



From the office of the Chief Executive Officer / Du cabinet du chef de la direction

13 September 2024

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., M.P.

Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities

Via E-mail and Online Consultation Form

(ministerofisi-ministredeisi@ised-isde.gc.ca; minister-ministre@infcc.gc.ca)

Re: Consultation on Informing an Industrial Strategy for Homebuilding

Dear Ministers:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views in response to the ongoing consultation on “informing an industrial strategy for home building.” Engineers Canada represents the 12 provincial and territorial engineering regulators in Canada, which collectively license the more than 300,000 members of the engineering profession. As the only national voice for the engineering profession, we have a history of collaborating with the federal government to inform and develop legislation, regulations, and policies.

Engineers play an essential role in the building process by developing building codes and ensuring that various development scenarios align with them, meet local infrastructure requirements, and accommodate user- and site-specific engineering needs. Provincial and territorial engineering regulators hold professional engineers accountable and keep Canadians safe. As a profession, engineers have taken a leadership role in the economy and society in advancing critical principles of sustainability and efficiency, including by taking action [on the front lines](#) of infrastructure adaptation, vulnerability and risk assessment, and professional practices to improve resilience.

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Engineers Canada welcomes recent efforts by the federal government to incentivize and directly introduce new housing supply. That said, we believe that any industrial strategy for homebuilding needs to incorporate the foundational principles of resiliency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy efficiency and accessible readiness. To that end, we offer the following recommendations as the Government of Canada develops this industrial strategy:

- Work with provinces and territories to ensure the adoption for housing of new resiliency, climate change adaptation and accessibility objectives by [incorporating these objectives](#) into the National Building Code.
- Ensure that federal funding through the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund enhances the resiliency of the built environment, including flood-proofing, protection against extreme heat and cold, air quality protection, wind-resistant design, storm protections, efficient water and wastewater systems, and other necessary factors for resiliency.
- Focus significant resources on modernizing Canada's ability to produce and transmit energy to support goals related to GHG emissions in the building sector and to safeguard against risks to public health and safety.
- Ensure that engineers are involved in developing and implementing new measures to increase standardization of housing construction processes and expand the use of prefabricated materials.

We thank the government for the opportunity to engage on this important issue. We welcome the opportunity to connect with you and your team to discuss this and other key topics. To schedule a meeting, please contact Nathan Durham, Manager, Public Affairs at 613.232.2474 x265 or nathan.durham@engineerscanada.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Philip Rizcallah, P.Eng.
Chief Executive Officer, Engineers Canada

CC : Jeanette M. Southwood, FCAE, FEC, LL.D. (honoris causa), P.Eng., IntPE, Vice-President,
Corporate Affairs and Strategic Partnerships
Nathan Durham, Manager, Public Affairs