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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## **WELLAND OFFICIALS ADVANCE CITY'S INTERESTS AT AMO CONFERENCE**

**Welland, ON** - Elected officials and staff from the City of Welland had successful meetings at this week's Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference in Windsor. More than 1,700 participants gathered at this year's conference titled "Bridging the Gap" to discuss municipal topics, which included infrastructure funding and asset management. The annual AMO conference is a chance for municipal officials to discuss trending topics, address common challenges, and create new opportunities. Mayor Frank Campion, Councillors Mary Ann Grimaldi, Bonnie Fokkens, Michael Petrachenko, John Chiocchio, Jim Larouche, and CAO Gary Long represented the City to discuss Welland's current projects and priorities with provincial Cabinet Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants, and Members of the Opposition.

### **Welland Officials met with the following:**

Honourable Bob Charielli, Minister of Infrastructure  
Honourable Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development and Growth  
Honourable Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport  
Honourable Kevin Flynn, Minister of Labour  
Lou Rinaldi, Parliamentary Assistant the Minister of Municipal Affairs  
Yvan Baker, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance  
PC Leader Patrick Brown and Ernie Hardeman MPP – PC Municipal Affairs Critic

"Our objective was to raise Welland's profile at the conference, discuss our strategic priorities, and build strong relationships with provincial decision-makers, and that is what we accomplished in Windsor. We will follow up with provincial staff to continue the dialogue on issues raised during our meetings," said Mayor Frank Campion "We also took the opportunity to express our appreciation to provincial Ministers for their assistance in securing the new GE "Brilliant Factory" in Welland."

The 2016 AMO conference was hosted at the Caesars Windsor in Windsor, Ontario from August 14 to 17. AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipalities. Visit [welland.ca](http://welland.ca) for programs and services, or visit [amo.on.ca](http://amo.on.ca) for conference details.

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