



OFA Policy Development

OFA PAC meeting
November 17, 2019
Hamilton, Ontario

OFA's Policy Development

- OFA is an advocate for Ontario farmers, championing their interests through government relations, lobby efforts, community representation, and media relations.
- OFA dedicates significant time and resources to policy development, promotion and advocacy activities.
- Government considers OFA a key agricultural stakeholder group. Therefore, policy positions that reflect the views of the OFA Membership are the most powerful.
- OFA policy positions are developed with OFA Member input and approved by the OFA Board of Directors.
- PAC councilors provide a valuable connection to both Local Federations and OFA Commodity Members.

OFA's Farm Policy Research Staff

Staff name (policy areas)

1. Jason Bent (Red tape, Farm Finance)
2. Peter Jeffery (Land use & Property)
3. Ben LeFort (Business Risk Management & Taxation)
4. Tina Schankula (Water, Rural)
5. Peter Sykanda (Labour, Food, Environment)
6. Ian Nokes (Energy, Waste)
7. Danielle Collins (Agricultural Economic Development)
8. Danie Glanc (Ag Statistics, Agricorp Liaison, Science-based policies)

OFA's Farm Policy Research Staff

- Each policy analyst is responsible for specific policy areas.
- Assess current and proposed government laws, regulations, and policies
- Research, brief, and prepare draft OFA submissions
- Provide background on current OFA policy positions

Government Consultation Tracking Document

- PAC councilors receive updates on current Ontario government environmental registry and regulatory registry postings consultations.
- Each posting is assigned to at least one analyst.

Year – # of postings reviewed (# of OFA submissions)

2019 – 85 reviewed to date (44 submissions to date)

2018 – 66 reviewed (31 submissions)

2017 – 118 reviewed (53 submissions)

2016 – 133 reviewed (60 submissions)

Listing of upcoming government consultations and submissions for consideration							
	Comments Due Date:	Title	EBR/Proposal #	Description	Related EBRs	OFA Staff lead	Action/Recommendation
1	12-Dec-19	Amendments to the Pesticide Reg (63/09 General)	019-0601	MECP proposal to harmonize Ont's pesticides classes with the federal categories. Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), under the authority of the Pest Control Products Act, registers pesticides after completing a rigorous review of scientific studies on potential impacts on human health and the environment.		Danie Glanc	
2	12-Dec-19	Proposed amendment to Reg 506/18 (Reporting of Energy Consumption & Water Use) to stop further rollout to buildings under 100,000 sq ft	19-ENDM010	Min of Energy, Northern Development and Mines proposes to amend O. Reg. 506/18 to stop further rollout of the Energy and Water Reporting and Benchmarking program to buildings under 100,000 square feet.		Ian Nokes	
3	29-Nov-19	Proposed Extension of Hours of Alcohol Sale and Service in Licensed Establishments in Certain Airports in Ont	19-MAG017	Proposed ammendment to Reg 719 under the Liquor Licence Act to extend the permissible hours of alcohol sale and service in licensed establishments in the post-security area of certain airports in Ont to allow alcohol to be sold and served 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.		Jason Bent	
4	27-Nov-19	Proposed amendments to the Food Premises Regulation 493/17 under the Health Protection and Promotion Act	19-HLTC030	Min of Health is proposing an exemption that will allow food premise operators the discretion to permit dogs in outdoor eating areas of food premises (i.e., cafes, restaurants, pubs and breweries, grocery store patios). Min. of Health is also proposing an exemption to allow dogs in a food premise where only pre-packaged or low-risk food items, or both, are manufactured, processed, prepared, stored, handled, displayed, distributed, transported, sold or offered for sale, provided the dogs are in an area of the food premise where food is served, sold, offered for sale or displayed.		Jason Bent	
5	27-Nov-19	Proposed amendments to the Food Premises Regulation 493/17 under the Health Protection and Promotion Act	19-HLTC028	Min of Health is proposing to exempt food premises that serve low risk foods from certain structural and/or equipment requirements, which would be similar to current exemptions for pre-packaged low risk foods and hot beverages (i.e., exempt from hand washing stations, equipment for utensil cleaning/sanitizing, provision of sanitary facilities etc.). Min of Health is also proposing to exempt food premises that serve low risk food from the requirement to have a trained food handler on-site during operation.		Danielle Collins	

OFA's Submissions

- OFA's submissions are available on the OFA's website.
- Submissions can be found under the Resources menu heading (at the top of OFA's main webpage) under Submissions & Correspondence.

<https://ofa.on.ca/resources/ofa-submission-regarding-proposed-aggregate-resources-act-amendments/>

SUBMISSIONS & CORRESPONDENCE

OFA submission regarding proposed Aggregate Resources Act amendments

Updated: November 5, 2019

OFA recommended that amendments to the Aggregate Resources Act also ensure the protection of private water wells and that all water-related concerns, including private water wells, be an integral component of the aggregate licensing/approvals process. OFA also recommended that farmer concerns related to the negative effects of dust, noise and/or truck traffic on agricultural operations along haul routes be considered during the aggregate licensing/approvals process. OFA believes that the negative impacts of gravel truck traffic on municipal roads should be addressed. OFA also believes rehabilitation of former above-the-water-table aggregate sites in agricultural areas should be prioritize back to agricultural use. OFA further recommended permitting the movement of aggregates extracted from one farmer-owned site and used for personal use at another farm site where both sites are operated as a single farm entity. OFA also recommended raising the overall fee or royalty assessed per tonne to rehabilitate Ontario's legacy of "abandoned" pits and quarries and to compensate municipalities situated along haul routes even though the pit or quarry is located in another municipality.

- **[Download PDF file'OFA submission regarding proposed Aggregate Resources Act amendments'](#)**

Related Issues

[Land Use Policy and Farmland Preservation](#)

[Municipal Government](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Water](#)

The role of the PAC in Policy Development

- PAC councilors:
 - Provide a valuable connection to both Local Federations and OFA Commodity Members;
 - Keep OFA Members updated on upcoming consultations and final OFA submissions;
 - Solicit and bring forward input on behalf of OFA Members;
 - Provide feedback by completing OFA Surveys; and
 - Attend PAC meetings to gain insight, discuss, and provide advice on policy matters.



Thank you

Jason Bent

Director of Policy Research

Ontario Federation of Agriculture

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