

Ministry of Economic Development,
Job Creation and Trade

Office of the Minister

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JAN 25 2019

Mr. John Stephenson
President
Ontario Association of Architects
1 Duncan Mill Road
Toronto, Ontario
M3B 1Z2

Dear Mr. Stephenson:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations on my appointment as Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and for sharing information about the Ontario Association of Architects. I am pleased to hear about your productive meeting with MPP Skelly.

Our government's number one priority is to make sure the world knows that Ontario is open for business. We are reducing barriers to trade, supporting open markets and helping more businesses start, grow and invest in the province.

In my new role, I want to bring quality jobs back to Ontario by removing unnecessary, burdensome red tape and attracting new investment opportunities across all our sectors. Ontario has a strong and diversified manufacturing base, is a leader in advanced technologies, and benefits from both a highly educated workforce and a world-class economic development community. I know we can build on these strengths by supporting economic immigration programs that attract globally connected talent, helping our small- and medium-sized enterprises expand, and ensuring that businesses have the tools they need to compete in today's competitive international marketplace.

Our government cannot accomplish this alone. It is my hope that we can work together to create a more dynamic architectural sector and build even stronger local economies, so our businesses and families can succeed.

Once again, thank you for writing and for your kind words of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd Smith", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Todd Smith
Minister