

February 19th, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Room 648, Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, ON M7A1A1
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Dear The Honourable Doug Ford and Members of the Office

I hope this letter finds you well. As the voice of Ontario's engineers, the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) is committed to supporting the province's growth and resilience through innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity. As Ontario stands at a pivotal moment, where the decisions made today will shape the future of our province, we believe that engineers through their technical expertise have a crucial role to play in influencing the policies that will drive Ontario's prosperity.

To this end, we present a set of specialized recommendations for your party's consideration. These recommendations aim to provide practical, actionable insights that will ensure Ontario remains a leader in economic growth, infrastructure development, and environmental sustainability.

Our recommendations focus on five key areas:

1. Strengthening Ontario's Infrastructure, Transportation, and Housing

- Ontario must modernize its infrastructure, transit, and housing to drive sustainable economic growth.
- Prioritizing quality in engineering services through Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) will ensure long-term resilience in public projects.
- Expanding transit networks and investing in intelligent transportation systems (ITS) will ease congestion and improve accessibility, while green building incentives and zoning reforms will enhance affordability and sustainability, reducing the sector's environmental footprint.

2. Advancing Clean Energy and Climate Resilience

- Ontario must invest in smart grids, renewable energy expansion, and thermal energy storage to enhance energy security, efficiency, and sustainability.
- Strengthening flood-resistant and fireproof construction, stormwater management, and infrastructure retrofitting will protect communities from extreme weather and strengthen long-term resilience.

3. Driving Innovation in Green Technologies and Emerging Industries

- Ontario must lead in cleantech, decentralized water and wastewater solutions, and sustainable infrastructure to ensure long-term economic and environmental security.
- Strengthening cybersecurity, ethical AI governance, and digital infrastructure will position Ontario as a leader in the secure and responsible development of emerging technologies.

4. Expanding Education, Workforce Development, and Equity in Engineering

- Building a skilled and diverse workforce is key to Ontario's future. Expanding STEM education, workforce training, and inclusion programs will help meet the province's growing demand for engineers.
- Implementing the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act recommendations will ensure engineering workplaces, education programs, and infrastructure are inclusive and accessible to all Ontarians.

5. Strengthening Public Health Through Clean Indoor Air and Sustainable Communities

- Ontario must prioritize indoor air quality and environmental health through a Clean Indoor Air Act to regulate air quality, improve ventilation, and raise public awareness.
- Investing in sustainable and accessible infrastructure will create healthier, more livable communities for all residents.

These recommendations reflect the technical expertise and vision of Ontario's engineers, who are committed to building a province that thrives in the face of future challenges. We have compiled a more detailed document outlining a comprehensive list of recommendations, which can be accessed here: [OSPE's Policy Recommendations 2025](#). By incorporating these insights into your party's platform, you will not only enhance Ontario's economic resilience but also ensure a sustainable, inclusive, and innovative future for all Ontarians.

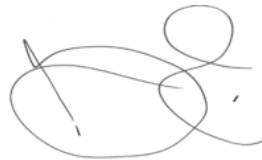
We urge you and your colleagues to consider these recommendations to drive forward-thinking policies that will strengthen Ontario and empower its citizens. As we work towards a better future, we remain eager to engage in further discussions and provide additional technical expertise as needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to seeing how your party incorporates these key elements into its platform and to collaborating in the years ahead to shape a province that champions engineering excellence and innovation.

Sincerely,



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VP Member Experience & Corporate Strategy
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David Carnegie, P.Eng., MBA
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