

### The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie Council Correspondence

March 27, 2020

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# AMO PROVIDING NEW RESOURCES FOR MUNICIPAL COUNCILS - COVID-19

March 22, 2020

AMO is developing additional resources for municipal councils as they respond to COVID-19.

Two new resources available now are:

- Meetings Guidance for Heads of Council
- Council's Role of Communicating during COVID-19

Ontario's new <u>Municipal Emergency Act, 2020</u> provides flexibility in running Council meetings, presenting new and unanticipated considerations on leading and managing meetings. In collaboration with experts Nigel Bellchamber and Fred Dean, AMO has developed what this means for Councils and Heads of Council providing key considerations and strategies to guide you through enacting By-laws and managing under new and evolving conditions.

The second resource, developed for AMO by Redbrick Communications, highlights important reminders and strategies on how to lead an effective crisis communications.

Coming this week:

**AMO On Topic Podcast:** AMO will be releasing a PODCAST of important Q and A's to supplement these resources in the coming days.

**Question Box Panel:** AMO is assembling a panel of municipal experts to create a virtual Question Box for AMO members on the key issues facing municipal government. Details to follow.

Visit AMO's <u>COVID-19 webpage</u> for up-to-date information and resources.

Email us at <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u> with questions, ideas, feedback and suggestions.

AMO COVID-19 covid19@amo.on.ca T 416.971.9856



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# Council's Role in Communicating COVID-19

Communication with the public and municipal employees is important right now. Good communication keeps people safe and healthy, it keeps your municipality functioning well, and it keeps your community calm and confident in your abilities.

### Stay focused on the main problem.

There are two of them. The first problem is the need to keep people safe and healthy. That includes the public and your employees. The second problem is managing the economic challenges that COVID-19 presents. There will be many discussions about the many aspects of those two challenges. The more you stay focused on how all discussions relate to those core challenges, the more successful you will be.

**Respond quickly.** Last week, the World Health Organization's leading Ebola outbreak manager gave this advice on COVID-19, "Be fast. Have no regrets... Perfection is the enemy of the good when it comes to emergency management." If your communication is getting held up over debates about precise wording, or you're struggling to create infographics, you're wasting precious time. Two rookie communicators used Twitter to evacuate Fort McMurray safely, when everything around them was on fire. Use the tools you have, and the tools you know. A 60-second video can be shot and posted on social media in minutes. Facebook Live can deliver a virtual town hall from your desk, using a phone. Internally, you may need to look at ways to streamline approvals.

**Frame and contain the crisis.** In Canada, leaders are doing a great job of explaining what needs to be done and why: 'Practice social distancing. Just stay home. Wash your hands. Flatten the curve. We need to help our health care system manage the demand. Grocery stores will be open and stocked.' When people are self-isolating in their homes, the crisis is contained. When they are panic shopping for toilet paper, it is not. Don't let side issues become the story. Frame and contain.

### Provide clear and reliable information.

Municipal leaders have significant local networks. They should be using them to amplify and share messages from your municipality and other official sources. Retweet or share messages from your local health unit, your municipality, from the Ontario Government's official social media feeds, and from the Federal Government. Rumours, news reports, and public debates are unhelpful distractions. When Facebook pages get messy, sharing the latest quality information is far better than engaging in debate.

#### Demonstrate leadership and compassion.

The cooperation that we are seeing across Canada is actually amazing – and it is inspiring public confidence. Councils should take care to maintain that sense of teamwork. When you disagree, disagree well. When someone is yelling at you on Facebook, ask yourself what they are afraid of. Bad behaviour is often rooted in fear. Listen for it. Be helpful if you can. Find a way to be inspiring when disagreements arise.

**Speak to what you know**. Resist the urge to be all-knowing. There is a lot that we do not know. Share the information that you have confidence in. Direct people to the right experts. Make promises that you can keep (or beat).



Actions speak louder than words. Be consistent, to be credible. If the message is, 'remain calm, follow expert advice, and check in on neighbours,' your actions should include remaining calm, endorsing the advice of public health officials, and being good to your Council colleagues.

