

## Monica Hawkins

---

**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 18, 2019 7:03 AM  
**To:** Monica Hawkins  
**Subject:** Value of AMO Membership 2020

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#) | [Send to a friend](#)  
Add Communicate@amo.on.ca to your safe list



December 18, 2019

AMO is your organization. It's a highly influential policy development and advocacy organization, but it's also much more. Through our Local Authority Services ([LAS](#)) – AMO Business Services organization, there are many programs and services designed to support municipalities. We also advance municipal employer interests in OMERS as your sponsor representative through the Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario (MEPCO). In 2019, AMO delivered approximately \$1.3 billion of federal gas tax funding to Ontario municipalities, including an extra \$12 million in accumulated administrative savings.

Please take a moment to look at this [video](#) that captures our many roles. In the meantime, let me highlight a few of the benefits as I ask you to renew your AMO membership for 2020.

Our work with the Government of Ontario since the 2018 provincial election has been productive. The Premier and 26 Cabinet Ministers attended the 2019 AMO Conference - where they are directly accountable to AMO's members. We helped reshape some of the announcements that came out of the 2019 Budget and secured a meaningful consultation process on potential changes in public health and municipal emergency medical services – led by Hasting County CAO Jim Pine. Responding to years of AMO advocacy, the government announced that blue box costs will be transferred to industry with long-term savings for municipalities of an estimated \$130 million a year. And we are currently working on files related to planning, development charges, housing, broadband and much more.

Your membership in AMO gives the sector a seat at the provincial table. It gives us the ability to coordinate municipal governments and tap the expertise and front-line knowledge of members on any number of topics. As the provincial government reaches mid-term, 2020 will be a critically important, with an opportunity for AMO to influence the shape of things to come, including the 2020 Provincial Budget. We are a constant and influential voice at Queen's Park when it is needed most. Please renew your AMO membership for 2020.

OMERS is also a significant policy area if you are an OMERS employer. Take a look at your employer pension contributions – which average 10.7%. It is a significant budget line for your municipality. Even with some solid investment returns, the \$97 billion OMERS plan remains in deficit from the last recession. In addition, the future is going to be more challenging for plan sustainability. OMERS estimates that by the year 2030, the ratio of contributing members to retirees will be 1:1. [MEPCO](#) is the municipal employers' pension voice. Its work is critical to protecting municipal employer interests. Without MEPCO, work on pension issues would be weakened and municipal influence would decline. MEPCO ensures that OMERS governors and administrators are fully informed of the priorities of municipal employers.

I promise that we will continue our hard work on your behalf in 2020. To do that, we need your membership in AMO and MEPCO. The related membership invoices have been mailed to your treasury department for payment. Municipal governments are the frontline of governments. Let us work together in 2020 to ensure the collective voice of municipal government in Ontario is heard loud and clear.

Best wishes to you, your friends and family, and your community for a happy, safe and festive holiday season.

AMO President, Jamie McGarvey



\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



Please consider the environment  
before printing this.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

