



Newsrelease

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***MINISTER EXPANDING INSPECTION FORCE TO ENSURE INDUSTRY
RECYCLES***

Part Of The McGuinty Government's Initiatives For A Greener, Healthier Ontario

TORONTO – The McGuinty government is **hiring ten new environmental enforcement officers** to focus on increasing waste diversion in business and industry across Ontario, Environment Minister Laurel Broten announced today.

"Business and industry must do their part if Ontario is going to reduce the amount of waste heading to our landfills," said Broten. "The 3 R's – reduce, reuse, recycle – aren't just rules for Ontarians at home, they are a responsibility that business and industry shares."

Regulations require business and industry to conduct waste audits and develop waste reduction plans. They also require source separation of some waste materials to ensure valuable resources aren't ending up in landfills.

The government has increased inspections in this sector significantly in the past few years. **The number of inspections grew** from 12 in 2004/05 **to 336 in 2006/07.** In a 2006 inspection sweep, the ministry conducted province-wide sector inspections involving 260 businesses. Almost 93 per cent of businesses were not complying with all regulatory requirements. Waste from business and industry makes up about two thirds of all waste in Ontario.

Ten new officers will support increased inspections of all of Ontario's industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, and will ensure that they comply with Ontario's recycling requirements. In addition to conducting inspections, the officers will also focus on educating the business community to ensure they understand the law.

"With ten new full-time enforcement inspectors on the job, we're going to be able to effect some real change in this sector," said Minister Broten. **"We're increasing the inspections** and building the awareness needed to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill."