

February 26, 2016

RE: Open Government Initiative

To The Open Government Partnership Steering Committee,

Please accept our endorsement of Ontario's application to join the Open Government Partnership subnational government pilot program.

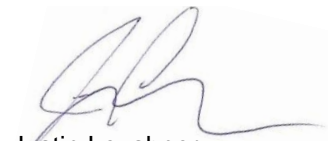
We are highly supportive of Ontario's efforts to advance the principles of Open Government and create greater transparency and accountability to the public. This is an important initiative for government, businesses and communities across our province.

TechAlliance was pleased to partner with the Government of Ontario last year to engage the public on its draft Open Data Directive. Together, we convened a diverse group of community members, digital leaders, non-profit organizations and businesses to engage in a discussion about how the government can move forward with an open-by-default approach to open data. Through this collaboration, an Open Data Directive was finalized with input from contributors across Ontario. This directive supports easier access to government data. What's more, it facilitates evidence-based policy, informs service delivery, and promotes greater transparency and accountability.

We are committed to continuing to work with the government on all fronts as it moves forward with the implementation of Ontario's Open Government Action Plan.

We know their participation in your subnational pilot program will bolster these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,



Justin Leushner
VP Operations

TechAlliance of Southwestern Ontario