

**Ministry of Natural Resources
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December 12, 2019

Mayor Dan O'Mara
Municipality of Temagami

Email: dan.omara@temagami.ca

Subject: Draft Forest Sector Strategy – Invitation to Draft Forest Sector Strategy
Engagement Sessions.

Dear Mayor O'Mara:

We write to invite the Temagami to meet with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to discuss the draft Forest Sector Strategy and contributing forestry-related policy and regulatory changes that the ministries are considering.

On December 4, 2019, the government posted a Draft Forest Sector Strategy on the Environmental Registry for public review and comment. The strategy is open for comments from December 4, 2019 to February 5, 2020. You can access the draft strategy at [Ontario's Draft Forest Sector Strategy](#).

In the draft Forest Sector Strategy, Ontario is proposing a long-term vision for growth and sustainability for the forest sector and is seeking comments and input from your community. MNRF is considering actions supporting the pillars of the draft strategy. Actions under consideration include modernizing the forest management planning process, modernizing the approach to independent forest audits, and reducing duplication and modernizing approvals processes.

In addition, MECP is also considering changes to the environmental assessment requirements for forest management on Crown lands as part of MECP's modernization of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and processes.

More information about these proposed changes will follow soon.

At this time, we wanted to make you aware of these important topics that we hope to discuss with a representative (or representatives) from your community at one of the regional sessions.

The MNRF is convening regional consultation sessions in six locations across Ontario to discuss the proposals and receive comments. These one-half day sessions will be held in the following regional centres:

Date	Location	Venue	Address
Jan 13 9:00-12:00	Thunder Bay	AFFES Fire Centre Training Room	1580 Arthur Street W
Jan 15 9:00-12:00	Timmins	South Porcupine Ontario Government Complex, Boreal	5520 HWY 101 E
Jan 21 9:00-12:00	North Bay	McKeown West Wing Boardroom	437 McKeown Avenue
Jan 23 1:00-4:00	Kenora	Kenora Fire Mgmt	1789 Airport Road
Jan 28 9:00-12:00	Peterborough	Robinson Place Ball Rooms A and B	300 Water Street, Main Floor
Jan 29 9:00-12:00	Sault Ste Marie	Roberta Bondar Place - Boardroom B	70 Foster Dr, Main Floor

Please let us know as soon as you can if you plan to send a representative(s) to one of these sessions. Please contact Ritikaa Gupta at 705-945-5731 or Ritikaa.Gupta@ontario.ca.

We look forward to discussing the draft Forest Sector Strategy and associated proposals with you. We also invite any written comments on any of these initiatives to be submitted to Ritikaa Gupta at ritikaa.gupta@ontario.ca.

Following the in-person sessions, MNRF will consider comments on proposals and report back to explain how those comments were considered.

We hope you will consider participating in these consultations.

Sincerely,



Wayne Barnes
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Director, Business Development Branch



Annamaria Cross, A/Director
Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks