

We approached Dr. Gary Epp of AECOM who has done extensive work in Ontario. He indicated:

I am not aware of a particular incentive that municipalities have for gaining access to private lands for the purposes of conducting studies.

We do have considerable experience with trying to gain access to private lands by various proponents of studies, either municipal or provincial agency (i.e. MTO). In those cases, it is a challenge to get permission to enter. It usually takes a great deal of effort and forward planning. Typically, it is considered to be successful if access to 30% of the properties is granted. Sometimes the incentives offered include a nominal fee of several hundred dollars, and or, the provision of the raw data collected for the property.

We also asked other environmental consultants who indicated that the participation rate goes up when notices are personally delivered to landowners. This gives the proponent / consultant an opportunity to explain the benefits of participation.

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