

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs**

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales**

Ministry of Housing

Ministère du Logement

Municipal Services Division
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DATE: May 12, 2017

TO: Municipal Clerks

FROM: Liz Harding
Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Services Division

Jim Cassimatis
Assistant Deputy Minister, Business Management Division

RE: Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA) Amendments – Update on Ministry Plans

This is a follow up to the letter sent by Minister Chris Ballard to all heads of council in January 2017 regarding the Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016.

The Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016 amended sections of the RTA to end the province's role in enforcing residential rental maintenance standards starting July 1, 2018. The RTA requires municipalities that currently do not enforce local residential rental maintenance standards to start enforcing such standards on July 1, 2018. Details of the amendment were included in an information package sent to municipal Clerks on June 27, 2016 (enclosed).

The ministry is aware of concerns that some municipalities have raised with their ability to take on this enforcement function. The ministry is interested in gaining a better understanding of municipal education / training needs to help build local enforcement capacity. Over the Spring 2017, the ministry's Municipal Services Office staff will be holding overview sessions at various municipal meetings and events including CAO Forums. These events will provide an opportunity to hear directly from municipalities on supports they need. Ministry staff will also conduct targeted discussions or visits with some municipalities in their region.

Municipal engagement will help ensure the ministry collects enough information to develop relevant education / training, capacity-building plans and partnerships where necessary. The ministry will provide a further update in Fall 2017. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a discussion with ministry staff on the changes, please contact your Municipal Services Office (see attached contact list).

Sincerely,

Liz Harding
Assistant Deputy Minister,
Municipal Services Division

Jim Cassimatis
Assistant Deputy Minister,
Business Management Division

Cc: Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Steph Palmateer, President, Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers
of Ontario
Joe Luzi, President, Ontario Association of Property Standards Officer
Doug Godfrey, President, Municipal Law Enforcement Association of Ontario
Alan Shaw, President, Ontario Building Officials Association

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS | MINISTRY OF HOUSING
Municipal Services Offices Contact List

Central Municipal Services Office

General Inquiry: 416-585-6226

Toll Free: 1-800-668-0230

Eastern Municipal Services Office

General Inquiry: 613-545-2100

Toll Free: 1-800-267-9438

Municipal Services Office - North (Sudbury)

General Inquiry: 705-564-0120

Toll Free: 1-800-461-1193

Municipal Services Office - North (Thunder Bay)

General Inquiry: 807-475-1651

Toll Free: 1-800-465-5027

Western Municipal Services Office

General Inquiry: 519-873-4020

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