

June 11, 2015

Steven Del Duca
Minister of Transportation
Ministry of Transportation
Queen's Park/Minister's Office
77 Wellesley Street West
Ferguson Block, 3rd Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Z8

Minister Del Duca,

RE: Ensuring an Active Transportation corridor between Parry Sound and Sudbury

Parry Sound Area Active Transportation Committee is delighted with the recent announcements from the Province to move ahead with implementation of the #CycleON strategy.

Specifically, we are delighted that the priority investments for the \$15million Provincial Cycling Infrastructure include investments on HWY 17 and HWY 6 on Manitoulin Island as these both support the expansion of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail to include the Georgian Bay Cycling Route. The completion of this Route will greatly enhance cycling tourism and provide an economic boost to the Parry Sound Area.

However, to fully complete the Georgian Bay Cycling Route will require implementing a continuous Active Transportation corridor between Sudbury and Parry Sound. To that end we strongly urge that the MTO:

- Require that the design for 4-laning HWY 69 between Sudbury and Parry Sound has an active transportation corridor to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists – this corridor is part of the Georgian Bay Cycling Route, a proposed expansion of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, but is currently a major gap. MTO has presented two concepts for this corridor, one of which accommodates Active Transportation while the other (labelled the preferred concept) does not.

The #CycleON strategy has the potential to transform Active Transportation in the Province. The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail has the support of hundreds of Ontario communities who have invested to become part of the trail network. Improvements to HWY 69 are essential if the Province of Ontario's cycling network is going to meaningfully connect Northern and Southern Ontario. Communities around the province see their participation in these efforts as an investment in their local health, economy and quality of life.

We are counting on the Province to match this local commitment and leadership by ensuring provincial infrastructure is not a barrier to developing these trail systems.

Your attention to these critical issues would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Wendall Fisher
Chair, Parry Sound Area Active Transportation Committee

Cc Kathryn McGarry, PA Minister of Transportation
Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Michael Coteau, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Sophie Kiwala, PA to Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport
Hon. Bill Mauro, Minister of Natural Resources
Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines
Eleanor McMahon, PA to the Minister of Natural Resources
Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-term Care
Hon. Brad Duguid, Minister of Infrastructure

Norm Miller, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka
Tony Clement, MP Parry Sound-Muskoka
Township of Carling
Township of McDougall
Town of Parry Sound
Township of Seguin

Marlaine Koehler, Executive Director, Waterfront Regeneration Trust
Hon David Crombie, Founder, Waterfront Trail