

Agenda # 7(a)

**Ministry of Municipal
Affairs and Housing**

Office of the Deputy Minister

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Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7100

**Ministère des Affaires
Municipales et du Logement**

Bureau du sous-ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
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October 19, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal Chief Administrative Officers and Clerks

SUBJECT: Enhanced COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate with QR Code and Verify Ontario App Available for Download Starting October 15

In advance of October 22, the government is making the enhanced vaccine certificate with official QR code and the free verification app, Verify Ontario, available for download.

Together, these tools will make it easier, more secure and convenient for individuals to provide proof of vaccination where required to do so, and for businesses and organizations to verify vaccine certificates while protecting people's privacy.

Enhanced Vaccine Certificate

Starting October 18 at 6:00 a.m., the portal will be open for any individual to download their enhanced vaccine certificate, regardless of their birth month. Individuals can also call the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900 to have their enhanced vaccine certificate emailed or mailed to them.

People can save the electronic version of their vaccine certificate with a QR code to their phone or print a paper copy. **Businesses must accept both electronic and paper versions.**

In addition, the current vaccine receipt without a QR code remains valid and must continue to be accepted. Ontarians will need to show a piece of identification that matches their name and date of birth to their proof of vaccination when visiting select [businesses and organizations](#).

Verify Ontario app

Starting on October 15, businesses and organizations can download the free Verify Ontario app from the Apple App and Google Play stores. The made-in-Ontario app has been designed to help businesses by making it quicker and easier to confirm if a person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19, while protecting their privacy. The app can be used without an internet connection and never stores personal information.

The app will read the QR code to verify whether it is a legitimate Ontario government issued code that is free of tampering and notify the business or organization if the patron is verified to enter the premises with proof of full vaccination by displaying one of the three following results.



Verify Ontario will only scan and read official, government issued QR codes, such as Ontario's vaccine certificate and those from other provinces including Quebec, British Columbia and Yukon Territory.

Updated Guidance and Posters

Ontario has updated the [regulation](#), [Guidance for Businesses and Organizations](#) and [Questions and Answers](#) to support the implementation of the enhanced vaccine certificate with a QR code and the Verify Ontario app.

The updated regulation also provides an exemption for people who are currently participating in a COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial that is authorized by Health Canada and specified in [Guidance for Businesses and Organizations](#). This will support continued participation in vaccine clinical trials and ensure they can be completed successfully.

There are also updated posters for businesses and organizations to print and display.

Compliance and Enforcement

As a reminder, for offences under the ROA, police and other provincial offences officers, including First Nation Constables, special constables, and municipal by-law officers, have discretion to either issue tickets to individuals for set fine amounts or issue a summons under Part I of the Provincial Offences Act (POA) or to proceed under Part III of the POA by laying an information.

I strongly encourage our municipal partners to continue their local compliance and enforcement efforts and to work closely with provincial enforcement officers and public health officers to coordinate compliance activities in your communities. To identify opportunities for and to plan coordinated compliance activities in your community, please email Stephen Wilson at: Stephen.J.Wilson@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your support and for joining our shared commitment to work together to protect the health and well-being of Ontarians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Manson-Smith".

Kate Manson-Smith
Deputy Minister

Agenda # 7L6]



Tribunals Ontario

Assessment Review Board
15 Grosvenor Street, Ground Floor
Toronto ON, M7A 2G6
Website: www.tribunalsontario.ca/arb/

Tribunaux décisionnels Ontario

Commission de révision de l'évaluation foncière
15 rue Grosvenor, rez-de-chaussée
Toronto, ON M7A 2G6
Site web : www.tribunalsontario.ca/cref/

MEMORANDUM

TO: Municipalities

FROM: Ken Bednarek, Associate Chair and Kelly Triantafilou, Registrar

DATE: October 2021

SUBJECT: ARB Digital Delivery Initiative - Update

We are writing to provide an update further to our memo dated January 29, 2021 where we indicated that we would be continuing our focus on a "digital first" approach to the delivery of notices.

In that memo, we called on municipalities to engage with us to discuss reducing our paper footprint. Our memo said:

"As we continue to look forward, the ARB is interested in further reducing our paper footprint. The ARB is currently researching ways to eliminate the paper notice to the municipalities by creating a data file that can be sent electronically. We are still in the early stages of this research however we will soon be reaching out to the municipalities to gather more information."

If you are interested in having an "early thinking" discussion with the Registrar, please contact the Board at ARB.Registrar@ontario.ca."

Over the last several months, the ARB has been working with the cities of Toronto and North Bay to develop a platform through which all Notices of Hearing have been sent by email. Those data files, which Toronto and North Bay have been able to download as Excel spreadsheet files, have contained the same information that was previously included in paper Notices of Hearing.

The ARB is now expanding this project. Our testing timeframe was from July to September 2021 and will continue. Our expectation is that this new process will be implemented across all 444 Ontario municipalities by January 2022.

The ARB is currently creating a secure web-platform with standard user-names and unique passwords for each municipality. This will ensure that you all have access to your specific regions' notices in real-time.

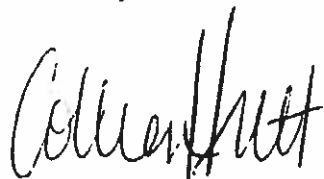
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Municipality of Niagara-on-the-Lake requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it;

AND FURTHER that the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPP Dave Smith, MPP David Piccini, MPP Laurie Scott, to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, and to all municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact our office at 905-468-3266.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Hutt', written in a cursive style.

Colleen Hutt
Acting Town Clerk

c.c. Ontario Municipalities



Agenda # 7 (c)

7th Floor, Frost Building South
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Toronto ON M7A 1Y7
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Téléphone: 416-325-0400

October 21, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

I am writing to provide details on 2022 funding allocations under the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF). We are announcing allocations today – the earliest they have ever been announced because we know that municipalities need this information as early as possible to support municipal budget planning.

Municipalities have stressed the importance of stability and predictability in these uncertain times. Our government is responding by maintaining both the structure of the OMPF and the program envelope at \$500 million for 2022.

Maintaining the current structure of the OMPF for 2022 means that the grant components and transitional assistance funding guarantees of the program will remain. The program will continue to be responsive to changing municipal circumstances through annual data updates and related adjustments.

I am also pleased to confirm that maintaining the program envelope at \$500 million will allow for further support to be targeted to rural farming municipalities. Specifically, rural municipalities with the highest levels of farmland will receive additional funding of up to \$5 per household.

As in prior years, Transitional Assistance will ensure that the 2022 funding guarantee for municipalities in northern Ontario will be at least 90 per cent of their 2021 OMPF allocation and for municipalities in southern Ontario will be at least 85 per cent of their 2021 OMPF allocation.

Northern and rural municipalities with the most challenging fiscal circumstances will continue to have their guarantee enhanced up to 100 per cent of the prior year's allocation.

The Ministry of Finance's Provincial-Local Finance Division will be providing your municipal Treasurers and Clerk-Treasurers with further details on the 2022 OMPF. This information and other supporting materials are also available online at fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ompf/2022.

.../cont'd

As you know, the Province has provided significant support to Ontario's municipalities to address the critical public health and economic challenges brought on by the pandemic. This includes almost \$1 billion in financial relief for municipalities in 2021 as well as \$4 billion in joint funding with the federal government through the Safe Restart Agreement in 2020 to support municipal operating and transit pressures.

Our government is committed to supporting municipalities in a way that is sustainable and responsible. Working together, we can achieve remarkable things for Ontario.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Peter Bethlenfalvy
Minister of Finance

c: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

October 4, 2021

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

Premier Doug Ford - doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliott - christine.elliott@pc.ola.org
Dave Smith, MPP Peterborough-Kawartha - dave.smith@pc.ola.org
David Piccini, MPP Northumberland-Peterborough South - david.piccini@pc.ola.org
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
Ontario Association of Optometrists - oaoinfo@optom.on.ca

RE: OHIP Eye Care Resolution

Please be advised the Council of The Corporation of The Town of Niagara-on-the Lake, at its regular meeting held on September 30, 2021, approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life; and Whereas conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crosses eyes), Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease; and

WHEREAS payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies); and

WHEREAS the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease; and Whereas the Provincial government's refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 Million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians; and

WHEREAS the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting 2 September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery; and

WHEREAS this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children, who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision and to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision threatening ocular diseases;

Once created, data files will be uploaded to the secure website for all municipalities every Friday and they will include notices that were created for all the ARB's hearings that week across the province.

We hope to provide a further update in December regarding a launch date.

We are also looking to expand this service in the future to include use by tax representatives and law firms.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Ken Bednarek
Associate Chair

Kelly Triantafilou
Registrar