

HORTON TOWNSHIP
INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY

April 03, 2012

- A. HOSPICE RENFREW – Hike for Hospice
- B. RESPONSE TO PROVINCIAL BUDGET
 - AMO – Budgets Must be Sustainable, 2012 Provincial Budget
 - OWMA – Ontario Budget Highlights
 - AMCTO – Budget and Your Pension
- C. OTTAWA VALLEY BUSINESS – March 6th & March 21st Editions
- D. CLEAR ENERGY – Provincial Changes, AMO information on Changes
- E. OTTAWA VALLEY TOURISM CONFERENCE - April 18th Best Western Renfrew
- F. MAYOR EADY – Support Atomic Energy of Canada at Chalk River
- G. CHERYL GALLANT - Diamond Jubilee Celebration Funding

HOSPICE

R E N F R E W

ICO – Item - A

459 ALBERT STREET, RENFREW, ONTARIO K7V 1V8 · 613-433-3993 · TOLL FREE 1-866-751-1685 · FAX 613-432-3618 · info@hospicerenfrew.ca

Township of Horton
RECEIVED

February 24th 2012

MAR 5 2012

Hospice Renfrew Inc.
Board of Directors

Connie Legg
Board Chair

Edie Wesbrook
John Cooke
Norah Hewson
Jo-Anne Dowdall-Brown
Karen McEwen
Jon Pole
Karl Murphy
Dr. Arthur Dick
Bill McMahon
Rob Dougherty

Dr. Stephanie Langlois
Medical Advisor

Diane Caughey
RN, BScN, GNC(c)
Executive Director

I am writing to let you know about an upcoming event for Hospice Renfrew....the 6th annual **Hike for Hospice**. Hike for Hospice is a national event held every year on the first Sunday in May. This is the major fundraiser for our local Hospice and our goal this year is to raise \$50,000. All money raised stays in our community to directly offset operational costs of the hospice and allow us to continue to provide comprehensive end-of-life care to people across Renfrew County, completely free of charge.

This year the theme is "IT TAKES A TEAM " and we are inviting businesses, service clubs, schools, churches and families to raise money and hike as a team. We are hoping to have sponsorship from the business community to promote this event.

Along with this letter is a poster as well as sponsorship information for you to consider.

Last year we had close to 300 people take part in the Hike and we expect even more participants this year. It's a great day for friends, families and community groups to get some fresh air and exercise while raising money for a very important cause.

Should you need more information or to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact Hospice Renfrew 613-433-3993 or www.hospicerenfrew.ca

I thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your support!

Sincerely,

Connie Legg, Board Chair

Hospice Renfrew

HOSPICE

R E N F R E W



459 ALBERT STREET
RENFREW ON
K7V 1V8
Phone 613-433-3993
Fax 613-432-3618

*Hospice Renfrew Inc.
Board of Directors*

*Connie Legg
Board Chair*

*Edie Wesbrook
John Cooke
Norah Hewson
Jo-Anne Dowdall-Brown
Karen McEwen
Jon Pole
Karl Murphy
Dr. Arthur Dick
Bill McMahon
Rob Dougherty*

*Dr. Stephanie Langlois
Medical Advisor*

*Diane Caughey
RN, BScN, GNC(c)
Executive Director*

Hospice Renfrew is planning the 6th annual Hike for Hospice on Sunday May 6th. Hike for Hospice is a national fundraising event designed to raise funds and public awareness for Hospice Palliative Care. 100% of the funds raised will remain in the community to support the services provided at Hospice Renfrew.

We are inviting you to step forward as a supporter of Hospice Renfrew and become a sponsor for this very special fundraising event. Sponsorship levels are as follows:

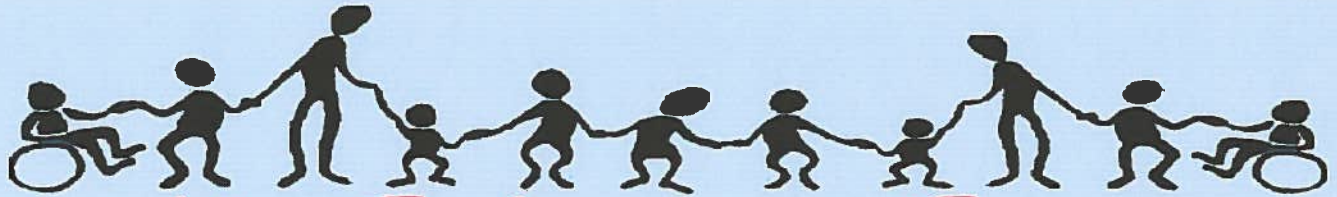
- * **Platinum sponsorship**- advertising on all printed materials, large banner at event, each pledge form and a sign promoting your sponsorship along the hike trail. You will have an opportunity to set up a display on the day of the event. **Investment \$2,000.00**
- * **Gold Sponsorship**- advertising on printed materials, large banner at event, and on each pledge form. **Investment \$1,000.00**
- * **Silver Sponsorship**- advertising on large banner at event and each pledge form at event. **Investment \$500**
- * **Bronze Sponsorship**- advertising on large banner at event. **Investment \$250**
- * **All sponsors will be recognized on our website at www.hikeforhospicerenfrew.ca**

Please confirm sponsorship no later than March 15th 2012.

Registered Tax receipts will be issued to all sponsors.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Helen McGregor at Hospice Renfrew 613-433-3993 ext 2229 or Connie Legg 613-623-8233.

Hike for Hospice / Hospice Renfrew



It Takes a Team

Join our team for the



Help raise funds to support Hospice Renfrew

Sunday May 6th 1:00 pm
Renfrew Presbyterian Church
460 Raglan St. S Renfrew

Form a team to celebrate your family, workplace, school,
church or club!

Dress in a Team costume....Be Creative!!!

Prizes for

- Team with highest dollar donation
- Highest individual donor
- Every participant entered into a draw for a prize

Pledge forms available at RBC or Hospice Renfrew

Online donations/forms www.hikeforhospicerenfrew.ca

From: communicate@amo.on.ca
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 4:49 PM
To: mjmhorton@xplornet.com
Subject: AMO Media Advisory: Ontario's Provincial and Municipal Budgets Must Be Sustainable

TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE CLERK AND COUNCIL

Ontario's Provincial and Municipal Budgets Must be Sustainable

Toronto, Ontario, March 27, 2012 – The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) appreciates the 2012 Ontario Budget's emphasis on addressing Provincial challenges in a way that respects municipal challenges, and the need to ensure that government services are affordable and sustainable over time.

"We knew this would be a tough budget," said AMO President Gary McNamara. "However, government spending must be sustainable over the long term to ensure that Ontario communities continue to benefit from effective policing and fire protection, health care services, education, social services and essential infrastructure."

Importantly, the Ontario government remains committed to the uploading agreement it made in 2008. Through it, provincial social service and court security costs are being lifted from the municipal property tax base, so that this revenue can serve its intent, which is funding municipal programs and services.

Proposed changes to public pension plans would help to ensure that they are affordable, viable and realistic over the long term. Currently, all indications suggest that Ontario's public pension plans are in trouble. Our communities are counting on us to make sure that pension funds do not undermine our ability to deliver core government programs and services, and to invest in infrastructure.

The government has proposed to create legislation that would make interest arbitration "more transparent, accountable and efficient." This would appear to reflect concerns that have been raised by municipalities and echoed by the Drummond Commission.

The Province has indicated that the 10 Year Infrastructure Plan's allocation of \$35 billion over three years for all public sector infrastructure will remain. We expect that this will help municipal governments, particularly with the most urgent needs. However, as the Premier indicated a month ago, the 2012 Budget does not capture the new funding for roads and bridges that he committed to at the 2011 AMO Conference.

About one third of the Drummond Commission's recommendations addressed programs or services that touch municipal government in some way. There is a strong desire among Ontario municipalities to work with the Ontario Government to identify prudent ways to reduce costs, improve service delivery and streamline roles and responsibilities. As we move forward, AMO will provide municipalities with ongoing analysis of the initiatives outlined in today's budget.

