

**Ministry of  
Transportation**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des  
Transports**

Bureau de la ministre

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December 14, 2020

107-2020-5029

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

Dear Mayor O'Mara:

I am pleased to announce that today the province released its plan to build a better transportation system in Northern Ontario. [Connecting the North: A Draft Transportation Plan for Northern Ontario](#) includes more than 60 actions that will get people moving, improve travel options for people in northern First Nations and remote communities, and support economic growth in the North. As we continue the path to economic recovery from COVID-19, this plan will be vital to driving economic activity, keeping people and goods moving and creating jobs in the North.

This plan is centered on 6 goals: getting people moving and connecting communities, enabling economic opportunities, keeping people safe and providing reliable transportation options, preparing for the future, maintaining a sustainable transportation system and providing reliable travel options for remote and Far North communities. Key actions include improvements to rest areas, expanding bus service and moving forward with highway widening projects on key corridors in the region, such as Highway 11/17. The plan also includes actions to make further progress on our plan for passenger rail service in the North.

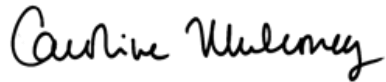
Municipalities and Indigenous communities are important partners to support the implementation of the transportation plan and provide safe and reliable travel options. We are seeking your input and feedback to discuss opportunities that will help achieve the goals of the plan. We invite you to submit your comments through the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) (ERO number 019-2830 ) until March 10, 2021.

This transportation plan is vital for long-term planning in Northern Ontario that will drive economic growth as the province continues on the path to economic recovery. It is a living document that requires continuing updates and improvements to stay relevant as the needs of people and businesses evolve.

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We are committed to working closely with the public, Indigenous communities and organizations, municipalities, transportation agencies, industry and businesses to improve transportation in Northern Ontario. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to email [NorthernTransportationPlan@ontario.ca](mailto:NorthernTransportationPlan@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Caroline Mulroney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Caroline Mulroney  
Minister of Transportation

bc. Jennifer Backler [Jennifer.backler@ontario.ca](mailto:Jennifer.backler@ontario.ca)