

Ministry of  
Transportation

Office of the Minister

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Ministère des  
Transports

Bureau du ministre

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February 29, 2024

107-2023-3698

Mayor Patrick Brown  
City of Brampton  
2 Wellington Street West  
Brampton ON L6Y 4R2  
[MayorBrown@Brampton.ca](mailto:MayorBrown@Brampton.ca)

Dear Mayor Brown:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021 (TSSEA).

I appreciate the continued support and feedback that the City of Brampton has provided through past engagements and municipal consultations. Your feedback and expertise are important to the ministry and have helped to guide the work done so far.

### **Boundaries and Vehicle Retrieval**

Tow operators certified under TSSEA are licensed to provide services throughout Ontario (except in the case of Restricted Tow Zones where additional criteria apply). The TSSEA does not prevent municipal or police authorities from establishing and maintaining a tow rotation within their municipal boundaries or developing and administering by-laws related to parking and towing from a parking lot. The Municipal Act, 2001, provides broad powers to municipalities, subject to certain limits, to pass by-laws on matters within their jurisdiction.

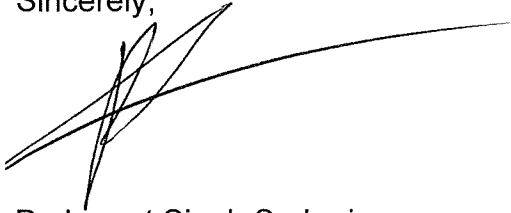
Unless initiated by the police or authorized official, vehicle owners have the right to choose where their vehicle will be towed. When consent is not required, vehicle storage operators must take steps to notify the vehicle owner of where the vehicle is being held. The vehicle storage operator must also make reasonable efforts to facilitate the prompt release of the vehicle.

### **Compliance Oversight**

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) developed the Towing and Vehicle Storage Oversight Office and TSSEA established a Director of Towing and Vehicle and Storage Standards to oversee registration and non-compliant activities of tow truck drivers and tow and vehicle storage operators. The TSSEA enables the Director of Towing and Vehicle and Storage Standards to appoint towing inspectors to enforce the legislation and investigate complaints. MTO will continue to analyze and reallocate resources as necessary to meet the enforcement needs of the program.

Thank you again for your letter and for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria  
Minister of Transportation

- c. The Honourable Charmaine Williams, MPP, Brampton Centre
- Hardeep Grewal, MPP, Brampton East
- Graham McGregor, MPP, Brampton North
- Amarjot Sandhu, MPP, Brampton West
- Gary Collins, Director of Communications, Office of Mayor Patrick Brown