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November 7, 2019

Honourable Jeff Yurek
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Floor
777 Bay St
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: Conservation Authority Exit Clause

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara passed the following motion at their regular meeting held October 28, 2019, unanimously by a recorded vote:

WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA has consistently expressed its view that its watershed conservation authorities are duplicative, financially unaccountable, in conflict with citizens and private property rights;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA has encountered the regulatory obstacles to challenge the arbitrary, inefficient, non-transparent, and unsustainable municipal levy forced upon it annually by its watershed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA questions the efficacy and relevance of its watershed conservation authorities' programs and services and their performance in achieving the goals of conservation and environmental stewardship;

AND WHEREAS the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA finds the current Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations inconsistent and obsolete;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks the Honourable Jeff Yurek signaled the province's intent to reconsider and update the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA support the province's determination that the existing Conservation Authorities Act, 1990, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 and its proscribed regulations require review;

AND THAT the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA signal to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks of its willingness to participate in all consultations and submissions to the same;

AND THAT further the TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA signal its express desire that an exit clause be provided in any new Conservation Authorities Act to permit municipalities that determine the objects of conservation and environmental stewardship can be provided by alternative governance, programs, and/or services to exist costly and unwarranted conservation authority(ies) jurisdiction(s);

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Conservation Ontario, Ontario's thirty-six conservation authorities, and all upper and lower-tier Ontario municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory however if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Connor".

Jennifer Connor, CMO
Legislative Services Manager/Clerk

JC/cw

c.c. Jill Dunlop, MPP
Conservation Ontario
Ontario Conservation Authorities
Ontario Municipalities