

Sent: June 25, 2018 3:04 PM

To: Mary Birch

Subject: Policy Update - AMO Stands with Canada and Ontario on NAFTA

June 25, 2018

AMO Stands with Canada and Ontario on NAFTA

At its June 21st meeting AMO's Board of Directors passed a resolution in support of the Governments of Canada and Ontario successfully resolving the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) renegotiation. The Board calls on member municipalities to consider the resolution (below) to express local support.

Fair trade with the United States of America and Mexico has been the cornerstone of Canada's and Ontario's economy for many years. Since the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement (FTA) came into force in 1989 and NAFTA in 1993, Ontario's economy has become more integrated with the US and Mexico to the mutual benefit of residents and businesses. These relationships reinforce our prosperity and openness.

Changes to NAFTA could have major repercussions on the prosperity of Canada's local, regional and national economies. In passing this resolution AMO, and municipal governments across Ontario, are sending a strong message that municipal leaders stand with and support our provincial and federal governments in ensuring fairness and prosperity for Canadians.

Municipal Councils are encouraged to consider and pass this resolution copying Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier Designate Doug Ford, AMO and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

AMO Contact:

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NAFTA RESOLUTION

That the AMO board approve the proposed NAFTA resolution to be shared with members, the Federal Government, the Provincial Government, and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

WHEREAS, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) governs nearly every aspect of Canada and the United States economic relationship including manufacturing, agriculture, resources industries, and services;

WHEREAS, about 80% of all of Ontario's exports go to the United States and Ontario is the top trading partner of half of all American States;

WHEREAS, even minor changes to the established trade relationship between Canada and the United States could have significant consequences for workers, consumers, and governments on both sides of the border;

WHEREAS, Canada's and Ontario's economic future and the continued well-being of communities and their local economies depend on free and fair trading relationships based in current future trade agreements;

Therefore, be it:

resolved that Ontario municipal governments, represented by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), stand together with the Federal and Ontario governments in their efforts to protect Canadian jobs and local economies;

RESOLVED that AMO will work with the Province of Ontario to support the interests of municipalities and communities affected by trade disputes and during ongoing trade agreement negotiations;

RESOLVED that AMO will work with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to ensure that Canada understands the municipal impacts affected by trade disputes and during ongoing trade agreement negotiations; and be it further

RESOLVED that _____ supports AMO's resolution.