

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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234-2020-3037

Regional Chair
Nando Iannicca
Regional Municipality of Peel
chair@peelregion.ca

RECEIVED
August 12, 2020
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Regional Chair Iannicca:

Thank you for your request for a delegation meeting at the 2020 AMO Conference.

I appreciate your interest in discussing COVID-19 recovery and increased flexibility in housing program rules for service managers. However, I regret that I am unable to meet with you personally during the conference, as my schedule is heavily committed.

Earlier today, our government announced \$695 million in Phase 1 funding under the Safe Restart Agreement, to flow to municipalities in September. Through the Safe Restart Agreement, Ontario has secured up to \$4 billion in emergency assistance to provide Ontario's 444 municipalities with the support they need to respond to COVID-19 for the next 6-8 months and deliver the critical services people rely on every day. Further funding of up to \$695 million will be available under Phase 2 later in the fall, for a total of up to \$1.39 billion in emergency funding to address municipal operating needs.

Ontario is also providing municipal service managers and Indigenous housing partners an additional \$212 million under the Social Services Relief Fund to help protect vulnerable people from COVID-19. The funding can help them protect homeless shelter staff and residents, expand rent support programming and create longer-term housing solutions. This brings the government's total Social Services Relief Fund investment provided to service managers and Indigenous program administrators to \$510 million, and builds on our COVID-19 Action Plan to Protect Vulnerable Ontarians.

On July 22, 2020, the *Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act, 2020* received Royal Assent in the Ontario Legislature. The Act contains amendments to the *Housing Services Act, 2011* and *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006* to deliver on commitments under our government's Community Housing Renewal Strategy and Housing Supply Action Plan. It also contains amendments to the *Building Code Act, 1992* to improve building code services to the public and building sector, and includes the *Ontario Mortgage and Housing Corporation Repeal Act, 2020*.

The included amendments to the *Housing Services Act, 2011* are part of the second stage of the government's Community Housing Renewal Strategy – a multi-year strategy to stabilize and grow Ontario's community housing sector.

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____

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If you would like to discuss this matter further, my Senior Policy Advisor for Housing, Alex Earthy, is available to speak with you. She can be reached at Alex.Earthy@ontario.ca to arrange a time that is mutually convenient.

You can also contact Terry Fenton, Manager, Local Government & Housing in my ministry's Municipal Services Office in Toronto. You can reach her by email at Terry.Fenton@ontario.ca.

Strong communities are the foundation of a strong Ontario, and local government is on the front line of providing critical public services. We will continue working hand-in-hand with municipalities to ensure they can emerge stronger than ever and help lead Ontario's economic recovery.

Once again, thank you for your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Clark
Minister