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To: Naqvi, Yasir (MAG)

Cc: Greco, Delia (MAG)

Subject: Construction Lien Act - Update

Good morning:

On December 12, 2017, Bill 142, Construction Lien Amendment Act, 2017, received Royal Assent. With the benefit of your comments and feedback, Ontario has passed legislation that will improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the construction sector and drive our economy forward. I am thrilled that, in collaboration with the construction industry and the government's expert advisors, these very important changes have been achieved.

I want to thank all of you who took the time to make submissions throughout the legislative process, including most recently when the Bill was before the Standing Committee. The Committee heard from 22 groups and individuals who attended public hearings and there were many others who made written submissions. All this input resulted in numerous amendments that greatly improved the legislation.

Now that the legislation has been enacted, much work will still need to be done to bring the new legislation into effect. New regulations to support the legislative changes need to be made and an authorized nominating authority needs to be created. You will have the opportunity to provide input on the regulations, and we look forward to benefiting from your feedback once again. In February, the regulations will be posted on the Regulatory Registry, a website with information on proposed regulations that affect business, where you may provide comments. In February, the ministry will also hold meetings with key stakeholders to receive feedback on the regulations related to adjudication.

We are committed to providing appropriate advance notice before any of the changes are effective. Early in the new year, we will announce details about when specific changes will come into effect. The changes to the lien and holdback process will take effect first before the prompt payment rules and the new adjudication process. We will also provide information on a timeline for implementation of the Authorized Nominating Authority.

I appreciate your support and participation in this process and look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure our construction sector prospers. As always, please feel free to reach out to me or my staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Yasir Naqvi
Attorney General of Ontario