

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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January 26, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

Our government is committed to improving local service delivery and better respecting taxpayers' dollars. That is why we launched the Municipal Modernization Program in 2019. Through this program, the Ontario government is providing funding to help small and rural municipalities modernize service delivery and identify new ways to be more efficient and effective.

Today at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference, I announced the launch of the second intake under the Municipal Modernization Program. Modern, efficient municipal services that are financially sustainable are more important than ever in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even as municipalities continue to face challenges, there are also opportunities to transform services and stimulate new ways of doing business.

The second intake will allow municipalities to benefit from provincial funding to conduct third party reviews as well as to implement projects to increase efficiency and effectiveness and lower costs in the longer term. I also want to encourage you to work with your neighbouring municipalities to find innovative joint projects that can benefit each of you. The government is excited to learn about your project applications that support the following priorities:

- Digital modernization
- Service integration
- Streamlined development approvals
- Shared services/alternative delivery models

To apply, you must submit a completed Expression of Interest form with attached supporting documents via the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system by **March 15, 2021**. To get started, visit www.Ontario.ca/getfunding.

If you have questions on the program, or would like to discuss a proposal, I encourage you to contact your Municipal Services Office or e-mail municipal.programs@ontario.ca.

I look forward to continuing to work together to support your municipality in delivering efficient, effective and modern services for your residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Clark".

Steve Clark
Minister

c. Chief Administrative Officers and Treasurers