From: AMO Events
To: Jennifer Willoughby

Subject: AMO Conference Update - André Picard added as Keynote for 2021 AMO Conference

Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 7:02:10 AM

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2020 AMO Conference

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March 26, 2021

André Picard added as Keynote for 2021 AMO Conference

AMO is pleased to announce the addition of award-winning author and journalist **André Picard** to the lineup of speakers at the 2021 virtual AMO Conference.

Picard will speak about his latest book, **Neglected No More**, which takes a hard look at how our society came to embrace mass institutionalization, and lays out what can and must be done to improve the state of care for the elderly in Canada.

Picard is one of Canada's top health and public policy observers and commentators. He has been a part of *The Globe and Mail* team since 1987, where he is a health reporter and columnist. He is also the author of five bestselling books. He is an eight-time nominee for the *National Newspaper Awards*, Canada's top journalism prize, and past winner of the prestigious *Michener Award for Meritorious Public Service Journalism*.

André Picard adds to AMO's growing lineup of important and influential Keynote speakers. **Sheila Watt-Cloutier** will address delegates on the social, cultural, and economic impacts of climate change and what that means for your communities. **Anthony McLean** will address issues of bias, inclusion, and mental health and their impacts on our institutions and the people around us. Additional information about our 2021 Keynote Speakers can be found on the <u>AMO conference site</u>.

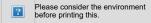
Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in the 2021 AMO Conference, hosted virtually by the City of London. Responding to COVID-19 and supporting our members through challenging times has been AMO's number one priority. A virtual conference in 2021 is an important part of AMO's commitment to serve our members. The AMO 2021 virtual conference will ensure AMO members have safe access to up-to-date information, insights on the economic recovery, and critically important networking opportunities that bring Ontario municipalities together in the service of our communities.

Register Today for Early Bird Rates

Registration is open, and early bird rates apply until April 30, 2021. To register, click here.

If you have questions that are not answered there, please send them to events@amo.on.ca



From: AMO Events
To: Jennifer Willoughby

Subject: AMO Conference Update: Anthony McLean added as Keynote for 2021 AMO Conference

Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021 7:01:28 AM

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2020 AMO Conference



March 20, 2021

Anthony McLean added as keynote for 2021 AMO Conference

Issues of diversity, bias, inclusivity, and mental health are not new. But these important issues have all been brought into clearer focus by events in 2020. Whether these issue are new to you or painfully familiar, we all benefit from an open conversation about what they mean to our communities and the people around us.

AMO is pleased to announce the addition of commentator **Anthony McLean** to the lineup of speakers at the 2021 virtual AMO Conference.

With a background in theatre, Anthony McLean delivers lively presentations on mental health, diversity, and inclusion. He has delivered hundreds of inspiring talks across Canada, the US, and Australia. As a respected voice in his field, he has appeared on CBC News, Global Toronto's *Morning Show*, and *Breakfast Television*. Delivering research-backed tools and actionable strategies, McLean always leaves his audiences inspired to bring their best every day.

McLean adds to AMO's growing lineup of important and influential speakers, which includes **Sheila Watt-Cloutier** on the social, cultural, and economic impacts of climate change and what that means for your communities.

Returning by Popular Demand - AMO's Women's Leadership Forum

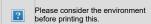
Last year's *Women's Leadership Forum* was the highest rated session at the conference. We had three remarkable leaders on our virtual stage sharing their insights and incredible leadership experience. We are happy to inform members that there will be another *Women's Leadership Forum* at the 2021 AMO Conference with details to be announced soon. Stay tuned.

Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in the 2021 AMO Conference. Responding to COVID-19 and supporting our members through challenging times has been AMO's number one priority. A virtual conference in 2021 is an important part of AMO's commitment to serve our members. The AMO 2021 virtual conference will ensure AMO members have safe access to up-to-date information, insights on the economic recovery, and critically important networking opportunities that bring Ontario municipalities together in the service of our communities.

Register Today

Registration is open, and early bird rates apply until April 30, 2021. To register, <u>click here</u>. If you have questions that are not answered there, please send them to <u>events@amo.on.ca</u>



From: **AMO Communications** Jennifer Willoughby To: Subject: One-Time Doubling of Gas Tax Funds in 2021 Friday, March 26, 2021 12:24:57 PM Date: CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the contents to be safe. AMO Policy Update not displaying correctly? View the online version Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list AMO Policy Update March 26, 2021 One-Time Doubling of Gas Tax Funds in 2021 Pending approval of Bill C-25, the federal government's announcement that it will topup the federal Gas Tax Fund with a one-time transfer of \$2.2 billion is welcome news. As with the previous top-up in 2019, AMO will not be taking an administration fee. You can find your community's allocation for 2021 here. All funds are to be used in accordance with your current agreement with AMO for the transfer of federal Gas Tax funds. We will update you as soon as we receive confirmation on the timing of these payments. Contact: Chris VanDooren, Program Manager, cvandooren@amo.on.ca, 416-971-9856 ext. 410. *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. Association of Municipalities of Ontario Please consider the environment 200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6 before printing this. To unsubscribe, please click here ?

Subject: AMO Policy Update – Federal Gas Tax, Updated COVID-19 Regulations

Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 3:03:29 PM

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AMO Policy Update

March 25, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Federal Gas Tax and Updated COVID-19 Regulations

Federal Gas Tax Changes Announced – New Name and Temporary Funding Increase

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, was joined by the Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Catherine McKenna and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, today to announce substantial changes to the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF).

Deputy Prime Minister Freeland announced <u>Bill C-25</u> which would permanently rename the GTF to the Canada Community-Building Fund and increase funding by \$2.2 billion in 2021, almost double the allocation for this year, totaling approximately \$4.5 billion. Increasing the fund to help prepare communities for economic recovery from the pandemic has been a major goal of AMO and our members.

The GTF has been a significant source of stable and predictable infrastructure funding for municipal governments to tackle priority projects that help improve communities and the lives of residents in every municipality across Ontario.

Recent projects include the City of London's investment of \$4.5 million of federal Gas Tax funding in the creation of an Organic Rankine Cycle system that will convert heat from incinerated biosolids into electricity. The project will save the City \$600,000 per year in electricity costs. The Municipality of Kincardine invested \$305,000 from the Fund in a disaster mitigation project. High lake levels caused erosion, and 600 metres of the shoreline is being protected by the work. In the City of Kenora, \$1.1 million in Gas Tax funding was invested in replacing the Coker Bailey Bridge with a new structure improving public safety and transportation access.

AMO has administered the Fund since it was established in 2005 on behalf of all Ontario municipal governments except Toronto. AMO's federal Gas Tax Fund team will flow funds to municipalities as soon as they are available and will continue to provide support and information on the funding.

AMO's federal Gas Tax Fund team will communicate more details to municipalities in the coming days as they become available.

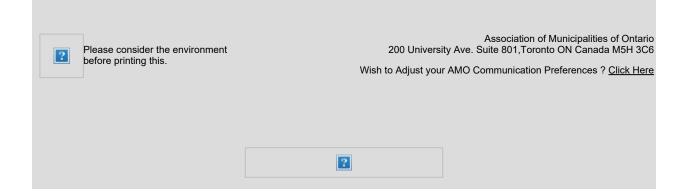
Revised and Updated COVID-19 Related Regulations

There are updates related to various amendments to orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act* (ROA). These updates include amendments to rules for weddings, funerals or religious services, and dining for areas in Stage 1 and capacity limits for restaurants and other food and drink establishments for areas in Stages 2 and 3.

It should also be noted that orders currently in force under the ROA have been extended until April 20, 2021 and that emergency orders currently in force under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) have been extended until April 5, 2021, which includes O. Reg. 8/21 (Enforcement of COVID-19 Measures) and O. Reg. 55/21 (Compliance Orders for Retirement Homes).

For further information, please see <u>O. Reg. 215/21</u>, <u>O. Reg. 216/21</u>, <u>O. Reg. 217/21</u>, and <u>O. Reg. 218/21</u>.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.



Subject: AMO Policy Update – Long-Term Care Modernization and Expansion, Asset Management Plan Timelines Extended,

Age-Friendly Community Planning

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:28:23 PM

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AMO Policy Update



March 18, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Long-Term Care Modernization and Expansion, Asset Management Plan Timelines Extended, and Age-Friendly Community Planning

Ontario Investing to Modernize and Expand Long-Term Care

The Ontario government <u>announced</u> today an investment of \$933 million in 80 new long-term care projects. This will result in additional new and upgraded long-term care spaces across the province.

The funding will add 7,510 new spaces and upgrade 4,197 spaces, including new spaces for Indigenous, Francophone, and other cultural community residents. It is all part of the government's commitment to add 30,000 long-term care spaces over ten years.

