

**From:** [AMO Communications](#)  
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**Subject:** January 31st AMO Board Highlights  
**Date:** Friday, January 31, 2020 4:01:28 PM

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## AMO Policy Update



January 31, 2020

# January 31<sup>st</sup> AMO Board Highlights

AMO President Jamie McGarvey created a [video overview](#) of today's AMO Board meeting.

## AMO Youth Fellows

AMO is pleased to announce the three successful candidates of the inaugural Youth Fellows Program. Raghed Al-Areibi of the City of London, Graham Taylor of Chatsworth, Ontario and Emilie Leneveu of Belleville will be with AMO through to its Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting in August. The Youth Fellows Program was launched under AMO's Youth Engagement Strategy that is committed to engaging youth and inspiring participation in Ontario's vibrant and important municipal sector.

## Contact:

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## Public Health and EMS Modernization

The Board approved a response to the Public Health and the Emergency Health Services modernization consultations. AMO will bring forward practical solutions that work best for municipal residents and municipal governments to preserve what works well and fix what needs fixing. Underpinning the public health response will be a business case that investments in public health make sense for a multitude of population health and public policy reasons and that a separate discussion on funding is needed. AMO holds that one size will not fit all and will propose alternatives to the government's re-structuring proposal outlined in the 2019 Budget.

The EMS response will be a call to first address all long-standing municipal asks before any discussion about structure. These asks include: accelerating dispatch improvements, reducing offload delays, addressing non-urgent inter-facility health transfers, expanding community paramedicine with full 100% provincial funding and fix

the funding model. The full written response will be shared with AMO members by mid-February.

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**Human Sex Trafficking**

The Region of Peel, lead by Regional Councillor Johanna Downey, provided a powerful presentation on their strategy to address human sex trafficking. Their regional strategy includes a framework to achieve outcomes under three pillars - prevention, intervention and exits/ housing, with a three-year pilot project to support the implementation their strategy. The board discussed the need for better provincial-municipal and non-government coordination, resources for intervention in areas of municipal responsibilities (e.g. emergency + transitional housing), and public education and awareness.

**AMO's Pre-Budget Submission**

On January 24<sup>th</sup> AMO's Executive Director Brian Rosborough presented the Association's pre-budget submission to the Ontario Legislature's Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. The submission demonstrates that investing in municipalities is a good investment in the provincial economy. The [pre-budget submission](#) is available on the AMO website for your information and distribution. Members are encouraged to reinforce its themes in budget related discussions and submissions to provincial officials.

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**LAS Board Appointments**

The LAS Board of Directors has two new appointees. Aina DeViet, Mayor, Middlesex Centre for a two-year term and Lealand Sibbick, Treasurer, Simcoe County, for a three-year term effective January 1, 2020.

**Contact:**

Judy Dezell, Director AMO Enterprise Centre Business Partnerships, LAS & ONE, [jdezell@amo.on.ca](mailto:jdezell@amo.on.ca), 416-971-9856 ext. 306.

**Patient Care Models Consultation**

The Board approved the proposed approach and key messages to respond to the Ministry of Health's Patient Care Models Standards Consultation. As this initiative is a key plank in the province's priority to reduce hallway medicine, AMO is looking for enhanced provincial support to the municipal paramedic services that have applied to implement the 1-year Phase 1 pilots. As the new standards are applied to municipal

paramedic services, AMO will continue to insist that the province provides municipal governments and their employees with indemnification from liability and address continuing funding issues.

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**Flood Advisor's response**

The Board considered the recommendations of the Flood Advisors report in terms of timelines, costs and whether recommendations are intended to avoid flood damage or respond to floods. AMO supports avoiding allowing development in flood prone areas as appropriate rather than engineering mitigation and requiring low impact development, promoting green infrastructure and increasing wetlands, although this will be a major shift in approach. AMO will also call for increased real time data and monitoring, dedicated federal-provincial flooding infrastructure funding to allow the most affected communities to take action to protect their residents and clearer resources on how Ontario's flood management regime works.

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**Climate Change Work update**

AMO staff provided an update on upcoming climate change work. AMO's 2020 Strategic Objectives includes the theme of "positioning municipal interests on the urgency of climate change." Recent events have increased the need for climate adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction actions. Municipal governments offer some of the best solutions to challenges to climate change through local services and facilities that can reduce emissions, protect residents and enable continued economic activity. The Board was briefed on AMO's "stock taking" exercise of work to date that members + AMO have been doing, as well as ideas for new work such as a proposal of a few short discussion papers that focus on municipal government needs and solutions. Staff are developing these ideas for future Board direction and then to share with members later in 2020.

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**Streamlining the Municipal Development Review Process BMP**

To help shorten development application review timelines, AMO has released a [best practices guide](#). This document has ideas on how to improve the processes and timelines by providing tools and municipal case studies. To share your municipality's planning best practices, submit to the AMO [website](#).

## Contact:

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