

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
September 3, 2025



Region of Peel

Regional Council



There are no regional meetings scheduled for this week.

The next Regional Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 11, 2025 @ 9:30 AM

August 27, 2025

Ontario Beginning Construction of Highway 413

- The Province has awarded the first two contracts to begin construction of Highway 413.
- The highway will connect the regions of York, Peel and Halton, and is anticipated to shorten travel times by up to 30 minutes per trip.
- The construction of the highway will support more than 6,000 jobs per year and contribute more than \$1 billion to Ontario's annual GDP.
- The work is beginning to resurface Highway 10 in preparation for a new bridge over the future Highway 413. Crews will also soon begin upgrades at the Highway 401/407 interchange, which will be the western terminus of Highway 413.
- Once Highway 413 is complete, it is to run from the Highway 401/407 interchange near Mississauga, Milton and Halton Hills to Highway 400 in Vaughan, with extensions to Highways 410 and 427.



City staff will continue to work with the Province and will provide updates to Council as required or should issues arise.

August 26, 2025

Ontario Investing \$2 Million to Support Young Entrepreneurs

The Ontario government is investing an additional \$2 million in Futurpreneur Canada to help more young people develop and launch businesses and strengthen Ontario's economy in the face of U.S. tariffs and economic uncertainty.

- The funding will support 320 young entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 to 39 with access to financing, mentorship and support to start and grow successful businesses.
- Futurpreneur Canada is a national not-for-profit organization that connects aspiring business owners with collateral-free loans of up to \$75,000, two years of mentorship and in-person programming. Its Core Startup Program, helps youth aged 18 to 39 launch and grow their business.
- This announcement builds on the provinces ongoing programs that support small businesses including, Starter Company Plus, Summer Company, the Digitalization Competence Centre, the Retail Modernization Project Grant, and business advisory services through Ontario's Small Business Enterprise Centres and Regional Innovation Centres.



Brampton's Entrepreneur Centre (BEC) works closely with Futurpreneur, one of its key partners in program delivery. BEC regularly delivers information sessions to ensure young Brampton entrepreneurs are aware of available funding opportunities.

The City continues to advocate for increased funding for BEC, which currently receives only \$139,000 annually in core support. For a city of nearly 700,000 residents, this amounts to just 20 cents per person. With more than 90,000 businesses in Brampton, of which 98 percent are small businesses, the demand for BEC's services far outpaces what this level of funding can sustain.

August 20, 2025

Ontario Investing \$70 Million to Protect Workers Affected by U.S. Tariffs

The Province announced investment of \$70 million in expanded training and employment services for those affected by U.S. tariffs and policies. This funding includes support for the province's Protect Ontario Workers Employment Response (POWER) Centres, which builds on and enhances existing ministry-supported action centres. The province is also providing enhancements to Better Jobs Ontario (BJO) to help more job seekers quickly train and upskill for in-demand, good-paying careers.

The funding is allocated as follows:

- \$20 million for the Protect Ontario Workers Employment Response (POWER) Centres will provide enhanced access to training, upskilling and employment services to workers affected by, or at risk of, layoffs.
- \$50 million for Better Jobs Ontario (BJO) will help expand access to vocational and skills training for in-demand jobs. This will help job seekers, including those facing challenges finding a stable job (like youth and people on social assistance), with up to \$35,000 for costs such as tuition, transportation and child care.



The City's ongoing advocacy with the Province, including the recent 2025 AMO Conference, included a call for continued collaboration and investment in businesses and workers facing uncertainty due to the ongoing trade disruptions due to tariffs from the U.S.

July 4, 2025

Ontario Building More Accessible Communities Through \$2.2 million in Community Accessibility Grants

- The Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant awards up to \$60,000 for projects that improve accessibility and support active lifestyles for people with disabilities and older adults.
- Examples of potential projects include installing charging stations for mobility devices, installing mobility mats at beaches and building accessible washrooms at parks.



Brampton Transit submitted an application on August 14th. The proposed project is requesting \$60,000 for accessible landing pads at transit stops across the City.

August 26, 2025

Regional Tariff Response Initiative

The Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario), announced that the Regional Tariff Response Initiative (RTRI) is open for applications in Southern Ontario.

FedDev Ontario will deliver nearly \$160 million in Southern Ontario, with targeted support available for businesses in the steel and automotive industries.

The RTRI will invest in Canadian businesses affected by trade challenges by helping them improve productivity, expand and diversify markets, and strengthen domestic supply chain and trade resilience.

- Applications for funding are now being accepted.
- Applicants can normally request a minimum of \$125,000 up to a maximum of \$10 million per project.



