Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

Ministère des Services gouvernementaux et des Services aux consommateurs



Office of the Minister

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996-2018-334

Ms. Cathy Taylor Executive Director Ontario Nonprofit Network cathy@theonn.ca

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) regarding the recent changes to Ontario's Realty Directive. I appreciate the time you have taken to express your concerns and I welcome the opportunity to respond.

As you are aware, the province recently announced plans to accelerate the disposition of up to 243 properties. We are taking a transparent approach by making the full list of these properties publicly available, which allows not-for-profits and other groups to review the properties well in advance to determine if they have an interest in a specific property prior to it being offered for sale on the open market. The list can be viewed on Infrastructure Ontario's website: http://www.infrastructureontario.ca/Property-Sales-Process/

My ministry and Infrastructure Ontario continue to welcome expressions of interest for surplus property from eligible not-for-profits and we are committed to working with them to execute sales where appropriate.

The 30-day circulation is an opportunity for third parties and not-for-profits to express interest and is not intended to limit the engagement required to complete a sales transaction. As was the case previously, once an interest in a property has been expressed we will begin discussions with the group to confirm that the property meets its needs, and if so, to negotiate the terms of purchase and sale. As always, the expectation is that sales will take place within a reasonable period of time, considering the requirements for each party to complete their due diligence.

I wish to thank you and the ONN for your ongoing collaboration with my ministry and Infrastructure Ontario to implement circulation of surplus government property to eligible not-for-profits. In particular, the ONN's efforts to establish and maintain the registry of eligible not-for-profits for the purposes of property circulation have been instrumental to the success of this policy.

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Thank you again for writing. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Bill Walker Minister