Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

Policy Division

Director's Office
Crown Forests and Lands Policy Branch
70 Foster Drive, 3rd Floor
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6V5

Ministère du Développement du Nord, des Mines, des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

Division de la politique

Bureau du directeur
Direction des politiques relatives aux forêts et aux terres de la Couronne
70, rue Foster, 3e étage
Sault Sainte Marie, ON P6A 6V5

Ontario 🏵

March 03, 2022

Re: Seeking input about the use of floating accommodations on waterways over Ontario's public lands

Greetings,

The Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF) would like to make you aware of a Bulletin recently posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario [https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-5119].

We are seeking to engage municipalities on potential ideas and approaches to manage "camping" and the use of floating accommodations on waterways over Ontario's public lands. The ministry is seeing increased interest in the use of waterways by various types of vessels (i.e., watercrafts equipped for overnight accommodation). In some cases, the ministry has heard concerns relating to vessels that are primarily designed for accommodation and not navigation.

We are seeking input from the public, Indigenous communities, and municipal associations, and various stakeholders including your organization **by April 19, 2022**.

Input from this process will inform consideration of potential future changes intended to address growing concerns around the impacts of this activity on Ontario waterways and those who use them.

Please note, no regulatory changes are being proposed at this time. Any regulatory or policy changes that may be considered in the future would be posted on the Environmental Registry for consultation purposes.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Julie Reeder, Sr. Program Advisor, Crown Lands Policy Section at Julie.reeder@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Henry, R.P.F.
Director
Crown Forests and Lands Policy Branch

c. Pauline Desroches, Manager, Crown Lands Policy Section
Julie Reeder, Sr. Program Advisor, Crown Lands Policy Section