

# UPDATE



From the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Spring 2011

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### **Message from Minister Rick Bartolucci**

Our government believes that by working in partnership with municipalities and stakeholders we can capitalize on our collective strengths. This spirit of collaboration and goodwill has guided our dealings since our government took office. [Read more](#)



### **Are We There Yet?**

"Are We There Yet? Assessing the State of Ontario Municipalities after the Recession" was the theme for this year's combined conference of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and the Ontario Good Roads Association. This year's was the largest since the two associations combined their respective conferences in 2000. [Read more](#)



### **Gaining Municipal Experience**

Through Ontario's Municipal Internship Program, and the Municipal Finance Internship Pilot, recent post-secondary graduates are gaining valuable hands-on experience in local government. Both aim to attract young graduates to careers in the municipal sector and build a core of trained professionals. [Read more](#)



### **Two New Handbooks**

The Ontario government recently published two new handbooks. The Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses features checklists that businesses can use in their early consultation meetings with planning approvals authorities. The Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development will help municipalities explore approaches to economic development that are based on the built environment. [Read more](#)

Update is published by the **Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

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## Message From Minister Rick Bartolucci

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Welcome to UPDATE, the e-newsletter of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Our government believes that by working in partnership with municipalities and stakeholders we can capitalize on our collective strengths. This spirit of collaboration and goodwill has guided our dealings since our government took office.

Illustrating this partnership in action is the Ministry's work with the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) to attract young graduates to careers in the municipal sector. This issue of our e-newsletter provides details on the Municipal Internship Program and the

Municipal Finance Internship Pilot, which are helping Ontario municipalities build a core of trained professionals. Through these programs recent post-secondary graduates are gaining valuable hands-on experience in local government and we are proud to be working in partnership with AMCTO on these important initiatives.

It was a pleasure to see so many municipal leaders again at this year's combined conference of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and the Ontario Good Roads Association. Sessions like this present great opportunities to renew connections and build on the provincial/municipal relationship that together we have fostered. UPDATE this month carries an article on this year's conference, which was the largest annual gathering since the two associations combined their respective conferences in 2000.

Two recently released publications illustrate our ongoing work with municipalities. In this issue of UPDATE are details about The Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses, which features checklists that businesses can use in their early consultation meetings with planning approvals authorities. Another publication, the Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development helps municipalities explore approaches to economic development.

Please provide us with your feedback. If this issue of UPDATE has been forwarded to you and you would like to continue receiving our e-newsletter, please take the time to subscribe.

Rick Bartolucci, MPP Sudbury  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

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Are We There Yet?

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“Are We There Yet? Assessing the State of Ontario Municipalities after the Recession” was the theme for this year’s combined conference of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA).

The conference, which brought together municipal elected officials and staff from across the province, was held February 27 to March 2 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in downtown Toronto. This year’s was the largest since the two associations combined their respective conferences in 2000. There were almost 1,600 delegates and more than 2,200 attendees in total at this year’s event.

ROMA is the rural municipal voice of the province and is an integral part of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. OGRA represents the infrastructure interests of municipalities through advocacy, education, consultation, training and other services.

Premier Dalton McGuinty spoke about strengthening Ontario’s economy on the first morning of the conference and presented the results of his government’s focus on health, education, infrastructure, electricity and tax reform.

Minister Rick Bartolucci was one of the ministers addressing delegates during plenary sessions of the conference. He told delegates that this year Ontario municipalities will see a total upload of \$947 million of social service benefits and administrative costs as a result of the [Provincial Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review](#). When all the Review uploads are complete, by 2018, municipalities will see a \$1.5 billion per year net benefit.

The minister said the uploads enable municipalities “to plan for the long-term and repair and build essential infrastructure, such as libraries and recreational centres.”

Minister Bartolucci and 18 other ministers participated in this year’s Minister’s Forum. Cabinet ministers and parliamentary assistants met with more than 340 municipal delegations during the ROMA/OGRA Conference.

Related Links

- [Rural Ontario Municipal Association](#)
- [Ontario Good Roads Association](#)



Minister Rick Bartolucci told delegates municipalities this year will see a total upload of \$947 million as a result of the Provincial Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review. Nineteen cabinet ministers participated in this year’s ROMA/OGRA Minister’s Forum.



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Gaining Municipal Experience

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Through Ontario's Municipal Internship Program, and the Municipal Finance Internship Pilot, recent post-secondary graduates are gaining valuable hands-on experience in local government. Both aim to attract young graduates to careers in the municipal sector and build a core of trained professionals.

