



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

April 1, 2021

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OCLIP Final Payment, AMO's Bill 257 Submission, and Amended COVID-19 Orders

- March 29, 2021

Final Payment Made: Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF)

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board today wrote to Heads of Council to advise them of the final payment of the [Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund \(OCLIF\)](#). AMO understands also that the Deputy Minister of Finance will soon write to municipal Treasurers with additional details and allocations.

When OCLIF was announced, AMO and municipal leaders strongly sought an equal share of funding should Ontario's revenues exceed the then expected \$100 million. Today's letter from Minister Bethlenfalvy makes good on that commitment, noting the Province is distributing \$3.9 million, 50 per cent of the surplus, to eligible municipalities.

OCLIF is a one-time \$40 million fund to help municipalities manage the transition to a legal recreational cannabis market in Ontario's communities. The funding can be used for a range of initiatives linked to recreational cannabis legalization such as public information, enforcement, and other requirements.

AMO continues to advocate for a renewed share of cannabis excise tax revenue to support municipalities in managing cannabis costs and expanding services and programs that help

residents, particularly youth, to develop skills for lifetime resilience. Cannabis revenues could make an important contribution towards needed improving of the social determinants of health as well as safety and well-being in our communities.

AMO's Bill 257 Submission

On Friday, March 26, the AMO Board submitted [written comments](#) on all schedules of [Bill 257, *Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act*, 2021](#) to the Standing Committee on General Government. Clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill is scheduled for tomorrow. AMO will continue to update members as the Bill proceeds through the legislative process.

Amended COVID-19 Orders

On Friday March 26, there was provincial notice to amend COVID-19 regulations that took effect on Monday, March 29th as of 12:01 a.m.

We expect the consolidated regulations under the *Reopening Ontario Act 2020* to be posted shortly.

- [Reg. 223/21](#) amending O. Reg. 364/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 3 – Grey and Shutdown)
- [Reg. 222/21](#) amending O. Reg. 263/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 2 - red)
- [Reg. 221/21](#) amending O. Reg. 82/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 1 – green, yellow, orange)
- [Reg. 224/21](#) amending O. Reg. 363/20 (list of Public Health Units in each zone).

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:

AMO COVID-19

covid19@amo.on.ca

T 416.971.9856

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Provincial COVID-19 Shut-Down, Water Taking Changes, and Long- Term Care Medication Safety

Policy Update • April 01, 2021

Provincial COVID-19 Shut-Down

The provincial government is imposing a [provincewide emergency brake](#) in **all** 34 public health unit regions as a result of an alarming surge of COVID-19 case numbers and related hospitalizations across the province. The provincewide emergency brake will be effective Saturday, April 3, 2021, at 12:01 a.m. It is intended to be kept in place for at least four weeks.

The provincewide emergency brake puts into place time-limited public health and workplace safety measures to help to stop the rapid transmission of COVID-19 variants in communities, protect hospital capacity, and save lives. Measures include, but are not limited to:

- Prohibiting indoor organized public events and social gatherings and limiting the capacity for outdoor organized public events or social gatherings to a 5-person maximum, except for gatherings with members of the same household (the people you live with) or gatherings of members of one household and one other person from another household who lives alone;
- Restricting in-person shopping in all retail settings, including a 50 per cent capacity limit for supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, indoor farmers' markets, other stores that primarily sell food and pharmacies, and 25 per cent for all other retail including big box stores, along with other public health and workplace safety measures;

- Prohibiting personal care services;
- Prohibiting indoor and outdoor dining. Restaurants, bars, and other food or drink establishments will be permitted to operate by take-out, drive-through, and delivery only;
- Prohibiting the use of facilities for indoor or outdoor sports and recreational fitness (e.g., gyms) with very limited exceptions;
- Requiring day camps to close; and,
- Limiting capacity at weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites or ceremonies to 15 per cent occupancy per room indoors, and to the number of individuals that can maintain two metres of physical distance outdoors. This does not include social gatherings associated with these services such as receptions, which are not permitted indoors and are limited to five people outdoors.

