



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

May 15, 2020

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Community Services

Legislative Services

May 5, 2020

Sent via email: Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Canada/US Border Crossings - Essential Traffic Only - COVID-19

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of May 4, 2020 passed the following resolution for your action:

Whereas the COVID-19 Pandemic has resulted in all countries taking extraordinary measures to ensure the health of their populations, and

Whereas the limiting to essential traffic only at the border between the United States of America (US) and Canada has undoubtedly assisted in the containment of this disease, and

Whereas the medical community has stated that the possibility exists for another wave of infections, and

Whereas the Governors of US States have been empowered to begin easing restrictions, and

Whereas the conduct and travel of residents, and the operation of businesses in the US States bordering Canada and beyond, has a direct impact on the potential spread of the virus by virtue of those individuals entering Canada, and

Whereas Canadians and Americans entering each other's countries have the potential to return home after becoming infected, and

Whereas in less extraordinary times our American friends, family and neighbours are welcome in our community, and

Whereas we urge the government of Canada to continue to be guided by health and science in making its decisions regarding the border;

Now therefore be it resolved,

That: The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie hereby requests the Prime Minister of Canada to continue limitation of cross- border traffic to essential traffic only, and further

.../2

Mailing Address:

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That: The restrictions remain in place until such time that it can be demonstrated that the flattening of the outbreak curve in the United States of America is on par with the progress we are seeing in Ontario, and further

That: Canada Border Services Agency, in association with other health and law enforcement authorities, continues its protocol of screening and monitoring those individuals crossing the border to ensure that only essential travellers or individuals who reside in Canada gain entry into Canada as long as the border restrictions remain in place, and further

That: Special attention be paid to the outbreak statistics concerning border States in the eventual decision making process to return cross-border travel to pre-pandemic normalcies, and further

That: A copy of this resolution be circulated to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Wayne Gates, MPP-Niagara Falls, Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Sam Oosterhoff, MPP-Niagara West-Glanbrook, Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Jennifer Stevens, MPP-St. Catharines, Jeff Burch, MPP-Niagara Centre, Dean Allison, MP-Niagara West, Chris Bittle, MP- St. Catharines, Tony Baldinelli, MP- Niagara Falls, Vance Badawey, MP, Niagara Centre, The Regional Municipality of Niagara, and all Niagara Area Local Municipalities, for their support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,



Carol Schofield, Dipl.M.A.
Manager, Legislative Services/Clerk
cschofield@forterie.ca

CS:dlk

Cc:

Sent via email:

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia.Freeland@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario premier@ontario.ca

Wayne Gates, MPP-Niagara Falls, Legislative Assembly of Ontario wgates-co@ndp.on.ca

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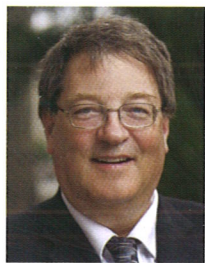
Vance Badawey, MP- Niagara Centre Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca

The Regional Municipality of Niagara
Niagara Area Municipalities



We're Number 1!

Canadian lists and city development



Ken Coates is Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan. His major project examines the potential contributions – and negative impacts – of emerging technologies on rural and remote communities. He can be reached at ken-nethcoates@gmail.com or at 306-341-0545.

Canadians have a particular fascination with lists or, more accurately, our ranking on international lists. We like to read – who wouldn't – that our country is rated as the number one place in the world to live (*U.S. News World Reports*). We like to see Canada doing well on the list of nations according to the Human Development Index and other global rankings.

One set of indices – world rankings of cities – tells us that Canada is extraordinarily good at urban development. Our leading cities (Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Calgary, and Vancouver) are typically rated highly. When the lists of the world's best cities routinely has three or four Canadian cities in the top cohort, we should be extraordinarily proud. Vancouver, for example, was recently ranked fourth in the world in terms of quality of life. Toronto ranked as the world's eighth smartest city in 2018. Major cities, we are told, are central to 21st century economic achievement. To the degree that this is true, Canada is well placed to be competitive in the years ahead.

The global rankings of Canadian cities reflect many things: solid infrastructure, an impressive commitment to the role of law, social and cultural diversity, strong health care and social supports, abundant parks, world-class entertainment, and other characteristics. Put simply, Canada does major cities very well. And this is an achievement of which the country should be proud.

