

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Sent via fax: 416 326-1571

June 3, 2003

The Honourable Tony Clement
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister:

Re: Land Ambulance Implementation Steering Committee (LAISC)

For some time, we have expressed serious concerns to the Ministry and the Co-Chairs about the lack of progress on key ambulance service issues and the role of LAISC.

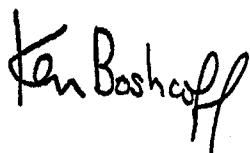
A growing number of calls from members and correspondence from the Ministry to municipalities make it appear that LAISC is responsible for decisions when in fact the Committee simply makes recommendations to the government as it is the government that sets standards and determines what is considered 50/50 funding.

As you know, LAISC's recommendations have not been fully adopted by the government and, in addition LAISC's views not been sought with regard to several Provincial decisions. In addition, some of our work has not been acted upon at all, such as the report on inter-facility transport. There was a huge push to complete this work last summer and we are still waiting for the next step. Other critical issues have similarly appeared stalled out, notwithstanding the considerable resources that AMO and the municipal representatives have brought to this Committee over the last three years. We recognize that Ministry staff has similarly been devoting resources, but clearly, we cannot get our priorities matched and the outcomes, which have not corresponded to our recommendations have added to the frustration and anxiety.

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We feel that LAISC and therefore AMO are being unfairly used to shield the government on a variety of critical issues and decisions. This is problematic. For these reasons, it would be unfair and unreasonable to have municipal officials expend any more time and effort. The AMO Executive has decided that the municipal participation in this process should, at this time, be discontinued until there is a real opportunity and willingness to resolve these critical issues in a more time sensitive manner. This decision was not made lightly, but clearly it is the appropriate one given the circumstances.

Yours sincerely,



Ken Boshcoff
President



Roger Anderson
LAISC Co-chair

cc: The Honourable Dan Newman, Associate Minister of MOHLTC
Philip Hassen, Deputy Minister of MOHLTC
Brian Coburn, Minister of Tourism and Recreation
The Honourable David Young, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Michael Fenn, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Rick Armstrong, Chair, EMS Directors/Managers
Gail Ure, Executive Director, Health Systems, MOHLTC
Lara Coombs, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Premier
Will Hagen Chair, Eastern Ontario Wardens
David Oliphant, Chair, Western Wardens
Joyce Savoline, Chair of Regional Chairs
Chair of NOSDA
Members of LAISC