



*ONTARIO ASSOCIATION FOR  
IMPACT ASSESSMENT*

*P.O. Box 2727, Postal Station D, Ottawa, Ontario - K1P 5W7*

May 11, 2008

Mr. Blair Rohaly  
Project Manager  
Ministry of the Environment, Ontario  
Integrated Environmental Planning Division  
Strategic Policy Branch  
135 St. Clair Avenue West  
Floor 11  
Toronto Ontario  
M4V 1P5

Delivered by electronic mail (Blair.Rohaly@ontario.ca)

Mr. Rohaly,

**Re: Proposed Regulation under the Environmental Assessment Act for Accelerating  
the Environmental Assessment Process for Public Transit Projects**

**EBR Registry Number: 010-2760**

We are pleased to provide these comments as a contribution to the public consultation on the proposed regulation for the environmental assessment of public transit projects (above referenced). Thank you for the opportunity.

The Ontario Association of Impact Assessment (OAI A) is a voluntary association of professionals involved with impact assessment in Ontario. It provides a forum for advancing innovation, development and communication of best practice in impact assessment through the exchange of ideas and experiences among its members and with other organizations with compatible interests. Our members include planners, scientists, engineers and others in both the private and public sectors. OAI A is also a regional affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) which provides a similar forum for practitioners around the globe.

One of OAIA's core activities is the sponsorship of an annual conference highlighting topical issues in impact assessment practice. In 2007, for example, the conference focused on aboriginal consultation in environmental assessment: "Duty to Consult: from Theory to Practice." More than 250 OAIA members and friends gathered for two days at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington to explore this topic in detail. Additional information on that event and on OAIA is available at our website: [www.oaia.on.ca](http://www.oaia.on.ca)

As the Board had anticipated, members' views on the proposals are numerous, diverse and wide-ranging. In response to this diversity, the Board provides in the attached letter (L. Doran/M. Stevenson, May 9, 2008) a listing of the issues identified by respondents during their individual reviews and commentaries. OAIA has not attempted to prepare a consensus or 'position' based on the views expressed by our members *in the limited time available*. Nonetheless, the Board anticipates that the attached letter summarizes the issues raised by our members makes a useful contribution to the public consultation process by highlighting topics identified by OAIA's community of interest.

On behalf of the OAIA Board, thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to the public consultation on this proposed regulation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Stevenson", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mark A. Stevenson  
Director , OAIA