

May 17, 2019

The Honourable Rod Phillips
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Ferguson Block
11th Floor
77 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5

Re: Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting Number 013-5018

Subject: In response to the April 5th, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' posting number 013-5018 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario; 'Modernizing conservation authority operations – Conservation Authorities Act'.

Dear Minister Phillips,

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) has a strong history of close collaboration with South Nation Conservation (SNC) to provide local students with meaningful environmental education and partner on stewardship projects that supplements SNC's environmental mandate. This includes partnering with SNC to:

- Help high school students receive Specialist High Skills Major certifications towards their high school diplomas;
- Deliver hands-on, seasonal educational programs that supplement the Ontario curriculum in rural areas of the province;
- Incorporate student activities at local stewardship project sites;
- Include First Nations traditional knowledge in environmental programs through indigenous partnerships.
- Administer in-class workshops and presentations on the local environment;
- Empower local youth to take environmental action within their own communities.

SNC's working relationship with the OCDSB is a testament to their boots-on-the-ground approach to working directly with local stakeholders, partners and residents in a meaningful way.

Partnerships with SNC have enabled our students to gain knowledge required to become the environmental stewards of tomorrow.

Their staff have the local knowledge and expertise to educate students in our communities about the environment while protecting people and property from natural hazards.

We look forward to our continued collaboration in support of the Environment and student learning!

Sincerely,

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