The current [*COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open*](#), will be paused when the provincewide emergency brake comes into effect.

Changes to Ontario's Water Taking Program

Yesterday the Province [*announced*](#) new changes to Ontario's water taking program. It is one of the key commitments of the [*Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan*](#). The changes include new rules that give municipal governments more direct input on allowing bottled water companies to withdraw new or increased amounts of groundwater in their communities. The Province also provided new guidance on managing water taking in areas [*where sustainability is a key concern*](#) and [*where there are competing demands*](#).

Strengthening Medication Safety in Long-Term Care Homes

The government [*announced*](#) it is acting to strengthen medication safety for residents in long-term care homes. \$77 million will be provided to homes to use more advanced technologies. The goal is to facilitate for better transmission and handling of prescriptions, more accurate administration of medication, and increased security of the drug supply in long-term care homes.

This initiative is part of the response to the final report of the [*Public Inquiry into the Safety and Security of Residents in the Long-Term Care Homes System*](#). In the report, Justice Gillese emphasized the importance of medication management to keep long-term care residents safe.

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.

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Related Content



COVID-19

OCLIP Final Payment, AMO's Bill 257 Submission, and Amended COVID-19 Orders

MAR 29, 2021 •



COVID-19

Federal Gas Tax and Updated COVID-19 Regulations

MAR 25, 2021 • POLICY UPDATE

March 4, 2021

CL 4-2021, February 25, 2021
PHSSC 2-2021, February 16, 2021
Minute Item No. 5.1, February 16, 2021

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO)

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Motion respecting Homelessness, Mental Health and Addiction in Niagara

Minute Item No. 5.1

Regional Council, at its meeting held on February 25, 2021, approved the following resolution from its Public Health and Social Services Committee:

WHEREAS Niagara Region prides itself as being a caring and compassionate community that continually strives to be a place where people want to live, work and play;

WHEREAS providing access to safe, adequate and affordable housing for everyone is fundamental to achieving that goal;

WHEREAS Niagara Region acknowledges that mental health, mental illness, addiction and homelessness, while important issues, are not homogenous, interchangeable or consistently interconnected, and doing so may over simplify exceptionally complex issues that require targeted policy solutions and intervention;

WHEREAS Niagara Region's 10-year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan (HHAP), A Home For All, outlines the Region's vision, challenges, and the actions required to achieve its goals;

WHEREAS Niagara Region has embarked on an ambitious effort to end chronic homelessness through participation in the national Built for Zero campaign;

WHEREAS Regional Council formally adopted Mental Health and Wellbeing (2.2) and Addressing Affordable Housing Needs (2.3) as strategic priorities for the current term of our Council;

WHEREAS a recent KPMG report commissioned by Niagara Region indicated that Council invests more levy funding than its peers into homelessness, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to addressing the issue;

WHEREAS Niagara Region acknowledges that people living in shelters are part of the crisis and not the solution;

WHEREAS Niagara Region has two planned housing projects that would directly address those in Niagara who experience chronic homelessness;

WHEREAS the implementation plan for Council's strategic objectives states that staff will identify gaps within the mental health system to increase the functionality and collaboration within it;

WHEREAS the same implementation plan directed staff to partner with Ontario Health (formally the LHIN) to review the local landscape to identify opportunities, including new investment;

WHEREAS the treatment and supports for mental illness, addiction, and homelessness are predominantly funded and directed by the Province;

WHEREAS the success of the Region's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan is dependent on a commitment of sustained and increased funding (both operational and capital) from all levels of government to address the issues of housing insecurity and homelessness in Niagara; and

