second Long-Term Procurement (LT2) underway now.
- New third-party resources, including a new “Multi-Criteria Analysis Tool,” which is also on [AMO's energy resources webpage](#). This tool was developed by The Atmospheric Fund and Sustainability Solutions Group to help municipal officials evaluate how proposed projects align with local interests and criteria.

AMO to Comment Opposition to Bill 30 at Standing Committee

With the legislature resuming on October 20, AMO anticipates Bill 30, *Working for Workers Seven Act, 2025*, will proceed to Second Reading. With our Board’s full support, AMO looks forward to publicly commenting during this process to express our opposition to the Bill’s proposal to exempt Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream recipients from the *Planning Act* and exempt them, in full or in part, from the *Municipal Act*.

Municipalities understand the need to help enable fast development in light of continued economic uncertainty. However, the exemptions proposed under Bill 30 will likely put development and growth in Ontario at risk. Further encroachment into municipal approval processes proposed by Bill 30 is not justified. Any private employer in Ontario is eligible for the SDF Capital Stream – this sets a very low bar for those who can bypass the *Planning Act* and the *Municipal Act*. Further, there’s been significant public scrutiny of SDF, confirmed through recent Auditor General audit findings on the SDF Training Stream, which concluded that the selection process was not fair, transparent or accountable, and that high-ranked applications were not chosen.

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

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From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 16, 2025 10:01 AM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: AMO Watchfile - October 16, 2025



October 16, 2025

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- Understanding your Cybersecurity Risks and How to Respond - October 21.
- Show me the Money: Unlocking Energy Funding.
- Mercury-containing lamps are Going! Going!! Gone!!!
- Call for proposals inviting Canadian municipalities to apply for infrastructure projects funding.
- Western University Local Government Awards of Excellence.
- Careers.

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LAS

Is the lack of funding keeping your energy projects from moving forward? Check out this free webinar on October 24 that will unpack available incentives and rebates for your municipality. Don't wait - [register today.](#)

Products Containing Mercury Regulations prohibits the import and manufacture of mercury-containing lights. Starting 1 January 2026, a gradual phase-out will begin. How will this impact your facilities' lighting? Join us for a free webinar on October 29 to learn more. [Register here to attend.](#)

Municipal Wire*

Co-operators [Resilience Acceleration Lab](#) is inviting municipalities to apply for funding to develop infrastructure projects that reduce physical climate risks, including flooding, wildfires, storms, and heat. Selected proposals may receive up to \$250,000 and expert guidance to prepare for private capital financing. Projects will be reviewed on a rolling basis until January 30, 2026. Contact [Don Iveson](#) or resilience@cooperators.ca if you have any questions.

Western University's Local Government Program is [seeking nominations](#) for its annual Award of Excellence and Emerging Leaders Award open to anyone who has shown a commitment to delivering outstanding service to their communities.

Careers

[Manager, Strategy and Contingency Planning / Chef des stratégies et de la planification des mesures d'urgence](#) - Treasury Board Secretariat. Closing Date: Oct 27, 2025.

[Manager, Procurement Services - Town of Newmarket.](#) Closing Date: November 10, 2025.

[Deputy Chief of Staff \(Intergovernmental Affairs & Agency Relations\)](#) - City of Toronto. Closing Date: October 27, 2025.

About AMO

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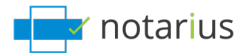
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Sent: October 16, 2025 11:04 AM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: AMCTO Legislative Express

Updates Ahead of the Legislature Resuming

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Legislative Express

Learn about legislation updates affecting Ontario municipalities

October 16, 2025

In this issue...

- [Introduction & Highlights](#)
- [Policy Spotlight](#)
- [Policy Updates](#)

Introduction & Highlights

With the legislature set to return on October 20, 2025, we thought it was a good time to provide a bit of a recap on our advocacy and government relations activities from this summer and look at what is expected this fall.

Municipal Elections

As we gear up for municipal elections in 2026, we have continued our advocacy efforts towards a mandatory Professional Activity (PA) Day on election day, [writing letters](#) to school boards and the

Minister of Education. We believe a mandatory PA Day on election day would help streamline processes and help municipal staff ensure that voters have access to large, centrally-located, accessible community spaces as polling locations.

As an Association, we do not currently have a position on the issue of school board governance; however, we remain concerned about the potential impacts on municipal elections if changes take place after May 1, 2026. In our letter to Minister Calandra, we also took the opportunity to emphasize that implementation of any decision related to school board governance and trustees should not interfere with the upcoming municipal elections, which clerks are already deep into planning and preparing for.

