

Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement,
de la Protection de la nature et des
Parcs



Office of the Minister

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357-2024-2013

November 28, 2024

Mr. Robert Gordon
President
Old Ottawa East Community Association
Email: president@ottawaeast.ca

Mr. Tom Scott
Transportation and Infrastructure
Old Ottawa East Community Association
Email: tscot9401@rogers.com

Dear Mr. Gordon and Mr. Scott:

Thank you for your letter to Minister Khanjin requesting a Section 16 order regarding the proposed rehabilitation/replacement of Ottawa Queensway Downtown Bridges from Metcalfe Street to Main Street (the project) being carried out by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO, the proponent). I have taken on ministerial duties while Minister Khanjin is on leave and am responding on her behalf.

From your email, I understand that you have concerns related to the consultation that was undertaken by the MTO during the preparation of the Transportation Environmental Study Report, as well as the negative impacts of the proposed project on traffic, business and commerce in the area.

A request for an order under Section 16 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* may only be made on the grounds that it may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on the existing Aboriginal or Treaty rights of an Indigenous community. Since your request was not made on such grounds, it will not be considered at this time.

Should the proponent proceed with the project, it must ensure the project is implemented in the manner in which it was developed and designed, as set out in the project documentation, and inclusive of all mitigating measures, and environmental and other provisions therein. In addition, the proponent will need to consider any other permits or approvals required under other legislation in order to proceed.

I encourage you to continue discussing your concerns with the proponent directly by contacting Obinna Obiefule, Senior Project Engineer, MTO, at obinna.obiefule@ontario.ca.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd McCarthy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left and a vertical stroke extending downwards.

Todd McCarthy
Acting Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation
Obinna Obiefule, Senior Project Engineer, Ministry of Transportation
Marco Mazzuca, Supervisor, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP
Sadhvika Chandrasekar, Project Evaluator, Environmental Assessment Branch, MECP