



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA

**Meeting #:** GRC-3/2020  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020  
**Time:** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
**Location:** Council Chamber, 5th Floor  
Regional Administrative Headquarters  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, Ontario

**Members:** P. Brown, B. Crombie, S. Dasko, G.S. Dhillon, J. Downey, A. Groves, J. Innis (Chair), N. Iannicca, M. Palleschi, K. Ras (Vice-Chair), R. Santos, A. Thompson, P. Vicente

Due to the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 there will be limited public access to the Council Chambers, by pre-registration only. Please email [regional.clerk@peelregion.ca](mailto:regional.clerk@peelregion.ca) to pre-register. The meeting will be live streamed on <http://www.peelregion.ca/>.

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1. CALL TO ORDER
2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. DELEGATIONS
  - 4.1. Natalia Kusendova, Member of Provincial Parliament, Mississauga Centre  
Regarding Ongoing and Upcoming Provincial Initiatives
5. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE  
Discussion led by Keith Medenblik, Manager, Strategic Public Policy and External Relations
6. REPORTS
  - 6.1. Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities  
(For information)

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS

- 7.1. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.2. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.3. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Ontario New Democrat Party, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.4. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Green Party of Ontario, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.5. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Steven Del Duca, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.6. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.7. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister, Women's Issues, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.8. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)
- 7.9. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Regarding the 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)

- 7.10. Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair  
Letter dated September 3, 2020, to Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, Regarding the 2020  
Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (Receipt recommended)

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**9. IN CAMERA MATTERS**

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, April 1, 2021  
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, 5th Floor  
Regional Administrative Headquarters  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, Ontario

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

# Request for Delegation

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

MEETING DATE YYYY/MM/DD <b>2020/10/15</b>	MEETING NAME <b>Government Relations Committee</b>
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Attention: Regional Clerk  
Regional Municipality of Peel  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
Phone: 905-791-7800 ext. 4582  
E-mail: [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)

DATE SUBMITTED YYYY/MM/DD <b>2020/09/23</b>
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NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S) <b>Natalia Kusendova</b>
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POSITION(S)/TITLE(S) <b>MPP Mississauga Centre</b>
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NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S) <b>Government of Ontario</b>
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E-MAIL <b>natalia.kusendova@pc.ola.org</b>	TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>(416) 326-7102</b>	EXTENSION
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REASON(S) FOR DELEGATION REQUEST (SUBJECT MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED) <b>MPP Kusendova will address the Oct. 15 Government Relations Committee to discuss ongoing and upcoming provincial initiatives.</b>
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A formal presentation will accompany my delegation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Presentation format: <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint File (.ppt) <input type="checkbox"/> Adobe File or Equivalent (.pdf)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Picture File (.jpg)	<input type="checkbox"/> Video File (.avi,.mpg)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/>
Additional printed information/materials will be distributed with my delegation : <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Attached		

<p><b>Note:</b> Delegates are requested to provide an electronic copy of all background material / presentations to the Clerk's Division at <b>least ten (10) business days prior</b> to the meeting date so that it can be included with the agenda package. <b>In accordance with Procedure By-law 56-2019, as amended, delegates appearing before <u>Regional Council</u> or <u>Committee</u> are requested to limit their remarks to 5 minutes and 10 minutes respectively (approximately 5/10 slides).</b></p> <p>Delegates should make every effort to ensure their presentation material is prepared in an <a href="#">accessible format</a>.</p> <p>Once the above information is received in the Clerk's Division, you will be contacted by Legislative Services staff to confirm your placement on the appropriate agenda.</p>
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<p align="center"><b>Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information</b> (Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)</p> <p>Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 5.4 of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law 56-2019, as amended, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Regional Council or a Committee of Council. The Delegation Request Form will be published in its entirety with the public agenda. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i>, as amended. Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. All Regional Council meetings are audio broadcast via the internet and will be posted and available for viewing subsequent to those meetings. Questions about collection may be directed to the Manager of Legislative Services, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 5th floor, Brampton, ON L6T 4B9, (905) 791-7800 ext. 4462.</p>
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Please save the form to your personal device, then complete and submit via email attachment to [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)



# Region of Peel- Provincial Update

MPP Natalia Kusendova –Mississauga Centre

## Focus of Today's Discussion

1. Mental Health & Addiction Services.
2. Long Term Care
3. Support for Business

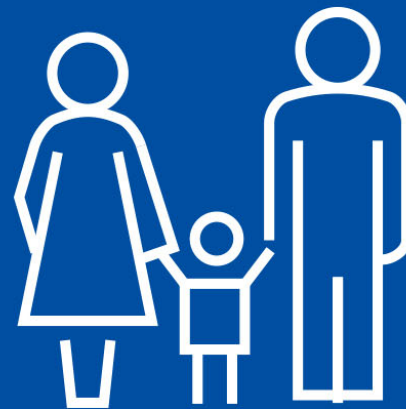
# Mental Health & Addiction Services

- Ontario government is working hard to keep Ontarians safe through these unprecedented times.
- Mental Health and addictions services are one of Ontario's top priorities.

# Mental Health and Addiction Services

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS SERVICES

# Expanding services and supports for Ontarians



# Ontario Investing an Additional \$176M in Mental Health and Addictions Services Bigger Picture

- This funding is part of the province's investment of **\$3.8 billion** over 10 years and enables Ontario's comprehensive plan, [A Roadmap to Wellness](#), to deliver high-quality care and build a modern, connected and comprehensive mental health and addictions system



## Roadmap to Wellness

**Better support for those experiencing mental health and addictions challenges**



- Every year, 1.4 million Ontarians experience a mental health or addictions challenge
- In February 2020, a new Mental Health and Addiction Centre of Excellence was created under Ontario Health. The centre will implement the roadmap.
- The roadmap to wellness is based on 4 pillars;
  1. Improving quality;
  2. Expanding existing services;
  3. Implementing innovative solutions; and
  4. Improving access.

## Roadmap to Wellness

### Mindability:

Building lifelong skills for mental wellness



- As part of the third pillar, Ontario launched **Mindability**, a new, first-of-its-kind program in Canada that is providing evidence-based cognitive behavioural therapy.
- **Cognitive behavioural therapy** is widely recognized as an effective intervention for anxiety and depression, the two most common mental health issues faced by Ontarians.
- Patients will receive an assessment from a trained mental health clinician and be offered a therapy.
- Services available include internet-based modules, personal workbooks, telephone coaching, and clinical counseling, as well as face-to-face, group and individual therapy.
- **Mindability** is funded just like OHIP, with no out-of-pocket costs for patients. It rolled out in spring 2020 with further expansion planned for the fall. The government invested **\$20 million** for its launch.



# Ontario Investing an Additional \$176M in Mental Health and Addictions Services

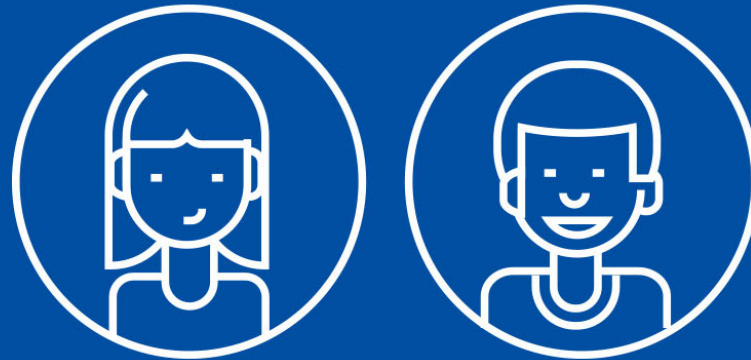
- **\$176 million** in annual funding to take care of people and make sure everyone has access to mental health and addictions supports especially during COVID-19
- The increased funding will help address urgent gaps in care, enhance access to mental health and addictions services, create new supports and expand programs in several priority areas, including:
  - Community-based services, including services for children and youth;
  - Mental health and justice services;
  - Supportive housing for individuals with serious mental health and addiction challenges, and who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless;
  - Community and residential addictions, including treatment and care for opioid addictions;
  - Increased supports for Indigenous peoples, families, and communities; and
- More hospital in-patient beds for mental health and addiction patients.
- Region of Peel funding

## Funding Breakdown:

- **\$4 million** for nurse practitioners for detox services to improve the medical management of clients who are withdrawing from substance use in residential withdrawal management facilities by enhancing access to a nurse practitioner;
- **\$8 million** for addictions day/ and evening care to increase access to intensive non-residential addictions and substance use treatment services for youth and adults; and
- **\$3.5 million** for in-home/mobile withdrawal management services to increase access to community withdrawal management services for hard to service clients, including those located in rural areas.

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS SERVICES

# Improving community-based services, including services for children and youth



# Ontario Expanding Innovative Mental Health and Addictions Services

- Premier Doug Ford joined by Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, and Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and Minister of Indigenous Affairs, announced that the Ontario government is providing an additional **\$14.75 million** to increase access to innovative mental health and addictions services, and expand in-person, virtual & online services, including internet-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (iCBT).
- This includes **\$ 4.75 million** targeted towards indigenous communities.

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS SERVICES

**Investing in CAMH to create a  
connected and coordinated  
system of care for patients**



# Ontario Expanding Innovative Mental Health and Addictions Services

- Ontario will be investing **\$2.9 million** to fund eight research projects submitted through the Ontario Together portal.
- These research projects will focus on mental health, ventilation, imaging, and transmission to support Ontario's response to preventing, detecting, and treating COVID-19.
- This is on top of the incredible work already being done through the government's **\$20 million** Ontario Rapid Research Fund.
- These projects will focus on a wide variety of areas such as supporting the mental health and well-being of families and children, assessing the long-term health effects of COVID-19, the development of an app to better manage the care of patients, and an evaluation of the effectiveness of wearing masks to block the virus.

# Ontario Expanding Innovative Mental Health and Addictions Services

- This investment was provided through the Supporting People and Jobs Fund and will help community-based mental health and addictions programs meet increasing service demands. The funding is being distributed as follows:
  - **\$7 million** to safely expand in-person mental health and addictions services to bridge current gaps brought on by COVID-19, including community-based services, congregate living and supportive housing;
  - **\$4.75 million** to support culturally safe services for Indigenous communities, with a focus on children and youth; and
- **\$3 million** to expand virtual and online services including addictions supports, Internet-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (iCBT) and an online peer support community for mental health

# Ontario Increasing Mental Health Support

- Emergency Funding of up to **\$ 12 million** to immediately expand online and virtual mental health supports and **\$ 2.6 million** to hire new psychologists and other mental health workers to support Ontario provincial police personnel.



