

*Established in 1889, the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) is the self-regulating body for the province's architecture profession. It governs the practice of architecture and administers the Architects Act in order to serve and protect the public interest.*

Mayor Jeff Lehman and Barrie City Council  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Barrie City Hall  
Barrie, Ontario  
L4M 1G8

February 3, 2022

**Re: City of Barrie Community Energy and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan**

Mayor Lehman and Barrie City Council,

On behalf of the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA), I am writing to confirm strong support for the City of Barrie's Community Energy and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan.

The OAA is pleased to have served the City of Barrie in an advisory role through the participation of OAA Council member Andrew Thomson, Architect, in the development of this important plan and intends to continue this role as the plan moves forward.

As the self-regulating body for the architecture profession in the province, the OAA is dedicated to serving the public interest by increasing the knowledge, skills, and proficiency of its members. The architecture profession has the knowledge and skills required to design healthy, sustainable built environments and the Association can leverage that knowledge to deliver economical solutions that help the City of Barrie respond to what is, undeniably, an emergency.

Based on estimates from various sources, approximately one-third of Canada's greenhouse emissions come from buildings. Within urban areas, that number is much higher. The OAA supports changes to policies and regulations that contribute to climate stability. As buildings are key contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, the creation of better, more efficient buildings must form a significant part of the solution on the path to achieving emissions reduction targets.

The OAA enjoys a longstanding, collaborative relationship with all levels of government, and looks forward to strengthening our collaboration with the City of Barrie. We look forward to seeing the final Plan once it is published.

Sincerely,



Susan Speigel, Architect  
OAA, FRAIC  
President