

**ADIRONDACK COUNCIL CONGRATULATES JOE MARTENS ON HIS NOMINATION BY  
GOVERNOR CUOMO TO SERVE AS THE COMMISSIONER OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

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The Adirondack Council extends a hearty congratulations to our colleague Joe Martens, Executive Director of the Open Space Institute, on his nomination today by Gov. Andrew Cuomo to serve as the New York State Commissioner of Environmental Conservation. His appointment must be confirmed by the NYS Senate.

"Joe Martens is a soft-spoken, confident environmental leader with strong ties to the Adirondack Park," said Adirondack Council Executive Director Brian L. Houseal. "He has left a lasting legacy on the Adirondack landscape, including some of the most important new Forest Preserve purchases in the past decade. Joe has worked directly for governors Mario Cuomo, Eliot Spitzer and David Paterson and was a trusted advisor to Gov. George Pataki. We are not surprised he was chosen by Gov. Andrew Cuomo to lead the state's top environmental agency. Given the state's shaky finances and deep cuts to staffing at the Department of Environmental Conservation, he will have many challenges to overcome. But he has our support and the respect of the entire environmental community."

Martens served as Deputy Secretary for Energy and the Environment for Gov. Mario Cuomo from 1992-94. He has been assistant to the secretary from 1990-92. He has served as chairman of the Adirondack Lakes Survey Corp., which conducts lake and stream chemistry tests for the state's acid rain program. He is currently chairman of the Olympic Regional Development Authority in Lake Placid.

The Open Space Institute is located in Manhattan