## Benefits of these services

Will help people who are experiencing

- Anxiety
- Stress
- And other mental health challenges
- Including people who can not access their regular in person counselling supports.

## Expanding services based on behavioural therapy (CBT)

Such as:

- Back Bounce
- Kids Help Phone
- ConnexOntario
- Good2talk
- Internet based cognitive behavioural therapy
- ICBT for Frontline health care workers
- Training for Brief CBT based interventions

## Hiring additional Mental Health Workers

- Hiring additional mental health workers for the OPP is response to four of the 66 recommendations by the OPP independent review panel in its final report.

## Mobile crisis intervention units

- **Collaborative partnerships between participating hospitals and the Toronto Police Service (TPS).** The program partners a mental health nurse and a specially trained police officer to respond to situations involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.
- MPP Kusendova, Minister Jones, Minister Sarkaria, and Chief Nish, and Inspector Mark Dapat all support the Mobile crisis intervention units
- Advocating for expansion of this program and currently two in Peel Region
- Spoke with CEO of CMHA Ontario ,Camille Quenneville

# Mental Health Tele Town Hall

**JOIN US!**  
On Facebook Live

## Mental Health is Health Town Hall

**Speakers:**

- **Hon. Micheal Tibollo**  
Associate Minister for  
Mental Health and Addictions  
Services
- **Natalia Kusendova**  
Registered Nurse and  
MPP Mississauga Centre
- **Maria Tandoc**  
Mental Health RN  
Registered Nurses'  
Association of Ontario
- **David Smith**  
CEO of the Canadian Mental  
Health Association
- **Laurie Ridler**  
CEO of Services and Housing  
in the Province

**May 7  
at 7-8 pm**

Join our panel of  
experts to discuss how  
the pandemic has  
affected people's  
mental health and learn  
about the resources  
available to seek help.

## Upcoming initiatives

- The ministry of Health is working closely with the Centre of Excellence to drive forward key elements over the upcoming months including;
  1. Development of core services framework
  2. Data digital initiative
  3. Rollout of the capital Ontario Structured Psychotherapy Program

# Long term Care

## Pandemic pay

- **\$1.5 billion** in provincial and federal funding was made available to support the critical work of over 375,000 eligible frontline employees including those working in LTC.
- LTC homes including private, municipal & non-for-profit were eligible
- All non-management employees and workers were eligible (full time, part time & casual)
- Ontario's pandemic pay was the most generous in Canada, with lump sum payments of up to **\$1,000** over the 16-week period, and no limit on hours qualifying for the \$4 per hour worked.
- Unlike other provinces, Ontario's pandemic pay did not require an application process and employees in Ontario have begun receiving their pay faster than in most provinces.



# Long Term Care

- And supporting frontline workers, families, and caregivers by:
  - Investing **\$200,000** to improve the Ontario Matching Portal, to help employers get faster matches that best meet their needs;
  - Expanding training, tools, and resources across the social services sector; and
  - Continuing to update visitor policies for congregate care settings, including long-term care, that promote family and caregiver involvement to support better care and reduce isolation.

## Long Term Care

- Through these investments, the province is hiring another 2,000 personal support workers and 800 more nurses to provide quality care to patients and long-term care residents.

A photograph showing a healthcare worker, likely a Personal Support Worker (PSW), wearing a black shirt, a red patterned face mask, and white gloves. She is seated and leaning forward, attending to a patient who is seated in a wheelchair. The patient is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt. The scene is set indoors, with a window and curtains visible in the background. A green banner with white text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

**Temporarily increasing PSW wages to stabilize the health care work force**



## PSW increasing wages

- The province is providing a temporary wage increase effective October 1, 2020 to over 147,000 workers who deliver publicly funded personal support services:
- **\$3 per hour** for approximately 38,000 eligible workers in home and community care;
- **\$3 per hour** for approximately 50,000 eligible workers in long-term care;
- **\$2 per hour** for approximately 12,300 eligible workers in public hospitals; and
- **\$3 per hour** for approximately 47,000 eligible workers in children, community and social services providing personal direct support services for the activities of daily
- This wage increase continues to build on the province's [COVID-19 fall preparedness plan](#) which includes an investment of \$26.3 million to support PSWs and supportive care workers.



**Ontario temporarily enhances wages for personal & direct support workers**



Investing more than  
\$500 million  
**in preparedness  
funding for  
long-term care  
homes**



### Long-term Care Preparedness

- We are committed to building a system that works in the best interest of residents and the people who work so hard to keep them safe.
- Our seniors' safety is our top priority.

**“COVID-19 demands a culture of continuous learning: the more we learn, the better we can plan and prepare for potential future waves. We are committed to applying what we have learned during this outbreak to build and strengthen a long-term care system that works in the best interests of our residents and the people who work so hard to keep them safe.”**

**Dr. Merrilee Fullerton,**  
Minister of Long-Term Care



### Long-term Care Preparedness

- Ontario is investing close to **\$540 million** in preparedness funding for the long-term care sector

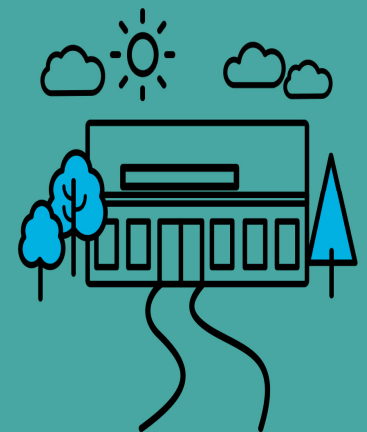


## Investing \$61 million to improve infection prevention and control in long-term care homes



- **\$405 million** for COVID-19 prevention and containment measures
- **\$61.4 million** for minor capital and renovations in homes that will improve infection prevention and control
- **\$40 million** in one-time operating support for LTC homes experiencing reduced occupancy due to COVID-19
- **\$30 million** in infection prevention and control staffing – \$20 million for personnel and \$10 million to fund training for new and existing staff
- **\$2.8 million** to extend the High Wage Transition Fund

## Investing \$40 million to help stabilize long-term care homes through the transition to lower occupancy rooms





# Long-term Care Preparedness

- The plan is just one part of Ontario's three-pronged strategy for addressing COVID-19 in long-term care homes, along with:
- emergency response – invoking measures outlined in the [COVID-19 Action Plan](#) in response to continued outbreaks.
- modernization – building a 21<sup>st</sup> century, long-term care system that addresses long-standing systemic challenges and leads to infrastructure that supports a safe, high quality of life for residents.

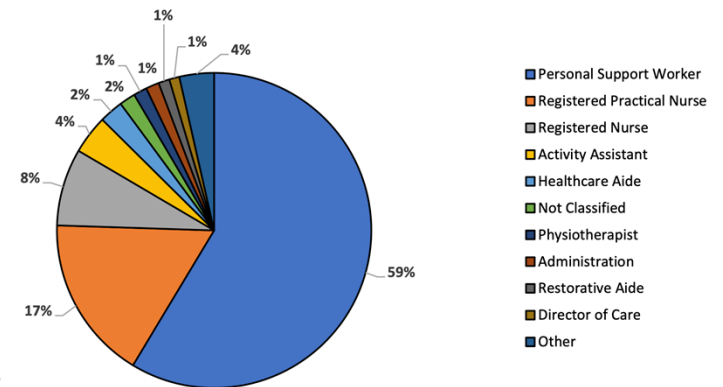
# Long-term Care Preparedness

- Ontario investing in **\$ 30 million** to fund infection & control staffing
- This funding is intended to support increased infection and control capacity in long-term care home by providing **\$20 million** for dedicated resources for new personnel and **\$ 10 million** to fund training for new and existing staff.

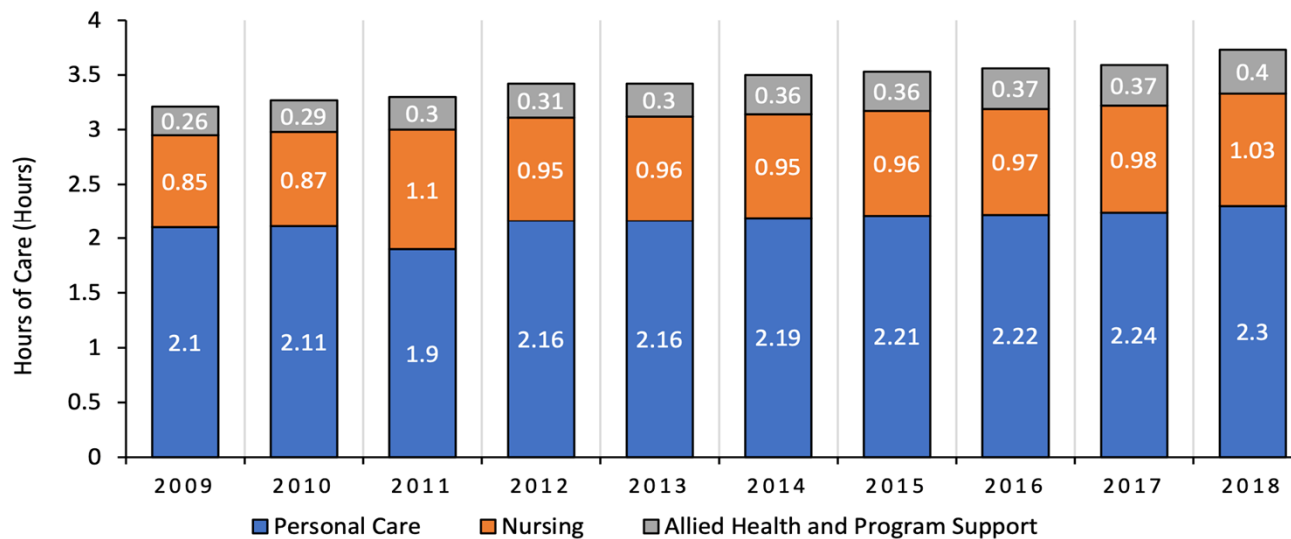
# Long Term Care staffing study

- [Ontario.ca/LongTermCare](https://ontario.ca/LongTermCare)
- Study conducted by the ministry with a report published July 30<sup>th</sup> 2020.
- Study is intended to address staffing challenges, modernize the sector and transform LTC into a residence centered home for some of Ontario's most vulnerable.
- 100 K employees across Ontario.
- Caring for 78 K medically complex residents.
- 58 % are PSWs
- 25% are RNs, RPNs and NPs
- Remainder are OT, PT, Dietitians, MDs, House-keeping, admin, recreational workers, cooks and SWs.
- 25 % of PSWs (with 2 or more years of experience) leave the sector every year.

