



July 14, 2022

Hon. Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation
Government of Ontario
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z8

Sent electronically

Dear Minister Mulroney:

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 Transportation and Minister of Francophone Affairs.

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 wants to commend the work you, your team and the Ministry of Transportation have accomplished to date. The Ontario Government's continued commitment to investing in critical infrastructure is key to meeting the needs of our growing province. The \$25.1 billion announced earlier this year in the Ontario Budget for highway expansion rehabilitation, roads and bridges, including the Bradford Bypass and Highway 413, is crucial to keeping people and goods on the move across Ontario and the province's long-term prosperity. These projects will reduce congestion, foster economic recovery and long-term competitiveness, improve connectivity through the establishment of transportation corridors for future growth, and support the expansion of housing in the region.

Highway 413, in particular, is a transformative infrastructure project that will address anticipated population growth, facilitate much needed housing, and solidify the long-term competitiveness of Ontario. The project will ensure a viable corridor for commuters and industries that rely on highways for movement of goods and people across the region. The proposed transitway that will run alongside the highway and be dedicated exclusively for public transit, such as buses and light rail, is the sort of forward-thinking mix of transit and transportation infrastructure that the province needs.

RCCAO will build on its advocacy to continue to share the short-and long-term benefits of Highway 413, as highlighted in our commissioned [Jobs and Economic Impact of the GTA West](#)



[Corridor](#) report. In addition to meeting the long-term needs of the province, the report detailed many additional economic and employment benefits of building the highway.

We also want to applaud your visionary approach on *Connecting the GGH: A Transportation Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* which brings a much-needed long-term focus to transportation and infrastructure planning in Ontario. The plan is an important element of ensuring the transportation needs across the region are addressed and that critical infrastructure expands appropriately to grow with the province over the long-term.

The budget's allocation of \$61.1 billion for transit will help grow transit-oriented communities in the province's fastest growing regions. As the population of the province grows, demand will increase on all infrastructure, from transit, highways, roads, bridges, water and wastewater to housing.

Inaction would have real consequences. Congestion already costs the Greater Toronto Area \$11 billion per year in lost productivity. These commitments will ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated and infrastructure across Ontario is built and maintained for everyone's long-term prosperity. It is important to note that given the current inflationary environment and its impact on construction costs, considerations should be given to the [development of indexing adjustments](#) for key materials and input costs in publicly tendered contracts, including at the municipal level.

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.

You have been a steadfast supporter of critical transit and transportation infrastructure in Ontario, and 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. Stan Cho, Associate Minister of Transportation
Hardeep Singh Grewal, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transportation
Michael Beaton, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office, Ministry of Transportation
Michael Thomas, Chief of Staff, Associate Minister's Office, Ministry of Transportation
Ryan Amato, Director of Stakeholder Relations, Minister's Office, Ministry of Transportation