



Introducing TAPMO's Next Phase of Engagement

As TAPMO enters 2026, the organization is launching a new phase focused on strengthening member engagement, improving information-sharing, and better supporting municipalities in navigating aggregate-related issues.

TAPMO is pleased to be working with Alyssa Gosse to lead its communications and marketing efforts. As a freelance communications and strategy professional, Alyssa has developed a forward-looking approach focused on improving the clarity and consistency of TAPMO communications, strengthening advocacy through timely policy updates and issue briefings, and developing practical tools, templates, and guidance materials to support municipal decision-making.



This newsletter marks the first step in this strategy and the beginning of a more regular communications program. Future updates will provide timely insights on policy and regulatory developments, highlight key issues facing aggregate-producing municipalities, and share resources designed to support members' work at the local level.

Advocating for Stronger Oversight at the AMO Conference

At the 2025 AMO Conference in Ottawa, members of the TAPMO Executive Committee met with Dawn Murphy-Gallagher, Parliamentary Assistant to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), along with senior Ministry staff. The delegation, led by Board Chair James Seeley, called for increased provincial funding for inspections of aggregate sites to ensure strong environmental and safety standards, as well as the implementation of annual inspection plans across all operations to improve oversight and consistency. TAPMO also emphasized the importance of publicly posting non-compliance offences to improve transparency, promote accountability, and strengthen public trust, noting that transparency acts as a deterrent to non-compliance and reinforces Ontario's commitment to high regulatory standards.

HIGHLIGHTS

MARKETING
EFFORTS

AMO
CONFERENCE

PROVINCIAL
AGGREGATE
POLICY
FRAMEWORK

COMMITTEE
VACANCY

NEW
MEMBERS

THE
AGGREGATE
RESOURCES
ACT

TAPMO Comments on Amendments to the Provincial Aggregate Policy Framework

TAPMO recently submitted comments to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding proposed amendments to the provincial aggregate policy framework.

In its submission, TAPMO focused on three key priorities:

1. Fair, Consistent, and Efficient Approvals

TAPMO called for a proactive and streamlined consultation and approval process that is fair, consistent, and accessible, while reducing unnecessary delays and maintaining clear municipal requirements and meaningful community engagement.

2. Cost Recovery for Municipalities

TAPMO emphasized that taxpayers should not subsidize aggregate operations. Property taxes must reflect the true cost of municipal services, and aggregate levies must adequately cover infrastructure damage caused by aggregate haulage.

3. Balanced and Sustainable Solutions

TAPMO supported the development of constructive solutions that balance growth in Ontario's aggregate sector with municipal and community needs through stronger collaboration, clearer technical standards, and improved haul route planning.

Members are encouraged to submit similar comments to MNR at aggregates@ontario.ca. For a copy of TAPMO's full submission, please contact executivedirector@tapmo.ca.

TAPMO Welcomes New Members

TAPMO is pleased to welcome the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh and the Township of Ramara as new member municipalities. With their addition, TAPMO now represents 26 active member municipalities across Ontario.



TOWNSHIP OF
ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH

Committee Vacancy

Following the resignation of an Executive Committee Member, TAPMO is seeking one member from the Greater Toronto/Hamilton/Niagara District to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee.

Interested members are invited to submit an expression of interest by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, 2026 by email executivedirector@tapmo.ca

Ministry of Natural Resources Interpretation of Imported Materials under the Aggregate Resources Act

Overview

In October 2025, the TAPMO Chair, Mayor James Seeley, met with senior staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to seek clarification on how the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA) is currently being interpreted with respect to the importation, processing, and blending of aggregate materials from other licensed sites. This discussion has since been followed by written confirmation from the Ministry outlining its current position.

Ministry Interpretation

According to the MNR's written clarification, where a licensed aggregate site's site plan explicitly permits the importation of aggregate materials, the licence authorizes the following:

- Aggregate material may be imported from other licensed sites in Ontario.
- Imported material does not count toward the site's annual licensed tonnage limit.
- Where site plans also permit processing, including blending, the licensee may process imported material for the duration of the licence, unless the site plan is amended or surrendered.
- The Ministry is currently reviewing whether imported material that is subsequently processed or blended should count toward licensed tonnage limits. While the current interpretation is that it does not, this position remains under internal review.

Under the Ministry's current interpretation, sites with explicit importation permissions may import unlimited quantities of aggregate from other licensed sites in Ontario for the life of the licence. These imported volumes are not subject to annual tonnage caps, nor are they subject to TOARC fees.

Municipal Considerations

This interpretation raises important concerns from a municipal land use planning and governance perspective. In practice, a site with importation, processing, and blending permissions could function as a permanent off-site processing facility without tonnage restrictions or associated fee obligations, even after on-site extraction activities have ceased.

Such an outcome may conflict with the intent of aggregate operations as interim land uses under the Planning Act, where rehabilitation and transition to appropriate end uses are key expectations. The interpretation also has broader implications for environmental management, long-term land use planning, infrastructure impacts, and community compatibility.

Municipalities have a vested interest in ensuring that aggregate operations operate within the scope originally contemplated by both the Aggregate Resources Act and the Planning Act, and that regulatory interpretations do not unintentionally extend or intensify industrial activity without appropriate oversight, consultation, or compensation mechanisms.

Next Steps

While the Ministry's clarification provides valuable insight into its current interpretation of the ARA, certain elements remain under review. TAPMO will continue to monitor the Ministry's internal evaluation and will share updates as further clarification becomes available.

Members are encouraged to share experiences or questions related to ARA interpretation and site plan permissions, as continued dialogue and coordination may support greater consistency in understanding and application across Ontario municipalities.

Become a Member

To learn more about TAPMO's work, visit www.tapmo.ca or email executivedirector@tapmo.ca.

