



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

April 22, 2022

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## Rachel Tyczinski

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**Subject:** FW: Plaza

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**From:** Mary-Jane Burke  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** Rachel Tyczinski <r.tyczinski@cityssm.on.ca>  
**Subject:** Plaza

I trust this letter will be forwarded to the Mayor and city council.

I just wanted to state, that myself and several other people I have spoken to feel that the Plaza is an unnecessary expense to the city, considering the roads and other necessary infrastructure needs to be the priority! If funds allocated to roads is being used for the Plaza, then this is a whole other problem.

At this point, it seems as though the Mayor and council, is trying to get this all pushed through as quickly as possible, since learning where some of the funding is coming from. Also, wants done before election, where it should be voted on by the citizens, since councilors not representing some of their constituents. My taxes have been going up and I don't think spending it on the Plaza is where I want my taxes supporting.

With all the controversy over the Plaza, I think more investigation is warranted before continuing any further. This Plaza is NOT a solution to cleaning up the downtown area.

Thank you for your time.

Mary-Jane Burke

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**SAULT STE. MARIE REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Meeting Agenda (Updated)**  
**Tuesday, April 26, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.**  
**Hybrid Meeting (In Person / Electronic)**

- 1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Finance and Administration**
  - a) Adoption of AGM Board Minutes of March 29, 2022
  - b) Health and Safety Meeting Minutes
  - c) Property Inquiry Statistics – 1st Quarter
  - d) Accounts Payable
  - e) Purchasing Approvals
- 4. Water and Related Land Management**

Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses

  - a) Application Approvals
- 5. New Business / Other**
  - a) General Manager's Update Report
  - b) Conservation Ontario Council AGM Update
  - c) Conservation Area Signage Update
- 6. Closed Session**
  - a) To discuss proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of CA land
- 7. Adjournment**

For members of the public interested in attending this meeting, please contact the General Manager, Corrina Barrett, at [cbarrett@ssmrca.ca](mailto:cbarrett@ssmrca.ca) to make arrangements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



**SAULT STE. MARIE SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY  
2022 REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022  
Hybrid Meeting (Electronic & In person)  
Agenda (Updated)**

- 1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Administration**
  - Approval of Minutes for March 29, 2022 SPA AGM
- 4. Program Update**
- 5. Adjournment**

For members of the public interested in attending this meeting, please contact the General Manager, Corrina Barrett, at [cbarrett@ssmrca.ca](mailto:cbarrett@ssmrca.ca) to make arrangements. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

# Fire Certification Regulations, Provincial Investment in Next Generation 911, More Homes For Everyone receives Royal Assent, LTC Regulations, and Municipal Cyber Security Resources

Policy Update • April 19, 2022

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## Fire Certification Regulation Released

New firefighter certification regulations have now been filed under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*. [O.Reg 343/22](#) is in effect as of July 1, 2022. The Ministry of the Solicitor General has now added further exemptions to improve implementation. These changes include:

- extending the exemption period for newly hired firefighters from 24 months to 36 months
- an exemption for current firefighters performing pump operations, and
- a further exemption for firefighters who have been issued a letter of compliance by the Fire Marshal prior to the new regulation coming into force.

The new regulations add certification standards for fire prevention, inspection, training, and communications. It removes certification standards for vehicle rescue and heavy vehicle rescue. Municipal fire departments will have until September 30, 2023, to provide information that supports the certification standard to the Fire Marshal's satisfaction.

AMO has impressed upon the Ministry of the Solicitor General and the Ontario Fire Marshal of the need to take measures which attract and retain volunteer firefighters, provide financial assistance to support training where needed during the implementation period, and to align the certification process with the Community Risk Assessments due for completion by 2025.

## **NG-911 Investment**

The Ontario government has announced a \$208 million investment over three years to modernize Ontario's 911 system. This is the first significant financial step the province has taken to comply with federally mandated Next Generation 911 modernization. The transition to NG-911 implementation is due by March 2025.

NG-911 allows members of the public to communicate with municipal 911 call centres using more than just their voice. It allows for the transmission of GPS location coordinates, text messages, photos, and videos. Over 100 municipally operated call centres throughout the province connect the public with police, fire, and ambulances services.

The transition from analog communications to digital communications is a big step forward. The technical complexity of these changes has significant financial implications. It includes infrastructure modernization, the sorting and storage of digital information, and training requirements for emergency operators and 911 dispatchers.

AMO welcomes this initial provincial down payment. To successfully commence and operate NG-911 for the safety of all, will require further investments in the future. AMO is a participating member of the NG-911 Interagency Advisory Panel working with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. AMO will continue to press for sustainable fiscal options to guide further NG-911 investments.

## ***More Homes for Everyone Act Receives Royal Assent***

The [More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022](#) received [royal assent](#) on April 14, 2022. This legislation supports the provincial government's [More Homes for Everyone Plan](#). The legislation passed with no amendments and is now in place. Among the changes enabled by the Act is the deadline of July 1, 2022, for municipalities to delegate site plan approval to staff.

