



Saturday, August 16

1:00pm – 3:30pm

Who's Safe: Understanding Responsibility and Liability for Health and Safety on Construction Projects (pre-registration required)
(Quebec, Westin Hotel)

This presentation will focus on:

- Reviewing recent developments in the law regarding health and safety, including principles coming out of Greater Sudbury (City) and subsequent cases
- Discussing when and how owners can be liable for health and safety, and considering the implications of breaches of such responsibility and the availability of potential defences
- Considering the balance between an owner's exercise of its contracted rights to direct the and "assuming control of the project.

Speakers:

Catherine Gleason-Mercier, Partner, Singleton Reynolds

James Little, Partner, Singleton Reynolds

1:00pm – 5:00pm

Countering Hate, Social Polarization, and Extremism in Ontario Municipalities, Strong Cities Prevention Academy—Canada (pre-registration required)
Provinces 1, Westin Hotel

The Prevention Academy pre-AMO Conference workshop is designed to enable mayors, councillors, and municipal staff to better understand and identify on- and off-line threats, needs and vulnerabilities in their communities and understand how to apply a whole-of-society approach to prevention in their municipalities.

This special session will focus on two topics:

- Understanding the Hate Landscape—Data Collection and Threat Assessment: how governments, including smaller municipalities that may have limited staff or resources to dedicate to tracking these specific trends, can understand the threat and hate landscape locally, particularly in light of underreporting and data gaps around vulnerable communities
- Multi-Level Partnerships—National, provincial and municipal collaboration in prevention: explore how to tangibly harness existing resources, partnerships, and programming on the national, provincial, and municipal level to move towards stronger, more resilient cities

Participants will receive tailored recommendations on how to implement these resources and approaches to prevention in their own municipalities.

Speakers:



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Charlie Clark (former mayor of Saskatoon)

Amy Mack (Canada Research Chair University of Lethbridge)

John McCoy (Executive Director of the Organization for the Prevention of Violence)

Sunday, August 17

9:00am – 7:00pm Registration Open

2:00pm – 7:00pm Trade Show Open

1:30pm – 3:00pm **Workshops**

1. Growing Wisely: Planning for Our Community's Future
(Confederation 3, Westin Hotel)

Asset management is a holistic approach to infrastructure planning that is based on proactive strategies and efficient investment. It is a tool that helps you plan for the future you want for your community.

Beginning with a primer on growth and asset management, attendees will be provided with recommendations towards integrating growth and demographic shifts into asset management practices. Several case studies on how different municipalities in Ontario are planning for growth, with asset management and capital planning, will be discussed.

This interactive session is relevant to municipalities of various types and sizes tasked with managing demographic changes, service level expectations, and financial sustainability.

Speakers:

Jennifer Court, Executive Director, Asset Management Ontario

Dan Wilson, CAO, Township of Centre Wellington

Erin Orr, Program Advisor, CCBF

Suzanne Oliner, Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Services

2. AMO's Civility and Anti-Harassment Strategy – MASS LBP
(Governor General ½, Westin Hotel)

AMO is developing a strategy to combat the incivility and harassment experienced by elected officials and municipal staff in Ontario. The strategy will offer proactive measures to foster safer and more respectful municipal environments as well as practical tools that municipalities can develop to respond effectively when incidents occur.

Join us for a solutions workshop concerning the mistreatment of elected officials and municipal staff.

Speakers:

Peter MacLeod, Principal and Founder, MASS LBP

Kayte McNight, Consultant, MASS LBP



Jasmin Kay, Director, MASS LBP

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Workshops

1. Understanding Municipalities and Corporate Partnerships
(Confederation 3, Westin Hotel)

An Overview in the Good, The Bad and the Ugly in Increasing Revenues Without Raising Taxes,
sponsored by Partnership Group

This 90-minute workshop has been designed to provide Ontario municipalities of all sizes from small villages to mega cities and everything in-between to better understand the benefits, the drawbacks, the issues and the celebrations associated with corporate partnership and naming rights deals in municipalities in Ontario.

The session will explore, explain and engage in discussion on topics such as:

- How do we know how much money we can raise in our community?
- If we are building a new facility how much money can we raise to offset capital costs?
- What is the difference between donations and sponsorship, and does it really matter?
- How do we determine what the naming right for our arts centre or arena or Canada Day event or mom and tot swim program is really worth?
- Is it better to outsource these sales of naming rights and sponsorship or build internal capacity with staff to do it?
- Who else is doing this and what have been their successes and failures?
- What are the key setbacks to such a program
- How do stakeholders like the local high profile hockey team or swim club feel about the municipality making money off “their venue” and how do you deal with it?
- What are the risks and rewards?

If your municipality has ever considered getting into the “sponsorship and naming right” game or if you are already doing it and want to know more about it and the pros and cons or how to fix your existing program, this is the session for you. Come with your questions, your stories (to share your success or failure with others) and an open mind to better understand The Good, The Bad and The Ugly around Corporate Partnerships / Naming Rights and municipalities.

Speaker:

Brent Barootes, President and CEO, Partnership Group – Sponsorship Specialists

2. Activating provincial support for emergency preparedness and response, Ministry of
Emergency Preparedness and Response
(Governor General 3, Westin Hotel)

When disaster strikes, local governments are on the frontlines of keeping their communities safe. But effective emergency management requires strong collaboration and coordination with all levels of government. This session will share how municipalities can work with Ontario’s new Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response to prepare for and respond to emergencies using Ontario’s new one-window approach. It will also cover how to activate Ontario Corps resources to augment



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municipal response, access provincial grants, and how Ontario's newly proposed legislation will provide more flexibility and reduce red tape for municipalities.

Speaker:

The Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Ministry of the Solicitor General

3. Building a Culture of Human Connection Where People and Business Thrive (Governor General ½, Westin Hotel)

Discover how building a culture of connection can strengthen the social fabric of your community—supporting healthier citizens, more engaged workplaces, inclusive classrooms, and resilient local economies. In this compelling workshop, Pete Bombaci, founder of GenWell—Canada's Human Connection Movement—shines a light on the science and strategy behind social health, a powerful yet under-recognized pillar of individual and societal well-being.

People are looking to local leaders—not just for services, but for leadership that brings people together, fosters trust, and builds thriving, connected communities. Gain evidence-informed insights and practical strategies to help municipal leaders spark connection in every corner of community life—from civic engagement and public programming, to workplaces, classrooms, and public spaces. You'll walk away with simple, actionable tools that make it easier to integrate social connection into your policies, practices, and daily leadership.

Speaker:

Pete Bombaci, Founder/CEO, www.GenWell.ca

4:00pm – 5:00pm

#onpoli podcast live at AMO (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)

Join Steve Paikin and John Michael McGrath for a special live recording of the #onpoli podcast at the AMO Annual Conference. Steve and John Michael McGrath will be talking about all things Ontario politics and catching up on the events from the summer. They'll also be joined by special guests Robin Jones, AMO President and Mayor of the Village of Westport, and Dan Carter, Mayor of Oshawa, for an in-depth discussion.

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Opening Reception (Canada Hall 2/3, Rogers Centre)

7:00pm - 10:30 pm

Evening Social: Live Music, Dueling Pianos & Canapés
Live Band: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM at Lowertown Brewery
Dueling Pianos: 7:30 PM – 10:30 PM at Sens House

Join us for a vibrant night out in the heart of the ByWard Market, generously sponsored by Ottawa Tourism! Kick off the evening with live music at Lowertown Brewery, then make your upstairs to Sens House for an unforgettable dueling piano show.

Each delegate will receive one complimentary drink ticket, and passed canapés will be served throughout the evening, along with food stations for added variety.



Please Note: While delicious canapés and snacks will be available, this is not a full dinner service. If you'd prefer a full meal before or after the event, we recommend making a reservation at one of these fantastic nearby restaurants—all within walking distance:

- Chateau Lafayette ("The Laff") – Casual pub fare
- El Camino – Trendy tacos & tequila
- Play Food & Wine – Upscale small plates
- Métropolitain Brasserie – French-inspired bistro
- Sidedoor – Asian fusion in a stylish setting

Monday, August 18

7:15am – 8:00am

1. Women's Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Hydro One (Confederation 1, Westin Hotel)

Chair: Michelle Boileau, President, Association francophone des municipalités de l'Ontario;
Mayor, City of Timmins

Leading with Purpose: The Power of Diversity, Teamwork, and Vision / Diriger avec intention : la force de la diversité, de l'esprit d'équipe et d'une vision commune.

The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, is delighted to be joined by Honorary Colonel Sandra Perron for this year's Women's Networking Breakfast. Using her military experiences and corporate background, Honorary Colonel Sandra Perron will explore elements of leadership, team spirit, and diversity, and how these three forces—when nurtured together—can transform organizations, communities, and outcomes.

In today's rapidly changing world, effective leadership is not about having all the answers—it's about creating the conditions where people feel seen, valued, and empowered to contribute their best. Leaders set the tone, team members carry responsibility, and together they can co-create a thriving culture with a deep sense of purpose and belonging.

L'honorable Edith Dumont, lieutenant-gouverneure de l'Ontario, est ravie de partager le petit-déjeuner de réseautage des femmes avec la colonelle honoraire Sandra Perron. Forte d'un parcours impressionnant dans les Forces armées canadiennes et dans le monde des affaires, Mme Perron abordera les thèmes du leadership, de l'esprit d'équipe et de la diversité — trois forces qui, lorsque réunies, ont le pouvoir de transformer les milieux de travail, de renforcer les communautés et de susciter des changements tangibles.

Dans un monde en constante évolution, le leadership n'est plus une question de réponses toutes faites. Il s'agit plutôt de créer des environnements où chacun se sent reconnu, valorisé et encouragé à donner le meilleur de soi. Les leaders donnent le ton, les équipes s'engagent pleinement, et ensemble, ils bâtissent des cultures dynamiques, nourries par des objectifs communs et un sentiment d'appartenance.



Speakers:

The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
Colonel (H) Sandra Perron, Founder and CEO, The Pepper Pod
Yasmine Zemni, 3rd year medical student, University of Ottawa and Governance Committee Member, Montfort Hospital

2. Youth Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Bell
(Provinces Ballroom, Westin Hotel)

Chair: Barbara Dobreen, Councillor, County of Grey

Join an engaging and interactive session to learn from AMO's three dynamic Youth Fellows about ways to continue to better engage with youth in your communities. This presentation builds on the Youth Friendly Principles outlined in AMO's Engaging Youth in Local Democracy resource developed in partnership with Apathy is Boring. The three Youth Fellows will share their perspectives and potential solutions to help fully engaged young people in your communities.

Speakers:

Ida Mensah, AMO Youth Fellow
Kerry Yang, AMO Youth Fellow
Nathan Bean, AMO Youth Fellow

7:30am – 6:00pm **Trade Show Open**, Canada Hall 2/3, Rogers Centre

7:30am - 8:30am **Coffee with Exhibitors**

8:00am 4:30pm **Drop-In Conversations on AMO's Civility Strategy**
(Rogers, alcove by Westin pedway)

Across Ontario, local officials are reporting a surge in conflict, incivility, and aggression—in council chambers, online, and in public life. In response, AMO is developing a Municipal Civility & Anti-Harassment Strategy that will include both proactive measures to create safer, more respectful environments and practical tools to respond when issues arise.