Average Proportion of Staff Employed in Homes, as of 2018<sup>29</sup>



### Paid Direct Hours of Care Per Resident Per Day in Ontario<sup>33</sup>



- As of 2018 homes report an average of 3.73 direct hours / resident, per day based on paid hours.
- 2.3 hours by PSW, 1.03 hours by RN / RPN, 0.4 hours by allied/programming.
- This represents a 15 % increase between 2009 and 2018

## How is the province addressing staffing shortages in Long Term Care

- PSW Return of Service – will place up to 1,000 PSWs in long-term care homes by offering them \$5,000 for committing to work in a long-term care home for at least six months
- PSW Fast-Track – will fast-track students with prior health care experience in a condensed PSW program
- Supportive Care – will train 160 workers to provide basic home support services
- Nursing Incentives – The province will work with key nursing partners to strategically place up to 390 nurses in long-term care homes identified as most in need. Nurses will be offered a financial incentive to work in a long-term care home
- Nursing Graduate Guarantee – \$18 million investment, which provides full-time salaries and benefits to over 600 nurses with a focus on recruiting in areas of need, such as long-term care homes
- Attending Nurse Practitioner – will add 15 more nurse practitioners in long-term care homes throughout the province

# How is the province addressing staffing shortages in Long Term Care

Other measures include:

- Extending staffing flexibility in long-term care through the extension of emergency orders in the [Reopening Ontario Act, 2020](#)
- Partnering with the Ministry of Health on enhancements to the [workforce matching portal](#), which provides staffing support to long-term care homes and across the health system
- Supporting family members who provide essential care to long-term care residents. The [visitor policy](#) released on September 2 provides guidance to long-term care homes to connect caregivers with training, education and resources on Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) and Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC), so caregivers can care safely for their loved ones

# Long Term Care staffing study

## Five recommendations:

1. Number of staff needs to increase.
  - Human health resources strategy to increase number of health professionals in Ontario.
  - Micro-credentialing.
  - Foreign credentials.
2. Culture needs to change.
  - Seeing residents as people who have value.
  - Culture shift to value human dignity at the end of life.
  - LTC is not a place to go to die, rather live with a good quality of life.
3. Workload and working conditions must improve.
  - Evidence based practices & home inspections
4. Effective leadership and access to expertise required.
  - Roles of Nurse Practitioners.
5. Workforce recruitment, retention and opportunities for learning and growth.
  - Embed nursing students within the LTC sector
  - Adding geriatric curricula to all health professionals.
  - Bridging programs

# Long Term Care staffing study

Statistics current as of July 2020

## Pressures of COVID-19

- Existing issues exacerbated exponentially.
- Some homes reported critical staffing shortages impacting quality of care and employee safety.
- 52 % of homes experienced an outbreak (defined as a single lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 in a staff or resident).
- 21.5 % of cases in Ontario were in LTC.
- 63.7 % of deaths in Ontario were in LTC.
- The government has announced an independent commission into LTC to better understand the impacts of COVID-19.



# Butterfly Home Project



# Support for Business

- **\$ 300 million** to offset fixed cost such as; property taxes, hydro & natural gas bills.
- **\$ 60 million** grant for PPE.
- Increasing the range of products sold at the Ontario food terminal.
- Promoting Ontario made/grown products with “Made in Ontario/Fabrique en Ontario” logo.
- 50 temporary regulatory changes made to help businesses adapt, 400 more under consideration (red-tape reduction).
- Corporate income tax reduction by 8.7% as of Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.
- **\$ 50 million** Ontario together fund to help businesses retool operations.
- Better for business, smarter for people act 2020.

## Ontario's main street recovery includes:

- **\$ 57 million** - Digital main street program (\$2500 / grant), helping close to 23k small businesses build and improve their online presence. [digitalmainstreet.ca](https://digitalmainstreet.ca)
- Digital main street squad going live across Ontario composed of talented graduates with strong tech and marketing backgrounds.
- New web page to assist small business to quickly find supports and information. [ontario.ca/smallbusiness](https://ontario.ca/smallbusiness)
- Mental health supports to business owners and employees (BounceBack, internet based Cognitive Behavioral Therapy).
- Allowing alcohol sales as part of food take-out and delivery.
- Modernizing Ontario's assistive device program (businesses selling devices can upload claims online & receive payments in 1 to 2 weeks instead of 8).

“Every day, people in communities across Ontario depend on small businesses. They did their part and closed their doors during the first wave of the pandemic. Now they are depending on all of us. Our government is determined to support them through this pandemic and beyond.”

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria,  
Associate Minister of Small Business  
and Red Tape Reduction

# Thank you !

Any questions?

# Government Relations Update

## Government Relations Committee October 15, 2020

Keith Medenblik

Manager, Strategic Public Policy & External Relations

# Government Relations Update - Overview

- Federal & Provincial Landscape
- Looking Forward
  - Advocacy Priorities Update
  - Peel MP/MPP Engagement
  - Upcoming Advocacy Opportunities



# Federal Landscape



- Speech from the Throne
- Update to Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan
- Canada Infrastructure Bank's (CIB) Growth Plan



# Speech from the Throne



THE BEST WAY TO KEEP THE ECONOMY STRONG  
IS TO KEEP CANADIANS HEALTHY.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE  
September 23, 2020

## Four priority objectives were identified:

- *Protecting Canadians from COVID-19*
- *Helping Canadians Through the Pandemic*
- *Building Back Better – A Resiliency Agenda for the Middle Class*
- *The Canada We're Fighting For*





# Throne Speech Themes

Themes	Commitment
<b>Seniors</b>	Work with provinces to set new standards for LTC homes and other legal/policy measures
<b>Persons with disabilities</b>	Release a Disability Inclusion Plan which aims to improve income and employment support
<b>Resilient health care system</b>	Expand virtual health care, address opioid crisis, increase mental health resources, move forward with universal pharmacare
<b>Strong Safe Communities</b>	Invest in infrastructure, including transit, energy efficient retrofits, clean energy, rural broadband, affordable housing over the next two years

# Throne Speech Themes

Themes	Commitment
<b>A Stronger Workforce</b>	Working with provinces to help Canadians build new skills for growing sectors, help workers receive education and accreditation and help connect workers to employers
<b>Climate Change</b>	Release a plan to exceed Canada's 2030 climate goal
<b>Addressing Systemic Racism</b>	Address racism in way that is informed by the lived experiences of racialized and marginalized communities.

# Protecting Canadians from COVID-19

CANADA'S COVID-19  
ECONOMIC RESPONSE PLAN



- *Bill C-4, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act* enacted Sep. 29
- Includes three temporary recovery benefits:
  - Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)
  - Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)
  - Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)



# Helping Canadians through the Pandemic



- Creating “one million jobs”
- Review and extension of Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy into Summer 2021
- Expansion and improvement to supports for small business and hard-hit sectors (travel and tourism, hospitality)



# Canada Infrastructure Bank - Growth Plan

- \$10B in new major infrastructure initiatives
- Aims to create 60,000 jobs
- 3-year plan to help improve high-speed internet, strengthen agriculture and build low carbon economy (energy retrofits & transit investments)
- Includes \$500M to help accelerate project delivery



# Provincial Landscape



- COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan
- Provincial Advocacy Priorities



# COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan



- *Keeping Ontarians Safe: Preparing for Future Waves of COVID-19* Plan
- Providing \$2.8B for health care, long-term care and education systems
- Six Objectives:
  - Maintain Public Health measures
  - Immunize against influenza
  - Quickly identify, manage and prevent outbreaks
  - Safely reduce health service backlogs
  - Prepare for surges in cases and support delivery of routine health services
  - Recruit, retain, train, and support healthcare workers, families and caregivers



# Ontario's Advocacy Priorities



- Increase in the Canada Health Transfer
  - Cover 35% provincial health spending
- Fair and flexible federal funding needed to:
  - Fight COVID-19
  - Modernize Long-Term Care
  - Build Critical Infrastructure





# Looking Forward: Region of Peel Priorities Update

## Region's Advocacy Efforts

- Keeping residents safe and healthy as Peel faces second and potential future waves of COVID-19
- Turning attention to recovery efforts
- 25-year strategic plan priorities



# Looking Forward: Region of Peel Priorities Update

## Immediate Regional Advocacy Priorities

Federal and Provincial Funding for Associated COVID-19 Costs

Stimulus Infrastructure Funding

Provincial Inquiry into Long Term Care

Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing

Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System

Mental Health and Addictions

Sustainable Funding to Support Peel's Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Federal And Provincial Funding For Associated COVID-19 Costs

- August 2020 - Region's Safe Restart funding allocation:
  - \$27.3M – for COVID-19 costs and pressures
  - \$55M – for COVID-19 municipal transit pressures
  - \$9.7M – through SSRF for Community Homelessness and Prevention (Still awaiting SSRF Phase 2 funding allocation)
  - \$17.8M – for Child Care and EarlyON
- Phase 2 of the Safe Restart funds (\$695 million) will be released in fall 2020

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Stimulus Infrastructure Funding

- Raised challenges related the design of current application-based infrastructure programs at the 2020 AMO Conference
- Shared specific examples of program design improvement the Minister of Infrastructure post AMO Conference
- Three ROP ICIP Phase II projects from TransHelp and PAMA submitted for final approval by the federal government
  - To date, only the TransHelp Bus Replacement project has received approval

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Provincial Inquiry into Long Term Care

- ROP will be making formal submission to the independent commission and exploring opportunities to delegate to the Committee
- ROP's Commissioner of Health Services is participating on the AMO taskforce submission to the provincial LTC Commission (ongoing)
- Aug 2020 - Application submitted for funding to redevelop the existing long-term care beds of Peel Manor
  - included support from local MPPs, WOHS, AdvantAge

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing

### Homelessness Support

- End of August 2020 - \$5.8 million Reaching Home allocation has been fully committed, with \$2.4 million spent to date
- July 2020 - received an additional allocation of \$1.3M under the Reaching Home Program
- End of August 2020 - \$5.9M SSRF been fully committed, with \$3.5 million spent
- August 2020 - received an initial allocation of \$9.7M under Phase 2 of the SSRF

### Peel Housing Master Plan

- August 2020 - received \$276.4 million through CMHC and \$61.1 million committed through federal and provincial housing programs
- An additional \$327.2 million is needed in provincial funding to support development of an initial 2,240 units, to be built by 2028

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System

- August 2020 - the Region's allocation of the federal Safe Restart Funding is \$17.8M
  - additional personal protective equipment
  - enhanced cleaning
  - additional staff to meet health and safety requirements
  - short term vacancies as operators return to full capacity
- Sept 23 – Federal Throne Speech committed to providing new funding to help the early years and child care sector adapt to the COVID-19 environment
- Sept. 30 – Province included child care as a priority in its COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan

# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Mental Health and Addictions

- Aug. 2020 – Post-AMO Conference, the Region shared examples of Peel mental health initiatives with Minister Tibollo that the Province can support
- Sept. 10, 2020 - Province announced an additional \$14.75 million to increase access to mental health and addictions services
- ROP staff continue to work with the Province and community stakeholders, including the implementation of the Province's mental health and addictions strategy



# Looking Forward: Advocacy Priorities Update

## Sustainable Funding to Support Peel's Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking

- July 30 - submitted a cost sharing funding proposal to the Province requesting just over \$8.7M with the Region committing \$5.4M for the total project cost of approx. \$13.8M over 5 years
- End of August 2020, Minister Dunlop indicated that they will be informing applicants on the status of their proposals by late fall 2020
- A Municipal Resource Guide, to be distributed to AMO, OMSSA and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres is currently in development and will be ready in fall 2020

# Looking Forward: Region of Peel Priorities Update

## Longer-Term & Strategic Regional Advocacy Priorities

Governance, Geographic Boundaries and Funding of Public Health and Paramedic Services (PRPS)

Transition the Blue Box program to producers and develop a provincial single-use plastics strategy

Provincial support of regional and provincial GHG reduction targets and sustained climate change adaptation and mitigation funding

Sustainable and Integrated Transportation System

# Looking Forward: Peel MP & MPP Engagement

- Continue to engage Peel MP/MPPs to advance Regional priorities
  - MP/MPP Advocacy Update Publication
  - Quarterly Meetings: Next meeting – Mid Nov. 2020
  - 2020/21 Budget submissions
  - Funding Proposals/Submissions



# Advocacy Opportunities



- FCM Advocacy Days – Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>
- 2021 OGRA Conference – Feb. 21 – 24<sup>th</sup>
- 2021 FCM Conference – June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
- 2021 AMO Conference – Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>



# Thank You



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**For Information**

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**REPORT TITLE: Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities**

**FROM: Kathryn Lockyer, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services**

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**OBJECTIVE**

To provide a summary of the work and progress of the Government Relations Committee (GRC) related to Region of Peel advocacy priorities. In addition, this report highlights next steps and potential opportunities related to high-priority Region of Peel advocacy positions.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- This report provides an update of Region of Peel advocacy activities, including those related to the impacts of COVID-19, since the last Government Relations Committee (GRC) meeting held on June 18, 2020. This report also provides an overview of next steps and potential opportunities related to Region of Peel advocacy priorities, including activities related to the 2020 Virtual AMO Annual Conference, held on Aug 17-19, 2020.
  - The Region will continue to be flexible in its approach to the provincial and federal governments with respect to advocacy and intergovernmental relations to achieve legislative, regulatory and policy changes and additional funding required to support the Region's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
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**DISCUSSION**

Since the last Government Relations Committee (GRC), held on June 18, 2020, the Region of Peel implemented government relations strategies to advance key advocacy priorities at the provincial and federal levels of government. Advocacy activities have focused on advancing Council endorsed positions related to the impacts of COVID-19 on Regional operations and its core service delivery.

This report provides an update on the advocacy initiatives that were brought forward to the June GRC meeting. It also describes the various additional advocacy opportunities that the Region has leveraged over the past several months. In addition, this report also includes notable progress on key Regional priorities and how the Region will move forward on key advocacy positions.

**1. 2020 Virtual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference**

- The Region leveraged advocacy opportunities available at the 2020 AMO Conference that was held virtually on August 17-19, 2020.

## Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities

- This included meeting with Ministers as well the leaders of the opposition parties to discuss Peel's key priorities.
- In advance of the virtual conference the Region held briefing sessions with Peel MPs and MPPs on August 13, 2020 to raise awareness and support for the priorities that were raised during delegation meetings.

### Minister Delegation Meetings

- The Region secured nine delegation meetings with provincial ministers and opposition party leaders.
- While each of the meetings was specifically tailored to communicate advocacy positions related to their respective ministry or party, the following two key asks were raised at several of the delegation meetings:
  - Additional funding to offset the substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with the COVID pandemic
  - Increased infrastructure funding to stimulate Peel's economic recovery and that an allocation model be implemented to distribute funds expeditiously
- Several additional Region of Peel Council endorsed advocacy priorities were raised with the Ministers and their staff as seen in the table below.
  - These priorities were validated and confirmed at the AMO Conference Preparation Workshop held on July 16, 2020.

Minister	Key Regional Advocacy Priorities Addressed
<b>Finance, Hon. Rod Philips</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Federal and Provincial Funding for Associated COVID-19 Costs</li> <li>● Stimulus Infrastructure Funding</li> <li>● Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System</li> <li>● Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure, Hon. Laurie Scott</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing</li> <li>● Stimulus Infrastructure Funding</li> </ul>
<b>Education, Hon. Stephen Lecce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System</li> </ul>
<b>Mental Health and Addiction Services, Hon. Michael Tibollo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mental Health and Addiction Services</li> </ul>
<b>Long-Term Care, Hon. Merrilee Fullerton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provincial Inquiry into Long Term Care</li> </ul>
<b>Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, Hon. Jill Dunlop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Human Sex Trafficking</li> </ul>

## **Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities**

### Meeting with Opposition Parties

- The Region was also able to maximize advocacy efforts by engaging with the leaders of the opposition parties, including:
  - Andrea Horwath, Ontario NDP (Official Opposition)
  - Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario
  - Steven Del Duca, Liberal Party of Ontario
- During these discussions, the Region's delegation focused on the need for the provincial government to work with municipalities to address the Region's key priorities, including:
  - Financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Stimulus infrastructure funding
  - Long-Term Care
  - Mental Health and Addiction Services

### Communications Campaign

- To help broaden outreach of the Region's advocacy efforts, links to this year's conference materials were posted on the Region's website (<https://peelregion.ca/advocacy/>)
- Social media support was provided before, during and after the conference, including posting of photos from virtual delegation meetings, tagging of ministers and ministries, partnerships, etc. related to advocacy efforts.
- A series of issue-specific videos were produced to help illustrate the importance of a number of high-profile priorities, including mental health, seniors and childcare.
  - The videos included interviews with community stakeholders/advocates to highlight the community needs in Peel and provide first-person experiences and challenges.
  - Weblinks to these videos were incorporated into conference materials and were actively pushed out via the Region's social media accounts.

### AMO Conference Ministers Forum

- This year's virtual AMO Conference also provided the opportunity for municipal elected officials to submit questions to be posed by a moderator during the three Ministers' Forums held throughout the conference.
- The Region submitted questions on the following topics:
  - **Mental Health and Addictions Services** – address historical inequalities in provincial funding
  - **Paramedics Services** – provide additional funding related to COVID response by paramedic services
  - **Child Care** – commit to delaying the child care funding cuts
  - **Blue Box Program** - include in the regulations all taxpayer funded locations (e.g. parks and recreation, libraries) as eligible sources of recycling material
- Of the four submitted, the Region's questions on child care and paramedics services were posed by the moderator to the respective Ministers.

While the questions raised awareness of the issues posed, the Ministers' responses were not definitive and ongoing advocacy will continue.



## **Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities**

### **Follow-up Action Items**

- To build on momentum and strengthen the Region's relationships with Ministers and the Opposition Party Leaders, post-conference letters were sent, which included key highlights from the discussion as well as follow-up action items.
- Several requests were made by Ministers and Peel MPPs to visit sites related to Regional services, including the services hub and emergency shelter for victims of human sex trafficking as well as the Butterfly Model LTC home.
  - Regional staff is working with provincial staff to arrange these follow up meetings.

## **2. Recent Progress on Region of Peel Priorities**

- Updates on key advocacy priorities that are critical to the implementation of the Region's long-term strategic plan, including those advanced at this year's AMO conference, are included in Appendix I.
  - The table highlights activities since the last GRC meeting, as well as next steps and potential opportunities.

## **3. Upcoming Advocacy Opportunities**

### **Quarterly meetings with Peel MPs/Peel MPPs**

- As part of the Region's strategy to continue to engage with Peel MPs and MPPs, monthly meetings are being arranged on an ongoing basis.
- The purpose of these meetings will be to discuss and raise awareness of key priorities that are critical to the well being of Peel residents and businesses.
- These meeting will also be used to discuss how the Region can work with the federal and provincial on addressing key challenges impacting Peel's communities.
- The next meeting will take place mid-November 2020.

### **2020 Provincial and Federal Budgets**

- This year, the Provincial and Federal Budgets will be of particular importance to municipalities as there will be ongoing need for short- and long-term financial support from the upper levels of government for essential service delivery and recovery efforts.
- While details have not been released, the provincial government has indicated that their budget will be released no later than November 15, 2020.
  - The Minister of Finance invited submissions by October 16, 2020 as part of the government's pre-budget consultation process.
- The Region of Peel's recommendations were submitted by the deadline.
- The federal government has indicated that it will be releasing its budget or a fiscal update some time in fall 2020.
  - The Region will monitor for opportunities to participate in consultation opportunities, which could include in-person/virtual hearings as well as submitting written comments.

## Update on the Region of Peel's Advocacy Priorities

### CONCLUSION

This report is intended to provide an update on the GRC's efforts to advance the Region's interests at the federal and provincial levels of government and to provide an overview of recent and upcoming activities. Additional issues impacting the Region and advocacy initiatives are expected to arise from time to time and may be addressed at the Committee's discretion.

### APPENDICES

Appendix I – Region of Peel Advocacy Priorities Update

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*For further information regarding this report, please contact Keith Medenblik, Manager, Strategic Public Policy & External Relations, Ext. 4777, [Keith.Medenblik@peelregion.ca](mailto:Keith.Medenblik@peelregion.ca).*

*Authored By: Sonia Mistry, Advisor, External Relations*

#### ***Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:***

Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.



