

Residential builders continue to urge province to streamline e-permitting process

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VAUGHAN, ONT. — The [Residential Construction Council of Ontario \(RESCON\)](#) has signed a letter encouraging the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) to support the [One Ontario](#) initiative that was launched by AECO Innovation Lab and aims to set the stage for an e-permitting system that would streamline the process across municipalities by developing new guidelines that will establish a set of provincial data exchange standards.

RESCON says the One Ontario initiative will result in faster construction and bring significant value to its members. The organization intends to work with One Ontario to encourage relevant organizations and municipalities to co-operate and exchange information.

The letter states according to the World Bank, Canada ranks 64th out of 185 countries on development approval efficiency for routine building projects and if Ontario continues to fall behind it could lead to potential investors avoiding the province.

“We acknowledge that addressing permitting challenges requires remarkably close co-operation and management amongst stakeholders – from developers, to municipalities and applicable law

agencies – and want to express our support on behalf of the residential construction community,” RESCON states in the letter.

A report prepared for RESCON by the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis found that 33,100 more homes could be built in Ontario beyond current baseline trends over the next five years if the overall development approvals process was reduced by six months, states the release, adding such a reduction could also result in a contribution of \$4.5 billion to Ontario’s economy annually by 2025 and support 40,500 jobs.