



Ontario Association of Architects

July 10, 2019

Mayor John Tory and Toronto Councillors  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2

**RE: Electric Mobility Strategy**

Dear Mayor Tory and Toronto City Councillors,

On behalf of the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) and its Sustainable Built Environment Committee (SBEC), I am writing to applaud you for the electric vehicle consultation that you are currently conducting for residents of the City of Toronto.

As a committee of the OAA, SBEC was established to serve in an advisory role to the Association on matters of sustainable design and environmental issues. In the past, SBEC has gladly responded to consultations put forth by the City of Toronto regarding environmental initiatives. In 2017 for example, the Committee wrote to express support for the TransformTO report and to urge Council to use this report as a guide for carbon emissions reductions in Toronto.

With regard to electric vehicles, the OAA and SBEC believe that a scaled approach is required, where by 2050 almost all cars and trucks are electric vehicles, as envisioned by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In order to achieve that, governments need to anticipate the load on and implications for buildings and parking garages, as well as the infrastructure required to support widespread vehicle charging stations. Because of the cost associated with electric vehicle supply equipment, low-voltage Level 1 chargers (110VAC/15 amp) may be the best option. Due to the fact that they require the least cost to building owners for installation (Level 2 and 3 chargers are much costlier), these chargers are well equipped to support widespread adoption. However, in special cases and for heavy commuters Level 2 and 3 chargers may be required as well. Moreover, in the case of multi-unit residential buildings, the OAA and SBEC feel that broad implementation of electric vehicle charging stations (that is, 100% of parking spots) is only viable with Level 1 chargers and we encourage this approach in the intermediate term. Ultimately, widespread adoption of electric vehicles will require the broad distribution of Level 1 chargers, complimented by concentrations of higher level chargers.

The OAA is the self-regulating body for the profession of Architecture, dedicated to promoting and increasing the knowledge, skill and proficiency of its members, and to governing the practice of architecture and administering the *Architects Act* in order that the public interest may be served and protected. We have long been committed to working with government and other stakeholders to protect and improve environmental quality for all Ontarians.

We look forward to continued collaboration with the City of Toronto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Kurtin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Kathleen Kurtin, Architect  
OAA, FRAIC  
President

