

**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 2:57 PM  
**To:** Cindy Pigeau  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Province Introduces Paid COVID-19 Leave

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April 29, 2021

## **AMO Policy Update – Province Introduces Paid COVID-19 Leave**

The Province introduced legislation today to create a [temporary COVID-19 focused provincial sick day program](#). This legislation, if passed, will require employers to provide workers with up to three days of pay, up to \$200 per day, if missing work because of COVID-19. This will be retroactive to April 19, 2021 and effective until September 25, 2021, the same date the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) program will expire.

The WSIB will administer the program but it will be funded by the Province, not by the WSIB who relies on employers to fund their programs. At the time of writing the draft legislation was not available on the Legislative Assembly website, but when it is posted it should be found [here](#).

The Province has also offered to provide funding to the federal government to double CRSB payments to Ontario residents, adding an additional \$500 per week to eligible individuals for a total of \$1,000 per week. It is understood that federal-provincial discussions are currently occurring on creating a bridge between these programs and making it easier for employees to navigate between them when needed. The two programs, once up and operating together, are not to be used in the same week.

It has been stated by the Province that these temporary sick days, when passed into law, are not to be stacked on top of employer provided benefits if those benefits already provide for 3 or more sick days as part of the employment entitlements. As the employer is to manage the provision of these temporary COVID-19 focused provincial sick days, it is presumed that the employer will make sure this does not occur.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



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Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
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**Cindy Pigeau**

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**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 3:31 PM  
**To:** Cindy Pigeau  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update – Long-Term Care Commission Report Overview, Digital Ontario

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May 3, 2021

## **AMO Policy Update – Long-Term Care Commission Report Overview and Digital Ontario**

### **Ontario’s Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission Releases Report**

The Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission has publicly released a final report fulfilling their mandate to examine the pandemic response for long-term care in Ontario. The [322-page report](#) contains the following:

- the state of long-term care before COVID-19, including the longstanding challenges concerning staffing, quality of resident care, oversight, funding, and infrastructure
- the deficiencies in Ontario’s pandemic preparedness
- the COVID-19 crisis in long-term care and its devastating impacts
- best practices and promising ideas that can be adopted and expanded to improve long-term care, and
- final recommendations that build on the interim recommendations provided in October and December 2020.

The Commissioners’ overall conclusion was that there was a lack of planning for a pandemic and that the response to COVID-19 was insufficient. The government is being urged to make changes to protect against outbreaks of infectious disease and any future pandemics.

AMO was active in the inquiry providing both testimony and written submissions to the Commissioners. A response to the government about this report, and the recent Auditor General’s Report, will be developed and communicated to AMO members after further analysis of the recommendations and implications. The report provides

the foundation for a critically needed discussion on how to effectively transform long-term care in Ontario.

## Building a Digital Ontario

The Ontario Government introduced its first Digital and Data Strategy, [Building a Digital Ontario](#), on Friday, April 30th. This Strategy is the result of over two years of consultation and includes over two dozen new and established initiatives to equip people and businesses to succeed and, is to play a role in keeping Ontarians safe and secure, connected, and supported in the digital world. This strategy is an extension of [Ontario Onwards: Ontario's COVID-19 Action Plan for a People-Focused Government](#).

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

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**Ministry of Municipal Affairs  
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Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél.: 416-585-7000

Our Reference #: M-2021-6396

May 3, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

We are writing to you today to highlight some of the recent liquor licensing measures our government has taken to provide additional tools to municipalities to modernize the regulation of alcohol consumption.

As you know, our government has taken a series of actions to support Ontario's vibrant hospitality sector before and during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the more than 17,000 local restaurants and bars that are essential to life in our communities.

We will continue to work with Ontario businesses, workers and municipal partners to expand choice and convenience for consumers across the province.

Our government understands the important role that municipalities play in the effective administration of the liquor licensing framework, and we will work to continue this collaborative approach to support your community and the local businesses and workers that are essential to its economic growth and well-being.

