

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberland.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberland.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327



## Report 2025-087

**Report Title:** Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Delegation Requests

**Committee Name:** Corporate Support

**Committee Meeting Date:** May 6, 2025

**Prepared by:** Matthew Stergios  
Government & Community Relations Officer  
Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Initiatives

**Reviewed by:** Jennifer Moore  
CAO  
Corporate Services

**Approved by:** Jennifer Moore, CAO

**Council Meeting Date:** May 21, 2025

**Strategic Plan Priorities:** ☐ Innovate for Service Excellence  
☒ Ignite Economic Opportunity  
☒ Foster a Thriving Community  
☒ Propel Sustainable Growth  
☒ Champion a Vibrant Future

---

### Recommendation

**“That** the Corporate Support Committee, having considered Report 2025-087 'Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Delegation Requests', recommend that County Council direct staff to request the following Ministerial delegations at the 2025 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference (AMO):

- - 
  - 
  - 
  -
- .”

---

## **Purpose**

In August, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) hold their annual conference. This conference provides an opportunity for municipalities to meet with provincial ministers on topics of their choosing. The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a list of potential topics that staff will submit to the appropriate ministry for the opportunity to delegate. The topics contained in this report have been produced through discussions with staff as well as Council direction and represent ongoing projects and plans that would benefit from direct advocacy with the province.

## **Background**

Northumberland County staff typically submit 5 delegation requests to the province ahead of the AMO Conference, based on feedback received from members of the Management Operating Committee (MOC). It is rare that each delegation is awarded, for example, in 2024 the County delegated to 4 of 5 ministries requested.

Each year, the list of items that require some type of advocacy continues to grow, therefore the list this year has been expanded to include a more diverse and expansive cross section representing the needs of the organization. The list has also been populated with more items specifically addressed during meetings of County Council throughout the year.

## **Consultations**

To develop the list of delegation topics, meetings were held between staff to determine pressing issues in each department, followed by feedback obtained from County Council meetings over the past year.

## **Legislative Authority / Risk Considerations**

N/A

## **Discussion / Options**

### **1. Land Use Planning/Delegated Authority**

Introduce and request a regulation to exempt Minister approval of certain amendments of the County's Official Plan - as other Counties have. Specially, request that Northumberland be added to the list of municipalities in O.Reg 525/97.

### **2. Specific Infrastructure Request – Funding for Campbellford Bridge**

On October 18, 2024, the County submitted a grant application under the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP): Housing Enabling Core Servicing Stream (HECS). On January 17 of this year, the County received confirmation that the application was not approved.

### **3. Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) Funding**

Advocate for the need for increased provincial investment in libraries and museums. Further, the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) is closed to new applicants. Request the province evaluate the administration of the CMOG funding program and open it up to new applicants.

#### **4. Municipal Accountability Act**

Support for the government's proposed '*Municipal Accountability Act, 2025*'. This proposed legislation would provide the province with the ability to establish a standardized provincial code of conduct for municipalities. Bill 241 also expands the oversight powers of the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario and creates new mechanisms for addressing serious misconduct by municipal officials.

These tools would reinforce the accountability of the municipal sector and to support a safe and respectful work environment for members of council and for municipal staff. Legislation was promised three years ago following an extensive public consultation process that concluded in fall 2021. If passed and once regulations are finalized, this legislation will:

- Enable standardization of municipal codes of conduct and integrity commissioner investigation processes; and
- Create a role for the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario in municipal codes of conduct and integrity commissioner matters.

#### **5. Long-Term Care Act – Employee & Staff Safety/Meeting the Needs of all Residents**

Advocate in support of the sections contained within the '*Fixing Long-Term Care Act*' that address resident rights and protections, ensuring enforcement of the right to be treated with respect, live in a safe environment, and receive quality care. The act includes provisions to prevent abuse and neglect, this should include employee and staff safety along with residents.

#### **6. Emergency Response Clean-up Compensation**

Advocate for appropriate compensation for municipalities after an emergency response event.

#### **7. Tariff Support for Municipalities (Business support and Infrastructure Stimulus for Job Creation)**

Advocate for provincial investment in Northumberland County to:

- Mitigate cost escalation on municipal capital projects to continue to ensure continuity for the construction sector and related industries;
- Increase and repair social housing stock in the face of excess residential construction capacity and growing housing need;
- Offset broader fiscal impacts on the municipal sector of potential economic slowdown; and
- Harness municipal procurement as a tool in provincial tariff response.

#### **8. Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB) Program Delivery**

Advocate for changes in the delivery of WSIBs mandate, with the aim of supporting paramedics by:

- Standardizing practices and processes for all Paramedic Services;

- Decreasing wait times for those receiving supporting services, service reporting, and return to work recommendations;
- Working to ensure that therapeutic recommendations are followed to better ensure recovery;
- Developing education and messaging to promote safe recovery at work;
- Increasing fiscal responsibility by decreasing lost time;
- Improving workflow and interoperability between WSIB and Paramedic Services; and
- Committing to continuous improvement through regular reviews and updates of WSIB processes to allow adaptation to changing regulatory requirements and best practices.

## **9. Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care (CPLTC) Funding**

To continue providing this valuable service, Northumberland County needs a commitment from the province that they will deliver stable and predictable funding going forward. An instability in funding reduces staff morale and leaves the department in limbo. A long-term funding agreement between the Ministry of Long-Term care and Northumberland County is requested.

## **10. Timelines for Funding Offload Nursing**

Request the province review timelines for funding offload nursing to prevent a disruption in service.

## **11. Joint delegation with Cobourg on Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Funding Shortfall**

Advocate for the province to address the ongoing shortfall in court security and prisoner transportation funding provided to municipalities. The current funding model for the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation (CSPT) Program, which reimburses municipalities for some of the costs associated with court security, falls short of covering the full expenses incurred.

## **12. Province-wide Discussion on Council Remuneration**

Advocate for a province-wide discussion on the creation of a standard formula for compensation of elected municipal officials.

## **13. Social Services Rates**

Staff suggest deferring this request to a future conference. We have recently delegated on this at both the AMO and Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conferences – staff will monitor political environment for the appropriate time to bring forward.

## **Financial Impact**

N/A

## **Member Municipality Impacts**

Opportunity for joint delegations with member municipalities on topics of mutual interest. For example, a joint delegation with the Town of Cobourg on the court security & prisoner transportation funding shortfall.

**Conclusion / Outcomes**

Staff recommend that County Council direct staff to request a provincial delegation on approximately 5 of the 13 topics listed in this report or additional delegation topics as deemed appropriate.

**Attachments**

N/A