

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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May 22, 2019

Dear Mayor/Regional Chair:

Our government for the people was elected to restore trust, transparency and accountability in Ontario's finances. As you know, the province has undertaken an independent line-by-line review of our own expenditures and in the 2019 Ontario Budget we put forward a plan that sets Ontario on the right path to achieve savings of four cents on every dollar.

Municipalities play a key role in delivering many provincial services that people across Ontario rely on. Taxpayers deserve modern, efficient service delivery that puts people at the centre and respects hard-earned dollars. The province has been clear that we expect our partners, including municipalities, to take steps to become more efficient.

In March, we announced funding to support small and rural municipalities' efforts to become more efficient and reduce expenditure growth in the longer term. In order to support large municipalities in driving modernization and transformation, the government is establishing the Audit and Accountability Fund which will allow these municipalities to access funding to undertake line-by-line reviews of their operations, led by independent third-party experts, with a goal of finding administrative efficiencies of four cents on every dollar spent.

In the coming days, Deputy Minister Laurie LeBlanc will be writing to your Chief Administrative Officers and/or Treasurers to provide more information about this application-based funding.

Thank you once again for your commitment to demonstrating value for money. I look forward to continuing to work together to help the people and businesses in communities across our province thrive.

Sincerely,

Steve Clark  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c. Municipal CAO/Treasurer