

## Monica Hawkins

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2020 10:01 AM  
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**Subject:** AMO WatchFile - April 16, 2020

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April 16, 2020

### In This Issue

- COVID-19 resources.
- Join our weekly COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting.
- Communications and virtual attendance at council meetings webinars
- Invitation to member municipalities: Join AMO-Led OPP Detachment Board webinar.
- Main Street Revitalization Initiative final reporting extensions.
- Electronic meetings quorum guidance.
- Digital meeting management for small municipalities.
- AMO 2020 Conference.
- Cancellation deadline extended for exhibitors to July 6 in response to COVID-19.
- AMO's popular social media webinar series available through Municipal Education.
- Review your Employee Group Benefits Plan.
- Municipal Group Buying Program webinar: Procurement.
- Municipal Group Buying Program COVID-19 updates.
- COVID-19 and municipal cybersecurity.

### 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).

Our next COVID-19 Communicators Virtual Meeting takes place at 10.30am on April 21. An expert panel takes your questions and discusses perspectives from municipal governments, large and small. To join the mailing list and receive weekly invites, send an email to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

Over the last few weeks, AMO has been hosting webinars to support members in communications during COVID-19 and guidance for council meetings with electronic attendance. These are now [available here](#).

## **AMO Matters**

AMO is finalising a discussion paper on the establishment of new OPP Detachment Boards. Members are invited to [register to have a sneak peek](#) at the paper through a webinar presentation on April 24, starting at 11:00 am with Matthew Wilson, AMO Senior Advisor.

If Main Street Revitalization Initiative funded projects are complete, please submit the [final report](#) by May 15, 2020. Due to COVID-19 challenges, AMO may be able to provide extensions for final reporting if requested. Contact [Adam Garcia](#) with questions.

## **Provincial Matters**

Just in case you missed it on March 19, the [amendment to the \*Municipal Act\*](#) which allows council members participating electronically to count toward quorum comes with some [guidance](#).

## **Eye on Events**

eSCRIBE, AMO's partner of cloud-based meeting management solutions for public sector boards and councils, has unveiled eSCRIBE Lite. [Register for a webinar](#) on April 29 at noon and learn how this solution can help municipalities with under 20,000 people cross the digital divide.

In person or online, AMO 2020 will connect municipal leaders to the information they need most. Planning is well underway for August 16-19 in Ottawa, but we are also planning for a contingency approach that would transform AMO 2020 into a virtual conference if need be. 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 exhibitor cancellation deadline. Exhibitor information can be [found here](#).

Over the past few weeks, AMO and Redbrick Communications have been supporting members on communications through COVID19. Additional resources are now available for a nominal fee through AMO's Municipal Education Portal. [Register now](#).

## **LAS**

When is the best time to review your employee group benefits plan? Read our [latest blog](#) to learn more.

Webinar April 22 @ 10am - group buying saves time and money, though there are a number of rules that need to be followed. Grab a coffee and join us to learn all about the procurement for our popular [Municipal Group Buying Program](#). [Register here](#).

The [Municipal Group Buying Program](#) is still available to meet your needs and keep your municipalities running smoothly during this pandemic. Check out our [new COVID-19 Update Page](#) for messages from LAS and some of our key suppliers.

## **Municipal Wire\***

Cyber criminals are taking advantage of both human and system weaknesses during

the COVID-19 crisis. Municipal councils and staff need to be vigilant when protecting their IT systems by enhancing cybersecurity measures. Here are a few tips to help.

### **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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Conferences/Events

Policy and Funding Programs

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ONE Investment

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Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions

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