

MUNICIPALITY  **OF ASSIGINACK**

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
To Be Held in the Council Chambers
Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
Council's Regular Meeting Agenda**

For consideration:

- 1. OPENING**
 - a) Adoption of Agenda
 - b) Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof
- 2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - a) Regular Council Meeting of December 18, 2018 (p.3)
- 4. DELEGATIONS**
- 5. REPORTS**
- 6. ACTION REQUIRED ITEMS**
 - a) Accounts of Payment: General: \$106,000.67 - Payroll: \$19,966.87 (p.8)
 - b) Burns Wharf Theatre Committee Appointments
 - c) Economic Development Committee Discussion, Appointments & Application
 - d) Cannabis "Opting In" Decision
 - e) Mayor's Levy: Council Member's Priorities
 - f) Integrity Commissioner Appointment Discussion
 - g) Rogers Creek Bridge
- 7. INFORMATION ITEMS**
 - a) AMO Communications of December 21, 2018 (p.14)
- 8. BY-LAWS**

9. CLOSED SESSION

- a) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees (*Municipal Act, 2001, ch.25, s.239(2)(b)*)

10. ADJOURNMENT

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ASSIGINACK
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assiginack was held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor David Ham
Councillor Christianna Jones
Councillor Robert Maguire
Councillor Hugh Moggy

Excused: Councillor David McDowell

Staff: Alton Hobbs, CAO
Jeremy Rody, Clerk
Deb MacDonald, Treasurer
Jackie White, Events Coordinator

Press: Alicia McCutcheon, Expositor

Others: Peter Baumgarten
Denis Marion
Chuck Vanderveen
Marilyn Wohlberg
Elwood Wohlberg
Linda Vanderveen

OPENING:

#306-22-18 H. Moggy – R. Maguire

THAT the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Assiginack be opened for business with a quorum of members present at 5:00 p.m., with Mayor Ham presiding in the Chair.

CARRIED

AGENDA:

#307-22-18 R. Maguire – H. Moggy

THAT the agenda for this meeting be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councillor Moggy thanked and congratulated Lisa Hallaert for organizing the Parade of Lights Christmas Parade. Many community members came out to watch the parade and it was enjoyed by all.

MINUTES:

#308-22-18 H. Moggy – C. Jones

THAT the minutes of the Inaugural/Regular Council meeting of December 3, 2018, be accepted.

CARRIED

#309-22-18 R. Maguire – C. Jones

THAT the minutes of the Assiginack Public Library Board meeting of October 22, 2018, be accepted.

CARRIED

#310-22-18 C. Jones – H. Moggy

THAT the minutes of the Public Health Sudbury & Districts Board meeting of November 22, 2018, be received.

CARRIED

#311-22-18 H. Moggy – C. Jones

THAT the minutes of the Manitoulin Planning Board meeting of November 27, 2018, be received.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS:

#312-22-18 R. Maguire – H. Moggy

THAT we thank Burns Wharf Theatre Players for their presentation to Council.

CARRIED

NOTE: Marilyn Wohlberg spoke on behalf of the Burns Wharf Theatre Players. She thanked Council for their show of support so early in the Council term. Regarding the upgrades to the Theatre building, she noted they will benefit the Township as well as many other groups in the community and throughout the Island. She announced the 2019 production will be held at the United Church in Manitowaning. Mrs. Wohlberg expressed that the Players are delighted that Council is willing to work with them and moving forward together.

REPORTS:

#313-22-18 H. Moggy – R. Maguire

THAT the Manitowaning Drinking Water System Inspection Report of September 27, 2018 as prepared by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, be accepted.

CARRIED

ACTION REQUIRED ITEMS:

#314-22-18 C. Jones – H. Moggy

THAT Council authorizes the following Accounts for Payment:

General: \$142,060.28

AND THAT the Mayor and administration be authorized to complete cheques #28374 through #28411 as described in the attached cheque register report.

CARRIED

#315-22-18 H. Moggy – R. Maguire

THAT Council authorizes the following Accounts for Payment:

Payroll: \$18,685.22

AND THAT the Mayor and administration be authorized to complete cheques #28369 through #28373 as described in the attached cheque register report.

CARRIED

#316-22-18 R. Maguire – C. Jones

THAT the budget to actual financial statements for the year to date as at November 30, 2018, be received.

CARRIED

#317-22-18 H. Moggy – R. Maguire

WHEREAS Resolution #250-17-17 was originally passed on September 19, 2017, requesting the Burns Wharf Theatre Players to become an incorporated entity for the purpose of leasing the Burns Wharf Building from the Township;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Resolution #250-17-17 be rescinded and that a Burns Wharf Theatre Committee of Council be created to work with the Players to explore funding opportunities to get the Theatre back into operation.

CARRIED

#318-22-18 C. Jones – R. Maguire

WHEREAS the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund will provide funding to Ontario municipalities to assist with the expected increase in various costs related to cannabis legalization;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Assiginack Council does forecast an increase to policing costs and district social services costs as a result of cannabis legalization and shall not opt-out of the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund.

TABLED

#319-22-18 C. Jones – R. Maguire

THAT Assiginack Council instructs staff to write a letter to representatives from Stantec Consulting and the Ministry of Transportation working on the Swing Bridge Study to schedule future Public Consultations in Assiginack Township, to include the Assiginack Public Library as a location to review documents, and to invite all residents to local information sessions when scheduled in the vicinity.

CARRIED

#320-22-18 R. Maguire – C. Jones

THAT Assiginack Council approves a Christmas bonus of \$150 for full-time employees and \$75 for part-time and seasonal employees.

CARRIED

#321-22-18 R. Maguire – C. Jones

THAT prior to December 31, 2018, any departmental surplus be allocated to the appropriate departmental reserve.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS:

#322-22-18 C. Jones – R. Maguire

THAT we acknowledge receipt of the following correspondence items:

- a) AMO Communications of November 29, December 10 & 13, 2018
- b) Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Letters
- c) Town of Kearney Resolution: Voters' List for Municipal Elections
- d) FedNor: Northern Ontario Development Program

CARRIED

BY-LAWS:

#323-22-18 C. Jones – R. Maguire

THAT By-law #18-31, being a deeming by-law to designate lots 24 and 25, Registered Plan 31M206 not to be lots on a Registered Plan of Subdivision for Planning Act purposes, be given its first, second, and third readings and enacted in open Council.

CARRIED

#324-22-18 C. Jones – R. Maguire

THAT By-law #18-32, being a by-law to appoint Members of Council to various local board and committees be given its first, second, and third readings and enacted in open Council.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

NOTE: Councillor Moggy will replace Councillor Maguire as the second appointee to the Manitoulin Municipal Association. By-law #18-32 will be amended to reflect that change prior to being signed by the Mayor and Clerk.

CLOSED SESSION:

None.

CLOSING:

#325-22-18 R. Maguire – C. Jones

THAT we adjourn until the next regular meeting or call of the Chair.

CARRIED

David Ham, MAYOR

Jeremy Rody, CLERK

5:45 p.m.

These Minutes have been circulated but are not considered Official until approved by Council.

The Township of Assiginack
 CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION REPORT
 Payables Management

Ranges: **From:** **To:** **From:** **To:**
 Vendor ID First Last Chequebook ID First Last
 Vendor Name First Last Cheque Number 0028412 0028430
 Cheque Date First Last
Sorted By: Cheque Number

Distribution Types Included: All

ChqNo:	0028412	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	ALTON HOBBS	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028413	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	ANNETTE VIRTANEN	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028414	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	CHERYL O'BRIEN	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028415	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	DEBBIE ROBINSON	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028416	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	DEBORAH MACDONALD	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028417	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	FREDA BOND	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028418	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	GERRY STRONG	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028419	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	JACKIE WHITE	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028420	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	JEREMY RODY	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028421	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	KELSEY MAGUIRE	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028422	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	NATALIE PARRINGTON	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028423	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	ROBERT MACDONALD	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028424	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	RON COOPER	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028425	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	STEVE WOOD	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028426	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	ASHLEY QUACKENBUSH	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028427	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	CHRISTAL DAWN QUACKENBUSH	Amount:	\$75.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$75.00	
ChqNo:	0028428	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	WALTER REID	Amount:	\$150.00
InvNo:	2018 BONUS	InvDesc:	christmas bonus	InvAmt:		\$150.00	
ChqNo:	0028429	Date:	19/12/2018	Vendor:	WAYNE MIDDAUGH	Amount:	\$150.00

The Township of Assiginack
CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION REPORT
Payables Management

ChqNo: 0028430	Date: 19/12/2018	Vendor: WILLIAM BECK	Amount: 575.00
InvNo: 2018 BONUS	InvDesc: christmas bonus	InvAmt:	\$75.00

*** End of Report ***

Report Total:

\$2,175.00

The Township of Assiginack
CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION REPORT
Payables Management

Ranges: From: To:
Vendor ID First Last Chequebook ID First Last
Vendor Name First Last Cheque Number 0028431
Cheque Date First Last
Sorted By: Cheque Number

Distribution Types Included: All

ChqNo:	Date:	Vendor:	Amount:
0028431	20/12/2018	ALLEN'S AUTOMOTIVE GROUP	6910.42
InvNo: 722775	InvDesc: 5w30 oil	InvAmt: \$32.84	
InvNo: 722935	InvDesc: coffee	InvAmt: \$29.98	
InvNo: 722348	InvDesc: hydraulic oil	InvAmt: \$82.07	
InvNo: 722474	InvDesc: hydraulic hose #7	InvAmt: \$129.86	
InvNo: 722475	InvDesc: hydraulic oil	InvAmt: \$96.37	
InvNo: 719538	InvDesc: flood lite loader	InvAmt: \$163.10	
InvNo: 719728	InvDesc: grease fitting	InvAmt: \$2.25	
InvNo: 721096	InvDesc: hydraulic hose #7	InvAmt: \$143.50	
InvNo: 721097	InvDesc: cable ties	InvAmt: \$18.07	
InvNo: 719858	InvDesc: clearance lights #2	InvAmt: \$35.80	
InvNo: 719987	InvDesc: led light #4	InvAmt: \$138.66	
InvNo: 719794	InvDesc: gas	InvAmt: \$24.00	
InvNo: 720041	InvDesc: adapter #4	InvAmt: \$6.02	
InvNo: 722092	InvDesc: sand paper	InvAmt: \$7.90	
0028432	20/12/2018	BEACON IMAGES	667.80
InvNo: 09-4821C	InvDesc: arena signage	InvAmt: \$67.80	
0028433	20/12/2018	BJ'S & ADDISONS	2,192.20
InvNo: 106616	InvDesc: winter tires #4	InvAmt: \$2,192.20	
0028434	20/12/2018	CAMBRIAN TRUCK CENTRE INC.	6980.65
InvNo: 10744	InvDesc: rims #2	InvAmt: \$768.40	
InvNo: 10928	InvDesc: filter #2	InvAmt: \$73.52	
InvNo: 10927	InvDesc: trans fluid/filters #2	InvAmt: \$138.73	
0028435	20/12/2018	C. PEARSON & SON EXCAVATION & HAULAGE	68,826.04
InvNo: 3390	InvDesc: winter sand, gravel	InvAmt: \$68,826.04	
0028436	20/12/2018	DAVID HAM	200.00
InvNo: 2018 ELECTION	InvDesc: reimburse candidates deposit	InvAmt: \$200.00	
0028437	20/12/2018	EASTLINK	110.64
InvNo: DEC 10 2018 PW	InvDesc: pw-dsl	InvAmt: \$55.32	
InvNo: DEC 10 2018 MARINA	InvDesc: marina dsl	InvAmt: \$55.32	

The Township of Assiginack
 CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION REPORT
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ChqNo:	0028438	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	FORT GARRY INDUSTRIES LTD	Amount:	547.69
InvNo:	F7001715	InvDesc:	wiper nozzle/back up alarm #7	InvAmt:		547.69	
ChqNo:	0028439	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	GERRY STRONG	Amount:	5307.70
InvNo:	DEC 21 2018	InvDesc:	bdg insp/plan mileage	InvAmt:		5307.70	
ChqNo:	0028440	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	HUGHES SUPPLY COMPANY	Amount:	5124.13
InvNo:	41284	InvDesc:	gloves/ext cord	InvAmt:		5124.13	
ChqNo:	0028441	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	HYDRO ONE NETWORKS INC.	Amount:	53,439.33
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 PO/BNK	InvDesc:	po/bnk	InvAmt:		5463.43	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 LITES	InvDesc:	street lites	InvAmt:		5605.69	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 DOCKS	InvDesc:	marina docks	InvAmt:		552.19	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 LIBRARY	InvDesc:	library bldg	InvAmt:		5514.14	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 INFO BTH	InvDesc:	info booth	InvAmt:		529.96	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 SS WTP	InvDesc:	ss wtp	InvAmt:		5853.57	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 TENNIS	InvDesc:	tennis courts	InvAmt:		529.86	
InvNo:	DEC 18 2018 ARENA	InvDesc:	arena	InvAmt:		5890.49	
ChqNo:	0028442	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	MANITOWANING MILL & HOME BUILDING CENTRE	Amount:	5541.94
InvNo:	0148987	InvDesc:	lib/office - ice melt	InvAmt:		5103.92	
InvNo:	0146834	InvDesc:	repairs (steel) #4	InvAmt:		539.84	
InvNo:	0148032	InvDesc:	bollards (propane tanks)	InvAmt:		5347.54	
InvNo:	0149172	InvDesc:	high falls-padlock,hasp,lumber	InvAmt:		553.49	
ChqNo:	0028443	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	MANITOULIN EXPOSITOR	Amount:	578.87
InvNo:	100875	InvDesc:	advertising-holiday schedules	InvAmt:		578.87	
ChqNo:	0028444	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	MCANSH ELECTRIC	Amount:	52,119.69
InvNo:	76	InvDesc:	norisle/library	InvAmt:		5899.34	
InvNo:	78	InvDesc:	pw-supply/install emerg.lights	InvAmt:		51,220.35	
ChqNo:	0028445	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY ULC	Amount:	5348.50
InvNo:	2545402001	InvDesc:	air fittings/nuts/bolts/batte	InvAmt:		5348.50	
ChqNo:	0028446	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	NEW NORTH FUELS INC	Amount:	52,299.43
InvNo:	483568	InvDesc:	pw-diesel	InvAmt:		51,747.75	
InvNo:	483567	InvDesc:	pw-dyed diesel	InvAmt:		551.68	
ChqNo:	0028447	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	ONTARIO RECREATION FACILITIES ASSOCIATION	Amount:	5175.15
InvNo:	23710	InvDesc:	2019 membership	InvAmt:		5175.15	
ChqNo:	0028448	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	PURULATOR COURIER	Amount:	5103.87
InvNo:	440046283	InvDesc:	freight	InvAmt:		5103.87	
ChqNo:	0028449	Date:	20/12/2018	Vendor:	RALF ISLAND TRUCK PARTS	Amount:	5364.63
InvNo:	4015	InvDesc:	clevls/spline/blades #7	InvAmt:		5364.63	

The Township of Assiginack
 CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION REPORT
 Payables Management

ChqNo:	Date:	Vendor:	Amount:
0028450	20/12/2018	RELIANCE HOME COMFORT	\$96.89
InvNo: DEC 17 2018 ADMIN	InvDesc: mun.office - hwt rental	InvAmt: \$45.73	
InvNo: DEC 17 2018 PW	InvDesc: pw-hwt rental	InvAmt: \$51.16	
0028451	20/12/2018	ROBERT MAGUIRE	\$100.00
InvNo: 2018 ELECTION	InvDesc: reimburse candidates deposit	InvAmt: \$100.00	
0028452	20/12/2018	SIFTO CANADA INC.	\$8,323.23
InvNo: 335142	InvDesc: salt	InvAmt: \$4,071.32	
InvNo: 336140	InvDesc: salt	InvAmt: \$4,251.91	
0028453	20/12/2018	STEVE WOOD	\$150.00
InvNo: 12590	InvDesc: work boot allowance	InvAmt: \$150.00	
0028454	20/12/2018	STRONGCO LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	\$1,078.02
InvNo: 90657403	InvDesc: carbide blade #4	InvAmt: \$1,078.02	
0028455	20/12/2018	SUDBURY & DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	\$2,810.00
InvNo: RC020034341	InvDesc: jan sdhu levy	InvAmt: \$2,810.00	
0028456	20/12/2018	SUPERIOR PROPANE INC.	\$5,054.19
InvNo: 22539998	InvDesc: po/bnk service contract	InvAmt: \$55.37	
InvNo: 22654692	InvDesc: arena-propane	InvAmt: \$2,542.12	
InvNo: 22654693	InvDesc: arena-propane	InvAmt: \$2,456.70	
0028457	20/12/2018	KEITH HARFIELD	\$100.00
InvNo: 2018 ELECTION	InvDesc: reimb.candidates deposit	InvAmt: \$100.00	
0028458	20/12/2018	THOMPSON ELECTRIC	\$1,860.38
InvNo: 4973	InvDesc: po-repair lights washroom	InvAmt: \$130.91	
InvNo: 4974	InvDesc: arena-repair lights/fan	InvAmt: \$1,729.47	
0028459	20/12/2018	TRACKS & WHEELS	\$214.07
InvNo: P29929	InvDesc: cab filter loader	InvAmt: \$214.07	
0028466	21/12/2018	HUGH MOGGY	\$44.72
InvNo: DEC 19 2018	InvDesc: mma mileage	InvAmt: \$44.72	
0028467	21/12/2018	WAYNE MIDDGAUGH	\$550.00
InvNo: DEC 21 2018	InvDesc: beaver trapping (11)	InvAmt: \$550.00	
0028468	21/12/2018	WILLIAM BECK	\$120.73
InvNo: 701-3709543-6175459	InvDesc: workboot allowance	InvAmt: \$120.73	
0028469	21/12/2018	WINDOWS UNLIMITED	\$84.75
InvNo: 885063	InvDesc: high falls washroom repairs	InvAmt: \$84.75	

*** End of Report ***

Report Total:

\$103,825.67

Date : 21/12/2018
Time : 9:38:48 AM

The Township of Assiginack

Page: 1

Payment #	Amount	Date	Batch #	Employee ID	Employee Name	Status	Payment Method
0028460		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	118	COOPER, RONALD	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
0028461		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	122	HOBBS, ALTON	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
0028462		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	126	MacDONALD, DEBORAH	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
0028463		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	133	BOND, FREDA	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
0028464		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	158	QUACKENBUSH, ASHLEY T	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
0028465		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	219	JONES, CHRISTIANNA	OUTSTANDING	Cheque
1577		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	106	WOOD, STEVEN	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1578		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	134	VIRTANEN, ANNETTE	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1579		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	140	REID, WALTER	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1580		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	155	BECK, WILLIAM	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1581		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	163	MACDONALD, ROBERT	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1582		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	164	MIDDAUGH, WAYNE	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1583		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	168	STRONG, GERRY	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1584		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	186	RODY, JEREMY	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1585		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	211	MOGGY, HUGH	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1586		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	218	MCDOWELL, DAVID	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1587		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	220	HAY, DAVID	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1588		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	221	MAGUIRE, ROBERT	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1589		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	301	ROBINSON, DEBBIE	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit
1590		24/12/2018	12/24COMB	323	WHITE, JACQUELINE	OUTSTANDING	Direct Deposit

Total :	\$19,966.87						

Jeremy Rody

From: AMO Communications <communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 5:09 PM
To: jrody@eastlink.ca
Subject: AMO Policy Update - Financial Risks for Property Taxpayers and Municipal Budgets

December 21, 2018

Financial Risks for Property Taxpayers and Municipal Budgets

Grants from the provincial and federal government are a critical part of the municipal financial picture. They account for 20% of municipal revenue across the sector and for many smaller municipalities, represent an even higher percentage of local revenue.

This interdependence shapes municipal spending decisions, too. Exactly 280 pieces of provincial legislation directly govern municipalities and help to form local budgets. Other sectors, like health or education, deal mostly with one transfer ministry. However, municipal governments relate to many, many more ministries.

AMO's advice to the new government has been to take a comprehensive approach rather than a Ministry funding line review and to consider the cumulative financial impact of how any decisions affect the cost and delivery of frontline services. A comprehensive approach is the only way to understand how provincial decisions affect municipal governments.

It is unclear if this advice is being taken or not. We also advised the Ministry of Finance to offer a status update on the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF). That advice was taken. Today, the Ministry of Finance sent a letter to heads of council and treasurers advising that the OMPF will be reduced by an unspecified amount and allocation notices for 2019 will be delayed.

In 2018, the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) provided \$510 million in unconditional operating support from the Province to municipal governments. It uses an equalization approach to address challenges in rural and northern communities. The OMPF is a critical source of funding for 389 of 444 municipalities across Ontario. Some are very small municipalities without growth in their property assessment base.

Reducing the overall envelope and delayed allocation notices have immediate and long-term consequences for communities across the province.

Immediate Impact: In recent years, the provincial government has announced OMPF allocations in the year prior. This practice facilitated local budget development and council approval for the year ahead. Councils cannot make accurate 2019 spending decisions without this information. As a result, council budget planning will be delayed. If allocations to municipalities are reduced, councils will need to compensate with property tax increases or local service reductions in 2019.

Long-Term Impact: OMPF reductions will have a big impact on local property tax rates. For almost half of Ontario's municipal governments, a 1% property tax increase raises less than \$50,000. The Fund has changed over time, in large part to reflect the upload of social assistance.

The OMPF seeks to address regional economic imbalances by helping municipalities provide local services throughout the province. As noted in the Ontario Government's recent Fall Economic Statement, "employment has grown but has not been experienced across all regions". Northern Ontario has experienced employment declines while the Southwest has remained generally flat. Employment levels reflect a community's fiscal capacity.

OMPf declines will exacerbate economic imbalances between regions. Any reductions will be especially difficult for rural and northern areas. These areas typically have low assessment growth and can least afford significant property tax increases.

Other sources of municipal funding include provincial court security and prisoner transportation. Over \$60 million in 2018 provincial transfer payments for this service are being reviewed. Also, Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and Ontario Gas Tax for Transit funds are to increase in 2019 and these increases were an election promise. There are also the shared service arrangements for ambulance, public health, and social services. These are just a few of the program grants that are important to municipal property taxpayers and the services that affect their daily lives.

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