The City's recent federal pre-budget submission called on the government to provide emergency fiscal assistance to businesses in Brampton and across the country that face high levels of uncertainty due to the ongoing trade disruptions, resulting in higher shipping costs and barriers in access to markets.

Entities eligible for the RTRI funding include businesses operating in Southern Ontario and directly affected by the ongoing trade disruptions, incorporated not-for-profit organizations in Southern Ontario whose primary focus is to support businesses and/or community economic development, organizations that support businesses with at least 25% of sales in the markets targeted by the tariffs, and businesses that can demonstrate a significant likelihood of being affected by tariffs or the uncertainty they may create.

June 20, 2025

Investing Across Ontario to Build Safe and Strong Communities

- Coinciding with the 2025 AMO Conference, the federal government highlighted that it is delivering over \$748 million to Ontario and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) this year through the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) to create communities that are stronger and more connected.
- The CCBF delivers over \$2.4 billion every year to over 3,700 communities across the country. Communities select how best to invest the funds, having the flexibility to make strategic investments across 19 different project categories, including transit, local roads and bridges, recreation, fire halls, among others.
- The announcement highlighted that in Brampton funding was used to design the Century Gardens Youth Hub. The 12,500-square-foot facility will include comfortable and inviting spaces for young residents to connect, learn and develop to their fullest potential.



 Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada / Logement, Infrastructures et Collectivités Canada

Under the current Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) 2025-2028 agreements with Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Region of Peel, the City will be receiving total of \$156.9 million. Key projects currently supported by the CCBF funding include the Howden Recreation Centre, Downtown Revitalization initiatives, Fire Vehicle Replacement, the City’s Road Resurfacing Program, and major road construction projects.

August 17— 20, 2025

2025 AMO Conference

The 2025 AMO Conference took place in Ottawa on August 17 through to 20, 2025.

The City of Brampton delegation successfully carried out thirteen (13) delegation meetings with provincial Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants and opposition party Leaders, highlighting key priorities and opportunities for collaboration:

- Minister of Transportation
- Minister of Infrastructure
- Minister of Environment, Conservation & Parks
- Minister of Health
- Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
- Minister of Finance
- Minister of Colleges & Universities
- Minister of Sport
- Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
- Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry
- Opposition Party Leaders



AMO 2025

Delegation meetings at the annual AMO Conference represent an important part of the City's advocacy effort and contribute towards a positive and productive collaboration with the provincial government. City staff are actively following up on the meetings and conversations that took place during the conference.



August 17— 20, 2025

2025 AMO Conference (Continued)

- During the Conference, the Premier announced an additional \$1.6 billion for the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP).
- The Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, announced that Ontario is increasing funding for land ambulances by an average 8.7 per cent from 2024, with almost \$1 billion in funding provincewide.
- The Minister also provided an update on Ontario's plan to build 28 Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs – nine (9) Hubs have already opened – **including one in Brampton** - with the remaining HART Hubs projected to open in the coming months.



During the Conference, AMO called for a stimulus investment of \$3.45 billion annually over five years from both provincial and federal sources for municipal infrastructure and social housing. These investments would help to mitigate the negative impacts on Ontario's economy and help save jobs across the province, by protecting 14,000 jobs that would be lost in 2026 alone, including almost 5,000 in the construction sector, and reducing Ontario's GDP contraction by 28 per cent and adding \$17.6 billion back into the Ontario economy over the next five years.

AMO launched an Indigenous Relations Action Plan at the Conference, working with partners to strengthen municipal-Indigenous relationships.

August 20, 2025

FCM's Federal Budget 2025 Recommendations

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has submitted its recommendations through the House of Commons Finance Committee and Finance Canada's pre-budget consultations, highlights include:


- Collaboration to accelerate housing construction towards 500,000 housing starts a year over the next decade, plus increased funding to the Reaching Home program and a coordinated plan for refugee housing;
- Investments in local infrastructure that supports housing and economic growth, climate-resilient projects, and public safety measures, including bail reform;
- Expand the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) to renew local infrastructure and unlock housing by boosting and indexing the CCBF to GDP growth.



The City is actively supporting FCM's advocacy to the federal government calling for stable predictable funding for municipalities that would enable better planning, and delivery of essential services.

The background image is a dark teal-tinted photograph of a city street. On the right, a prominent brick building features a tall clock tower with a clock face. A Canadian flag flies in front of the building. To the left, a bus stop shelter is visible with the word "Wellington" on its top edge. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

THANK YOU!

The logo icon for the City of Brampton, which is a stylized white emblem of a person's head and shoulders within a square frame.

BRAMPTON