On March 29, 2019, the *Liquor Licence Act* (LLA) was amended to authorize municipal governments to designate public areas within their jurisdiction, such as parks, for the public consumption of alcohol. Since that time, all municipalities in Ontario have had the flexibility to designate any area under their authority for the public consumption of alcohol, subject to any additional rules or conditions that the municipality considers appropriate (e.g. limitations on which day consumption could occur, times of day, etc.).

In addition to this important modernization of the province's regulatory framework for alcohol consumption, over the last 12 months our government has also delivered:

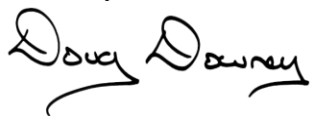
- Regulatory amendments that provide the Registrar of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) the authority to alter its policy regarding temporary extensions of licensed premises, facilitating the creation of new or extended outdoor licensed areas for licensed establishments, subject to municipal oversight;

- Making an order under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020* (O. Reg. 345/20) which created temporary exemptions to the *Planning Act* procedural requirements, allowing municipalities to quickly authorize by-laws to establish or expand bar and restaurant patios;
- Implemented regulatory changes to permit tour boats that were not permitted to operate, due to public health measures, to utilize their liquor sales licence while docked (which was previously prohibited under the regulations), and, with approval from the municipality, create an outdoor or patio area on the dock for the safe sale and service of alcohol;
- Provisions that permit liquor sales licensees to include alcohol as part of a takeout or delivery food order;
- Various changes to the liquor delivery service program to expand the types of delivery services permitted and provide flexibility and increased choice for consumers;
- Significant changes to the rules for liquor manufacturers, including the expansion of the farmers' market program to include the sale of 100% Ontario and non-VQA wine, spirits and most recently eligible beer; and
- New opportunities and flexibility for manufacturers in how they are permitted to retail their product at their manufacturing facility, and the offerings they are able to provide to tourists visiting those facilities.

While not all changes to liquor licensing include municipal involvement, the steps being taken to modernize the liquor regulatory framework are intended to support local businesses within your communities. Our government continues to recognize the significant contributions that municipalities make to the liquor regulatory framework, and we look forward to your ongoing participation and collaboration in this regard.

Should you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter, please contact Joseph Hillier, Chief of Staff for the Attorney General, at [joseph.hillier@ontario.ca](mailto:joseph.hillier@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,



Doug Downey  
Attorney General



Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



# The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

May 3, 2021

Honourable Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Email: [minister.mah@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca)

VIA EMAIL

## **Re: Planning Act Timelines**

Dear Hon. Steve Clark,

At its meeting held on April 12, 2021, Council for the Town of Amherstburg passed the following:

Resolution # 20210412-120

***“That Administration BE DIRECTED to send correspondence in support of the City of Kitchener’s resolution regarding Planning Act Timelines.”***

Enclosed is a copy of the correspondence from the City of Kitchener for convenience and reference purposes.

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes  
Deputy Clerk, Town of Amherstburg  
(519) 736-0012 ext. 2216  
[tfowkes@amherstburg.ca](mailto:tfowkes@amherstburg.ca)

cc:

Taras Natyshak – MPP, Essex, Ontario  
[tnatyshak-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:tnatyshak-co@ndp.on.ca)

Chris Lewis – MP, Essex, Ontario  
[Chris.Lewis@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Lewis@parl.gc.ca)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
[info@fcm.ca](mailto:info@fcm.ca)

Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)  
[amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

All Ontario Municipalities





**CHRISTINE TARLING**  
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TTY: 519-741-2385

March 31, 2021

Honourable Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5

Dear Mr. Clark:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on March 22, 2021, passed the following resolution regarding Planning Act Timelines:

“WHEREAS the City of Kitchener, like many Ontario municipalities, is experiencing significant growth; and,

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener has conducted extensive work through its Development Services Review to remove red tape and improve public engagement; and,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario's Planning Act provides a legislative framework for processing development applications including established timeframes which permit applicants to appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal if a Council fails to make a decision within a prescribed timeline; and,

WHEREAS the passing of Bill 108 in 2019 reduced the timelines for processing development applications before they can be appealed to the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT) for a non-decision from those outlined in Bill 139, the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 as follows:

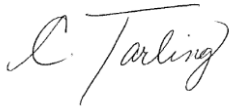
- from seven months (210 days) to four months (120 days) for Official Plan amendments;
- from five months (150 days) to three months (90 days) for Zoning By-law amendments; and
- from six months (180 days) to four months (120 days) for Plans of Subdivision; and

WHEREAS the shortened timeframes create unreasonable pressures on municipalities, even outside the context of navigating city business in a global pandemic, and result in reduced opportunities for meaningful public engagement and limited time for the public to provide written submissions on a development application;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Kitchener City Council urge the Province of Ontario to review and reconsider the current timelines established for review of Planning Act applications before an appeal is permitted to the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal and to return to the timelines that were in effect under Bill 139, the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to the local MP's and MPP's, to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to the Association of Municipalities Ontario, and all other municipalities in Ontario."

Yours truly,



C. Tarling  
Director of Legislated Services  
& City Clerk

- c: Honourable Tim Louis, M.P.  
Honourable Raj Saini, M.P.  
Honourable Marwan Tabbara, M. P.  
Honourable Bardish Chagger, M.P.  
Honourable Bryan May, M.P.  
Honourable Amy Fee, M.P.P.  
Honourable Catherine Fife, M.P.P.  
Honourable Belinda Karahalios, M.P.P.  
Honourable Mike Harris, M.P.P.  
Honourable Laura Mae Lindo, M.P.P.  
Bill Karsten, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rosa Bustamante, Director, Planning, City of Kitchener  
Ontario Municipalities



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City of North Bay

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05 May 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Queen's Park  
Legislative Building  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

This is Resolution No. 2021-194 which was passed by Council at its Regular Meeting held Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

Resolution No. 2021-194:

"Whereas for years municipalities have asked the Province of Ontario to address the issue of joint and several liability;

And Whereas in 2014 Randy Pettapiece, MPP for Perth-Wellington had introduced the following private member's resolution in the Ontario Legislature:

"That, in the opinion of this House, the government should protect taxpayers from higher property taxes by implementing a comprehensive long-term solution to reform joint and several liability insurance for municipalities by no later than June 2014, addressing the alarming rise in insurance premiums due to rising litigation and claims cost.";

And Whereas the Council of The Corporation of the City of North Bay resolved at that time to support the private member's resolution by passing Resolution 2014-81 and a copy of the resolution was forwarded to Premier Kathleen Wynne, Randy Pettapiece, MPP for Perth-Wellington; Victor Fedeli, MPP for Nipissing; Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Provincial New Democrat Party; Tim Hudak, Leader of the Provincial Conservative Party; and to FONOM;

And Whereas in 2019 Premier Doug Ford announced to the delegates of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference that his government was going to launch consultations into municipal concern about joint and several liability;

And Whereas in 2019 the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) made a submission to the Attorney General entitled "Toward a Reasonable Balance: Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs";

And Whereas The Corporation of the City of North Bay, like other Ontario municipalities, has not heard the results of such consultation;

And Whereas the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has recently surveyed its members with respect to annual renewal of insurance the results of which indicated increases that ranged from 2% to 62%;

And Whereas despite an exemplary claims history, The Corporation of the City of North Bay has in the past, and again most recently, experienced a steep insurance premium increases;

And Whereas this continuing trend of increasing insurance premiums is attributed to a number of factors including a hardening of the insurance marketplace and joint and several liability;

And Whereas this growing trend in increasing insurance premiums is both concerning and challenging to all municipalities continues to place a heavy burden on taxpayers; and draws money away from other municipal services;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of The Corporation of the City of North Bay calls on the Province of Ontario to:

- (i) Immediately resume, conclude or report, as the case maybe, to all municipalities on consultations around joint and several liability;
- (ii) Adopt the options outlined by AMO in its submission to the Attorney General entitled "Toward a Reasonable Balance: Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs"; and
- (iii) Support a risk management approach from municipal governments in the pursuit of a more fair, reasonable and responsible system for liability.

