

WELLAND LEADING THE WAY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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POSITIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

Welland, ON- Welland Mayor Frank Campion is feeling positive after Welland's delegation returned from the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) - Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) combined conference held the past four days in Toronto.

"We were able to advance our interests as a result of face-to-face meetings and constructive dialogue with key provincial decision-makers," said Mayor Campion. "We received commitments from the Ministers we met with that they will review our requests with departmental staff, in fact we're anticipating further discussions and meetings."

Welland's delegation was comprised of: Mayor Frank Campion, CAO Gary Long, General Manager of Infrastructure Services and City Engineer Sal Iannello, and Economic Development Manager Dan Degazio. Elected officials and staff from Niagara Region and Wainfleet's Mayor April Jeffs also attended some of the meetings. The following meetings were held:

The Honourable Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation
Re: MTO corridor protection policies could impact future use of Welland's employment lands

The Honourable Michael Coteau, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Re: outstanding costs for the Welland International Flatwater Centre, constructed for 2015 PanAm/Parapan Games

The Honourable Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Re: importance of Welland Hospital in providing patient care to catchment area of 120,000 residents

Ernie Hardeman MPP, PC Municipal Affairs Critic
Re: strategic priorities of Welland and opportunities



"One of our objectives in attending the conference was to raise Welland's profile at the provincial level, raise awareness of our strategic priorities and current issues, and build relationships with elected officials and departmental officials - we accomplished our objective," stated Mayor Campion.

Approximately 2200 municipal leaders from across Canada attended this year's conference. The theme was: "Municipal Government: The Value Proposition. Municipalities are the order of government with the biggest impact on the daily lives of citizens."

Photo: Mayor Frank Campion, Health Minister Eric Hoskins, Mayor April Jeffs, CAO Gary Long

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