

For immediate release:

**Canada's Public Policy Forum releases stage two report of Ontario's
Condominium Act Review**

*Recommendations include creating a Condo Office, better consumer education, and
improved dispute resolution options*

OTTAWA, September 24, 2013—Residents, stakeholders and experts representing Ontario's booming condo industry today shared their proposed solutions for updating the province's Condominium Act. This report is the result of extensive public engagement efforts undertaken by Canada's [Public Policy Forum](#) and Ontario's [Ministry of Consumer Services](#) (MCS).

Key recommendations in the report include:

- Creation of a **Condo Office**, an arm's length umbrella organization that could provide functions such as education and awareness, dispute settlement, condo manager licensing, and a condo registry.
- Improved consumer education and protection.
- Updated financial management rules and dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Stronger qualification requirements for condo boards, including mandatory training for first-time members.
- A new licensing program, managed by the condo office, to ensure that condo managers are properly trained and qualified.

There are over 100 recommendations in the stage two report from the public engagement exercise that is informing a three-phase review of Ontario's *Condominium Act, 1998*.

In stage one of the review, hundreds of stakeholders—owners, developers, property managers, and others—met through the fall of 2012 to talk about their vision for a modernized Condominium Act. The Forum published the issues they identified in the stage one [Findings Report](#). In stage two, launched in March 2013, stakeholder working groups and industry experts reviewed the stage one findings and developed recommendations for renewing the Act. In stage three, starting this fall, the residents' panel from stage one, together with the broader condo community, will have an opportunity to review the recommendations, after which MCS will draft an action plan on proposed changes to the Act.

“The review process is as much a pilot project in collaborative policymaking as an effort to build better condo communities, and we appreciate the ministry's confidence in this approach,” said Don Lenihan, Senior Associate at the Public Policy Forum. “The working group and expert panel members were enormously dedicated. They gave generously of their time and worked respectfully with their colleagues to analyze the issues and arrive at these recommendations.”

The public is invited to comment on the solutions report in a [survey](#). For the executive summary, complete stage two report, background, supporting documents, and updates on the project, please visit www.ppforum.ca.

The [Public Policy Forum](#) is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of government in Canada through enhanced dialogue among the public, private, academic and non-profit sectors.

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