Greater Focus on Smaller Communities

We do not do so well on international smaller community rankings. Only one Canadian city,

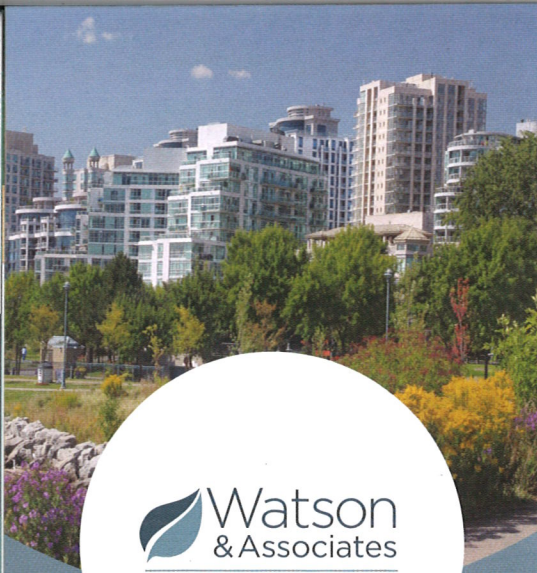
Victoria, makes the list of the top small cities (under 200,000 people) in the world (*Monocle's* 2019 Small Cities Index). There are many global lists of small towns and villages, but these tend to be impressionistic rankings of the "most beautiful" communities, more useful for tourist promotion than city planning. Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, made one such list, but Canada is not well-represented in this category. *Maclean's* "Best Communities in Canada" list includes a significant number of smaller cities, and many suburbs.

The story is far from uniformly poor, but the absence of comprehensive assessments of small cities and the availability of resources to address challenges makes it difficult to provide a clear assessment of the achievements and needs of Canada's smaller centres.

People generally love lists, particularly if their communities, regions, or countries perform well. But they do not like being noticed on a list of negative characteristics. Second, things that are measured attract the attention of governments and citizens. Being on – or off – a list often generates local debate and can lead to government action.

Communities are generally supportive of measures that could improve quality of life. When the City of Stratford, Ontario, competed for the title of World's Smartest City (they made the shortlist against a set of much larger communities), the city and the local government got behind Mayor Dan Mathieson's audacious effort. The recognition was well-deserved and has helped sustain continued innovation and collaboration at the municipal level.

Canada's towns and small cities – with their counterparts around the world – face formidable



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challenges in the era of city-states and rapid urbanization. As the readers of *Municipal World* know well, these communities are sources of endless creativity and re-invention, focusing particularly on economic revitalization. But the smaller centres have not attracted the same kind of federal and provincial government attention and investment as Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa, and smaller cities. Given the demographic, economic, and growing political importance of our city-states (which incorporate the surrounding suburbs and surrounding communities), the emphasis on major city development is likely to continue.

Canada's issues are complicated by major transitions in the national economy. The demographic decline in the rural and agricultural areas is causing major disruptions in the communities. So, too, is the closure of manufacturing plants, particularly in central Canada, and the threats to single industry resource towns, which face uncertain futures based on everything from national battles over resource development to the growing use of fly in/fly out mines and the workplace dislocations attached to the introduction of new technologies.

Large city improvements remain a national priority; there is a great deal still to be done. But small towns and regional centres – from Corner Brook, Newfoundland to Sherbrooke, Quebec; Thunder Bay, Ontario to Brandon, Manitoba; Lloydminster, Alberta/ Saskatchewan to Prince George, British Columbia and many other communities – have urgent needs. Smaller towns face an even greater gap between pressing requirements and available resources unless Canada is prepared to tolerate an ever-larger urban-small town divide.

**Smaller Communities
Responsive to Pressures
of Change**

Smaller cities and towns are far from passive in the face of dramatic pressures to change. It is difficult to find a community, of any size, with more resolve than Stratford. Timmins and **Sault Ste. Marie** have launched impressive and comprehensive efforts to respond to the current challenges. Kitchener/Waterloo is deservedly celebrated for innovation;

Kelowna is now on a path to becoming Canada's next highly successful high tech community. Whitehorse is capitalizing on partnerships with First Nations to build a new future. Smaller Indigenous communities – like Old Crow, Yukon and Ile-a-la Crosse, Saskatchewan – are working hard to respond to opportunities. Province-wide, the communities on Prince Edward Island are showing a deep commitment to innovation and sustained growth. Prince Edward Island provides a reason for much hope in the face of substantial disruptions.

At some point, given the world's insatiable appetite for lists and rankings, it is likely that there will be better ranking systems for small cities and towns. When the list rankings come, it is imperative that Canada's impressive performance on the ratings of major cities be matched by comparable achievement at the small city and town levels. At present, the country would not do well. We need to resolve to make the investments and decisions necessary to ensure that Canada's small cities and towns merit recognition as being among the world's best.

