



November 18, 2019

The Honourable Jeff Yurek Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 77 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Yurek,

We wanted to share with you the University of Toronto's Low-Carbon Action Plan, aimed at reducing the University of Toronto's greenhouse gas emissions by 37 percent below 1990 levels by year 2030. Our Low-Carbon Action Plan is part of our overall approach to driving operational efficiency projects, which is very much in line with the Province's current approach to regaining fiscal sustainability.

Under our Low-Carbon Action Plan, a number of initiatives are underway and soon to be launched across our three campuses to achieve operational efficiency by reducing energy consumption and optimizing our buildings through energy retrofits.

One such initiative includes the installation of the largest urban geoexchange system in Canada on our three campuses to help reduce University's GHG emissions. These geoexchange systems are expected to save the University  $^{\circ}$ \$1.5M per year in operating costs.

The University's commitment to operational sustainability and environmental stewardship align with the goals set in Ontario government's Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan for emissions reduction. Beyond our operational support, faculty and researchers are working on a range of initiatives to protect our environment, and promote economic growth.

We would welcome the opportunity to follow up with your office and discuss how our Low-Carbon Action Plan fits with government priorities. Of course, we would also be pleased to arrange to welcome you to meet with some of our researchers or tour some of our projects on our campuses to see first-hand some of the innovations taking place at U of T.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Thomson

Chief of Government Relations

Encl. The University of Toronto Low-Carbon Action Plan