

Message from the Chair



On behalf of the Region of Peel, I'm pleased to share with you our Advocacy Update; a bi-monthly newsletter focused on the Region's priorities and progress of our advocacy efforts.

Peel residents and businesses expect all levels of government to work together to meet their needs. The Region's

ongoing partnerships with the provincial and federal governments have resulted in many successful initiatives and accomplishments throughout Peel.

In this update, we have included highlights from a recent mental health roundtable the Region hosted to help address mental health service gaps and challenges in Peel.

We also share key elements from the Region's 2020 Budget. Our budget establishes a responsible and focused

fiscal plan that respects the tax dollars of Peel residents and businesses without compromising the quality of front-line services. We'll be sharing our priorities with senior levels of government as part of federal and provincial budget processes.

I'd like to congratulate Peel's members of parliament who were elected and re-elected in the October federal election. We look forward to building on our strong partnerships with you to better meet the needs of our shared constituents.

At the beginning of a new year, I believe it's important to reflect on our achievements with an eye toward future opportunities and challenges. We're eager to work closely with our federal and provincial colleagues to create a healthy, safe and connected community.

Sincerely,

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒

Mental health roundtable

The Region welcomes ongoing commitments by the provincial and federal governments to improve access to mental health services.

On Oct. 21, 2019, the Region hosted a roundtable with Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo, several of his caucus colleagues as well as several community stakeholders. The roundtable participants discussed what's required to support 276,000 people in Peel who will experience mental health and/or addictions disorders in their lifetime. The conversation included important issues related to funding, service integration, technology, access and cultural sensitivity in the mental health and addictions service sector.



The Region worked with its community partners to prepare a report on the mental health and addictions sector in Peel, which has been presented to the Ontario

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Regional Council

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair and
Chief Executive Officer

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Mayor

Gurpreet Dhillon

Pat Fortini

Martin Medeiros

Michael Palleschi

Rowena Santos

Paul Vicente

Town of Caledon

Allan Thompson

Mayor

Johanna Downey

Annette Groves

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City of Mississauga

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Mayor

George Carlson

Dipika Damerla

Stephen Dasko

Chris Fonseca

John Kovac

Matt Mahoney

Sue McFadden

Carolyn Parrish

Karen Ras

Pat Saito

Ron Starr

 **Region
of Peel**
working with you

Mental health roundtable continued

government. The report details several areas of concern, including estimated wait times for services funded by the Central West and Mississauga Halton LHINs, which exceed the Ontario average. Estimated 2019 wait times for Case Management/ Supportive Counselling was 102 days in the Central West LHIN catchment area and 72 days within the Mississauga Halton LHIN, compared to the Ontario average of 56 days. The Region supports provincial plans calling for a \$3.8 billion investment over 10 years to build a mental health and addictions system,

as well as a commitment by the federal government to increase funding for mental health and addictions. As a rapidly growing community, Peel has experienced historical underfunding, which for residents results in wait lists and challenges accessing appropriate services. An equitable funding model is required to respond to population growth, diversity and community need in order to help alleviate pressures across the province's entire health care system and, specifically, the unique challenges experienced in Peel.



Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Michael Tibollo was joined at the Region's mental health roundtable by fellow MPPs Sylvia Jones, Sheref Sabawy, Rudy Cuzzetto, Amarjot Singh Sandhu and Natalia Kusendova.



Minister Tibollo, seen here alongside Region of Peel Interim CAO Nancy Polsinelli.

Government Relations Committee

Chaired by Regional Councillor Jennifer Innis, the Government Relations Committee (GRC) is a standing committee of Council. It provides a platform for enhancing the Region's advocacy efforts and engaging with the other orders of government to identify shared challenges and work toward common goals.

At its most recent meeting on Oct. 17, 2019, the committee welcomed Ontario's Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction Prabmeet Sarkaria (Brampton South). Members of the committee offered suggestions for improving municipal reporting, discussed Provincial-Regional intergovernmental cooperation as well as funding opportunities.

For more information about GRC, please visit peelregion.ca/council/committees/committees-and-advisory-boards.asp#grc

The committee's next meeting will be on March 5, 2020.



Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction Prabmeet Sarkaria (front right) is addressing the Government Relations Committee members.

2020 Regional Budget

On Dec. 19, 2019, Regional Council approved the 2020 Budget, outlining how tax dollars will be invested in the services that Peel residents value.

The Budget:

- addresses the needs of people and businesses in Peel and the future challenges and opportunities facing our community
- supports critical investments, including maintaining our vital infrastructure, protecting the community's most vulnerable residents as well as responding to growing concerns regarding community safety and well-being.

The Region's 2020 Budget includes a modest property tax increase of 1.5 per cent. This will contribute to an annual increase to the typical residential property and small business property tax bills of \$70 and \$126 respectively.

Key investments include:

- Maintaining the state of good repair of almost \$30 billion of infrastructure, including affordable housing, paramedic stations, roads, feedermain pipes and long-term care homes

- Expansion of EarlyON services for 6,000 children and parents
- Implementation of the Butterfly Model at Tall Pines, enhancing quality of life for long-term care residents
- 35 additional Peel Regional Police officers to increase community safety
- Ability to respond to an additional 5,600 paramedic response calls
- 21,000 more accessible transportation trips
- 900 more residents receiving affordable transit

While the Region has demonstrated leadership in financial management and service delivery, challenges still exist as a result of Peel's population growth and changing demographics. The Region is dependent on ongoing funding from provincial and federal governments to support affordable housing, infrastructure, sustainability and transportation investments to meet its long-term needs.

For more information on the Region's 2020 Budget, please visit peelregion.ca/budget/2020



Living:

People's lives are improved in their time of need.

We are investing in more paramedics to preserve response times, investing in increased access to accessible transportation and investing in better care for our Long Term Care home residents.

Thriving:

Communities are integrated, safe and complete.

We are investing in better wastewater handling for storms and to reduce the risk of flooding, increased waste diversion from landfills and community safety.

Leading:

Government is future-oriented and accountable.

We are investing in increased capacity to manage and deliver essential services and in developing innovative solutions to reduce service costs.

\$3.7
billion

Invested in services that advance and support Council's priorities and long-term outcomes.

\$2.6
billion

2020
Operating budget

\$902
million

\$1.47
billion

\$199
million

\$1.1
billion

2020
Capital budget

\$43
million

\$982
million

\$33
million

Canadian Heritage grant supports Peel Art Gallery, Museums and Archives (PAMA) exhibit

Minister Steven Guilbeault met with Region of Peel arts, culture and heritage stakeholders following the awarding of a grant from the federal Museums Assistance Program (MAP), which facilitates access to heritage collections for Canadians. The \$155,940 grant is being used in support of PAMA's George Paginton exhibit – *Painting a Nation*.

Works by Paginton, a peer of members of the Group of Seven, celebrate and draw inspiration from the beauty of Canada's natural environment. The federal investment provides increased visibility and access to his works.

The MAP funding allowed the exhibition to show at PAMA until February 9, 2020.



Caption (left to right): PAMA Curator of Art Sharona Adamowicz-Clements is joined on a gallery tour by Regional Chair Nando Iannicca, PAMA's Manager of Community Engagement and Visitor Experience Rene Nand and Canadian Heritage Minister Hon. Steven Guilbeault.

Strategy to address human sex trafficking in Peel region

February 22 is Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Ontario, shining a spotlight on the need for collaboration from all levels of government to eradicate this abhorrent crime. Throughout 2020, the Region will continue to work with the federal and provincial governments to support its three-year pilot program that provides housing and services for victims and survivors of human sex trafficking in Peel and across our province.

Peel's efforts continue to build momentum and have been well received following meetings with Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, the AMO Board of Directors and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.



Government Relations Committee

Nando Iannicca
Regional Chair (ex-officio)
Patrick Brown
Mayor, City of Brampton
Allan Thompson
Mayor, Town of Caledon
Bonnie Crombie
Mayor, City of Mississauga
Stephen Dasko
Mississauga (Ward 1)
Gurpreet Singh Dhillon
Brampton (Wards 9 and 10)
Johanna Downey
Caledon (Ward 2)
Annette Groves
Caledon (Ward 5)
Jennifer Innis (Chair)
Caledon (Ward 4)
Michael Palleschi
Brampton (Ward 2)
Karen Ras (Vice-Chair)
Mississauga (Ward 2)
Rowena Santos
Brampton (Wards 1 and 5)
Paul Vicente
Brampton (Wards 1 and 5)

Regional Executive Leadership Team

Nancy Polsinelli,
Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Kathryn Lockyer,
Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services
Sean Baird,
Commissioner of Digital and Information Services
Cathy Granger,
Acting Commissioner of Health Services
Janice Sheehy,
Commissioner of Human Services
Andrew Farr,
Acting Commissioner of Public Works
Stephen VanOfwegen,
Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer

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