

We look forward to working with new and returning Ministers

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June 30, 2022

Advocacy Update: New Ford Government Cabinet Appointed

On Friday, June 24th, a new cabinet was sworn in by Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell. With an increased number of MPPs, Premier Ford promoted the Conservative caucus' most experienced MPPs, some of whom have held Cabinet posts before, and rewarded some of the newest MPPs.

One of the most significant posts filled was the Minister of Health given the retirement of former minister Christine Elliott. That post was filled by Sylvia Jones who moves on from her role as Solicitor General. Additionally, she will take up the post of Deputy Premier.

Of particular interest to AMCTO and the municipal sector are the following Cabinet appointments:

- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: Steve Clark
- Associate Minister of Housing: Michael Parsa
- Attorney General: Doug Downey
- Minister of Finance: Peter Bethlenfalvy
- Minister Public and Business Service Delivery (Formerly Government and Consumer Services): Kaleed Rasheed
- Minister Infrastructure with mandate for government real estate: Kinga Surma
- Solicitor General: Michael Kerzner
- Minister of Red Tape Reduction: Parm Gill

Other Notable Appointments:

- Former AMO President and Mayor of Bracebridge, Graydon Smith has been appointed as Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.
- Former Timmins Mayor, George Pirie who defeated long-time NDP MPP Gilles Bisson has been appointed Minister of Mines, with a mandate to develop the Ring of Fire.
- Former Brampton City Councillor Charmaine Williams has been appointed as Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity. During the last parliament, this was the post responsible for consultations on Strengthening Municipal Council Codes of Conduct.

The full list of appointments to Cabinet is available [here](#). Appointments to Parliamentary Assistant roles are expected to come later. We will be sending letters of congratulations to the various ministers and look forward to continuing working with the Ontario government to advance the municipal profession!

Resuming the Legislature

The Premier has indicated that the Legislature would be recalled soon in order to pass a Budget, which is expected to be similar to the one [introduced](#) but not passed before the Provincial Election. The new session must begin with the election of Speaker and a Speech from the Throne outlining the Government's priorities for the parliamentary session. It is widely expected that immediate priorities for this Government include increasing housing supply and affordability, addressing relief at the gas pumps, and building highway infrastructure.

Our team looks forward to meeting with the new members of Cabinet and parliamentary assistants over the coming months to advocate on AMCTO member interests including those raised in our [Local Government Priorities document](#) among others.

For more information on this and other advocacy updates, please contact:

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