

June 23, 2021

Ministry of Transportation

Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade

Ministry of Energy

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Dear Minister Mulroney, Minister Fedeli, Minister Smith, Minister Rickford, Minister Piccini,
Minister McNaughton:

Re: Request to Establish an Ontario Transportation Electrification Council

First, thank you for your government's focus on combatting the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario. These are extraordinary times and your efforts are much appreciated. As we look towards economic recovery in the coming months, we wish to highlight that Ontario has many competitive advantages in the electric vehicle (EV) supply chain including, manufacturing, mining, infrastructure, and services. Ontario can leverage these advances to compete in the growing global EV market, while creating jobs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions for Ontarians in both rural and urban communities across the province.

The undersigned represent a diverse group of organizations contributing to Ontario's EV sector including charging suppliers, utilities, and non-profits. We are writing to ask the Ontario government to establish an Ontario Transportation Electrification Council, made up of EV industry and government representatives, to develop a transportation electrification roadmap for the province.

With increased investor focus on environmental governance issues, and commitments from almost all automakers to electrify their fleets, we are seeing jurisdictions across the globe develop plans, deploy infrastructure, and implement policy to attract investment, create jobs, and grow domestic EV sectors. A made-in-Ontario transportation electrification roadmap that clearly lays out a long-term vision for how Ontario can leverage its current expertise and skills will catalyze further innovation and investment, aligning Ontario's competitive advantages with its climate goals.

As a global leader in auto and auto parts manufacturing, mineral extraction, charging infrastructure supply and installation, and clean electricity generation, Ontario is well positioned to be a global hub for EV solutions. Further, Ontario has extensive artificial intelligence expertise, as well as leading universities and technical colleges that can help prepare the next generation of mechanics and service providers. A transportation electrification roadmap would provide the framework to establish Ontario as an EV hub.

This roadmap could help define the policies, planning and infrastructure needed to remove barriers to investment, identify skills development opportunities and ensure that all businesses and residents can benefit from Ontario's growing electric mobility economy. This could be achieved by bringing together key players from government and industry, similar to what has been achieved in [Maryland](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [Oregon](#) and [Florida](#), under the umbrella of an Ontario Transportation Electrification Council.

The Ontario Transportation Electrification Council roadmap could help identify:

1. Primary opportunities and gaps related to job creation to support Ontario as a global EV hub;
2. Key financial tools, policies or programs needed to support private investment in EVs and charging infrastructure;
3. Barriers to EV and charging infrastructure adoption and investment, as well as best practice policies to address these barriers;
4. Tools available to ensure equitable access to EVs and infrastructure across Ontario, including rural and remote areas;
5. Skills and training required to support job growth in the sector (e.g., electricians, mechanics, civil contractors, and engineers);
6. Ways to build on the Critical Mineral Strategy to prepare the EV battery supply chain; and
7. Electricity systems investments, planning and management approaches needed to support increased uptake of EVs including fleet, support utilization of charging infrastructure, and manage costs impacts on utilities and ratepayers.

Ontario has a clear opportunity now to establish its leadership in the emerging global market for EV solutions. The development of a roadmap could be an important action in the government's updated climate plan and complement Ontario's ongoing efforts with the Critical Mineral Strategy and Vehicle Innovation Network.

As a diverse group of organizations participating in Ontario's EV sector, we stand ready to support Ontario's emergence as an EV hub through the development of a made-in-Ontario transportation electrification roadmap. We look forward to further discussions with your ministries on how we can work collaboratively to define Ontario's EV future.

Sincerely,

Suzanne, Goldberg, Director, Public Policy Canada, ChargePoint

Cara Clairman, President and CEO, Plug'n Drive

Nino Di Cara, President, Electric Autonomy Canada

Jurgen van Dijken, Manager, Electromobility, ChargerCrew Canada

Gleb Nikiforov, CEO, Autochargers.ca and United Chargers Inc.

Brian Vipond, Business Development Manager, Elexicon Group

Stacey Corley, Director, Sonepar Ontario

Carolyn Kim, Director, Ontario Region Pembina Institute

Mark Marmer, President, Signature Electric Ltd.

Gaby Kalapos, Executive Director, Clean Air Partnerships

Carter Li, CEO, SWITCH Energy Inc.

Frederique Bouchard, Senior Advisor Public Affairs, FLO|AddÉnergie

Teresa Sarkesian, President and CEO, Electricity Distributors Association

Wilf Steimle, President, EV Society

Keegan Tully, Director, Business Development, Ontario Power Generation

Shayna Rector Bleeker, Cofounder and Partnerships Manager, 7 Generation Capital