



The Honourable Kaleed Rasheed, Associate Minister of Digital Government
Office of the Associate Minister of Digital Government
Frost Bldg S 7th Flr, 7 Queen's Park Cres.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7
By email: Kaleed.Rasheed@ontario.ca

June 25, 2021

Dear Minister Rasheed:

On behalf of the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN), we are writing to congratulate you on your appointment as the Associate Minister of Digital Government. We look forward to working with you to support and strengthen communities across the province.

ONN is the independent nonprofit network for the 58,000 nonprofits and charities in Ontario, focused on policy, advocacy and services to strengthen the sector as a key pillar of our society and economy. We work to create a public policy environment that allows nonprofits to thrive. We engage our network of diverse nonprofit organizations across Ontario to work together on issues affecting the sector and channel the voices of our network to government, funders, and other stakeholders.

As you may know, Ontario's nonprofit sector plays a vital role as an economic driver, contributing \$65 billion to our province's GDP. As a sector, Ontario nonprofits receive less than half of their revenues from governments, which means they can leverage public investments - via business activities, donations, and the contributions of volunteers - into significantly higher value in the services they deliver to Ontarians, all while creating jobs locally. The nonprofit sector is positioned to support the Ontario government to build a stronger economy and a resilient province. Working together, we can deliver real change.

We look forward to working closely with you and your team to leverage nonprofits' role in the development and governance of emerging technologies and systems that will benefit all Ontarians. We have the missions, the expertise, roots in community, attention to inequities, and also provide a bridge as service deliverers and conveners of community voices. ONN recently underscored the importance of having nonprofits at the table in its submission to the Ontario Digital Service on Ontario's Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Framework.¹


¹ Ontario Nonprofit Network. "Submission on Ontario's Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) Framework". June 4, 2021.

<https://theonn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/AI-in-Ontario-Consultation-Submission-External-JUNE-2021.pdf>

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how ONN and our network can act as a partner to the government as it considers how best to develop, govern and implement emerging technologies for Ontarians.

Congratulations again on your new role!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cathy" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Taylor".

Cathy Taylor
Executive Director
Ontario Nonprofit Network