The criteria for selecting the projects being announced today included:

- upgrading older homes in response to lessons learned around improved Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) measures, particularly the elimination of three and four-bedrooms;
- adding spaces to areas where there are high needs;
- addressing the growing needs of diverse groups, including Francophone and Indigenous communities; and/or,
- promoting campuses of care to better address the specialized care needs of residents.

As additional information becomes available, it will be shared with AMO members.

Asset Management Plan Timelines Extended

The Ministry of Infrastructure has filed <u>regulations</u> to extend asset management plan (AMP) timelines for municipalities. The new regulations extend the deadlines by one year for the plan criteria deadlines. Planning timelines are now:

- July 1, 2022 plans are required for core municipal assets
- July 1, 2024 plans are required for all municipal assets
- July 1, 2025 plans are required to include service levels and their appropriateness; a lifecycle management and financial strategy; funding sources and needs; and other assumptions.

The timelines were extended to account for challenges to staff and planning work posed by the pandemic. AMO understands that the Ministry will be writing to municipal officials to formally advise them of these extensions.

Government Releases New Age-Friendly Community Planning Guide

The <u>Creating a More Inclusive Ontario: Age-Friendly Community Planning Guide for Municipalities and Community Organizations</u> is intended for those working to develop and support age-friendly communities in Ontario. Age-friendly communities help create more accessible environments for people of all ages and abilities across diverse communities in the province. These communities respond to the opportunities and challenges of an aging population and align with the <u>Advancing Accessibility in Ontario framework</u>.

Along with the Community Planning Guide, the Province has released three supporting documents to support the creation, implementation, and sustaining of local plans. These are the <u>diverse populations addendum</u>, <u>age-friendly community planning toolkit</u>, and <u>age-friendly community remote events planning resource</u>.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.



Subject: AMO Policy Update – OCLIP Final Payment, AMO's Bill 257 Submission, Amended COVID-19 Orders

Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 2:31:04 PM

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AMO Policy Update

March 29, 2021

AMO Policy Update – OCLIP Final Payment, AMO's Bill 257 Submission, and Amended COVID-19 Orders

Final Payment Made: Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF)

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board today wrote to Heads of Council to advise them of the final payment of the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIP). AMO understands also that the Deputy Minister of Finance will soon write to municipal Treasurers with additional details and allocations.

When OCLIF was announced, AMO and municipal leaders strongly sought an equal share of funding should Ontario's revenues exceed the then expected \$100 million. Today's letter from Minister Bethlenfalvy makes good on that commitment, noting the Province is distributing \$3.9 million, 50 per cent of the surplus, to eligible municipalities.

OCLIF is a one-time \$40 million fund to help municipalities manage the transition to a legal recreational cannabis market in Ontario's communities. The funding can be used for a range of initiatives linked to recreational cannabis legalization such as public information, enforcement, and other requirements.

AMO continues to advocate for a renewed share of cannabis excise tax revenue to support municipalities in managing cannabis costs and expanding services and programs that help residents, particularly youth, to develop skills for lifetime resilience. Cannabis revenues could make an important contribution towards needed improving of the social determinants of health as well as safety and well-being in our communities.

AMO's Bill 257 Submission

On Friday, March 26, the AMO Board submitted <u>written comments</u> on all schedules of <u>Bill 257</u>, *Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act*, 2021 to the Standing Committee on General Government. Clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill is scheduled for tomorrow. AMO will continue to update members as the Bill proceeds through the legislative process.

Amended COVID-19 Orders

On Friday March 26, there was provincial notice to amend COVID-19 regulations that took effect on Monday, March 29th as of 12:01 a.m.

We expect the consolidated regulations under the *Reopening Ontario Act 2020* to be posted shortly.

- Reg. 223/21 amending O. Reg. 364/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 3 Grey and Shutdown)
- Reg. 222/21 amending O. Reg. 263/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 2 red)
- Reg. 221/21 amending O. Reg. 82/20 (Rules for areas in Stage 1 green, yellow, orange)
- Reg. 224/21 amending O. Reg. 363/20 (list of Public Health Units in each zone).

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.



Subject: AMO Policy Update – OPP Detachment Board Composition Process, PSW Temporary Pay Extended, By-Name Lists

Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:53:47 PM

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AMO Policy Update

March 22, 2021

AMO Policy Update – OPP Detachment Board Composition Process, Personal Support Worker Temporary Pay Extended, and By-Name Lists

OPP Detachment Board Composition Process

Late last week, the Ministry of the Solicitor General sent notice to all municipal governments and First Nations that Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) detachment boards under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* (CSPA) are to be developed and submitted in the next 2½ months.

