

Kari Hanselman

Subject: FW: Value of AMO Membership and MEPCO Support in 2025

From: AMO President <amopresident@amo.on.ca>

Sent: December 11, 2024 11:26 AM

To: Jason Trottier <jason.trottier@eastferris.ca>

Subject: Value of AMO Membership and MEPCO Support in 2025



Association of
Municipalities
of Ontario



December 11, 2024

AMO is your organization, and your membership makes all the difference.

2024 was another challenging year for municipalities, and AMO has been there for our members. The challenges included an ongoing housing supply crisis, instability in infrastructure funding, homeless encampments in every part of Ontario, and escalating policing costs.

With your support, and guided by a truly representative Board of Directors, AMO stepped up on all those issues and more and made a real difference.

As 2024 draws to a close, we have seen some important government actions responding to the interests of your communities. The most damaging elements of Bill 23 have been reversed, restoring about \$2 billion a year in development charges over the next 10 years. An additional \$1.6 billion in infrastructure funding has been secured to support housing growth. Another \$378 million was secured for Homelessness and Addictions Recovery and Treatment Hubs. OMPF base funding has been increased by \$100 million over the next two years, and a new \$1 billion infrastructure loan program has been established to support housing-enabling water infrastructure. At the end of November, the province announced a \$77 million offset to a sharp and unexpected increase in OPP Bills.

AMO has continued to advocate for a [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#) to create a more productive and sustainable provincial-municipal fiscal framework, garnering more than 170 council resolutions in support of the initiative. We are well positioned as we head into pre-budget advocacy with the province and as we prepare for a likely provincial election in 2025.

In 2024, AMO hosted its annual conference in Ottawa. There was record attendance, new and diverse voices, and important opportunities for councils to connect directly with members of the provincial Cabinet. The 2024 AMO Conference included an election of the AMO Board with a record number of candidates for board positions indicating a strong interest in the organization. The 2025 AMO Conference will also be held in Ottawa, and we are expecting a huge turnout.

In late November, the AMO Board approved its [2025 and 2026 Strategic Objectives](#) and its 2025 Budget. The Board also received a status update on two multi-year projects approved for 2023-2026. AMO's Healthy Democracy and Municipal Workforce Development projects are now well underway with broadly representative advisory groups in place, important research results reported, and key milestones established for the next two years.

AMO is a highly influential advocacy organization, but it's also much more. Through our [Local Authority Services](#) (LAS) - AMO's Business Services organization, there are many programs and services designed to support municipalities. AMO's Membership Centre delivers [councillor education programs](#). It

also delivers the [Canada Community-Building Fund](#) on behalf of the Government of Canada allowing you to put that money to work without delay. In 2024, the \$10 billion CCBF agreement was renewed for another 10 years of predictable federal infrastructure funding.

We also advance municipal employer interests in OMERS as your sponsor representative through the [Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#) (MEPCO). Through MEPCO, we ensure that your voice influences the governance and the administration of the OMERS plan. As of June 30, 2024, net OMERS Plan assets totaled \$133.6 billion, an increase of \$5.6 billion over the previous year. We know that OMERS is important to you and to your employees.

Making sure it's affordable, sustainable, and meaningful, is MEPCO's top priority. The province has announced a governance review of OMERS to be conducted in the year ahead and MEPCO will be engaged directly to ensure that the needs and priorities of municipal employers are front and centre in the discussion. Your ongoing support of MEPCO is essential to the success of the OMERS plan.

You have my commitment that we will continue our hard work on your behalf in 2025. To do that, we need your membership in AMO and MEPCO. The related membership invoices are being mailed to your treasury department for payment. Municipal governments are the frontline of governments. Let us work together again in 2025 to ensure the collective voice of municipal government in Ontario is heard loud and clear.

Best wishes to you, your friends and family, and your community for a happy, safe and festive holiday season.

Sincerely,



Robin Jones
AMO President
Mayor, Village of Westport

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