**Expand your communications team.** Your regular communications team was not made for this. They will be overwhelmed. Pull other resources to divide the load. If the library is closed and a librarian is great on Facebook, deputize that employee to monitor Facebook. Someone has to tackle Twitter, and Instagram, and media inquiries, content creation, and questions like 'what do we do next?' Depending on the size of your municipality, a properly resourced communications team requires about 3-10 people – times two or three shifts. Lots of services are shut down. Pull from that pool of available employees. No one will ever regret the communications skills they pick up and refine while helping to manage COVID-19.

**Provide a clear spokesperson.** The Head of Council has the role of being the voice of Council. They need to be listening carefully to make sure they are representing their Council well. Councillors should be sharing, supporting and amplifying those clear messages.

**Plain language works best.** Complicated, precise or technical language may give municipal managers comfort, but comfort usually comes at the expense of speed, clarity and effectiveness. You want messages that will easily ripple through family chats and Facebook groups.

**Use positive language**. Instead of, "I know you are scared. You are out of work and you are worried about how to pay rent." Say, "Stability is good right now. We want to help you if we can. Home is a good place for you right now and we are working to make staying at home easy for you."

### Tend to internal needs and pressures.

There is a risk in believing your staff are awesome. They may be awesome at their jobs, but they are human. They have their own things to worry about right now. Tend to their needs, and they will do a better job of looking after others. Make a priority of communicating with them on a regular basis. That means talking, listening and taking good care of the team.

### Avoid a defensive, "bunker" mentality.

People will lash out at you and be critical. They will expect you to deliver more than you possibly can. You will be second guessed and challenged. There will be long hours and frayed nerves. You must resist the temptation to be defensive, or to point fingers at others. Hunkering down and squabbling are terrible places to be.

### Think about how you want to be remembered.

Someday COVID-19 and your leadership will be a faint memory. Most people will want to be remembered for being calm, helpful, caring, responsive, effective, decent, and well-coordinated. How do you want to be remembered? Write those words down and post them beside your phone. With respect to COVID-19, you will add 'kept people safe and healthy,' and 'helped our economy recover.' Those words should guide what you say and do today.

Prepared for AMO by Redbrick Communications March 21, 2020

We welcome feedback. Let us know what assistance we can provide, and let us know what communications approaches have worked well for you, so that we can share best practices and helpful approaches. Email us at **covid19@amo.on.ca**.

For more communications advice, see AMO's Social Media Webinars: http://www.amo.on.ca/Training/webinars Page 5 of 23



# Meetings Guidance for Heads of Council COVID-19

### Your Role as Leader

#### Life has become more complex.

As the Head of Council you are required to lead. You are expected to provide leadership to Council and your community every day. This is even more true in times of crisis. Members of Council and those in your community are looking to you for thoughtful and effective leadership in this time of crisis. You lead by example; you lead by decisive action to protect your residents; you lead by getting people working together.

### **Brief Summary of the Legislation**

This week the Province has enacted Bill 187, *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020.* This legislation makes changes to the quorum requirements in the Municipal Act. It authorizes every municipal council to amend its Procedure By-law after an emergency has been declared under the authority of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.* The changes permitted will allow members to electronically attend council, committee and local board meetings and be counted in quorum.

This quorum provision will remain in effect for the duration of the declared emergency. Council has the discretion as to whether it intends to amend its Procedure By-law. Once amended, members may attend meetings electronically and be counted in quorum as your amended by-law permits. This applies to both open and closed meetings.

Your role as Chair of the meeting will change in some significant ways. Meetings will feel very

different. Keep in mind that these changes will apply to council, its committees and some local boards.

### What is an "emergency"?

The definition is in the *Emergency Management* and *Civil Protection Act.* It reads,

"emergency" means a situation or an impending situation that constitutes a danger of major proportions that could result in serious harm to persons or substantial damage to property and that is caused by the forces of nature, a disease or other health risk, an accident or an act whether intentional or otherwise;"

### What other rules change?

Bill 187 impacts the quorum requirements. Rules in the *Municipal Act* and the Procedure By-law continue. The expectation is the council will continue to be transparent in its decision-making.

## Technological and Location Challenges with Electronic Participation

There is wide variation in technological capacity in Council Chambers, or other public locations where a meeting may be held.

Please note, the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* does not change the location of your meetings nor the ability of the public to attend. It primarily provides for local discretion to deal with quorum provisions for the duration of the declared Emergency.



