



Friday, November 27, 2020

Sent via email

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

RE: Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act (Schedule 6) in Bill 229

Dear Premier Ford,

On Monday, November 23rd, 2020, City of Guelph Council passed the following resolution:

“WHEREAS on November 5, 2020, the Government of Ontario introduced Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020, which proposes changes to conservation authorities’ (CA) permitting, planning and enforcement powers (contained in Schedule 6);

AND WHEREAS CAs play a critical role protecting our environment and natural heritage, mitigating natural hazards, and supporting municipal partners by providing an environmental, conservation and risk assessment lens on development applications;

AND WHEREAS proposed changes in Schedule 6 of Bill 229 have raised concerns amongst conservation authorities, including the Grand River Conservation Authority, First Nations, environmental groups and residents in our local community;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Guelph encourage the Government of Ontario to pause on proposed Conservation Authority changes by either amending or removing Schedule 6 of Bill 229 in accordance with feedback and further consultations with Conservation Authorities and municipalities to address these concerns, including the development of proposals that will improve Conservation Authority operations while strengthening environmental protections for the people of Ontario and ensuring cost-neutrality for municipal governments;

AND THAT this resolution and a copy of the Grand River Conservation Authority Report (GM-11-20-85) Proposed Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act through Bill 229, be forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Finance, Conservation Ontario and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).”

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Sincerely,



Stephen O'Brien, General Manager/City Clerk
City Clerk's Office, **Corporate Services**
City of Guelph

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C The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance

The Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks

The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario

Graydon Smith, AMO President and Mayor of Bracebridge

Samantha Lawson, Chief Administrative Officer, Grand River Conservation Authority