



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**Prepared by:** Domenic J. Dadalt, Legal Counsel

**Department:** Administration

**Date of Report:** October 10, 2019

**Report Number:** AD-13-19

**Subject:** AMO Submission on Joint and Several Liability

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### **Recommendation**

That the report of the Legal Counsel dated October 10, 2019 (AD-13-19) regarding Council's endorsement of AMO's report and recommendations to the Attorney General of Ontario regarding liability and insurance cost reforms BE RECEIVED and that said AMO report and recommendation BE ENDORSED by Council.

### **Report**

On September 27, 2019, the Association of Municipalities Ontario ("AMO") approved a submission on joint and several liability entitled "A Reasonable Balance: Addressing growing municipal liability and insurance costs". In the submission, AMO highlights the crucial issues that municipalities face when dealing with joint and several liability. These issues include municipalities being easy targets for litigation and, consequently, higher insurance costs diverting funds from public services.

While the submission does not intend to unfairly deny injured or otherwise aggrieved parties the right to justice through the court system, it does seek to limit a municipality's costs to the amount that it is determined to be liable. AMO's submission builds upon issues raised in prior papers and surveys, and serves as a solid starting point towards fostering discussion with the provincial government to increase dialogue and hopefully end up providing a positive resolution ultimately benefiting municipalities across Ontario, including ours.

The Ministry of the Attorney General has agreed to accept municipal resolutions up until November 1, 2019. Upon review of AMO's submission, Legal Counsel agrees with the proposals put forth and recommends that Council endorses AMO's report and recommendations, to be forwarded to the Attorney General prior to the deadline.

## **Consultations**

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## **Financial Implications**

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## **Prepared By:**

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Legal Counsel

Domenic J. Dadalt

## Link to Strategic Priorities

	Expanding and diversifying our assessment base
	Effectively communicating the activities and interests of the Town
Yes	Managing our human and financial resources in a responsible manner
	Promoting and marketing LaSalle
	Promote a healthy and environmentally conscious community

## Communications

Yes	Not applicable
	Website
	Social Media
	News Release
	Local Newspaper
	Bids & Tenders
	Notification pursuant to the Planning Act

## Notifications

Name	Address	Email