

**The Corporation of the Township of Brock**

**Councillor Conference Report**

**Report Prepared by: Councillor Jubb for Council**

**Date: 22 Aug 2022**

**Conference Name- AMO**

**Conference Date and Location- 14-17 Aug, 2022 in Ottawa, ON**

**About the AMO annual conference-**

AMO staff put together another amazing Conference program for AMO 2022. In addition to favourites like the Ministers' forum, recent additions including the Women's Leadership Forum and the Economic Recovery Panel will be featured, along with a panel discussion from Municipal Trailblazers who bring diverse voices and experience to our councils. We are also working on a range of policy matters including public health, energy, housing, mental health and addictions, climate change, waste diversion, and insurance to name a few.

**Overview of many sessions attended and key learnings-**

***Building Better Communities Through Principled Leadership in Challenging Times, sponsored by Cogeco Connexion***

***Opening Keynote - Dr. Samantha Nutt, Founder of War Child USA and Canada, Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto***

*For more than 20 years, Dr. Samantha Nutt has been on the frontlines of many of the world's major crises. A medical doctor and founder of the internationally renowned non-profit War Child, she is one of the most recognized voices in the humanitarian arena and a leading authority on current affairs, public health, war, international aid, and foreign policy. A staff physician at Women's College Hospital in Toronto and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto, Dr. Nutt engages audiences in an array of subjects including the connection between global and local matters, and ethical leadership.*

**Rural Caucus, Rising to the challenge: A look at Ontario's changing electricity landscape and how your community can benefit, sponsored by Canadian Renewable Energy Association**

**The Great Reset between Conservation Authorities and Municipal Governments: Looking to 2024 and Beyond**

This session will discuss the new phase I and II regulations under the Conservation Authorities Act, and the “big picture” of how conservation authorities and municipalities can use the time leading up to the 2024, budget cycle to reinvent and strengthen existing relationships. Between the changes introduced in Bill 109 and the new regulations, now is a great opportunity to re-imagine the relationship and work collaboratively to build complete communities.

Hassaan Basit, President and CEO, Conservation Halton

Sonya Bolton, Manager of Community Planning, County of Frontenac

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

Michelle Sergi, Commissioner, Planning and Development Services, Region of Niagara

### **Understanding the Importance and Considerations in Local Youth Engagement**

Are you eager to better engage with youth in your community? Take this opportunity to learn from and engage with AMO’s Youth Fellows as they discuss:

why and how you should engage with youth,  
that youth aren’t a monolith—take regional/age differences into account,  
recognize the need to overcome community mistrust from equity-denied groups, and  
how to foster youth engagement through education.

Moderated by South Algonquin Councillor Bongo Bongo

AMO Youth Fellows

Juvairiyya Hanslod

Terran Morris

Hale Mahon

### **AMO-COU Lecture: Adapting to Climate Change: Local Government Tools to Build Climate Resilience**

Recognizing the importance of post-secondary institutions in Ontario’s communities and AMO’s strategic priority to partner with others in the broader public sector, AMO and the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) are partnering to deliver the inaugural AMO-COU Lecture. Dr. Daniel Henstra is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Waterloo and Co-Lead of the Climate Risk Research Group where he works with government and business organizations to develop practical, evidence-based policy solutions to climate-related challenges. Dr. Henstra has a remarkable record of research and collaboration with government at all levels and will provide concrete examples of work municipalities have undertaken to address the impacts of climate change.

Daniel Henstra, Professor of Political Science, University of Waterloo

Steve Orsini, President and CEO, Council of Ontario Universities

### **Firefighter Certification – A guide for municipal leaders**

This session will assist municipal leaders to better understand the roles and responsibilities in navigating new mandatory certification regulation for municipal Fire Services. Representatives from the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) will review the purpose and importance of a fire department's establishing & regulating bylaw and discuss how your responsibilities as a municipal leader are key components of this regulation. The session will also review how fire departments of various types can implement training programs to achieve certification, the role of the Office of the Fire Marshal, and how partnerships with neighbouring departments can assist in achieving compliance.

Deputy Chief Rob Grimwood, Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services  
Chief Jason Whiteley, North Bay  
Mark Pankhurst, Fire Services Liaison, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC)

### **Fostering collaboration and cooperation to search for solutions to the Opioid crisis, sponsored by Emergent**

The Opioid Crisis in our communities: Since the introduction of the naloxone ready community at our AMO General Meeting in 2019, we have seen the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated an already dire situation and made it worse. Municipalities across Ontario are facing increased demands as they work to address the ongoing Public Health crisis, with multiple agencies and partners working towards common goals, but often with limited integration of efforts. Understanding the need to foster collaboration and cooperation, as a way to streamline efforts as resources and people become limited, we are excited to present the Overdose and Prevention Engagement Network (OPEN), a platform founded on the objective of bringing together people to share best practices, adapt existing ones and continue to search for solutions.

### **OMERS Update**

With \$121 billion in assets as of 2021, OMERS is one of the largest pension funds in Ontario. AMO's member municipal governments are OMERS' largest employer group, representing more than 36% of active Plan members in 2021. Blake Hutcheson, President and CEO of OMERS, will provide an update about the state of the OMERS Plan and the strategy to ensure that the Plan remains affordable, sustainable, and meaningful in the years ahead.

Blake Hutcheson, President and CEO, OMERS

### **Summary-**

The 2022 AMO was an excellent opportunity to network, learn and interact with hundreds of elected officials, senior staff and CAO's from all across Ontario. In addition to the detailed explanation and comments above, we were able to hear from senior government officials such as the Premier of Ontario, key Minister's, The Leader of the Opposition, Liberal Party and the Green Party. The key message from all parties was recovering from the pandemic. In addition to this, the trade show provided hundreds of top exhibitors showcasing the best and new initiatives in technology and road maintenance techniques and best practices in the municipal sector. This information is second to none and provides great value to the Corporation.

**Recommendations-** Move that this report be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Jubb

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Reviewed by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ingrid Svelnis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Ingrid Svelnis  
Chief Administrative Officer