

[The Municipality Address]

[Date]

Ministry office

Premier's Office

Room 281

Legislation Building, Queen's Park

Toronto, ON M7A 1A1.

Email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

**RE: Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) – Conservation Officer
Reclassification**

Dear Hon. Doug Ford

The [Municipality] is proud of our natural resources and spaces. We have the mission to protect our natural resources, we are required to safeguard the public interest by ensuring our constituents have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services.

Conservation Officers are a valuable part of our community. They are passionate about keeping Ontarians safe. They put their lives on the line to protect Ontario's natural resources and spaces. They uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and they investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths from tragic hunting-related accidents. It's a highly skilled and dangerous law enforcement job.

Conservation Officers are also our front-line defense in the prevention of the introduction and spread of invasive species in Ontario. There are approximately 1.076 million square km in Ontario. So, with less than 200 field Conservation Officers to cover it, that is an average of approximately 5,380 square km per each field Conservation Officer.

Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training as the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

The Council of [Municipality] does hereby support the Ontario Conservation Officers Association (OCCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly. It is important for us that our Natural Resources be enjoyable for generations to come.

Please find attached resolution [Number] affirming the support from the Council for the [Municipality].

Your truly,

Mayor/Reeve

[Municipality Name]

[Name of the Members]

c.c. Hon. Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
John Vanthof, Local Provincial Member of Parliament
Temiskaming Municipal Association
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Encl.