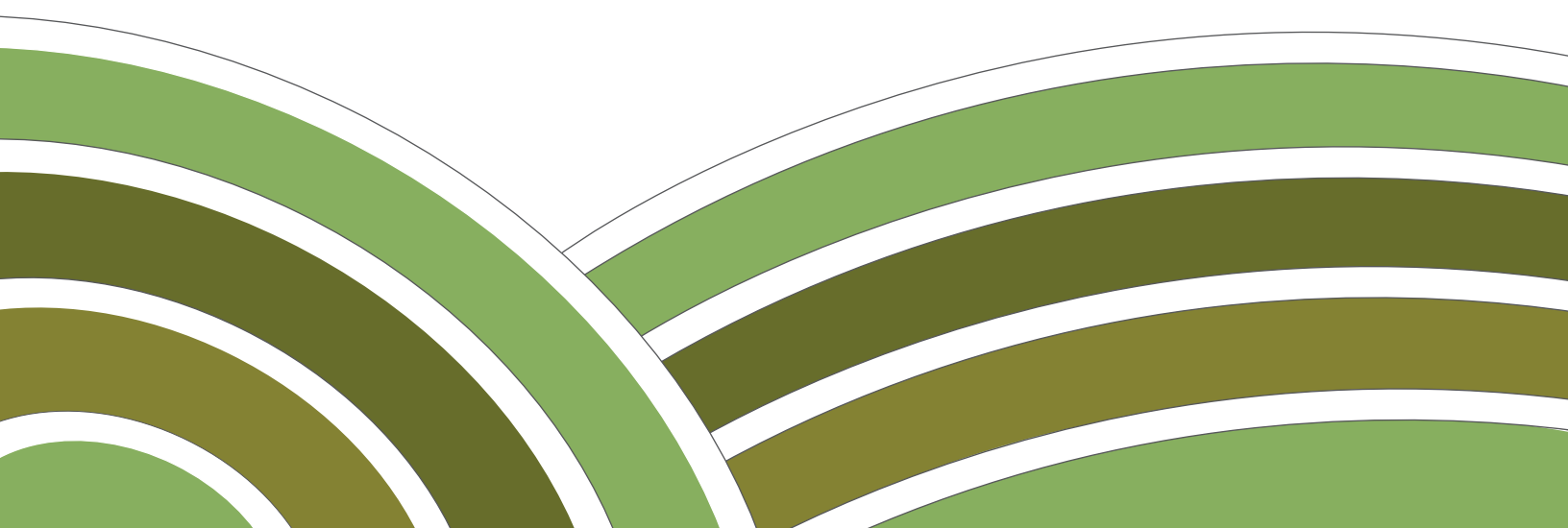




Grassroots Innovation  
*Since 1939*



# LAND CLEARING GUIDE





# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

With rising land prices and a lack of land availability across Ontario, there has been a concerted effort to expand agriculture in Northern Ontario where land is more available and prices are more reasonable. As the climate changes and agro-tech advances occur, agriculture in Northern Ontario has become more successful and viable, enticing a number of people to move north. With policies and tools in place to facilitate expansion, a large number of acres have been cleared and put into production.

As farmers clear more land, they need to have access to the information necessary to make well-informed decisions regarding the current and future management of their land. This resource guide was developed to provide this information, including steps involved in land clearing, best practices associated with clearing and relevant costs. This guide is intended to provide guidance for farmers to clear land for agricultural purposes and is not meant to offer guidance for forestry or other sectors involved in land clearing.

Land clearing is an involved process that includes a number of steps and potential stakeholders. This reference document presents information related to the actual act of clearing, but it is important to note that considerations outside of this document exist before and after land is cleared. Contact your local township/municipality, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and/or the local conservation authority to ensure all necessary steps are taken or approvals are received prior to clearing land. Further considerations include the need for stumpage fees or burn permits. Proactively working with impacted stakeholders can facilitate a smoother overall clearing project.

NOFIA is excited for the future of agriculture in Northern Ontario and will continue to provide the information necessary to improve current and future commercial operations.

*Norman Koch,*  
Chair, NOFIA

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to extend our gratitude to the many people and organizations that made this project a success.

It is imperative that we acknowledge the contributions from the many survey and interview participants for their input to the project. Particularly, we want to extend our appreciation to the farmers and contractors who took the time in such a busy period of the year to share their experiences with us. This project could not have happened without them.

This project was funded in part through *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of *GF2* in Ontario.



# ABOUT THE GUIDE

There are many steps involved and factors to be considered in a land clearing project. Clearing land can result in significant return on investment (ROI), however it can also present many pitfalls which can be quite costly in terms of both time and money.

Based on research and input provided by experienced Northern Ontario farmers and contractors, this Land Clearing Guide was developed as a practical reference tool to facilitate the land clearing process, beginning with initial decision making through to end use of the land. It contains information on the process, costs, benefits, best practices and rationale for various, commonly used land clearing techniques. It also provides key information on the legal environment for land clearing and references resources available to help farmers with land clearing and other farming projects.

## WHO IS THE GUIDE FOR?

The guide was developed to inform and assist new farmers either currently located in Northern Ontario, or looking to relocate to Northern Ontario, on regional land clearing practices.

## WHAT'S IN THE GUIDE?

**Section 1:** Planning – What factors do I need to consider?

**Section 2:** Clearing – What methods are available?

**Section 3:** Rules & Regulations

**Section 4:** Resources - Where else can I find help and support?

## DISCLAIMER:

While this document sets forth the general principles related to various land clearing methods, it does not claim to cover every possible circumstance or outcome that may arise upon implementing the practices outlined herein and should ONLY be used as a guide. All legal, environmental, and/or other considerations should be researched further. Check local, provincial, and federal regulations for your area as land clearing regulations can vary greatly. Be sure that you're aware of the rules and follow them.

# LAND CLEARING IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

While there are many factors and steps involved in preparing and maintaining land for crop and livestock, the focus of this guide is to provide information specific to land clearing practices in Northern Ontario.

Land clearing, by definition, is the process of removing trees, stumps, brush, stones and other obstacles from an area to increase the size of the crop producing or pasture land base of an existing farm or to develop land for a new farm operation. The main steps involved in undertaking this process are detailed in the following sections of this guide.

## SECTION 1: PLANNING – FACTORS TO CONSIDER

There are several reasons why you may be considering clearing your land. Regardless of the reason, it is important to carefully evaluate your land clearing plans and thoroughly understand the ramifications. In addition to key planning elements such as field selection, soil testing, and identification of the crops and varieties best suited for your soils and needs, you should take the time to consider the following factors. Do this well in advance of clearing to avoid errors and to help determine the best method of land clearing based on your specific needs and objectives.



### ECONOMIC

- What is your anticipated budget for the project?
- What additional long-term costs will result from the additional acres of cleared land (i.e. fertilizer, herbicide, fuel, etc.)?
- How will the increase in land capacity affect farm cash receipts?
- How will you finance the project? Is there funding available?
- Do you have standing trees that could be harvested and sold to cover some of the land clearing costs?



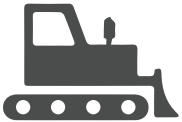
## TIME

- How long do you anticipate the land clearing will take?
- When will you start your land clearing project?
- How long until you have land that can be used for growing crop or raising livestock?



## SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL

- Will clearing land have a negative effect on privacy or wildlife?
- What are the legal restrictions/regulations associated with land clearing in your area? What permits do you need?
- What type of soil are you working with?
- Do you want to cause minimal damage to valuable top soil?
- Do you want to ensure that you do not disturb or damage quality trees?
- Do you want to avoid burning?



## OTHER

- Do you want to be as close to a one person operation as possible (i.e. DIY vs contracted professional)?
- Do you have the resources (equipment/labour) to conduct the work yourself?
- Are you looking to remove stumps and boulders with same equipment?
- Are there contractors in the area? Are they available, and do they have the equipment/skill/expertise to support your selected method? Have you heard good things from others about their quality/cost of work?
- Do you want to be able to selectively clear a large tract of land, or smaller quadrants? How might your project affect adjacent land?

Once you have answered these questions you will be in a better positioned to decide whether to clear your land, and/or how to clear your land.

## SECTION 2: PLANNING – CLEARING

Every parcel of land is different and should have a clearing plan based on its specific characteristics. As there are many methods and techniques used to clear land, the effectiveness of which being highly dependent on topography, ground cover/growth and intended use, it is essential to identify those that are best suited to your needs. So where do you go from here?

The tables below outline the key phases involved in clearing land and include details on process, pros and cons, cost, timing, and associated end use for typical methods used in Northern Ontario. The information is based on input provided by experienced farmers and contractors and is intended to assist you in making an informed decision based on your given needs.

### KEY PHASES:



### Phase 1: Trees

METHOD	HARVESTING LUMBER	PUSH WITH BULLDOZER
<b>Process</b>	Larger trees with value are harvested and removed by a contractor and sold for profit	Larger trees with little to no value are pushed into windrows using a bulldozer
<b>Timing</b>	Frozen ground preferable or summer	Frozen ground preferable or summer
<b>Cost</b>	Typically, a break-even scenario though some small profit can be netted depending on tree type.	\$1100-1700 per acre
<b>End Use</b>	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture
<b>Pros</b>	Dollars generated through sale of wood offsets cost of having trees cleared	Work can be done yourself, or by a contractor
<b>Cons</b>	Must hire a contractor as harvesting large trees can be dangerous	Damage to top soil, including loss of top soil as a result of this method
<b>Considerations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider chipping wood that is too small for logs into bio-mass fuel as a means of recovering cost of material removal. Consider verifying the market price first to ensure a return on your investment.</li> <li>Depending on the characteristics of the property and with proper planning, it may be possible for loggers and land clearing contractors to work simultaneously on the land clearing, making the process more efficient.</li> </ul>	

## Phase 2: Brush or Light Vegetation



*Shearing with a bulldozer*

METHOD	SHEARING WITH BULLDOZER	MULCHING	CUTTING WITH EXCAVATOR
Process	Bulldoze with shear blades on an angle to cut brush	<b>Standard Mulching (1st pass)</b> Use a forestry mulcher to 1" below ground to knock over and mulch small trees (20cm or less), stumps and all residue	Use an excavator equipped with a brush mower or cutter
Timing	Frozen ground, or in summer on dry ground	Frozen ground	Summer, preferably on dry ground
Cost	\$500 per acre (includes windrows)	\$400-500 per acre, per pass (Larger mulching machines cost more per hour but work faster clearing land)	\$800 per acre
End Use	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture
Pros	Least expensive, based on complete process  For winter pasturing sticks, stumps and roots stay in/on the ground	There is nothing left to pile up or burn, making the process quicker	Doesn't move topsoil  Removes all wood debris limiting the effects of woody material on soil quality
Cons	Bulldozer can remove too much top soil	More expensive than other methods, commonly requiring more than one pass  Woody material can affect the soil quality/composition as it rots	Lack of available experienced operators may pose a challenge
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mulching – If possible residue is left to dry for 1-2 months to accelerate decomposition.</li> <li>Shearing – If for winter pasturing, brush must be sufficiently sheared for tractor to pass without being damaged.</li> <li>Use a brush rake or excavator to build windrows when possible to eliminate as much dirt from the rows as you can, thus encouraging better burning.</li> </ul>		



## Phase 3: Stump & Root

METHOD	SHEARING WITH ROOT RAKE	MULCHING / SUB-SOILING	EXCAVATOR	WINTER PASTURING
Process	Use a bulldozer with a root rake about 2" off the ground to rip out stumps	<b>Deep Mulching (2nd pass)</b>  Using a large tractor or bulldozer equipped with industrial discs, all stumps, roots, branches and residue are ground down up to 6"	Remove under ground material and stumps using an excavator equipped with either a bucket or a brush rake	Once well sheared and frost has settled, cattle are set out to pasture on 1 acre slices rotating throughout winter  The nitrogen in the manure helps break down wood residue  The grass seed in the hay (cow feed) grows in the summer
Timing	Summer when dry	Spring	Summer when dry	Winter (frost)
Cost	\$500 per acre (includes windrows)	\$400-500 per acre, per pass	\$900-950 per acre	\$190 per acre
End Use	Crop or Pasture	Crop	Crop or Pasture	Pasture or limited crop (grain/forage)
Pros	Stumps pulled can be chipped for biomass if there is minimal dirt on the roots	Fastest method  There is nothing left to pile or burn	Minimal disturbance of top soil nutrients  Faster turnaround	Least expensive method  Quick way to clear for pasture  No need to house cattle  Creates a natural windbreak from forest
Cons	Topsoil can be damaged or lost when it attaches itself to the roots and stumps that are pushed away  Debris pushed by the bulldozer leaves unsightly piles	Woody material can affect the soil quality/ composition as it rots  Ground doesn't freeze when deep mulching, so cows and equipment sink if winter pasturing	Can only be done on very dry ground so as not to compact the soil	Takes 10 years for parcel to be usable for crop  Can't clear mass acreage quickly
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mulching – Remove most surface wood when mulching to limit impact on soil.</li> <li>Mulching – Using a crawler mulcher (ex: CMI Hurricane) minimizes ground and root system disturbance providing support to surface soil; mulch dries more quickly.</li> <li>Mulching – If self-propelled, it will be more costly than tractor pull, but time savings if using self-propelled. (i.e. Tractor pull – 0.5 acres per hour, Self-propelled – up to 1 acre per hour)</li> <li>Mulching – If mostly mature tag alder - a species which decomposes quickly relative to many others, mulching is good option.</li> <li>Winter Pasturing – Takes two years for grass to grow sufficiently for pasturing.</li> <li>Winter Pasturing – Can be grid or random, and shape of parcel can be adapted to topography.</li> <li>Discarding stumps in ravines, or on property edge, lessen the volume for removal or windrows.</li> </ul>			

