



**Ontario Federation of Agriculture**

**Ontario AgriCentre**

100 Stone Road West, Suite 206, Guelph, Ontario N1G 5L3  
Tel: (519) 821-8883 • Fax: (519) 821-8810 • [www.ofa.on.ca](http://www.ofa.on.ca)

November 29, 2017

The Honourable Steven Del Duca  
Minister of Transportation  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Ferguson Block, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Del Duca;

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is Canada's largest voluntary general farm organization, representing more than 37,000 farm family businesses across Ontario. These farm businesses form the backbone of a robust food system and rural communities with the potential to drive the Ontario economy forward.

Just over a month ago, you and Premier Wynne announced the establishment of a High-Speed Rail Planning Advisory Board to support and guide the high-speed rail project.

Much of the right-of-way for this project, particularly the sections west of Kitchener-Waterloo, will directly impact farmers, farm land and farmer's day-to-day activities, as existing access across the right-of-way will be severely limited. Furthermore, it will be necessary to acquire land for the right-of-way west of Kitchener.

The impacts on daily life are significant and far-reaching for our farm members, their neighbours, and the rural communities in which they all live and work.

Because of this, we request that the Ontario Federation of Agriculture be represented on the High-Speed Rail Planning Advisory Board, to provide a rural and agricultural perspective to the Board and the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Currie', written in a cursive style.

Keith Currie  
President

cc: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne; Premier  
The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Foods and Rural Affairs  
OFA Board of Directors  
County Federations of Agriculture