



**Ontario**  
Home Builders'  
Association

## *New Growth Plan Continues to Promote Compact, Transit-oriented Communities*

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### **Growth Plan Still Needs to Address Housing Supply Crunch**

**(Toronto) May 18, 2017** – The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) recognizes that the government has listened to industry and our municipal partner concerns in today's announcement made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, amending Ontario's four land use plans, including the Greenbelt and Growth Plan. These plans will shape the growth of communities across the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) for more than four million new residents over the next 25 years.

The Province recognizes that the "one size fits all" approach to planning would not work in the GGH. The finalized plans provide more local flexibility, understanding the diverse nature of communities across the region. However, OHBA is concerned that should Ontarians continue to experience red tape and approval delays, housing supply, choice and affordability will be threatened.

"Our short-term concern has always been that without appropriate transition, the implementation of the updated land use plans could undermine current housing in the pipeline," said OHBA CEO, Joe Vaccaro. "Our industry is currently fighting the delays created by the previous plan, which prevented bringing much-needed housing supply and choice to Ontarians. We need provincial funding and approval to deliver public transit, clean water and infrastructure and build complete communities."

Over the past decade since the Growth Plan was originally introduced, the newly built housing mix has experienced a paradigm shift: dramatically reduced low-rise supply and increase in higher density housing. This new Growth Plan will continue the shift towards higher density housing across the GGH.

"This new Growth Plan will not alleviate either the housing supply crunch or escalating housing prices, however we believe that new interim targets and the recognition by the Province for needed local flexibility will provide a smoother transition," added Vaccaro.

OHBA looks forward to continuing to work with government to help grow vibrant communities, while protecting the environment across the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

#### About OHBA

The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario representing 4,000 member companies organized into 29 local associations across the province. The industry contributes over \$56 billion dollars to Ontario's economy, generating \$19.8 billion in wages and employing more than 336,000 people across the province.

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