



Premier of Ontario, The Honorable Doug Ford (sent by email, premier@ontario.ca)

Provincial Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. MPP, Todd McCarthy (sent by email, todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, MPP, Rob Flack (sent by email, rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

Sarnia Lambton Bkejwanong Provincial MPP, Bob Bailey (sent by email, bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org)

Sarnia Lambton Bkejwanong Federal MP, Marilyn Gladu (sent by email, marilyn.gladu@parl.gc.ca)

AMO (sent by email, amo@amo.on.ca)

All Municipalities (sent by email)

May 27th, 2025

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its Planning Council meeting on May 26h, 2025, passed the following motion calling for a pause of the enactment of BILL 5 PROTECT ONTARIO BY UNLEASHING OUR ECONOMY ACT 2025:

MOTION TO PAUSE BILL 5 PROTECT ONTARIO BY UNLEASHING OUR ECONOMY ACT 2025

Whereas the province has introduced Bill 5, Protect Ontario by unleashing our Economy 2025 which is intended to speed up housing and economic development in Ontario.

And whereas the proposed legislation will include the repeal of the Endangered Species Act of 2007 and replace it with the Conservation Species Act of 2025.

And whereas the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks primarily manages the Act, The Committee on the Status of Species in Ontario (COSSARO) is responsible for assessing and classifying species.

And whereas COSSARO is comprised of experts with scientific and traditional knowledge and operates independently from the government ensuring impartial assessments of species at risk, the provincial cabinet will now decide what species will remain or be removed from endangered, concerned or at-risk status.

And whereas the current law considers the habitat to be all the areas that the species relies on for living, gathering food, migrating, hibernating and reproducing. The new law however, narrows that definition to "a dwelling place, such as a den, nest or other similar place, that is occupied or habitually occupied by one or more members of a species for the purposes of breeding, rearing, staging, wintering or hibernating"

And whereas the legislation would gut environmental assessment processes, speed mining and infrastructure development and take a "register-first, ask-questions-later" approach that would allow developers to begin projects before their environmental implications are fully known and allow for economic zones which will eliminate any environmental mitigation measures or protections.

And whereas the legislation would eliminate provincial responsibility for federally listed migratory birds and aquatic species because it says such birds and species are under federal jurisdiction, even though the province has historically administered such duties.

And whereas the government will enhance funding for the Species Conservation Program, which will see contributions more than quadruple to \$20 million each year for on the ground projects that directly support efforts to conserve and protect listed species, the funding will only go to projects in regions that would otherwise not be considered viable for housing priorities, essentially allowing for the extirpation of local ecoregions in Ontario.

And whereas while development is necessary for human progress, Bill 5 will pose significant challenges to mitigating water, soil and air pollution; will overexploit natural resources, and increase invasive species in each uniquely identified ecoregion in Ontario.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of Plympton-Wyoming urges the government to pause the proposed legislation and maintain strong environmental laws that prevent extinction of species and protect local ecoregions.

And furthermore, the Council of Plympton-Wyoming asks that the government recognize and give meaningful consideration to ecoregions in Ontario through their unique perspectives and preserve Ontario's natural heritage systems in the application of any proposed updated provincial legislation for the long-term growth, sustainability and well-being of our communities.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email.



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