

Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport – Tourism Policy and Research Branch Response to Designation Request for the Proposed Ontario Place Spa Complex under the Impact Assessment Act

**\*\*\*DISCLAIMER: On October 13, 2023, the Supreme Court of Canada found the designated project provisions of the federal *Impact Assessment Act* to be unconstitutional. Accordingly, there is no constitutional basis for the Minister to designate the Project.\*\*\***

Provincial Advice Record – Designation Request under the IAA

Ontario Place Redevelopment: *Spa Complex Project*

Ministry: *Ontario Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport*

Lead Contact: *Stephane Baffier, Director, Tourism Policy and Research Branch*

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Alternate Ministry Contact: *James Antler, Policy Advisor, Tourism Policy Unit  
447 McKeown Avenue, North Bay, ON P1B 9S9. [james.antler@ontario.ca](mailto:james.antler@ontario.ca). 705-493-0880.*

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1. In general terms, please confirm and describe your ministry's role (if applicable) in the review of the Project.

*Not applicable. The Tourism Policy and Research Branch offers advice and information across the ministry, other levels of government and to the Tourism Sector. Its goal is to support the development of policies, programs and data to increase tourism growth and drive market demand for Ontario's diverse tourism experiences.*

2. Please provide the contact information of the person or persons responsible for managing your ministry's oversight of the Project (if different from lead contact above).

*Same as above.*

3. Describe the provincial legislative or regulatory process or approvals administered by your ministry that may assess or manage the potential adverse effects of the Project. For each mechanism or approval, please provide information regarding the following:

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- Name of the process or authorization (e.g. certificate, licence, permit or approval) and the associated legislative framework;
- Whether (for each) the authorization would set conditions and if yes, what issues would those conditions address;
- Whether (for each) the authorization would require public and/or Indigenous consultation and if yes, provide information on the approach to be taken; and
- Whether (for each) your ministry has guidance material that would be helpful to the Proponent or the Agency (please provide these as attachments or hyperlinks in your response).

*Not applicable from a tourism policy perspective. We do not have any relevant legislative or regulatory processes or approvals applicable to the project.*

4. Confirm whether any authorization listed above would contemplate the following matters and if yes, discuss, in general, the benchmarks or standards to which a project of this nature may be held (be specific in relation to each point below that may be applicable to your ministry's mandate):

- fish and fish habitat, including matters related to surface and groundwater,
- migratory birds, including matters related to vegetation and habitat,
- federally listed species at risk,
- effects on Indigenous people of Canada, including on physical and cultural heritage, the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance, or on communities' health, social or economic conditions,
- adverse changes to the environment that would occur on federal lands, including federal water-lots, and lands outside Ontario or Canada, including transboundary effects of greenhouse gas emissions as well as air emissions.

*Not applicable from a tourism policy perspective.*

5. Have you received public comments/concerns in relation to the Project? If yes, provide an overview of the key issues and the way in which (in general terms) your ministry intends to address (or would normally manage) these matters.

*Not from a tourism policy perspective.*

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6. Have you received Indigenous community comments/concerns in relation to the Project? If yes, provide an overview of the key issues and the way in which (in general terms) your ministry intends to address (or would normally manage) these matters.

*Not from a tourism policy perspective.*

7. Do you have any other information about the Project in relation to potential adverse effects or impacts to the public, or Indigenous peoples and their rights as protected under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982?

*Not from a tourism policy perspective.*

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Name of responder: *Stephane Baffier*

Title of responder: *Director, Tourism Policy Branch*

Date: *October 18, 2023*