



November 19, 2020

Dear MPP Effie J. Triantafilopoulos

cc: Minister Phillips, Minister Clark, Minister Yakabuski and Minister Yurek

RE: Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

BurlingtonGreen Environmental Association strongly opposes the proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act set out in Schedule 6 of Bill 229 that curtail the role of Conservation Authorities in watershed planning and management. We see no evidence that the proposed changes will strengthen environmental protection in this Province, which is required more than ever before given the current human health, climate and biodiversity crises upon us, and the vital role Conservation Authorities provide in working to address these issues. Conservation Authorities are critical in protecting the lands, waters and wildlife which benefit businesses and communities across Ontario, and upon which our health and well-being ultimately depend.

The changes proposed in Schedule 6 will reduce or constrain the mandate of Conservation Authorities, and are therefore contradictory to the interests of the people of Ontario.

Additionally, it is also very concerning that these proposed changes were brought forward in a budget bill, thereby overriding rights for individuals and organizations such as ours to comment under the Environmental Bill of Rights.

We look forward to learning of your opposition to these proposed changes announced by the Government of Ontario.

Yours sincerely,

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