

From: [Vokes, Sharon](#)
To: [Weppler, Kevin](#)
Cc: [Warder, Tara](#)
Subject: RE: AMO POLICY UPDATE
Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 9:28:27 PM

From: AMO Communications [<mailto:communicate@amo.on.ca>]
Sent: November-13-14 3:39 PM
To: Vokes, Sharon
Subject: AMO POLICY UPDATE

November 13, 2014

Provincial Funding Announcements – 2015 OMPF and Public Transit

A. 2015 OMPF Allocations Announced

Today the Ministry of Finance issued 2015 allocation notices from the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF). Letters to heads of council and treasurers are being mailed at this time.

Allocation notices may also be viewed on the [Ministry's website](#). Below are key aspects of the funding announcement for 2015 and issues on the funding horizon for 2016 and beyond. This will be of importance to current and new councils.

A reduced envelope province-wide

The total envelope continues to decrease. A \$35 million cut will occur in 2015 dropping the total Fund to \$515 million. It was \$550 million in 2014 and \$575 million in 2013. If the government continues with its fiscal plan, an additional cut of \$15 million should be expected in 2016. The 2014 Provincial Budget profiled a commitment of a \$500 million envelope by 2016.

AMO advocated for a deferral of the expected cut of \$25 million for 2015. AMO was extremely disappointed when the 2014 provincial budget included a cut of \$35 million. AMO and municipal treasurers who were consulted on the Fund's 2015 design noted the Ministry's competing goals of stability for all recipient municipalities and targeting assistance for municipalities in greatest need within a declining overall funding envelope.

Impact on recipient municipalities

Of the 388 municipalities which receive OMPF dollars, 245 will experience a decrease while 143 will either have stable or increased funding. Individual municipal reductions for the coming year will be primarily determined as a percentage of 2014 allocations and for northern and rural municipalities, will be scaled based on the relative fiscal health of those municipalities.

Generally, northern municipalities experienced a cut of up to 10% of their total 2013 OMPF allocation. This year they will experience the same cut of up to 10% for 2015. Generally, southern municipalities experienced a cut of up to 15% of their total 2013 OMPF allocation. This year they will experience a cut of up to 20% for 2015. These changes are very significant for many communities.

How does OMPF structure for 2015 compare to 2014?

For 2014 and 2015, the grant structure within the OMPF remain the same. They are: Assessment Equalization, Northern Communities, Rural Communities, Fiscal Circumstances and Transitional. The Transitional Assistance grant component for 2015 has been reduced by \$40 million while the Fiscal

Circumstances grant component has been enhanced by \$5 million. No changes were made to the other three components.

OMPF Grant Components	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Social Services Grant	30		0	0	
Policing Grant	94		0	0	
Farmland and Managed Forests Grant	46		0	0	
Assessment Equalization Grant	148		149	149	
Northern Communities Grant	86		79	79	
Rural Communities Grant	162		138	138	
Fiscal Circumstances Grant			50	55	
Transitional and Stabilization Grants	30		134	94	
TOTAL OMPF	596	575	550	515	500

The Municipal Fiscal Circumstances Index (MFCI) measures such factors as weighted assessment per household, median household income and employment rates among others, on a relative basis, for northern and rural municipalities that have been receiving OMPF. As noted above, the degree of cuts for the majority of recipient municipalities will be determined in part by the use of this measure. This approach demonstrates some sensitivity to the fiscal condition of municipalities and the limited capacity of some to shoulder any cuts.

The 2008 upload agreement of social assistance and court security costs affected different municipalities in different ways. Despite the merits of the uploads, many communities continue to face limited or declining fiscal health and face fundamental operating budget challenges. AMO is concerned about the cumulative fiscal impact of a variety of provincial government initiatives. These include the 2011-2014 OPP wage increase, social assistance benefit adjustments, OPP billing changes, and special dam payment cuts to name just a few program cost changes that have occurred during the ensuing years.

Through a discussion with AMO, Premier Kathleen Wynne, Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Deb Matthews, President of the Treasury Board, have agreed to the need to examine this provincial multi-ministerial cumulative impact on municipal governments' fiscal health. Discussions are underway with the government on how this can occur.

Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, mwilson@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856 ext. 323.

B. Ontario Delivers Permanent Funding for Transit

The Honourable Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation, today announced that the Province is providing \$321.5 million this year to support municipal public transit systems through the Ontario Gas Tax for Transit program ([link to attachment](#)).

Municipalities are managing an infrastructure funding gap estimated in 2008 to be \$60 billion over ten years. To help communities manage this funding crunch and continue to deliver transit for our residents, AMO

called on the Province to make the Ontario Gas Tax permanent for municipalities who have transit systems and to create a permanent fund for municipal roads and bridges in small, rural and northern communities.

The 2013 Budget delivered on our ask. Municipal governments can count on permanent support for transit through this program. Ontario's Gas Tax Fund delivers two cents for every litre of gasoline sold in the province to support transit providing \$3.1 billion for municipal transit since its creation.

In 2014 the Ontario Budget responded to AMO's call for permanent funding for roads and bridges in small, rural and northern communities by creating the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) for municipalities with under 100,000 residents. AMO understands that municipalities should have received their formula allocations under OCIF. Announcements regarding project applications will be made in the coming months.

Contact: Craig Reid, AMO Senior Advisor, creid@amo.on.ca, (416) 971-9856 ext. 334.