Join the team behind the strategy for an informal, confidential chat in the “alcove” on the second floor of the Rogers Centre by the entrance to the Westin Hotel. We're eager to hear from municipal staff, elected officials, and others—whether you want to share experiences, propose solutions, stress-test our ideas, or ask questions about our work. Come on your own or bring your colleagues – no appointment needed. Your experiences and insights will help shape real solutions to reduce harm and support respectful local government.

8:15am – 9:30am **Plenary Program** (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)

8:15am – 8:30am Welcome, O Canada
● Orkidstra



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- Mark Sutcliffe, Mayor, City of Ottawa
- Merv Sarazin, Councillor, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

8:30am – 9:00am Andrew Coyne, Nationally Syndicated Political Journalist

9:00am – 9:15am Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict

9:15am – 9:25am Robin Jones, AMO President; Mayor, Village of Westport

9:25am – 9:30am Annual General Meeting

9:30am – 10:00am **Coffee Break Sponsored by CAA** (Canada Hall 2/3, Rogers Centre)

10:00am – 11:45am **Plenary Program** (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)

10:00am – 10:10am The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

10:10am – 10:15am Message from IESO
Lesley Gallinger, Chief Executive Officer and President

10:15am – 11:15am Women's Leadership Forum, sponsored by StrategyCorp

AMO is pleased to host the sixth annual Women's Leadership Forum. Since 2020, the Women's Leadership Forum has featured extraordinary leaders in public service at the national, provincial, and local levels. This year's three panelists will share their insights and experiences of leadership in their lives and career pathways.

Moderator: Nam Kiwanuka, Producer, Host, TVO

- Alexandra Chyczij, President, Ukrainian-Canadian Congress
- Paulette Senior, Senator of Ontario
- Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, Chair, Governing Circle, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

11:15am – 11:20 Message from Hydro One
David Lebeter, President and CEO, Hydro One

11:20am - 11:30am The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

12:00pm – 1:15pm **Caucus Lunches**

1. Large Urban Caucus Lunch, sponsored by Bell: From Target to Resilient How to prepare your city for the next cyber attack
(Ontario, Westin)

Chair: Dorothy McCabe, Caucus Chair, Large Urban Caucus; Mayor, City of Waterloo



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Canadian cities are increasingly being targeted by ransomware, DDoS attacks, and data breaches - crippling municipal services and costing millions in recovery. Recent attacks on Hamilton, Ontario, the Toronto Public Library, and St. Marys, Ontario highlight how quickly a cyber incident can escalate into a crisis. Yet many municipalities remain under-resourced and underprepared.

In this 15-minute presentation, AMO attendees will learn about the current threat landscape facing local governments and how the Bell Cybersecurity team can help to build a strong, tailored Municipal Cybersecurity Action Plan, one that protects critical infrastructure, safeguards resident data, and strengthens cyber resilience across their community.

Speaker: Diego Ramirez P., Senior Manager, Cyber Intelligence Center (CIC), Bell

2. Small Urban Caucus Lunch, sponsored by Alto Rail: Building the Train that Canada Needs (Confederation 2, Westin)

Chair: Lynn Dollin, Caucus Chair, Small Urban Caucus, Mayor, Town of Innisfil

What does high-speed rail mean for Ontario's towns and cities? A conversation with Pierre-Yves Boivin, Alto's Chief Communications and Engagement Officer on local impact, regional opportunity, and national ambition.

Speaker: Pierre-Yves Boivin, Communications and Public Relations

3. Regional and Single Tier Caucus Lunch, sponsored by Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs: Opportunities through the unification of paramedic operations and communications (Confederation 3, Westin)

Chair: Riley Brockington, Caucus Chair, Regional & Single Tier Caucus; Councillor, City of Ottawa

For 25 years the OAPC has been advocating for the modernization of Ontario's ambulance dispatch system. Learn about opportunities to better utilize limited paramedic resources, and better serve people by transforming paramedic communications centres into clinical hubs.

Speaker: Chief Greg Sage, President of the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs

4. Northern Caucus Lunch (Governor General 3, Westin)

Chair: Danny Whalen, Caucus Chair (NE), Northern Caucus, FONOM President; Councillor, City of Temiskaming Shores (NE)

5. County Caucus Lunch, sponsored by Ontario, Stone, Sand and Gravel Association: Opportunities through the unification of paramedic operations and communications (Provinces 1 and 2, Westin)



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Chair: Aina DeViet, Caucus Chair, County Caucus; Councillor, Middlesex County

Ontario's growth relies on local stone, sand, and gravel—resources that remain essential to housing, transit, and the evolving economy of work. This session highlights the legacy of municipal and industry collaboration, the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure, and our role in countering misinformation and planning for the future.

Speaker: John MacKay, Chair of Ontario Stone, Sand and Gravel Association

6. Rural Caucus Lunch, sponsored by Ontario Power Generation: The Next Generation: OPG's Role in Supplying New Power to Meet Ontario's Growing Energy Demands

(Governor General 1 and 2, Westin)

Chair: Christa Lowry, Caucus Chair, Rural Caucus, ROMA Chair; Mayor, Municipality of Mississippi Mills

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) projecting a 75% increase in demand over the next two decades. To meet this unprecedented growth, Ontario will need to secure additional, reliable, low-carbon and sustainable energy solutions. Presenters at this session will discuss what OPG is doing to meet this challenge and how new generation projects will not only supply the essential power needed for all Ontarians but will also contribute to the economic prosperity and development of local municipalities and Indigenous communities.

Speaker: Andrea Brown, Director, Business Development

7. Non-Voting Lunch, sponsored by Ontario, Stone, Sand and Gravel Association: Honouring our past, building the future

(Confederation 1, Westin)

Chair: Dan Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Kitchener

Ontario's growth relies on local stone, sand, and gravel—resources that remain essential to housing, transit, and the evolving economy of work. This session highlights the legacy of municipal and industry collaboration, the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure, and our role in countering misinformation and planning for the future.

