

**Ministry of
Transportation**

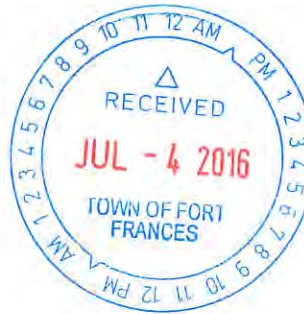
Office of the Minister

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JUN 24 2016

His Worship Roy Avis
Mayor
Town of Fort Frances
Civic Centre, 320 Portage Avenue
Fort Frances ON P9A 3P9

Dear Mayor Avis:

I am pleased to inform you of the launch of the next intake for the Ministry of Transportation's Connecting Links Program.

The Connecting Links Program provided \$20 million in 2016-17, and will be increased to \$25 million in 2017-18 and \$30 million in 2018-19 and the following years. This will support municipalities with the construction and repair of roads and bridges on connecting links.

Funding will be provided for up to 90 percent of total eligible project costs. The maximum amount of funding for eligible costs is \$3 million per project. Funding is provided for the design, construction, renewal, rehabilitation and replacement of connecting link infrastructure.

This investment is part of the Ontario government's Moving Ontario Forward plan which will see \$31.5 billion invested over 10 years in transit, transportation, and other priority infrastructure projects across the province. Nearly half, or about \$15 billion, is dedicated to communities outside of the GTHA.

The program application process will be open on June 23, 2016 and can be found at:

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/highway-bridges/connecting-links.shtml>
<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/french/highway-bridges/connecting-links.shtml>

The website will include program details and contact information should you or your staff have questions.

The deadline for applications is October 21, 2016. Funding decisions will be made and all applicants will be notified in January 2017. Funding for the selected connecting link projects will begin in the spring of 2017.

The ministry looks forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steven Del Duca', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Del Duca
Minister

c. Mark McCaig, CAO