And Further that a copy of this resolution be sent electronically to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General; the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Victor Fedeli, MPP for Nipissing; the Honourable Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Provincial New Democrat Party; the Honourable Steve Del Duca, Leader of the Provincial Liberal Party; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); Rural Ontario Municipal

Association (ROMA); Township of Bonfield; Municipality of Calvin; Township of Chisholm; Municipality of East Ferris; Town of Mattawa; Municipality of Mattawan; Township of Papineau-Cameron; Township of South Algonquin; Municipality of Temagami; Municipality of West Nipissing.”

Yours truly,



Karen McIsaac  
City Clerk

KM/ck

cc: Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance  
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General  
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP-Nipissing  
Hon. Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Provincial New Democratic Party  
Hon. Steve Del Duca, Leader of the Provincial Liberal Party  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)  
Town of Mattawa  
Township of Bonfield  
Township of Chisholm  
Township of Papineau-Cameron  
Township of South Algonquin  
Municipality of Calvin  
Municipality of East Ferris  
Municipality of Mattawa  
Municipality of Temagami  
Municipality of West Nipissing

SENT VIA EMAIL

May 5, 2021

**Re: Advocacy for Reform  
Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)**

Please be advised that the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington, at its meeting held Tuesday, April 27, 2021 enacted the following resolution:

**No. C-119-21**

**Re: Advocacy for Reform - MFIPPA Legislation**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Municipality of Leamington has received Clerk's Department Report LLS-15-21 regarding Advocacy for Reform of Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ("MFIPPA"); and

That that the following motion be passed in support of a request to review and reform of MFIPPA:

WHEREAS MFIPPA dates back 30 years;

AND WHEREAS municipalities, including the Municipality of Leamington, practice and continue to promote open and transparent government operations, actively disseminate information and routinely disclose public documents upon request outside of the MFIPPA process;

AND WHEREAS government operations, public expectations, technologies, and legislation surrounding accountability and transparency have dramatically changed and MFIPPA has not advanced in line with these changes;

AND WHEREAS the creation, storage and utilization of records has changed significantly, and the municipal clerk of the Municipality is responsible for records and information management programs as prescribed by the Municipal Act, 2001;

AND WHEREAS regulation 823 under MFIPPA continues to reference antiquated

technology and does not adequately provide for cost recovery, and these financial shortfalls are borne by the municipal taxpayer;

AND WHEREAS the threshold to establish frivolous and/or vexatious requests is unreasonably high and allows for harassment of staff and members of municipal councils, and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS MFIPPA fails to recognize how multiple requests from an individual, shortage of staff resources or the expense of producing a record due to its size, number or physical location does not allow for time extensions to deliver requests and unreasonably affects the operations of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the name of the requestor is not permitted to be disclosed to anyone other than the person processing the access request, and this anonymity is used by requesters to abuse the MFIPPA process and does not align with the spirit of openness and transparency embraced by municipalities;

AND WHEREAS legal professionals use MFIPPA to gain access to information launch litigation against institutions, where other remedies exist;

AND WHEREAS there are limited resources to assist administrators or requestors to navigate the legislative process;

AND WHEREAS reform is needed to address societal and technological changes in addition to global privacy concerns and consistency across provincial legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services be requested to review MFIPPA, and consider recommendations as follows:

1. That MFIPPA assign the municipal clerk, or designate to be the Head under the Act;
2. That MFIPPA be updated to address current and emerging technologies;
3. That MFIPPA regulate the need for consistent routine disclosure practices across institutions;
4. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious actions be reviewed, and take into consideration the community and available resources in which it is applied;
5. That the threshold for frivolous and/or vexatious also consider the anonymity of requesters, their abusive nature and language in requests to ensure protection from harassment as provided for in Occupational Health and Safety Act;
6. That the application and scalability of fees be designed to ensure taxpayers are protected from persons abusing the access to information process;

7. That administrative practices implied or required under MFIPPA, including those of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, be reviewed and modernized;
8. That the integrity of MFIPPA be maintained to protect personal privacy and transparent governments.

**Carried**

Sincerely,  
Brenda M. Percy, Clerk

cc: Rick Nicholls, MPP Chatham Kent - Leamington  
Dave Epp, MP Chatham Kent - Leamington  
Minister of Consumer Services  
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Association of Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario  
Ontario Clerks