

November 27, 2019

Nalisha Asgarali  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Environmental Policy Branch  
40 St Clair Avenue West  
Floor 10  
Toronto, ON  
M4V 1M2

Dear Ms. Asgarali,

**RE: Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Number 019-0481, Amendments to the Pesticide Act**

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is Canada's largest voluntary general farm organization, representing more than 38,000 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.

OFA supports the Ontario government's proposed changes to amend the *Pesticides Act* to align Ontario's system of pesticide classification with the federal pesticide categories. OFA believes this alignment will streamline the approval process while still ensuring appropriate oversight.

The federal Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)'s review and registration of pest control products in Canada employs a rigorous science- and evidence-based process in an open and transparent manner. Pesticides are stringently regulated in Canada to ensure human health and the environment remain protected.

OFA is committed to the health of Canadians and the protection of the environment. We look forward to continuing our work with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to ensure the continued protection of the environment, our agricultural sector, and ourselves.

Sincerely,



Keith Currie  
President

cc: OFA Board of Directors