Municipal Internship Program

Now in its fourth year, the internship program was developed by the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario [AMCTO], in partnership with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The program helps address the critical need to attract and train the next generation of competent well-rounded municipal leaders.

An internship is one year long, and to date, 19 interns have graduated. Most are now working in senior positions in the municipal sector.

Municipal internships are taking place throughout the year in: Frontenac, Matachewan, Niagara Region, North Bruce, Peterborough, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Woodstock/Blandford-Blenheim.

Here is what some of this year's interns are saying about their experiences:

Intern Andrea D'Souza is working in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and called her internship an "opportunity to be involved in a diverse array of projects." She goes on to say that the experience will help her develop and build her skills.

Sheldon Reiche, an intern working in the City of Woodstock/Township of Blandford-Blenheim said that his experience is "a great opportunity to gain high-level relevant work experience in a municipal environment." The internship allows him to apply the theories and knowledge he learned in school -- in a local government setting.

City of Peterborough Intern Shrishma Davé says she is grateful to be a part of the Municipal Internship Program because it gives her an opportunity to work in every aspect of municipal administration.

Municipal Finance Internship Pilot

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, in partnership with the Municipal



From left to right (back row): Intern Andrea D'Souza of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, City of Peterborough Intern Jonathan King, Mark Readman, AMCTO Director of Education and Professional Development, Niagara Region's Intern Erin Britnell, Intern Tara Warder of Northern Bruce Peninsula, and County of Frontenac Intern Isabel Leung. From left to right (front row): Township of Matachewa Intern Michael de Rond, Intern Sheldon Reiche of Woodstock/Township of Blandford-Blenheim, and City of Peterborough Intern Shrishma Dave.



Cathy Dziedzic, Financial Analyst Intern, City of Windsor.

Finance Officers' Association of Ontario [MFOA] and the City of Windsor, recently launched the Municipal Finance Internship Pilot. This new initiative complements the existing Municipal Internship Program, and aims to cultivate the next generation of municipal-finance professionals.

This year's participant is Cathy Dziedzic. Cathy is gaining hands-on experience in municipal finance, and her work will culminate in a case study of the Windsor community improvement program. It will be used by MFOA for education and training of their membership.

"This internship has been a wonderful experience for me," said Cathy. "I have learned so much about the municipal environment, which makes the sector even more interesting."

Cathy went on to say that she and the City of Windsor have benefited from this experience so far, and she feels lucky to be part of the internship pilot.

**Related Links:**

- [Municipal Internship Program and Municipal Finance Internship Pilot](#)
- [Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario](#)
- [Municipal Internship Program Flyer](#)

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## Two New Handbooks Published by the Ministry

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### Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing recently published [A Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses](#).

The guide features checklists that businesses can use in their early consultation meetings with planning approvals authorities.

Those reading the guide can find the answers to whether they need professional staff or consultants to assist them with their approvals, or if they can work through the process unassisted.

For a copy of the guide and to learn more about other educational publications, please visit [Ontario.ca/MunicipalLearning](http://Ontario.ca/MunicipalLearning).

### Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development

The Ministry has also recently posted a handbook called [Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development](#).

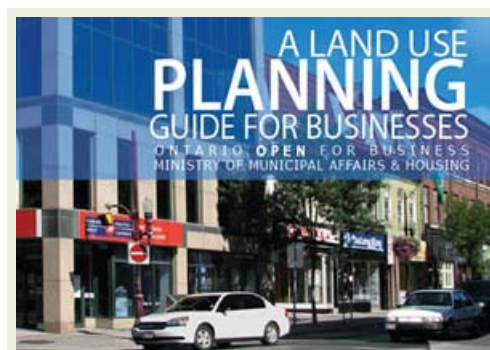
This handbook will help municipalities explore approaches to economic development that are based on the built environment.

It explains the planning and financial tools available to municipalities to plan, design and manage their communities in ways that are socially, environmentally and economically beneficial to current and future generations.

Case studies highlight communities that are using economic development to make the communities "destinations" or "places of choice".

### Related Links:

- [A Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses](#).
- [Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development](#)



Land Use Planning Guide for Businesses.



Municipal Planning and Financial Tools for Economic Development Handbook .

- [Ontario.ca/MunicipalLearning](http://Ontario.ca/MunicipalLearning)