



March 11, 2014

Mr. Bill Walker, M.P.P.
Suite 100
920 1st Avenue West
Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 4K5

Dear Mr. ~~Bill~~ Walker:

Bill

Re: Bill 69, *The Prompt Payments Act, 2013* - An Act respecting payments made under contracts and subcontracts in the construction industry

I am writing to you today on behalf of Council of the Municipality of Meaford regarding Bill 69, *The Prompt Payments Act, 2013*. This legislation will have significant impacts on my municipalities' ability to manage taxpayer funds prudently in construction and infrastructure contracts. If it is passed as is, Bill 69 could negatively impact municipalities, other public sector organizations, provincial government ministries and agencies as well as potentially residents and homeowners. In particular, Bill 69 will limit our ability to contract for the best payment arrangements to safeguard public funds in each construction project we manage. It imposes unrealistic and imprudent timelines for payment and to review work and certify payments; limits our ability to hold back reserves for warranty and maintenance; and does not reflect the complex nature of financial arrangements under large infrastructure projects.

As a result, we are requesting that Bill 69 be amended to:

- reflect more realistic timelines for payments in infrastructure projects;
- allow time for due diligence before accepting work and certifying payments; and
- allow payments to continue to be tied to project milestones;

Yours Sincerely,

Francis

Francis Richardson
Mayor, Municipality of Meaford

FR/lq

cc: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Steven Del Duca, MPP, Vaughan
Andrea Horwath, NDP Leader
Tim Hudak, PC Leader
Members of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills

The Corporation of the Municipality of Meaford

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