

March 13, 2025

Sent via e-mail to: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

On behalf of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and its members, I want to thank you for your strong leadership on behalf of Ontario and Canada through the continued uncertainty around tariffs and international trade.

As I wrote to you last week, Ontario's municipalities are eager to support provincial and federal responses to these tariffs, including leveraging their \$22 billion in annual procurement.

We all hope for a negotiated solution that doesn't substantially impact the Canadian economy. However, with the uncertainty and constantly changing direction coming from President Trump, we must also consider how our province and country could best weather a protracted economic downturn.


Investing in local communities is always a good idea. In an economic downturn, it is essential. Investments in community housing and municipal infrastructure have been critical responses to previous economic downturns, including under Prime Minister Harper in 2008. As outlined in an [AMO report](#) that will be released today, investments in community housing would:

- Provide a secure pipeline of projects for the residential construction sector, preserving jobs and investment in Ontario; and
- Contribute to Ontario's long-term economic productivity by improving overall housing affordability and enabling workers to live where there is demand for skills and labour.

AMO is recommending an immediate new investment of \$1.5 billion over 2025/26 and 2026/27 for new capital development and capital repairs to existing housing stock. This new investment supports the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing buildings to protect Ontario's economy now while also supporting future productivity and economic growth.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with your government to ensure that Ontario's residents, communities, and industry leave this time of uncertainty even stronger and more economically resilient.

Sincerely,



Robin Jones
AMO President
Mayor of the Village of Westport

cc: Michelle DiEmanuele, Secretary of the Cabinet
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ali Veshkini, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure
Jason Fitzsimmons, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance