

July 8, 2019

Hon. Rod Phillips
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South, 7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, ON
M7A 1Y7

Dear Minister Phillips,

On behalf of the 38,000 farm family members of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and our rural communities across Ontario, we offer congratulations on your appointment as Ontario's Minister of Finance.

We know that your extensive background in business and your commitment to rural and remote Ontario communities will serve well as you tackle the complex and challenging role of managing Ontario's fiscal policy.

As you know the OFA is focused on rural economic development as the ways and means of supporting a strong and growing agricultural sector, as well as addressing the challenges of urban Ontario dealing with rapid population growth and its associated challenges. We firmly believe that the distribution of economic development across rural Ontario is sound public policy, positively affecting all of Ontario.

Although we understand Ontario's difficult fiscal situation, we believe that prudent investment in rural Ontario and Ontario's agri-business will drive a stronger economy and contribute to your undertaking to balance the books.

Once again, congratulations on your new portfolio. We look forward to working with you in this important undertaking in the pursuit of our Producing Prosperity in Ontario goals.

Sincerely,



Keith Currie
President