



Legislative Assembly

**JOHN YAKABUSKI, MPP**  
**Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke**

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Yakabuski: “Use REAL science”**

(**Toronto**) Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski today questioned Minister of Natural Resources Donna Cansfield about her government’s broken promise to use the Crown Forest Sustainability Act as a regulatory tool when establishing habitat protection zones.

Yakabuski’s comments came after the Ministry had filed regulations that will endanger the survival of the forestry industry in Renfrew County, while dismissing all of the requests and recommendations of local industry representatives.

The regulation in question deals with the wood turtle habitat and received cabinet approval after just one meeting held in Toronto. The people whose livelihood will be most affected were not part of the meeting. Those vehemently opposed to logging got whatever they asked for, while providing no scientific study to support the request.

The issue of how best to ensure habitat protection has been ongoing for years but has intensified since the introduction of the *Endangered Species Act* in May of 2007. Since then, the government has almost exclusively consulted with anti-forestry activists to dictate policy making and ignored those whose livelihood depends on the industry.

“The Minister has released no scientific evidence to support her decisions. Instead, she’s working solely on the basis of making forestry’s enemies the government’s friends” Yakabuski said.