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N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<p><b>1. Federal and Provincial Funding for Associated COVID-19 Costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Region has identified a number of short, medium and long-term measures to address the immediate financial impacts of COVID-19 and to stimulate economic recovery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Short-term:</i> That the Province continue to work with the federal government to provide, (1) immediate additional funding to offset the substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and (2) infrastructure funding to stimulate economic recovery (<i>Infrastructure is dealt with in in the Stimulus Infrastructure Funding row below</i>).</li> <li><i>Medium-term:</i> Undertake a review of provincial-municipal responsibilities</li> <li><i>Long-term:</i> Engage in discussions on the need for updated municipal revenue sources and tools to address the changing needs of local communities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The federal and provincial governments have started moving forward on incremental cost measures to help municipalities responding to COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On July 15, 2020 – the federal government committed to providing \$19 billion in ‘Safe Restart’ funds to the provinces and territories, in order to help with municipal recovery efforts.</li> <li>Between August 12 and 17, the Region received confirmation from the Province regarding its Safe Restart funding allocation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$27,335,100 to assist with COVID-19 costs and pressures</li> <li>\$553,213 to assist with COVID municipal transit pressures; and</li> <li>\$9,747,382 in Social Services and Relief Funding is anticipated for use as set out in the Community Homelessness and Prevention Initiative guidelines. Following the review process, we will be notified of our approved SSRF Phase 2 funding allocation.</li> <li>\$17,841,056 in funding for Child Care and EarlyON.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Phase 2 of the Safe Restart funds (\$695 million) will be released in fall 2020.</li> <li>During the 2020 Annual AMO Conference, Minister Steve Clark indicated he is “not a fan” of the idea of giving municipalities additional revenue tools, indicating the need for further educational efforts.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Stimulus Infrastructure Funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That the federal and provincial governments provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increased infrastructure funding to stimulate Peel's economic recovery, and that</li> <li>an allocation model be implemented to distribute funds expeditiously.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>June 2, 2020</i> – the federal government announced that it will be delivering the \$2.2 billion in gas tax funding in one payment instead of two. This is not new money, but simply advances the funds quicker and can only be used for capital expenditure.</li> <li><i>August 5, 2020</i> – the federal government announced changes to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), including a new COVID-19 Resiliency Stream (funded through optional reallocation of already promised funding) and expanded project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be eligible for funding under the COVID-19 Resilience stream, the project's eligible costs must be under \$10 million, construction must be started no later than September 30, 2021, and it must be completed by the end of 2021.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The federal government has also indicated an accelerated approvals process for the ICIP program. Further details will be announced in the coming weeks. Accelerated infrastructure funding is crucial to the Region, in light of its projected DC growth revenue losses.</li> <li>● <i>September 18, 2020</i> - the Province called on the federal government to provide \$10 billion per year in additional funding, for the next ten years, with a focus on Ontario's GTA transit plan and rural broadband internet projects.</li> <li>● According to the Province, Ontario alone has nearly \$10 billion in shovel-ready infrastructure projects over and above the approximately 750 submissions to the federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.</li> <li>● At present, the Province has nominated three ICIP phase II projects from TransHelp and PAMA for final approval by the federal government with only the TransHelp Bus Replacement project receiving approval.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Provide Service Managers the funding and flexibility for affordable housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide the Region of Peel additional funding to mitigate and manage the negative impacts of the COVID-19 crisis upon the homeless, those at risk of homelessness, and the community housing sector in Peel</li> <li>● Improve housing affordability outcomes in Peel by contributing at least \$327.2 million in capital funding to build 2,240 affordable rental and supportive units and emergency shelter beds in Peel by 2028, and committing more long-term, stable operating funds for homelessness and supportive housing programs</li> </ul>	<p><u>Homelessness Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Approximately 50 per cent of Region's emergency sheltered population now reside in hotels to aid with physical distancing in shelters to manage the pandemic.</li> <li>● As of the end of August 2020, the initial \$5.8 million Reaching Home allocation has been fully committed, with \$2.4 million spent to date.</li> <li>● On July 23, 2020, Regional Council was advised of an additional allocation of \$1,387,165 from the federal government's Reaching Home Program. The funding will be used to continue to care for Peel's vulnerable population, during COVID-19 including the isolation and recovery programs, physical distancing of shelter clients in hotels, personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.</li> <li>● As of the end of August 2020, the \$5.9 million Social Services Relief Fund allocation has been fully committed, with \$3.5 million spent.</li> </ul>

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide legislative and policy changes at levels to increase local autonomy and improve housing affordability outcomes in Peel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On August 13, 2020 Council was informed that the Region of Peel had received an initial allocation of \$9,747,382 under Phase 2 of the Social Services Relief Fund. In order to access these funds, a business case must be submitted to and approved by the province.</li> <li>• With the second wave and/or continuation of the pandemic into 2021, existing funds will be insufficient to sustain supports to the homeless and other vulnerable populations. The Region will continue to monitor and advocate for additional support at both levels of government as appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><u>Peel Housing Master Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Region has committed \$1 billion to support development of an initial 2,240 units, to be built by 2028. However, we are only two-thirds of the way to funding this commitment, which includes \$335.3 million committed by the Region, \$276.4 million through CMHC and \$61.1 million committed through federal and provincial housing programs.</li> <li>• During and as part of post-AMO Conference (August 2020) communications, the Region has reiterated the need for support of the provincial government to fund the remaining \$327.2 million to increase urgently needed housing investments in Peel.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Sustainable Funding to Support Peel's Strategy to Address Human Sex Trafficking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide long-term sustainable operational funding to support the costs of housing, and support services for victims and survivors of human sex trafficking in Peel Region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On March 6, 2020, the Province announced Ontario's anti-human trafficking strategy 2020-2025 which commits \$307 million over the next five years on an action plan to combat human trafficking and child sexual exploitation.</li> <li>• On June 15, 2020, under the Province's Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports Fund, Minister Dunlop announced a call for proposals aiming to prioritize early intervention and increased protection for victims of sexual exploitation and dedicated survivor supports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Region has submitted a cost sharing funding proposal requesting \$8,476,746 with the Region committing \$5.4 million for the total project cost of \$13,876,746 over 5 years.</li> <li>○ In addition to pursuing this opportunity, the Region will continue to look for additional funding supports to ensure the needs of victims and survivors can be met.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Appendix I**  
**Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the end of August 2020, the Minister indicated that they will be informing applicants on the status of their proposals by late fall 2020.</li> <li>• The Transitional House is expected to open in November/December 2020 and the Service Hub is expected to be open by mid-October.</li> <li>• A Municipal Resource Guide, to be distributed to AMO, OMSSA and the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres is currently in development and will be ready for sharing in fall 2020.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Mental Health and Addictions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address historical inequities in provincial funding for mental health and addictions services in Peel to support upstream prevention and improved access to services within the community and ensure that funding matches community needs and reflects demographic changes.</li> <li>• Implement an equitable funding model that responds to needs across the age continuum, population growth, and represents the diverse needs within Peel's community.</li> <li>• Invest in the integration of mental health and addictions system planning and service delivery to ensure seamless access to services across the entire age continuum and coordinate across ministries on the basic social needs to support mental health promotion and recovery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In March 2020, as part of the Province's Roadmap to build Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions System, an initial investment of \$20 million in immediate funding will be used to launch the Mindability Cognitive Behavioural Therapy program across the province.</li> <li>• As individuals struggle with physical and mental health related impacts of COVID-19, it is expected further funding and community resource supports will be needed to expand the capacity of the community and not-for-profit sector to meet the demands for increased health and social services.</li> <li>• In April 2020, the province made additional investments in response to the toll that the COVID-19 pandemic is taking on mental health. Emergency funding of up to \$12 million was allocated to expand online and virtual mental health supports. This funding was also directed to mental health agencies to hire and train more staff, purchase necessary equipment and technologies, and expand services on a range of platforms. It is unclear what proportion of this funding was allocated to Peel.</li> <li>• In April, the Province also provided \$2.6 million to Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to hire new psychologists and mental health workers to support OPP personnel. It is unclear if this funding benefited OPP in Caledon.</li> </ul>

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On July 3, MPP Deepak Anand (Mississauga-Malton) hosted a mental health roundtable with Minister Tibollo, Peel Regional Police, and Peel's community mental health and addictions service partners including the Region of Peel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During the roundtable, community partners identified priority areas of investment and unique challenges and needs (including funding) to increase the availability of appropriate and necessary services to meet growing needs of Peel's population.</li> </ul> </li> <li>As part of post-AMO Conference communications, in August 2020, the Region shared examples of Peel mental health initiatives with Minister Tibollo that the Province can support.</li> <li>The provincial government continues to prioritize mental health and addictions funding, including most recently an announcement on September 10, 2020, of an additional \$14.75 million to increase access to mental health and addictions services across the province which may benefit Peel's own community mental health and addictions services (e.g. support for online CBT and other digital services).</li> <li>Staff continue to work collaboratively with the Province and community stakeholders, including the implementation of the provincial government's mental health and addictions strategy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Enhanced Supports for Seniors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance dementia supports across the long-term care sector through funding that aligns with increasingly complex resident care needs, dedicated and consistent training related to person-centered emotional dementia care, enhanced specialized supports and supportive structural design.</li> </ul> <p><b>Provincial Inquiry into Long Term Care</b></p> <p>(Specific recommendations related to the independent commission):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On May 27, 2020, the Region appeared before the federal Standing Committee on Health and made the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better staffing ratios</li> <li>Regulation that is less focused on documentation, but on emotionally focused care</li> <li>Adequate training and how to work with complex conditions, such as dementia.</li> </ul> </li> <li>As an initial response, the Province released a COVID-19 Action Plan for Vulnerable People and guidelines to help support the seniors living in long term care and retirement homes.</li> <li>Through emergency funding, the Region of Peel's five long term care homes were allocated \$1.2 million in additional funding.</li> </ul>

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### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support investment in older long-term care homes that have remained ineligible for funding due to restrictions based on a dated rating system.</li> <li>• Ensure a targeted investment at minimum of \$30 million in funding to enable the redevelopment of Peel Manor into a campus of care.</li> <li>• Enhance guidelines for specialized support programs that will build capacity within long-term care homes to provide person-centred, emotionally focused care.</li> <li>• Mandate a minimum daily standard of care of four hours per resident based on level of acuity.</li> <li>• Make significant investments to build adequate workforce training and capacity to address staffing ratios and the ability to provide care to patients with complex conditions, such as dementia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On May 19, 2020, the Minister of Long-Term Care announced that the Province will be conducting an independent commission into Ontario's long-term care system to identify improvements that better protect residents and staff. The Commission is expected to complete their review by Spring 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Region is working towards a formal submission to the Commission and exploring opportunities to delegate to the Committee.</li> <li>○ Commissioner of Health Services is participating on the AMO taskforce submission to the provincial LTC Commission.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On July 15, 2020 the Province announced plans to modernize funding policy to support the development of additional, modern long-term care homes and are expecting to accelerate the construction of long-term care projects. In response, the Region of Peel has submitted an application to the Province to redevelop the existing long-term care beds of Peel Manor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Local MPPs and system stakeholders including William Osler Health System and AdvantAge have been engaged to provide support for the funding application.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Over the next five years, the government is investing \$1.75 billion in long term care homes. It is also updating design standards to include air conditioning for any new and renovated homes, beginning immediately. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To date, it has not been confirmed whether the Region's five long term care homes would be recipients or eligible for this new funding.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On July 21, 2020, the Province announced the Accelerated Build Pilot Program that will enable the construction of two new long-term care homes in Mississauga in a matter of months.</li> <li>• On August 13, 2020 the Commissioner of Health Services met with Deputy Minister Richard Steele to discuss funding for redevelopment of Peel Manor into the Seniors Health and Wellness Village and follow up correspondence is being pursued.</li> <li>• Working with Trillium Health Partners and Infrastructure Ontario, the Province intends to add up to 640 new long-term care beds by 2021.</li> </ul>



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**Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff continue to advocate for enhanced dementia supports and gain political support locally. MPP Kusendova (Mississauga Centre) has been invited to tour one of the Butterfly homes.</li> <li>• The Province continues to demonstrate support for seniors in response to the COVID-19 pandemic with several investments in home and community care and long term care over the last several months. More robust and sustainable funding across the seniors continuum remains a gap.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Governance, Geographic Boundaries and Funding of Public Health and Paramedic Services (PRPS)</b></p> <p><u>Public Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Ministry maintain Peel Public Health as one of Ontario's regional public health entities (maintain current boundaries), retain Regional Council as board of health and ensure sufficient public health funding to meet community needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Province's Public Health and Emergency Health Services Consultations has been paused, however, during a COVID-19 daily update, and without making any commitments, Premier Ford pointed to centralized public health systems.</li> <li>• Modernization consultations were extended to March 30, and the report to Ministry of Health from Special Advisor Jim Pine that was originally planned for June 2020 is likely to be pushed ahead. (TBD)</li> <li>• Given the high burden of cases in Peel, the Region's COVID-19 response has entailed increased costs for critical response functions, such as case management and contact tracing.</li> <li>• AMO has expressed concerns over the complex administration of the program, given a broad array of municipal front-line services and is working with the Province and many municipal staff associations, such as the Ontario Municipal Human Resources Association.</li> <li>• The Province is providing funding for hiring of up to 64 public health nurses to support school COVID-19 response.</li> <li>• Despite Provincial funding announcements, there is still a funding gap for the COVID-19 public health response that requires continued advocacy to the Province.</li> </ul>

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<p><u>Paramedic Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued municipal responsibility for land ambulance service delivery as it is currently configured.</li> <li>That Ministry continues to cost-share funding for paramedic services at existing 50:50 basis, (at funding levels that reflect call volume growth and inflationary costs)</li> <li>That the Ministry address the one-year funding lag for paramedic services to ensure provincial funding keeps up with current service demand.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On March 17, the Province committed through its Ontario Action Plan Responding to COVID, \$80M to paramedic services. This funding supports paramedic hours dedicated to non-911 activities, such as testing in LTC homes and other sites. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRPS has not heard any details from the Ministry about the amount to be allocated to PRPS, or timing when funding will be announced or delivered.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ministry funding for PRPS from 2019 to 2020 was \$4,487,439 (from \$47,451,852 in 2019 to \$51,939,291 in 2020). This represents a year over year increase of 9.46%. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ministry 2020 funding letter for land ambulance was received at September 10 Council.</li> <li>The Ministry share of the total paramedics 2020 operating budget is approximately 46%.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Paramedic Services has also implemented initiatives to improve the Region's response to COVID and protect the residents of Peel (e.g. PRPS high risk response teams, the testing strategy developed collectively to ensure LTC and RH were tested, the future testing strategy, unique equipment to address shortages of PPE like the sterilization unit.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional funding from the Province to help support these responses remains uncertain and may fall to the local tax base.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Maintaining a strong Early Years and Child Care System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Region of Peel efforts to have an Early Years and Child Care system that is affordable, inclusive, high quality, accountable and accessible. To do this, we recommend that the provincial government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase-in proposed changes to provincial funding for Early Years and child care in order to avoid reductions in the availability of quality child care, EarlyON and Special Needs services in Peel.</li> <li>Proactively consult with service system managers on funding and policy changes that impact Early Years and Child Care program delivery and service levels.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child care is an essential component of Peel's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as it allows people to return to work and provides children with the social and learning opportunities that set them up for future success.</li> <li>In 2019, the Province announced that in 2021, administrative funding for child care (previously 100 per cent funded by the Province) would move to a 50 per cent cost-share between the Province and the Region. If calculated at the maximum amount, this would result in more than \$5 million in costs downloaded to the Region in 2021.</li> <li>Given the many demands and uncertain nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and the considerable effort to adapt and support families and providers throughout this challenging time, Service System Managers did not have sufficient notice or capacity to accommodate this additional financial burden.</li> </ul>

## Appendix I

### Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On June 25, 2020, Regional Council endorsed several recommendations including calling for the delay of the implementation of the 50 per cent mandatory cost sharing of administrative funding for child care until January 2022.</li> <li>This position, along with the need for the Province to engage with Service System Managers as policy decisions are developed, was the focus of messaging advanced at the 2020 AMO Conference.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Transition the Blue Box program to producers and develop a provincial single-use plastics strategy</b></p> <p><u>Blue Box Transition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wind-up Stewardship Ontario in accordance with the Minister's wind-up letter.</li> <li>Develop regulations to transition the Blue Box Program, generally, in accordance with the Special Advisor's Report.</li> </ul> <p><u>Provincial Single-Use Plastics Strategy</u></p> <p>Support for a province-wide single-use plastics strategy as well as participation in discussions with the Province, the Retail Council of Canada and other stakeholders to develop a harmonized, Ontario-wide strategy for single-use plastics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition of municipal Blue Box programs to producers to start January 1, 2023 and end December 31, 2025. The Region's preferred transition date is October 1, 2024 (approved by Regional Council June 25, 2020). A report update on the transition of the Region's waste diversion programs, including Blue Box, to full producer responsibility will be provided to the Waste Management Strategic Advisory Committee on October 29, 2020.</li> <li>Regarding the Wind-up Stewardship Ontario, the Region submitted commentary on the draft wind-up plan, which is now currently under review by Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority.</li> <li>Regional staff actively participated in the consultation sessions on draft Blue Box regulations from December 2019 to July 2020.</li> <li>Regional staff and Council to continue to advocate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasize the need for a speedy transition</li> <li>ensure that the regulation doesn't reduce environmental or performance outcomes</li> <li>ensure adequate oversight of producers</li> </ul> </li> <li>It is anticipated that the Ministry intends to release the draft Blue Box regulation during Waste Reduction Week (Oct 19-25, 2020).</li> <li>The Region will look to develop a single-use plastics strategy that is in line with the federal government's action plan.</li> </ul>

**Appendix I**  
**Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Canada-wide Action Plan on Zero Plastic Waste Phase 2 (2020) was released in July 2020 by the CCME. The federal government action plan is expected to be released early 2021, which will provide direction on single use plastics to the provincial governments.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Provincial support of regional and provincial GHG reduction targets and sustained climate change adaptation and mitigation funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the Provincial Environment Plan supports meeting regional and provincial greenhouse gas reduction targets and that sustained adaptation and mitigation funding programs are available to accelerate transformation to a low carbon and resilient community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On October 24, 2019, Regional Council unanimously approved its first Climate Change Master Plan (CCMP). The actions in the plan aim to reduce GHG emissions and increase resilience. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the same meeting, Council declared a climate change emergency.</li> </ul> </li> <li>As part of Bill 132, the Province expanded the use of administrative monetary penalties for environmental contraventions. Funds collected from these penalties will be used to set up a fund to support local environmental activities (e.g. litter clean up, tree planting and flood prevention). The funding program will be launched in 2020.</li> <li>In November 2019, the Flood Advisor Report, commissioned by the Province, was released, providing advice to government and contained 66 recommendations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The implications for municipalities will depend on the response by the government to the recommendations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Region of Peel continues to encourage the Province to align its climate change goals and targets to the federal criteria to facilitate the release of federal funding to the Province and Ontario municipalities under the relevant ICIP funding streams.</li> <li>On September 21, 2020 the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Parks and Conservation Jeff Yurek announced that the federal government had accepted the Province's Emissions Performance Standards (EPS), an alternative to the federal output-based pricing system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EPS regulates greenhouse gas emissions from large industrial facilities by setting standards for lowering emissions that facilities are required to meet. If an industry that does not meet the standard, they will have to pay.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Regional staff are determining if the federal government's acceptance of the Province's EPS meets the federal climate change criteria for the release of climate change and related infrastructure funding.</li> </ul>

**Appendix I**  
**Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<p><b>11. Sustainable and Integrated Transportation System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support for key strategic transit projects across Peel, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Improving transit connections between the Town of Caledon and Toronto</li> <li>○ Continue with the implementation of two-way, all-day, 15-Minute GO Regional</li> <li>○ Express Rail on the Kitchener Line from Bramalea GO Station to Union Station and further to Mount Pleasant GO Station</li> <li>○ Expedite two-way, all-day, 15-Minute GO Regional Express Rail for Milton Line</li> <li>○ Eglinton Crosstown West Extension – continue to prioritize and expedite project (reported to Council June 25, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Complete the GTA West Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA) process expeditiously and move forward as soon as possible with the implementation of a highway and a dedicated transit right-of way.</li> <li>• Extend Highway 427 to Highway 9 and beyond and future alignment with the GTA West Corridor.</li> <li>• Encourage the Province to continue its involvement with the Smart Freight Centre and lead the province-wide Off-Peak Delivery Pilot in support of the safe and efficient movement of goods.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry has shown interest in the Smart Freight Centre's in the Region's off-peak delivery pilot. This issue was included in the 2020 Provincial prebudget submission.</li> <li>• On August 7, 2020, the Ministry of Transportation released the Preferred Route for the GTA West Transportation Corridor as well as the 2020 Focused Analysis Area.</li> <li>• The key differences between the Preferred Route and the Technically Preferred Route are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An interchange at Humber Station Road instead of an interchange at Coleraine Drive</li> <li>○ The shift of the Highway 410 connection slightly west</li> <li>○ The shift of the alignment west in a portion of Northwest Brampton</li> <li>○ A shift in the alignment in Vaughan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In terms of next steps for the GTA West project team, they will now move into the preliminary design stage of the EA, which is expected to be presented at a Public Information Centre in 2021.</li> </ul>

**Appendix I**  
**Update on the Region's Advocacy Priorities**

ADVOCACY PRIORITY/POSITION	GOVERNMENT ACTION/NEXT STEPS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for Provincial legislative changes that would allow municipalities to create automated school bus stop arm camera programs, enforced through an Administrative Monetary Penalties System (AMPS), and that would direct penalty revenue to the municipalities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In December 2019, Regional Council approved a resolution affirming support for the implementation of cameras on school buses to promote the safety of students and their families. In June 2020, Regional Council endorsed the recommendation that the Region of Peel write the Provincial Government to request legislative amendments for the use of AMPS for automated school bus stop arm camera offences.</li> <li>The Region of Peel, together with other Ontario municipalities and organizations, continue to lobby the Province requesting legislative amendments to allow an AMPS for automated school bus stop arm camera offences. This includes correspondence from the Region of Peel to the Ministry of Transportation to advocate for these legislative changes.</li> </ul>

**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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Suite A, 5th Floor  
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905-791-7800 ext. 4310

September 3, 2020

The Honourable Laurie Scott  
Minister of Infrastructure  
Hearst Block, 8th Floor  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020

REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Scott:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for meeting with our delegation at the recent 2020 AMO Conference. We appreciated the discussion about the need to work together across all levels of government to build critical infrastructure that contributes to safe, effective and resilient communities and stimulates economic recovery.

