



EX18.7.1

October 18, 2016

City of Toronto Executive Committee
Attn: Jennifer Forkes
City of Toronto
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
10 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: EX 18.7 – OCS support for the City of Toronto’s Expo 2025 bid

The Ontario Construction Secretariat (OCS) is pleased to write this letter in support of the City of Toronto’s bid for World Expo 2025.

Formed in 1993, the OCS represents the collective interests of the unionized construction industry in Ontario’s industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) construction sector. Our stakeholders include 25 unionized construction trades and their contractor partners, representing over 100,000 union members and 5,000 union contractors.

Over the past 23 years, the OCS has become a trusted leader in delivering non-partisan and impartial research and advice to our industry and government stakeholders. Our union partners have also earned a reputation for “getting the work done on-time, on-budget and safely”. They’re time is now!

Expo 2025 will provide a huge opportunity to engage and channel today’s youth towards careers in the building trades. These construction jobs will help build key projects ranging from increased and affordable housing, improved transit infrastructure, new water and wastewater facilities to flood protection and the construction of “intelligent” networks and a “smart” community. The projects will also include the construction of permanent structures and structures that can be disassembled and relocated elsewhere. Additional jobs will be created in the areas of architecture and design.

Expo 2025 would provide a great boost to the construction industry and improve much needed infrastructure that will pay economic dividends well into the future.

Expo 2025 is a unique opportunity not likely to be repeated in our lifetime. We must seize the moment – for today and tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean W. Strickland', written in a cursive style.

Sean W. Strickland
Chief Executive Officer
Ontario Construction Secretariat