

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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August 16, 2021

Dear Head of Council:

Our government is committed to modernizing local service delivery and 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.

At the Association of Municipalities of Ontario 2021 conference, I announced the launch of the third intake under the Municipal Modernization Program. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the importance of efficient municipal services that are financially sustainable. Even as municipalities continue to face challenges, there are also opportunities to transform services and stimulate new ways of doing business.

The third 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. As with previous intakes, I 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 system by **October 19, 2021**. To get started, visit www.Ontario.ca/getfunding to access program guidelines and the Expression of Interest form.

My ministry will also be hosting upcoming webinars to provide you with information that will help you complete your applications and ensure that they meet program guidelines and criteria. More information on when these information sessions will take place will be available to you shortly.

If you have questions on the program, or want to attend an information webinar, 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 blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Clark
Minister

c. Chief Administrative Officers and Treasurers