What are the prospects of a small city and town policy in Canada? Right now, they are not favourable for growth or stability. The belief in the centrality of major cities is very strong in Canada. Small centres are divided, widely scattered, and with limited financial resources. Most of the towns and small cities, many facing economic challenges, lack the resources to respond to opportunities and risks.

The experience with published lists is not uniformly positive. They can be divisive and embarrassing to communities that score poorly. Metrics and research methods generate intense debates about relevance and reliability.

This said, it is vital that more debate occur on the risks and dangers facing smaller cities and towns in Canada, along with strategies and plans for elevating the infrastructure and services available to residents. These discussions, in turn, will improve understanding of strategies and achievements of local governments in assuring 21st century viability and competitiveness. **MW**

May 8, 2020

Via e-mail: pm@pm.gc.ca
premier@ontario.ca

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A3

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford:

Re: Financial Assistance for Municipal Governments

I am writing to urge the governments of Canada and Ontario to work together to invest in the financial stabilization of municipal governments and the recovery of local economies comprising the prosperity of the Province and the Country.

Municipalities recognize the extraordinary efforts of the governments of Canada and Ontario to safeguard public health, and to support individuals, business, public services and the overall stability of the economy.

People recognize and appreciate the remarkable collaboration of all orders of government to address the COVID-19 emergency with dispatch, intelligence, and compassion, guided by science rather than politics. Politicians and extraordinary public servants from all three orders of government have made immeasurable contributions and sacrifices. Municipal governments in Ontario have played a key role on the front lines of public health, paramedicine, shelter services, childcare, transit, public safety, the provision of safe drinking water, the distribution of emergency financial assistance, and in countless other ways. Our residents have contributed profoundly by staying at home, doing their part and making sacrifices to support the wellbeing of others.

As we look forward to economic recovery, municipal governments have an indispensable role to play. Financial assistance for municipalities from other orders of government is essential if we are to succeed.

In Ontario, the added costs of fighting COVID-19 and protecting the most vulnerable, coupled with massive and immediate losses in revenue in services such as transit, and reduced future revenue, cannot be managed at the community level. Financial support from Canada and Ontario is essential.

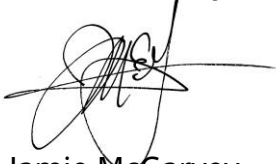
The only financial tools available municipal governments to address COVID-19 costs and shortfalls are property tax increases or service cuts on a massive scale, or the deferral of capital investments. Any of those options will harm, rather than support, the economic recovery of Ontario and Canada.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) recently submitted a proposal to Canada for municipal financial assistance and essential support for transit services. The proposal is comprehensive, equitable, and practical, and warrants immediate attention and a positive response.

AMO's members govern, protect and provide key services to almost one in three Canadians. On behalf of our members, we urge the governments of Canada and Ontario to extend your successful collaboration to the immediate provision of essential financial assistance for municipalities.

We look forward to working with Canada and Ontario to rebuild our shared economies, and to support the residents, private and public enterprises we all serve.

Yours Sincerely



Jamie McGarvey
President

cc.

The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Canada

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada

The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, Ontario

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario

President Bill Karsten, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

AMO COVID-19 UPDATE: EMERGENCY PERIOD EXTENDED AND BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS

May 12, 2020

Ontario Emergency Order Extension and Re-opening Plans

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario extended the Emergency Declaration and all orders under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* related to the COVID-19 pandemic until **June 2, 2020**. The extension was passed during a special sitting of the Legislature and marks almost two months since the first order was made on March 17, 2020.

Premier Doug Ford noted in his update today that as of this Thursday the province will begin Phase 1 of its re-opening strategy under provincial guidelines. At this point, information on what Phase 1 of the re-opening strategy entails has not been shared. Retail businesses such as garden centres and hardware stores have been able to re-open to the public while observing health and safety protocols since last week while retail stores with a street entrance have been able to open for curbside pick-up and delivery since May 11, 2020. This news comes as Ontario's COVID-19 cases have been trending downward in recent days with 361 new cases reported today, a 1.8 per cent increase.

Building Code Amendments – Permit Applications and Inspections to Continue

On May 11, 2020, the Province made amendments to Ontario's Building Code under O. Reg 209/20. As a result, municipal building officials must continue to review permit applications and conduct inspections for all construction projects. All time periods set out in the Building Code remain in effect, regardless of whether a municipal office is closed because of the COVID-19 outbreak. Conditional permits can be issued for non-essential construction projects during the outbreak. The amendment remains in effect until municipal building department offices are opened to the public for in-person services.

