



July 14, 2022

Hon. Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government of Ontario
17th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5

Sent electronically

Dear Minister Clark:

On behalf of the Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO), we would like to extend our sincere congratulations on your re-election and re-appointment to Cabinet as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

As you know, RCCAO is a unique alliance composed of management and labour groups that represents a wide spectrum of the Ontario construction industry. RCCAO's goal is to work in cooperation with government and related stakeholders to offer realistic solutions to a variety of challenges facing the construction industry and which also have wider societal benefits.

Our membership includes the Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Contractors Association; Heavy Construction Association of Toronto; International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 793; Joint Residential Construction Association, LiUNA Local 183; Ontario Formwork Association; and Toronto and Area Road Builders Association.

RCCAO supports the implementation of the recommendations in the Housing Affordability Task Force report released earlier this year, which comes at a crucial juncture for our growing province. A key solution to addressing Ontario's housing affordability crisis is making it substantially easier to increase the number of homes built across Ontario. Provincial leadership mandating greater density, streamlining urban design rules, reducing costly red tape, and modernizing the approvals and planning process with digital technologies will create the conditions to substantially increase the supply of housing across Ontario. This comprehensive approach is necessary to reform a system to work toward one goal: building more housing and critical infrastructure for the people of Ontario.

The Housing Affordability Task Force discussion addressing labour shortages in the construction industry through reforming the immigration system is also important. RCCAO's [provincial pre-budget submission](#) noted that one way to address Ontario's labour shortage is through reforming the immigration system. We are pleased to see that the task force report recommends both the federal and provincial governments prioritize people with skilled trades through the immigration point system so they can come to Canada to help build our future.

Furthermore, RCCAO welcomes the Ontario Government's continued focus on increasing housing supply in the province with the creation of Housing Supply Action Plans annually for the next four years. The housing crisis has a real cost for the people of Ontario and RCCAO will be a collaborative participant to see more homes built each and every year across the province.



It is important to note that municipalities across the province are still reeling from the impacts of the pandemic on their operating budgets. RCCAO is pleased the Ontario Government will continue to support municipalities with \$316.2 million in financial assistance, matching the Federal Government's contribution for municipalities, which is crucial to ensuring cities' state-of-good-repair (SOGR) projects proceed without interruptions or cuts. However, given that many revenue sources that municipalities rely on have yet to recover, the Province must remain ready to help cities address their funding gaps and prevent SOGR projects from being impacted.

We urge the Ontario Government to expedite the process to move forward with these important initiatives as quickly as possible to avoid costly delays. RCCAO members are ready to work to build critical infrastructure and housing to realize the prosperous future for the people of Ontario.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet you at your earliest convenience to discuss our continued collaboration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nadia Todorova', written in a cursive style.

Nadia Todorova
Executive Director

Copy to:

Hon. Michael Parsa, Associate Minister of Housing

Kevin Holland, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Ryan Amato, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Alex Earthy, Senior Policy Advisor – Housing, Minister's Office, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Stephanie DiNucci, Senior Policy Advisor – Municipal Affairs, Minister's Office, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing