

19 October 2016

Toronto City Council
Executive Committee
100 Queen St W
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Re: EXPO 2025 CANADA, OPTC Deputation to Executive Committee

The Ontario Pipe Trades Council (OPTC) asks that the Executive Committee vote in favour of proceeding with a formal Bid Proposal on the Expo 2025.

OPTC is an organization promoting the technical, commercial and environmental benefits of the pipe trades to maximize their use in the construction industry. The pipe trades include: Plumbing, Steamfitting, Welding, Sprinkler Fitting, Refrigeration and HVAC industry. OPTC represents 18,000 skilled trades workers in the Province of Ontario, and 12,000 in the Greater Toronto Area.

We at the OPTC strongly encourage the Executive Committee to move forward with the Expo 2025 Bid Proposal. Hosting the Expo 2025 would provide an opportunity to build on the infrastructure investments that have been taking place across the city.

We have a unique opportunity in Canada in regards to this bid, since both federal and provincial governments have dedicated much of their mandate to creating good jobs through investment in infrastructure. Both governments have committed to working with skilled workers across the country to make cities more liveable, accessible, smarter and innovative.

The Expo 2025 will bring people from all around the world to Toronto. We will have the opportunity to showcase that we have the most multicultural city in the entire world, providing a feeling of home to everyone who visits. This increase in tourism will inject money into the city, stimulating growth and becoming an economic catalyst for upgrades to improve Toronto's transit, affordable housing, and movement towards our climate change goals.

For the City of Toronto, this would create jobs and develop an untapped area of the city for future use. The development of the Port Lands would create valuable jobs across the Province. Many of these developments would require the use of pipe trades, but Expo would increase jobs across all sectors and provide stable long-term employment and apprenticeship options for young people. The OPTC believes it is extremely important for Expo 2025 to utilize the city's unionized workforce and take this occasion to provide good paying jobs to skilled trades workers.

Canada's Prime Minister has touted the importance of Canada being an international player. The OPTC believes that this Expo would demonstrate that not only is Canada on the international stage, but Toronto is also a world class city.

Sincerely,



James Hogarth
Business Manager
Ontario Pipe Trades Council