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COPIED TO COUNCIL
DATE 19 July 2010
MAILBOX PKG VV

Date: July 2010

To: All Heads of Council, Members of Council, CAO's and Department Heads

Subject: Student Vote and Local Government Week – October 17-23, 2010

To mark the 2010 municipal elections, Local Government Week is partnering with Student Vote to run the first ever province-wide municipal election program for youth under the voting age. The Student Vote program will be the focus for school activities during Local Government Week on October 17 - 23, 2010, allowing Municipal Officials time to concentrate on preparing for the local elections.

As in previous years, Local Government Week provides the opportunity for students to learn about our municipal governments. Our partnership with Student Vote this fall will help engage students in the local election process.

Student Vote is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that works with educators to engage young Canadians in the democratic process. During official election periods, Student Vote provides a real-life parallel election experience for youth under the voting age to help encourage the habit of voting that will last a life time. Since 2003, more than two million students across Canada have participated in Student Vote parallel elections.

Participating schools will receive a Student Vote election kit with resources, an electoral guide, and posters, along with other Local Government Week resource guides. Teachers are encouraged to use the suggested activities with their classes to study the democratic process, local candidates, and issues.

Attached is a Local Government Week-Student Vote poster and pamphlet to promote and learn more about this year's program. A Local Government Week resource guide on CD for municipalities and schools to learn about other classroom activities is also included. While the focus of the 2010 Local Government Week activities leading up to the elections is the Student Vote program, municipalities can engage and plan activities with schools after the elections, during the remainder of the school year. To learn more and to tell us about activities your municipality may plan with schools after the elections, please visit: amcto.com.

For more information about Student Vote, please visit: studentvote.ca, or call 1-866-488-8775.

Join us in celebrating Local Government Week 2010, and encourage schools to participate in the Student Vote 2010 municipal election program.

Thank you.

Jim Bradley
Minister
Municipal Affairs and
Housing

Tony Haddad
President
Association of Municipal
Managers, Clerks and
Treasurers of Ontario

Peter Hume
President
Association of Municipalities
of Ontario

Taylor Gunn
Student Vote

c.c. Municipal Clerk