

**Ministry of Tourism
and Culture**

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Dear Tourism Partner:

In follow up to former Minister of Tourism Monique Smith's letter of December 18, I am writing to let you know that the Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) to establish Regional Tourism Organizations (RTOs) has now been posted on the ministry's website at www.ontario.ca/tourism. This is the first step in the process to help each region identify an RTO, and an important step towards a stronger tourism industry in Ontario.

If your organization or group of organizations is interested in making a proposal for an RTO, I encourage you to carefully review all the RFEI documents, including the form, instructions and RFEI questions and answers. Should you have additional questions, or if you would like to be added to our RFEI mailing list, you can email ashley.e.best@ontario.ca with "RFEI Process" in the subject line.

The ministry will also be holding an information session to address questions from interested groups on February 8, 2010. Further details on this session will be sent to all organizations that have emailed the ministry with questions or requests for receiving more information on the RFEI.

Thank you for your continued commitment to advancing the tourism industry in Ontario. We look forward to your proposals and to working with you to establish an RTO in each region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Drew Fagan".

Drew Fagan
Deputy Minister