## Phase 4: Top Clearing

METHOD	WINDROWS / BURNING	FINISHING BASE	ROTTING	STICK RAKE
Process	Push materials into windrows to burn. Repeat for up to 5 years	Even out the ground with a farm tractor, pulling a disc, or a larger tractor with a 40' wide disc	Using a bulldozer, push branches, roots, and rocks into ravines or into piles or windrows	Using a tractor or skidder equipped with a stick rake, clear various sized sticks by changing the angle of the rake
Timing	Summer when dry	Summer when dry	Summer when dry	After tiling, summer/fall
Cost	\$600-1000 per acre (includes shearing roots)	\$650 per acre	\$600-1000 per acre (includes shearing roots)	\$200 per acre
End Use	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture	Crop or Pasture
Pros	If conditions are good, burning can speed up clearing process  Can tile/farm between rows for 2-4 years while debris dries and rots	Quicker process, specifically with larger tractor	No burning and residue of windrows  2-3 years for wood to rot without air is doable in the North as coniferous trees have smaller root systems	Inexpensive  Do not necessarily require professional contractor
Cons	Long process (can take 5 to 6 years)  Not popular with community due to fire hazard and environmental impact  Need to obtain permit  Burnt material stays in the soil, but should be removed  Windrows need time to dry before burning  May not burn well if windrows include lots of dirt/top soil	The soil can be negatively impact, such that you have to remove the top layer	Piles can harbour weeds and become unsightly	Expensive capital investment as the machine costs \$250K
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Debris piles should be topsoil, mud free and well packed to ensure easy burning and/or loading for hauling off the field.</li> <li>• Burning - Advise Ministry of Natural Resources prior to burning windrows.</li> <li>• Windrows - Make windrows parallel to water.</li> <li>• Finishing Base -8 acres per hour with tractor, or 21 acres per hour with 40'wide disc.</li> </ul>			

# BEST PRACTICES & OTHER CONSIDERATIONS



## TIMING

- Generally, land is cleared in the fall or early winter when the ground is dry or frozen and precipitation and runoff are typically low. This minimizes soil disturbance. Drainage also plays an important role, otherwise work should only be done on the frost or during the driest part of a dry summer to reduce damage to the land with excessive water, resulting in increased time and higher net cost.
- Do not rush it. No matter how fast you clear the land, it takes several years for the drainage to work, the acidity to neutralize, for the wood to rot in the ground and for the earth microflora to take over. It is best to not clear and tile in the same year, and to not try and cultivate until the second growth has been killed down. In general, it will take two to three years for full conversion. It is also recommended to plant new ground into cheap crops like hay, and let the process take its course while waiting for the land to improve.

## ENVIRONMENT

- An appropriate buffer zone must be preserved along all watercourses to maintain fish and wildlife habitats, as per the Fisheries Act.
- Natural vegetation should be retained in drainage paths such as creeks and gullies to reduce the soil erosion and damage to river banks.
- Remove beaver dams in early fall to improve and control drainage and land condition in early spring.
- Seed dominant drainage paths on newly cleared land with grass to prevent soil erosion channels from forming.

## COST

- Land clearing is a long and expensive process, and the faster one wants it cleared the more costly it is
- Be sure to properly research grant programs to ensure eligible expenditures are clearly identified and understood.
- Utilize grants and subsidies when possible to offset land clearing costs and ensure feasibility.

## CONTRACTORS VS DIY

- When hiring a contractor, do your due diligence to ensure they are reputable and have the expertise to do the job correctly
- If feasible, consider doing the job yourself. This can not only save you money but will ensure your project is completed based on your needs
- Consider each step of the process as well as the overall project to look at potential time and cost savings. For example, perhaps it would be wise have a contractor remove the large trees on your property while the rest of the land is being mulched

## EQUIPMENT

- Consider your long-term plans to determine whether it would be more cost effective to purchase rather than rent equipment
- You will find that each type of equipment is very good at doing part of the job, but lacking in one way or another



## SECTION 3: RULES & REGULATIONS

There are various regulations and by-laws that must be adhered to when it comes to land clearing. These range from federal and provincial regulations through to municipal by-laws. The following information should be considered, but further research should be conducted for your specific scenario.

