



ONTARIO NONPROFIT NETWORK

The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
Office of the Minister of Infrastructure
College Park 5th Floor Room 5E200, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
By email: kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org

June 25, 2021

Dear Minister Surma:

On behalf of the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN), we are writing to congratulate you on your appointment as the Minister of Infrastructure. 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 \$65 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.

Infrastructure decisions have an economic, social and environmental impact. As a tool of recovery, strategic infrastructure investment in partnership with nonprofit organizations could be an avenue for employment expansion and local economic development as nonprofits create good jobs, deliver essential community services, and create community wealth and well-being through local, low-carbon economic activity. There is an opportunity to leverage infrastructure investments to support a stronger, more inclusive recovery.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how ONN and our network can act as a partner to the government to ensure that infrastructure investments create the greatest social, economic and environmental value for our local communities and for Ontarians as a whole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cathy" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Taylor".

Cathy Taylor
Executive Director
Ontario Nonprofit Network