

What Is A Provincial Agency?

Infosheet

October 27, 2017

A provincial agency means a provincial government organization which has the following characteristics:

- Established by government through a constituting instrument (statute, Order in Council or regulation)
- Has authority and responsibility to perform an ongoing public function or service that involves adjudicative, or regulatory decision-making, operational activity, or an advisory function
- Accountable to a minister for fulfilling its legislative obligations, management of its resources, and ensuring standards for any services it provides
- Majority of its appointments are made by the government
- Not organizationally part of a ministry but is part of the Government of Ontario
- Agencies are led by public appointees, including a Chair who has a direct reporting relationship with the Minister

Many terms can be used to describe different kinds of provincial agencies and other entities – boards, commissions, councils, authorities and foundations.

The Public Appointments Secretariat

The Public Appointments Secretariat (PAS) oversees the Ontario government appointments to agencies across the province. PAS has a public facing website that is designed to provide user-friendly access to the government appointments process. Anyone who wishes to apply to serve on a provincial agency or other entity must do so through the Public Appointments Secretariat.

Please visit the Public Appointments Secretariat website at www.pas.gov.on.ca for more information.

Principles Governing the Appointments Process

The mission of the Public Appointments Secretariat is to ensure that the most qualified men and women having the highest personal and professional integrity serve the public on the province's provincial agencies and other entities. Persons selected to serve must reflect the true face of Ontario in terms of diversity and regional representation. The government has committed itself to a more open and transparent system for filling the positions on the province's provincial agencies and other entities.

Women on Provincial Agencies

The Ontario government has set a target that, by 2019, women make up at least 40 per cent of all appointments to every provincial board and agency. Ensuring more women have the opportunity to reach leadership positions at the provincial agencies is part of the government's economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs.

There is an immediate need for part-time members on many of OMAFRA's agencies. We are looking for people who are committed to the principles and values of public service and who will perform their duties with integrity.

Please email omafra.agencies@ontario.ca for more information.

Agencies:

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) is responsible for the oversight of 12 provincial agencies, as well as the regulatory body for a self-regulated profession, the Council for the College of Veterinarians of Ontario.

AgriCorp is an Ontario government agency with the mandate of delivering crop insurance and other agricultural business risk management programs.

Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario in general provides strategic advice to the Ministry regarding the direction of Ministry funded research programs.

Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Appeal Tribunal hears and decides issues relative to the Drainage Act, crop insurance contracts, exemptions for religious reasons, accreditation of farm organizations, disputes under the Farm Products Marketing Act, farmland classification, disputes under the Farm Implements Act and the Agricultural Employees Protection Act: and a number of other disputes under various statutes.

Board of Negotiation negotiates settlements in cases where contaminants caused damage to livestock, crops, trees or other vegetation.

Business Risk Management Review Committee is responsible for hearing review requests under AgriStability, Ontario's Risk Management Program, Ontario's Self-Directed Risk Management Program, and other business risk management programs.

Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario regulates the practice of veterinary medicine and establishes, maintains and develops standards of knowledge, skill and professional ethics among its members.

Grain Financial Protection Board collects fees, administers compensation funds and approves claims made against the funds. The Funds were set up under the Grain Financial Protection Program to protect producers of grain, corn, soybeans, wheat and canola in the event of defaults on payment by licensed buyers.

Livestock Financial Protection Board collects fees, administers compensation funds and approves claims made against the funds. The Funds were set up under the Ontario Beef Cattle Financial Protection Program to protect producers and other sellers of beef cattle in the event of defaults on payment by licensed buyers.

Livestock Medicines Advisory Committee reviews all legislation and regulations pertaining to livestock medicines, advise on matters relating to the control and regulation of livestock medicines, evaluate and recommend procedures relating to the sale of livestock medicines and the proper standards for their maintenance, handling and storage.

Normal Farm Practices Protection Board resolves disputes regarding agricultural operations and to determine what constitutes a normal farm practice.

Ontario Farm Practices Marketing Commission administers the Farm Products Marketing Act and the Milk Act, supervises twenty-three marketing boards and delegated associations, develops and implements regulated marketing policy in Ontario, and provides education programs for Ontario's marketing boards.

Ontario Food Terminal Board's mandate is to acquire, construct, equip and operate a wholesale fruit and produce market and operate such facility for the transportation, distribution and handling of fruit and produce.

Rural Economic Development Advisory Panel is responsible for providing non-binding advice, in the form of recommendations, to the Minister on applications for funding under: (a) the Rural Economic Development Program (REDP); (b) Programs under the REDP; or (c) any other program that the Lieutenant Governor in Council or the Minister assigns to the REDAP.