

**Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change**

**Ministère de l'Environnement et de
l'Action en matière de changement
climatique**



Office of the Minister

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Mr. John Bergsma
25 Hamilton Street South,
Suite #1,
Waterdown, ON
L0R 2H4

Dear Mr Bergsma,

I am pleased to write to you in your capacity as Acting Chair of the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA). Pursuant to the requirements of the Agencies and Appointments Directive, this letter sets out my expectations for OCWA for the 2018 fiscal year.

Ontario's board-governed agencies are vital partners in ensuring the delivery of high quality services to Ontarians. The people of Ontario depend on you to provide leadership to your agency's board, management and staff. Together with your fellow board members, the people of Ontario rely on you to establish the goals, objectives, and strategic direction for the agency consistent with your agency mandate, government policies, and my directions where appropriate. I thank you for your willingness to serve.

As you know, pursuant to the Capital Investment Plan Act, 1993, S.O. 1993, OCWA is mandated to provide water and sewage works and other related services; promote the development, testing, demonstration and commercialization of technologies and services for the treatment and management of water, wastewater and stormwater; protect human health and the environment and encourage the conservation of water resources.

Protecting water, the Great Lakes and improving drinking water for Indigenous communities are key government priorities. To support these priorities, I expect OCWA to focus on:

- Liaising with the ministry's Indigenous Drinking Water Projects Office to leverage expertise and develop goals and strategies to support access to safe, sustainable drinking water on reserves through the trilateral process between First Nations, Ontario and our Federal counterparts
- Supporting the fight against climate change by working with clients to ensure water and wastewater facilities are climate ready and by limiting greenhouse gas emissions through power-saving programs and generating energy from waste (i.e.

Increasing waste diversion by supporting the development and implementation of renewable energy centres that use wastewater and concentrated organic waste to generate biogas for productive use).

- Helping clients prevent phosphorus and other damaging nutrients from entering local water sources through effluent released from their wastewater treatment facilities.
- Supporting the Province in meeting its objective of encouraging principled, evidence-based and strategic long-term infrastructure planning, as set forth in the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, by working with the Agency's clients to develop comprehensive, long-term asset plans for their water and wastewater systems.
- Educating the public about the importance of water and the Great Lakes, as well as the proper disposal of medications and other contaminants through education and awareness programs.
- Setting emergency preparedness goals that reflect the importance of OCWA's role as an emergency responder for drinking water emergencies in Ontario. Specific goals and strategies related to emergency preparedness should be augmented in the Business Plan. Given OCWA's mandate, emergency preparedness should have a high profile at OCWA on a continual basis.
- Work with the Ministry to update the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop formal evaluation criteria and annual performance management measures to enhance accountability and the achievement of OCWA's goals documented in the annual Business Plan by July 1, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Ballard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Ballard
Minister