

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

July 23, 2014

Hon. Steven Del Duca
Minister of Transportation
Ferguson Block
3rd Floor
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Re: Studded Tire Use in Northern Ontario

Dear Minister Del Duca,

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) applauds the Ministry for taking efforts to improve the safety of northern Ontario drivers through a reassessment of studded tire use in the north.

Current regulations allow limited use of studded tires for vehicles with an ownership in northern Ontario as well as out-of-province vehicles travelling in Ontario for less than a month. Drivers within FONOM's membership which include the districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Sudbury and Timiskaming are eligible to use studded tires between October 1st and April 30th. However, weather conditions are continuing to demonstrate that snow and ice can cover road surfaces well before and after the prescribed dates.

Extending the timeframe that northern Ontarians can use studded tires from September 1st to May 30th will improve drivers' safety as the northern Ontario climate is undeniably more extreme and unpredictable. Ensuring that drivers are able to take precautions during snow and icy conditions without fear of penalty will greatly enhance driving on northern roads and highways.

We look forward to the continued efforts on behalf of the Province to enhance the safety of northern Ontarians.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek
President

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)