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## **FULL COST FOR WATER RATES PROVIDES A SUSTAINABLE FUNDING SOLUTION**

May 18, 2016 – As one of the leading voices of public infrastructure in Canada, the Ontario Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (OCSI) is committed to the sustainability of our transportation, water and sewer systems and other public infrastructure. Sustainable funding is a key area of focus for OCSI.

OCSI applauds the Ontario Sewer & Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA) and the release of their report earlier this week *Bringing sustainability to Ontario's water systems*. The report studies the progress of the past quarter-century and identifies 18 findings and recommendations.

Three recommendations from the report include:

**WATER RATES:** “Although steady progress is being made, existing water and wastewater rates will need to rise, or significant improvements in productivity will need to be realized, if water services are to achieve true financial sustainability over time.”

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** “After a generation of underinvestment in water-related infrastructure, the scale of reinvestment will necessarily be large and will need to be sustained over time.”

**GLOBAL:** “Canada’s and Ontario’s water policy should recognize the growing continental importance of water-source access, preservation and conservation and new forms of economic activity related to water use. The focus should be on preserving water resources, leveraging competitive economic advantage (especially in the Great lakes Region), and ensuring full-cost compensation for water withdrawals. Ontario should seek opportunities to be a leader in these efforts.”

“As municipalities continue their efforts in moving towards good asset management, sustainable funding sources will be required to deliver the much needed priorities for each community. Full cost recovery for water, wastewater and stormwater provides a sustainable solution for funding these essential amenities,” said Carl Bodimeade, Chair of OCSI.

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**Ontario Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure**

Municipal Engineers Association (**MEA**), Municipal Finance Officers’ Association (**MFOA**)  
Ontario Good Roads Association (**OGRA**), Ontario Public Works Association (**OPWA**)  
Ontario Water Works Association (**OWWA**), Water Environment Association of Ontario (**WEAO**)



**About the Ontario Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (OCSI):** OCSI brings together the combined resources of six well-established organizations to work toward sustainable infrastructure in Ontario. The coalition comprises: Municipal Engineers Association (MEA), Municipal Finance Officers' Association of Ontario (MFOA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA), Ontario Water Works Association (OWWA) and Water Environment Association of Ontario (WEAO). The mission of OCSI is the promotion of "Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure". For more information go to [www.on-csi.ca](http://www.on-csi.ca) and [www.ocsiorg.wordpress.com](http://www.ocsiorg.wordpress.com).

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