December 18, 2019

Hon. Jeff Yurek
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor – 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

By email: jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org

RE: Support for Continuation of Mandatory and Non-Mandatory Programs of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) and Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA)

Dear Hon. Yurek,

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Thames Centre, at the last regular meeting held on Monday, December 16, 2019, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Thames Centre is committed to planning for a sustainable future for its resources and environment;
AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Thames Centre is a member of both the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) and Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA) and has representatives on both Board of Directors;
AND WHEREAS the Board of Directors determines the policies, priorities and budget of the UTRCA and KCCA;
AND WHEREAS the UTRCA and KCCA provide the Municipality of Thames Centre with expert advice on the environmental impact of land use planning proposals and that the Municipality of Thames Centre does not have staff with comparable expertise or experience;
AND WHEREAS the UTRCA and KCCA provide programs to the residents of Thames Centre and other member municipalities that include recreation, education, water quality monitoring, reduction of vegetation loss and soil erosion, preservation of species at risk, completing restoration projections on the Thames River as well as protecting life and property through a variety of measures, all of which the Municipality of Thames Centre does not have staff with comparable expertise or experience;
THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Municipality of Thames Centre supports continuation of the programs of the UTRCA and KCCA, both mandatory and non-mandatory, and that no programs of the UTRCA or KCCA
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or of the other Conservation Authorities in Ontario be “wound down” at this
time.
AND THAT the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks give clear
direction as to what programs are considered mandatory and non-mandatory
and how those programs will be funded in the future;
AND THAT both UTRCA and KCCA be invited to provide a delegation at a
future Municipality of Thames Centre meeting to inform Council of the impacts
of these programs to our communities;
AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks, Premier Doug Ford, the Association of Municipalities
of Ontario, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, Kettle Creek
Conservation Authority, Conservation Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.
Carried.

Should you have any questions, please advise.

Regards,

[Signature]

Tena Michiels
Clerk

Distribution: Premier Doug Ford
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
Kettle Creek Conservation Authority
Conservation Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities