

MTO/ACEC-ON ENGINEERING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Date: May 13, 2026
Time: 9:30am to 12:10pm
Location: Virtual: MS Teams

ACEC ATTENDEES	ORGANIZATION	MTO ATTENDEES	ORGANIZATION
Steve Pilgrim	Egis Group	Jenn Meleschuk	MTO CMO
Tanya Cross	Dillon	Erika Varga	MTO CMO
Andrew Hurd	ACEC-ON	Trish English	MTO CMO
Sunil Kothari	Atkins Réalis	Rina Kulathinal	MTO PDO
Tim Sorochinsky	AECOM	Melissa Buelow	MTO PDO
Magdy Samaan	EXP	Jeremy Landry	MTO MHP
Heather Templeton	HDR Inc.	Chirstine Costa	MTO Construction
Naveen Kaushik	Parsons	Joanna Long	MTO AMB
Andrew Wittig	WSP	Guest: Amanda Naylor	MTO Contracts
Kevin Smith	DM Wills	Guest: Mireya Hidalgo	MTO Contracts
Richard Morales	Arcadis	Guest: Sayna Yaghooby	MTO Contracts
		Guest: Trent Reece	MTO Contracts
		Guest: Anthony Akomah	MTO MHP
		Guest: William Lei	MTO CMO

5-2026-1 WELCOME / INTRODUCTION

- MTO introduced Trish English as the new Lead Engineer in Business Process Innovation in Standards and Contracts Branch
- ACEC introduced Richard Morales from Arcadis as a new ACEC Engineering subcommittee member
- Andrew Hurd shared that Kelly Harris will be the new Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations at ACEC starting on May 25, 2026.

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
5-2026-2	AGENDA ITEMS FROM MTO / ACEC-ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Description: Discussion of items from the last meeting of the joint Executive Committee that was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. <i>Discussion:</i> • <i>ACEC has completed an internal survey related to the Experience Matrix, procurement in general and Registry Appraisal and Qualification System (RAQS) for Engineering Service Providers (ESP) feedback – MTO would like to see the number and substance of the responses.</i> • ACTION: ANDREW HURD TO PROVIDE SURVEY INFORMATION TO MTO	ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
5-2026-3.a	AGENDA ITEMS FROM MTO MEMBERS LAST MEETING MINUTES AND ACTION ITEM REVIEW – JAN 13, 2026 i ‘Early’ Debriefs (after Phase I to unsuccessful firms) <i>Description: To discuss debriefings for unsuccessful firms at the end of Phase I of a 2 phase Request for Proposal (RFP) procurement</i> <i>Discussion:</i> • Internal conversations with Finance Branch are ongoing, to see if an early debrief can be provided after Phase I of a 2-phase procurement. • MTO has been working on a business case for supporting an early debrief and the conversations are positive right now. • MTO is working through the logistics to ensure it works on all fronts, but we will give ACEC more conclusive information as we progress • ACEC asked if this information will be communicated to ACEC before RFP updates are released and will this happen before next subcommittee meeting? ACTION: MTO TO COMMUNICATE WITH ACEC IN ADVANCE OF ANY ROLL OUT OF ADDITION OF EARLY/PHASE I DEBRIEFS TO RFPS ii Electronic Format Native Document Group - Members and ORBA Survey <i>Description: Update from MTO on the Electronic Native Format working group member list and from ACEC on ORBA survey</i> <i>Discussion:</i> • A list of the members of the Electronic Format Native Document Group will be attached to the meeting notes. • ACEC has been following up with ORBA about the survey but have not received a response to date. • ACEC will find a lead from their side to continue to follow up with ORBA ACTION: MTO TO INCLUDE MEMBER LIST WITH MEETING NOTES ACEC TO ESTABLISH LEAD TO FOLLOW UP WITH ORBA	MTO MTO ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	iii Highway Design Process Review <i>Description: MTO to share progress on Highway Design Process Review</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>This project group has been working across the organization to look at ways to accelerate the design/project delivery phase and included the MTO/ACEC Dec 10 MTO workshop.</i> <i>This was formerly Michael Nadeau's project (MTO Manager) and is now with SCB Highway Design Office with a new project manager - Adriana Diaz Choconta, as of May 1, 2026</i> <i>The plan is to prioritize and prepare for implementation of the improvements by Transportation Infrastructure Management Division (TIMD) well into the 2026-27 fiscal year</i> <i>ACEC would like to know more about the implementation plan and any advance stakeholder engagement</i> ACTION: ACEC/STEVE TO PROVIDE EMAIL WITH QUESTIONS RE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADVANCED ENGAGEMENT iv Innovation Plan RFP Language <i>Description: Update from Melissa Buelow on RFP language for the Innovation Plan</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>The new RFP language isn't published yet, but it has been circulated to the members of the MTO documents committee, and it's getting close to being finalized.</i> <i>Some of the changes under review are to change the wording to better define what innovation is per project; to have it be somewhat customizable by the author of the RFP to be able to give better direction in terms of what is considered innovation, and,</i> <i>Changes to the point value: so there will be two sets of points related to small and large type of innovation. This would allow larger innovations will to have a higher impact than something smaller. They're working on defining what that large and small would be.</i> ACTION: NONE	ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY										
	v Balance between Page Limits and Font Size <i>Description: Update from Melissa Buelow on Page Limits and Font Size</i> <i>Discussion:</i> • <i>Accessibility-driven font size requirements remain fixed.</i> • <i>Guidance issued internally from the Heads of Project Delivery to Project Managers to ensure appropriate page limits to account for accessibility requirements.</i> • <i>New Project Lead position within Program Delivery – Consultant Management roles (one per region) introduced at MTO to:</i> ○ <i>Improve consistency in RFPs</i> ○ <i>Oversee bid inquiries, responses, and debriefs</i> ACTION: NONE vi 3D Highway Design Software <i>Description: Update from MTO on the procurement of replacement 3D Highway Design software.</i> <i>Discussion:</i> • <i>The 3D Highway Design Software (3D HDS) replacement project is progressing as planned and remains on track within the procurement and early planning phases.</i> • <i>The Request for Bid (RFB) package development is advancing well, and posting is expected by end of June or beginning of July 2026.</i> • <i>Industry flagged the need for clear timelines (bid close, evaluation, award) due to:</i> ○ <i>Significant costs for software adoption and training</i> ○ <i>Need for advance notice to prepare resources</i> ACTION: MTO TO CONFIRM AND INCLUDE DETAILED PROCUREMENT TIMELINE IN MEETING NOTES – SEE BELOW: <table><tr><th>Task Name</th><th>Finish Date</th></tr><tr><td>Post Request for Bids (RFB)</td><td>Thu 26-07-30</td></tr><tr><td>RFB Closed</td><td>Tue 26-09-29</td></tr><tr><td>RFB Evaluation</td><td>Fri 27-01-29</td></tr><tr><td>Go-Live</td><td>Mon 28-02-07</td></tr></table>	Task Name	Finish Date	Post Request for Bids (RFB)	Thu 26-07-30	RFB Closed	Tue 26-09-29	RFB Evaluation	Fri 27-01-29	Go-Live	Mon 28-02-07	MTO
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	vii Coordination of RFP Releases <i>Discussion:</i> • Ongoing effort to improve coordination and timing of RFP postings. • New Project Lead – Consultant Management roles expected to: ○ Provide regional oversight of RFP pipelines ○ Improve coordination across regions ○ Support better sequencing of releases • These roles will help identify opportunities to adjust schedules where feasible, though some projects remain constrained by external factors. • ACEC asked if these roles will have authority to adjust schedules? • Response: They will facilitate discussions and influence decisions, with flexibility depending on project constraints. • Suggestion made by MTO to include a representative in this role in the subcommittee, given their relevance. MTO agreed this would be beneficial and will explore implementation. ACTION: MTO TO EXPLORE INCLUDING A REPRESENTATIVE OR MEMBERS OF THE NEW PROJECT LEAD, CONSULTANT MANAGEMENT POSITIONS IN THE ACEC/MTO-ENG SUBCOMMITTEE viii ACEC Review of the Engineering Experience Matrix <i>Discussion:</i> • ACEC has done a survey and received some feedback from a few member firms. They will review internally and consider re-sharing or re-opening to get more feedback, even if it's just the firms of committee members. ACTION: ACEC TO REVIEW SURVEY RESPONSES RE: ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE MATRIX AND WORK TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM ADDITIONAL FIRMS ix ACEC Review of ACEC/MTO Engineering Subcommittee Workplan <i>Discussion:</i> • Steve and Sunil were to review the workplan and how to share it to allow live edits.	MTO ACEC ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	• ACEC acknowledged the workplan to be complex and underutilized, suggesting need for simplification or reassessment. ACTION: ACEC TO REVIEW THE SUBCOMMITTEE WORKPLAN AND HOW TO SHARE LIVE EDITS x ACEC Financial Grant to support succession management jurisdictional scan <i>Discussion:</i> • MTO has interest in this activity but no available funding. ACEC to explore financial Grant opportunities or alternative funding sources • Heather participated in the recent Succession Management Subcommittee meeting and has a better understanding of the request. • Heather to coordinate with Andrew to review funding options and next steps. ACTION: ACEC TO REVIEW POSSIBILITY OF AVAILABLE GRANTS FOR JURISDICTIONAL SCANS RELATED TO SUCCESSION MANAGEMENT	ACEC ACEC
5-2025-3.b	AGENDA ITEMS FROM MTO MEMBERS i. STATUS UPDATES FROM MTO: Buy Ontario <i>Description: To discuss the recent implementation of the Buy Ontario Act.</i> <i>Discussion:</i> • The Buy Ontario Act officially came into effect December 11, 2025. • The Buy Ontario Procurement Directive, including Capital Infrastructure, is effective April 13, 2026. • The Capital Infrastructure portion of the directive applies to all new capital infrastructure procurements ('MTO's Construction Contracts'). • Government entities must include the following in their procurement documents: ○ A list of each major good and service required for the deliverables being procured.	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	○ <i>A requirement for vendors to submit a Domestic Supply Chain Plan that identifies, at a minimum, the source of each of the listed major goods and services.</i> ○ <i>Select a domestic supply chain model (Evaluate the Domestic Supply Chain Plan or have the Contractor make a Domestic Supply Chain Commitment)</i> ● <i>MTO has created a Notice to Bidders that requires the inclusion of a domestic supply chain plan listing the major goods and services, and the commitment/declaration from the contractor that not less than 51% of the total bid value is Ontario made or Canadian made goods and services.</i> ● <i>Contract Administrators will be impacted by this and will receive and monitor the Domestic Supply Chain Plan from the Contractor.</i> ● <i>Even though some construction-like activities may be a part of engineering procurement (test piles, foundation related elements, etc.), they are not currently impacted by the Buy Ontario Act</i> ● <i>Although there were tight timelines, there was some consultation with CA firms and ORBA and the appropriate specs have been updated so that bidding firms are aware of what's required.</i> ● <i>MTO is not aware of how municipalities are complying with the act or if they're following in MTO's footsteps.</i> ACTION: BUY ONTARIO PRESENTATION WILL BE APPENDED TO THE MINUTES.	MTO
5-2025-3.c	AGENDA ITEMS FROM MTO MEMBERS – NEW ITEMS i Accelerated Procurement <i>Description: Provide an update on the April 15, 2026 MTO/ACEC Accelerated Procurement Workshop</i> <i>Discussion:</i> ● <i>ACEC and MTO participated in a facilitated workshop (5 MTO and 8 ACEC participants) with the intent to generate ideas to shorten procurement time for Design Bid Build (DBB) engineering and construction administration (CA) assignments, with a stretch goal of reducing timelines from a typical six to nine months, to six weeks</i> ● <i>The group generated ideas for 3 potential procurement models:</i> ● <i>Model A - Inspired by Alberta practise of matching interested firms with published pipeline of projects</i> ● <i>Model B - Use RAQS prequal for pre-qualification (no EOI), and a streamlined RFP</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	• <i>Model C - Issue streamlined RFP and MTO negotiate scope and price with successful firm</i> • <i>Any successful model would be one tool in the toolbox, not a universal solution.</i> • <i>The workshop report was shared with ACEC workshop attendees May 8, 2026, and MTO is working on a plan for engagement with internal and external stakeholders.</i> • <i>MTO plans to develop model(s) further, with engagement, to determine their viability for pilot projects</i> ACTION: MTO TO REVIEW THE WORKSHOP REPORT WITH ATTENDEES. ACEC TO PROVIDE COMMENTS AND ONCE THE REPORT IS FINALIZED, FORWARD TO A BROADER AUDIENCE. ii Road Building Strategy (Mireya Hidalgo) <i>Discussion:</i> <i>MTO has been tasked by the Secretary of Cabinet to expedite project delivery.</i> • <i>MTO completed a literature review and identified the following main five themes:</i> 1. <i>Standardize use of Building Information Modelling (BIM) / Digital Twins</i> 2. <i>Explore Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning in Advanced Transportation Systems</i> 3. <i>Change Risk Management approach during the Project Program, Planning and Design phases</i> 4. <i>Innovative Bridge and Foundations design and construction</i> 5. <i>Formalize the development of a corporate partnering framework and strategy</i> • <i>MTO completed a construction acceleration workshop and is prioritizing the ideas. For this construction season, MTO is asking for the following:</i> • <i>Designers to attend a minimum of 3 in-person site meetings</i> • <i>Designers to invite contractors for design-handover meeting</i> • <i>Proactive support during construction liaison. Matters will be escalated to management if no prompt resolutions / poor communications.</i> • <i>Change Proposal reviews to include considerations for acceleration.</i> • <i>Discussion on construction liaison – MTO is requesting faster response times for design clarifications and change proposals and</i>	MTO ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	additional participation from engineering firms during construction (target of a minimum three in-person meetings per season) • Discussion on cost impacts of accelerated design time – accelerated design time may increase costs if larger team is needed but may also reduce costs as back and forth review and response timelines between ESP and MTO would be reduced and there may be a smaller number of deliverables required. • With respect to industry engagement, the current objective is awareness-building. MTO will confirm communication channel, but immediate feedback can be provided to Mireya. • ACEC noted MTO has multiple ongoing initiatives and identified a need for guidance on how to provide input. MTO noted that it is aware and is coordinating internally. ACTION: THIS WILL BE A STANDING ITEM TO BE UPDATED REGULARLY - MTO WILL REFINE ENGAGEMENT APPROACH OVER TIME iii Building Information Modelling (BIM) Workshop - May 20 & 21, 2026 (Mireya Hidalgo, Sayna Yaghooby, Trent Reece) <i>Discussion:</i> • MTO, in partnership with Western University, is hosting a virtual BIM workshop with the objective to kickstart broader BIM discussions across industry, agencies, and academia. • The workshop is open to consultants and includes municipalities, Metrolinx, other jurisdictions. There is flexible attendance (not required to attend full session). • Topics to include: BIM as a legal/deliverable model, industry challenges and readiness and MTO's BIM implementation roadmap • Encouragement for firms to send technical staff/users (not just leadership) to provide practical feedback. • The workshop is expected to be the first in a series of engagements. • Sayna shared a presentation about MTO's plans for BIM. ACEC provided feedback on their experiences with BIM: 1. Software & Integration Challenges ACEC identified concerns regarding multiple platforms (Bentley, Autodesk, etc), conversion inefficiencies and delays, and the need for consistent tools across lifecycle ACEC emphasized the importance of a strong data environment (CDE) / hosting platform and the need to ensure interoperability across design tools, structural BIM tools, contractor systems and external stakeholders (e.g. municipalities, utilities)	MTO

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	2. Workflow & Productivity Impacts <i>ACEC commented that BIM can require significant upfront effort, In some cases more time spent on BIM than design. Conversions between systems can significantly slow workflows and integration must be streamlined to avoid loss of efficiency.</i> 3. Industry Readiness & Training <i>ACEC expressed a need for more training and capability building, inclusion of technical staff in workshops, and recognition that industry is currently fragmented and working in silos</i> 4. Flexibility vs Standardization <i>ACEC made a strong recommendation to maintain flexibility in design tools, focus standardization on data exchange and hosting platform and avoid overly rigid software mandates.</i> Scope of Digital Twin <i>ACEC raised questions about the level of detail required, (e.g. whether to include rebar-level detail) and the need to define practical and cost-effective requirements.</i> ACTION: ACEC TO FORWARD INVITE TO INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS. MTO TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE UPDATES iv Highway Transfer Secretariat – update on DVP/Gardiner and Hwy 174 upload (Erika Varga on behalf of Gustavo Bellancourt) <i>Discussion:</i> <i>Overview provided on the Gardiner Expressway rehabilitation program, originally approved by Toronto City Council in 2014 as part of a long-term lifecycle renewal plan.</i> <i>The project is divided into six sections, each at different stages:</i> <i>Section 1: Complete</i> <i>Section 2: In progress</i> <i>Section 5 (Cherry Street to Logan Street): Currently out for tender (RFQ issued via Toronto Bids portal)</i> <i>Section 6: Engineering evaluation not yet started</i> <i>A tracking website is available for monitoring progress across sections.</i> <i>The City of Toronto retains ownership, operations, and maintenance responsibilities during the interim period.</i> <i>All operational inquiries should continue to be directed to the City.</i>	MTO/ ACEC

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	- The province and city are actively working toward the highway upload, with ongoing collaboration on planning and implementation. - No confirmed timeline yet for when MTO will assume control. - Weblinks for more info: - Project Strategy information: https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/streets-parking-transportation/road-maintenance/bridges-and-expressways/expressways/gardiner-expressway/gardiner-expressway-rehabilitation-strategy/ - GS5 tender: https://www.toronto.ca/business-economy/doing-business-with-the-city/searching-bidding-on-city-contracts/toronto-bids-portal/#all/6082f838-5f10-4003-b7ef-544180014441 - ACEC requested clarification on whether MTO will be involved as a stakeholder or part of project team during delivery. - ACEC requested an update on broader consulting/assessment work related to the upload (including Gardiner, DVP, and Highway 174), and whether additional assignments are expected. - ACEC asked if there will be a consultant hired to oversee the upload. ACTION: MTO TO FOLLOW UP ON MTO'S ROLE IN ONGOING PROJECTS, STATUS OF UPLOAD AND TIMELINE FOR MTO PROJECTS AND POSSIBILITY OF CONSULTANT TO OVERSEE UPLOAD. v Modernized Total Project Management (MTPM) Initiative (William Lei) Discussion: - William introduced a pilot initiative to modernize Total Project Management by combining engineering (design) and Contract Administration (CA) into a single assignment. - Current model separates engineering (planning, design, tender prep) and CA services; proposed model aims to deliver end-to-end project services. - ACEC emphasized this represents a significant industry shift with major procurement and delivery implications. - ACEC requested clarification and MTO confirmed that the intent is to procure a single provider for both design and CA services. - ACEC raised questions regarding the evaluation criteria and procurement approach, project size/scope suitability, resource planning over long timelines.	MTO

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	• ACEC has a strong interest in early and ongoing industry engagement. • MTO advised this initiative is in early stages, with pilot assignments planned to validate the approach. • ACEC acknowledged potential benefits of this model but highlight the need for careful design and engagement due to significant industry impact. ACTION: MTO WILL CONTINUE DEVELOPING THE MODEL AND PILOT FRAMEWORK AND PLAN FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SESSION(S) TO GATHER FEEDBACK ON THE PROPOSED APPROACH AND PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS IN FUTURE UPDATES.	MTO
5-2026-4.a	AGENDA ITEMS FROM ACEC-ON MEMBERS: MAJOR PROJECTS STATUS UPDATE (HWY 413, RING OF FIRE) <i>Description: Anthony Akomah, Manager of Major Highway Planning Office gave an update on Highway 413 and Jenn, on behalf of Vanessa Cashmore, Manager for Northern Infrastructure, provided an update on the Ring of Fire.</i> <i>Discussion:</i> Highway 413 • An RFP for the Fortner extension, that was posted in December, will be closing the week of May 18. It was supposed to close this Friday but will be extended to close next week. It's a CMGC and MTO is currently working on the construction manager RFP for that portion of the highway. • Secondly, MTO recently issued an RFP for the project management consultant assignment for the entire Highway 413 corridor. This was issued on April the 20th and phase one for that will be closing on May 20th. Phase two is currently scheduled for July 10th. • Lastly, MTO is working on the RFP for portion for the east side of the corridor between Highway 400 and the Highway 427 extension in the next few months. This will be a Program Management Consultant assignment. • With respect to ongoing assignments, we have early works including the new bridge at Bouvet Drive that's currently in detailed design and utility relocation is ongoing. The second one is the bridge on Highway 10, Ontario Street, which is also currently in detailed design, and relocation work is ongoing. • ACEC asked if MTO can provide the delivery types for upcoming projects to allow Consultants time to prepare, create partnerships,	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	<i>etc. That information is not available at the moment but should be provided soon.</i> Ring of Fire <i>The Ring of Fire roads projects are currently undergoing Environmental Assessment /Impact Assessment review, with anticipated decisions/approvals forthcoming in:</i> <i>June 2026 – Webequie Supply Road</i> <i>June 2026 – Anaconda/Painter Lake Road</i> <i>August 2026 – Marten Falls Community Access Road</i> <i>An EOI for a Construction Manager was posted on RAQS/MERX on April 16, 2026, for the Webequie Supply Road project.</i> <i>Further procurements are being determined in consultation with Webequie, Marten Falls and Aroland First Nations.</i> <i>To note,</i> <i>Webequie FN is the proponent for Webequie Supply Road</i> <i>Marten Falls FN is the proponent for Marten Falls Community Access Road</i> <i>MTO is the proponent for the Anaconda/Painter Lake Road</i> ACTION: CLARIFICATION OF PARTNERSHIPS, DEFINITION OF PROPONENTS IN THE ABOVE CONTEXT AND UPDATE ON TIMING OF DETAIL DESIGN ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDED AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE MEETING NOTES	MTO
5-2026-4.b	AGENDA ITEMS FROM ACEC-ON MEMBERS: PROGRESSIVE DESIGN BUILD RFP TEMPLATE/MODEL - STATUS AND TIMING OF USE <i>Description: Jeremy Landry provided an update on the Progressive Design Build (PDB) RFP Template Model</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>The PDB model development is ongoing and progressing as planned.</i> <i>Target timeline remains on-track, with template documents expected to be completed this summer.</i> <i>Appreciation was expressed to participants (ACEC members and others) for their input during the April 4 consultation session.</i> <i>A second industry consultation is planned, now targeted for mid-June (previously late May).</i> <i>Tentative date identified as Wednesday, June 17.</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	<i>The session will focus on reviewing the remaining major model components and gathering additional feedback.</i> <i>Invitations/details are expected to be circulated shortly.</i> ACTION: MTO WILL PROVIDE INVITATIONS/DETAILS FOR FURTHER INDUSTRY CONSULTATION SHORTLY.	MTO
5-2026-4.c	AGENDA ITEMS FROM ACEC-ON MEMBERS: ENGINEERING PIPELINE (TIMING FOR NEXT UPDATE) <i>Description: Joanna Long from Asset Management Branch provided an update on the engineering pipeline.</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>The current plan is to publish the next update after the summer Ontario Highways Program (OHP) is released. That's when the new 4th year is added to the OHP for the public website. MTO has typically have been aligning the updates after the OHP gets published.</i> <i>With respect to a mid-year update, there isn't an update right now.</i> <i>ACEC (Steve) noted that there's a disconnect between the information provided at the ACEC-Exec level and this committee</i> <i>ACEC (Tim) asked about the difference between the pipeline and actual assignments published, in particular, in Central Region</i> <i>Rina Kulathinal (Manager of Engineering, Central) responded that while they may advocate for many projects, they can't add projects to the list if they're not funded and they often don't get funding until the last minute.</i> <i>ACEC commented that a mid-year update would allow an opportunity for adding in the additionally funded projects.</i> ACTION: MTO TAKE RESPONSES BACK AND WORK ON A CONSISTENT RESPONSE/APPROACH.	MTO
5-2026-5a	JOINT MTO/ACEC ITEMS: WEST REGION ROTATIONAL RETAINER (DAN BARBER) <i>Description: Erika, on behalf of Dan Barber, provided on the West Region Rotational Retainer pilot.</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>The West Region Rotational Retainer pilot has a 5-year term with up to 4 Engineering Service Providers (ESPs) and a maximum ceiling value of \$15M</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	<i>The scope includes highway design (Years 1–3) and construction design liaison (Years 4–5)</i> <i>Current Status: The RFP Phase 2 has closed, and proposals are currently under evaluation. The Contract has not yet been awarded. Once awarded, the first round of work assignments will be issued shortly, with each ESP receiving an initial work item.</i> <i>Work will be distributed across firms, with internal tracking to support balanced allocation.</i> <i>Participating firms will know their individual assigned value and be informed of the total retainer spend to date.</i> <i>MTO will seek ongoing feedback from participating firms on the effectiveness of the rotational model.</i> <i>Initial success for MTO is in establishing a retainer with more than three ESPs, exceeding the typical model.</i> <i>Further evaluation of success criteria will continue as the pilot progresses.</i> <i>Additional updates to be provided at the September subcommittee meeting.</i> <i>ACEC and MTO discussed the importance of transparency on total retainer spend, to help firms plan and manage resources.</i> <i>ACEC identified a risk regarding remaining funds toward the end of the retainer term. The potential for competition over limited remaining budget and challenges in accommodating scope changes or additional work.</i> <i>ACEC suggested MTO consider a contingency or reserve fund to ensure projects can be completed without funding shortfalls</i> ACTION: ERIKA TO TAKE BACK FEEDBACK TO THE WEST REGION TEAM ON PROVIDING CLEAR VISIBILITY INTO OVERALL RETAINER SPEND AND CONSIDERING  CONTINGENCY MECHANISMS FOR END-OF-TERM FUNDING MANAGEMENT	MTO
5-2026-5b	JOINT MTO/ACEC ITEMS: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE RATING (JENN MELESCHUK, ERIKA VARGA) <i>Description: Update on the current status of the Engineering Corporate Performance Rating (CPR)</i> <i>Discussion:</i> <i>Clarification was provided by MTO regarding two separate ‘CPR’ initiatives:</i> <i>Contractor Performance Rating (CPR): Newly implemented following a pilot (applies to contractors)</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	• <i>Engineering Corporate Performance Rating (CPR): Currently paused and under review</i> • <i>Confusion may have arisen due to the shared acronym and timing (around the 3-year anniversary of the engineering CPR pause).</i> • <i>The Corporate Performance Rating remains on hold while MTO undertakes a comprehensive review of vendor performance management, with opportunities for stakeholder input as the approach evolves.</i> • <i>Future direction is being determined as part of the broader Vendor Management Review (VMR).</i> • <i>Ongoing engagement with industry stakeholders will continue.</i> • <i>CPR-related VMR Focus Areas:</i> • <i>Improving efficiency and effectiveness</i> • <i>Reducing subjectivity in evaluations</i> • <i>Simplifying oversight and appeals processes</i> • <i>Ensuring overall fit-for-purpose performance management tools</i> • <i>VMR upcoming activities include an internal workshop scheduled in two weeks to build on previous discussions with stakeholders from last summer. The focus will be on defining the intended purpose and outcomes of appraisals and the CPR.</i> • <i>ACEC expressed interest in understanding the contractor CPR rollout and whether lessons learned could inform the engineering CPR approach.</i> • <i>MTO advised that training sessions for the contractor CPR have been held (including the May 7 session). Recordings are available on MTO's website. A second session is scheduled.</i> • <i>The training session for Contractor Performance Rating can be found at: https://www.library.mto.gov.on.ca/SydneyPLUS/TechPubs/Portal/tp/tdViews.aspx?lang=en-US. Search for CPR and the video file will be at the bottom of the page.</i> ACTION: MTO TO CONTINUE ENGAGEMENT WITH INDUSTRY AS PART OF THE VMR PROCESS AND PROVIDE FUTURE UPDATES ON DIRECTION OF ENGINEERING CPR	MTO
5-2026-5c	JOINT MTO/ACEC ITEMS: SUCCESSION MANAGEMENT – JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE <i>Description: Opportunity for the team to discuss items that are raised/were raised jointly.</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	<i>Discussion:</i> <i>MTO and ACEC discussed the succession management key Initiatives:</i> • <i>Transportation Career Development Program</i> • <i>Draft list of universities and colleges completed.</i> • <i>Work underway to finalize a list of participating firms and contractors.</i> • <i>Further progress expected at the next subcommittee meeting.</i> • <i>School Presentation Initiative</i> • <i>Scope expanded from high school students only to all student groups (broader engagement across age levels).</i> • <i>Goal is to increase outreach and awareness of careers in the transportation sector.</i> • <i>Seeking ACEC member participation to help advance this initiative.</i> • <i>DBB RFP Pilot Project (Succession Management) includes 13 engineering assignments (10 preliminary/detailed design and three retainers)</i> • <i>Approximately 5 assignments have been completed to date.</i> • <i>Projects span all regions (2–4 per region) and timelines from 2022–2026.</i> • <i>Evaluation includes ongoing review of the modified RFP wording and proponent responses. The next phase will include consultation with MTO project managers and ESPs and an assessment of practical effectiveness and benefits of the approach</i> • <i>Discussions are underway on potential expansion to Contract Administration (CA) side (pending follow-up).</i> • <i>ACEC suggested identifying succession management projects in pipeline lists to improve visibility for industry.</i> • <i>MTO clarified that projects selected are typically:</i> ○ <i>Medium complexity</i> ○ <i>Supported by experienced project managers on both MTO and consultant sides</i> ACTION: MTO TO EXPLORE ADDING SUCCESSION MANAGEMENT IDENTIFIERS TO PIPELINE REPORTING AND PROVIDE FURTHER UPDATES AT FUTURE MEETINGS	MTO
5-2026-6	NEW ITEM: CONCERN REGARDING THE TIMING OF BID INQUIRY SUBMISSIONS AND RESPONSES IN RFP PROCESSES <i>Description: Industry highlighted an opportunity to improve procurement processes by enhancing transparency and timelines around bid inquiries and responses.</i>	

NEW ITEMS		ACTION BY
	<i>Discussion:</i> <i>Current practice allows for a cut-off date for submitting questions, but responses and addenda may be issued after the inquiry deadline, and no formal opportunity exists to submit follow-up questions based on those responses.</i> <i>This limits industry's ability to fully understand and respond to RFP requirements and addenda and creates challenges for preparing complete and compliant bids</i> <i>The risk increases for larger or more complex projects, where addenda may significantly affect scope or pricing</i> <i>ACEC suggested that MTO introduce a defined timeline where a firm date is set for issuing responses to bid inquiries and if responses are delayed, an automatic extension to the submission deadline is considered.</i> <i>This would improve clarity, fairness, and collaboration between MTO and bidders</i> <i>Feedback acknowledged by Erika Varga - item to be taken away for further consideration</i> ACTION: MTO TO CONSIDER SUGGESTED CHANGES TO BID INQUIRY AND RESPONSE DEADLINES	MTO
5-2025-7	SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND HOSTS <i>September 15, 2026 - hybrid (MS Teams and MTO CETI)</i> <i>January 13, 2027 (virtual)</i>	

INFORMATION SHARED FOR THIS MEETING

Document Title	Shared By	Format
Agenda MTO-ACEC Eng Subcom Meeting 2026 05 13	Erika Varga	MS Word
Electronic Format Native Document Group – Member List	Erika Varga	MS Word
Buy Ontario slides	Jenn Meleschuk	PowerPoint Presentation
Ring of Fire Questions	Vanessa Cashmore	MS Word

NEXT MEETING

- *September 15, 2026 - hybrid (MS Teams and MTO CETI)*
- January 13, 2027 - hybrid (MS Teams and MTO CETI)