



Representing the Districts of Kenora, Rainy River and Thunder Bay

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May 1, 2012

Laurie Scott, M.P.P.
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Queen's Park, Room 434, Legislative Building
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Dear Ms. Scott:

BILL 73, AN ACT TO AMEND THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association is pleased to provide this letter of support for Private Member's Bill 73, An Act to Amend the Endangered Species Act.

NOMA has long been an advocate for the Minister of Natural Resources to consider social and economic impacts when preparing habitat regulations and recovery strategies to address the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, 2007. Furthermore, we believe that these social and economic analyses should be made public as part of the review period.

We also take this opportunity to repeat our request for the government to implement a long term regulation under section 55(1)(b) of the *Endangered Species Act* which recognizes that the primary objectives of the ESA are met through the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* and its required Forest Management Plans. We believe that implementation of this requested regulation would reduce red tape and provide some much needed stability for the Ontario forest industry and ensure economic growth

We offer our full support to this legislation, which we trust will be unanimously supported by members of the Ontario Legislature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RN", written over a light blue and green background.

Ron Nelson
President
/cr

c. Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister of Natural Resources
All Members of the Ontario Legislature

