



# The Regional Municipality of Durham

## COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

### January 11, 2019

#### **Information Reports**

[2019-INFO-1](#) Commissioner of Corporate Services – re: One-year Anniversary of the new Durham.ca

#### **Early Release Reports**

There are no Early Release Reports

#### **Staff Correspondence**

There is no Staff Correspondence

#### **Durham Municipalities Correspondence**

There are no Durham Municipalities Correspondence

#### **Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions**

There are no Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

#### **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

1. [Municipal Property Assessment Corporation \(MPAC\)](#) – re: Gender Alignment Systems and Products Changes
2. [Minister of Finance](#) – re: Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund

#### **Advisory Committee Minutes**

There are no Advisory Committee Minutes

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at [clerks@durham.ca](mailto:clerks@durham.ca), if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Corporate Services  
Report: #2019-INFO-1  
Date: January 11, 2019

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**Subject:**

One-year Anniversary of the new Durham.ca

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The Region of Durham's corporate website, [durham.ca](http://durham.ca), relaunched in December 2017. The website project, which spanned two years, included an extensive public and staff engagement component that contributed to the final sitemap and design. A steering committee led the project with significant contributions from Regional staff across the organization.
- 1.2 The new [durham.ca](http://durham.ca) adopted a resident-centric approach to improve the readability and navigation of content and is designed to support requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*.
- 1.3 Furthermore, the new i:Create platform has become the standard for other Durham website services, including the new Durham Region Transit website and the Durham Immigration Portal.
- 1.4 The website features several ways to engage and subscribe to news, events and more. Visit [durham.ca/subscribe](http://durham.ca/subscribe) to get the latest news releases and event updates right to your inbox and [durham.ca/calendar](http://durham.ca/calendar) to access detailed calendar listings of meetings, open houses and community events.

**2. Analytics**

- 2.1 The following metrics have been reported since launch (as of December 2018):
  - 1,224 page updates published
  - 4,850,222 page views
  - 3,493,364 unique page views

- 706,973 new users
- 1,803,352 sessions
- 2.69 pages per session
- 1:48 minute average session duration

### **3. Awards**

- 3.1 Since launch, durham.ca has been recognized with several awards for excellence in website design.
- 3.2 They include the 2018 Outstanding Website WebAward recognizing work above and beyond the standard of excellence, in building next-level community engagement from website design to launch. The WebAwards recognize websites for excellence in design, interactivity, technology, content, innovation, copywriting and ease of use for target audience.
- 3.3 The new durham.ca also received honourable mention awards for both the 2018 MarCom Awards and Hermes Creative Awards. Both awards programs are esteemed in the recognition of creative media and communications.
- 3.4 Furthermore, the durham.ca Website Redevelopment Project Steering Committee was an award recipient of the 2017 Durham Region Awards of Excellence—an internal Regional awards program—in the category of Service Excellence.

### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The new durham.ca was developed with resident-centric site architecture and usability as a key deliverable. A team of internal website content contributors continues to meet on a bi-monthly basis to ensure that the website remains an active communications tool.
- 4.2 Moving into 2019, continuous improvements will include incorporating citizen feedback, program area collaboration opportunities, digital engagement integration and expansion of digital content.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

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Don Beaton, BCom, M.P.A.  
Commissioner of Corporate Services

**Afreen Raza**

**From:** Kahler, Janice <Janice.Kahler@mpac.ca>  
**Sent:** December-19-18 7:36 AM  
**To:** Kahler, Janice  
**Cc:** Porporo, Michael; Colquhoun, Heather  
**Subject:** Memo regarding MPAC Gender Alignment Products and Systems Changes  
**Attachments:** Gender Alignment Memo to all Municipalities\_School Boards\_DSSABs Dec 18'....pdf;  
Municipality Summary of Systems\_Products Impacted.pdf

Good morning,

The attached memo from Carla Y. Nell, and appendix, is being provided to advise of MPAC gender alignment products and systems changes that are underway for implementation by January 1, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions/concerns.

Thank you and have a great day,

*Janice Kahler*  
Account Support Coordinator - Zone 3\_Durham & Trenton  
MPAC - Municipal and Stakeholder Relations  
Tel: 289 315 3320  
Cell: 905 431 6740  
Email: [janice.kahler@mpac.ca](mailto:janice.kahler@mpac.ca)

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**C.S. - LEGISLATIVE SERVICES**

Original
To: CIP
Copy emailed
To: Nancy Taylor on 2018/12/18
C.C. S.C.C. File
Take Appr. Action



**MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION**

December 19, 2018

To: All Municipalities, All School Boards and All District Social Services Administration Boards

From: Carla Y. Nell  
Vice-President, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations

**Subject: Gender Alignment Systems and Products Changes**

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I am writing to share information about an upcoming change regarding how the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) will reflect gender information on our products and systems.

On April 26, 2018, regulatory changes were introduced regarding the collection of gender information for enumeration purposes. Effective January 1, 2019, MPAC will no longer have the authority to collect gender information as part of its enumeration for municipal elections and elections in non-municipal territories.

By January 1, 2019, gender identifiers will be replaced with a code of "I" (individual) on all MPAC products and/or systems where gender information is currently shown.

This change aligns with the Provinces' gender identity policy, pertaining to the collection, use, display and retention of a person's gender identity or sex information on government forms and products.

We are in the process of updating affected systems and products. Please see the attached appendix for a full list of changes. Please share this information with others in your respective office/organization accordingly.

More information regarding the regulatory change is available under [section 42.7 of O. Reg. 310/18](#) in the *Assessment Act*.

If you have any questions, please contact your respective MPAC Municipal and Stakeholder Relations representative(s).

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Nell", is written over a faint, circular stamp or watermark.

Carla Y. Nell  
Vice-President, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations

Attachment

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation  
1340 Pickering Parkway, Suite 101, Pickering Ontario L1V 0C4  
T: 289.315.1287 F: 905.837.6116  
[www.mpac.ca](http://www.mpac.ca)

Systems Impacted	What has changed?
Municipal Connect - People Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population Report headings and school board breakdowns</li> <li>• Custom Query Identifier search options</li> <li>• Identifier coding for names displayed on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Property Details screen</li> <li>• Multi-List</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Products Impacted	What has changed?
Year-end ROL XML	<p>The 'Identifier' or 'ID' has changed from 'M' or 'F' to 'I'.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Other Identifiers have not been impacted, including C, E, G, P, L and X.</p>           <p>Gender coding will reflect 'I'.</p>
Year-end Tax File <b>NOTE: Please advise 3<sup>rd</sup> party software vendor as required to ensure there are no issues related to tax billing</b>	
In-Year XMLs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANA, PRAN, SAN, TIA, PACN</li> </ul>	
Omitted/Supplementary Tax File <b>NOTE: Please advise 3<sup>rd</sup> party software vendor as required to ensure there are no issues related to tax billing</b>	
Electronic Assessment Information (EAI)	
Conservation Authority Property Report	
Payment-in-Lieu Property Report	
(2022) Enumeration-related products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary List of Electors (PLE)</li> <li>• Voter Notification File (VNF)</li> <li>• Voter Notification File – No Electors (VNFNE)</li> <li>• Elector Differences Found Report (EDFR)</li> <li>• Exceptions Voter Notification File (EVNF)</li> <li>• Exceptions Voter Notification File – No Electors (EVNFNE)</li> <li>• Ontario Population Report (OPR)</li> </ul>	



- Finally, if Ontario's portion of the federal excise duty on recreational cannabis over the first two years of legalization exceeds \$100 million, the Province will provide 50 per cent of the surplus only to municipalities that have not opted-out as of January 22, 2019.

Our government is committed to respecting taxpayers and their hard-earned money. We believe municipalities have an obligation to do likewise.

As such, municipalities must use this funding to address the costs that directly relate to the legalization of recreational cannabis. Examples of permitted costs include:

- increased enforcement (e.g. police, public health and by-law enforcement, court administration, litigation);
- increased response to public inquiries (e.g. 311 calls, correspondence);
- increased paramedic services;
- increased fire services; and
- by-law / policy development (e.g. police, public health, workplace safety policy).

Lower-tier and upper-tier municipalities will receive a 50/50 split of the allocation. The household numbers will be split between the upper- and lower-tier, and the allocation calculated accordingly. Decisions to adjust the split in allocation and transfer funding can be made at the local level as needed. Upper-tier municipalities will receive funding in relation to opt-out decisions made by the lower-tier municipality.

The Deputy Minister of Finance will write to your Treasurer with further details on the administration of this funding and attach each municipality's specific allocation notice.

To assess the impact of the funding, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the City of Toronto have been asked to work with the Ministry of Finance to establish a process by which a sample group of municipalities can assess the use and impact of these funds. More information on this process will be provided at a later date.

Our government is committed to building a retail system for cannabis sales that will help eliminate the illegal market and is safe and reliable with rules that keep cannabis out of the hands of children and youth, while keeping our roads safe. Complementary to this municipal funding, the Province continues to do the following:

.../cont'd

- Increase the capacity of law enforcement to help detect drug impaired driving through training. The Province has also created a specialized legal team to support drug impaired driving prosecutions, increased capacity at the province's Centre of Forensic Sciences, and has created a Cannabis Intelligence Coordination Centre.
- Support local boards of health (public health units) by providing a suite of tools and resources for enforcement of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, which includes rules for smoking and vaping of cannabis.
- Conduct an integrated public awareness campaign to communicate the rules and regulations for recreational cannabis and educate Ontarians about the health and safety measures in place to protect them.

We appreciate the efforts of municipalities in the implementation of the federal government's legalization of cannabis and look forward to continuing to work together.

Sincerely,



Vic Fedeli  
Minister of Finance

- c: The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Attorney General  
The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Paul Boniferno, Deputy Attorney General  
Greg Orenacsak, Deputy Minister of Finance  
Laurie LeBlanc, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Renu Kulendran, Ontario Legalization of Cannabis Secretariat, Ministry of Attorney General  
Nicole Stewart, Executive Lead, Cannabis Retail Implementation Project, Ministry of Finance  
Kate Manson-Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government and Planning Policy Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Dan Miles, Chief of Staff