

Resolution #14 – Parry Sound / East Nipissing SCIA - Slow Moving Vehicle Signs

WHEREAS Ontario drivers do not recognize the purpose of slow-moving vehicle signs (SMV), and;

WHEREAS regular anecdotal information from the membership highlights the everyday dangers farmers face with their equipment on Ontario roadways when motorists disregard the SMV, and;

WHEREAS the Highway Traffic Act provides very little reference as to expected motorist behaviour when encountering a vehicle with a SMV.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OSCIA make MTO aware of concern with driver behaviour when encountering an SMV sign, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OSCIA support the OFA effort to champion a public education program with our major commodity partners to inform the public as to what a SMV means and what action is required by the motor vehicle operator.

Moved Warren Schneckeburger, Seconded by Michel Champagne (Parry Sound SCIA).

Carried

Support the efforts of OFA by sending this resolution to -

SENT TO The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Transportation of Ontario (MTO)

COPY TO Peter Jeffery, Senior Farm Policy Analyst, Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

RESPONSE FROM SAFETY POLICY & EDUCATION BRANCH, MTO

107-2019-1262

Dear Mr. Graham:

Thank you for your letter of March 28, 2019, regarding a resolution for slow-moving vehicle signs sent on behalf of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Minister of Transportation.

The Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) Road Safety Marketing Office (RSMO) works with more than 150 provincial and regional community groups across the province to leverage their aid in launching and supporting a variety of road safety initiatives. These activities focus on raising awareness and changing behaviours related to the leading causes of fatalities and injuries on our roads. Information can include the proper use of slow-moving signs for those vehicles that are required to use the signs as well as information for drivers on how to safely share the road with slow-moving vehicles.

A broad, integrated approach consisting of legislation, public education and enforcement has been taken to address driver behaviour around slow-moving vehicles. In September 2018, RSMO staff and MTO's enforcement officers were

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able to address farming-related inquiries like this at the International Plowing Match in Pain Court. In March 2019, enforcement officers from the ministry participated in the Ottawa Valley Farm Show where they were able to share information, as well as rules of the road and related materials with attendees.

I've included a link to the ministry's [Official MTO Driver's Handbook](#), which includes information about sharing the road safely with farm vehicles and machinery. The online handbook is available at ontario.ca/document/official-mto-drivers-handbook

The ministry also produces a [Farm Guide](#) which provides general information and clarification for the laws that apply to farm equipment, as well as select provisions that apply to farm trucks. The Farm Guide is available at mto.gov.on.ca/english/trucks/pdfs/farm-guide-farm-equipment-on-the-highway.pdf.

We, at the ministry, appreciate your comments. Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,



Linda Jefferson-Kotack

Team Leader

Partnership & Development

Road Safety Marketing Office

Safety Policy & Education Branch

Ministry of Transportation

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