

July 6, 2018

The Honorable Laurie Scott
Minister of Labour
Delivered electronically

RE: Bill 148: *Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017* – Construction Exemption

Dear Minister Scott,

Congratulations on winning the June provincial election and your ministerial appointment. I am writing on behalf of an informal coalition, listed in Appendix A, raising concerns over Bill 148 and seeking an exemption for the construction industry.

This letter is in support of the letter jointly signed by Wayne Peterson (Construction Employers Coordination Council of Ontario), Ian Cunningham (Council of Ontario Construction Associations), Alex Lolua (Electrical Power Systems Construction Association), and Andrew Pariser (Residential Construction Council of Ontario and Ontario Residential Council of Construction Associations).

These associations collectively represent employers from all seven sectors of the Ontario Construction industry and agree that the construction industry should be exempted from Bill 148.

For historical context, Bill 148 stemmed from the two part changing workplaces review. Throughout that review and until the Bill was released, the Minister of Labour and the Changing Workplaces Reviewers, Ministry of Labour indicated that construction would be exempted from the bill.

With the utmost respect, we request this exemption be dealt with on an urgent basis as current provisions have sharply increased labour uncertainty illustrated through Bill 148 related grievances at the Ontario Labour Relations Board; additional provisions are scheduled to come into effect on January 1, 2019 causing unintended negative consequences; and all major collective agreements within the residential sector are scheduled to expire on April 30, 2019. While that date seems distant, preparations have already commenced.

On a final note, Bill 148 has increased uncertainty to the construction industry which is the driving factor of labour stoppages, missed deadlines, and delays. We are hopeful that your government will be able to make this meaningful change for all people in Ontario.

Sincerely,



Andrew Pariser
Vice President / Chair
RESCON / ORCCA

Appendix 'A'

Richard Lyall
Metropolitan Toronto Apartment Builders
Association

Richard Lyall
Toronto Residential Construction
Labour Bureau

Andrew Pariser
Durham Residential Construction
Labour Bureau

Mauro Angeloni
Independent Plumbing & Heating Contractors
Association

Clive Thurston
Ontario General Contractors Association

Mauro Angeloni
Residential Gas Fitting Contractors Association

Mauro Angeloni
Independent Unionized Landscape Contractors
Association

Mauro Angeloni
Residential Roofing Contractors Association

Mauro Angeloni
Toronto & District Carpentry Contractors
Association

Mauro Angeloni
Residential Siding Contractors Association

Joe De Caria
Masonry Contractors' Association of Toronto

Mauro Angeloni
Residential Carpentry Contractors Association

Dennis Cancian
Ontario Formwork Association

Giovanni Cautillo
Greater Toronto Sewer & Watermain
Contractors Association

Ross Savatti
Residential Tile Contractors Association

Zlatko Maric
Residential Framing Contractors Association

Robert Celsi
Ontario Concrete and Drain Contractors
Association

David St. Louis
Terrazzo Tile & Marble Guild of Ontario

Rob Bradford
Toronto and Area Road Builders Association

Domenic DiBattista
Residential Heating and Ventilation Contractors
Association

Carlo D'Ambrosio
Trim Association of Ontario

Grace LoGullo
The Residential Low Rise Forming Contractors
Association of Metropolitan Toronto & Vicinity

Bob O'Donnell
Greater Toronto Electrical Contractors' Association