Strong Mayor Powers

You may recall that we [wrote to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#) back in June to seek additional guidance on several aspects of the strong mayor legislation. While we received the Ministry's response, it was disappointing not to receive answers to our specific questions. We will continue to look for ways to bring forward your concerns regarding implementation and advocate for legislative clarity.

Looking Ahead

This legislative session is expected to last until December 11, 2025, with a break during the week of November 10. There are several pieces of legislation that we anticipate could move forward during this session, including:

- the third reading of Bill 9, [Municipal Accountability Act](#), (more on that below);
- legislation to amend the [Highway Traffic Act, 1990](#), to prevent municipalities from using automated speed enforcement (ASE) - something that our Board of Directors [recently passed a resolution on](#); and
- potential changes to school board governance.

We are also looking out for the government's fall economic statement, which [must be released](#) on or before November 15, 2025. The fall economic statement provides updated information about Ontario's revenues and expenses for the current fiscal year, and outlines the key issues that, in the Minister's opinion, should be addressed in the 2026 budget. The statement also includes details about how to participate in pre-budget consultations. As an Association, our [pre-budget submissions](#) provide the government with policy advice from our members, designed to enable stronger local governments and healthier local communities. If you have ideas about what our priorities should be in the 2026 submission, [please contact us](#).

Policy Spotlight

We know that the *Municipal Accountability Act, 2025*, remains a key area of interest for our members. As you may recall, we have been active on this file, **raising our initial concerns** with Minister Flack at our 2025 conference, participating in standing committee through both an **oral presentation** and **written submission**, and working with the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) to **send a letter** continuing to emphasize the need for protections for staff.

While we anticipate that the government will not introduce any meaningful changes to Bill 9 following its review by committee, we are looking forward to the opportunity to participate in the development of corresponding regulations. Regulations will establish how the legislation will work in practice, including what will be included in a code of conduct.

While we hope for a robust consultation period, at this time, we do not know what the regulatory consultation will entail and how long the comment period will be. For this reason, we plan to be prepared in case of a quick turnaround. If you have feedback to share about any of the following, **please contact us by email**:

- What should be included in a model code of conduct
- Training for integrity commissioners and members of council
- How complaints should be provided to commissioners
- Content requirements, standards, and process requirements with respect to proposed sections 223.4.0.1 and 223.4.0.2
- Recommendations made by local integrity commissioners to the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario
- Transitional matters arising from the implementation of proposed sections 223.4.0.1 to 223.4.0.4
- Other matters related to proposed and existing regulations within the section

Policy Updates

Pedal Pub Pilot: Alcohol Now Permitted - As of July 1, 2025, alcohol may be permitted to be sold, served, and consumed on large quadricycles, also known as pedal pubs.

New Federal Initiative to Build Affordable Housing – The federal government has launched a new federal agency to support the construction of affordable housing.

Province Launches Consultation on Proposed Special Economic Zones Criteria - The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade has posted a consultation to inform the development of a regulatory framework under the *Special Economic Zones Act, 2025*.

Charitable Gaming Update – The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario is updating its Lottery Licence Policy Manual to clarify that requiring the mandatory purchasing of charitable lottery products is not permitted.

Feedback Requested: IPC Consultation on Strategic Plan - The Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario is seeking input in developing its 2026-2030 Strategic Plan.

Bills & Lawmaking

With the legislature not in session since our last Legislative Express, there are no new bill updates to report at this time.

Resources

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.

ACCESS TOOLS & RESOURCES

For the latest legislative and policy news and announcements, don't forget to subscribe to our [policy blog!](#)



AMCTO | The Municipal Experts

5090 Explorer Drive, Suite 510, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 4T9

(905) 602-4294 | amcto.com

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Kelly Lush

From: AMO Education <events@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2025 12:01 PM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's new, free workshop series is for you



AMO's Healthy Democracy Leaders Series: Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities

Join AMO's new online workshop series for leaders seeking re-election or first-time aspiring candidates—offered at no charge for participants

As Ontario heads toward the 2026 municipal elections, elected officials and aspiring candidates are being tested like never before. From navigating divisive politics and social media toxicity to maintaining personal wellbeing under constant public scrutiny, the demands of leadership can feel overwhelming.

Developed in partnership with [Nominee](#), *Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities* is designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet these challenges head-on — and to rediscover the purpose that brought you to public service in the first place.

Through expert facilitation, guided peer-to-peer discussion, and practical takeaways, you'll leave each session with fresh insight, renewed energy, and a stronger foundation for leadership.

This workshop series is offered through [AMO's Healthy Democracy Project](#), please find additional research and resources on the Project's website. If you are interested in more of the Project's initiatives, please join us at the [2nd Annual Healthy Democracy Forum in October 18 and 19](#).

This workshop series is being offered for no charge in two streams:

Stream 1: For elected officials at the municipal level across Ontario who are considering re-election in 2026 and preparing their path forward.

[REGISTER HERE FOR STREAM 1](#)

Stream 2: For community members considering a run for municipal office in 2026—first-time candidates who want to build confidence before launching a campaign. Civic-minded leaders who want to explore whether elected office is right for them.

REGISTER HERE FOR STREAM 2

Each stream includes four inspiring sessions (you can register for the full series or individual sessions):

- **Session 1—November/December 2025:** Finding Your Why – Leading with Purpose and Authenticity
- **Session 2—January/February 2026:** Praise Your Rivals – Managing Conflict and Building Effective Relationships
- **Session 3—February/March 2026:** What Matters Most – Prioritizing Mental Health and Wellbeing
- **Session 4—March/April 2026:** Building Your Movement – Turning Values into Action

What you'll gain by attending these sessions:

- **Clarity of Purpose:** reconnect with your values and what drives you to serve
- **Resilience in Conflict:** handle tough situations with skill and confidence
- **Personal Wellbeing:** prevent burnout and create sustainable leadership practices
- **Stronger Communication:** inspire trust and mobilize authentic community support
- **Practical Tools & Resources:** customized workbooks, scripts, and templates you can use immediately
- **Peer Connection:** build relationships with others also preparing to run in 2026

For more information, click [here](#).

Please email events@amo.on.ca with any questions.

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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Kelly Lush

From: AMO Policy <policy@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 21, 2025 3:41 PM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts



AMO Policy Update – Bill 56 Introduced, Building Code Amendments Submission and Advocacy on Removing Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts

Top Insights

- The province has introduced Bill 56, a red tape reduction bill including changes to as-of-right labour mobility, speed cameras, drinking water approvals, and forest management approvals. The province has also announced a review of Ontario’s economic development permit system, a “Made-in-Ontario” vehicle procurement policy and streamlined mining approvals.
- AMO provided the province with advice on how to best implement the plan to defer residential development charge payments until occupancy.
- AMO continues advocacy to reduce the burden on Provincial Offenses Courts by supporting the use of an Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) for building code enforcement.

Bill 56, *Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025*

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

Items in Bill 56

- Changes to require professional regulators to deem skilled workers certified in other provinces eligible to work in Ontario within 10 days. Municipalities are listed in the *Ontario Labour Mobility Act*. While AMO found no municipally regulated professions, local licensing practices may be affected; municipalities may wish to review their local licencing practices to determine if they are impacted by this proposal.
- Changes to allow health professionals from 16 additional regulated professions to work as-of-right in Ontario up to six months while applying for registration with their regulatory College.
- Despite significant concerns from municipalities, police chiefs, schools, and health care experts, the province has moved ahead with amendments to the *Highway Traffic Act*. The changes would remove municipal authority to operate Automated Speed Enforcement systems, permit the Minister to direct municipalities to install signs in school zones, and provide authority for the province to install signs where a municipality does not comply. Red light cameras are not implicated in this change and will still be permitted.
- Changes to the *Clean Water Act* to streamline drinking water approvals by allowing source protection authorities to approve routine updates to source protection plans, and regulatory updates to simplify and accelerate the process for creating new drinking water sources.
- Changes to the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* to reduce administrative burdens by eliminating annual wood harvest approvals and enabling the forest industry to prepare a single forest management plan spanning multiple management units.
- Amendments to the *Species Conservation Act* to address a lack of clarity and consistency of language for species-at-risk and habitat protection orders.
- Technical corrections to the *Ontario Heritage Act* to reflect the current trade agreement.

Additional Narrative Items

- Conducting a review of Ontario’s economic development permits to identify duplicative, outdated, or unnecessary permits or approvals that could be removed or streamlined through a digital portal.
- Proclaiming sections of the *Mining Act* to implement the One Project One Process approvals process.
- Consulting on a “Made-in-Ontario” vehicle procurement policy for the public sector including municipalities.

Building Code Amendments Submission

AMO [submitted comments](#) to the Regulatory Registry advising the province on how to best implement the plan to defer residential development charge payments until occupancy, introduced under Bill 17 in the spring. To mitigate the risk of non-payment, top recommendations emphasized that municipalities must receive and verify the development charge payment before occupancy permit approval. AMO developed recommendations in consultation with municipal financial staff as well as Chief Building Officials.