As mentioned in the meeting, the Region and the Province have a successful track record on constructing several infrastructure projects together that have had significant social, economic and environmental benefits to Peel's residents and businesses. This includes the development of affordable housing at the Brampton Bramalea Christian Fellowship (BBCF) Residences and partnering on the QEW/Credit River Improvement Project in Mississauga. We are confident we can continue building on this success as Ontario begins to rebuild.

Investing in infrastructure is good for the economy and is critical to our economic recovery following COVID-19. According to the report *Benefits and Risks of Growth: Region of Peel Costs* from the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis, for every dollar increase of GDP in Peel, provincial GDP increases by \$1.63. For every dollar of municipal revenue in Peel due to growth, provincial revenues increase by \$5.70.

Municipalities however, face challenges in building such infrastructure and need the support of the Province and federal government, which includes increased, predictable and sustainable infrastructure funding. Investments in infrastructure will also help the Region to meet the anticipated growth and the long-term needs of Peel's residents and businesses.

We were pleased to learn from our discussion that you are interested in hearing more about how the design of infrastructure programs can be improved. The Region continues advocating for reforms to the current federal and provincial application-based funding programs, and instead adopting an allocation-based model. The Ontario Regional Single Tier Treasurers (ORSTT) and the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario (RPWCO) collaborated on feedback to the Ministry of Infrastructure on the design of federal-provincial infrastructure funding program design as part of Phase I of the ICIP program. In the attached letter, ORSTT and RPWCO conclude that the Canada-Ontario infrastructure funding program, as currently designed, and in its previous incarnations, have a distorting effect on municipal capital plans and result in lower value for money. The design of the program also fails to achieve the Federal Government's two primary desired outcomes; job growth and sustainable economic growth.

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Nando Iannicca**  
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Moving to an allocation-based funding model will also help accelerate funding to municipalities for key projects needed to stimulate and support Ontario's economic recovery efforts. We will continue to engage with you, and Ministry staff, on solutions to help improve the design of infrastructure programs.

In addition, the Region will continue advocacy efforts to secure additional federal infrastructure funding. This includes working with your government on approaching the federal government for increased and ongoing support for infrastructure.

We are looking forward to providing you and your staff with more information and insights on these matters. Regional staff will be reaching out to your office about how we can move forward with these discussions. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to me for any information or assistance related to the Region's infrastructure funding challenges and needs. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

Attachment:

Letter from RPWCO and ORSTT advice on Bilateral Provincial Infrastructure Funding program  
Design



September 3, 2020

The Honourable Michael Tibollo  
Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions  
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor  
80 Grosvenor St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Tibollo:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for meeting with our virtual delegation at the recent AMO Conference.

Thank you for your long-standing dedication to addressing challenges related to mental health and addiction services across the province. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you the Region's position on the need for an equitable funding model that would ensure those in need of mental health supports can access services they need, which includes building capacity within the current mental health and addictions services system.

As referenced in our meeting, while Peel is growing faster than the provincial average, per capita funding for mental health and addictions services for Peel is among the lowest in Ontario. Funding formulas have not accounted for Peel's rapidly growing population and multi-cultural mosaic. Consequently, 185,000 people go untreated every year, including 60,000 children and youth. There is growing concern regarding the mental health crisis in Peel. It will take a collective effort to ensure improvements and investments in community mental health reach those in need and we look forward to working with you to make such progress.

As we also discussed in our meeting, COVID-19 has precipitated an even greater demand for mental health and addictions services in Peel and wait lists have grown. We're asking you to provide Peel community mental health and addictions agencies with appropriate funding to account for the additional care that people in our community have needed through COVID-19. We also seek immediate approval and implementation of the new population-based funding formula for children and youth mental health services and ask that this formula be applied to adult services, as well.

We appreciate your expressed interest in learning more about Peel-specific mental health and addiction initiatives and offer three examples, as highlighted at Peel's recent community mental health roundtable, for your information. (additional details in the attached)

- **Stepped Care model:** Since implementation in January 2019, the stepped care model has reduced wait time for psychiatric consultations by 80% (from 365 days to 90 days). Furthermore, wait time for psychotherapy reduced by 85% (24 weeks to 2 weeks).
- **Psychotherapy: Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), Dialectal Behaviour Therapy and Trauma-focused CBT**

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**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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- For children and youth aged 0-24 years, investments in CBT will help to reduce distress and improve the day-to-day lives of children and youth struggling with the most prevalent mental health disorders (e.g., anxiety, depression, eating disorders, substance use disorders and trauma). These services have produced positive outcomes and have been shown to be cost-effective for children as young as four, through to youth and young adults.
- For young adults/adults and seniors, investments will help to reduce wait times, making it easier to access care when needed and build coping strategies to improve self-management and support recovery.
- **Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP)**
- High Support Program and Housing in Place teams are designed to assist individuals with complex mental health and addiction challenges with appropriate housing options and the necessary supports to remain housed. Both programs contribute to housing stability and reduce additional burden on health system (i.e. ED visits, hospitalizations)

Once again, thank you for meeting with the Region of Peel's delegation at the 2020 AMO Conference to discuss these important issues. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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905-791-7800 ext. 4310

September 3, 2020

Andrea Horwath, MPP  
Leader, Official Opposition  
Ontario NDP  
Room 381, Main Legislative Building,  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Ms. Horwath:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference. We appreciated the discussion on COVID-19 costs and longer-term economic recovery and look forward to continued dialogue.

As discussed in our meeting, responding to COVID-19 requires an all-level-of-government approach. We are encouraged by the ongoing collaboration between the provincial and federal governments to provide immediate funding support to offset substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with COVID-19.

While the Region appreciates receiving \$27.3 million in Safe Restart Agreement funding through Phase 1 of the municipal operating stream, more will be required to help offset COVID-19 operating costs and pressures. As mentioned during our meeting, we are seeking your support in urging the provincial government to move forward on Phase 2 of the municipal operating stream as soon as possible.

Our Regional delegation was also pleased to discuss with you the critical need to do more to protect our most vulnerable seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the pandemic, the Region has remained dedicated to providing emotionally focused care through the Butterfly Home model to successfully address clinical needs while protecting the health and safety of residents and improving the well-being of those living with dementia using innovative, person-centred approaches.

In addition, to meet the growing and diverse needs of Peel's seniors' population, the Region continues to advocate for increased funding for seniors' supports. This includes funding for home and community care, dementia supports in long-term care and the Seniors Health and Wellness Village at Peel Manor. The Region requires a targeted, minimum investment of \$30 million to enable the redevelopment of our Peel Manor site to ensure it meets current standards aligned to the Province's commitment to invest in building new and redeveloping older long-term care homes.

As we discussed, the Region has also made a request to participate in the Province's independent commission to review Ontario's long-term care system and we would appreciate any support you could provide in encouraging the Province to accept our request.

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Once again, the Region appreciates meeting with you at this year's AMO Conference and looks forward to working with you on other key priorities, critical to Peel residents and communities. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

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September 3, 2020

Mr. Mike Schreiner, MPP  
Leader, Green Party of Ontario  
Room 451, Main Legislative Building,  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

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September 3, 2020

REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Mr. Schreiner:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference. We appreciated the discussion on COVID-19 costs and longer-term economic recovery and look forward to continued dialogue.

As discussed in our meeting, responding to COVID-19 requires an all-level-of-government approach. We are encouraged by the ongoing collaboration between the provincial and federal governments to provide immediate funding support to offset substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with COVID-19.

While the Region appreciates receiving \$27.3 million in Safe Restart Agreement funding through Phase 1 of the municipal operating stream, more will be required to help offset COVID-19 operating costs and pressures. As mentioned during our meeting, we are seeking your support in urging the provincial government to move forward on Phase 2 of the municipal operating stream as soon as possible.

The Region's delegation was also pleased to discuss with you our advocacy efforts with the provincial government aimed at improving housing affordability outcomes in Peel. This includes seeking provincial funding for the Region's Housing Master Plan, a long-term capital infrastructure plan to guide how more affordable housing will be created in Peel.

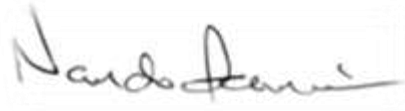
The Region has committed \$1 billion to support development of an initial 2,240 units, to be built by 2028. However, we are only two-thirds of the way to funding this commitment, which includes \$335.3 million committed by the Region, \$276.4 million through CMHC and \$61.1 million committed through federal and provincial housing programs. However, we are seeking your support to help the Region secure the remaining \$327.2 million from the Province to increase urgently needed housing investments in Peel.

Intergovernmental cooperation has defined this crisis and hastened recovery efforts, now well underway with spread of the virus slowing, however, municipalities expect pandemic-related costs will be ongoing, requiring further financial support in the months ahead. The Region looks forward to your continued support in helping municipalities secure funding to cover COVID-19 costs.

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Once again, the Region appreciates meeting with you at this year's AMO Conference and looks forward on working with you on key priorities critical to Peel residents and communities. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

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September 3, 2020

Steven Del Duca  
Leader, Ontario Liberal Party  
c/o Francesca Cesario  
404-344 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, ON M5S 3A7

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Mr. Del Duca:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference. We appreciated the discussion on COVID-19 costs and longer-term economic recovery and look forward to continued dialogue.

As discussed in our meeting, responding to COVID-19 requires an all-level-of-government approach. We are encouraged by the ongoing collaboration between the provincial and federal governments to provide immediate funding support to offset substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with COVID-19.

While the Region appreciates receiving \$27.3 million in Safe Restart Agreement funding through Phase 1 of the municipal operating stream, more will be required to help offset COVID-19 operating costs and pressures. As mentioned during our meeting, we are seeking your support in urging the provincial government to move forward on Phase 2 of the municipal operating stream as soon as possible.

