



SENT VIA EMAIL

December 5, 2014

Hon. Kathleen Wynne
Premier
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs
Legislative Building, Room 281, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Hon. Bill Mauro
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Whitney Block, 6th Floor, Room 6630
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Hon. Michael Gravelle
Minister of Northern Development and Mines
Whitney Block, 5th Floor, Room 5630
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Dear Premier, Minister Mauro and Minister Gravelle:

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) would like to request a meeting at the earliest possible occasion to discuss the permanent closure of the Resolute Forest Products newsprint mill in Iroquois Falls.

As you are aware, Resolute Forest Products recently announced the December 22nd closure of their Iroquois Falls mill. As a major employer within the community, 180 people will be left without work and many more will be negatively impacted. The closure of this mill and the effects that it will have on the Town of Iroquois Falls represents the vulnerable position that many other communities across the north are currently in.

The forestry sector is at a critical point, recovering from a global economic recession that greatly impacted the sector, which is now slowly recovering. Although we recognize that many of the challenges that the industry faces are out of our collective control, there are many aspects that can be addressed to limit particular challenges such as fibre-related issues and regulatory burdens.

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Now is the time to act, to work together, to strengthen this vital sector and reduce the vulnerability of forestry operations in this province. As a matter of urgency, we request a meeting to discuss this important matter and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President