For Immediate Release

Media contact:
Marcia McDougall
905-510-7110
mcdougall.marcia@gmail.com

MROO Makes Charitable Donation to Help with COVID-19 Relief Efforts Municipal Retirees Organization Ontario Provides Aid to Communities Across Ontario

TORONTO, April 27, 2020 – Municipal Retirees Organization Ontario (MROO) has pledged \$63,000 to help communities across Ontario that have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. MROO's 24,000 members are all Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) pensioners.

"MROO would normally be hosting annual meetings across Ontario at this time in the nine zones we've divided the province into," said MROO president William Harford. "We're not holding those sessions this year because of COVID-19. We wanted to find a meaningful way to spend these surplus funds that would help alleviate some of the impact of the pandemic."

MROO's donation will be divided evenly amongst its nine zones so that each receives \$7,000 to distribute to registered charities. Food banks, homeless shelters, women's shelters, and community non-profit charity foundations will be the primary recipients, though MROO's local representatives in each zone will make the final decision. In order to help as many causes as possible, no donation will exceed \$1,000 and receipts for donations, along with a valid registered charity number, are required.

"While the particular circumstances are tragic, MROO is happy to be able to provide assistance to the communities where many of our members live," stated Harford. "We hope our organization's donation will help those in need at this time."

About Municipal Retirees Organization Ontario

Municipal Retirees Organization of Ontario (MROO) was created as a not-for-profit corporation in 1977. We speak on behalf of all Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) pensioners and provide services to 24,000 members. MROO is the largest OMERS retiree organization and the only one with membership open to retirees from all walks of local government life – former union, non-union

Protecting the pensions and enhancing the quality of life for all OMERS pensioners.

and management employees of municipalities, police services, fire services, libraries, school boards, health units, electricity distributors, children's aid societies, and other employers in the OMERS pension plan. We are an independent, non-partisan organization formed to voice the interests of all OMERS retirees to OMERS and governments of all levels, represent our membership in legislative matters that affect retirees, and provide services that benefit our members. In addition to advocacy in favour of the OMERS pension plan and retirement income adequacy, MROO offers members health, dental, travel, home, and auto insurance coverage; scholarships for members' relatives; and ongoing communication on retirement issues. For more information and to join MROO, please visit www.mroo.org