



**June 30, 2021**

The Honourable Jane McKenna  
Associate Minister Responsible for Women's Issues Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services  
7th Floor  
438 University Ave.  
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

**Dear Minister McKenna,**

Congratulations on your recent appointment to Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues.

The Residential Construction Council of Ontario (RESCON) represents over 200 residential builders of high, mid, and low-rise buildings in the province, with a focus on the GTA. Our members build Ontario's communities, homes, and future. We are committed to providing leadership and fostering innovation in the industry through the following six core focuses: Training and Apprenticeship; Government Relations; Labour Relations; Health and Safety; Building Science and Innovation; and Building Code Reform and Technical Standards.

Over the past few years, one of RESCON's top priorities has been raising awareness to youth and women about the multitude of careers and jobs in the construction industry – from the skilled trades to construction management. RESCON looks forward to working with you to highlight and expand these fruitful career pathways available to women and young people entering the construction industry.

As the industry readies for its future, construction leaders are aware that diversity – long described by our elected officials as a tower of strength for Canada – is essential to help fill the 92,500 skilled trades jobs gap that will open up in Ontario between now and 2030. Through RESCON's recently established Anti-Racism Roundtable, we've committed to ensuring our industry is welcoming and respectful of women through improving and enshrining workplace policies and expanding training opportunities for women.

We've also partnered with organizations like Job Talks Canada to profile more than 40 people and jobs in the construction industry via engaging [YouTube videos](#) in hopes of attracting more women and alleviating the stigma around working in the trades.

To continue the conversation and progress on this topic, we would like to meet with you and your team to discuss ways RESCON can collaborate with the government to lead young women on pathways to success in the skilled trades.

Please contact Amina Dibe ([dibe@rescon.com](mailto:dibe@rescon.com)) to set up a time that is convenient for a meeting.

Congratulations again on your appointment and thank you for all of your hard work as a Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, including the creation 'Occupational Health and Safety Day'.

Thank you,



Richard Lyall  
President



**Copy to:**

Alexandra Hoene, Associate Minister's Office

Hannah Phillips, Stakeholder Relations and Policy Advisor, Associate Minister's Office