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

CONTACT

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TF 1.877.426.6527
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Madison Zuppa

From: Rachel Tyczinski
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Madison Zuppa
Subject: FW: Virtual AMO 2020 Conference - Program Information

From: AMO Events [events@amo.on.ca]
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 6:00 AM
To: Rachel Tyczinski
Subject: Virtual AMO 2020 Conference - Program Information

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May 14, 2020

Virtual AMO 2020 Conference Program Information

AMO's 2020 Conference program is taking shape to connect you with up-to-date information and the issues that matter most to you.

As always, you will hear from the Premier, Leader of the Opposition and the Leaders of the Liberal and Green parties. Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Steve Clark will address delegates, and we are inviting Health Minister Christine Elliott to provide an update on the provinces' COVID-19 response. And of course, virtually all Cabinet Ministers are expected to participate in our virtual Ministers' Forum.

This year, we will introduce our Women's Leadership Forum as a main stage event, along with a panel of economic leaders to discuss the economic recovery.

Through a series of workshops, we will deliver a combination of interactive and on-demand programming covering a wide variety of issues and initiatives. Some of the workshops we are working on include: COVID-19 –

Lessons from the Frontlines; COVID-19 Implications for Long-Term Care; Food Security & Food Waste; Municipal-Indigenous relations; Broadband; Digital Government; Infrastructure Investment as Economic Stimulus, and many more.

There will also be opportunities to hear from important organizations such as MPAC, OMERS and FCM.

The Conference will also include the AMO AGM and Board Elevations for 2020-2022. The [call for nominations](#) is open until **12:00 noon on Monday, June 22, 2020**.

Our 2020 keynote speaker, Innovation Strategist [Lital Marom](#), will talk about what disruption can mean for municipal government.

And of course, a key part of the AMO 2020 Conference will be virtual delegation meetings with provincial Cabinet Ministers. As always, Conference delegates can have direct engagement with Ministers and ministry staff from across the government to discuss matters that affect your municipality. Stay tuned for more information on how to request a delegation meeting for your municipal council.

Please visit the conference [webpage](#) for additional information and to [register for AMO 2020](#).

Thank You!

Thank you for your continued interest in the 2020 AMO Conference. Responding to COVID-19 and supporting our members through challenging times has been AMO's number one priority. A virtual conference in 2020 is an important part of AMO's commitment to serve our members. The AMO 2020 virtual conference will ensure AMO members have access to up-to-date information, lessons learned from COVID-19, and critically important networking opportunities that bring Ontario municipalities together in the service of our communities.

Questions

If you have questions about the Virtual AMO 2020 Conference, you may find the answers at our [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) section on the AMO conference webpage. If you have questions that are not answered there, please send them to events@amo.on.ca.

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

May 14, 2020

The Federation of Northeastern Ontario Municipalities met on Wednesday, May 13th, 2020, by ZOOM, to discuss the issues and challenges facing their 110 members. Since the COVID19 Pandemic contributed to the cancellation of FONOM's Annual Conference, the Executive and Board have been meeting monthly to understand the changing landscape better. President Danny Whalen said "with several members of the Board sitting at other political tables, it's important that we hear from our members about the impacts the COVID19 Pandemic is having in the North".

The Board reviewed and discussed AMO's Policy Paper on the "OPP Detachment Boards, Building a Framework for Better Policing Governance." The Paper notes that Northern Ontario is unique, but the FONOM Board identified several issues with the DSSAB Boards replacing the current Detachments Boards. Community Policing is distinctive to each Municipality, and the current DSSAB's would not be the best solution for overseeing the Northern OPP Detachments. Several of those issues were;

- The discrepancy between the number of DSSAB Boards to the number of Detachments.
- Representation on some boards, with members of the municipalities with no OPP contracts.
- The concern that this will start a conversation about the creation of Upper Tier or Regional Governments in the North.

During the meeting the Board appointed Sandra Hollingsworth to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Nominations and Community Relations Committee and as our representative to the AMO's Health Task Force. Sandra's experience working in the Health field will be a benefit for our members.

FONOM is an association of some 110 districts/municipalities/cities/towns in Northeastern Ontario mandated to work for the betterment of municipal government in Northern Ontario and to strive for improved legislation respecting local government in the north. It is a membership-based association that draws its members from northeastern Ontario and is governed by an 11-member board.



President Danny Whalen
705-622-2479