

**Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire
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Lynn Dollin
President
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, ON M5H 3C6

Dear Ms. Dollin,

As you know, over the past several years the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (Ministry) has been working to transform its traditional policing grant programs [Provincial Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (PAVIS), Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS), Community Policing Partnerships (CPP) and Safer Communities - 1,000 Officers Partnership (1,000 Officers)] to develop a new outcomes-based, locally-driven funding model that better supports community safety and well-being initiatives across the province.

To support this process, the Ministry has consulted with a variety of municipalities, police services/boards, community agencies/organizations and members of the public on community safety and well-being initiatives, including the repurposing of Ministry grant funding. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has been a valuable contributor to these discussions.

The grants transformation aligns with the government's Strategy for a Safer Ontario, which involves shifting away from reactive, incident-driven responses to crime and moving towards a proactive, collaborative approach that will help ensure those in need of help receive the right response at the right time, and by the right service provider. This includes a new and holistic approach to community safety and well-being planning where municipalities will have a larger role in defining and addressing local needs.

As part of the *Safer Ontario Act, 2018*, municipalities will be required to work with police services and local service providers in health care, social services and education to develop and implement community safety and well-being plans that proactively address crime and complex social issues on a sustainable basis. To support municipalities in meeting this legislative requirement, the Ministry is moving forward with its grants transformation.

To further ease the transition as the Ministry finalizes an outcomes-based grant program, eligible police services/boards will be again provided with the option to either apply for funding under the PEM grant or continue under the traditional policing grants for an additional year in 2019/20.

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Ms. Dollin

Beginning in 2019, the Ministry will continue its consultations with partners, including municipal and policing stakeholders, on the grants transformation process. I would like to formally invite AMO to participate in these consultations, specifically by establishing a working group to help inform the development of the new, outcomes-based grant program to better support local community safety and well-being initiatives in Ontario. The timing of the consultation aligns with the Ministry's plan to launch this new grant program in the 2020/21 fiscal year.

In the coming months, Ministry staff will be in touch to discuss next steps for consultations, including finalizing details for the development of the working group.

I look forward to continuing our partnership as we work towards achieving safety and well-being within Ontario communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lalonde', with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Marie-France Lalonde
Minister