

Ontario Made Program

Earlier this month the government [proposed a made-in-Ontario program](#) outlining measures that would allow critical infrastructure projects to commence more rapidly to promote growth, renewal, and economic recovery, as the province continues to bounce back from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. By making it easier and faster to build provincial highways, major transit projects and affordable housing, the government hopes to stimulate Ontario's economy and create new local job opportunities.

The province has suggested an exemption for key provincial highway construction and priority transit projects from the Hearing of Necessity process, in order to accelerate construction timelines. Provincial Hearings of Necessity only occur 5-10 times per year and often add months of red tape, delaying construction efforts. As part of this plan, the government would enter into new commercial agreements with partners to build transit-oriented communities, to increase ridership, reduce traffic and provide a mix of new housing, supported by amenities such as daycares and recreational spaces.

Furthermore, the province aims to support Canadian manufacturers through the launch of the [Ontario Made program](#) and the Support Ontario Made [website](#). The program promotes locally made products and the website will connect consumers and supply chain partners to manufacturers with made-in-Ontario products through a unified portal.

Over the past few months, many plants and factories have adapted to the challenges presented by COVID-19 and adjusted their operations to ensure the health and safety of their employees and customers. They have supported their communities and the economy by providing essential materials through the ongoing pandemic.

Many Canadians recognize that manufacturing is a major driver of the Canadian economy and understand the importance of supporting local businesses and industries. The goal of the program is to expand awareness of what products are made in Ontario to help consumers make informed buying decisions. The Ontario Made logo was created to help businesses promote their products in their neighborhoods and make their brands easily identifiable.

We are excited to see the opportunities for growth and the ability for our industry, and members, to connect with individuals and businesses in their neighborhoods through this program. As a perishable product ready-mixed concrete is a prime example of a locally manufactured good that is fundamental to building strong communities and supporting our economy.



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