AMO Supports Advocacy to Remove Building Code Enforcement from Provincial Courts

AMO has [sent a letter](#) to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing supporting advocacy from Ontario’s Building Officials and homebuilding sector calling on the province to allow municipalities to use an Administrative Monetary Penalty System for building code enforcement. This builds on AMO’s broader advocacy to reduce the burden on Provincial Offences Courts to address backlogs. It would also free up the capacity of building officials to focus on issuing building permits to deliver homes faster.

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

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155 University Ave Suite 800 | Toronto, ON M5H 3B7 CA

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: October 23, 2025 10:01 AM
To: info@huronkinloss.com
Subject: AMO Watchfile - October 23, 2025



October 23, 2025

In This Issue:

- Last Call for AMO's 2026 Youth Fellowship Program applications!
- AMO's Work-Learn Institute Municipal Talent Project.
- Funding Readiness, Protecting Communities: Apply for CEPG!
- Webinar: Permission changes for storm water management works.
- MECP best practices for Source Water Protection Program.
- Seeking re-election or first-time candidate? AMO's new, free workshop series is for you.
- Request your delegations at the ROMA Conference.
- ROMA Trade show - 50% sold out!
- Show me the Money: Unlocking Energy Funding.
- Mercury-containing lamps are Going! Going!! Gone!!!
- Register now for Magnetic North Conference 2025 at Science North.
- Call for proposals inviting Canadian municipalities to apply for infrastructure projects funding.
- Careers.

AMO Matters

Applications for AMO's 2026 Youth Fellowship Program are closing next Thursday, October 30th. Share this opportunity with students and youth interested in local government, governance, and the health of our democracy. Participants learn about municipal governance and policy while gaining exposure to real-time issues facing Ontario's municipalities. [Applications information linked here.](#)

AMO is partnering with the University of Waterloo's Work-Learn Institute to explore how work-integrated learning can better support long-term municipal workforce development. If you have experience overseeing a student placement in a municipal setting, [please share your experience working with student co-ops and interns.](#)

Provincial Matters

Ontario has announced \$5 million through an application-based program to help increase emergency preparedness. Municipalities under 100,000 residents, that have not received the grant in prior years, are eligible to apply. [Applications are due October 28, 2025.](#)

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is holding a webinar about changes to environmental permissions for storm water management from 1:30-3.00pm November 4, 2025. Contact enviopermissions@ontario.ca for the link and further details.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is accepting applications to assist municipalities and First Nations communities to develop source water protection action plans. Applications can be submitted until October 31, 2025. Contact SourceProtectionFunding@ontario.ca for more information.

Education Opportunities

Stronger Leaders, Stronger Communities is designed to equip you with the tools, resilience, and confidence to meet the challenges of the political landscape head-on. This workshop series is being offered at no charge in two streams: those considering re-election in 2026 and a second for first-time candidates who want to explore whether elected office is right for them. [Full details and registration information here.](#)

ROMA is pleased to share that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) has launched its [delegation request process](#) for the 2026 ROMA Annual Conference. Only registered ROMA Conference delegates are eligible to participate in delegation meetings with the provincial government. [Register today.](#)

ROMA members represent over 2.8 million residents living in about 1,000,000 households. Connect with rural municipal leaders at the ROMA Conference trade show. [Complete your application today](#) before it is sold out.

LAS

Is the lack of funding keeping your energy projects from moving forward? Check out this free webinar on October 24 that will unpack available incentives and rebates for your municipality. Don't wait - [register today.](#)

Products Containing Mercury Regulations prohibits the import and manufacture of mercury-containing lights. Starting 1 January 2026, a gradual phase-out will begin. How will this impact your facilities' lighting? Join us for a free webinar on October 29 to learn more. [Register here to attend.](#)

Municipal Wire*

Registration is now open for Magnetic North 2025 at Science North. Join the Northern Policy Institute in Sudbury to explore population growth and immigration in Northern Ontario. For more details about the conference and to register, [click here.](#)

Co-operators [Resilience Acceleration Lab](#) is inviting municipalities to apply for funding to develop infrastructure projects that reduce physical climate risks, including flooding, wildfires, storms, and heat. Selected proposals may receive up to \$250,000 and expert guidance to prepare for private capital financing. Projects will be reviewed on a rolling basis until January 30, 2026. Contact [Don Iveson](#) or resilience@cooperators.ca if you have any questions.

Careers

[Executive Director – Brant Municipal Enterprises Inc.](#) Closing Date: November 3, 2025.

[Administrator - The John Noble Home.](#) Closing Date: November 3, 2025

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 Watchfile](#) Tel: 416.971.9856

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[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

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

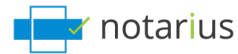
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