

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Natural Resources Conservation Policy Branch Policy Division 300 Water Street Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5

Subject: Proposed changes to the Aggregate Resources Act

Dear Head of Council and Clerk,

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry recognizes the critical role Ontario's municipalities play in the lives of Ontarians. We value our strong collaborative partnership with municipalities and the associations that represent their interests.

We want to advise you that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is proceeding with changes to the way aggregates are managed in Ontario and would like to invite municipal input on the changes we are proposing.

We have released an aggregate proposal that aims to cut red tape, create jobs, and promote economic growth within Ontario's aggregate industry — an industry that generates \$1.6 billion in production revenue annually and supports more than 28,000 jobs in aggregate-related sectors.

The proposal draws on feedback from industry, municipalities, Indigenous communities and other stakeholders. It will create opportunities for growth while maintaining a steadfast commitment to protecting the environment and addressing impacts to communities.

A summary of the proposed legislative changes, and instructions for providing feedback, can be found on the Environmental Registry (ERO# 019-0556) at the following link: <u>https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-0556</u>

My ministry is also considering some regulatory changes and would appreciate any initial feedback you have on these topics. As a next step, we expect to consult further on specific details related to regulatory proposals at a later date. I look forward to your input on these proposals and potential future changes.

If you have any questions about the proposed changes, please contact Andrew MacDonald, Resource Development Section, at 705-755-1222 or <u>aggregates@ontario.ca</u>.

Kind regards,

Original signed by Ala Boyd

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