

**Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des Richesses
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His Worship Dan O'Mara, Mayor
Municipality of Temagami
7 Lakeshore Drive, PO Box 220
Temagami ON P0H 2H0

Dear Mayor O'Mara and Colleagues:

Thank you for meeting with my Parliamentary Assistant Mike Harris at the 2019 Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference.

Mr. Harris has passed along the details of your meeting, and your delegation's concerns about Crown roads, the Lake Temagami access point, fishing regulations and cottage development. I understand that these matters are of great concern to your community and would like to provide you with some additional information.

My ministry recognizes the recreational, social and economic importance of fishing to Northern communities. Lake trout populations are recognized across Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ) 11 (www.ontario.ca/page/fisheries-management-zone-11-fmz-11) as being in a stressed condition. To ensure lake trout populations are sustainably managed, regulation changes were put in place in 2008. Despite efforts, recent broad-scale monitoring results have confirmed that populations are not responding to the 2008 regulation changes as anticipated and many indicators suggest the populations are still declining. Summaries of these monitoring data are available online to the public at www.ontario.ca/page/how-use-fish-line.

I assure you that the current proposal for the lake trout regulation change on Lake Temagami is reflective of the input received through public consultation on the FMZ 11 plan and the best available science. My ministry will continue to monitor the effects of any regulation changes within the zone. We would also welcome the opportunity to work with tourism operators on Lake Temagami to educate anglers on the importance of sustainable fisheries management.

To further discuss the proposed changes, please contact Allison Bannister, Management Biologist, North Bay District, at (705) 475-5537 or allison.bannister@ontario.ca.

Regarding your concerns about cottage lot development, Crown land is no longer actively marketed, rented or sold for private recreational or residential use. However, my ministry can work with Northern communities and municipalities to make Crown land (excluding provincial parks and conservation reserves) available at market value to support local economic development. To learn more about this process, you can view the Guide for Cottage Lot Development online at www.ontario.ca/page/guide-cottage-lot-development-crown-land#section-0.

To discuss the process to potentially acquire lands for cottage lot development on warm-water lakes within your municipal boundary, please contact Julie Robinson, District Planner, North Bay District, at (705) 475-5569 or julie.robinson@ontario.ca.

I look forward to working together into the future.

Sincerely,



John Yakabuski
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Allison Bannister
Julie Robinson