

30 September 2025

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
400 University Avenue, 14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1T7

Dear Minister Piccini:

On behalf of the Ontario Pipe Trades Council, representing more than 30,000 skilled, unionized professionals, I am writing to express our strong support for the Ontario government's Skills Development Program. Through this initiative, Premier Doug Ford and Minister Piccini have demonstrated a clear commitment to partnership with our industry – supporting workers, strengthening communities and driving Ontario's economy forward.

The Skills Development Fund has equipped our members with opportunities to upskill, refine their trades and contribute meaningfully to their communities while supporting their families. This investment enabled us to sustain state-of-the-art training during the challenges of COVID-19 and continues to provide critical support today as Ontario faces new economic risks amidst the U.S. tariff threat.

With the backing of this program, UA locals across the province have trained thousands of workers in the trades represented by the OPTC. These individuals now hold stable, meaningful employment that benefits not only their families but also the communities they serve.

A skilled workforce is the backbone of Ontario's economic development. Without strong support for training and development, our province cannot meet the challenges ahead or realize its full potential. Premier Ford and Minister Piccini have recognized this reality and made the strategic investments required to ensure Ontario's continued prosperity.

Yours Sincerely,



Andrew Tarr
President
Ontario Pipe Trades Council



Brad Hill
Business Manager
Ontario Pipe Trades Council