

Ministry of
Northern Development,
Mines and Forestry

Office of the Deputy Minister

99 Wellesley Street West
Whitney Block, Room 5630
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tel.: 416 327-0647
Fax: 416 327-0651

Ministère du
Développement du Nord,
des Mines et des Forêts

Bureau du sous-ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Édifice Whitney, bureau 5630
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tél. : 416 327-0647
Télééc. : 416 327-0651



DEC 18 2009

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Mr. Denis Simard
Director Copyright and Industrial Design Branch
Canadian Intellectual Property Office
Copyright and Industrial Design Branch
50 Victoria Street
Place du Portage II, 4th Floor
Gatineau QC K1A 0C9



Dear Mr. Simard:

Thank you for your letter of November 10, 2009, that proposes to repeal the Timber Marking Act and its associated Rules.

In the 1950s and 1960s a major shift occurred regarding the measurement of logs with respect to the payment of logging contractors and calculation of Crown stumpage. Timber marks in Ontario were totally phased out by the mid 1970s as logs were measured prior to being transported to the processing site by road, rail or water.

The Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry concurs with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office's assessment that the Timber Marking Act and associated Rules are outdated legislation with no economic benefit to either the forest industry or the Government of Ontario. There is no risk or disadvantage to either the forest industry or the Government in repealing this legislation. The Government of Ontario and the forest industry have established new standards and procedures that control the identification, movement and measurement of timber in the Province.

Should there be any further questions please contact Walter Zagrobelny, Provincial Measurement Supervisor at (705) 945-6643.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Lindsay".

David Lindsay
Deputy Minister