

Government Relations Update

Government Relations Committee October 15, 2020

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

Throne Speech Themes

Themes	Commitment
A Stronger Workforce	Working with provinces to help Canadians build new skills for growing sectors, help workers receive education and accreditation and help connect workers to employers
Climate Change	Release a plan to exceed Canada's 2030 climate goal
Addressing Systemic Racism	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. 23rd – 27th
- 2021 OGRA Conference – Feb. 21 – 24th
- 2021 FCM Conference – June 3rd – 6th
- 2021 AMO Conference – Aug. 15th – 18th



Thank You

