

# Government Relations Matters

City Council  
February 9, 2022



## **Special Meeting of Regional Council**

Thursday, 10 February 2022 @ 9:30 AM| Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

## **Regional Council**

Thursday, 10 February 2022 @ 10:00 PM| Meeting agenda is available [here](#)

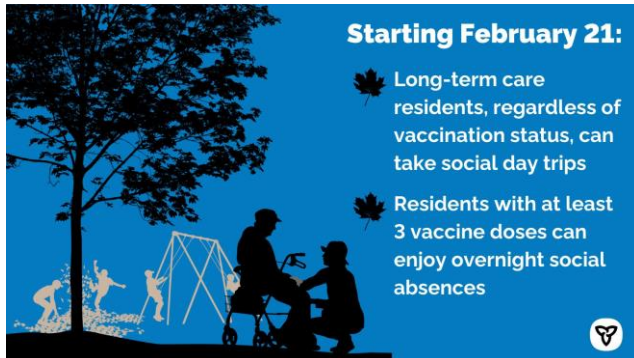
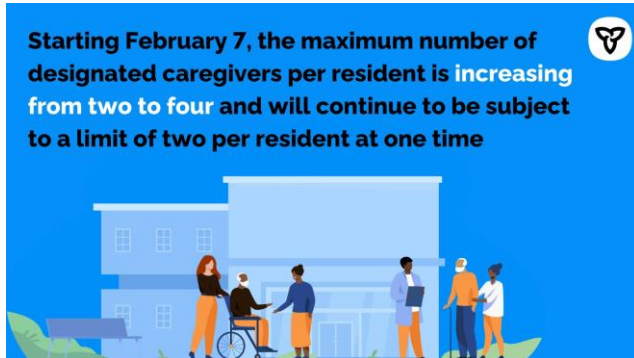
*The Public Affairs team reviewed the Council agenda and engaged with relevant department staff.*

### **17.1 Online Billing Portal Launch (recommendation)**

#### Overview:

- The online water and wastewater billing and payment portal will be launched on February 14, 2022
- Report seeks approval for Regional staff to negotiate with the existing vendor for the continued provision of water and wastewater billing services
- Benefits of the online portal include:
  - Review and payment of invoices on-line via bank account or credit card
  - View invoices, consumption and payment history for the previous three years
  - Download bills on the day of invoice generation
  - Alerts for payment reminders
  - Send billing inquiries and submit meter reads
- To support February 14, 2022 launch, customers will become aware of the portal through water bill inserts, social media, and the Region's website. Current epost customers have been provided instructions on how to migrate to the portal

## Gradual Easing of Public Health Measures



- **Effective February 7**, the maximum number of designated caregivers per resident is increasing from two to four and will continue to be subject to a limit of two per resident at one time. In addition, residents who have had at least three doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be able to resume social day trips.
- **Effective February 21**, general visitors five years and older who have had at least two doses of COVID-19 vaccine will be able to resume visits to long-term care residents. The number of visitors at a time, per resident will also increase from two to three, including caregivers. In addition, all residents, regardless of vaccination status, will be able to resume social day trips, and residents who have had at least three vaccine doses will be able to enjoy overnight social absences.
- **Effective March 14**, general visitors under five years old will be able to resume visits and the number of visitors at a time, per resident will increase from three to four, including caregivers. All residents regardless of their vaccination status will also be able to enjoy social overnight absences.

## Updates

**February 4, 2022:** The Government of Ontario is investing \$12.4 million to the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board to build a new English Catholic elementary school in Mount Pleasant, Brampton to serve 435 students including a child care centre with 73 licensed child care spaces. The project is part of a \$565 million investment across the province to build 26 new schools and support 20 permanent additions and renovations across the province through the Capital Priorities Program.