[Consultations](#) related to the More Homes for Everyone Plan are still underway until April 29, 2022. AMO will be providing a submission to respond to these consultations in the coming weeks.

## **Long-Term Care Regulations in Force**

On April 11, 2022, the [Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021](#) and Phase 1 of its [regulations](#) came into force. As identified in our [response](#) to the proposed regulations, there are concerns that there may be additional financial impact to the implementation of these regulations than was initially estimated by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

The Ministry's initial estimate of average annual direct compliance costs for all long-term care homes in Ontario was between \$20 million to \$23.5 million, or approximately \$36,000 on average for each home, each year. This estimate only includes the additional costs linked to enforcement.

[AdvantAge Ontario](#) conducted a broader analysis based on all aspects of the new regulations, including potential hiring of additional staff, and found that for all long-term care homes the cost

would be between \$369 million and \$407 million, or approximately \$590,000 to \$650,000 per home, per year.

AMO looks forward to the provincial budget for any additional funding that would address the full cost of the regulations, along with the potential reinstatement of COVID-19 prevention and containment funding.

An additional municipal concern in the regulations is that municipal elected officials elected under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* have not been exempted from the requirement to provide a police record check to serve on long-term care governance boards. The only exemption provided for in the regulations is if the elected official's term of office ends on November 14, 2022.

## Cyber Security Resources

**Secure Smart Cities Paper Released** - The Cybersecure Policy Exchange has released [Secure Smart Cities: Making Municipal Infrastructure Cyber Resilient](#). The report examines the unique challenges and needs of Canada's municipalities for securing their critical infrastructure from cyber threats. The paper identifies key challenges, promising developments, and five policy recommendations to ensure the security and resilience of municipal critical infrastructure systems. The paper was developed through a literature and jurisdictional review, along with interviews and a round table with experts, including representatives from AMO and LAS.

**TVO's The Agenda: Ontario Municipalities Under Cyber Threat** - On April 4, 2022, TV Ontario's Steve Paikin convened a [panel discussion on municipal cyber threats](#). The panel included Stratford Mayor Dan Matheson and Judy Dezell from Local Authority Services (LAS) (AMO's Business Services) among others. The segment examines what's at stake during a cyberattack and what preventative steps Ontario's municipalities can take.

The above two resources are being shared to help municipal governments address an emerging challenge to the security of municipal operations.

Contact:

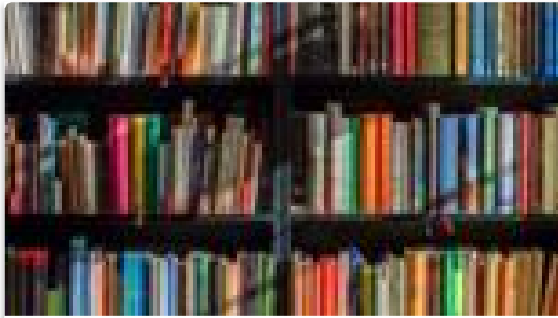
### Policy

[policy@amo.on.ca](mailto:policy@amo.on.ca)

T 416.971.9856

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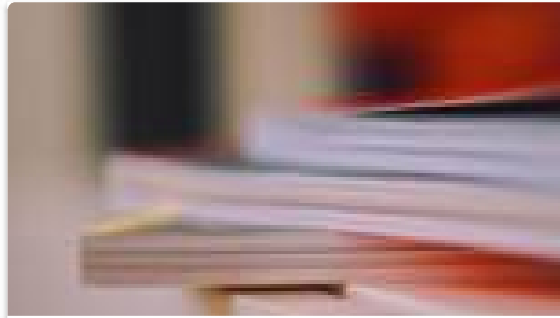


MUNICIPAL ISSUES

## Reports and Submissions

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APR 11, 2022 • REPORT



MUNICIPAL ISSUES

## Backgrounders

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JAN 3, 2022 • BACKGROUNDER





**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA**

274620 27th Line, PO Box 306 Ingersoll, ON, N5C 3K5  
Ph. 519-485-2490 • 1-888-699-3868 • Fax 519-485-2520

**Item 9(a)**

**Date: April 20, 2022**

**43-04-2022**

Moved by Paul Mitchell

Seconded by Steve MacDonald

WHEREAS the Township of Zorra has experienced annual cost of premium increase of 17%, 24% and 20% in the last three years for insurance coverage for the municipality;

THEREFORE the Township of Zorra supports resolution 22-6-064 entitled "Request to the Province of Ontario for a Plan of Action to Address Joint and Several Liability," passed by the City of Barrie;

AND THAT the Township of Zorra supports resolution 080-22 passed by the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, regarding the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) submission entitled "Towards a Reasonable Balance: Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs;"