Speaker: Michael McSweeney, Chef Executive Assistant, Stone, Sand and Gravel Association

12:00pm - 13:15 pm **Exhibitors Lunch** (Trillium Ballroom, Rogers Centre)

1:15pm – 1:45pm **Dessert with Exhibitors sponsored by NWMO** (Canada Hall ¾, Rogers Centre)

1:45pm – 3:20pm **Plenary Program** (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)



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1:45pm – 2:00pm The Hon. Gregor Robertson, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure,
Canada

2:00pm – 2:05pm A Message from Nuclear Waste Management Organization

2:05pm – 2:15pm Marit Stiles, Leader of the Official Opposition and NDP

2:15pm – 2:20pm A Message from Bruce Power
James Scongack, Chief Operating Officer, Bruce Power

2:20pm – 2:30pm Bonnie Crombie, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party

2:30pm – 2:35pm IPE and LAS Grant Announcement

- Shannon Devane, Program Manager, Municipal Risk Management, LAS
- Jessica Jaremchuk, Vice President, Risk Management Services, IPE

2:35pm – 2:45pm Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Green Party of Ontario

2:45pm – 3:20pm AMO's Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan

Join us for the launch of AMO's first Indigenous Relations Action Plan. This session will highlight the important reasons behind AMO's commitment to this work, with partners sharing how the plan will enhance engagement between AMO, municipalities, and Indigenous organizations and people.

- SpiritWolf Singers
- Robin Jones, AMO President, Mayor, Village of Westport
- Chief Shelly Moore Frappier, Temagami First Nation & Chiefs of Ontario Leadership Council Member
- Margaret Froh, President, Métis Nation of Ontario
- Cora McGuire-Cyrette, CEO, Ontario Native Women's Association
- Armand Jourdain Sr, President, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres

3:30 – 4:45pm

Concurrent Sessions

1. Have Your Say: Health and Human Services (Trillium Ballroom, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Aina DeViet, Deputy Warden of Middlesex County, Mayor of Middlesex County

Help shape AMO's advocacy approach on health and human services. This interactive session will give AMO members an opportunity to share local challenges in areas like primary care access and homelessness, highlight innovative municipal solutions, and help AMO best represent municipal interests.

Facilitator: Norm Gale, Former City Manager of the City of Thunder Bay



2. Arts & Culture in Local Economic Development
(Confederation 3, Westin Hotel)

Chair: Dane Nielsen, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Grey Highlands

This concurrent will share how arts and culture can contribute to the economic development of communities and will share success stories from across Ontario.

Speakers:

- Simon Foster, Chair, Ontario Arts Council
- Kira Mees, Community Development Manager, Municipality of Trent Hills
- Janet Jarrell, Chair, Alliance of Arts Councils of Ontario
- Miriam Kramer, Executive Director, Government & Community Relations, and Public Policy, OCAD University

3. AMO's Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan
(206/208, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Wendy Landry, Mayor, Town of Shuniah

An in-depth look at AMO's Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan and its development, featuring insights from our consultant team and members of AMO's Indigenous Advisory Council. Learn about AMO's specific commitments and how this plan directly supports municipalities in achieving their local reconciliation obligations and goals.

Speakers:

- Sara Loft, Principal, Tawi:ne Consulting Inc.
- Olga Semenovych, Associate Consultant, Tawi:ne Consulting Inc.
- Cora McGuire-Cyrette, Executive Director of Ontario Native Women's Association
- Emmanuel Dowuona, Director of Policy and Government Relations, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
- Joanne Meyer, COO, Métis Nation of Ontario

4. Partnerships to Develop the Municipal Staff Talent Pipeline
(205/207, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Meighan Wark, CAO, County of Huron

Recruitment and retention continue to be critical challenges facing municipalities across Ontario. This session will explore how partnerships in work-integrated learning, sector-specific training, and professional development are helping to build a resilient and future-ready workforce. Hear from leaders in education, training, and professional associations about innovative approaches that connect emerging talent with municipal careers, support upskilling, and strengthen local capacity.

Speakers:



- Anne-Marie Fannon, Director, University of Waterloo Centre for Work-Integrated Learning
- Victoria Colling, Manager of Training, Walkerton Clean Water Centre
- Claire Basinski, Chair, Ontario Professional Planners Institute

5. Local Approaches to Unlocking New Housing (Confederation 1, Westin Hotel)

Chair: Dorothy McCabe, Mayor, City of Waterloo

Municipalities remain at the forefront of enabling new housing units to meet demand. Hear case studies from municipalities who have advanced strategies to streamline local approvals for housing or taken innovative approaches to unlock new housing units.

Speakers:

- April Nix – Manager, Planning Policy, Oxford County
- Michelle Banfield – Executive Director of Development Services, City of Barrie
- Ryan Pettipiere – Director, Housing Services, Waterloo Region

4:45pm – 6:00pm **Power Down Reception** (Canada Hall 2/3, Rogers Centre)

Tuesday, August 19

7:30am – 8:15am **Insight Breakfasts**

1. Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA): Use the Data: Unlock Local Seniors' Care Solutions (Governor General 3, Westin)

Chair: Marilyn Crawford, Regional Councillor, Town of Ajax

New data to help municipalities meet growing seniors' needs and leverage provincial investments. Older Ontarians deserve to age well in the communities they know and love, but that's becoming increasingly challenging as the demand for health and social care outpaces local capacity.

Long-term care waitlists have doubled over the past decade and are projected to exceed 50,000 by the end of this year. Most admissions now come through hospital crisis discharges, leaving many seniors in the community navigating care gaps for months or even years. This growing pressure demands urgent, coordinated action. This session provides exclusive insights into where demand is rising and how long-term care redevelopment can help municipalities expand seniors' services, support aging in place, and deliver lasting community and economic benefits. Join us to explore solutions and discover how partnering with long-term care can help meet your community's needs.

Speaker: Donna Duncan, CEO, Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA)

2. Ontario Professional Planners Institutes (OPPI): Strengthening Communities Through Planning: How RPPs Support Municipal Goals

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(Confederation 2, Westin)

Chair: Natasha Salonen, Mayor, Township of Wilmot

This session will showcase the Ontario Professional Planners Institute's (OPPI) recommendations and ongoing work to streamline planning processes and approvals in support of municipal and provincial goals around housing and community building. While highlighting the critical role of professional planners, the focus will be on practical recommendations to improve planning practices, leverage existing tools, and address key challenges in approvals and decision-making. With an emphasis on collaboration among decision makers, professionals, and industry leaders, OPPI—Ontario's voice of the planning profession—will share insights on how planners contribute across sectors toward achieving the goal of 1.5 million homes by 2030 and building strong, resilient, and healthy communities.

Speaker: Claire Basinski, Chair, Ontario Professional Planners Institutes MCIP, RPP, CP3

3. LAS: Taking Risks, Getting Results (Ontario, Westin)

Municipalities are bombarded with risk decisions every day. Start your day with an intriguing breakfast discussion on the innovative ideas submitted for the first All-Risk Municipal Grant. We'll also dive into the current municipal insurance landscape and give insight into new initiatives in the province supporting risk management.

Speaker: Shannon Devane, Program Manager, Municipal Risk Management, LAS

4. ESSC in Action: Supporting Cost-Effective Emergency Services (Governor General 1 and 2, Westin)

As the level of government responsible for funding police, paramedical, fire & emergency services, the municipalities that comprise MARCO (Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario) and OBCM (Ontario Big City Mayors) established the Emergency Services Steering Committee (ESSC) in 2005.

The ESSC is mandated to coordinate activities related to cost containment in emergency services delivery.

Join ESSC Chair, Sandra Datars Bere, City Manager of London for an update on the ESSC's recent activities, including the recent public education campaign on the proper use of 9-1-1 services – which was the first ever province-wide campaign.

Speaker: Sandra Datars Bere, Chair of the Emergency Services Steering Committee Ontario

5. Partnering with the OMA: How Municipalities and Doctors Are Strengthening Local Health Access (Provinces 1 and 2, Westin)



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Chair: Nathan Townend, Deputy Mayor, Loyalist Township

Across Ontario, municipalities are facing a common challenge: ensuring residents have reliable access to a family doctor. In this session, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) will outline how communities can partner with physicians to recruit and retain doctors, support team based care and improve access to local health services. OMA CEO Kim Moran and President Dr. Zainab Abdurrahim will share what municipal leaders have told them, what is working on the ground, and how the 2.1-billion-dollar provincial investment in primary care offers new opportunities for collaboration. Join us to learn how municipalities can play a pivotal role in shaping healthier and more resilient communities.

Speakers:

Dr. Zainab Abdurrahman, President, Ontario Medical Association
Kimberly Moran, CEO, Ontario Medical Association

6. ONE Investment / PH&N Institutional: An Opportunity for Financing Municipal Infrastructure - Prudent Investment

(Les Saisons, Westin)

Amidst market fluctuation and political change, municipal investors should remain focused on long-term investments to help fund their infrastructure deficit. Join ONE Investment for a timely update on current market challenges, both nationally and internationally, and learn how the 'Prudent Investor Standard' can help manage investment risk and create better long-term municipal returns with a diversified portfolio and expert oversight via an independent investment board.

PH&N Institutional is among Canada's most established institutional asset managers, with a long-standing focus on distinctive active management and high-quality service. They manage over \$145 billion in assets on behalf of Canadian governments, corporations, unions, not-for-profit organizations, family offices and Indigenous communities throughout Canada. As the institutional business division within RBC Global Asset Management (RBC GAM) in Canada, they deliver solutions that combine PH&N Institutional's client-centred portfolio expertise with RBC GAM's global investment capabilities in all major asset classes, including domestic and international fixed income and equities, as well as custom, specialty and alternative investment strategies.

Speakers:

Martin Leclair, Vice President and Institutional Portfolio Manager
Paul Purcell, Institutional Portfolio Manager

8:00am 4:30pm

Drop-In Conversations on AMO's Civility Strategy

(Rogers, alcove by Westin pedway)

Across Ontario, local officials are reporting a surge in conflict, incivility, and aggression—in council chambers, online, and in public life. In response, AMO is developing a Municipal Civility



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& Anti-Harassment Strategy that will include both proactive measures to create safer, more respectful environments and practical tools to respond when issues arise.

Join the team behind the strategy for an informal, confidential chat in the “alcove” on the second floor of the Rogers Centre by the entrance to the Westin Hotel. We’re eager to hear from municipal staff, elected officials, and others—whether you want to share experiences, propose solutions, stress-test our ideas, or ask questions about our work. Come on your own or bring your colleagues – no appointment needed. Your experiences and insights will help shape real solutions to reduce harm and support respectful local government.

8:30am – 9:45am

Concurrent Sessions

1. Have Your Say: Housing and Land-Use Planning

(Trillium Ballroom, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Kieran McKenzie, Councillor, City of Windsor

Help shape AMO’s advocacy approach on housing and land-use planning. This interactive session will give AMO members an opportunity to share local challenges, highlight innovative municipal solutions, and help AMO best represent municipal interests.

Facilitator: Norm Gale, Former City Manager of the City of City of Thunder Bay - Principal, Norm Gale Strategies

2. Libraries for Community Impact and Childhood Development

(205/207, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Paul Ainslie, Deputy Mayor, City of Toronto

Libraries play a critical role for communities and for childhood development. They provide a range of relevant services beyond traditional book lending, including acting as community hubs especially when other social and education infrastructure is lacking. There is a clear value proposition that can be leveraged for community impact with government support and innovative partnerships. Practical take-aways from promising practices will be featured.

Speakers:

- Angela Caputo, Councillor, City of Sault Ste. Marie
- Jeanne Smitiuch, Senior Regional Director, The Dollywood Foundation of Canada
- Dina Stevens, Executive Director, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries

3. Working with Indigenous Partners to Address Gender-Based Violence

(Confederation 3, Westin Hotel)

Chair: Riley Brockington, Councillor, City of Ottawa

This session will share success stories and lessons learned about how municipalities can work with Indigenous partners to respond to gender-based violence in their communities.

Speakers:

- Moderator: Cora McGuire-Cyrette, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Native Women's Association
- Mary Daoust, Executive Director of Minwaashin Lodge Indigenous Women's Support Centre
- Stephanie Mikki Adams, Executive Director of Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth
- Anita Armstrong, Executive Director, Odawa Native Friendship Centre

4. Challenges and Opportunities of the Sharing Economy
(206/208, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Lynn Dollin, Mayor, Town of Innisfil

Explore the multifaceted impacts of the sharing economy on municipalities. This session will cover rideshare and short-term rentals' effects on housing, tourism, public safety, and economic development. Panel experts will share their approaches and experiences on how they are managing the sharing economy in their local communities.

Speakers:

- Robert Lamb, Chief Administrative Officer; Deputy Clerk, Township of Tiny
- Andria Leigh, Director, Planning & Growth, Town of Innisfil
- David Wachsmuth, Associate Professor, Canada Research Chair in Urban Governance, McGill University

5. IMPACT+ | Le Café franco-dynamique
(Confederation 1, Westin Hotel)

Saviez-vous que plus de 11 % de la population ontarienne s'exprime en français? Vous avez des citoyennes et citoyens francophones ou francophiles dans votre communauté? C'est le moment d'amplifier leur voix!

Participez à un échange vivant et inclusif avec l'Association francophone des municipalités de l'Ontario (AFMO). Ensemble, faisons rayonner la francophonie municipale, renforçons les liens communautaires et propulsons un leadership franco encore plus fort et audacieux. Votre voix compte. Joignez-vous à nous pour optimiser les collectivités francophones!

La séance se conclura par l'assemblée générale annuelle de l'AFMO

ENGLISH :

Did you know that over 11% of Ontario's population speaks French? Do you have Francophone or Francophile residents in your community? Now is the time to amplify their voices!

Join the Association francophone des municipalités de l'Ontario (AFMO) for a vibrant and inclusive exchange. Together, let's elevate municipal Francophonie, strengthen community connections, and advance bold, impactful French-language leadership. Your voice matters. Be part of the movement to shape and strengthen the Francophone communities!



AMO 2025: Conference Program

The session will conclude with AFMO's Annual General Meeting.

- Animatrice: Michelle Boileau, présidente de l'AFMO et maire de Timmins
- Modératrices : Mélanie Chevrier et Jennifer Regnier de l'Équipe M

9:45am - 10:15am

Coffee Break

Parliament Foyer, Rogers Centre

10:00am – 11:45am

Plenary Program (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)

10:00am – 10:05am

Rebecca Bligh, President, FCM

10:05am – 10:10am

Ontario Ombudsman's Good Governance Award

- Paul Dubé, Ombudsman of Ontario

10:10am – 10:55am

Innovative Approaches to Supporting Mental Health, Addictions and Supportive Housing

Municipalities across Ontario have been grappling with mental health and addictions challenges in their communities and workforces. This session will share innovative approaches to tackling this growing crisis.

Moderator: Nam Kiwanuka, Host and Producer, TVO

- Matthew Pegg, COO, Warrior Health
- Camille Quenneville, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario
- Dr. Andrew Boozary, Executive Director, Social Medicine and Population Health, University Health Network

10:55am – 11:30am

AMO-COU Keynote: Building resilient municipalities through innovative technology infrastructure

How can municipalities embrace and utilize emerging technologies like AI to deliver faster services for their citizens? How can communities balance investing in technological infrastructure with other infrastructure priorities that municipalities are facing? This year's Council of Ontario Universities keynote speaker Dr. Adegboyega Ojo, Canada Research Chair in Governance and Artificial Intelligence and Professor at Carleton University, will speak to these questions and more. Dr. Ojo will share best practices from levels of government and other jurisdictions who are already in the process of advancing their technological infrastructure.

Speaker: Dr. Adegboyega Ojo, Canada Research Chair in Governance and Artificial Intelligence and Professor at Carleton University

11:45am – 12:45pm

Learning Lunches

1. The Ombudsman and Municipalities: Advancing Good Governance, Fairness, and Accountability at the Local Level

(Governor General 1 and 2, Westin)

Accurate as of: 2025-08-12

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Chair: Tammy Hwang, Councillor, City of Hamilton

Established 50 years ago to safeguard the public's right to fair and accountable administration, the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman saw its mandate expanded in 2016 to include municipalities. Under the leadership of Ombudsman Paul Dubé, the Office has worked collaboratively with local governments to promote best practices in complaint resolution, council codes of conduct, and overall transparency. In this milestone year, the Ombudsman has introduced the **Good Governance Awards** – a new initiative to recognize excellence in public administration. Join Mr. Dubé at the August 19 luncheon sponsored by Ombudsman Ontario to learn more about the Ombudsman's role and the very first Good Governance Award to a municipality for an exemplary action.

