

## Suzie Fournier

---

**From:** Suzie Fournier  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2020 11:39 AM  
**To:** Suzie Fournier  
**Subject:** FW: A message from the Minister of Infrastructure

**From:** Minister of Infrastructure <[Minister.MOI@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.MOI@ontario.ca)>  
**Date:** October 13, 2020 at 12:11:04 PM EDT  
**To:** Dan Omara <[dan.omara@Temagami.ca](mailto:dan.omara@Temagami.ca)>  
**Subject:** A message from the Minister of Infrastructure

His Worship Dan O'Mara  
Mayor  
Municipality of Temagami  
[dan.omara@temagami.ca](mailto:dan.omara@temagami.ca)

Dear Mayor O'Mara:

On behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure, I would like to thank you for participating in the 2020 Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference. I appreciate you taking the time to meet with my Parliamentary Assistant, MPP Stephen Crawford, and I regret that I wasn't able to meet with you and your delegation personally.

I understand that your discussion touched on a range of topics, including funding streams under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, and broadband. Launched in 2019, the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan (ICIP) will provide Ontario with a total of \$11.8 billion in federal funding over 10 years. This money is allocated through four funding streams: Rural and Northern Infrastructure, Public Transit, Green Infrastructure, and Community, Culture and Recreation. Ontario has launched intakes for all four of the ICIP funding streams. To date, Ontario has nominated 760 projects to the federal government, of which over 390 have been approved.

The federal government recently announced a new COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream under ICIP with additional eligible project types. The stream does not provide new money. It provides Ontario the opportunity to allocate up to 10 per cent of unallocated ICIP federal funding to utilize the stream. Ontario appreciates the potential flexibility the new stream could provide. We are reviewing the details to determine how this stream could support Ontario's infrastructure priorities, while also maintaining funding for an additional intake of ICIP Green. More information will be available soon.

Ontario will continue to ask for additional federal funding to make more investments in infrastructure projects and broadband that are critical to the province and our municipal partners as well as continue to push for additional flexibility and expedited project approvals within ICIP. I am committed to working with municipalities and the federal government to streamline the delivery of programs through bi-lateral funding agreements that support the best interests of the people of Ontario. I look forward to continuing the conversation and working to support your municipality as these opportunities become available.

Additionally, as part of *Up to Speed: Ontario's Broadband and Cellular Action Plan*, Ontario is investing \$315 million over the next five years to expand broadband and cellular access and help promote job creation and economic competitiveness.

On July 9, 2020, Ontario launched the \$150 million Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) program, designed to leverage funding from other levels of government and the private sector to maximize the impact of Ontario's investment. Applications for the first intake of ICON closed on August 21, 2020. We are targeting the first projects to break ground by spring 2021. The program will have a second intake for more projects that require additional time to develop in early winter 2020/21. The program will be open to non-profit or for-profit entities, Ontario municipalities or Band councils contingent on one applicant on the proposal having three years of experience building, owning, servicing and/or operating broadband infrastructure.

As discussed, please contact Fausto Iannialice ([Fausto.Iannialice@ontario.ca](mailto:Fausto.Iannialice@ontario.ca)), Director of Broadband Deployment and Digital Connectivity, to continue the discussion on options for broadband projects within your community.

The success of the ICON program is contingent on support from key partners, including the federal government. We are working to align our program criteria with federal programs, which will help to maximize the impact of Ontario's investment.

Thank you again. I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Laurie Scott  
Minister of Infrastructure

**Confidentiality Warning:** This e-mail contains information intended only for the use of the individual(s) named above. If you have received this e-mail in error, we would appreciate it if you could advise us through the Minister's website at [www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-infrastructure](http://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-infrastructure) and destroy all copies of this message. Thank you.