



October 3, 2014

Hon. Brad Duguid, MPP
Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure
8th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1

Dear Minister Duguid,

Like you, the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association believes that infrastructure (re)investment is key to Ontario's continued prosperity. We share your Government's commitment to long-term infrastructure planning and commend its commitment to build strong communities.

In Bill 6, Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2014, the Government clearly articulates the relationship between infrastructure and economic growth. Ontario's social housing is also vital for economic growth, creating jobs while simultaneously providing an important public service to vulnerable Ontarians. But, municipalities are struggling to keep social housing in good repair, much of which require significant investment to remain safely habitable.

Right now, social housing is not listed in the definition of "infrastructure" contained in Bill 6. Revising the definition to include social housing will enable municipalities to invest in social housing with future infrastructure funding. It's an important way that the Province can support the social housing sector and municipalities at no additional cost.



The attached briefing note provides more detail on our recommendation. We would like to meet with you and your colleagues to discuss our proposal and the challenges and opportunities facing the sector. We will contact your scheduler shortly to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,

Keith Hambly
President
ONTARIO NON-PROFIT HOUSING ASSOCIATION

cc. Melanie Wright, Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister, MEDEI

Hon. Ted McMeekin, MPP, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Scott Kirkham, Senior Advisor, Office of the Minister, MMAH
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division, MMAH