PLEASE NOTE: AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator, and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

DISCLAIMER: Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

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From: [Vokes, Sharon](#)
To: [Warder, Tara](#)
Cc: [Group: Senior Management Team](#)
Subject: FW: AMO Breaking News - Update on Bill 8, Accountability and Transparency Measures
Date: Sunday, November 30, 2014 9:55:49 PM

November 26, 2014

Update on Bill 8, Accountability and Transparency Measures

Today, AMO President Gary McNamara appeared before the Standing Committee on General Government to address Bill 8 (*An Act to promote public sector and MPP accountability and transparency by enacting the Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Act, 2014 and amending various Acts*).

Those chosen to appear before this Committee were given five minutes to present and ten minutes to answer questions from the all-party membership of the Committee. The Committee completes its nine hours of hearings today. It is set to debate amendments on December 1 and then the Bill is to be reported for Third Reading.

AMO's comments and recommended amendments focused on how to make the Bill clearer, address the already apparent conflicting interpretations, and deal with overlap and duplication. Good implementation is best informed by good, clear legislation. Highlights of our presentation follow. (For a full copy of remarks and the written submission, [click here](#).)

- Recognize the legislative and administrative role that elected councils play;
- Clarify that complaint investigation is about "fairness in" any decision in the course of administration;
- Clarify the roles of all the various investigative officers so there is no overlap and clarity of jurisdiction is articulated for all; that the respective processes are clear, especially if the "super" oversight system is not removed;
- Define "systemic reviews";
- Add a better definition of what constitutes a "meeting";
- Provide for a transition period for municipal governments so that their budget cycle and other work to implement the Bill can be properly done; and
- Provide balance and fairness by allowing for questions of jurisdiction to be asked of the courts by not only the Ombudsman, but all parties.

AMO believes that public trust is a shared value, whether a local, provincial or federal order of government. If a municipal government does not have that trust, it has every reason to earn it, and good government is best served when municipalities meet that goal independently.

AMO appreciates the efforts of its Working Group, composed of municipal lawyers and senior staff, in reviewing the Bill.

Watch for the next update on what amendments to this Bill, if any, the Standing Committee approves.

AMO Contact: Pat Vanini, AMO Executive Director, pvanini@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856 ext. 316.

DISCLAIMER: Any documents attached are final versions. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with this electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

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November 17, 2014

The Corporation of the County of Grey
595 9th Avenue East
Owen Sound, ON
N5K 3E3



Attn: Kevin Wepler

Dear Kevin:

Last week the Health Unit our budget approval letter from the Ministry. I have enclosed schedule A-1 of the accountability agreement, which shows the program based grant approval totals. Please see below for the cost-shared budget approved and the amount owing from both Counties.

Allocation of Total Approved Budget

	Total Approved Budget	Provincial Funding	Grey County	Bruce County
Mandatory Programs	\$11,109,823	\$8,332,367	\$1,658,989	\$1,118,467
Vector Borne Diseases	\$272,407	\$204,305	\$40,678	\$27,424
CINOT Expansion Program	\$67,181	\$50,386	\$10,032	\$6,763
Small Water Drinking Systems	\$141,333	\$106,000	\$21,104	\$14,229
Total	\$11,590,744	\$8,693,058	\$1,730,803	\$1,166,883

Our records indicate that as of November 13, 2014, Grey County has cash flowed \$1,553,056.12 (Jan – Nov payments).

Your monthly cash flows should be adjusted to reflect this budget announcement. December 2014's payment should be \$177,746.88. Following December, the monthly cash flows should be \$144,233.58. Please note, these amounts do not include the monthly contribution of \$2,803.25 for the Speech and Language Program.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 519-376-9420 ext. 1366.

Yours truly,

Kim Rutherford, CPA, CA
Manager of Finance

Working together for a healthier future for all.

101 17th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario

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0A5 www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

**SCHEDULE A-1
PROGRAM-BASED GRANTS**

Board of Health for the Grey Bruce Health Unit

Base Funding (1)			2014 Approved Allocation
Mandatory Programs (75%)			\$ 8,332,367
Chief Nursing Officer Initiative (100%)	# of FTEs	1.00	\$ 121,414
Children In Need Of Treatment (CINOT) Expansion Program (75%)			\$ 50,386
Enhanced Food Safety – Haines Initiative (100%)			\$ 47,583
Enhanced Safe Water Initiative (100%)			\$ 15,500
Healthy Smiles Ontario Program (100%)			\$ 296,740
Infection Prevention and Control Nurses Initiative (100%)	# of FTEs	1.00	\$ 90,066
Infectious Diseases Control Initiative (100%)	# of FTEs	2.50	\$ 277,791
Needle Exchange Program Initiative (100%)			\$ 4,880
Small Drinking Water Systems Program (75%)			\$ 106,000
Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy: Prosecution (100%)			\$ 20,000
Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy: Protection and Enforcement (100%)			\$ 158,800
Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy: Tobacco Control Coordination (100%)			\$ 100,000
Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy: Youth Tobacco Use Prevention (100%)			\$ 80,000
Social Determinants of Health Nurses Initiative (100%)	# of FTEs	2.00	\$ 180,448
Vector-Borne Diseases Program (75%)			\$ 204,305
Sub-Total			\$ 10,086,280
One-Time Funding (1)			2014 Approved Allocation
Healthy Communities Fund - Partnership Stream Program (100%) (2)			\$ 61,840
Panorama (100%) (2)			\$ 238,984
Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy: Expanded Smoking Cessation Programming for Priority Populations (100%)			\$ 30,000
Sub-Total			\$ 330,824
Total			\$ 10,417,104

(1) Base and one-time funding is approved for the 12 month period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted.

(2) One-time funding is approved for the 12 month period of April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015.

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