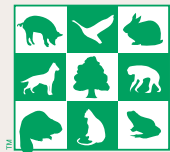


“...it astounds me to report on the degree of disregard and contempt that is shown to statutory requirements each year of the Environmental Bill of Rights.”

*Losing Touch, Part 1
Commissioner's Conclusion Annual Report 2011/2012
Environmental Commissioner of Ontario*



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Ask Premier Wynne about
her Dirty Secrets

Demand Answers

Voting for Liberal Premier Kathleen Wynne is voting for a Premier and political party with one of Ontario's and Canada's worst environmental and animal protection records.



Premier Wynne has flagrantly disregarded environmental and animal protection laws and regulations to serve her single-minded goal of getting re-elected—all the while ignoring environmental damage done and animal cruelty caused.



Premier Wynne's Dirty Secrets

Premier Wynne and her Liberal government's environmental and animal protection record worsens every day, putting Ontarions, the economy, the environment, and animals at greater risk.

The questions in this pamphlet are all based on information from researchers, responsible Liberal MPPs, and reports tabled by the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario and the Auditor General of Ontario. They demand answers.

Voters who understand how crucial environmental and animal protection are to our personal and economic well-being and the well-being of future generations should demand that Premier Wynne answer these questions. Demand answers.

Premier Kathleen Wynne must explain why her government now boasts an environmental and animal protection record worse than Prime Minister Stephen Harper's. Demand answers.

Demand an answer to this question, too, from Kathleen Wynne:

If she and her Liberal government can't be trusted to protect Ontario's environment and animals, why should voters trust them to protect Ontario's jobs and economy?

Why did Premier Kathleen Wynne re-open the Spring Bear Hunt that Premier Mike Harris banned in 1999 because of its cruelty?

Demand an Answer

Premier Wynne claims her government re-opened the Spring Bear Hunt because of public safety. That's not true. Ministry of Natural Resources researchers and independent scientists gave her government information proving that a Spring Bear Hunt will do nothing for public safety. Wynne also had research showing that the Spring Bear Hunt does not reduce human / bear conflicts



Premier Wynne knows, too, that during the Spring Bear Hunt hunters illegally kill nursing females, causing their cubs to be orphaned and die of thirst, starvation, or predation.

Demand an answer to this question, too, from Kathleen Wynne:

We know that Wynne and her Liberals aren't telling the truth about the Spring Bear Hunt; what else are they not telling the truth about?

Why is Kathleen Wynne continuing to gut Bear Wise—a program that successfully reduces human / bear conflicts? Why is Kathleen Wynne downloading provincial responsibilities and costs for wildlife management onto municipalities?

Demand an Answer

In spring 2012, the Liberal government gutted Bear Wise, the public awareness, reporting, and response program for reducing human-bear conflicts. The Ministry of Natural Resources cut staff, stopped providing assistance when conflicts occurred, and refused to trap and relocate problem bears—a policy Kathleen Wynne continues to this day. With this downloading to municipalities, it fell to local police, the Ontario Provincial Police, and local municipalities to handle bears who wandered into urban/suburban areas. Because of Kathleen Wynne's decisions, where problem bears may have been safely and humanely relocated in the past, thereby resolving conflicts, municipalities are left with the cost and the responsibility for what is clearly a provincial matter.

Why has Premier Wynne weakened safeguards for provincial parks, species at risk, hunting, and Crown lands?

Demand an Answer

Under Premier Wynne, protections for at-risk species have been gutted as major industrial activities can now proceed almost unchecked. Provincial parks are being transformed into revenue streams, rather than nature reserves. No formal environmental monitoring program exists for northern Ontario in the face of intensive mineral exploration and development in the so-called Ring of Fire. This failure on Wynne's part puts at risk not only investment in the development, but also the potential to export these resources to other nations that, unlike Ontario, have responsible sustainable development policies.

Why does Ontario spend less of its total budget on protecting animals and the environment than other provinces, and ranks dead last when it comes to the percentage of GDP it spends on natural resource management and environmental protection?

Demand an Answer

Kathleen Wynne and her Liberal government are de-regulating polluting and environment-destroying resource use activities, reducing support for local environmental stewardship programs, and eliminating protections for at-risk species.

As well, Kathleen Wynne is ignoring the need for good science to properly manage natural resources. So poor is Ontario's science programs that information now gathered by the Wynne government is neither sufficient nor current enough to conserve or manage Ontario's biodiversity or natural resources sustainably.

Why is Kathleen Wynne hiding environmentally significant decisions from public scrutiny in open defiance of the rights of citizens under the Environmental Bill of Rights?

Demand an Answer

When Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government brought in sweeping legislative changes that undermined numerous environmental protection acts and statutes, including the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, it refused to post the changes on the Environmental Registry, denying the public an opportunity to comment. In terms of stifling public comment, the Environmental Commissioner, for example, called Wynne's Ministry of Natural Resources a "serial offender."



Gord Miller
*Environmental
Commissioner
of Ontario*

“ The full protections of the law no longer apply to activities such as forestry operations, aggregate pits and quarries, hydro-electric dams and infrastructure Construction – activities that historically contributed to species becoming threatened in the first place. ”

PRESS RELEASE
*Ontario Government's
Actions Threaten Protection
of Endangered Species
6 November, 2012*

SOURCES: 2007 Annual Report, Office of the Auditor General of Ontario; Losing Touch, Annual Report, 2011/2012, Part 1, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario; Losing Our Touch, Annual Report, 2011/2012, Part 2, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario; Ontario Government's Actions Threaten the Protection of Endangered Species, Press Release, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, 6 November, 2013; Danger Ahead for Ring of Fire, Press Release, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, 10 October, 2013; Serving the Public, Annual Report 2012/2013, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario; Gutting [Ministry of Natural Resources]: Lowered Standards, Dangerous Risk, Press Release, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, 10 October, 2013; Serving the Public, Annual Report 2012/2013, Supplement, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario