

# FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

August 7, 2015

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

Dear Minister Mauro,

*Bill!*

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is appreciative of your Ministry for introducing the spring bear hunt as a two year pilot project within eight Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) across the North.

While the Province continues its review of the two year pilot project, which ended on June 15, 2015, we ask that the spring bear hunt be reinstated permanently and also expanded to other areas across the North and to non-resident hunters.

The limited selection of WMUs that were chosen for the pilot project is of utmost concern to FONOM as the majority of our members are not eligible to opt into this program. The exclusion of rural communities is potentially damaging as these are often the municipalities that are affected the greatest with the lowest ability to manage or address nuisance bears.

Many municipalities continues to see a rise in the number of black bear encounters and without the appropriate resources from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to effectively deal with bears, pressure is placed on police services who do not have the expertise. Municipalities across the North are calling for action.

We look forward to continuing to work with your Ministry on this important issue affecting the North.

Sincerely,

*Alan*

Alan Spacek  
President