AND THAT this motion of support and the two resolutions list above, be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark, MPP for Oxford Ernie Hardeman, AMO and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried       Defeated       Recorded Vote       Deferred

**Recorded Vote:**

	<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>
Mayor Ryan		
Councillor Forbes		
Councillor Davies		
Councillor Mitchell		
Councillor MacDonald		

**Mayor**

March 17, 2022

File: C00

**The Honourable Doug Ford, MPP**  
**Premier of Ontario**  
Premier's Office, 1 Queen's Park  
Legislative Building, Room 281  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Dear Premier Ford:**

**Re:               REQUEST TO THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO FOR A PLAN OF ACTION  
                    TO ADDRESS JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY**

On behalf of the Council of The Corporation of the City of Barrie, I wish to advise that on March 7, 2022, City Council adopted the following resolution regarding a Plan of Action to Address Joint and Several Liability:

**22-G-064           REQUEST TO THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO FOR A PLAN OF ACTION TO ADDRESS  
                    JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY**

**WHEREAS** the cost of municipal insurance in the Province of Ontario has continued to increase with especially large increases going into 2022; and

**WHEREAS** Joint and Several Liability continues to ask property taxpayers to carry the lion's share of a damage award when a municipality is found at minimum fault; and

**WHEREAS** these increases are unsustainable and unfair and eat at critical municipal services; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario outlined seven recommendations to address insurance issues including:

1. That the Provincial Government adopt a model of full proportionate liability to replace joint and several liability.
2. Implement enhancements to the existing limitations period including the continued applicability of the existing 10-day rule on slip and fall cases given recent judicial interpretations and whether a 1-year limitation period may be beneficial.
3. Implement a cap for economic loss awards.
4. Increase the catastrophic impairment default benefit limit to \$2 million and increase the third-party liability coverage to \$2 million in government regulated automobile insurance plans.

5. Assess and implement additional measures which would support lower premiums or alternatives to the provision of insurance services by other entities such as non-profit insurance reciprocals.
6. Compel the insurance industry to supply all necessary financial evidence including premiums, claims and deductible limit changes which support its own and municipal arguments as to the fiscal impact of joint and several liability.
7. Establish a provincial and municipal working group to consider the above and put forward recommendations to the Attorney General.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council for the Corporation of the City of Barrie call on the Province of Ontario to immediately review these recommendations despite COVID-19 delays, as insurance premiums will soon be out of reach for many communities and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this motion be provided to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario and MPP for Barrie-Springwater, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, MPP for Barrie-Innisfil, and all Ontario municipalities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned, [wendy.cooke@barrie.ca](mailto:wendy.cooke@barrie.ca) or (705) 739.4220, Ext. 4560.

Yours truly,



Wendy Cooke  
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services

WC/bt

Cc:

- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
- The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General and MPP for Barrie-Springwater
- The Honourable Andrea Khanjin, MPP for Barrie-Innisfil
- All Ontario municipalities



**The Corporation of the  
Municipality of Mississippi Mills**

**Council Meeting**

**Resolution Number** 080-22

**Title:** Information List #05-22 Town of Bracebridge Resolution re: Joint and Several Liability Reform

**Date:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022

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**Moved by** Councillor Holmes

**Seconded by** Councillor Dalgity

**WHEREAS** municipal governments provide essential services to the residents and businesses in their communities; and

**WHEREAS** the ability to provide those services is negatively impacted by exponentially rising insurance costs; and

**WHEREAS** one driver of rising insurance costs is the legal principle of “joint and several liability”, which assigns disproportionate liability to municipalities for an incident relative to their responsibility for it; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has the authority and responsibility for the legal framework of “joint and several liability”; and

**WHEREAS** the Premier of Ontario committed to review the issue in 2018 with a view to helping municipal governments manage their risks and costs; and

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Review was conducted in 2019 with AMO and municipalities fully participating; and

**WHEREAS** the results of the Provincial Review have not been released and municipalities are still awaiting news of how the Attorney General will address this important matter; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) on behalf of municipal governments has provided recommendations in their document “Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs” to align municipal liability with the proportionate responsibility for incidents and capping awards; and

**WHEREAS** The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has written to the Attorney General in support of the abovementioned recommendations provided by AMO;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the Municipality of Mississippi Mills calls on the Attorney General of Ontario to work with municipal governments to put forward a plan of action to address “joint and several liability” before the end of the government’s current term.
2. That the Municipality of Mississippi Mills supports the seven (7) recommendations contained in the AMO submission “Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs” to re-establish the priority for provincial action on this issue.
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Attorney General, the Honourable Doug Downey; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark; AMO President, Jamie McGarvey, AMCTO President, Sandra MacDonald; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

**CARRIED**

I, Casey Munro, Deputy Clerk for the Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution enacted by Council.



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Casey Munro, Deputy Clerk