

Add 8.2

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES**

MOVED BY: Mike Myatt RESOLUTION NO: 177-2020

SECONDED BY: Cheryl Grace DATE: November 23, 2020

WHEREAS members of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority passed the following resolution on November 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS *Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act, (Budget Measures), 2020* was introduced on November 5, 2020 and is expected to be approved by December 10, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores supports the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority resolution outlined below; and

THAT the Clerk send copies of this resolution to the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Ontario Minister of Finance, and MPPs Lisa Thompson and Bill Walker.

WHEREAS the province has introduced *Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act - Schedule 6 - Conservation Authorities Act*; and WHEREAS the Legislation introduces a number of changes and new sections that could remove and/or significantly hinder the conservation authorities' role in regulating development, permit appeal process and engaging in review and appeal of planning applications; and

WHEREAS conservation authorities protect residents, property and local natural resources on a watershed basis by regulating development and engaging in reviews of applications submitted under the *Planning Act*; and

WHEREAS the changes allow the Minister to make decisions without SVCA watershed data and expertise and consistency with policies and guidelines; and

WHEREAS the Legislation suggests that the Minister will have the ability to establish standards and requirements for non-mandatory programs which are negotiated between the conservation authorities and municipalities to meet local watershed needs; and

WHEREAS SVCA and municipalities require a longer transition time to put in place new budgets as well as agreements for non-mandatory programs; and

WHEREAS the appointment of municipal representatives on CA Boards should be a municipal decision; and the Chair and Vice Chair of the CA Board should be duly elected; and WHEREAS the changes to the 'Duty of Members' contradicts the fiduciary duty of a CA board member to represent the best interests of the conservation authority and its responsibility to the watershed; and

WHEREAS conservation authorities have already been working with the Province, development sector and municipalities to streamline and speed up permitting and planning approvals through Conservation Ontario's Client Service and Streamlining initiative; and

WHEREAS changes to the legislation will create more red tape and costs for the conservation authorities, and their municipal partners, and potentially result in delays in the development approval process; and

WHEREAS the province has made changes to the legislation that will limit the ability of SVCA to ensure compliance with the Act and our policies by not including stop-work orders and modifying powers to enter property potentially resulting in more legal action; and

WHEREAS all watershed residents and municipalities value and rely on the natural habitats and water resources within our jurisdiction for their health and well-being as well as SVCA's work to prevent and manage the impacts of flooding and other natural hazards and to ensure safe drinking water;

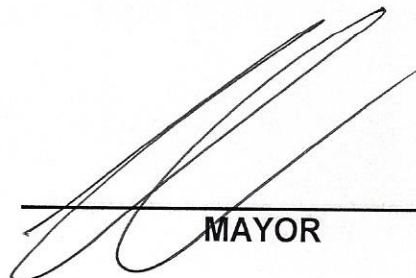
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Province of Ontario work with conservation authorities to address their concerns by repealing and/or amending changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the *Planning Act*; and

THAT the Province of Ontario provide a longer transition period up at least to December 2022 for non-mandatory programs to enable coordination of CA-municipal budget processes; and

THAT the province respects the current conservation authority - municipal relationships; and

THAT the province embraces their long-standing partnership with conservation authorities and provide them with the tools and financial resources they need to effectively implement their watershed management role.

- Carried
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Referred
- Tabled
- Withdrawn



MAYOR

DIVISION OF RECORDED VOTE

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PEC INT
CHARBONNEAU				
CARR				
GRACE				
MATHESON				
MYATT				
MYETTE				
RICH				
SHRIDER				
SMITH				