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TOWNSHIP OF LAKE OF BAYS  
1012 Dwight Beach Rd  
Dwight, ON P0A 1H0

December 16, 2020

Via email: [llehr@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:llehr@essatownship.on.ca)

Township of Essa  
**Attention: Lisa Lehr, Clerk**  
5786 County Road 21  
Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

Dear Ms. Lehr:

**RE: Correspondence – Bill 229 “Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act –  
Schedule 6 – Conservation Authorities Act”**

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On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays, please be advised that the above-noted correspondence was presented at the last regularly scheduled meeting on December 15, 2020, and the following was passed.

**“Resolution #7(e)/12/15/20**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays hereby supports the resolution from the Town of Essa requesting support to Amend Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act under Schedule 6 - Conservation Authorities Act, dated November 19, 2020;**

**AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Town of Essa, Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Minister of Finance, Conservation Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.**

**Carried.”**

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Municipal Office at 705-635-2272.

Sincerely,

Carrie Sykes, *Dipl. M.A., CMO, AOMC*,  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk.  
CS/cw  
Encl.

Copy to:

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Hon. John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance  
Conservation Ontario  
All Ontario Municipalities

Corporation of the Township of Essa  
5786 County Road 21  
Utopia, Ontario  
LOM 1T0



Telephone: (705) 424-9917  
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November 19, 2020

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
8195 8<sup>th</sup> Line  
Utopia, ON  
LOM 1T0

Sent by email

Attention: Doug Hevenor, Chief Administrative Officer NVCA  
Keith White, NVCA Board Chair  
Marlane McLeod, NVCA Vice Chair

Re: Township of Essa Council Resolution No. CR204-2020  
Bill 229 "Protect, Support and Recover from COVID19 Act – Schedule 6 –  
Conservation Authorities Act"

Please be advised that at its meeting of November 18, 2020, Council of the Township of Essa received a copy of information in relation to Bill 229 in addition to a verbal report from the NVCA Board Chair on the impacts to Conservation Authorities and the trickle effect to municipalities and citizens in Ontario should the Bill pass

As a result of the discussions, Council of the Township of Essa passed the following Resolution:

**Resolution No: CR204-2020      Moved by: White      Seconded by: Sander**

*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 we rely on the watershed expertise provided by local conservation authorities to 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 conservation authority watershed data and expertise; 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 municipalities believe that the appointment of municipal representatives on Conservation Authority Boards should be a municipal decision, and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Conservation Authority Board should be duly elected; and*

*WHEREAS the changes to the 'Duty of Members' contradicts the fiduciary duty of a Conservation Authority 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 municipalities value and rely on the natural habitats and water resources within our jurisdiction for the health and well-being of residents; municipalities value the conservation authorities' work to prevent and manage the impacts of flooding and other natural hazards; and municipalities value the conservation authority's work to ensure safe drinking water;*

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

- *THAT the Province of Ontario repeal Schedule 6 of the Budget Measures Act (Bill 229)*
- *THAT the Province continue to work with conservation authorities to find workable solutions to reduce red tape and create conditions for growth*
- *THAT the Province respect the current conservation authority and municipal relationships; and*
- *THAT the Province embrace their long-standing partnership with the conservation authorities and provide them with the tools and financial resources they need to effectively implement their watershed management role.*

**---Carried---**

Sincerely,



per; Lisa Lehr, CMO  
Clerk

cc. Conservation Ontario – Kim Gavine, General Manager  
Conservation Ontario – Wayne Emmerson, Chair  
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance  
Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing