



April 7, 2010

## City Council Committee Report

**To: Mayor & Council**

**Fr: Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk**

**Re: NOMA Resolution – Endangered Species**

### **Recommendation:**

**That Council of the City of Kenora support the following resolution as recommended by NOMA;**

**Be it resolved that the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association calls on the Government of Ontario to implement a long term regulation under section 55 (1)(b) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) which recognizes that the primary objectives of the ESA are met through the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) and its required Forest Management Plans (FMPs), and, further, fulfills government's commitment to recognize the CFSA and FMPs as equivalent processes to the ESA with respect to planning for and providing for species at risk.**

### **Background:**

Council has received a request from The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association for Municipalities to adopt a resolution outlining the below information:

In 2007, the Government of Ontario passed the Endangered Species Act. In addition to species protection, the ESA 2007 prohibits damage or destruction of habitat for species at risk (those listed as endangered or threatened on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List). When a species is placed on the Species at Risk in Ontario list its general habitat is automatically protected from damage or destruction. The Ministry of Natural Resources then develops a species-specific Habitat Regulation, which is the legal description of a species habitat that is protected under the Act.

Proponents of the forest industry have expressed significant concern with the unnecessary and costly duplication that the habitat regulation permit process represents. All harvesting on Crown land in Ontario is strictly regulated by the

Government of Ontario. Ontario's Crown Forest Sustainability Act (CFSA) has been in place since 1994 and requires "that Forest Management Plans (FMPs) identify threatened and endangered species as "featured species" and provide for their protection within the area covered by the plan. Forest Management Plans (FMPs) provide a proven, effective and efficient means of providing for species at risk.

**Budget:** N/A

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

N/A