Canada-Ontario Bilateral Agreement Signed for the National Housing Strategy

AMO welcomes today's news that the federal and provincial governments signed a bilateral agreement to implement the National Housing Strategy in Ontario. An overarching national strategy with an Ontario agreement presents the opportunity for all orders of government to proactively work towards supporting Ontarians to meet their immediate needs and future housing hopes.

Key highlights of the agreement are:

- Over ten years, more than \$4.2 billion of investment will protect, renew, and expand social and community housing, and support Ontario's priorities related to housing repair, construction, and affordability.
- The governments of Canada and Ontario will work together on the design and implementation of a new Canada Housing Benefit in Ontario.
- Long-term and predictable funding will start April 1, 2019.

AMO will analyze the impact of this agreement once more details are known, providing members with updates. Further information and clarification is needed on the particulars and next steps, especially how municipal governments in Ontario will be engaged with the implementation.

AMO looks forward to working with both the federal and provincial governments to highlight municipal priorities to guide federal-provincial investments in Ontario. There is much at stake to ensuring the success of this vitally important initiative to facilitate housing stability and prosperity for the residents and communities in Ontario.

For more information, see the National Housing Strategy, <u>A Place to Call Home</u>, on the Government of Canada website and the <u>news release</u> by the Canada and Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC). See also the Government of Ontario's <u>statement</u>.