

April 23, 2020

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

cc. Minister of Environment Conservation and Parks minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Re: Letter from 45 Groups concerned with the recent suspension of Environmental Bill of Rights protections

On behalf of ProtectNatureTO, we wish to express our group's support for [the letter recently sent to you regarding the suspension of Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights protections](#), which was signed by 45 groups.

ProtectNatureTO is a coalition of over 20 nature- and stewardship-based organizations advocating for the protection of wildlife and natural areas across the City of Toronto.

We wish to express our strong opposition to any changes at the Provincial level that would weaken Ontario's environmental protections, undermine safeguards for significant and at-risk wildlife and habitats, and fast-track development at nature's expense. The current emergency measures needed to ensure public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic should not interfere with public participation in the review process; meaningful public input is essential for ensuring sound and credible environmental decision-making by the Ontario government.

Premier Ford, we urge you to apply the same responsible approach that you have demonstrated in dealing with this pandemic to your responsibility to protect the environment and our Province's rich natural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations.

Thank you.

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Submitted on behalf of [ProtectNatureTO](#)