



# POLICY UPDATE

May 24, 2019

## Money-saving solutions – some help is at hand

Provincial funding changes and cuts. Calls for efficiency and line-by-line reviews. It's a lot to grapple with – especially after all the hard budget decisions that have already been made by Council.

Yes, AMO is pressing the Government of Ontario daily on municipal impacts of the provincial budget and announcements. We need the province to provide real numbers on the cuts to cost-shared services rather than municipal governments making assumptions. Finding 4 per cent in savings when municipal governments collect just 9-cents of every household tax dollar is a bigger challenge than that of the Province, which collects 44-cents of every household tax dollar. It is that 9 cents that sees our members always and continuously looking for efficiencies.

With its business services arm, LAS, AMO also offers money-saving solutions specifically for municipal governments. These are turnkey programs that can help and with little lifting on your part.

1. **Short-term:** If you have money in the bank – earn more. Every dollar matters. At 2.415%, ONE Investment's [High Interest Savings Account](#) delivers higher returns by aggregating investor deposits. It's still fully liquid and every deposit is in your own investment account. This is one quick way to make sure the money you have is earning as much as possible.
2. **Mid-term:** Save time and money through AMO's digital partnerships that offer technology solutions at special member pricing. [eScribe](#) offers cloud-based, paperless meeting management. [Notarius](#) offers digital signatures. Each streamlines process and reduces costs. Modernization funding may help smaller communities take advantage of these services.
3. **Long-term:** [LAS](#) offers dozens of programs that can help save money over the long-term. Many programs were procured through a competitive process to leverage economies of scale, like LED lighting projects that cut energy and maintenance costs and road assessment services that improve asset management. These are just a few examples.

Just as AMO will continue to advocate on your behalf at Queens Park, LAS continues to expand its programs to meet your needs at home. Stay tuned because new programs are still to come in 2019.

If you have any questions about business services, please don't hesitate to reach out.

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