



Government Relations Matters

**Committee of Council
October 13, 2021**

**GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS**

Regional Council Meeting

Thursday, 14 October 2021 @ 9:30 AM | Council agenda is available [here](#).

Planning and Growth Management Committee

Thursday, 14 October 2021 @ 3:00 PM | Council agenda is available [here](#).

The Public Affairs team reviewed the Regional Council agenda and engaged with relevant department staff.

Item 7.1 BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program (Delegation)

Overview:

- An overview of the BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program
- Delegation to the Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism (DEAR) Committee Meeting on Sept 16, 2021 featured this presentation
 - The staff report (6.1) included a request for a grant of \$2,500,000 from the Region of Peel towards the program by BlackNorth Initiative to assist 50 Black renter households in Peel Region to become homeowners.
- Item 17.1 on Council agenda includes a recommendation that the Director of Housing Services be delegated authority to execute the grant agreement with BlackNorth Initiative

City of Brampton Staff Comments (Planning):

- The program will be administered and managed by BlackNorth, including the selection of eligible households.
- City planning staff appreciate the proposed recommendation for funding for the BlackNorth Initiative Homeownership Bridge Program.
- City Council recently endorsed “*Housing Brampton*”, the City’s first housing strategy and action plan. It identifies Attainable Home Ownership as a key focus area under the “Big Move 3”.
- The City plans to support and expand home ownership options for residents of Brampton.

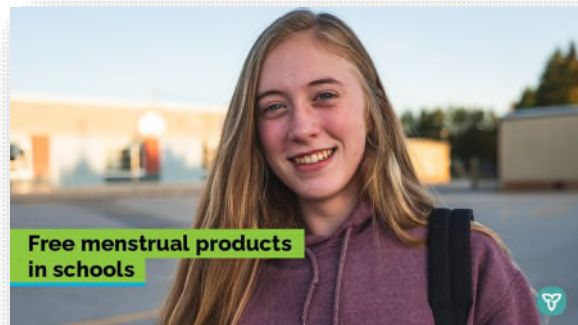
Item 22.1 Motion Regarding Future Appointments of the Regional Chair

Overview:

- Motion moves that notice be given pursuant to s. 219(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, of Council's intention to adopt a by-law to require:
 - i. that should any future Regional Chair of the Regional Council be appointed from amongst the elected Regional Councillors, that appointee be required to continue to sit as, and to fulfill the office of, a member of the lower tier municipal ward to which that appointee was elected;
 - ii. that in the event that a member of Council has been appointed as Regional Chair, and two Regional ViceChairs of Regional Council are appointed from amongst the remaining Regional Councillors, such Vice Chairs shall represent two different lower tier municipalities other than the municipality represented by the appointee as Regional Chair and shall continue to sit as members of the lower tier municipal wards to which the appointees as Vice-Chairs have been elected.

City of Brampton Staff Comments (Public Affairs):

- The Regional Chair currently does not sit as a member of a local municipal Council
- Regional staff will be directed to organize a public meeting to be held to consider the matter of Council's intention.



October 12, 2021: Announced \$1.5M through the Civil Remedies Grant Program for law enforcement agencies and community partners for 18 community projects focused on helping victims of crime.

October 8, 2021: Announced that the Ontario Government will distribute six million free menstrual products per year to school boards under a new and innovative partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart designed to improve access to menstrual products.

October 7, 2021: Announced Ontario's Fall Red Tape Reduction Package and introduced the Supporting People and Businesses Act.

October 6, 2021: The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) announced reduction of premium rates in 2022 by \$168 million.

October 5, 2021: Announced local targeted COVID-19 rapid antigen screening for students in participating public health units where risk of transmission is high.

Provincial Government | The Speech from the Throne



October 4, 2021: Her Honour the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, delivered the Speech from the Throne to open the Fall Session of the 42nd Parliament of Ontario.

COVID-19 Pandemic Response

- Extraordinary measures taken to address the COVID-19 pandemic while balancing individual rights and freedoms
- Continued investments to build-up hospital capacity in Ontario
 - Transforming Peel Memorial Centre from a day clinic into a state-of-the-art, 24-hour facility.
- Investing \$2.68B towards 30,000 new and modern long-term care home beds in a decade
- Investing app. \$5B/4 years to hire more than 27,000 long-term care staff (nurses and personal support workers)
- 16,200 additional personal care workers to be highbred by April, 2022
- Committing to introduce legislation to protect residents through better accountability, enforcement and transparency.
- Calling on the federal government to increase the Canada Health Transfer to 35 per cent of provincial-territorial health-care spending.

Mental Health

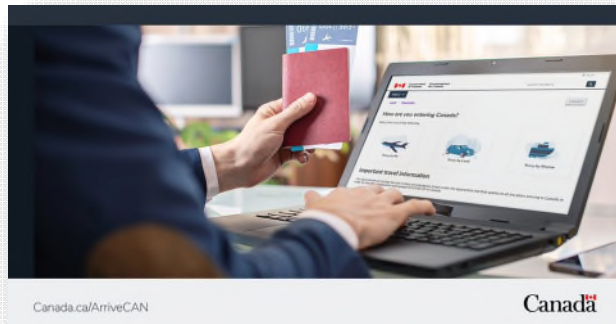
- Public health measures have left a heavy toll on people's mental health and wellbeing, with many struggling with anxiety, depression and substance abuse.
- Work to rebuild our health care system and repair the province's long-term care sector to include the unique challenges (mental and physical wellbeing) faced by doctors, nurses and personal support workers, and frontline workers

Economy & Recovery

- Commitment to an economic and fiscal recovery fueled by economic growth, not tax hikes or spending cuts.
- Build roads, highways, build and expand transit and infrastructure that leads to economic growth
- Work in collaboration with municipal leaders

October 6, 2021: Announced details of the government's plans to require COVID-19 vaccination across the federal public service and federally regulated transportation sectors.

- Employers in the federally regulated air, rail, and marine transportation sectors will have until October 30, 2021, to establish vaccination policies that ensure employees are vaccinated.
- Effective October 30, travellers will need to be fully vaccinated in order to board. Specifically, the vaccination requirement will apply to all travellers 12 years of age and older who are:
 - Air passengers flying on domestic, trans-border or international flights departing from airports in Canada
 - Rail passengers on VIA Rail and Rocky Mountaineer trains
 - Marine passengers on non-essential passenger vessels, such as cruise ships, on voyages of 24 hours or more
- Federal public servants in the Core Public Administration, including members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, will be required to confirm their vaccination status by October 29, 2021.



2022 Youth Fellowship Opportunity

The AMO Youth Fellows Program will provide up to three politically engaged young adults in Ontario who are interested in municipal government with an opportunity to engage with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Participants will learn more about municipal governance and policy while gaining exposure to real-time issues facing Ontario's municipalities. AMO Fellows will:

- Participate in AMO Board Meetings
- Attend municipal conferences and events and network with municipal and provincial elected officials and staff
- The time commitment is approximately 5-10 hours a month and will vary week-to-week.
- The Fellows will also be asked to be present for the duration of the AMO Annual Conference & AGM (August 14-17, 2022)

Application process:

A cover letter (maximum two pages) and resume to be submitted to youthengagement@amo.on.ca by Monday, November 8th.



Sustainable Communities Conference 2021

- Municipal leaders, staff, and community partners learn best practices and gain new insights on most pressing sustainability challenges.
 - **Date:** October 19-21, 2021
 - **Registration on-line:** \$250 for FCM members
\$325 for non-members.