



# News Release

393 University Avenue, Suite 1701  
Toronto, ON M5G 1E6

Tel: (416) 971-9856 • fax: (416) 971-6191  
e-mail: [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

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## **P.J. MARSHALL AWARD: City of Ottawa Honoured for Innovation**

**Toronto, Ont., August 30, 2004** – The City of Ottawa has won a Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Awards Plaque in recognition of its “Public-Private Partnership: The Bell Sensplex”. Deputy Mayor Eli El-Chantiry, Councillor Janet Stavinga, and Ned Lathrop, Deputy City Manager for Planning and Growth Management, accepted the award at the recent annual conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

“The P.J. Marshall Awards are an excellent showcase for one of the long-standing traditions of municipal governments – learning from one another by building and expanding on ideas that will provide better service to our communities,” said Roger Anderson, President of AMO. “This year’s award recipient stood out because of the process that it used in its public-private partnership.”

The City of Ottawa Bell Sensplex is a \$25.6 million recreation complex. The City brought unique elements to the public-private partnership approach. It has created a Strategic Delivery Unit that is responsible for the delivery of municipal projects under P3s, one of which was this recreation complex. It has established a Fairness Commissioner to ensure that the evaluation process to select the private sector partner would be open, fair and transparent. The City utilized the Public Sector Comparator to ensure that the City would obtain the best value from the project. This comparator became the benchmark used to evaluate the value of the potential P3s as proposed by the respondents to the request for the proposal.

The P.J. Marshall Award is an annual competitive process, with submissions by Ontario municipalities that are judged on their creativity and success in implementing new, innovative ways of serving the public.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is a non-profit organization with member municipalities representing 99.5 per cent of Ontario’s population. AMO supports and enhances strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario and Canada’s political system.

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**For more information, contact:**

Pat Vanini, AMO Executive Director  
(416) 971-9856 ext 316