

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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234-2021-5311

January 25, 2022

Your Worship
Mayor Richard Meloche
Town of Essex

Dear Mayor Meloche:

Thank you for your application to the third intake of **the Municipal Modernization Program** and for your commitment to delivering modern, efficient services that are financially sustainable.

Under the implementation project stream, I am pleased to inform you that the Ford government will provide funding of up to:

- \$42,994 towards: Town of Essex Human Resources Information System Solution; and
- \$49,608 towards: Town of Essex Strategic Plan Results Implementation.

The provincial funding is for up to 65% of total eligible costs to implement the project and complete a final report that forecasts annual savings and other efficiency outcomes by February 28, 2023.

In 2019, the Ford government launched the MMP to help small and rural municipalities modernize service delivery and identify new ways to be more efficient and effective. The impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak have made this work more important than ever. The projects approved for funding under the third intake of the Municipal Modernization Program will support municipalities' efforts to conduct service delivery reviews to find efficiencies or implement a range of projects, including developing online systems to improve the local process for approving residential and industrial developments to bring housing and employment-related development on stream faster, or setting up new shared services with neighbouring municipalities.

I understand how important this work will be to your community. To help you get started, an interim payment will be issued following execution of a transfer payment agreement. Ministry staff will forward instructions and a transfer payment agreement for each approved project in the coming days and will work with you to have it finalized. If you have questions, please contact your municipal advisor, or email municipal.programs@ontario.ca.

I would like to offer my congratulations on this funding approval and extend my best wishes as you work to improve service delivery and administrative efficiency in your municipality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Clark
Minister

- c. Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer
- Kate Giurissevich, Director of Corporate Services /Treasurer
- Brandi Sieben, Manager, Human Resources
- Jack Barron, Manager of Information Technology