



**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL STANDARDS
FOR
ROADS AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Ontario Ministry of Transportation
Design and Contract Standards Office
Garden City Tower, 2nd Floor North
301 St. Paul Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7R4

EMAIL: joe@ogra.ca
TEL: 289-291-6472 Ext. 37
FAX: 289-291-6477

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Subject: Review of Ontario Provincial Standards for Roads and Public Works (OPS)

In 2013, the OPS Advisory Board directed that a review be undertaken of the Ontario Provincial Standards for Roads and Public Works (OPS). A review committee was struck in July of 2013 with representatives from MTO, MEA, OGRA, ORBA, CEO, and the Chair of the Standards Management Committee (SMC), Chair of the Products Management Committee (PMC), and the OPS Manager. OGRA Executive Director, Joe Tiernay, was appointed as Chair of the OPS Review Committee.

The OPS Review Committee met numerous times throughout 2013 - 2014 and conducted a thorough review of the mandate, policies and procedures, and governance of the OPS. The review is now complete and the OPS Advisory Board has adopted the following recommendations from the OPS Review Committee's report:

1. The OPS Advisory Board not pursue adjustments to the current governance structure of the OPS.
2. The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) continue with the current day to day oversight, management, operations, and funding of the OPS.
3. The OPS continue on a path to increased usage of "PROV" and "MUNI" streams of specifications, where applicable, to minimize the need for the use of contract Special Provisions.
4. The Products Management Committee (PMC) be removed from OPS and operate under the direction of The Road Authority (TRA).
5. The PMC move to adjust and clarify product acceptance definitions and requirements for listing with TRA.
6. The Ontario Provincial Standards Unit, in consultation with other organizations, leads development and introduces a dispute resolution process for OPS.

7. The Municipal Engineers Association (MEA), in consultation with other organizations, will lead development and implementation of an out-reach / feedback mechanism to allow municipalities to provide input to specification adjustments, possibly including a listing for municipal Special Provisions.
8. Role and responsibility descriptions of the OPS Specialty Committee Chairs, Members, and Coordinators are developed by the Ontario Provincial Standards Unit, in consultation with other organizations. This also includes changes to committee membership makeup and organizations represented on the OPS committees.
9. The Ontario Provincial Standards Unit make appropriate adjustments and updates to the OPS Information Handout (October 2011) and to the OPS website and any other forms of communication reflecting the above directions.

Details on how some of the above decisions will be operationalized are being worked on and when final decisions are made by the OPS Advisory Board, those additional details will be communicated.

The OPS Advisory Board believes that the review was a worthwhile exercise and that OPS, going forward, will continue to provide a valuable service to Ontario municipalities, Road Authorities, engineering consultants, and infrastructure construction companies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature is cursive and appears to read "J.W. Tiernay".

J.W. Tiernay
Chairperson
OPS Review Committee