



Ontario
Home Builders'
Association

MEDIA RELEASE

OHBA WELCOMES GROWTH PLAN AMENDMENTS TO CREATE MORE HOUSING SUPPLY AND CHOICE TO THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE

(Toronto) January 15, 2019 – The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) welcomes the proposed amendments to the Growth Plan. These changes will facilitate intensification without applying a one size fits all approach to growth planning in communities across the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH). OHBA believes that today's announcement supports the government's commitment to reduce red tape and make it easier to live and do business in Ontario.

The Growth Plan will shape the development of communities across the GGH for more than three million new residents by 2041. It is critical that the Growth Plan prioritizes higher levels of intensification on transit lines and Urban Growth Centres, while also addressing the growing imbalance between strong demand for housing and limited supply. This imbalance has contributed to dramatic costs for both ownership and rental housing over the past few years. OHBA had been critical of the previous government's approach with unrealistic intensification and density targets that created policy constraints which contributed to higher home prices in many Ontario communities.

"All across Ontario we need more housing supply and choice. The proposed changes by the Ontario government should get municipalities planning the right housing in the right locations for their communities," noted Rick Martins, OHBA President.

OHBA continues to support the important work the Ontario government does on the housing file. Along with the amendments to the Growth Plan, the government has modernized Ontario's apprenticeship system by bringing 1-to-1 ratios to all trades, stimulated more rental housing exempting new rental units from rent control, and is generating new ideas through the Housing Supply Action Plan to bring more housing to communities across Ontario.

"The Greater Golden Horseshoe is going to welcome three million new #homebelievers in the next 20 years, and this new Growth Plan will support intensification where transit infrastructure exists, without applying a one size fits all approach to every municipality," said Joe Vaccaro, OHBA CEO. "These are practical approaches that OHBA believes will create the housing supply and choice needed in these communities."

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About OHBA:

As #homebeliever champions, the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) believes in the great Canadian dream of home ownership by supporting more housing choice and supply across Ontario. OHBA is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario, representing 4,000 member companies organized into 29 local associations across the province.

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