



ONTARIO NONPROFIT NETWORK

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
7th Floor, 56 Wellesley St West
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3
By email: Prabmeet.Sarkaria@ontario.ca

July 24, 2019

Dear Mr. Sarkaria:

On behalf of the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN), we are writing to congratulate you on your appointment as the Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction. We look forward to working with you to support and strengthen communities across the province.

The ONN is the independent nonprofit network for the 58,000 nonprofits and charities in Ontario, focused on policy, advocacy and services to strengthen the sector as a key pillar of our society and economy. We work to create a public policy environment that allows nonprofits to thrive. We engage our network of diverse nonprofit organizations across Ontario to work together on issues affecting the sector and channel the voices of our network to government, funders, and other stakeholders.

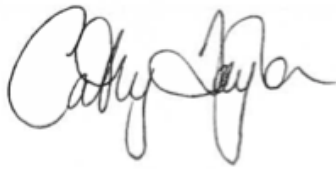
As you may know, Ontario's nonprofit sector plays a vital role as an economic driver, contributing \$50 billion to our province's GDP. As a sector, Ontario nonprofits receive less than half of their revenues from governments, which means they can leverage public investments - via business activities, donations, and the contributions of volunteers - into significantly higher value in the services they deliver to Ontarians, all while creating jobs locally. The nonprofit sector is positioned to support the Ontario government to build a stronger economy and a resilient province. Working together, we can deliver real change.

There are considerable opportunities to reduce red tape for nonprofit enterprises in the province. We were pleased to learn via Ontario Budget 2019 that there is interest in moving to consolidate transfer payment agreements and improve the Grants Ontario system to streamline processes for nonprofits. We are working with the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the Treasury Board Secretariat to advance these goals. However, there are other opportunities for reducing administrative burdens for the nonprofit sector, for example in reducing red tape associated with police record checks, and facilitating access to the Infrastructure Ontario Loans Program for social enterprises.

We are keen to work together with your Ministry staff to reduce red tape for nonprofits. We want to ensure that Ontario's nonprofit enterprises have opportunities to grow, create jobs, and ensure that people's needs are met. To do this, nonprofits require the opportunity to be "open for business" too, because like government we want to maximize the impact of public funds while minimizing waste and inefficiency.

We look forward to meeting with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

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

Cathy Taylor
Executive Director
Ontario Nonprofit Network

Copy to: The Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure, via Minister.Scott@ontario.ca
 The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board, via
 Peter.Bethlenfalvy@Ontario.ca
 The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services, via
 lm.thompson@ontario.ca
 The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General, via sylvia.jones@ontario.ca