

Private Acquisitions Strategy:

Analysis Report of the Environment Sector in Ontario

July 2014

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1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to carry forward key recommendations from the Archives of Ontario Private Acquisitions Strategy by conducting examinations of Ontario's major sectors. This report highlights sub-sectors or areas within the private environment sector which are likely to generate records of provincial significance.

With protecting the environment a priority of the Government¹, the importance of the environment sector to Ontario cannot be understated.

The identification and appraisal of activities within the environment sector will drive and support private records acquisition policy for environment sector records in the *Archives of Ontario Private Acquisitions Strategy*.

While specific organizations and bodies have been cited for illustrative purposes within this report as examples of the kinds of organizations, associations, and other bodies which could be acquired, it is not the intention of this report to provide such a low-level review.

2. Overview of the Environment Sector in Ontario

In 2011, the Province of Ontario spent over \$382 million on protecting the environment, combating climate change, reducing toxins, and protecting water and natural areas while also supporting innovation and helping to grow a sustainable economy.²

The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has been protecting Ontario's environment for over 40 years. Using stringent regulations, targeted enforcement and a variety of innovative programs, the Ministry continues to address environmental issues that have local, regional and/or global effects. The Ministry is responsible for protecting clean and safe air, land and water to ensure healthy communities, ecological protection and sustainable development for present and future generations of Ontarians.

3. Analysis of Archives of Ontario Holdings

¹ Office of the Premier, *The Way Forward*, February 19, 2013.

² Ministry of the Environment, *Results-based Plan Briefing Book 2011-12, 2012*, pg. 2.

In examining the holdings of the Archives of Ontario, a search of the Archives Descriptive Database was undertaken to determine what records have been acquired from the private sector that complement the functions of the government with respect to environmental monitoring, protection, conservation and stewardship. This revealed that the Archives' holdings contain a very small number of private records documenting some of the functions carried out by the Ministry of the Environment.

The Archives of Ontario Appraisal Focus Report No. 1 for the Ministry of the Environment (2008) identifies the Ministry's five core functions as:

1. Environmental monitoring, research and analysis
2. Environmental protection, policies and standards development
3. Environmental inspection, investigation and enforcement
4. Environmental conservation and stewardship
5. Management of Aboriginal affairs related to the environment

The Archives' private records holdings are only reflected in one of these five functions. Environmental conservation and stewardship is reflected in four of the Archives' private holdings: (1) Natural Heritage League funds (F 2192); (2) Toronto Field Naturalists funds (F 821); (3) ENVision-The Hough Group funds (F 4521) and; (4) Michael Hough funds (F 4642).

4. Methodology for Analyzing the Environment Sector

This section outlines the analysis methodology and rationale for how the sector was broken down and assessed.

Sub-sector Identifications

Sub-sectors within the Environment sector were selected based upon an analysis of major activities related to the protection and stewardship of the natural environment and the development of a sustainable economy within Ontario. Sub-sectors were identified based upon the major categories of organizations and bodies known to be involved or have an interest in such activities within the private sector.

Exclusions and Limitations

This section provides an overview of certain sectors or categories in the Ontario environment sector which were excluded from the analysis.

As a scan of the private environment sector, this analysis does not include reference to any source that mirrors MOE's function of environmental inspection, investigation and enforcement. This is a solely a function of government and there are no private sources that address these particular activities. Private

environmental watchdogs do exist that may alert the Government to examples of environmental non-compliance, but they do not have any official investigation or enforcement capabilities.

Unlike other sectors (such as health and education), no colleges of environmental practitioners in Ontario exist. Professional training is limited to the universities and colleges.

5. Analysis of Environment Sub-Sectors

This section examines the scope of Environment Sector records with respect to:

1. Identifying and defining sub-sectors and categories within the Environment Sector,
2. Making connections between private sector activities and government functions,
3. Identifying existing holdings in the Archives of Ontario related to the Environment Sector (containing records dated 1980-CCY),
4. Identifying possible acquisition targets in the private sector,
5. Providing a rationale for the importance of acquiring documentation within a sub-sector or category, and
6. Identifying level of acquisition priority for each sub-sector based upon the rationale.

Environment Sector Sub-sectors and categories:

For the purposes of analysis, the activities within the Environment Sector have been divided into the following sub-sectors and categories.

1. Provincially-focused organizations
2. Advocacy organizations
3. Environmental research organizations
4. For-profit entities
5. Conservation Authorities
6. Individual and practitioners

Government Functional Linkages

The functional linkages provided in the following table are based upon the Archives of *Archives of Ontario Appraisal Focus Report No. 1 for the Ministry of the Environment (2008)*, which identified the Ministry's five core functions as:

1. Environmental monitoring, research and analysis
2. Environmental protection, policies and standards development
3. Environmental inspection, investigation and enforcement
4. Environmental conservation and stewardship
5. Management of Aboriginal affairs related to the environment

Environment Sub-sector / Category	Sub-sector / category description	Government Function and responsible ministry	Related Archives of Ontario private holdings (1980-CCY)	Sub-sector / category Appraisal Rationale	Secondary considerations	Priority: High (AO has little to no documentation), Medium (AO has some documentation), Low (AO has significant documentation)
Provincial environment-focused organizations	This sub-sector includes organizations with a provincial focus on one or more aspects of the environment. Organizations may include independent provincial entities or provincial-level chapters/bodies of nationally focused organizations.	Environmental conservation and stewardship (Ministry of the Environment)	F 2192, Natural Heritage League; F 821, Toronto Field Naturalists Club fonds	This sub-sector includes organizations which have a provincial focus on various aspects of environmental action and awareness.	The AO's holdings in this sub-sector are very limited for the post-1980 period.	HIGH
Advocacy organizations	This sub-sector includes organizations with a mandate to advocate,	Environmental protection policies and standards development		This sub-sector includes organizations which advocate and lobby for environmental	There are no fonds in the AO's holdings that document this sub-	HIGH

Environment Sub-sector / Category	Sub-sector / category description	Government Function and responsible ministry	Related Archives of Ontario private holdings (1980-CCY)	Sub-sector / category Appraisal Rationale	Secondary considerations	Priority: High (AO has little to no documentation), Medium (AO has some documentation), Low (AO has significant documentation)
	educate, lobby and promote aspects of environmental awareness within the province.	(Ministry of the Environment)		protection policies through legislation and standards development.	sector.	
Environmental research organizations	This sub-sector includes institutions directly involved in the provision of environmental research.	Environmental monitoring, research and analysis (Ministry of the Environment)		This sub-sector includes organizations that are involved in the collection, analysis and dissemination of environmental research within Ontario.	There are no fonds in the AO's holdings that document this sub- sector.	HIGH

Environment Sub-sector / Category	Sub-sector / category description	Government Function and responsible ministry	Related Archives of Ontario private holdings (1980-CCY)	Sub-sector / category Appraisal Rationale	Secondary considerations	Priority: High (AO has little to no documentation), Medium (AO has some documentation), Low (AO has significant documentation)
For-profit entities	This sub-sector includes for-profit private sector organizations and individuals who have made significant contributions in the areas of research, development and other advancements in promoting the environment in Ontario.	Environmental conservation and stewardship (Ministry of the Environment)	F 4521 ENVision - The Hough Group fonds	This sub-sector documents for-profit private sector entities that are contributing to environmental awareness in Ontario and promoting green strategies. Most organizations which conduct these activities are non-profit.	The AO has one fonds that documents this sub-sector for the post-1980 period.	HIGH
Provincially Mandated Organizations	This sub-sector includes regional organizations, such as Conservation Authorities, that manage, protect	Environmental conservation and stewardship (Ministry of the Environment)		This sub-sector documents the daily management and programming of Ontario's public conservation areas and natural	There are no fonds in the AO's holdings that document this sub-sector. As regional organizations, they may lack provincial	HIGH

Environment Sub-sector / Category	Sub-sector / category description	Government Function and responsible ministry	Related Archives of Ontario private holdings (1980-CCY)	Sub-sector / category Appraisal Rationale	Secondary considerations	Priority: High (AO has little to no documentation), Medium (AO has some documentation), Low (AO has significant documentation)
	and promote environmentally-sensitive public areas.			resources.	significance.	
Individuals and practitioners	This category includes individual practitioners involved in work directly related to the environment field.	Environmental conservation and stewardship (Ministry of the Environment)	F 4642 Michael Hough fonds	This sub-category would include individuals who have made significant contributions in the areas of environmental conservation, stewardship and protection in Ontario.	There are no fonds in the AO's holdings that document this sub-sector. As championing regional initiatives, these individuals may lack provincial significance.	HIGH