The provincial government is investing almost \$1.0 million to Food and Beverage Ontario (FBO) to help address the labour shortage within the food and beverage processing sector. FBO's CareersNOW! Program will be delivering a regional pilot program with the City of Brampton to assess challenges and opportunities in connecting local jobseekers with employers and focusing on underrepresented groups in the industry

**February 3, 2022:** The Ontario government is investing \$25 million in a new grant program to help faith-based and cultural organizations protect their communities against hate-motivated crime. The program will help organizations cover expenses related to security and safety measures including enhancing security of their buildings and training staff on how to respond to hate-motivated violence

**February 6, 2022:** The Government of Canada is launching Platinum Jubilee celebrations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her accession to the Throne. Support for community celebrations is included with applications being accepted until February 22, 2022.

**February 2, 2022:** The federal government is launching a virtual trade mission to Botswana, Senegal, South Africa, and Côte d'Ivoire scheduled for February 21-24, 2022. The mission will aim to introduce women-owned and led Canadian businesses to opportunities in the renewable energy, and information and communications technology sectors.

Manitoban MP Candice Bergen is now the Official Leader of the Opposition upon the removal of Erin O'Toole by the Conservative Party of Canada caucus.

# Advocacy

## Government Relations

Automobile Insurance – Bill 42, Ending Discrimination in Automobile  
Provincial Pre-Budget Submission: Advocacy Materials (Feb 11, 2022)

Transit Advocacy: Government of Canada

Ryerson University Partnership: Meetings & Shared Advocacy

University of Guelph-Humber: Government Relations Team Collaboration

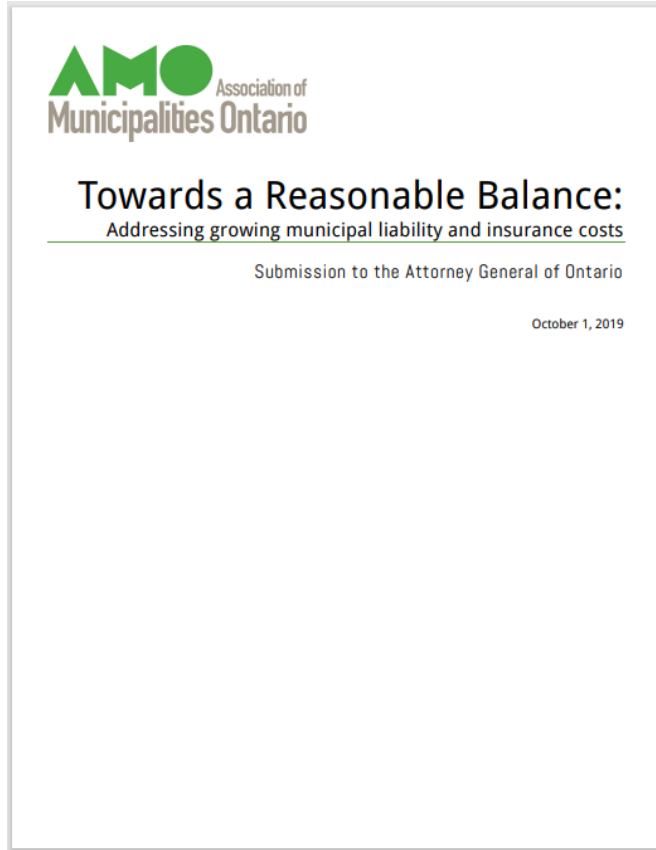
William Osler Health System: Shared Advocacy



# Association of Municipalities Ontario



## Call to Action on Joint & Several Liability



- In 2018, Premier Ford committed to reviewing the matter of Municipal Joint and Several Liability with a review being conducted in 2019. The results are forthcoming
- To help drive the policy discussion, AMO submitted [\*Towards a Reasonable Balance – Addressing Growing Municipal Liability and Insurance Costs\*](#) in October 2019
- AMO is now 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





THANK YOU!

**Blaine Lucas** | CMM III, BA, MPA |

**Director**

**Corporate Projects, Policy & Liaison Division**

