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OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

Dates to Note

- **September 2:** [OHBA 2019 Conference - Early Bird Pricing ends](#)
- **September 22:** Launch of the [2019 OHBA Conference and Awards of Distinction](#) - Collingwood
- **September 23:** OHBA Annual Meeting of Members and Annual Conference Begins
- **September 23:** OHBA's Presidents' Gala
- **September 24:** OHBA Awards of Distinction



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Provincial Government Shuffles Cabinet

On June 20, in an effort to re-calibrate the government just over a year after it was elected, Premier Ford has made a shuffle to the Cabinet. The shuffle includes a number of shifts in portfolios, and a few new MPPs being promoted to Cabinet. The most critical portfolio for OHBA is the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, which is in the middle of implementing the *Housing Supply Action Plan*. OHBA is pleased that Minister Steve Clark whom we have built an excellent relationship with will remain as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The [new Cabinet](#), along with their former positions, is listed below:

Peter Bethlenfalvy

- Remains President of the Treasury Board

Paul Calandra

- Promoted to Government House Leader

Raymond Cho

- Remains Minister for Seniors and Accessibility



- Remains as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Doug Downey

- Promoted to Cabinet as the Attorney General

Jill Dunlop

- Promoted to Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues

Christine Elliott

- Formerly Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and Deputy Premier
- Portfolio split – new Minister of Health
- Remains Deputy Premier

Victor Fedeli

- Formerly Minister of Finance and Chair of Cabinet
- Now Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Remains the Chair of Cabinet

Doug Ford

- Premier and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

Merrilee Fullerton

- Formerly Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities
- Now Minister of Long-Term Care (split from Health)

Ernie Hardeman

- Remains Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Sylvia Jones

- Remains Solicitor General

Stephen Lecce

- Promoted to Minister of Education

Lisa MacLeod

- Formerly Minister of Children, Community and Social Services and Minister Responsible for Women's Issues
- Now Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Monte McNaughton

- Formerly Minister of Infrastructure
- Now Minister of Labour

Caroline Mulroney

- Formerly Attorney General and Minister of Francophone Affairs
- Now Minister of Transportation and Minister of Francophone Affairs

Rod Phillips

- Formerly Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Now Minister of Finance

Greg Rickford

- Remains Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, and Minister of Indigenous Affairs

Ross Romano

Prabmeet Sakaria

- Promoted to Cabinet – is Associate Minister of Small Business & Red Tape Reduction

Laurie Scott

- Formerly Minister of Labour
- Now Minister of Infrastructure

Kinga Surma

- Promoted to Associate Minister of Transportation (GTA)

Todd Smith

- Formerly Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and Government House Leader
- Now Minister of Children, Community & Social Services

Lisa Thompson

- Formerly Minister of Education
- Now Minister of Government & Consumer Services (Tarion portfolio)

Michael Tibollo

- Formerly Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- Now Associate Minister for Mental Health and Addictions

Bill Walker

- Formerly Minister of Government and Consumer Services
- Now Associate Minister of Energy

John Yakabuski

- Remains Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Jeff Yurek

- Formerly Minister of Transportation
- New Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

OHBA looks forward to working with all of the new Ministers in their new portfolios and continuing our work with Ministers that remain in their existing portfolios. OHBA has written to all the new Cabinet Ministers articulating important public policy issues impacting the industry. On June 26th, the Premier announced changes through new Parliamentary Assistant assignments for many PC MPPs. Of particular note, MPP Parm Gill (Milton) is the new Parliamentary Assistant for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the housing portfolio. For a full list of the new Parliamentary Assistant assignments please see the [gover media release](#). To review the full media release from the Ontario government regarding the Cabinet Shuffle, [click here](#).

Housing Supply Action Plan: Bill 108 Passes

OHBA President Rick Martins and 1st VP Bob Schickedanz were pleased to be invited to the release of the *Housing Supply Action Plan* (“More Homes, More Choice”) by the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). The early May announcement was a significant milestone following extensive consultation with stakeholders and, in particular, many OHBA members and local home builders’ associations in communities from across Ontario. OHBA made a [comprehensive Housing Supply Action Plan Submission](#) in January and has held numerous meetings with MPPs and Cabinet Ministers on how the provincial government can support the creation of more housing supply and choice for [#homebelievers](#) across Ontario. OHBA is pleased to report that many of the recommendations from our *Housing Supply Action Plan* submission have been adopted by the government.

The Housing Supply Action Plan is [available online here](#)

The OHBA Press Release is [available online here](#)

The *Housing Supply Action Plan* is focused on building more housing and providing more housing choice in communities across Ontario. The *Housing Supply*

months. *Bill 108, the More Homes, More Choice Act 2019* was introduced in May and passed on June 6 and marks an important milestone for the *Housing Action Plan*. [Both OHBA and BILD made deputations to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy supporting the legislation on May 31](#). OHBA will continue to be engaged with the government through the summer on additional phases and components of the *Housing Supply Action Plan*.

Bill 108 – Community Benefits Regulation and Transition Regulations

On June 21 the provincial government launched consultations on the best way to implement a new community benefits approach to ensure that developed community benefits and to make sure that municipal revenue streams are maintained and to make community benefits more transparent and predictable. Days of consultation are planned before the end of the year, with the final changes intended to make the upfront costs of new housing more predictable and transparent.

The provincial government has [proposed new regulation pertaining to the community benefits authority under the Planning Act](#) (ERO 019-0183) for 45 days until August 23. OHBA will be seeking feedback from members on the proposed regulation as we engage with the government and prepare a submission and industry recommendations responding to the proposal. MMAH plans to establish a technical working group with municipalities that will provide advice to the government on the proposed approach and a draft formula. More consultations will occur this fall on the draft formula.

The provincial government has also [proposed a new regulation and regulation changes under the Planning Act, including transition matters, related to Schedule 12 of Bill 108](#) (ERO 019-0181) for 45 days to August 5. Again, OHBA is seeking feedback from members to prepare a response to government.

Lastly, the provincial government has [proposed changes to O. Reg. 82/98 under the Development Charges Act related to Schedule 3 of Bill 108](#) (ERO 0184) for 45 days to August 5. OHBA is seeking feedback from members. To provide input please contact OHBA Policy Director [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

A link to the provincial government's press release can be found [here](#).

Government Launches WSIB Review

The Ontario Government is conducting a review of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) to ensure it operates effectively, efficiently and sustainably. The review will focus on:

- Financial oversight: the sustainability of the WSIB insurance fund and the controls over it;
- Administration: the effectiveness of the current governance model and leadership structure;
- Efficiency: the effectiveness and cost efficiency of the WSIB's operations, including comparisons to other jurisdictions and private sector insurers.

The province has appointed two external reviewers. Sean Speer, a fellow in public policy at the University of Toronto and, Linda Regner Dykeman, who has a career in private insurance. The reviewers will not be looking at how the WSIB makes decisions about claims (adjudication) or benefit levels, and will not be looking at individual claims. Submissions to the review are due by July 26. The review is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

The home building rate group (764) premiums are significantly lower this year. Moving from \$7.24 for every \$100 of a worker's income in 2018 to \$4.33, a decrease of 40.2 per cent.

OHBA will be making a submission to the review.

Environmental Assessments

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) is proposing to modernize the environmental assessment (EA) process. The government has released a [discussion paper](#) (ERO 013-5101) that outlined a more modern EA process, including [immediate, short-term fixes](#) to reduce burden and serve the interests of Ontarians. The proposed modernized plan will ensure strong environmental protections, enable electronic submissions, help address duplication, streamline processes, improve service standards to reduce delays and better recognize other planning processes that have evolved over the past four decades. The document reflects OHBA's recommendations to streamline the EA process and reduce red tape from the [OHBA Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan Submission](#) (2019).

save money and time and ensure Ontario families and communities benefit from these projects without delay. At the same time, it will free up ministry resources to focus on higher risk activities. The discussion paper identifies some immediate actions that will reduce regulatory burden and improve the efficiency of class environmental assessments in Ontario. The paper also outlines a vision to bring Ontario's environmental assessment program into the 21st century. Through the discussion paper, the MECP questions that will help to inform a modern framework for environmental assessment that:

- Ensures better alignment between the level of assessment and level of environmental risk associated with a project;
- Eliminates duplication between environmental assessment and other planning and approvals processes; and,
- Finds efficiencies in the environmental assessment process and related planning and approvals processes to shorten the timelines from start to finish and goes digital by permitting online submissions.

[OHBA provided the Minister with a submission](#) including industry recommendations on May 25, 2019.

Conservation Authorities

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) [launched a consultation](#) proposing to modernize operations and the *Conservation Authorities Act* (O13-5018) and a second [regulatory consultation](#) focusing on Conservation Authority development permits on the protection of people and property (4992). The amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* were included as a schedule in the *More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019* (Bill 108) which was passed on June 6, 2019. The MECP released a proposed [Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan](#) earlier this year which OHBA responded to with the [OHBA Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan Submission](#) in January 2019.

As part of the *Housing Supply Action Plan*, the Ministry expanded on the Environment Plan with Environmental Registry postings on:

- [Proposed amendments](#) to the *Conservation Authorities Act*
- [Proposed approach](#) for Conservation Authority development permits on protection of people & property

[OHBA submitted our recommendations](#) to government in a submission on May 10, 2019.

Excess Soil

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) has proposed changes that will make it safer and easier for more excess soil to be reused and properly by clarifying rules for managing and transporting excess soil and ensuring healthy soil is not sent to landfills, while penalizing those who dump soil illegally.

The MECP released a proposed [Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan](#) earlier this year which OHBA responded to with the [OHBA Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan Submission](#) in January 2019. The OHBA submission articulated our support for the MECP setting clear rules to allow industry to reduce construction limit soil being sent to landfill and lower greenhouse gas emissions from trucking by supporting beneficial reuses of safe soils.

The proposed changes posted on the [Environmental Registry](#) (ERO 013-5000) include:

- Clarifying rules associated with the reuse and management of excess soil to help ensure environmental protection and limit the amount of soil being sent to landfills. This would also reduce soil management costs for industry.
- Removing unnecessary barriers to redevelop and revitalize vacant lands and put them back to good use, while maintaining human health and environmental protection.
- Strengthening compliance and enforcement measures against polluters by imposing [administrative penalties](#) and modernizing the process to seize sites for environmental infractions.

The development of a new excess soil regulation supported by amendments to existing regulations including O. Reg. 347 and O. Reg. 153/04 made under the *Environmental Protection Act* supports key changes to excess soil management. Changes include:

- Clarifying that excess soil is not a waste if appropriately and directly reused;
- Development of flexible, risk-based reuse excess soil standards and soil characterization rules to provide greater clarity of environmental protection;
- Removal of waste-related approvals for low risk soil management activities;
- Improving safe and appropriate reuse of excess soil by requiring testing, tracking and registration of soil movements for larger and riskier generating and receiving sites;
- Flexibility for soil reuse through a Beneficial Reuse Assessment Tool to develop site specific standards;
- Landfill restrictions on deposit of clean soil (unless needed for cover).

- The proposal has doubled the minimum from 1,000 m³ to 2,000 m³ of excess soil leaving the project area to support the housing and renovation-re opportunities created by smaller projects and infill projects.
- OHBA passed a resolution at our 2014 AMM, that the MECP provide an exemption to the *Environmental Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 153, requiring a Record of Site Condition (RSC) for temporary roads. If passed, the regulatory posting would remove the requirement for a RSC for speci risk redevelopment situations, including converting temporary roads in construction areas to residential.

[OHBA made a submission](#) generally supporting the environmental registry posting on June 17, 2019.

Endangered Species Act

On April 18th the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposed a number of changes to the *Endangered Species Act* and has p those changes on the [Environmental Registry \(013-5033\)](#). These legislative amendments were included as a Schedule in the *More Homes, More Choic 2019* (Bill 108) which was passed on June 6, 2019. Earlier this year, the MECP released a 10-Year Review of [Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Disc Paper](#) to seek input to improve the [Endangered Species Act, 2007](#).

OHBA responded with a submission that continues to support the protection of species at risk and provided the government with detailed recommendatio reduce red tape and streamline the authorization process on March 4. [OHBA prepared and submitted a second submission](#) with industry recommenc responding to the Environmental Registry posting on May 9, 2019. OHBA anticipates and will be involved in additional consultations in the coming months structure of a *Species at Risk Conservation Trust*.

Welcome to the 2019 OHBA Conference and Awards of Distinction

Taking place September 22-24, 2019 at the stunning Blue Mountain Village and Conference Centre in Collingwood, the 2019 OHBA Conference and Awa Distinction has a new look and feel this year that we know you will enjoy!

Focusing on collaboration, smart/innovative technologies and shared learning/growth initiatives, the 2019 conference, Building Growth Together, consists days of business programs as well as the opportunity for learning in specific areas of interest through the new concurrent session streams this year.

Just a taste of what you can expect this year:

- **Preparing for Climate Change: Simple and Cost Effective Solutions**
- **Universal Communication Protocols: Managing the Raw Material of the Business Day**
- **Don't Get Floored: Build it Better and Faster**
- **Chasing Unicorns: Attracting and Retaining Talent in the Skilled Trades**
- **Virtual and Augmented Reality: Changing the Way We Do Business**
- **Cannabis and Our Industry**
- **And more!**

In addition to the business and professional development sessions, OHBA is offering a variety of fun activities to help break up some of the day. This year we are pleased to announce a new local Brewery tour, a local housing tour as well as the much anticipated Scandinave Spa trip.



There is more!

That's right...we have even more to offer this year! Kicking things off this year is the Simcoe County Home Builders' Association (SCHBA) with the openir reception themed Grease! Presented by Enbridge, 'well this reception is automatic, it's systematic, it's hydromatic.... it's SCHBA Lightning!'

The OHBA conference is also our opportunity to give thanks and say goodbye to the 2018/2019 OHBA president, Rick Martins, while we celebrate and w the OHBA incoming president, and SCHBA member, Bob Schickedanz.

And of course - it would not be the OHBA Conference without the highly-coveted OHBA Awards of Distinction celebrating the best of building ,developme

The list of activities goes on and on, so why not explore it for yourself? Visit <http://conference.ohba.ca> to learn more and to save your spot at Ontario's premier event for the home building industry.

Early Bird pricing ends on September 2 and the Blue Mountain Village books up quickly so don't delay!

A BIG thank you to the 2019 OHBA Conference and Awards of Distinction Sponsors

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