



Councillor Paul Ainslie
 Toronto City Council
 Scarborough East - Ward 43
 Chair, Government Management Committee

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November 7, 2016

Hon Steven Del Duca, MPP - Minister of Transportation
 Ministry of Transportation
 3rd Floor, Ferguson Block
 77 Wellesley Street West
 Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Del Duca,

I am writing you today as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA).

I was deeply disappointed to learn that the Board received a letter advising that the Province of Ontario would not be holding delegation meetings at our 2017 OGRA Annual Conference.

It is my understanding that our President Robert Burlie and Executive Director Joe Tiernay, OGRA Board of Directors will be meeting with you on November 16th to discuss this matter. I wanted to be in attendance, but unfortunately my schedule does not permit me to participate in the meeting. However with this letter I would like to show my support in the Board's efforts to ask you to reconsider your decision.

For the past 17 years, OGRA and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) have organized and executed the annual conference with great success. ROMA made a decision to hold their 2017 conference separately, and we understand the Ontario Government will be holding delegation meetings at the ROMA's conference. The OGRA Board of Directors strongly feel the present situation to not hold the meetings at the OGRA conference as well is unfair to our members.

The Ontario Provincial Government delegation meetings are key to a number of OGRA members. They give an opportunity to discuss local issues and concerns directly with yourself, and your staff. Many of the delegates are withholding their attendance until these delegation meetings are confirmed. The decision by your office not to hold the meetings will have an adverse effect on our conference registration.

We believe the delegation meetings are a great benefit to the Ontario Government as well. OGRA represents 412 of the 444 municipalities in the province. Many politicians from urban municipalities in the GTA and others such as Ottawa, London, Windsor, Thunder Bay, etc., are looking forward to attend the OGRA's conference, and will not be able to attend ROMA's. Not having delegation meetings will deny them an opportunity to meet with provincial government officials.

I sincerely hope you will reconsider your decision and hold delegation meetings at the OGRA 2017 Annual Conference. Having the meetings will continue a long standing tradition of provincial government participation in this event, which is very much appreciated by everyone who is involved.

I look forward to your response.

All my Best,

Councillor Paul Ainslie
 City of Toronto Scarborough East Ward 43