



AMO Communications
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08/25/2015 03:07 PM

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Subject AMO POLICY UPDATE - Highlights of the August 2015 Board Meeting

August 25, 2015

AMO Report to Member Municipalities Highlights of the August 2015 Board Meeting

To keep members informed, AMO provides updates on important issues considered at regular AMO Board of Directors' meetings. The Board met in Niagara Falls, Ontario prior to the 2015 Annual AMO Conference.

Highlights of the August 15, 2015 meeting include:

Municipal Legislation Review

A proposed principled approach was reviewed and discussed by the AMO Board as the foundation for AMO's initial response to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Municipal Legislation Review consultations on both the *Municipal Act* and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. It is expected that AMO's initial submission will be available in September. AMO is also working with municipal staff associations as they prepare technical advice.

Contact: Pat Vanini, Executive Director, pvanini@amo.on.ca, ext. 316.

What's Next Ontario Report to Members and Next Steps

A report of what was heard from AMO members in the first phase of the What's Next Ontario Report was provided to the AMO Board. A letter to AMO members from the AMO President was sent August 17, 2015 along with the approved summary of membership engagement and submissions. Next steps include setting up a committee of municipal and community leaders to explore potential future revenue tools immediately with the expectation that the AMO membership will be further consulted on focused options in winter 2016. The objective of the AMO Board is that by August 2016 we will arrive at a member directed and informed plan for municipal fiscal sustainability.

Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, email: mwilson@amo.on.ca, ext. 323.

MEPCO Update

The AMO Board was updated on the government's August 11, 2015 announcement on the process for verifying and exempting comparable plans from the proposed Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP). The OMERS Plan will most likely meet the exemption criteria announced which is good news for municipal employers and the operation of the OMERS Plan. MEPCO will continue to assess impacts of a phase-in for municipalities with part-time workers who are not part of OMERS and will monitor the legislative process to put the ORPP in place.

Contact: Bruce McLeod, MEPCO Coordinator, email: bmcleod@amo.on.ca, ext. 350.

Leadership "Onward" Project

The AMO Board received an update on the Leadership "Onward" Project of various municipal staff associations. With the critical need for municipal succession planning at the senior leadership staff level, the objectives of this project include the development of programs to respond to leadership gaps which include: create champions at the political level; actively promote municipal succession planning and talent development efforts and increase awareness of municipal management as a career choice. Progress

updates have been presented to all the major municipal staff associations, AMO and its affiliate associations.

Contact: Jim Pine, CAO, County of Hastings and Tony Haddad, CAO, Town of Tecumseh.

AMO Task Forces

The Board approved the establishment of two new AMO task forces - a Conservation Authority Review Task Force and a Long-Term Care and Age-Friendly Community Task Force. AMO Task Forces allow AMO to have local policy and program officials provide a diversity of municipal perspectives in developing recommendations to the Board of Directors as it establishes policy positions.

Contact: Monika Turner, Director of Policy, mturner@amo.on.ca, ext. 318.

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