Our Regional delegation was also pleased to discuss with you the critical need to do more to protect our most vulnerable seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the pandemic, the Region has remained dedicated to providing emotionally focused care through the Butterfly Home model to successfully address clinical needs while protecting the health and safety of residents and improving the well-being of those living with dementia using innovative, person-centred approaches.

In addition, to meet the growing and diverse needs of Peel's seniors' population, the Region continues to advocate for increased funding for seniors' supports. This includes funding for home and community care, dementia supports in long-term care and the Seniors Health and Wellness Village at Peel Manor. The Region requires a targeted, minimum investment of \$30 million to enable the redevelopment of our Peel Manor site to ensure it meets current standards aligned to the Province's commitment to invest in building new and redeveloping older long-term care homes.

As we discussed, the Region has also made a request to participate in the Province's independent commission to review Ontario's long-term care system and we would appreciate any support you could provide in encouraging the Province to accept our request.

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
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Once again, the Region appreciates meeting with you at this year's AMO Conference and looks forward to working with you on other key priorities, critical to Peel residents and communities. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel



**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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September 3, 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON, M7A 2J3

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Clark:

On behalf of the Region of Peel Council, I would like to thank the provincial government for the ongoing support provided throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. While we were not able to meet with you at this year's AMO Conference, the Region's delegation met with your colleagues for a series of productive and engaging discussions about shared priorities.

Attached to this letter are two of the Region's AMO briefing notes. The first outlines the need for adequate resources and supports to address affordable housing and homelessness. The second focuses on COVID-19 impacts to the Region's finances.

To improve housing affordability outcomes in Peel, Regional Council approved the Housing Master Plan, a long-term capital infrastructure plan to guide how more affordable housing will be created in Peel.

The Region has committed \$1 billion to support development of an initial 2,240 units, to be built by 2028. However, we are only two-thirds of the way to funding this commitment, which includes \$335.3 million committed by the Region, \$276.4 million through CMHC and \$61.1 million committed through federal and provincial housing programs. We need the support of the provincial government to fund the remaining \$327.2 million to increase urgently needed housing investments in Peel.

The Safe Restart Agreement demonstrates how a multi-level approach can effectively and efficiently address our shared priorities, including affordable housing and others. The Region has now received details on allocation of funding for Phase 1 under this agreement and we appreciate the clarity this will bring to determining the Region's 2020 fiscal position. Similarly, we also appreciate the \$9.7 million received through the Social Services Relief Fund Phase 2 and we want to continue working closely with the Province, as well as the federal government, to provide the immediate supports needed to protect the most vulnerable in our communities as we address ongoing pressures associated with this pandemic.

Intergovernmental cooperation has defined the response to this crisis and supported recovery efforts. In keeping with this approach, municipalities expect pandemic-related costs will be ongoing, requiring further financial support in the months ahead. The Region looks forward to working with you to help cover COVID-19 costs, maintain readiness for pandemic response and continue building economic recovery.

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**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

10 Peel Centre Dr.  
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Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
905-791-7800 ext. 4310

Municipalities are the level of government closest to its residents and we support your belief that strong communities are indeed the foundation for an even stronger Ontario. The all-level-of-government approach to dealing with COVID-19 has proven to be productive and we look forward to continuing to work together during the recovery phase in addressing these issues and other key priorities.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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September 3, 2020

The Honourable Jill Dunlop  
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services  
Associate Minister Responsible for Women's Issues  
438 University Ave., 7th Floor  
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

**RECEIVED**  
September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Dunlop:

On behalf of the Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet during the recent AMO Conference to discuss how we can continue to work together and further align our respective anti-human trafficking strategies.

As you know, in Peel, we are confronting the issue of human sex trafficking through a pilot program, which is fully funded by the Region and for which we are seeking ongoing support. Our approach combines enforcement and criminal justice consequences for traffickers, while also addressing the needs of victims and those who are vulnerable to exploitation. By providing a transition pathway for victims, through education and awareness, the program supports victims in moving forward in their lives.

We are encouraged by the recent call for funding applications under your government's Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports Fund. The Region is requesting provincial funding to extend the Region's pilot program beyond the current three-year timeline and to provide frontline enhancements for victims, including the addition of a mental health nurse and increased staffing, which is reflective of other Canadian best-practice models. These services would augment the Safe House, which is currently operational and the soon-to-be-opened Transitional Housing and Service Hub. We look forward to your response to our submission.

The Region continues to advance this issue through the Peel Human Trafficking Service Providers Committee, which includes ongoing engagement with the Elizabeth Fry Society and over 40 community stakeholders and senior decision makers, including Peel Regional Police. We appreciate your suggestion to re-package our strategy and share it with other communities where human trafficking is also a concern. As highlighted during our meeting, some of this work is already being undertaken; we will continue to look for other opportunities.

Thank you once again for meeting with us. We appreciate the ongoing collaboration with the Province as we work toward a common goal to eradicate human sex trafficking.

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Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

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September 3, 2020

The Honorable Merrilee Fullerton  
Ministry of Long-Term Care  
400 University Ave. 6th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Fullerton:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to virtually meet with you and your staff at the recent AMO Conference.

We appreciate the steps your government is taking to protect vulnerable seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the pandemic, the Region has remained dedicated to providing emotionally focused care through the Butterfly Home model. This model uses a person-centred approach to successfully address clinical needs, protect the health and safety of residents and improve the well-being of those living with dementia.

In order to continue improving quality of life for seniors in Peel, we also discussed increased funding for seniors' supports, including home and community care, dementia supports in long-term care and the Seniors Health and Wellness Village at Peel Manor. The Region is currently redeveloping the Peel Manor site to ensure it meets current standards aligned to the Province's commitment to invest in building and redeveloping long-term care homes. As mentioned in the meeting, the Region requires a targeted, minimum investment of \$30 million in funding to redevelop Peel Manor as a campus of care.

Protecting the most vulnerable seniors and ensuring a quality of life for long-term care residents, continues to be a top priority. As such, the Region is thankful that your government is conducting an independent commission to review the structural and entrenched problems in Ontario's long-term care system, and we look forward to participating in that commission.

We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your Ministry to support seniors along the care continuum and would like to invite you to tour our Sheridan Village Long-Term Care Home, where we have successfully implemented a Butterfly Home in our Special Behavioural Support Unit. Other visitors have found that seeing our work in action helps inform their thinking about ways of improving the culture of care in long-term homes and supporting better quality of life for residents.

Once again, thank you for meeting with the Region of Peel's delegation at the 2020 AMO Conference to discuss these important issues. Please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

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RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒ \_\_\_\_\_

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel

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September 3, 2020

Hon. Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education  
5th Floor  
438 University Ave.  
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of the Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference to discuss how we can continue to work together to ensure that Peel residents have access to safe and affordable child care.

Since the start of the of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Region has worked closely with Ministry of Education staff. We appreciate the ongoing engagement and continued support for Peel's child care providers during the pandemic.

As mentioned in our meeting, Peel's child care system is the second largest system in Ontario. In addition, given our growth rate, and comparatively young population, child care is particularly critical. While we welcome the Safe Restart Funding to help support the reopening of the child care sector, to ensure additional stability, the Region is urging you to delay the implementation of the 50 per cent mandatory cost sharing of administrative funding for child care until at least January 2022.

Given the unprecedented and unpredictable nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is difficult to forecast the ongoing impact on the Early Years and Child Care sector. This will most likely include significant changes in the demand for child care, as well as additional supports required by families and child care providers. This would be a particularly challenging time to take on the additional financial burden of an administrative cost-sharing arrangement. Ensuring that Service System Managers have the adequate administrative resources available to implement these measures will be critical, as Ontario moves to the next phase of recovery.

As you move forward in making any policy or funding framework changes, we ask for continued engagement with the Region of Peel and Service System Managers. Like you, we believe that responding to COVID-19 and rebuilding our province will take an all-level-of-government approach.

Thank you once again for meeting us. We appreciate the opportunity of ongoing collaboration with the Province as we work together to ensure a safe reopening of the child care sector.

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Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
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September 3, 2020

The Honourable Rod Phillips  
Minister of Finance  
Frost Building South, 7th Floor  
7 Queen's Park Cres.  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

**RECEIVED**

September 3, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Minister Phillips:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, thank you for the opportunity to meet at the recent AMO Conference. We appreciated the discussion on COVID-19 costs and longer-term economic recovery and look forward to the continued dialogue.

As discussed in our meeting, responding to COVID-19 requires an all-level-of-government approach. We urge the provincial government to continue to work with the federal government to provide immediate funding support to offset substantial incremental costs and loss of revenue associated with COVID-19.

The Region of Peel greatly appreciates receiving \$27.3 million in Safe Restart Agreement funding through Phase 1 of the municipal operating stream to help offset the Region's COVID-19 operating costs and pressures. This funding will help to ensure that the Region continues to deliver important and critical frontline services to the residents and businesses of Peel. We look forward to working with your government on Phase 2 of the municipal operating stream to deepen the understanding of the additional municipal pressures we face and how COVID-19 is specifically impacting the Region's finances.

In addition, as part of the discussion during our meeting, you expressed interest in learning more about the financial impacts of responding to COVID-19 from a Region of Peel perspective including:

- Ideas on how to move forward on assessments and other deferrals,
- Funding grant tools, and
- The Region's construction and infrastructure costs.

Regional staff will be following up with your staff to explore opportunities to discuss and provide additional information on these items as well as the Region's COVID-related financial impacts. We hope to arrange this work in the coming weeks.

While we understand that your current focus is on the short-term and stabilizing the economy, we do appreciate your willingness to consider our medium- and long-term recommendations and would like to very much continue the conversations with you on these matters.

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This includes discussing how the Province can move forward in conducting a review of provincial-municipal responsibilities, with a specific focus on the proper place for income re-distribution programs, such as affordable housing and social services.

Looking ahead to the long-term, we want to engage the Province in discussions on the need for updated municipal revenue sources and tools to address the changing needs of local communities. Our goal, through these discussions and through the review, would be for the Province to recognize that municipalities' main revenue tools, property taxes and development charges, that they rely upon to deliver essential services, are unsustainable.

Specifically, we want to discuss the need for municipal fiscal tools and resources to be responsive to the digital economy and changing nature of employment, which may be even more significant in the post-COVID-19 economy.

Thank you once again for meeting with Peel's delegation to discuss these important issues. We look forward to continuing to work with you on addressing the Region's immediate, medium and long-term financial needs. Region of Peel staff will be reaching out to your office to discuss how we can continue the conversation on these critical issues. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me at 905-791-7800 x4310. It would be a pleasure to hear from you.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel