

## MTO Success Stories

Even before the strategy was developed, MTO staff members were working to put sustainability into practice and to make it part of the MTO culture. Here are some of our success stories:



### Wetland Compensation

Under the historic Henley Bridge in St. Catharines, a wetland compensation area was designed to provide additional habitat to fish, birds and mammals.



### Cyclist & Pedestrian Tunnel

A cyclist/pedestrian tunnel and pathway, constructed by MTO in 2008, on Highway 17 in Sudbury. The tunnel connects a residential neighbourhood on one side of the highway to a beach on the other. Without this culvert, bicycles and pedestrians would need to follow a much longer route or risk crossing a high-speed intersection.



### Solar Power

The new Sarnia truck inspection station has a combined windmill/solar application. The 5KW system supplements MTO's power needs, and when not needed, the power is fed into the provincial grid.

## Working Together for Sustainability

Ontario's Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is uniquely placed to make a significant contribution to Ontario's economic, social and environmental sustainability. In *Sustainability inSight*, we have identified what we can do as a ministry to think and behave in a more sustainable manner. However, we know that we will not be able to transform the transportation system on our own. We intend to work with, and alongside, members of the public, the private sector, academia, non-governmental organizations, other provincial ministries and other levels of government to fully realize the potential of a sustainable transportation system in Ontario.



**"When I think of sustainability, I think about who's at the bottom of the food chain."**

John Small, Environmental Planner,  
PHM – West Region

For more information about sustainability at the Ministry of Transportation, or for a copy of *Sustainability inSight*, visit our website at:

[www.ontario.ca/sustainabletransportation](http://www.ontario.ca/sustainabletransportation)

# Sustainability inSight

An innovative strategy for  
Ontario's Ministry of Transportation



## Why a Sustainability Strategy?

Ontario's Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has a long and strong tradition of making significant contributions to the quality of life that we enjoy in Ontario.

Increasingly, however, factors such as climate change, demographic change, growing traffic congestion and increasing urbanization are putting pressure not only on the province's transportation system but also on the environment. Given the breadth and scope of our mandate, MTO has a unique opportunity to make a positive contribution towards greater sustainability in Ontario.



Sustainability means considering all of the impacts of our actions and decisions in economic, environmental, and social terms. It means evaluating these impacts over the long-term, ensuring the best economic, environmental, and social return on investment for every public dollar spent. The outcome of this approach is a transportation system that meets the needs of all Ontarians today, without limiting the choices of future generations.

**Our purpose in developing a sustainability strategy is two-fold:**

- 1 to ingrain sustainability into the ministry's internal operations, and
- 2 to influence the policies and programs that affect the external transportation system.

## What's in MTO's Strategy?



## How Will We Take Action?

The seven strategic goals identified in *Sustainability inSight* are only a first step towards lasting, meaningful change at MTO.

The goals will be reached over time by completing specific actions, which will be articulated in three-year Sustainability Implementation Plans (SIPs). Developing the SIPs will be an ongoing process at MTO. We will release a new SIP publicly every three years. Each new plan will introduce new actions, report on earlier actions, and indicate our progression towards the seven goals. Implementation Plans will include short-, medium-, and long-term actions, because we know that becoming a more sustainable organization will be an ongoing, collaborative process.

As we gain experience in confronting challenges to our province's sustainability, we will adapt our implementation plans to reflect changing needs. Embedding this as a regular part of MTO business will promote continuous improvement towards a more sustainable future.

