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May 23, 2025

The Honourable Rob Flack Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing College Park, 17th Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Flack,

Thank you for taking the time to attend the recent meeting with the AMO Memorandum of Understanding table. We found it to be tremendously valuable to our advocacy. There is great potential for us to work together to further the social and economic prosperity of Ontario.

I am reaching out today to provide AMO's advice about Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025 and additional actions needed to tackle the root causes of the homeless crisis.

Municipalities understand that additional enforcement tools for police and courts may be helpful in some circumstances, particularly where health and safety risks may exist for encampment residents and broader communities. However, enforcement alone will not solve this crisis. Earlier this year, AMO released our groundbreaking report, Municipalities Under Pressure: The Human and Financial Costs of Ontario's Homelessness Crisis, calling for the homelessness response system to be re-oriented toward long-term stable housing solutions.

As you will see in the attached submission from AMO, we also have concerns about the practical implementation of the Bill, and additional pressures they may place on municipally operated Provincial Offences Act (POA) courts.

We had an opportunity to brief former MMAH Minister's Office staff on our report and recommendations, but AMO staff would welcome the opportunity to engage with your office on this work and discuss how best we can collaborate on tackling this growing challenge.

Sincerely,

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Robin Jones AMO President

Encl. AMO's report on Bill 6, Safer Municipalities Act, 2025

The Honourable Graydon Smith, Associate Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs CC. and Housing Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing