



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.
2021-M-149

Memorandum to Council

Subject:	AMO Delegations
Agenda Date:	September 9, 2021
Attachments:	Delegation – MTO; Delegation - Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the report on delegations during the 2021 Virtual AMO Conference.

INFORMATION

The Annual Conference for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) was held from August 15-18, 2021. Again in 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this conference was held virtually.

This conference is one of the few opportunities where municipalities can request delegation with Provincial Ministers to highlight concerns. This year we met with the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Infrastructure. The delegation notes are attached to and form part of this report.

With the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) we offered to work cooperatively as they study the possible return of passenger rail service to North Eastern Ontario as well as the Highway 11 2-1 proposal. We noted that since the delegation request was made, not only did we receive payment for the 2018 outstanding payment in lieu but also received paperwork from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) that did alter their assessment code. This is a change from the reply received from MPAC from MTO's earlier appeal. Effectively, this eliminated the previously charged education portion of the outstanding payment in lieu resulting in an approximately 50% reduction in the amount owed. This amount will be recovered by the School Boards during the third quarter installment.

We outlined our concerns related to the drain repair, especially given our recent experience with the Spruce Drive Ontario Northland Crossing and also noted our interest in having discussions on the future use of the MTO yard just south of Temagami, based on their future plans. We received commitments to have further meetings to discuss these items which would provide for better cooperation between the MTO and the Municipality of Temagami.

With both the MTO and the Ministry of Infrastructure, (MOI) we noted the Lake Temagami Access Road as one of our obstacles. Similar to roads across the Province that were built for access to resources and then 'repurposed' for everyday use, the issues start from the base and work their way up. This is also coupled with the fact that it is the only access for Temagami First Nation and we pointed out that we do not receive any revenue from this use and, in fact, from what we have heard about other locations, if this road was in an unorganized territory there would be provincial funds available for the road.

During our MOI delegation we also pointed out the systemic issues with the two water treatment plants and wastewater systems that Temagami has and how funding programs do not necessarily line up with our needs as we cannot partner even our two water systems under one grant let alone partner with a neighbouring municipality.

Respectfully Submitted:
Craig Davidson
Treasurer/Administrator