

## **HANDOUT 6.3: ONTARIO PROVINCIAL MINISTRY DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Advanced Education and Skills Development**

The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development ensures that Ontario has the best higher education and training system to provide high-quality education and relevant skills possible to prepare people for good jobs that will improve the competitiveness of Ontario's economy.

### **Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs works to improve food safety, preserve the environment and strengthen Ontario's rural communities. The Ministry seeks create a better business environment to promote and market Ontario's agricultural food products to increase jobs in rural communities. Leading-edge research and innovation helps improve farming techniques and protect the environment.

### **Attorney General**

The Attorney General ensures a fair, effective and accessible justice system for all Ontarians. The ministry administers Ontario's statutes, conducts criminal proceedings, provides legal advice to the government, coordinates court services, ensures safe communities and improves the lives of victims of crime and their families.

### **Children and Youth Services**

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services integrates many Ontario children and youth programs and services to give children the best start in life, prepare them to become productive adults and make it easier for families to receive the services they need for all stages of a child's development. The Ministry is also responsible for adoption, child protection and childhood support for special needs youth.

### **Citizenship and Immigration**

The Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration is committed to the full participation of all Ontarians – no matter how long they have been citizens of the province. The Ministry celebrates the accomplishments of Ontarians, promotes a sense of belonging, promotes volunteer action, helps newcomers settle and become productive members of society and promotes accessibility for all Ontarians.

### **Community and Social Services**

The Ministry of Community and Social Services promotes inclusive communities by helping people achieve their potential, build independence and improve their quality of life. The Ministry helps adults with developmental disabilities live more independently and contribute to society, enforces child and spousal support, promotes workplace accessibility and helps Ontarians recover from hardship.

### **Community Safety and Correctional Services**

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services ensures that Ontario's communities are supported and protected by law enforcement and public safety. The Ministry is responsible for the province's correctional services, public safety and security and policing services.

### **Economic Development and Growth**

The Ministry of Economic Development and Growth helps create a strong, innovative economy that provides jobs and security for all Ontarians. The Ministry offers programs, services and tools businesses need to compete in the quickly-changing and continuously modernizing global economy.

### **Education**

The Ministry of Education works to make Ontario's publicly funded education and child care systems the best possible, where all children and students can achieve personal success. The Ministry manages the province's educators, students, teachers, principals, schools, boards, child care providers and service system managers to ensure good outcomes for all children in terms of the provincial curriculum.

### **Energy**

The Ministry of Energy is responsible for promoting the development of a safe, reliable, secure and environmentally sustainable energy supply. The Ministry develops energy policy framework for Ontario's energy providers, promotes a sustainable energy supply and promotes energy conservation.

### **Environment and Climate Change**

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change works to protect, restore, and enhance the environment to ensure public health and environmental quality. The Ministry seeks to provide cleaner air, water, land and ecosystems for Ontario through clear and stringent laws, standards, and regulations.

### **Finance**

The Ministry of Finance works to establish an environment that ensures a dynamic, innovative and growing economy. The Ministry administers tax statutes, tax credits and benefit programs. The Ministry is also responsible for the province's budget, financial policy, government financing and debt management. The revenues collected by the ministry help fund the province's other programs.

### **Francophone Affairs**

The Ministry of Francophone Affairs ensures that Franco-Ontarians have access to provincial government services in French so that they can fully contribute to the social, economic and political life of the province while still preserving their linguistic and cultural heritage.

### **Government and Consumer Services**

The Ministry of Government and Consumer Services helps deliver government services to the people of Ontario. The Ministry is responsible for the government's workforce and technology resources. The Ministry focuses on modernizing and improving front-line public services while ensuring a fair, safe and dynamic Ontario marketplace.

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### **Health and Long-Term Care**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is responsible for administering the health care system and providing services to the Ontario public through programs like health insurance, drug benefits, care for the mental health issues, long-term care, home care, public health and disease prevention. The Ministry regulates the province's hospitals and nursing homes.

### **Housing**

The Ministry of Housing works to build more affordable and social housing, seeks to end homelessness in the province and supports the full range of housing needs for people across the province. The Ministry helps strengthen local housing markets and provides support for low-income and special-needs tenants.

### **Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation**

The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation is responsible for improving social conditions, providing economic opportunity and sustainability and creating stronger relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Ontario. The Ministry works to improve the government's awareness of Indigenous Peoples and help them gain better access to Ontario's programs, services and information.

### **Infrastructure**

The Ministry of Infrastructure is responsible for planning and setting priorities for the Ontario government. It works with other ministries to make strategic investments that will benefit key public sectors. The Ministry makes smart investments so that the ministry is transparent, open and fair and the investments made deliver the intended results.

### **Intergovernmental Affairs**

The Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs supports the premier and other ministries in advancing Ontario's intergovernmental and international priorities. The Ministry provides strategic advice on intergovernmental relations, international affairs, ensures that the federal government treats Ontario fairly in terms of health care, climate change, immigration and child care and enhances Ontario's international image.

### **International Trade**

The Ministry of International Trade promotes new economic, business and cultural partnerships across Canada and around the world. The Ministry also strengthens Ontario's growth and competitiveness through trade policy.

### **Labour**

The Ministry of Labour develops and enforces labour legislation and protects safe, fair and harmonious workplaces to ensure the social and economic well-being of Ontarians. The Ministry sets and enforces workplace standards.

### **Municipal Affairs**

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs seeks to create an Ontario with safe and strong communities with healthy local economies, abundant green space and a high quality of life. The Ministry also helps local governments plan, manage and invest for the future.

### **Natural Resources and Forestry**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry maintains Ontario's provincial parks, forests, fisheries, wildlife, natural resources, land and water so it is used and preserved sustainably. The ministry works to provide healthy, sustainable ecosystems with safe drinking water and increased economic opportunities in the resource sector. The ministry promotes renewable energy and outdoor recreation.

### **Northern Development and Mines**

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines promotes northern economic and community development. The Ministry coordinates the delivery of programs and services in Northern Ontario, specifically in regards to making the minerals sector healthy, competitive and sustainable.

### **Research, Innovation and Science**

The Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science supports world-class research, commercialization and innovation taking place across Ontario through a range of programs, services and funds.

### **Seniors Affairs**

The Ministry of Seniors Affairs helps to improve the quality of life of Ontario seniors and supports public education efforts for and about older Ontarians.

### **Status of Women**

The Ministry of Status of Women partners with various organizations to take action on issues of concern to women.

### **Tourism, Culture and Sport**

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport provides tourism and recreation experience to Ontarians, as well as visitors to the province. The Ministry sustains a customer-focused tourism industry that helps improve our quality of life, increases pride in our communities, and increases economic growth. The Ministry develops and encourages creation, innovation and participation in the arts and other cultural institutions.

### **Transportation**

The Ministry of Transportation works to move people and goods safely, efficiently and sustainably throughout the province – and the world – to make Ontario a globally competitive economy with a high quality of life. The Ministry seeks to increase transit ridership, promote road safety and help make trade easy and accessible.

### **Treasury Board Secretariat**

The Treasury Board Secretariat focuses on strengthening the openness, transparency, and accountability of government and works to get the best possible value for money, and improve the services that the people of Ontario rely on.