



Ontario Association of Architects

Changing Workplaces Review, ELCPB
400 University Ave., 12th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1T7

October 13, 2016

To whom it may concern,

The Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) commends the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Mr. C. Michael Mitchell, the Honourable John C. Murray, and the Special Advisors on the consultations leading to the Changing Workplaces Review Interim Report. The OAA actively supports the review of *the Labour Reform Act*, 1995 and the *Employment Standards Act* (ESA), 2000.

As you may be aware, the OAA is the licensing body and professional association for Ontario's architects established under the *Architects Act* to regulate the practice of architecture "*in order that the public interest may be served and protected.*" The OAA has a membership that comprises nearly 4,000 licensed architects and 1,500 intern architects; and more than 1,750 practices. As part of its regulatory mandate, the Association provides a wide range of services to its members and the public.

The OAA has noted that the exemptions applying to architects under the ESA have been classified in the Changing Workplaces Review Interim Report as "exemptions that should be subject to further review in a new process." The OAA would appreciate the opportunity to participate in any future consultation processes regarding the architectural profession.

This review has sparked a number of timely considerations for the profession and, in the interim, the OAA is exploring the opportunity to consult with the architects and architectural practices in Ontario to gather information about the impacts of ESA exemptions on both employees and employers within the profession. We will happily share any relevant findings with the Ministry and Special Advisors as information becomes available.

The OAA hopes to ensure that the industry is well represented within the consultation process and looks forward to working closely with both Ministry officials and the Changing Workplace Review Special Advisors to ensure the best interests of Ontarians are served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Toon Dreessen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Toon Dreessen, Architect
OAA, FRAIC, AIA, LEED AP
President

CC. The Honourable Kevin Daniel Flynn, Minister of Labour