



ONTARIO BEEKEEPERS'
ASSOCIATION
Since 1881

Dear (Party Leader),

The Ontario Beekeepers Association members have suffered serious losses from the inappropriate use of neonicotinoid pesticides on Ontario's field crops. Many Ontarians have expressed their concern for the health of Ontario's pollinators and over 65,000 have signed our petition. Clearly it will require bold political leadership to solve this problem. Next week we will be sending a notice to our members and supporters informing them of your party's position on this issue. To help us do so would you please answer the following two questions:

1. Ontario's beekeeping industry has suffered through the loss of thousands of hives in both 2012 and 2013 that Health Canada has confirmed were the result of exposure to neonicotinoid pesticides in soy and corn planting. *Should you be elected to lead the Government of Ontario would you support the Ontario Beekeepers' Association's call for an immediate moratorium (ban) on the sale of the neonicotinoid treated seeds that are killing our bees?*
2. Ontario is suffering a serious decline in the population of the insect pollinators we rely on for our locally grown foods as the result of the indiscriminate use of neonicotinoid pesticides on field crops. Health Canada and other studies have shown significant amounts of persistent neonicotinoid pesticides in water and soil samples across Ontario. *If elected, will your party declare this an urgent environmental problem?*

We look forward to receiving your response. Should we not get a response from you we will report your party as non-responsive to this issue.

Sincerely,

Dan Davidson
President