

May 9, 2025

OHBA Celebrates Success After Annual Queen's Park Day

On Wednesday, OHBA leadership and members spent the day at Queen's Park meeting with policymakers on the major issues facing the housing sector in Ontario. The day was full of engaging conversations, with the commitment to finding a cooperative approach to addressing Ontario's housing crisis being a central theme.

Queen's Park Day began with a morning of advocacy programming. CEO Scott Andison launched OHBA's new policy document, entitled Setting the Standard: Unlocking System-Wide Solutions. The priorities outlined aim to take a system-wide approach focused on reducing barriers to new development, modernizing approval processes, strengthening the skilled workforce, ensuring industry integrity, promoting sustainable development, and fostering strong provincial leadership.

After Scott's presentation, Will Stewart and Michael Dodsworth from Enterprise Canada delivered a federal post-election brief, and Patrick Tuns and Pierçon Knezic from Endgame Strategies shared advocacy best practices for members before they departed for Queen's Park to begin the afternoon's meetings.

Members had the chance to meet with cabinet ministers, MPPs, and their staff, including:

- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Rob Flack
- Minister of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement, Stephen Crawford
- Minister of Infrastructure, Kinga Surma
- Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, David Piccini
- Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, Nolan Quinn
- Minister of Rural Affairs, Lisa Thompson
- Minister of the Environment, Parks and Conservation, Todd McCarthy
- Minister of Education, Paul Calandra
- Attorney General, Doug Downey

- Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries, Sam Oosterhoff
- Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Matt Rae
- Leader of the Official Opposition and the New Democratic Party of Ontario, Marit Stiles
- Leader of the Green Party of Ontario, Mike Schreiner

The day was a great success and concluded with a reception held at Queen's Park, where OHBA members and industry stakeholders connected with policymakers and continued the discussions they began during their meetings earlier in the day.

Minister Rob Flack and Minister Stephen Crawford gave encouraging remarks during the reception, and Green Party of Ontario leader Mike Schreiner, MPP Adil Shamji, and Enbridge's Cara-Lynne Wade also spoke.

OHBA looks forward to continuing the conversations that began yesterday and turning them into collaborative action to move the industry forward and build more homes for Ontarians.

A big thank you to our sponsor, <u>Enbridge Gas</u>, for their support of this event and our association.

Please read OHBA's new advocacy priorities <u>here</u>.

Please contact <u>Andres Ibarguen</u>, Senior Manager, Communications at OHBA, for any questions or comments.