



# Staff Report

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## Strategic Initiatives – Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives

**Report To:** COW- Admin, Corp and Finance, SI, Comm. Services  
**Meeting Date:** October 6, 2025  
**Report Number:** SI.25.033  
**Title:** 2025 AMO Delegation Follow Up Report  
**Prepared by:** Tim Hendry, Director of Strategic Initiatives

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### A. Recommendations

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THAT Council receive Staff Report SI.25.033, entitled “2025 AMO Delegation Follow Up Report” for information.

### B. Overview

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This report provides Council with a summary of the delegations that the Town presented at the 2025 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference.

### C. Background

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As directed by Council through report [SI.25.016](#), eight delegation requests targeting a diverse array of topics relevant to the Town were submitted for the 2025 AMO Conference.

All eight topics received approval, and the Town was invited to engage directly with Provincial ministries for discussions. Considering the portfolios of the respective ministries, some of the delegation topics were strategically combined into a single presentation.

### D. Analysis

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The AMO conference was held in Ottawa from August 17 – 21, 2025. The conference provided the opportunity for municipalities to meet with various Provincial Ministries to discuss local matters. In addition, the conference offered concurrent programming from guest speakers covering a wide range of topics relevant to municipal operations and governance.

The Town was represented at the conference by the following Council members and staff:

- Mayor Andrea Matrosovs
- Councillor June Porter
- Councillor Paula Hope
- Councillor Gail Ardiel

- Interim CAO Adam Smith
- Director of Strategic Initiatives, Tim Hendry

For reference, the delegation materials, with the exclusion of the presentations to the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, are included as Attachment #1 to this report. The Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs delegations have been excluded due to closed session confidentiality.

The following chart outlines the delegations and provides an overview of the outcomes of the discussions.

<b>Delegation</b>	<b>Topics for Discussion</b>	<b>Meeting Notes</b>
<b>Ministry of Health</b>	Physician Recruitment and Family Health Team Expansion	<p>The delegation was with Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Hon. Sylvia Jones, and Deputy Minister of Health Deborah Richardson. The delegation was also supported by MPP Brian Saunderson.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to seek support from the Ministry to expand the Georgian Bay Family Health Team boundaries to provide coverage for the Town of The Blue Mountains and to help address the local shortage of family physicians.</p> <p>The delegation was well received and the Ministry demonstrated strong support for the expansion. During the meeting, the Deputy Minister offered to continue discussions with town staff to advance the expansion.</p>
<b>Ministry of Infrastructure</b>	Infrastructure project funding and Future Water Treatment Plant	<p>The delegation was with Parliamentary Assistant Amarjot Sandhu.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to directly thank the Ministry for the recent infrastructure grant investment to support critical infrastructure in the community and to highlight the need for a new Water Treatment Facility in the Craigeleith area.</p> <p>The delegation was well received and the Ministry demonstrated positive support for the new Water Treatment Plant. During the meeting, the Ministry offered to facilitate</p>

		discussions between the Town and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.
<b>Ministry of Indigenous Affairs</b>	Support of the Shared Path Initiative	<p>The delegation was with Minister of Indigenous Affairs, Greg Rickford.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to introduce the Shared Path Initiative with the goal of seeking Ministry support and matching funding.</p> <p>The delegation was positively received and the Ministry was generally attentive to the Town’s concerns. No funding commitments were made and no direct outcomes are anticipated as a result of the delegation.</p>
<b>Ministry of Transportation</b>	Regional Transportation Study	<p>The delegation was with Parliamentary Assistant Hardeep Singh Grewal.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to highlight the need for a regional transportation plan to support future growth and to proactively manage the flow of vehicles throughout the community.</p> <p>The delegation was positively received and the Ministry was generally attentive to the Town’s concerns. No direct outcomes are anticipated as a result of the delegation.</p>
<b>Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing</b>	Servicing Allocation Policy, Planning Tools to Support Attainable Housing, Community Improvement Program Funding	<p>The delegation was with Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flack and Parliamentary Assistant Brian Saunderson.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to provide additional information regarding the intent and purpose of the Town’s proposed Servicing Allocation Policy and to discuss potential planning tools to support attainable housing.</p> <p>The delegation was well received and Minister Flack offered for Senior Ministry</p>

		Staff to meet with Town staff to further discuss the Servicing Allocation Policy.
<b>Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness</b>	Abandoned Orchards	<p>The delegation was with Parliamentary Assistant and MPP, Paul Vickers.</p> <p>The purpose of the delegation was to highlight the Town’s challenges in managing abandoned orchards and to present potential solutions that the Ministry could consider to assist in support of the Town’s agricultural sector.</p> <p>The delegation was positively received and the Ministry was generally attentive to the Town’s concerns. No direct outcomes are anticipated as a result of the delegation.</p>

**E. Strategic Priorities**

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**1. Communication and Engagement**

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

**2. Organizational Excellence**

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

**3. Community**

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

**4. Quality of Life**

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

**F. Environmental Impacts**

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No environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of this report.

## **G. Financial Impacts**

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No financial impacts are anticipated as a result of this report.

## **H. In Consultation With**

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Mayor Andrea Matrosovs  
Councillor June Porter  
Councillor Paula Hope  
Councillor Gail Ardiel  
Interim CAO Adam Smith

## **I. Public Engagement**

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The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Tim Hendry, Director of Strategic Initiatives [si@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:si@thebluemountains.ca).

## **J. Attached**

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1. 2025 AMO Delegation Material

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Hendry  
Director of Strategic Initiatives

For more information, please contact:  
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**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	SI.25.033 2025 AMO Delegation Follow Up Report.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - 2025 AMO Delegation Material.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 24, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Tim Hendry - Sep 24, 2025 - 4:25 PM**