Municipal governments and First Nations receiving services from an OPP detachment are being asked to work together to submit one proposal (per detachment) regarding their selected composition of their board and, if needed, a rationale for multiple boards and the composition of each additional board. To assist the proposal process, the Ministry has developed a digital form included <a href="https://example.com/here/bases/ba

We understand that the Ministry will work with municipalities and First Nations to obtain outstanding information/proposals and support the completed proposal. If, however, a proposal still does not meet the minimum requirements, or a proposal is not submitted and/or if no consensus is reached on the composition of the board, then the Ministry has indicated that they will determine the composition of the detachment board.

Completed proposals are to be submitted to the Ministry by Monday, June 7, 2021.

Temporary Wage Enhancement for Personal Support Workers to

June 30, 2021

The government <u>announced</u> that it is investing \$239 million to extend temporary wage enhancements for personal support workers and direct support workers in publicly funded home and community care, long-term care, public hospitals, and social services sectors. These temporary wage enhancements will continue until June 30th, 2021. Their purpose is to help stabilize, attract, and retain the workforce needed to provide a high level of care during the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be a review to determine next steps after June 30th.

Ontario Directs Use of By-Name Lists to Combat Homelessness

The Ontario government is <u>directing</u> all municipal service managers to begin collecting detailed, up-to-date information from individuals experiencing homelessness using byname lists. This approach is to help connect people with local housing and homelessness supports that better respond to their needs. Ontario is partnering with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness to support service managers throughout the process including through a best practices guide, training, workshops, coaching, and online tools.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.



Subject: AMO Policy Update – Provincial Budget Highlights + Bill 257 Referred to Committee

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:03:14 PM

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AMO Policy Update

March 24, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Provincial Budget Highlights + Bill 257 Referred to Committee

Ontario 2021 Budget – Continued Actions to Manage Pandemic Impacts and Prepare for Recovery

The Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board, the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, presented his first Budget at Queen's Park. The <u>2021 Ontario Budget</u> builds on previous important investments in operations, transit, and social services to stabilize municipal finances and helps to lay a foundation for economic recovery.

Budget 2021 also highlights the substantial assistance available to small businesses in affected sectors and increases to that assistance to help them continue to operate during the pandemic. The Budget reaffirms the plan to extend vaccines to all willing Ontarians before Fall 2021 and notes the Government is planning for GDP growth of 4 per cent annually next year as economic activity rebounds with a return to prepandemic levels of workforce participation by early 2022.

Highlights of interest to municipal governments include:

- An additional \$2.8 billion in funding for broadband to connect all Ontarians to high-speed internet services by 2025. This brings provincial funding for broadband to nearly \$4 billion and delivers on a key advocacy goal of AMO and municipal governments across Ontario.
- Postponing property assessments for another year to ensure stability in municipal finances. New properties will continue to be added. The province will consult on reassessment in 2021 to consider COVID-19 impacts. This consultation will include municipal governments.
- The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) will remain stable at \$200 million per year, delivering on AMO's request for stability in this fund until

financial circumstances allow expansion.

- Investing over four years an additional \$933 million to build 30,000 new Long-Term Care beds and \$246 million to improve facilities such as installing air conditioning.
- Extends the wage enhancement for Long-Term Care Personal Support Workers (PSWs) until June 30, 2021.
- The province is investing \$4.9 billion over four years to increase the average direct daily care to four hours a day in long-term care and hiring more than 27,000 new positions, including personal support workers (PSWs) and nurses.
- Providing \$160 million over three years to support community paramedicine for those on LTC wait lists, which is 100 per cent funded by the province.
- Temporarily increasing the Ontario Child Care Access and Relief from Expenses Tax Credit by \$75 million/20 per cent in 2021 to support working parents and help increase workforce participation.
- Targeted hospitality and tourism industry support of \$100 million in grants to support tourism and hospitality sector small businesses, a \$100 million Tourism Recovery Program and \$200 million to support strategic infrastructure and sports projects in communities.
- Providing \$5 million to examine the re-establishment of rail services in Northern Ontario to improve transportation linkages for Northern residents and communities.
- Investing an additional \$61 million in the Regional Opportunities Incentive Tax Credit to support economic activities in Northern and rural areas, bringing total support to \$155 million by 2022-23.
- Providing an additional \$175 million for mental health and addictions including four mobile mental health clinics for rural and underserved areas.
- Automatically doubling provincial small business grants for all applicants to support local small businesses through the pandemic.
- \$28.5 billion for transit projects in the GTHA is also noted including subway expansions and other higher order transit.

Budget 2021 initiatives and investments build on important investments made in stabilizing municipal governments earlier in the year. These critical municipal investments include:

 \$500 million in additional municipal financial assistance funds for municipal operations;

- \$150 million in additional transit system pandemic assistance;
- \$255 million in additional Social Services Relief Fund investments for shelters and homeless supports;
- \$50 million in new funding to support municipal modernization and efficiency;
- \$5 million to support municipal fire service COVID-19 impacts.

Bill 257 referred to Standing Committee on General Government

Yesterday, <u>Bill 257</u> Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act, 2021 was referred to the Standing Committee on General Government. Public hearings are scheduled for Friday March 26, 2021 and written comments due same day by 7:00 pm. To send a written submission, you can use this link: <u>ola.org/en/apply-committees</u>.

The first two schedules of the legislation provide provincial tools to support the expansion of telecommunications and broadband internet connectivity in unserved and underserved communities. If used as a backstop where necessary such as for provincially funded projects where a Municipal Access Agreement does not provide certainty for permitting to access Rights of Way, these tools can help to ensure public investments in connectivity are more efficient and services can be expanded faster. This will be particularly important in light of the funding and goals for broadband expansion put forward in Budget 2021.

AMO will submit written comments on all schedules of the Bill subject to AMO Board approval on Friday.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> 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.

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Subject: AMO Policy Update – Provincial COVID-19 Lock Down, Water Taking Changes, Long-Term Care Medication Safety

Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021 2:53:24 PM

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AMO Policy Update

April 1, 2021

AMO Policy Update – Provincial COVID-19 Lock Down, Water Taking Changes, and Long-Term Care Medication Safety

Provincial COVID-19 Lock Down

The provincial government is imposing a <u>provincewide emergency brake</u> in **all** 34 public health unit regions as a result of an alarming surge of COVID-19 case numbers and related hospitalizations across the province. The provincewide emergency brake will be effective Saturday, April 3, 2021, at 12:01 a.m. It is intended to be kept in place for at least four weeks.

The provincewide emergency brake puts into place time-limited public health and workplace safety measures to help to stop the rapid transmission of COVID-19 variants in communities, protect hospital capacity, and save lives. Measures include, but are not limited to:

- Prohibiting indoor organized public events and social gatherings and limiting the
 capacity for outdoor organized public events or social gatherings to a 5-person
 maximum, except for gatherings with members of the same household (the
 people you live with) or gatherings of members of one household and one other
 person from another household who lives alone;
- Restricting in-person shopping in all retail settings, including a 50 per cent capacity limit for supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, indoor farmers' markets, other stores that primarily sell food and pharmacies, and 25 per cent for all other retail including big box stores, along with other public health and workplace safety measures;
- Prohibiting personal care services;
- Prohibiting indoor and outdoor dining. Restaurants, bars, and other food or drink establishments will be permitted to operate by take-out, drive-through, and

- delivery only;
- Prohibiting the use of facilities for indoor or outdoor sports and recreational fitness (e.g., gyms) with very limited exceptions;
- Requiring day camps to close; and,
- Limiting capacity at weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites or ceremonies to 15 per cent occupancy per room indoors, and to the number of individuals that can maintain two metres of physical distance outdoors. This does not include social gatherings associated with these services such as receptions, which are not permitted indoors and are limited to five people outdoors.

The current <u>COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open</u>, will be paused when the provincewide emergency brake comes into effect.

Changes to Ontario's Water Taking Program

Yesterday the Province <u>announced</u> new changes to Ontario's water taking program. It is one of the key commitments of the <u>Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan</u>. The changes include new rules that give municipal governments more direct input on allowing bottled water companies to withdraw new or increased amounts of groundwater in their communities. The Province also provided new guidance on managing water taking in areas <u>where sustainability is a key concern</u> and <u>where there are competing demands</u>.

Strengthening Medication Safety in Long-Term Care Homes

The government <u>announced</u> it is acting to strengthen medication safety for residents in long-term care homes. \$77 million will be provided to homes to use more advanced technologies. The goal is to facilitate for better transmission and handling of prescriptions, more accurate administration of medication, and increased security of the drug supply in long-term care homes.

This initiative is part of the response to the final report of the <u>Public Inquiry into the Safety and Security of Residents in the Long-Term Care Homes System</u>. In the report, Justice Gillese emphasized the importance of medication management to keep long-term care residents safe.

AMO's <u>COVID-19 Resources</u> page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to <u>covid19@amo.on.ca</u>.

