

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister  
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**Ministère des  
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Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2021-3562

August 16, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

The Ontario government is committed to helping municipalities improve local service delivery and ensure taxpayers' dollars are being used efficiently. That is why we launched the Audit and Accountability Fund in 2019.

At the Association of Municipalities of Ontario 2021 Conference, I announced a third intake under the Audit and Accountability Fund. Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the importance of efficient municipal services that are financially sustainable. Even as municipalities continue to face challenges, there are opportunities to transform services and stimulate new ways of doing business.

The third intake of the program will support Ontario's large municipalities so they can benefit from further provincial funding to conduct service delivery and administrative expenditure reviews, with the goal of finding efficiencies while protecting and modernizing front-line services. Applications related to any area of municipal service delivery will be considered, but I encourage you to submit proposals that support the following priorities:

- Digital modernization
- Service integration
- Streamlined development approvals

To apply, submit a completed Expression of Interest form with supporting documents via the Transfer Payment Ontario system by **October 28, 2021**. Visit [www.Ontario.ca/getfunding](http://www.Ontario.ca/getfunding) to access program guidelines and the Expression of Interest form. If you have questions on the program, or would like to discuss a proposal, I encourage you to contact your [Municipal Services Office](mailto:municipal.services@ontario.ca) or e-mail [municipal.programs@ontario.ca](mailto:municipal.programs@ontario.ca).

By continuing to work together to deliver modern, efficient local services, we are continuing to chart a path to a strong recovery and getting Ontario back on track.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark".

Steve Clark  
Minister

c. Chief Administrative Officers and Treasurers