### FEDERAL LEVEL

#### Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**Fertilizers Act:** covers agricultural fertilizers. Fertilizers and supplements may only be sold in or imported into Canada if they have been registered, packaged and labeled as prescribed and if they conform to the standards set out in the Act.

#### Environment Canada

**Plant Protection Act:** to protect plant life and the agriculture and forestry industries by preventing the importation, exportation and spread of injurious pests and by providing for their control and eradication as well as the certification of plants and other things.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Act:** prescribes the assessment of any installations or activities, prior to commencement, on federally controlled water, land or air environments.

**Migratory Birds Convention Act:** to protect migratory game birds, migratory insectivorous birds, and migratory non-game birds that inhabit Canada during part or all of the year. There are provisions in the Act covering when and where birds may not be killed or captured or their nests or eggs disturbed.

**Fisheries Act:** to protect Canada's fisheries resources and supporting habitats. It applies to all Canadian waters, including ditches, channelized streams, creeks, marshes, rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal waters and marine offshore areas.

### PROVINCIAL LEVEL

#### Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/>

#### Farming and Food Production Protection Act (FFPPA)

There are two main themes in the FFPPA.

- Farmers are protected from nuisance complaints made by neighbours, provided they are following normal farm practices.
- No municipal by-law applies to restrict a normal farm practice carried on as part of an agricultural operation.

**Farm Implements Act:** to improve farm machinery safety, and to protect the large investments that farmers and dealers make in farm machinery.

**Agricultural Tile Drainage Installation Act:** regulates the installation of agricultural tile drainage.

## Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

**Environmental Protection Act:** provides for the protection and conservation of the natural environment.

**Pesticides Act & Reg. 63/09:** regulates pesticides by placing appropriate education, licensing and/or permit requirements on their use, under the Pesticides Act and Regulation 63/09. All pesticides must be used in accordance with requirements under the Pesticides Act and Regulation 63/09

**Ontario Water Resources Act:** to provide for the conservation, protection and management of Ontario's waters and for their efficient and sustainable use, in order to promote Ontario's long-term environmental, social and economic well-being.

## Ministry of Transportation

**Highway Traffic Act:** regulates the licensing of vehicles, classification of traffic offenses, administration of loads, classification of vehicles and other transport related issues. Of specific importance are the sections of the act related to agricultural equipment use on highways.

**A useful guide, Farm Guide** – Farm Equipment on the Highway, issued by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation is available at <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/trucks/pdfs/farm-guide-farm-equipment-on-the-highway.pdf>

## Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-natural-resources-and-forestry>

**Forest Fires Prevention Act:** establishes rules for preventing forest fires by encouraging safe practices and procedures to prevent forest fires.

## Ministry of Labour

**Workplace Safety and Insurance Act:** A landowner could be held liable if an accident occurs on his or her property during a contracted land clearing operation. The best advice for landowners is to obtain a WSIB clearance certificate for the operator – a confirmation that an employer is registered and has met his or her obligations.

## Conservation Authorities – Ontario

<http://conservationontario.ca/>

Conservation Authorities are local, community-based public sector organizations. They represent a grouping of municipalities on a watershed basis and work in partnership with others to manage their respective watersheds. They are mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats through programs that balance human, environmental and economic needs.

## MUNICIPAL LEVEL

### Zoning regulations and Applicable by-laws

Each municipality or township planning department administers local zoning regulations and bylaws. Be sure to contact and work with your local planning department and elected official(s) to have a clear understanding of what secondary uses are permitted in your area.

- Open air burning
- Tree cutting by-laws
- Zoning

### Ontario One Call - Call or Click before you Dig

1-800-400-2255

Ontario One Call is a contact centre that receives excavation locate requests to ensure homeowners, excavators and infrastructure owners are safe when digging. As well, by law infrastructure owners must now register their buried pipes and cables with Ontario One Call.

Note: Not all buried infrastructure owners are members of Ontario One Call. You are responsible for notifying other companies that may have buried infrastructure in your work area. You are not clear to excavate until all Ontario One Call members have either located their infrastructure in your work area or advised you to proceed.



## SECTION 4: RESOURCES

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR FARMERS – FACTSHEET

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs provides a summary of programs and services available to Ontario farmers through their Programs and Services for Ontario Farmers Factsheet, which can be accessed here: <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/facts/progserv.pdf>.

For current information on funding possibilities visit NOFIA online at <https://www.nofia-agri.com/>.

### NORTHERN ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS

A number of institutions and organizations work together to promote and support the agricultural industry in Northern Ontario. This section of the guide provides key contact information, as at May 2017.

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Northern Ontario Farm Innovation Alliance (NOFIA)</b>	Northern Ontario	Steph Vanthof, Administrator Phone: 705-647-4782 Fax: 705-647-4783 Nofia.on@gmail.com	NOFIA's mission is to develop strategies and partnerships to ensure the advancement of agricultural research and innovation in Northern Ontario. Their mandate includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to promote research and development in the field of agricultural products</li> <li>• to develop and facilitate basic research through to commercialization</li> <li>• to advance the interests of agriculture in Northern Ontario</li> <li>• to generate economic development in the agricultural sector in Northern Ontario</li> <li>• to facilitate farm innovation across Northern Ontario</li> </ul> <p>Source: <a href="http://www.nofia-agri.com">www.nofia-agri.com</a></p>



ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Ontario Federation of Agriculture</b>  <u>Member service representatives:</u>	Northern Ontario	Board of Directors, Northern Ontario  Peggy Brekveld, VP, Director at Large Peggy.Brekveld@ofa.on.ca  Mark Kunkel, Director, Zone 15 Mark.Kunkel@ofa.on.ca	Work to promote agriculture to rural and urban residents and ensure that government officials are aware of the issues/challenges facing the sector as well as the opportunities for further development and growth.  Source: <a href="http://nofiaon.wixsite.com/ofanorth">http://nofiaon.wixsite.com/ofanorth</a>
	Algoma, Manitoulin-North Shore/Sudbury West, West Nipissing/Sudbury East	Neil Tarlton Phone: 705-692-7276 Fax: 705-692-7208 neil.tarlton@ofa.on.ca	
	Cochrane, East Nipissing/Parry Sound, Muskoka, Temiskaming	Bob Norris Phone : 705-647-0092 Fax : 705-647-4194 Bob.norris@ofa.on.ca	
	Rainy River, Kenora/Dryden	Bernie Zimmerman Phone : 807-487-1278 Bernie.zimmerman@ofa.on.ca	
	Thunder Bay, Kenora/Dryden	Sandra Meyer Phone : 807-475-7031 sandra.meyer@ofa.on.ca	
<b>Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO)</b>	Region 12 Northern Ontario and Haliburton	Steve Runnals Steve.Runnalls@milk.org	Dairy Farmers of Ontario is a non-profit dairy farmer organization that represents almost 4,000 milk producers in Ontario. The goal of Dairy Farmers of Ontario is to strengthen the industry through discussions of harmonized dairy policies, innovation, and long-term profitability to maintain a viable Canadian dairy sector.  Source: <a href="http://www.farmnorth.com">www.farmnorth.com</a>

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO) Continued</b>	Region 12 Northern Ontario and Haliburton	Steve Runnals Steve.Runnalls@milk.org	
<b>Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA)</b>	District 11 representing Kenora, Rainy River, Thunder Bay, Cochrane, Algoma, Sudbury, Temiskaming, Nipissing & Manitoulin	Colleen Alloi District Provincial Director collholm@sympatico.ca	<p>The Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency is a producer operated organization which represents all aspects of the sheep, lamb and wool industry in the Province of Ontario. It was established to encourage, promote and represent the industry. The OSMA's activities work to improve the marketing of sheep, lamb and wool through producer education, promotional campaigns, consumer education and public awareness.</p> <p>Source: <a href="http://www.ontariosheep.org/">http://www.ontariosheep.org/</a></p>
<b>North Eastern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (N.E.O.S.C.I.A) – regional Association of OSCIA</b>  <u>Local Associations</u>	North Eastern Ontario, Region 10	<u>OSCIA – North Eastern Ontario District</u> Birgit Martin, Director – North Eastern Ontario Phone: 705-282-4608 bmartin@ontariosoilcrop.org  Dan Cook, President Phone: 705-272-3964  Neil Tarlton, Secretary/ Treasurer Phone: 705-692-7276  Steph Vanthof, Regional Communication Coordinator Phone: 705-647-4782 Nofia.on@gmail.com	<p>NEOSCIA is a district of the provincial organization Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA).</p> <p>The main focus of the organization is partaking in on-field research projects in conjunction with farmers, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and research groups to further develop farming practices and to add innovation to the industry.</p> <p>Source: <a href="http://nofiaon.wixsite.com/neoscia">http://nofiaon.wixsite.com/neoscia</a></p>

