

AMO Moving Municipal Governments Forward

2018 is a provincial and municipal government election year, which brings a different rhythm to AMO's work – not necessarily less work, just different work. Both elections will influence our events, advocacy and government relations.

Provincially, it means a big push in early 2018 by the government to complete its agenda and prepare a 2018 budget sometime in the spring. At the same time, the other parties are already preparing/positioning for the election campaign. With the outcome of the provincial election, parts of the Board's strategic objectives will likely need to be reviewed.

Municipally, most of the recent *Municipal Election Act* changes will take effect in 2018. The previous two municipal elections resulted in a province-wide change of over 50% of council members, with varying rates of change within each municipal government. Lame duck councils will be identifiable in July. Timely election results lets us identify what the changes mean for our outreach to new councils.

1

Position municipal government interests in 2018 (AMO/Province/Feds):

- Promote municipal interests, build public awareness through AMO's Provincial Election Strategy – "Local Share, Local Say"
- Monitoring and evaluation of each provincial party's platform going into and throughout the campaign
- Prepare first 100 days plan that is ready to execute at time new Cabinet is established and to set stage for AMO's briefing of Ministers, meeting with Premier, and influence MOU agendas, among other matters
- There will be policy work coming from the platform of the elected government and that is always part of the AMO Policy Centre. That list will come after the election.
- Broaden municipal advocacy approach on specific policy matters
- Prepare longer term Communication Plan so members well informed in timely manner and interests shared given the reduction of local papers
- Achieve Phase 2 Can-ON Agreement that meets predictable and sustainable principles with rollout before spring 2018

2

Strengthen municipal relationships (AMO/members)

- Increase alignment on key priorities with all municipal sector based groups; more clearly articulate how each is reflected in the policy position which will in turn bolster advocacy and communications
- Demonstrate value of AMO through goal of three new AMO program partners (not to be confused with LAS¹)
- Investigate a client driven member communication approach with possible use of advance targeted communication tools to allow client selected / customized communication
- Prepare for next municipal government term and why AMO is important
- Work with major broadcaster and municipal returning officers on election night returns to improve upon 2014 experience
- Continue to build relations/shared interests with other associations that have an interest in municipal services and community well-being

3

Focused support for municipal capacity building

- Education on Bill 68 implementation activities to help councils prepare (e.g. integrity elements)
- Prepare Councils for the new land use policy making regime
- Work on implementation of cannabis in ON and solidify revenue sharing
- Revamp councillor training program and materials and prepare marketing plan for early 2019 delivery
- Review e-learning approach and update current e-curriculum to reflect recent changes of key legislation
- Expand the culture of asset management for elected officials role
- Continue work on smooth transition for extended producer responsibility
- Continue to identify new partnerships to help municipal capacity

4

Build more capacity within AMO itself

- Develop a municipal data collection priority plan that can support municipal governments and Open Data
- Deliver a Board governance program that includes new Board and Board member orientation and mentoring approach
- Continue to use Committee of the Whole approach to delve into various initiatives and to strengthen Board members' advocacy
- Undertake multi-year fiscal forecasting for AMO and its two corporations (LAS and MEPCO)
- Investigate new conference registration system
- Impacts of Bill 148, *Fair Workplaces and Better Jobs Act* and other workplace related legislation/regulatory changes on AMO's own operations

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¹ LAS is a separate corporation that undertakes bulk procurement and pooled investment services – saving municipal governments money and building capacity and opportunity.