WHEREAS the needs of the community far outweigh Niagara Region's available resources and funding required to effectively address these issues, and the support of both the Provincial and Federal governments are needed to meet these needs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That Niagara Region Council officially **ACKNOWLEDGE** that a significant crisis exists in Niagara in regard to the prevalence of chronic homelessness and the lack of affordable housing that far surpasses the Region's ability to meet the vision dictated in its 10-year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan (HHAP);
2. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to send advocacy letters directly to the appropriate Federal and Provincial ministries outlining Niagara's current situation and requesting additional funding be provided to ensure Niagara can meet the vision outlined in its housing action plan;
3. That the Regional Chair **BE DIRECTED** to advocate to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development for the required operational funding for the planned supportive and bridge housing initiatives;
4. That Regional staff **BE DIRECTED**, in alignment with the planned review of Council's strategic priorities, to produce a report specifically highlighting the progress being made and critical gaps in regard to services related to mental health, addictions and wellbeing;
5. That Regional staff **BE DIRECTED** to continue providing Regional Council updates on the HHAP and Built for Zero initiatives;
6. That Regional staff **BE DIRECTED** to request an update from the Overdose Prevention and Education Network of Niagara (OPENN) regarding the current status of the actions being taken to address addiction related issues in Niagara; and

7. That a copy of this motion be sent to all members of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

:kl

CLK-C 2021- 044

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

Resolution

DATE March 9, 2021

NO. 2021-052

MOVED BY Sandy Cross

SECONDED BY Heather Olmstead

"WHEREAS workers in Ontario without paid sick leave often feel forced to work when unwell so they can feed and support their families and are at risk of losing a paycheque or even their jobs if they stay home, and;

WHEREAS the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit is temporary, not accessible to all and not usable for the crucial first few days of an illness, and;

WHEREAS had legislated paid sick leave been in place before the global pandemic, lives would have been saved because infection rates would have been reduced, and;

WHEREAS the lack of paid sick days has especially hurt Black, Indigenous, workers of colour, women and migrant workers who are over-represented in low-paying frontline jobs with few benefits and a reduced ability to work from home, and;

WHEREAS the Ontario Medical Association, 11 GTHA Mayors and Chairs representing Ontario's largest municipalities, the editorial board of the Toronto Star, the Toronto Board of Health, the Decent Work and Health Network, the Ontario Nurses Association, and several other professional associations representing thousands of healthcare workers have all called on the provincial government to legislate paid sick days;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Calvin endorses legislated sick leave and calls on the government of Ontario to permanently legislate universal paid sick days for all workers in Ontario during the pandemic and beyond, regardless of workplace size, type of work or immigration status, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this motion be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Labour, all Regional MPPs, and all Ontario Municipalities."

CARRIED 

DIVISION VOTE

<u>NAME OF MEMBER OF COUNCIL</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
<u>Coun Cross</u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>Coun Maxwell</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u>Coun Olmstead</u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>Coun Grant</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u>Mayor Pennell</u>	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

The Corporation of the
MUNICIPALITY OF TWEED

255 Metcalf St., Postal Bag 729
Tweed, ON K0K 3J0
Tel.: (613) 478-2535
Fax: (613) 478-6457



Email: info@tweed.ca
Website: www.tweed.ca
facebook.com/tweedontario

March 10, 2021

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Re: Advocacy for Reform of Joint and Several Liability

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

During our budget deliberations and the review of the pricing for insurance for the 2021 year, Council is requesting that reform of the Joint and Several Liability system be undertaken. For the Municipality of Tweed, a small municipality within the County of Hastings, with population of 6,044 and total households of 3,023, as at the last census in 2016, we are experiencing significant increasing costs of insurance.

Over the last 5 years, we have experienced increase in our insurance premiums due to Joint and Several Liability. Our last 5 years of insurance premiums have been:

2017	\$161,441.84
2018	\$164,497.28
2019	\$171,649.20
2020	\$213,466.36
2021	\$265,170.24

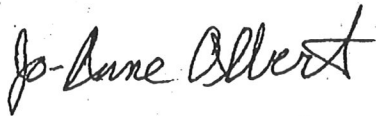
Over the last 5 years, the annual premium has increased by \$103,728.40. That is 64.25%. For the Municipality of Tweed, the 2021 increase of \$51,703.88 results in a tax levy increase of 1.25%. Therefore, when Council wishes to keep the levy no higher than a 2% increase, especially under the financial times that residents have experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, more than half of this increase is allocated to insurance premiums. For a population of only 6,044, the annual cost of insurance per household is \$87.72 in 2021, compared to only \$53.41 in 2017.

