Province's "Regional Review" to be Limited

The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Steve Clark, <u>announced</u> today that this review is limited to nine (9) upper tiers and their constituent lower tiers in:

- Waterloo Region
- Niagara Region
- Halton Region
- Peel Region
- York Region
- Durham Region
- Oxford County
- Simcoe County
- Muskoka District

The focus is to be on governance/decision-making and service delivery. The Province has appointed two advisors who are to provide advice/recommendations back to the province this summer. They are:

- Michael Fenn a former Ontario Deputy Minister, previous municipal chief administrator in several Ontario cities, and founding CEO of Metrolinx.
- Ken Seiling former Chair of Waterloo Region who held that position since 1985 and prior as a councillor and Mayor in Woolwich.

Each jurisdiction is to receive information on the consultation. Last August, the Minister began informal discussions, wishing to hear from people about how this system of governance is working recognizing it was established in the 1970s.

AMO will monitor the review process, which needs to be open and transparent. It is important that during the review process, the work of the affected municipal governments is not destabilized.

While this review does not include any other municipal jurisdictions or structures, and AMO is not involved in the specific reviews, it will keep an eye on any potential sector wide implications that the advisors' recommendations may have for service delivery generally.