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 and Canada's political system.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Pat Vanini, AMO Executive Director, 416-971-9856, ext. 316 or (416) 729-4394

Brian Lambie, AMO Media Contact, 416-729-5425

PLEASE NOTE AMO Media Advisorys will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

DISCLAIMER These are final versions of AMO documents. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with the electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

Mackie McLaren

From: communicate@amo.on.ca
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 6:20 PM
To: mjmhorton@xplornet.com
Subject: Breaking news: The 2012 Provincial Budget

TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF THE CLERK AND COUNCIL

The 2012 Provincial Budget

The 2012 Ontario Budget entitled, "Strong Action for Ontario" was delivered in the Legislature by the Honourable Dwight Duncan.

Of significance to municipalities and property taxpayers the Ontario government remains committed to the uploading agreement it made in 2008. Through it, provincial social service and court security costs are being lifted from the municipal property tax base. This has ensured that property tax dollars serve their purpose to fund municipal programs and services.

The budget contains some important changes for municipalities. Among them, proposed changes to public pension plans would help to ensure that they are affordable, viable and realistic over the long term. The government has proposed to create legislation that would make interest arbitration "more transparent, accountable and efficient." This would appear to reflect concerns that have been raised by municipalities and echoed by the Drummond Commission.

The Province has indicated that the 10 Year Infrastructure Plan's allocation of \$35 billion over three years for all public sector infrastructure will remain. It is expected that this will help municipal governments, particularly those with the most urgent needs. However, as the Premier indicated a month ago, the 2012 Budget does not capture the new funding for roads and bridges that he committed to at the 2011 AMO Conference.

Many of the Drummond Commission's recommendations related to programs or services that touch upon municipal governments are contained in the budget.

Specific budget details are below:

Pensions

The government will reform the governance of public-sector defined benefit pension plans. Among other things, this includes the following:

- where deficits exist, plans would be required to reduce future benefits before further increasing employer contributions;
- where employee contributions are currently less than employer contributions, increased employee contributions would also be available to address pension deficits;
- benefit reductions would involve future benefits only. Current retirees would not be affected; and
- where plan sponsors cannot agree on benefit reductions through negotiation, a new third-party dispute resolution process would be invoked.

Plans to reform pensions will also include the pooling of various plans to improve economies of scale and greater investment opportunities.

Interest Arbitration

The government is proposing legislation that will require arbitration decisions require written submissions by both parties, require written rationale by arbitrator when requested by a party, and where a decision is not delivered within one year, the Ontario Labour Relations Board would issue an award to both parties. In addition, the government will discuss, “with those employers with significant numbers of employees and a material impact on the Province’s fiscal plan, and who have automatic access to arbitration, about additional tools they may need to live within their funding envelopes while protecting services.”

Collective Bargaining

The government will be moving towards greater centralization of bargaining in the Broader Public Sector. It is unclear what impact this will have for municipalities at this time.

Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund

The budget indicates that the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) will be phased down to \$500 million by 2016. For 2013 and future years, this will represent a cut to the province’s main transfer and equalization program for municipalities of approximately \$25 million in each of the next four years. The government has also proposed reviewing the funding program, “within the program’s identified envelope.”

Infrastructure

The budget does not contain a dedicated municipal infrastructure fund for roads and bridges in this fiscal year as the Premier suggested at the ROMA/OGRA. Government infrastructure spending will total \$35 billion from 2011-12 to 2014-15.

Provincial Offences Act

The government will be proposing measures to enhance the administration of justice and the collection of unpaid fines for municipalities. It is proposed this will include vehicle licence plate denial for those fines that remain unpaid and which relate to the operation of vehicles. This is consistent with a recent AMO’s submission to the government on this issue. The Province will also pursue discussions with the federal government on the collection of unpaid fines against federal tax refunds.

Service Delivery

The government will work with municipalities to achieve great efficiency in the delivery of public services. The Drummond Report spoke extensively to this issue. AMO’s pre-budget submission signaled the municipal sector’s willingness to pursue this shared objective. However, the budget also states the government will, “explore opportunities to provide more value for each dollar, including looking at what services could be delivered more efficiently and effectively by another entity, such as another level of government, a not-for-profit or a private-sector organization.” AMO has argued that any such changes must benefit both the provincial and municipal taxpayer.

