2017 OAPC Partners in Quality Road Tour
AG Report: Road Infrastructure Construction Contract Awarding and Oversight

Provincial Highways Management Division
Ministry of Transportation
Chapter 3  
Section 3.10

Ministry of Transportation—Road Infrastructure Construction Contract Awarding and Oversight

1.0 Summary

The Ministry of Transportation (Ministry) is responsible for the construction and maintenance of provincial highway and bridge infrastructure, which is currently valued at $65 billion. It consists of about 40,000 km of highways having a distance of about 17,000 km, and almost 5,000 bridges and culverts.

The Ministry awards contracts for construction and rehabilitation contracts for roads as well as rehabilitation contracts for highways in order to maintain and new infrastructure in a safe and secure condition. The road network, most of which was originally built by the 10s, requires considerable ongoing maintenance.

The Ministry expects to spend about $4 billion over the next 10 years for road and bridge rehabilitation and about $4 billion for roads and bridge expansion.

In the past five years, the Ministry has awarded about 600 large contracts totaling over $1 billion, mostly involving contracts for $50 million or $50 million.

These contracts can be divided into two categories. The first category is repairing and maintaining existing bridges, and the second category is building new bridges or rehabilitating existing bridges. The average contract was valued at $91 million.
AUDITOR GENERAL’s ANNUAL REPORT
Road Infrastructure Construction Contract Awarding and Oversight

ENHANCE OVERSIGHT
VALUE FOR MONEY
IMPROVE ASPHALT QUALITY
AG Report: MTO Action Plan

Feb 2017

MTO released the Action Plan for Highway Construction Contracts and Oversight

70 Ministry Staff

50 Specific items to be implemented starting this construction season
AG Report: Recommendations

1. “Minimizing Cracks on Asphalt Highways”
   ✓ Changes to ERS
   ✓ Suspend incentives for mix properties and compaction
   ✓ Raised compaction requirement
   ✓ Continued with “Bonus” for smoothness

2. “Incorporate the Extended Aging test for asphalt”
   ✓ Extended BBR Test included for all AC Grades
   ✓ Revised Ash content test limits
   ✓ Suspended the use of RAP for surface course
AG Report: Recommendations

3. “Making decisions that are in the best interests of Ontarians”
   - Expert Panel
   - Review LD’s and dispute process
   - Review policy development

4. “Appropriate Care and Control of Asphalt Samples”
   - Owner care and control of samples
   - Tip Line
   - Enhanced training
AG Report: Recommendations

5. “Obtain a high level of assurance”
   ✓ Review QVE Process
   ✓ Audits of current process
   ✓ Owner acceptance process

   ✓ Improved oversight and warranty administration
   ✓ Improved training and guidelines

7. “Take Action on Poor Performance or Behaviour”
   ✓ Review rating system and qualification process
   ✓ Review rules for holding contractors accountable for financial information that they report
Looking Ahead...