

November 24, 2017

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, MPP, Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3
kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org

The Honourable Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Suite 6630, 6th Floor, Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley Street West Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3
kmcgarry.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Re: Seed Plant Closure

Dear Premier and Minister:

Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association represents an industry and profession that contributes over 7 billion dollars in economic impact and employs over 70,000 people. Our members design, install, maintain landscapes and green spaces. They also grow and sell plants and garden products. However we represent only half of the green space industry. Public horticulture and forestry represent the other half. Together our sectors are major contributors to Ontario's quality of life.

This combined and related industry of 14 billion dollars and 140,000 employees has its origins in the availability of seed and other propagation methods.

The cost of the Ontario seed plant is miniscule compared to its role in growing an enormous value chain that provides environmental, economic, health, social, recreational, aesthetic and therapeutic benefits.

Please reconsider your announcement to close the Ontario Seed Plant. We would gladly work with your officials to deal with the issues that have lead to the decision. Sometimes economic decisions are based on a narrow set of parameters without seeing the bigger implications.

We would love to participate in any review process.

Respectfully,



Tony DiGiovanni
Executive Director
Landscape Ontario

CC: The Honourable Liz Sandals, MPP, Guelph. lsandals.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
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