

Government Relations Matters

City Council
August 9, 2023



Regional Council – Summer Break

The regular Regional Council meeting schedule resumes Thursday, September 14, 2023 @ 9:30 AM.

July 20, 2023

Reducing Wait Times in Emergency Departments

\$44 million investment aims to help people get faster access to care in Emergency Departments.



Ontario is reducing wait times in emergency departments



- Investing an additional \$44 million this year for 165 high-volume and smaller emergency departments.
- Funding is in addition to the \$90 million Ontario invests each year into emergency departments that put in place innovative solutions to reduce wait times.
- \$29 million being invested in 75 high-volume emergency departments across the province to assist in increasing their capacity and reduce the wait times as it pertains to access to care.
- An additional \$15 million will also aim to expand the number of smaller hospitals now eligible to receive this funding.
- This initiative is to support up to 90 hospitals across the province that provide emergency care to fewer than 30,000 patients a year, so they can hire and retain the staff they need to keep their emergency departments open.

July 24, 2023

Growing the Health Care Workforce

Province breaking down barriers to hire more doctors and nurses to connect people to care close to home.

- As part of *Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care*, the Ontario government is launching three new programs that aim to break down barriers for internationally educated physicians to work in Ontario and retain more healthcare workers with mentorship opportunities.
- Starting on July 24th, the new “As of Right” rules came into effect, making Ontario the first province to allow highly trained physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and medical laboratory technologists already registered or licensed in another Canadian jurisdiction to start work when they arrive without having to register with one of Ontario’s health regulatory colleges.



Ontario doing even more to grow its health care workforce

July 26, 2023

Ontario Begins Audit of Municipal Finances

Findings will support provincial work to boost housing supply and affordability.

- Ontario has selected a third party to audit the finances of six municipalities as part of its ongoing work to build 1.5 million homes by 2031.
- Following a competitive procurement process, Ernst & Young LLP has been retained to examine the finances of the City of Toronto, Peel Region, Mississauga, Caledon, Brampton, and Newmarket.
- The first phase of the audits is expected to conclude around the end of 2023.
- The Ontario government hopes that these audits will help provide a clear and shared understanding of the impacts of changes to development-related fees and charges included in the *More Homes Built Faster Act*.
- Lessons learned from these audits will inform future provincial policies and programs supporting long-term municipal financial sustainability and housing-related infrastructure investments.
- AMO & OBCM have both shared statements in support of the audits.





July 27, 2023

Ontario Provincial By-elections

- Liberal Candidates Andrea Hazell in Scarborough-Guildwood and Karen McCrimmon in Kanata-Carleton win the Provincial by-elections.
- These wins bring the Liberal Caucus to nine (9) seats in the Provincial Legislature – short of the official party status.



July 18, 2023

Additional Funding for Asylum Seekers

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) announced a one-time funding of approximately \$212 million through the Interim Housing Assistance Program as an effort to address the housing needs experienced by asylum claimants.
 - The additional funding is to ensure impacted communities have capacity to provide the needed housing for asylum claimants.
- Peel Region is experiencing an increased demand for space in shelters and work is underway with IRCC and stakeholders to address the issue.

July 25, 2023

Permanent Public Transit Fund Consultation Summary







- In July 2022, Infrastructure Canada launched an engagement paper detailing the Government of Canada's long-term vision for public transit and active transportation and requested feedback on the design of this new program. The City of Brampton participated in providing feedback through an online survey, a meeting with Infrastructure Canada, and a formal submission.
 - The feedback emphasized that there is a need for stable and predictable funding, communities want flexibility in delivering projects to ensure government investments address local and regional priorities, such as advancing climate action and improving access to new and affordable housing.
- Findings from the engagement process align with the city's feedback in ensuring municipalities have access to long-term, predictable, and sustainable transit funding while supporting the development of a range of different housing options.

July 26, 2023

Federal Government Announces Cabinet Shuffle

- Brampton West MP Hon. Kamal Khera has been appointed **Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities**, continuing Brampton’s representation at the Cabinet table.
- Brampton North MP Ruby Sahota will continue serving as Deputy Government Whip and will take on the role of Chief Government Whip during the winter.

Ministry	Appointed Minister	Considerations for City of Brampton
Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities 	Sean Fraser	Possibility that funding for infrastructure programs may be tied to the creation or support for additional housing.
Ministry of Transportation 	Pablo Rodriguez	Briefing and engagement with Minister Rodriguez will be required to provide an overview of the city’s priorities and the need for funding to support the development of transportation.
Ministry of Small Business 	Rechie Valdez	Provides representation for the Region of Peel as she is the MP for Mississauga-Streetsville. This provides the opportunity for the Region of Peel and the City of Brampton to advocate for small businesses and economic development.
Ministry of Energy & Natural Resources 	Jonathan Wilkinson	Briefing and engagement with Minister Wilkinson will be required to provide an overview of the city’s commitment to climate change and the need for funding to support the city and federal government’s commitment to go green.

2023 AMO Conference & AGM

- August 20 – 23, City of London



Delegation Requests - Confirmed	
Minister Surma, Minister of Infrastructure	Delegation Confirmed
PA Dowie, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade	Delegation Confirmed
Minister Mulroney, Ministry of Transportation	Delegation Confirmed
Minister Graydon Smith, Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry	Delegation Confirmed
Delegation with Minister Jones, Minister of Health and Associate Minister Tibollo	Delegation Confirmed
Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario	Delegation Confirmed
Marit Stiles, NDP Leader of Ontario	Delegation Confirmed
Ontario Liberal Party Caucus Members	Delegation Confirmed
Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance	Delegation Confirmed

Delegation Requests – Awaiting Response	
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing	Following-up
Ministry of Energy	Following-up
Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development	Following-up

THANK YOU!

