

## Monica Hawkins

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**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
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**To:** Monica Hawkins  
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March 26, 2020

### In This Issue

- COVID-19 related proceeding suspensions.
- COVID-19 resources.
- AMO Podcast: Discussing meetings with electronic attendance.
- AMO Podcast: Communication guide for councils.
- AMO Virtual Panel: Guidance for electronic meetings.
- New AMO COVID-19 resource available.
- Main Street Revitalization Initiative project extensions and final report.
- Register for Blue Box Program update webinar - April 8.
- BEACON Digital Therapy - Innovative mental health care support.
- OSUM Annual Conference update.
- 2020 AMO Conference.
- Cancellation deadline extended for exhibitors to July 6 in response to Covid-19.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Capital Purchasing.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Procurement.
- ONE Investment - HISA rate update.

### COVID-19 Update

Under EMCPA, the Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) has frozen all proceedings; the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) will not have hearings until June 30th and all proceedings have been suspended. AMO's COVID-19 resource page will be adding other proceeding suspensions as they become known.

### AMO COVID-19 Resources

AMO's COVID-19 Resources page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

Building on AMO's Meeting Guidance for Heads of Councils; AMO's Executive Director, Brian Rosborough sits down with municipal experts to dig deeper into how to

prepare for and manage electronic meetings.

AMO's Executive Director Brian Rosborough speaks with Brian Lambie, President of Redbrick Communications. AMO worked with Brian Lambie to create a Communication Guide for Councils to assist in their response to COVID-19.

Join AMO's municipal expert virtual Question Box Panel on Friday, March, 27 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern time) to discuss experiences and everything you need to consider in planning for and hosting virtual council meetings.

Redbrick Communications and AMO are compiling COVID-19 infographics for municipalities. Visit AMO's COVID-19 Resources webpage to download.

### **AMO Matters**

In response to COVID-19 challenges, AMO may be able to provide project extensions to MSRI-funded projects, if requested. If your projects are complete, please submit the final report by May 15, 2020. Contact Adam Garcia with questions.

Register today for an AMO Webinar Update on the Blue Box Program, Wednesday, April 8 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm. For more information, contact Amber Crawford.

AMO is exploring partnerships to provide innovative ways of helping members support the mental health of their employees. Join us on March 26 at noon for a webinar where we will demonstrate how you can help your employees, and their dependents, easily access effective mental health care through BEACON.

### **Eye on Events**

The OSUM Executive is pleased to announce that the this year's OSUM Conference has been moved to 2021 and will be held in Brant County. OSUM 2020 - *Springtime in Paris* - was cancelled due to COVID-19. Refunds for this year's event are being processed. Contact events@amo.on.ca.

AMO is monitoring all developments with COVID-19 and will be advising members of new developments if and when they emerge. Please contact Poonam Ruparelia with questions. Visit the AMO website for updates, details and registration information.

Recognizing how quickly things are changing in the environment of COVID-19, and in appreciation of our valued exhibitors, AMO is extending the cancellation deadline for exhibitors. We are committed to taking every step necessary to ensure the health and safety of those attending our conference. Exhibitor information can be found here.

### **LAS**

Webinar April 8 @ 10am - Capital Purchasing using Sourcewell is part of the Municipal Group Buying Program. This offering lets municipalities access everything from heavy equipment to fire trucks to auction services. Join us to learn how this offering works on some of your biggest purchases. Register today.

Webinar April 22 @ 10am - Cooperative purchasing greatly benefits municipalities, but staff need to be confident they are getting the best value for tax dollars. Join us for an in-depth conversation on the procurement processes that make up our Municipal

[Group Buying Program](#). [Register here](#).

### **ONE Investment**

HISA Rate Update: Due to the Bank of Canada's second interest rate cut in the month of March in response to the coronavirus, the Bank has reduced Prime Rate to 2.95%. New effective rate for HISA is 1.415% (based on Bank Prime Rate less 1.535%) as of March 17, 2020. For more information, [click here](#).

### **About AMO**

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

### **AMO Contacts**

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[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)

[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

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