

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Minister Rob Flack  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Flack,

***Re: OPPI Feedback on ERO 026-0314: Proposed Changes to Various Regulations Under the Planning Act and the City of Toronto Act, 2006 to Specify Additional “Prescribed Professions” for the Purposes of a Complete Application***

On behalf of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI), we are pleased to provide input on other professions who should be added to the list of “Prescribed Professions” for the purposes of a complete application.

As introduced through recent amendments to the Planning Act, subsection 41(3.5.1) establishes that information and materials required for a complete application are deemed to meet municipal requirements if prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession. This provision has significant implications for how municipalities assess completeness and process applications.

Including Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) as a prescribed profession will ensure that critical components of planning applications – already prepared by Registered Professional Planners – are recognized without duplication or unnecessary revalidation. This will support a more efficient, streamlined approvals process, directly advancing the Province’s goal of accelerating development timelines.

To validate the need for RPPs inclusion as a Prescribed Profession, we offer the following:

- Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) have met the standards of education, experience and examination to become a RPP in Ontario. They must adhere to a strict Code of Ethics and Practice (or face possible claims against them under OPPI’s Complaints & Discipline Process), carry mandatory E&O insurance and participate in a mandatory Continuous Professional Learning Program annually. Failure to comply with the latter two requirements results in termination of membership. OPPI’s members are governed under OPPI’s Act issued in 1984 by the Government of Ontario.
- RPPs exercise due care and diligence in their work, and their work can be trusted.
- The Code for RPPs requires them to “not perform work outside of their professional competence”, so when RPPs engage in the development approvals process, they bring the right expertise to help move that development forward.

- RPPs working in the private sector and RPPs working in the municipal sector both operate with integrity and professionalism -- and are **both** aligned with moving development approvals through the system.
- RPPs have a professional seal they can use, so similar to Professional Engineers, the seal affirms the quality of their work.
- RPPs are knowledgeable in all facets of development. An experienced RPP understands layout, design, landscaping, transportation, servicing, stormwater management, natural heritage, built heritage, policy, zoning, and more -- the Province can always rely on RPPs to offer reliable opinions on what constitutes good development that should be fast-tracked.
- RPPs are responsible for the Planning Justification Report (PJR); the most important document in terms of moving a development application forward. Not including RPPs in the list of Prescribed Professions will not meet the Province's objective to move a Complete Application forward with Reports completed by prescribed professions.

In addition to Registered Professional Planners, OPPI supports the inclusion of Landscape Architects who are members of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects, Archaeologists who are listed on the Ministry's Registry, and Architects who are members of the Ontario Association of Architects. These professions bring specialized expertise related to site design, public realm planning, cultural heritage, environmental integration, and the built environment that regularly informs planning applications and development review. Their inclusion would further support the Province's objective under ERO 026-0314 by enabling a more coordinated and interdisciplinary approach to the planning approvals process while maintaining professional accountability and technical rigor.

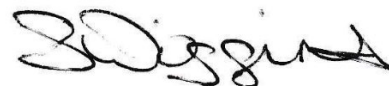
Ensuring that the list of prescribed professions includes all professions that may submit reports as part of a complete application would also help address a current gap in the framework, which at present is primarily focused on Professional Engineers.

Thank you for considering OPPI's response on this matter. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting, please do not hesitate to contact us at (647) 326-2328 or by email at [s.wiggins@ontarioplanners.ca](mailto:s.wiggins@ontarioplanners.ca).

Sincerely,



Andria Leigh, MCIP, RPP, Dipl.M.M.  
Chair, OPPI



Susan Wiggins, CAE, Hon. IDC  
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