

The Honourable Steve Clark
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park 17th Flr, 777 Bay St
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

February 4, 2021

Dear Minister,

Re: OPPI Letter dated December 17

The Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) is writing to voice its concerns with respect to the December 17 letter issued to you by the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI).

OPPI's Recommendation #3 states:

The Province should provide the Ontario Professional Planners Institute adequate authority to protect the public interest by providing necessary oversight over the conduct of professional planners in Ontario.

While we assume that you are already aware of the contentious nature of Bill 70—as well as the government's commitment that this Bill will not move forward in its current state—we do feel it important to register our opposition to the OPPI recommendation. Bill 70 interferes with the ability of architects to provide services that are usual and customary to the practice of architecture—namely, professional planning.

Previous discussions between the OAA and the OPPI resulted in a number of important revisions, helping to reduce this statutory infringement. However, the file had fallen dormant after our last communication with the OPPI in late 2019.

Until these issues are fully resolved to the mutual satisfaction of both parties, we appreciate your support in examining this matter. We are actively trying to restart discussions with the OPPI in good faith. Should a satisfactory resolution be reached, the OAA has committed to rescinding its objection to Bill 70.

Sincerely,



Susan Spiegel, Architect
OAA, FRAIC
President