

Government Relations Matters

Committee of Council
October 11, 2023



Regional Council

Thursday, October 12, 2023 @ 9:30 AM | Meeting agenda is available [here](#).

Staff reviewed the Regional Council agenda and reached out to departments for comments as appropriate.

15.1 Poverty Reduction Strategies and Increased Investment Required to Support Peel Region's Most Vulnerable (For Information)

Summary:

- The staff report provides an overview of the current state of poverty across Peel and the long-term investments required to reduce poverty and enhance wellbeing and prosperity across communities post transition of Peel Region.

Staff Comments (Community Services & Government Relations):

- Considering Bill 112, and the dissolution of Peel Region, the report identifies a need for a coordinated approach to poverty reduction across all Peel municipalities or risk a loss of capacity, knowledge, and resources to continue to push for poverty reduction across municipalities.
- The Community Safety & Well-Being Office supports the work of the Peel Poverty Reduction Committee and actively identifies opportunities to collaborate and move the priorities forward.

Staff Recommendation:

- Receive the report.

Peel Regional Police

Updates

October 4, 2023

Groundbreaking for the new Operational Support Facility



- The Operational Support Facility is going to be built at 8100 Mississauga Road in Brampton.
- The facility will be vital to addressing growth in the region and continued delivery of critical services.
- The building will house more than 700 employees.
- The project is expected to be finished in 2027.

September 25, 2023

Bill 131: Transportation for the Future Act, 2023

New legislation aims to create more jobs and housing around transit

- The proposed legislation is to provide an optional funding tool that would enable municipalities to raise revenues to build GO transit stations and housing.
- Schedule II of the Act enacts the GO Transit Station Funding Act, 2023 which will allow the council of a municipality, through a by-law, to impose transit station charges on development to pay for costs related to the construction of a new GO transit station.
- The new tool, called the Station Contribution Fee, would allow municipalities to fund the design and construction of new GO stations and recover the costs over time as transit-oriented communities are built around these future stations.
- The Government Relations team will analyze the potential implications of Bill 131 and will connect with Planning & Development staff to identify opportunities to secure funding through the GO Station Funding Act.



September 28, 2023

Bill 134: Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, 2023

New legislation aims to make it easier to build and find affordable homes.



- The Affordable Homes and Good Jobs Act, if passed, would make it cheaper and easier to build affordable homes, provide certainty to municipalities and help more Ontarians find an affordable home based on their household income.
- The proposed change would update the definition of affordable housing units that would qualify for development-related charge discounts and exemptions.
- The proposed change would more closely align with the definition of affordable housing in the current Provincial Policy Statement. This definition has been in place since 2005 and is currently in effect province-wide.
- Consistent with the approach advocated by AMO, the proposed definition takes both local incomes and market factors into account.

September 29, 2023

Minimum Wage Increased on October 1st

The increase to \$16.55 an hour follows passage of government's third Working for Workers Act this week.

- Ontario's minimum wage increased from \$15.50 to \$16.55 per hour.
- This 6.8 per cent raise means up to \$2,200 more earnings every year and brings Ontario to one of the highest minimum wages in the country.





September 26, 2023

Federal Government unlocks additional \$20 billion for low-cost rental construction financing

- The Canada Mortgage Bonds program, which raises funds for residential mortgage financing, had an annual limit of \$40 billion.
- The limit is being **increased to \$60 billion**, with the additional funds aimed at increasing rental construction, including apartment buildings, student housing and senior residences.
- The new funding will boost rental construction by 30,000 units annually and there is no fiscal impact for the Government of Canada as a result of this change.

October 3, 2023

Greg Fergus elected as the new Speaker of the House of Commons

- Liberal MP Greg Fergus will be the new Speaker of the House of Commons, following a secret ranked-ballot vote election to replace MP Anthony Rota.
- Fergus becomes Canada's 38th Speaker and the first Black Canadian to hold the role.



Local Government Week

October 15 - 21

- The third week of October is 'Local Government Week'.
- An opportunity to raise public awareness of the municipal government.
- The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) has created resources for engagement with the public and promote awareness of the municipal work and responsibilities.



Local Government Week

October 15-21

Join the conversation
celebrating local government!
#LocalGovWeek

September 28, 2023

Municipal Growth Summit



- On September 28, FCM hosted a Municipal Growth Summit, bringing together cross-sector Canadian leaders from diverse industries and other levels of government to discuss the need for a new Municipal Growth Framework.
- The summit focused on strategies to address the challenges and opportunities facing Canada's fastest-growing municipalities, including the need for a new Municipal Growth Framework that:
 1. Maximizes existing municipal tools,
 2. Grants new revenue tools to municipalities,
 3. Enhances existing federal or provincial-territorial transfers and/or,
 4. Creates new federal or provincial-territorial transfers.
- As a next step, FCM will continue to engage municipalities and other stakeholders to inform a modernized framework.

THANK YOU!