Social Assistance

The government will be acting on a number of the upcoming recommendations put forth by the Social Assistance Review Commissioners, Francis Lankin and Munir Sheikh. In an effort to create a more streamlined and efficient system that will reduce barriers to employment, the government has indicated its intention to integrate Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program employment

services with Employment Ontario. It appears the government will also seek a more efficient administration and service delivery structure.

Additionally, the Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit and Home Repair Benefit, currently available and administrated through social assistance will be moved into the Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy.

The government will move to cap health and non-health related discretionary benefits at \$10 per case. Currently, health-related discretionary benefits are not capped while non-health related discretionary benefits are capped at \$8.75 per case. Because these benefits are cost shared with municipalities, this change will require a revised funding arrangement between the province and municipalities.

AMO supports the government's efforts to develop a system of supports that is integrated, streamlined and responsive to local issues and capacities. While details on the integration of employment services and social assistance funding into housing services are not immediately available or the funding change to discretionary benefits, AMO expects that the government will adhere to its commitment to ensure municipalities will not assume additional costs or risks as service and funding systems are transformed. Additionally, it will be essential that clients will continue to have access to services and the quality of services needed to move in to employment.

Health Care

In an effort to reduce hospital associated costs, the government will increase investments in home care and community services by approximately 4% annually over three years (\$526 million per year). A new Seniors Strategy will expand home care services and aim to improve care coordination. Investments in chronic care services will aim to reduce pressures on long term care as will increased funding for long term care by 2.8% in 2012-2013. The government also intends to provide long term home care operators greater flexibility within the current funding structure.

AMO has encouraged the government to move forward with a more robust and community based strategy. Expanding home care services is an important and welcomed move as is the potential for less administrative burdens in long term care. Demographic changes will require a more responsive system but also a system that has adequate levels of services and access to long term care beds.

Gaming Revenue for Municipalities

The government will be engaging in a discussion with municipalities that host gaming facilities on future revenue sharing and fee model.

Business Education Tax

The budget will temporarily freeze the Business Education Tax reduction plan starting in 2013. The government has indicated it will resume these rate reductions once the budget is balanced in 2017-18.

Economic Development Agencies

As previously announced, the Ontario, Northern Ontario and Eastern Ontario Development Corporations will be dissolved as part of its agency reduction strategy.

Ministry of Natural Resources

The Ministry will operate with fewer field offices and streamlining the permit, licences, and approvals process. This will include amendments to the *Endangered Species Act*. The government will also

streamline the joint review and public consultations on the Greenbelt Plan, the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

OPP Data Entry

“The government is hiring 100 civilian staff for data-entry functions” currently completed by the Ontario Provincial Police. This change will, “enable the equivalent of up to 250 OPP officers to better use their time for front-line policing.”

Ontario Northland

As previously announced by the government, the services of the Ontario Northland Transportation Commission will be delivered in different ways. For example, the Northlander passenger rail service will be terminated and the existing bus service will be serviced by existing bus operators.

Water Taking Charges and Hazardous Waste Fees

A two phase review of the rates charged industrial water users will take place this year. In addition, the hazardous waste fee will be reviewed for the first time since 2002. This fee is paid by large producers of hazardous waste.

AMO will continue provide member municipalities will additional information and budget analysis in the coming days.

AMO Contact: Matthew Wilson, Senior Policy Advisor, email: mwilson@amo.on.ca, (416) 971-9856 ext. 323

PLEASE NOTE AMO Breaking News will be broadcast to the member municipality's council, administrator and clerk. Recipients of the AMO broadcasts are free to redistribute the AMO broadcasts to other municipal staff as required. We have decided to not add other staff to these broadcast lists in order to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the management of our various broadcast lists.

DISCLAIMER These are final versions of AMO documents. AMO assumes no responsibility for any discrepancies that may have been transmitted with the electronic version. The printed versions of the documents stand as the official record.

