



**Ontario Federation of Agriculture**

**Ontario AgriCentre**

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September 2, 2016

Hon. Jeff Leal  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
77 Grenville Street  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1B3

Hon. Glen R. Murray  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
77 Wellesley Street West  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5

Hon. Kathryn McGarry  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
99 Wellesley Street West  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Hon. Steven Del Duca  
Minister of Transportation  
77 Wellesley Street  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Mr. Peter Emon, Chair  
Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus  
c/o County of Renfrew  
9 International Drive  
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Dear Ministers and Mr. Emon,

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is Canada's largest voluntary general farm organization, representing more than 36,000 farm family businesses across Ontario. These farm businesses form the backbone of a robust food system and rural communities with the potential to drive the Ontario economy forward.

The spread of wild parsnip throughout Eastern Ontario poses a threat not only to agricultural operations but also to humans as contact with the leaves can result in severe skin irritation.



The Ontario Government deemed wild parsnip to be a significant problem and so added it to the Noxious Weeds list in 2015, to facilitate its control. As a noxious weed, the control of wild parsnip is an obligation of land owners across Ontario.

On behalf of all Ontarians, I urge you to take action to address wild parsnip on lands under your jurisdiction. We further urge Ontario's weed inspectors to utilize their authority under the Weed Control Act to facilitate the destruction of wild parsnip on private property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don McCabe', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Don McCabe  
President

cc: OFA Board of Directors  
County Federations of Agriculture