



Urgent! Save Ontario's Tree Seed Facility & Seed Bank



After 94 Years, Why Close It Now?

The Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF) announced it will close the Seed Facility in September 2018, with no public or expert consultation on the impacts.

- Managing billions of seeds for future forests costs \$1–2 million per year.
- MNRF now expects private sector to fulfill this long-term role. Can they do it alone?



Why We Need Ontario Seed

Seed collected from our local forests is genetically adapted to its local climate. The Seed Facility ensures seed is labeled by the area it came from. Trees grown from each seedlot are planted where we know they will succeed = healthy, resilient forests!

Save Our Seed! Save Our Forests!

Since 1923, the Facility's seed helped save Ontario's watersheds from ecological devastation, providing hundreds of millions of low-cost seedlings to landowners. What new threats can the Seed Facility help address?

- Climate change: expertly bank seed against poor seed years and weather extremes.
- Biodiversity loss: make local high-quality seed available to combat invasive species, over-development and habitat loss.



How can I help? Sign the Petition!

www.fgca.net/save-ontarios-seed



To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

WHEREAS the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry is closing the Ontario Tree Seed Facility in September 2018,

WHEREAS both public and private sector forest restoration experts have disagreed with the internal government decision and have expressed their concern,

WHEREAS Ontario's forest restoration practitioners had expected that the MNRF seed services would not only continue, but be enhanced, in service to Ontario's forests, which face the triple threats of over-development, invasive alien species and climate change,

WHEREAS this decision is in opposition to other Canadian and global jurisdictions who support seed processing and banking as an essential social service to help forests adapt to climate change.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows: That the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry take immediate action to put on hold any actions on the closure of the Ontario Tree Seed Facility and begin a comprehensive public review to explore innovative ways to revitalize Government support for native tree seed services, as per the Ontario Tree Seed Coalition's letter to Minister Kathryn McGarry dated October 13, 2017.

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Mail original signed petitions to Jim Wilson, MPP for Simcoe-Grey:
 Room 241 NW, Legislative Building Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A8