

City of Mississauga

Corporate Report



Date: April 30, 2025 To: Chair and Members of General Committee	Originator's files:
From: Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer	Meeting date: May 21, 2025

Subject

Priorities for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference 2025

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report entitled "Priorities for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference 2025" dated April 30, 2025, from the City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer be approved.

Executive Summary

- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference is scheduled to take place from August 17 – 21, 2025 in Ottawa, Ontario
- This annual conference brings together municipal leaders, provincial officials, and industry experts from across Ontario to discuss key challenges, share best practices, and strengthen intergovernmental relationships.
- Municipal officials and staff have the opportunity to request delegation meetings with key provincial decision-makers, including Cabinet Ministers, senior government staff, and opposition party leaders, to advocate for local priorities.
- The AMO Conference remains a cornerstone of Mississauga's advocacy efforts, providing a strategic platform to advance the City's key policy objectives and secure provincial support for critical initiatives. Mississauga has been actively organizing advocacy meetings at AMO for over a decade.
- For the 2025 AMO Conference, staff recommend requesting nine (9) delegation meetings with government ministries and three (3) meetings with opposition party leaders to discuss priority issues.
- City staff will collaborate with the Region of Peel to pursue joint delegations on shared priorities where appropriate, ensuring a coordinated approach to regional advocacy.

Background

Each year, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) hosts Ontario's largest municipal conference, bringing together municipal leaders and provincial officials to address sector-wide challenges and shape the future of local governance.

Since 2015, the City of Mississauga has sent a delegation of the Mayor, Councillors, and senior staff to advocate for the City's key priorities. Through these efforts, Mississauga has successfully influenced provincial policy, secured critical infrastructure and transit funding, and achieved key reforms, such as improvements to the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) formula.

The AMO conference remains a cornerstone of Mississauga's annual advocacy strategy, providing a vital opportunity to engage directly with provincial ministries in a focused setting. These discussions help advance the City's most pressing priorities, ensuring Mississauga continues to grow and thrive.

The City of Mississauga's annual advocacy priorities are outlined in its Provincial Pre-Budget Submission (*Appendix A*), which was approved by Council and submitted to the Province in February 2024. This document highlights two key priorities, housing-enabling infrastructure and affordability for all Mississauga residents supported by 12 recommendations, forming the foundation of the City's advocacy efforts at the 2025 AMO Conference.

Delegation meetings at AMO will serve as a critical platform not only to advance Mississauga's priorities but also to seek clarity on provincial legislation, both enacted and forthcoming including details on funding allocations, implementation timelines, and potential impacts on municipal operations. These discussions will help ensure the City remains informed, proactive, and well-positioned to navigate policy changes that affect residents and local services.

Comments

New Financial Deal for Mississauga

Each year, Mississauga's delegation prioritizes one issue for all meetings with Cabinet Ministers and leaders of opposition parties. This year, the recommendation is to pursue a new financial deal for Mississauga. Similar to the agreements struck between the cities of Ottawa and Toronto and the provincial government, Mississauga is asking for similar recognition. As the second largest economy in the province, Mississauga deserves an agreement with the province that addresses the city's financial pressures.

Toronto's new deal was equivalent to \$1.9 billion over the next decade for investment into priorities such as transit and housing and Ottawa's includes up to \$197 million over three years in provincial operating supports and up to \$346 million over 10 years in provincial capital supports in financial offsets and investments from the province.

A new financial deal for Mississauga would include:

- Uploading Hurontario LRT Operating Costs for at least the first three years. The gross cost of these operating costs is projected to be over \$65 million per year when the LRT is operational.
- Addressing the funding imbalance for Regional roads that sees Mississauga subsidizing Brampton and Caledon \$30 million per year.
- Fixing the funding formula for Peel Region Police to reflect population, not MPAC assessment. The current 68/32 split is unfair to Mississauga and results in the city overpaying \$93 million per year.

Together, these three priorities would result in \$185 million in annual savings to the city that could be invested into other critical priorities and programs. While the Mississauga delegation will raise other issues with the Ministers and staff, a focus on the significant financial pressures the City faces is important. As in previous years, it is recommended that this issue be raised in each delegation meeting as our primary request.

Ministry Delegation Requests

In total, city staff recommends requesting nine meetings with priority Ministers and ministry officials on a short list of priorities. While meetings will be requested, due to the volume of municipalities requesting meetings, it is not always possible to secure all meetings requested.

1. Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Collaborate with Mississauga to address the housing crisis. The Mayor's Housing Task Force brought together over 30 leading private and non-profit experts, has developed clear, actionable solutions to tackle housing supply and affordability. With provincial and federal support to implement these recommendations, we can break down barriers, fast-track approvals, and deliver the affordable, sustainable homes Mississauga needs.
- Implementation of recommendations from the MHTF as they pertain to the Provincial Government.

2. Ministry of Finance

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Reform of the Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) to reflect a fair formula of GTAA lands
- Provincial investment to cover Mississauga's \$450 million local share for new hospital infrastructure

3. President of the Treasury Board

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Reform of the Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) to reflect a fair formula of GTAA lands
- Provincial investment to cover Mississauga's \$450 million local share for new hospital infrastructure

4. Ministry of Transportation

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Alignment confirmation and funding for the Hazel McCallion Line Extension (Downtown Loop)
- Funding to support the development of the Dundas Bus Rapid Transit (Mississauga West) business case
- Confirmation of all-day, two-way GO service on the Milton Line, including timelines for implementation.

5. Ministry of Infrastructure

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- \$500 million to build a new transit facility to enable service expansion and support new housing

6. Ministry of Health

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Broader health care investments are needed to meet the growing demands of Mississauga's rapidly expanding population. The City is seeking long-term provincial support to enhance local health infrastructure, community-based services, and access to care across all stages of life.
- Provincial investment to cover Mississauga's \$450 million local share for new hospital infrastructure

7. Ministry of the Solicitor General

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Collaboration on Peel Regional Police budget oversight and long-term sustainable funding formula.

8. Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks / Ministry of Infrastructure

- Expedited approval of Mississauga's applications to the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund and Core Services Stream

9. Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Increased provincial funding for local food banks

- Support for Metamorphosis campaign for fair share for Peel Region and Mississauga
- Help City advocate to our federal partners for increased support for the Groceries and Essentials Benefit to help residents struggling with affordability

10. Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade / Emergency Management

- New financial deal for Mississauga
- Support for municipal efforts to mitigate Canada-U.S. trade tensions and protect local businesses and jobs

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with the items listed in this report.

Conclusion

The 2025 AMO Conference presents a critical opportunity for the City of Mississauga to advance its key priorities through direct engagement with provincial ministers, senior staff, and opposition party leaders. As one of Ontario's largest municipalities, Mississauga plays a pivotal role in shaping policies that impact local governance, infrastructure, economic development, and public services.

This conference serves as more than just a forum for advocacy, it is a platform for meaningful collaboration. It allows the City to reinforce its commitment to working alongside the provincial government to develop innovative solutions, address shared challenges, and support the successful implementation of the province's mandate, policies, and economic priorities. By fostering strong relationships and demonstrating a proactive approach, Mississauga continues to position itself as a leader in municipal governance and a key partner in Ontario's future prosperity.

Attachments

Appendix 1: 2025 Provincial Pre-Budget Submission



Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer

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