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>North Eastern Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (N.E.O.S.C.I.A) – regional Association of OSCIA</b>  <u>Local Associations continued</u>	Algoma	Harold Steward Phone: 705-246-7509	
	Cochrane	Adrian Struyk Phone:705-272-5672	
	Manitoulin	Marca Williamson Phone:705-859-2528 wfarms@amtelecom.net	
	Muskoka	Ken Pearcey Phone: 705-385-2844	
	Nipissing West/ Sudbury East	Steven Roberge Phone: 705-594-9370	
	Parry Sound/ Nipissing East	Klaus Wand Phone: 705-724-2314	
	Sudbury West	James Found Phone: 705-969-4597	
	Temiskaming	Sheila Randell Phone: 705-674-7195 tccorg@hotmail.com	
<b>Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO)</b>  <u>Local Associations</u>	Ontario	Beef Farmers of Ontario 130 Malcolm Road Guelph, Ontario N1K 1B1 Phone: 519-824-0334 Fax: 519-824-9101	BFO is the leading organization in Ontario working with beef farmers to develop and support landmark achievements that move the province's beef industry towards sustainability and profitably. The Association is involved in a wide range of issues and initiatives including industry sustainability, market development, animal health and care, environment and food safety.  Source: <a href="http://www.ontariobeef.com/about/localassociations">http://www.ontariobeef.com/about/localassociations</a>
	Algoma	Will Samis, Advisory Councillor Phone: 705-843-5567 ewsamis@vianet.ca  Cleve O'Malley, President Phone: 705 -843 -2208 janetoma@hotmail.com  Gordon Hacker, Secretary Phone: 705-736-1086 gordonhacker@vianet.ca	

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO)</b>  <u>Local Associations</u> <u>Continued</u>	Cochrane	Jason Desrochers, Advisory Councillor Phone: 705-232-4434 desrochersfarm@gmail.com  Dave Cockburn, President Phone: 705-288-8013 info@cockburnconstruction.com  Ray Recoskie, Secretary Phone: 705-272-6385 rayrecoskie@live.com	
	Kenora	David Rhyner, Advisory Councillor Phone: 807-221-7875  Jed Benham, President Phone: 807-755-5640 farmerjed8@hotmail.com  Linda Debney, Secretary Phone: 807-755-1552 linalou_lmz@yahoo.ca	
	Manitoulin	Jordan Miller, Advisory Councillor Phone: 289-686-1124 b.jordan.miller@gmail.com  John McNaughton, President Phone: 705-859-2529 mcnaugjs@amtelecom.net  Brent Best, Secretary Phone: 705-282-2349 brentbest@vianet.ca	
	Muskoka/ Parry Sound/ East Nipissing	Klaus Wand, Advisory Councillor/President Phone: 705.724.2314 burania.wand@sympatico.ca  Linda Blackmore Phone: 705-384-7121 blackmore_linda@hotmail.com	

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO)</b>  <u>Local Associations</u> <u>Continued</u>	Rainy River	Kim Jo Bliss, Advisory Councillor/Secretary Phone: 807-482-2863 kimjobliss@gmail.com  Murray McDonald, President Phone: 807-483-1094 mmcdonald@tbaytel.net	
	Sudbury West Nipissing	Adrian Verhoeven, Advisory Councillor/ President Phone: 705-865-2480 adrian.j.verhoeven@gmail.com  Austin McMurdy, Secretary Phone: 705-967-1418 austinmcmurdy@gmail.com	
	Temiskaming	Greg Seed, Advisory Councillor/ President Phone: 705-647-9802 sgseed@parolink.net  Carol Elliott, Secretary Phone: 705-647-6161 elliott.carol07@gmail.com	
	Thunder Bay	Bill Pinner, Advisory Councillor Phone: 807-475-6955 bpinner@tbaytel.net  Lyndon Wagenaar, President Phone: 807-627-1429 lyndonwagenaar@gmail.com  Holly Tuck, Secretary Phone: 807-475-6921 foal0069@yahoo.ca	
<b>Northeast Community Network (NeCN)</b>	Northeastern Ontario	Agriculture Steering Committee  Antoine Vézina, Chairperson Antoine.vezina@timmins.ca	<p>The NeCN is an incorporated, regional, not-for-profit organization that promotes collaborative economic development, applied research and support for forestry, mining, agriculture and tourism as well as business development.</p> <p>The NeCN's Agriculture Steering Committee guides, mentors and oversees the enhancement and development of farming and agri-business growth within the NeCN catchment area.</p> <p>Source: <a href="http://www.necn-rcne.ca">www.necn-rcne.ca</a></p>

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>Rural Agri-Innovation Network (RAIN)</b>	Northern Ontario	David Thompson, Project Coordinator Phone: 705-942-7927 ext.3027 Fax: 705-942-6169 dthompson@ssmic.com  General inquiry: info@rainalgoma.ca	The Rural Agri-Innovation Network (RAIN) is a project of Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre and NORDIK Institute, with support from farmers and communities to enhance the agriculture and food sector in Algoma.  Source: www.rainalgoma.ca
<b>OMAFRA – Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food &amp; Rural Affairs</b>  <u>Northern Ontario Regional Agriculture Development Advisors</u>	Northern Ontario Regional Office	11790, Hwy 64 P.O. Box 521 Verner, ON POH 2MO Phone: 705 594-2312 Fax: 705 594-9675	OMAFRA's Regional Advisory Services help communities foster local economic development opportunities by acting as the first point of contact in the process of the programs, tools and resources delivered by the Economic Development Branch.
	Northern Region	Monique Legault, Regional Manager – Northern Region Phone: 705-594-2393 Mobile: 705-491-1947 Fax: 705-594-9675 Monique.legault@ontario.ca	
	Northern Ontario Office: New Liskeard	Barry Botter Phone : 705-647-2086 Mobile 705-648-1799 Fax: 705-647-7993 barry.potter@ontario.ca	The Northern Ontario Regional Office (NORO) is part of the Regional Economic Development Branch. The Head Office is located in Verner and serves as the hub to 5 additional locations in agriculture communities across Northern Ontario: Emo, Thunder Bay, Thessalon, Gore Bay, and New Liskeard, which together form the North Region Team.  Client Service Representatives are located in the Verner office and are a valuable link between our Agriculture Development Advisors (ADAs) and our Northern clients. They are also able to provide you with access to resources to support the development of the agriculture sector in Northern Ontario.  Source: <a href="http://www.farmnorth.com/default.aspx?content_id=124&amp;name=OMAFRA">http://www.farmnorth.com/default.aspx?content_id=124&amp;name=OMAFRA</a>
	Manitoulin Office: Gore Bay	Brian Bell Phone: 705-282-1638 Mobile: 705-690-5020 Fax: 705-282-2958 brian.bell2@ontario.ca	
	Timiskaming and Cochrane Office : New Liskeard	Daniel Tassé Phone: 705-647-2085 Mobile: 705-648-1798 Fax: 705-647-7993 daniel.tasse@ontario.ca	
	Algoma Office : Thessalon	Dave Trivers Phone: 705-842-1582 Mobile: 705-542-3261 Fax: 705-842-1583 david.trivers@ontario.ca	
	Rainy River, Kenora Office : Emo	Gary Sliworsky Phone: 807-482-1921 Mobile: 807-275-8117 Fax: 807-482-2864 gary.sliworsky@ontario.ca	

ORGANIZATION	DISTRICT	CONTACT	ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION
<b>OMAFRA – Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food &amp; Rural Affairs</b>  <u>Northern Ontario Regional Agriculture Development Advisors Continued</u>	Northern Ontario Office: Verner	Julie Poirier Mensinga Phone: 705-594-2315 Mobile: 705-471-3389 Fax: 705-594-9675 julie.poiriermensinga@ontario.ca	
	East Sudbury, Nipissing and Parry Sound Office: Verner	Pierrette Desrochers Phone: 705-594-2313 Mobile: 705-690-9790 Fax: 705-594-9675 pierrette.desrochers@ontario.ca	
	Thunder Bay Office: Thunder Bay	Rudy Buitenhuis Phone: 807-475-1214 Mobile: 807-627-1566 Fax: 807-475-1313 rudy.buitenhuis@ontario.ca	
<b>North Western Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association – Regional Association of OSCIA</b>  <u>Local Associations</u>	North Western Ontario, Region 11	OSCIA North Western Ontario District Andrew Brekveld, Director – North Western Ontario Phone: 807-630-7258 abrekveld@ontariosoilcrop.org  Erik Johanson, President Phone: 807-577-2151  Jeff Burke, Secretary/Treasurer Phone: 807-933-0570  Miranda van den Berg, Regional Communication Coordinator Phone: 807-577-4987 Northwest.scia@gmail.com	Source: www.ontariosoilcrop.org
	Kenora	Martin Sherwood, President Phone: 807-937-5739	
	Rainy River	John Sawatzky Phone: 807-271-3216	
	Thunder Bay	Johan Huisman, President Phone: 807-251-2270	



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