The Procedure By-law still governs the location of the meeting, and the *Municipal Act 2001* the ability of the public to attend and observe. You can change the location by amending your procedure by-law, but the Act still prevails with respect to public attendance and notice of all meetings, open or closed.

Some Council Chambers, or other locations, will have the capacity for audio and video conferencing already. On the other hand, some may be limited to a single speakerphone. Most municipalities will be somewhere in between.

Practically, the meeting will at least have the Chair and the Clerk present in the Council Chambers.

All members of Council need to be able to participate equally, and the public in attendance (practicing appropriate distancing in accordance with local Board of Health guidelines) needs to be able to observe all that Council members can hear and see at the meeting. This Act does not change transparency requirements.

Any technology should be tested prior to a meeting and simplicity of operations for members is essential. The best advice is to start simple and as time passes, add sophistication if you can be sure the technology is reliable.

While audio recordings of meetings may not be a current practice, consider creating them and making them available on the municipal webpage in the spirit of transparency.

### Your First Meeting with an Electronically Achieved Quorum

This meeting will require all of the formality provided by your procedure by-law if it is to be effective.

Members need to be recognized by the chair, speak within time limits and Council should not be debating or discussing matters without a motion duly moved and seconded before them. Your Clerk will be able to provide you with the relevant sections of your by-law.

Staff recommendations, crafted in the form of motions, should be presented for every issue that Council needs to consider and circulated in advance.

The Chair and the Clerk should rehearse as to how it is going to work. In a crisis, leaders need to be prepared and seen to be prepared.

Prepared for AMO by Nigel Bellchamber and Fred Dean March 21, 2020

We would appreciate your feedback as to what worked and didn't work in your first meeting(s) under the new rules so that we can reference them in future materials that we might send out. Email us at **covid19@amo.on.ca**.



# MARCH 2020 ECONOMIC AND FISCAL UPDATE

March 25, 2020

Today the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Rod Phillips, delivered an economic and fiscal update at Queen's Park. The Minister noted this is a starting point; more will need to be done. At this time the government is responding to the immediate circumstances created by COVID-19. Longer term impacts on municipal governments and others are not yet fully understood.

In general, the government has outlined a \$17 billion plan to support Ontario's response to COVID-19. This includes \$3.3 billion for health care and \$3.7 billion for people and jobs in new direct spending. It also includes province-wide cash flow measures totalling \$10 billion in deferrals for provincial taxes and charges. This includes \$6 billion in deferral for business, \$1.9 billion in WSIB deferrals for employers, and \$1.8 billion in deferrals for the remittance of municipal education property tax payments. (See details below).

### Highlights of a municipal interest include the following:

#### **Property Taxation**

**Property Assessment Postponed** – The provincial government is postponing the assessment update for 2021. Assessed values for 2021 will be based on the same valuation date as they are for 2020. There will be no financial impact for municipalities as a result of this postponement. MPAC will continue to update assessment rolls to reflect new construction. Technical details related to this postponement will be determined in the months ahead.

**Education Property Tax Remittance Deferral** – The provincial government is deferring the required municipal quarterly remittance of education tax collections by 90 days. The current remittance due March 31 remains unchanged. This will affect two future quarterly payments. The remittance which would have been due on June 30 is now due on September 30. The payment which had been due September 30 is now due December 30. This measure supports single and lower tier Council decisions on property tax deferrals and the waiving of late penalties.

#### **Health Care and Social Services**

The government response includes an additional \$3.3 billion in funding for the health care system including \$75 million for personal protective equipment and critical medical supplies. Of municipal interest, this includes:

**Municipal Service Managers and DSSABs** – As previously announced this week, the government is providing \$200 million of assistance for homeless shelters, food banks, emergency services, other community services, and expanded discretionary to those receiving social assistance. As part of the \$200 million, emergency assistance will be provided to individuals not eligible for other income support programs.

Paramedic Services - Approximately \$80 million for ambulance and paramedic services.

Public Heath – Recently announced increases to public health will now be extended into 2021. In total, the statement Page 8 of 23 includes an additional \$100 million for public health.

Additional dollars are being provided to long-term care home for emergency capacity and virus containment.

