

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is currently seeking applicants for the [Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario](#) (COSSARO).

Appointment Details

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry seeks members for the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO), established under the Endangered Species Act, 2007. COSSARO is the provincial agency responsible for maintaining criteria for assessing and classifying species that may be at risk; maintaining and prioritizing a list of species to be assessed and classified; assessing and classifying species; submitting reports to the Minister; and providing advice to the Minister on any matter submitted to COSSARO by the Minister. Species classifications must be based on the best available scientific information, including information obtained from community knowledge and Aboriginal traditional knowledge.

COSSARO members are required to perform their duties in an independent manner, and not as representatives of their employers or any other person or body. No member shall act as a lobbyist with respect to any matter related to the Endangered Species Act, 2007.

For further information on the Committee, please [visit the website](#).

Qualifications:

- Relevant expertise drawn from a scientific discipline such as conservation biology, population dynamics, taxonomy, systematics or genetics; or aboriginal traditional knowledge; and significant experience requiring application of current knowledge in at least one of these areas.
- Knowledge of Ontario's flora and fauna. Expert knowledge of species in a particular region of Ontario (e.g., Carolinian Zone) or species in a specific taxonomic group is considered an asset.
- Good knowledge of concepts and techniques related to the assessment and conservation of species at risk.
- An ability to assimilate and effectively use large amounts of technical material in areas outside of the individual's direct area of professional expertise.
- The ability to make objective and impartial decisions on the basis of scientific information.
- The ability to work constructively within a consensus-based, decision-making forum.

- Applications are particularly encouraged from individuals with Aboriginal traditional knowledge, community knowledge, or expert knowledge of malacology or ichthyology, although applicants with other knowledge will be considered.

Terms:

The members are appointed by Order-in-Council for terms of up to three years, and may be subject to renewal.

Time Commitment:

At present, COSSARO meets twice annually. Members are expected to attend meetings, review status reports and participate in Committee business within necessary timelines to fulfil the functions described above.

Remuneration:

The remuneration rate for COSSARO members is \$150 per day. Members will also be reimbursed for eligible expenses.

How to Apply:

Applications to the Committee must be received through the [Public Appointments Secretariat](#). All applications received will be kept on file for a 3 year period. To be considered for current vacancies, please [apply online](#) by **January 24, 2018** and send a copy of your resume/curriculum vitae to COSSAROSecretariat@ontario.ca.