Speaker: Paul Dubé, Ombudsman Ontario

2. IESO: Ontario's Power System: Connecting Economic Growth Across the Province Starts in Your Community

(Confederation 1, Westin)

Chair: Sharmila Setaram, Councillor, Councillor City of Welland

Generating electricity and getting it where it is needed happens at the speed of light. Building infrastructure to make it happen takes years of planning and construction. At every stage on the journey communities stand to benefit: economically and socially. Join the Independent Electricity System Operator for insight on the power system strengthening your community.

Speakers:

Lesley Gallinger, Chief Executive Officer and President

Carla Y. Nell, Executive Vice-President of Corporate Relations, Engagement & Strategy

Beverly Nollert, Director of Transmission Integration

Ben Weir, Senior Manager, Resource Development and Procurement

3. AdvantAge: Local Leadership in Action-The Value of Municipal Programs and Services in Seniors' Care

(Provinces 1 and 2, Westin)

Chair: Tanya Vrebosch, Councillor, City of North Bay

With a rapidly aging population in Ontario, the full spectrum of care for older adults is needed more than ever and municipalities are responding to this need, as they always have. This presentation will focus on the value of municipal and regional governments providing long-term care and serving their older adult populations, and includes examples of local leadership bringing incredibly positive impacts to their communities.

Speakers:

Lisa Levin, CEO, AdvantAge Ontario

Jennifer Cornell, Director of Long-Term Care and Senior Services, Grey County; AdvantAge Ontario Board



4. Ontario One Call: Ontario One Call's Transformation: Opportunities for Municipal Collaboration
(Ontario, Westin)

Chair: Deb Doherty, Councillor, Town of Collingwood

Come learn about what Ontario One Call's transformation from a locate notification system service provider to a modern public safety administrative authority means for municipalities -- including opportunities for greater collaboration. From enhancing the management of underground infrastructure mapping data to strengthening our legislative framework and new approaches to services to reflect industry needs, change is afoot at Ontario One Call!

Speakers:

Jean Lépine, Chief Strategy Officer, Ontario One Call

Kristian Kennedy, Manager of Stakeholder Engagement and Education, Ontario One Call

5. AltaML: From Potholes to Progress - AI's role in municipal innovation
(Governor General 3, Westin)

Chair: Cheraldean Duhaney, Councillor, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

Join AltaML for this overview of how AI is reshaping municipal services. Learn about real world examples being implemented in municipalities in Canada that are driving efficiencies and delivering better quality for citizens.

Speaker: Chantal Ritcey, Public Sector Industry Lead, AltaML Inc.

1:00pm – 2:15pm

Concurrent Sessions

1. Have Your Say: Municipal Finance & Economic Development
(Trillium Ballroom, Rogers Centre)

Chair: Trevor Wilcox, General Manager, Corporate Performance, County of Simcoe

Help shape AMO's advocacy approach on municipal finance and economic development This interactive session will give AMO members an opportunity to share local challenges in balancing municipal budgets and attracting new investment, highlight innovative municipal solutions, and help AMO best represent municipal interests.

Facilitator: Norm Gale, Former City Manager of the City of Thunder Bay- Principal, Norm Gale Strategies

2. Investments in Architecture to Improve Public Spaces and Accessibility
(Governor General ½, Westin)

Chair: Diane Ballantyne, Councillor, County of Wellington

This session will explore how architecture and public spaces can create beautiful and prosperous communities in Ontario. It will offer considerations for how new projects can invest in the well-being of communities through these strategies.

Speakers:

- Hayley Hodges, Client & Family Experience Lead, Five Counties Children's Centre
- Jen Angel, CEO, Evergreen
- Shane Laptiste, Principal, Studio of Contemporary Architecture (SOCA)

3. MPAC's Vision for Data-Driven Municipal Success

(Confederation 2, Westin)

Chair: Danny Whalen, Councillor, City of Temiskaming Shore

Join MPAC for a session exploring how Ontario's property data can unlock new opportunities to drive innovation and improve operational efficiency, creating lasting value for municipalities. As a customer-centred strategic partner, MPAC continues to look for ways to support municipalities through enhanced service delivery and innovative tools that help enable data-driven decision-making. This session will provide municipal leaders with practical insights into leveraging MPAC services and tools to align with local priorities and reduce administrative burdens.

Speakers:

- Alan Spacek, Chair of Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, Board of Directors
- Nicole McNeill, President and Chief Administrative Officer, Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

4. Integrating Housing and Health Supports

(205/207, Rogers)

Chair: Bonnie Clark, Warden, County of Peterborough

Integrated housing and health services offer numerous benefits by addressing the social determinants of health, particularly for those experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. This session will share new approaches for integration and opportunities to leverage and scale up best practices across the province.

Speakers:

- Clara Freire, General Manager, Community and Social Services, City of Ottawa
- Tyler Campbell, General Manager, Community Well-Being, City of Greater Sudbury
- Kathy Peters, Executive Director, Burlington Ontario Health Team

5. First Nations Land Use Planning

(Confederation 3, Westin)

Chair: Tammy Hwang, Councillor, City of Hamilton

Ontario's development goals demand responsible land use planning that respects First Nations rights and cultural heritage. This session will clarify the critical role of municipalities in protecting First Nations sacred and burial sites, especially in light of recent legislative shifts like Bill 5's Special Economic Zones and Heritage Act amendments. Gain practical strategies to navigate complex land development projects, build strong relationships with First Nations, and ensure municipalities continue to lead in safeguarding this vital cultural heritage.

Speakers:

- Miptoon (Anthony Chegahno), Councillor, Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation
- Chris Plain, Deputy Grand Chief, Anishinabek Nation
- Brandy George, Archaeology Technical Advisor for Chiefs of Ontario
- Tanya Hill-Montour, Archaeological Supervisor, Six Nations of the Grand River

6. Workforce Housing

(206/208, Rogers)

Chair: Dan Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Kitchener

An increasing number of the middle-income families that our communities rely on to thrive are finding themselves unable to find affordable housing – these are our nurses, teachers, skilled tradespeople, hospitality workers and transit operators. Tackling workforce housing affordability will require a coordinated response from government, non-profits, and the private sector. Learn how decision makers can come together to speed and scale housing affordability for middle-income workers.

Speakers:

- Leslie Woo, Chief Executive Officer, CivicAction
- Jag Sharma, Deputy City Manager, Development and Growth Services, City of Toronto
- Jasveen Rattan, Director of Policy and Government Relations, Ontario Restaurant, Hotel and Motel Association

2:00pm - 2:30pm

Coffee Break

Parliament Foyer, Rogers Centre

2:30pm – 4:45pm

Plenary Program (Canada Hall 1, Rogers Centre)

2:30pm – 2:40pm

Honourary Life Member

2:40pm - 2:50pm

The Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

2:50pm – 3:00pm

The Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure

3:00pm - 3:20pm

Championing Indigenous-led Post-secondary Education and Training

Since 1985, Indigenous Institutes have successfully delivered post-secondary and life-long learning programs built on the foundation of Indigenous ways of knowing and being, helping students to reach their full potential. Indigenous Institutes contribute to local economies with

graduates that fill critical labour gaps in trades, healthcare, community services and education. The Indigenous Institutes Consortium (IIC) represents seven Indigenous-owned and operated member institutes across Ontario, championing the critical link between Indigenous led post-secondary education and training, a skilled workforce, and economic reconciliation.

Speakers:

- Lorrie Deschamps, President of Oshki-Pimache-O-Win: The Wenjack Education Institute
- Marsha Josephs, Executive Director, Indigenous Institutes Consortium

3:20 – 3:35pm PJ Marshall Awards

3:35 – 3:45pm The Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

3:45 – 4:45pm Ministers' Forum

4:45pm – 5:45pm **Provincial Reception**, Parliament Foyer, Rogers Centre

6:30pm – 8:00pm **Ticketed Social Event**, sponsored by Airbnb, National Arts Centre

Wednesday, August 20

7:30am – 8:15am **Insight Breakfasts**

1. Paving the Way: The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)

(Governor General 1, Westin)

The CCBF is a flexible and predictable source of funding for municipal infrastructure. Join us in this engaging session as we explore how the fund is paving the way in supporting the growth and vitality of communities across Ontario.

2. Elections Ontario: Elections Ontario & the Municipal General Elections 2026

(Governor General 2, Westin)

Chair: Rachel Chernos Lin, Councillor, City of Toronto

The session will provide an overview of how municipalities and Elections Ontario can partner to improve the quality of Voters' Lists ahead of the 2026 General Elections. It will include information about the upcoming Voter Registration Campaign, clarify roles and responsibilities, and highlight key deadlines and milestones on the road to election day.

Speaker: Greg Essensa, Chief Electoral Officer, Ontario

3. Canadian Beverage Association: Modernizing Beverage Recovery: A Path Forward for Ontario

(Governor General 3, Westin)



AMO 2025: Conference Program

Chair: Bonnie Clark, Head of Council, County of Peterborough

Join the Canadian Beverage Association for an engaging breakfast session about the work of the beverage sector towards a modernized beverage container recovery system in Ontario. While the Province has made strides in producer responsibility, it has not fully unlocked the recovery potential for beverage containers compared to other provinces with deposit-return systems. This breakfast will feature a presentation by Cindy Coutts, President and CEO of Encorp Pacific, outlining the British Columbia depot-based model and the importance of municipal partnership in beverage container recycling.

Speaker: Krista Scaldwell, President, Canadian Beverage Association

8:30am – 11:00am **Plenary Program**, Confederation Ballroom, Westin Hotel

8:30am-8:35am Incoming AMO Executive Director

8:35am – 9:30am New Approaches to Housing

Increasing Ontario's housing supply requires new ways of thinking about perennial funding and financing challenges, and different ways of working with partners. This panel brings together representatives from the municipal, development and financing sectors to discuss recent successful collaborations and unpack potential future innovations that support a broad range of housing in Ontario communities.

Moderator: John Michael McGrath, Writer, TVO

- Scott Andison, CEO, Ontario Home Builders' Association
- Michael Fedchyshyn, CEO, Building Ontario Fund
- Laura Mirabella, Treasurer, Region of York and Chair of the Ontario Regional and Single Tier Treasurers

9:30am – 9:50am **Coffee Break**, sponsored by Canadian Beverage Association

9:50am - 10:10am **The Case for a Property Tax Reassessment**

Property taxes are the single most important source of revenue for Ontario's municipalities, and it's been nearly a decade since the last reassessment. This session will focus on why a reassessment is urgently needed and how municipalities and the provincial government can support its successful roll out.

Speaker: Enid Slack, Director, Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance, University of Toronto

10:10 - 11:10am **Trade and Tariffs: Short-term Risks and Long-Term Opportunities**



AMO 2025: Conference Program

International trade and tariff uncertainty presents real economic threats for Ontario's municipalities, businesses, and residents. However, it may also be a catalyst for new long-term partnerships to diversify and strengthen our economy. This session will discuss how municipalities can help lead and build Ontario into a new and more resilient economic future.

Moderator: Jeyan Jeganathan, Host, The Agenda and The Thread, TVO

- Tony Stillo, Director of Canada Economics, Oxford Economics
- Matti Siemiatycki, Director, Infrastructure Institute, University of Toronto
- Mat Siscoe, Mayor, City of Catharines

11:10am - 11:15am Conference Closing, Wrap Up Prize Draw, sponsored by Bell