

CITY DELEGATION MAKES IMPACT AT AMO CONFERENCE

Welland, ON - The City of Welland's delegation has returned home after a busy agenda of meetings, workshops, and presentations at the 2019 Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Conference in Ottawa. Mayor Frank Campion, Councillors Jim Larouche, Adam Moote, Lucas Spinosa, Leo Van Vliet, and Chief Administrative Officer Gary Long attended the conference and had the following meetings:

- Jim McDonnell, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation and Francophone Affairs
- Jennifer Bell, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Infrastructure
- Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Sport
- Andrea Khanjin, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Environment, Parks, and Conservation
- Hon. Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long Term Care
- Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
- Hon. Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs

City projects and strategic initiatives were discussed including urban boundary expansion, Hunters Pointe development, Forks Road bridge, climate change, Welland International Flatwater Centre, Francophone tourism, 2021 Canada Summer Games, transit, infrastructure funding, new fire stations, Foyer Richelieu, long term care beds, and modernizing compliance regulations.

Mayor Campion also joined Mayors from other cities including London, North Bay, Kitchener, Mississauga and Thunder Bay in a roundtable discussion, facilitated by the Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, on reducing barriers to investment, eliminating duplication and red tape, streamlining processes, and modernizing business regulations to save businesses time and money and to help stimulate economic growth and job creation.

“Welland had a strong presence at this conference and it's important for us to stay current with provincial announcements and the key issues and emerging trends in the municipal world as well as the global economy so that we can lead and manage change effectively,” said Welland Mayor Frank Campion. “Our government relations strategy has been successful in building relationships with provincial and federal officials, establishing key points of contact on city projects and priorities, and ensuring that Welland's voice is being heard on public policy issues impacting our community.”

Almost 2,000 participants from across Ontario attended the AMO Conference held from Aug. 18-21 at the Shaw Centre in Ottawa. For more information about AMO and the conference, visit www.amo.on.ca.

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PHOTO: Left to Right, CAO Gary Long, Councillor Adam Moote, Mayor Frank Campion, Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Councillor Jim Larouche, Councillor Leo Van Vliet, Councillor Lucas Spinosa