

Court Services Division  
Office of the Assistant Deputy  
Attorney General

Division des services aux tribunaux  
Bureau de la Sous-procureure générale  
adjointe

McMurtry-Scott Building  
720 Bay Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2S9  
Tel.: 416 326-2611  
Fax.: 416 326-2652

Édifice McMurtry-Scott  
720, rue Bay, 2<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2S9  
Tél. : 416 326-2611  
Télééc. : 416 326-2652

Our Reference #: A-2026-97

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 5, 2026

**TO:** Barb Ryner, President  
Municipal Court Managers' Association (MCMA)

**FROM:** Katie Wood  
Assistant Deputy Attorney General  
Court Services Division

**RE:** **Provincial Offences Act and Administrative Penalties Policy Review**

---

Dear MCMA,

The Ministry of the Attorney General's Court Services Division appreciates the ongoing feedback from municipal partners on the realities of municipally administered *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) courts. In recent years, organizations like the MCMA and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) have highlighted the complex and evolving challenges shaping the POA landscape.

In response, the Ministry is undertaking a comprehensive policy review to address system pressures and advance sustainable, strategic modernization. I am writing to reaffirm our commitment to working closely with the MCMA as a central partner in this effort.

We greatly value our longstanding relationship with the MCMA. Your members' expertise, operational insight, and continued support continue to guide this work. Building on this foundation, we have identified opportunities to modernize court operations, strengthen access to justice, and ensure policy frameworks remain sustainable, fair, and consistent. This includes exploring options such as streamlined Early Resolution and administrative penalties.

We are currently in the exploratory phase of the policy review – gathering insights and assessing early opportunities – and will keep municipal partners engaged as the review progresses. Technology remains a priority, and the ministry recognizes the key role of modernization to support sustainable operations and policy. Attached is a placemat that provides further context.

As the review advances, we may seek additional municipal data and operational perspectives to inform next steps. We value the MCMA's continued partnership and support as we work together to build a more modern and responsive POA system for the public and the justice sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Katie Wood".

**Katie Wood**

Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Court Services Division, Ministry of the Attorney General

Cc: Peter O'Keefe, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Courts Technology and Transformation Division, Ministry of the Attorney General

Attachment: Policy Review Placemat