This phenomenon is not unique to the Municipality of Tweed, nor is this a new concern. In 2010, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) submitted *The Case for Joint and Several Liability Reform in Ontario* on April 1, 2010 (copy can be found at <https://www.amo.on.ca/sites/default/files/assets/DOCUMENTS/Reports/2010/TheCaseforJointandSeveralLiabilityReforminOntario20100401.pdf>).

Because many view municipalities as having "deep pockets", they are often funding a larger portion of awards from court than what the fault percentage is. However, these "deep pockets" are at the cost of every taxpayer within the Municipality.

The Municipality of Tweed is advocating for reform and reconsideration of the *Negligence Act, R.S.O. 1990, c N. 1* to provide for alternatives. Many alternatives were provided in the 2010 AMO report previously referenced, including, but not limited to, Joint and Severable Liability at a set percentage of fault or Joint and Severable Liability based on type of damage.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo-Anne Albert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jo-Anne" and the last name "Albert" clearly distinguishable.

Jo-Anne Albert
Mayor

cc. Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All 444 Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



2021 Division Road North
Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9
Phone: (519) 733-2305
www.kingsville.ca
kingsvilleworks@kingsville.ca

SENT VIA EMAIL

March 25, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, MP
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

Prime Minister:

RE: Bill C-21, An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms)

At its Regular Meeting held on March 8, 2021 Council of the Town of Kingsville passed the following Resolution:

“205-2021

Moved By Councillor Thomas Neufeld, **Seconded By** Councillor Larry Patterson

A Resolution concerning Bill C-21, An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms), specifically Amendment 26, Section (58.01 (1-8), Conditions-by-law.

WHEREAS municipalities have never been responsible for gun control laws in Canada;

AND WHEREAS law abiding Kingsville residents who own legal handguns have already been thoroughly vetted through the CFSC, PAL and ATT applications;

AND WHEREAS illegal gun owners and smugglers do not respect postal codes;

AND WHEREAS if one municipality enacts a ban and not a neighbouring municipality, this will create a patchwork of by-laws;

AND WHEREAS a municipal ban would be difficult to enforce and easy to get around.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Corporation of the Town of Kingsville is OPPOSED to the adoption of any by-laws restricting the possession, storage and transportation of legally obtained handguns;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the following public officials: MP Chris Lewis-Essex, MPP Taras Natyshak-Essex, Premier of Ontario The Honourable Doug Ford, Leader of the Official Opposition Andrea Horwath, Prime Minister of Canada The Honourable Justin Trudeau, and Leader of Official Opposition The Honourable Erin O'Toole.”

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If you require any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours very truly,



Sandra Kitchen
Deputy Clerk-Council Services
Legislative Services Department
skitchen@kingsville.ca

cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier
cc: Hon. Andrea Horwath, Official Leader of the Opposition
cc: Hon. Erin O'Toole, Official Leader of the Opposition
cc: MP Chris Lewis- Essex
cc: MPP Taras Natyshak-Essex
cc: Hon. Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
cc: MP Shannon Stubbs
cc: Mayor Aldo DiCarlo, Town of Amherstburg
cc: Mayor Larry Snively, Town of Essex
cc: Mayor Tom Bain, Town of Lakeshore
cc: Mayor Marc Bondy, Town of LaSalle
cc: Mayor Hilda MacDonald, Municipality of Leamington
cc: Mayor Gary McNamara, Town of Tecumseh
cc: all Municipalities in Ontario

premier@ontario.ca
horwatha-qp@ndp.on.ca
erin.otoole@parl.gc.ca