



Government Relations Matters

**Committee of Council
January 19, 2022**

**GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS**

Regional Council

Thursday, 27 January 2022 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is not yet published

February 2022 | Regional Committees begin

COVID-19 Roadmap to Reopen – Key Highlights



* Key health indicators include declining hospitalization, ICU, cases rate and % positivity

Based on current trends in key health indicators, including the provincial vaccination rate, Ontario expects to enter Step One of the roadmap around June 14, 2021.

For the full plan, visit ontario.ca/reopen



January 1, 2022:

The Ontario government has raised the general minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour starting January 1, 2022.

January 4, 2022:

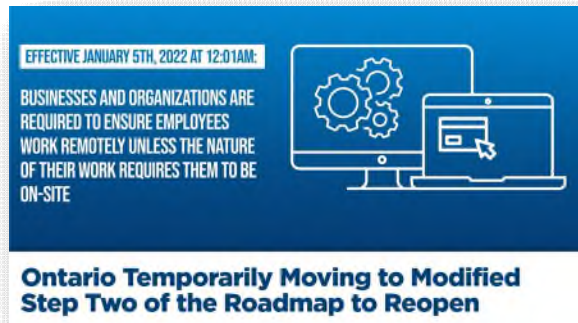
Reached a tentative three-year collective agreement with the Unified bargaining unit of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU).

January 7, 2022:

Announced **COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant** of **\$10,000** for eligible small businesses subject to closure under the modified Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen.

Announced additional measures to the **Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program**.

For 21 days starting at 12:01 am on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, electricity prices will be set 24 hours a day at the current off-peak rate of 8.2 cents per kilowatt-hour. It will apply automatically to residential, small businesses and farms who pay regulated rates set by the Ontario Energy Board.



January 10, 2022: In-classroom learning to re-open on January 17, 2022

January 14, 2022: Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy announced the launch of 2022 Budget consultations.

Paul Calandra appointed as Ontario's next Minister of Long-Term Care, replacing Rod Phillips.

January 17, 2022: Announced the **Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Competitiveness (AMIC)** program that will provide **\$40 million** to companies to help get the tools, technology and talent they need to grow, compete and innovate in an increasingly competitive global market.

January 4, 2022:

- Agreements-in-Principle reached on compensation and long-term reform of First Nations child and family services and Jordan's Principle:
- \$20B in compensation for First Nations children on-reserve and in the Yukon, who were removed from their homes between April 1, 1991 and March 31, 2022, and for their parents and caregivers.
- Approximately \$20B, over five years, for long-term reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services program to ensure that the discrimination found by the CHRT never repeats itself.

**Agreements-in-Principle
on Compensation and
Long-Term Reform of First
Nations Child and Family
Services**



- January 12:** Announced the repayment deadline for CEBA loans to qualify for partial loan forgiveness is extended from December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2023.
- January 13:** Government welcomes the findings of the **Council of Canadian Academies'** report ***Building a Resilient Canada*** that highlights the urgency of improving our response to climate change related extreme weather events. A core finding includes climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction need to be better integrated.
- January 15:** Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated foreign national truck drivers, coming to Canada from the US by land, will be directed back to the United States.

New Year Calls to Action and other issues of municipal concern

- Call to Action – Joint and Several Liability
 - AMO submitted “[Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs](#)” in October 2019
 - AMO is asking for municipal councils to lend their support to the 7 recommendations contained in the AMO submission to re-establish the priority for provincial action on this issue. Councils are encouraged to pass a resolution to ask the government to work with AMO.
- Call for Ideas: Housing Accelerator Fund and Rent-to-Own Program
 - The federal Minister of Housing and Diversity has launched a Call for Ideas for two of the federal government’s priorities outlined in the Speech for the Throne.
- AMO Submission to the Ministry of Health on Municipal-OHT Engagement. Highlights:
 - The Ministry of Health must mandate a municipal voice into health care service planning, governance, and decision-making by the Ontario Health Teams
 - The Ministry of Health must mandate formal linkages between local Public Health Units and Ontario Health Teams (OHTs) to ensure that there is information exchange
 - The Ministry of Health must provide administrative resource funding to municipal governments and District Social Service Administration Boards to facilitate meaningful participation in Ontario Health Team service planning.