

Minister of Infrastructure
and Communities



Ministre de l'Infrastructure
et des Collectivités

Ottawa, Canada K1P 0B6

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SEP 11 2019

R.M.Y.
CLERK

Mr. Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1

SEP 04 2019

Dear Mr. Raynor:

Thank you for your letter of April 26, 2019, regarding the Regional Municipality of York's Council resolution supporting the Province of Ontario's transit plan for the Greater Toronto Area, including the Yonge North Subway Extension. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

The Government of Canada has a long history of making strategic investments in a wide range of infrastructure categories. Infrastructure is the foundation of sustainable and inclusive communities—it removes barriers, brings people together and allows all Canadians to be active participants in their community. Moreover, good infrastructure fosters an environment where the best of Canadian innovation can grow.

The Government's *Investing in Canada* plan is providing more than \$180 billion over 12 years. Our priority is to promote infrastructure that will create good, well-paying jobs that can help the middle class grow and prosper. Key areas for investment include public transit, green and social infrastructure, transportation infrastructure that supports trade, and infrastructure in rural and northern communities.

The Plan is investing \$28.7 billion to improve public transit infrastructure throughout Canada, helping transform the way Canadians live, move and work; \$26.9 billion towards green infrastructure; and \$25.3 billion towards social infrastructure that will strengthen our communities, and build a better quality of life for our children and grandchildren. Additionally, the Government will invest \$10.1 billion towards trade and transportation investments that will help Canadian businesses compete and grow, and \$2 billion to support a broad range of projects in our rural and northern communities.

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Canada

Infrastructure Canada has signed a long-term agreement with the Province of Ontario that will provide \$11.8 billion in infrastructure funding over the next decade. Through this agreement, the Government of Canada provides equitable funding allocations for transit authorities across the province. Consequently, over \$203 million has been allocated to the Regional Municipality of York to invest in projects that expand the transit network as well as ensure that it remains in a state of good repair.

As you are likely aware, on May 15, 2019, the Honourable Monte McNaughton, Ontario's Minister of Infrastructure, formally prioritized the Yonge North Subway Extension project for federal funding. Under the Agreement, York Region may assign its allocation under the Public Transit Infrastructure stream of the *Investing in Canada* Plan to the project. In addition, the Government of Canada is pleased to contribute over \$36 million through the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund to advance the project's design and preliminary engineering, which is essential to developing robust project scope, cost and timeline. On July 22, 2019, the Province of Ontario initiated a second intake process for the Public Transit Infrastructure Stream for projects inside the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, including York Region.

On August 26, 2019, a priority announcement was made for the Bloor-Yonge Station Capacity Improvement project. The expansion of the Bloor-Yonge station is a critical step in accommodating future ridership growth resulting from the Yonge North Subway Extension project.

As the Yonge North Subway Extension project would require the approval of the Treasury Board of Canada, a fulsome business case must be submitted to Infrastructure Canada before any funding commitment can be made. We rely on our partners to do the necessary planning and design work to determine project's scope, cost and timeline. While Infrastructure Canada has not yet received the business case, I can assure you that my officials are working with provincial officials to advance this project as much as possible.

In addition to available funding under the Agreement, the Canada Infrastructure Bank is a new tool to make public dollars go further and use them more strategically by leveraging the expertise and capital of the private sector. As you know, the Canada Infrastructure Bank is an arm's-length Crown corporation that works with provincial, territorial, municipal, indigenous and private sector investment partners to transform the way infrastructure is planned, funded and delivered in Canada.

The Regional Municipality of York may also utilize its federal Gas Tax funding, including the recently announced top-up, provided that, as the ultimate recipient under the program, it chooses to apply its allocation to this project.

Thank you for writing on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'F. Champagne', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Infrastructure and Communities