**Other** - For municipalities responding to inquiries from business, the province has launched a toll-free line for questions related to workplaces and the province's emergency orders following recommendations by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health. That number is 1-888-444-3659.

**WSIB-** Providing up to \$1.9 billion in financial relief by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) allowing employers to defer payments for up to six months.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources page</u> is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

### CONTACT

Matthew Wilson Senior Advisor mwilson@amo.on.ca T 416.971.9856 ext. 323 TF 1.877.426.6527 F 416.971.6191



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## AMO COVID-19 UPDATE REVISED ESSENTIAL SERVICES LIST AND OTHER NEW COVID-19 Related items you need to know

March 25, 2020

The province has updated its order under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, (EMCPA)*, s. 7.0.2 (4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses. This order, <u>Ontario Regulation 82/20</u>, now has the addition of 1 (5) which provides clarification for municipal governments. This is:

5) Nothing in this order precludes operations or delivery of services by the following in Ontario, regardless of whether or not they are listed in Schedule 2:

1. Any government.

The province has confirmed that "any government" includes municipal governments and their operations and delivery of services. This inclusion and clarity has been sought by AMO and the municipal sector over the last 48 hours so that municipalities can continue to provide the broad array of essential public services that the public depends upon during this emergency.

Additionally, the province has launched a toll-free line **1-888-444-3659** to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province's recent emergency order to close at-risk workplaces following recommendations by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

### **COVID-19 RELATED PROCEEDING SUSPENSIONS**

Under EMCPA, the <u>Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC)</u> has frozen all proceedings; the <u>Local Planning</u> <u>Appeal Tribunal (LPAT)</u> will not have hearings until June 30th and all proceedings suspended. AMO's COVID-19 resource age will be adding other proceeding suspensions as they become known. Further work on clarifying Ontario Regulation 73/20 is continuing.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources page</u> is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally-related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

## CONTACT

AMO COVID-19 covid19@amo.on.ca



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## AMO COVID-19 UPDATE: CLOSURE OF NON-ESSENTIAL SERVICES TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT

March 24, 2020

As you are no doubt aware, Ontario Premier Doug Ford has <u>ordered all non-essential stores and services to close</u> at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24 in an attempt to slow the spread of COVID-19. Attached please find the list of <u>Essential Services</u> for ease of accessing. AMO will continue to seek clarification from the Province to help ensure that key municipal services needed at this time are plainly included.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources page</u> is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place . Please send any of your municipally-related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

### CONTACT

AMO COVID-19 covid19@amo.on.ca T 416.971.9856



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## AMO COVID-19 UPDATE: PROVINCES ANNOUNCES \$200 MILLION OF SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING

March 23, 2020

As part of the ongoing COVID-19 response, the provincial government announced today \$200 million of funding for relief and to protect the health and safety of vulnerable people. The funding will flow through the 47 municipal government service managers and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSABs) that administer social services in two streams.

First, service managers will make local decisions about community funding to support COVID-19 responses. The funding will help municipal governments, DSSABs and social service providers to provide critical services such as homeless shelters, food banks, emergency services and other community services. This could include hiring additional staff and implementing ways to promote social distancing and self-isolation to keep clients safe and healthy.

Secondly, funding will assist also individuals who do not qualify for supports under federal programs. An expanded Emergency Assistance program will be administered under Ontario Works. This includes assistance such as food, rent, informal child care and other services. In addition, increases discretionary benefits may be provided to persons in need who receive social assistance. Individuals can apply for assistance at <u>Ontario.ca/community</u>.

This funding announcement is welcome and needed. AMO will continue to work together with the government to assess and advise on community needs during this time.

Further details about implementation are being communicated to the 47 municipal service managers. More information is found in the <u>Ontario Newsroom</u>.

CONTACT: Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor

### **CLARIFYING WORK CONTINUES ON ONTARIO REGULATION 73/20**

AMO is also working with the province and municipal solicitors to get clarification on the intent and interpretation of <u>Ontario Regulation 73/20</u> under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* that was released on March 20th.

The municipal sector has asked Ontario for a pause on all provincial statutes, regulations, rules, etc. that municipal governments must follow currently during this COVID 19 emergency. On the face of it, this regulation may provide the relief sought as broadly read. However, this is a complex legal area and caution in interpretation needs to be exercised at this time.

Once we have information to share on how to apply this regulation appropriately, we will share through an AMO update and on AMO's <u>COVID-19 resources page</u>.

CONTACT: Monika Turner, Director of Policy



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# **COVID-19: AMO UPDATE**

March 23, 2020

While it is only week-two of the declared state of emergency in Ontario, municipal councils and staff have been responding to, and preparing for COVID-19 for weeks and months, through the work of public health units, emergency planning, and the preparedness of front-line public safety and emergency responders.

AMO will continue to support its members by keeping you up-to date on available information, sharing and creating <u>new resources</u>, by helping to shape government policy and responses to the emergency, and by advocating for support for municipal government.

There were many important developments last week, <u>including the passage of the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*</u> to permit virtual participation in council meetings, and support supply chain effectiveness.

These follow important government action the previous week to stabilize public health finding.

On March 25, Finance Minister Rod Phillips will deliver an economic update rather than a provincial budget, and AMO will provide an immediate analysis for members.

AMO is focused on critically important issues that require urgent action. In the wake of forgone tax, fee and transit revenues, municipalities will need adequate and timely financial assistance. Municipal employees, critical for many core functions, and to the response and management of the emergency, need support and protection. Municipal human services account for the most vulnerable and susceptible populations in the province and are under extreme pressure. Municipalities stand ready to channel needed federal and provincial economic stimulus into the economy through infrastructure investments and other means. Seasonal residents are putting pressure on small urban and rural resources. Broadband gaps challenge business continuity, enterprise and new education measures.

AMO is also looking at resources and potential collaboration to ensure municipal governments are ready to play their indispensable role in the economic recovery, and rebuilding prosperity in Ontario.

AMO is using strong, existing networks to stay on top of this emergency. We will make rapid adjustments to respond to quickly evolving situations. Our policy and membership teams are working directly with your subject matter experts and professional associations, coordinating critically important advice, information and action. Thank you for your Council's leadership, and the support of extraordinary municipal public servants.

We are keeping our <u>COVID-19 webpage</u> current and focusing on what's most relevant. AMO's <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u> email will manage your questions, take your ideas, and facilitate your feedback.



AMO COVID-19 covid19@amo.on.ca T 416.971.9856



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## AMO COVID-19 UPDATE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL PROTECTION ACT INVOKED

March 17, 2020

Ontario communities are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of COVID-19. Municipal councils and municipal public servants will play a key role in responding to the crisis, managing in difficult times, and providing leadership to restore economic activity and prosperity when the crisis ends.

This morning, Premier Ford announced that Ontario is making an order declaring an emergency under Section 7.0.1 (1) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.* 

The Government has taken this important step so that it has every power possible to contain COVID-19 and protect the health and well-being of Ontarians.

As a result of this declaration and its associated orders, certain establishments are legally required to close immediately, including:

- all facilities providing indoor recreational programs
- all public libraries
- all private schools as defined in the Education Act
- all licensed childcare centres
- all bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout food and delivery
- all theatres including those offering live performances of music, dance, and other art forms, as well as cinemas that show movies, and
- concert venues.

Further, all organized public events of over fifty people are prohibited, including parades and events and communal services within places of worship.

These orders will remain in place until March 31, 2020, at which point they will be reassessed and considered for extension, unless they are terminated earlier.

The Premier's <u>announcement</u> also included an emergency relief package including measures to support the health care system.

AMO has been keeping you up to date on to the coronavirus since January by connecting you to Government of Ontario information and developments. We will endeavour to ensure you continue to have the best available information.

AMO staff are now working from home to keep them safe and to support social distancing measures that will slow the spread of COVID-19. Our operations and policy work continue uninterrupted and all key functions and

transactional abilities remain in place.

At meetings with Health Minister Christine Elliott and Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Steve Clark, AMO President Jamie McGarvey offered AMO's assistance to support the government's COVID-19 efforts in any way it can.

AMO has also raised a number of issues with the Province, including the need for measures to ensure councils can continue to make key decisions if in-person council meetings are cancelled, and the need to address regulated and time-sensitive processes that will be affected by delays and disruptions resulting from municipal office closures and other social distancing measures.

We will continue to update <u>AMO's COVID-19</u> webpage to keep you informed.

Over the past week, OSUM, FONOM, and NOMA cancelled their spring 2020 conferences in response to guidance from government on gatherings. As of today, gatherings of 50 or more people are banned under emergency measures.

At this time, planning for the AMO conference in August continues. If it proceeds as planned, lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic will be a key topic of learning and discussion.

Your best source of information about COVID-19 continues to be the <u>provincial government</u> and <u>federal government</u> websites. There you will find information on how best to protect yourself and others, facts about the virus, as well as steps taken, recommendations and requirements pertaining to the COVID-19 emergency.

We will keep you informed.

## CONTACT

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### SAULT STE. MARIE REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

### Regular Meeting Agenda Tuesday, March 24, 2020 4:45 p.m. Conservation Authority Office

- 1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- 2. Finance and Administration
  - February 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes
  - Accounts Payable
  - Auditors Report BDO (Tentative)
  - Budget Update
  - Health and Safety Meeting Minutes
  - Request to move date for June Board Meeting
- 3. Water and Related Land Management
  - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses
  - Application Approvals
- 4. New Business / Other
  - Presentation from Becky Hodgson Algoma Forest and Nature School
  - Draft Updated Travel Policy
  - Truck Lease Quotes
  - Memorial Sign on CA Property
- 5. In Camera
  - Personnel matter
- 6. Adjournment

### Rachel Tyczinski

From:	Debbie Tomas <dtomas@ssmrca.ca></dtomas@ssmrca.ca>
Sent:	Monday, March 16, 2020 2:48 PM
То:	Rachel Tyczinski; Peggy Greco; lorraine@twp.prince.on.ca; sste.star@sunmedia.ca; elaine.della-mattia@sunmedia.ca; richard.plaunt@sunmedia.ca; sudburynews@cbc.ca; martha.dillman@cbc.ca; infocbon@radio-canada.ca; darren@sootoday.com; carol@sootoday.com; newsforthenorth@bellmedia.ca; James Hopkin; news@sootoday.com; marsha.ewing@yahoo.com; ssm.news@rci.rogers.com;
	lou@oldies93fm.com
Cc:	Corrina Barrett
Subject:	SSMRCA March 24, 2020 Board Meeting Cancellation

This email originated outside of the Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Do not open attachments or click links unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I would like to inform everyone, to whom I sent an email this morning regarding the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority (SSMRCA) and SPA March 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, that the SSMRCA Board has just decided to postpone the March Board meeting until April. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Respectfully, Debbie Tomas Bookkeeper/ Receptionist, SSMRCA



### SAULT STE. MARIE SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY 2020 REGULAR MEETING

### Tuesday March 24, 2020 Conservation Authority Office Agenda

- **1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
- 2. Administration
  - Approval of Minutes for Feb 18, 2020 Meeting

### 3. Program Update

- Source Protection Committee Member Appointment
- 4. Adjournment



Town of Grimsby Administration Office of the Town Clerk 160 Livingston Avenue, P.O. Box 159, Grimsby, ON L3M 4G3 Phone: 905-945-9634 Ext. 2015 | Fax: 905-945-5010 Email: <u>skim@grimsby.ca</u>

SENT VIA EMAIL

### RE: Suspend Time-of-Use Electricity Billing

Please be advised that at the Special Council Meeting of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, The Council of the Town of Grimsby passed the following resolution:

Moved by Councillor Sharpe; Seconded by Councillor Dunstall;

Resolve that during the circumstances of the COVID-19 outbreak, that the Council of the Town of Grimsby supports the Premier's recommendation to suspend time-of-use electricity billing; and,

That the Council of the Town of Grimsby request that the Ontario Energy Board suspend time-of-use electricity billing to support lower electricity bills for residents who may be isolating at home during the day, and to support businesses who continue to operate, via lower power rates during the day-time peak period; and,

That this time-of-use billing suspension take effect immediately until such time that the COVID-19 outbreak has been contained; and,

That this resolution be forwarded to:

- Premier Doug Ford
- MPP Sam Oosterhoff
- Ontario Energy Board OEB
- Ontario Municipalities
- Grimsby Energy Inc.

If you have any questions with regard to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Sarah Kim Town Clerk