



Ontario
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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February 8, 2010

Mayor Paul Holbrough & Council
130 Oxford Street, Second Floor
Ingersoll ON
N5C 2V5

Dear Mayor & Council,

As you know, Conservation Authorities in Ontario are an integral part of the successful management of our watershed-based natural resources for healthy, sustainable ecosystems, communities and industries.

I understand the importance of consulting with the public and gathering expertise from various organizations and professionals to achieve a balance of the ecological and social impacts that reflect the concerns of all resource users. As former Minister of Natural Resources, I also recognize the challenges of balancing resource user groups in a fair and transparent manner and utilizing the best available science to develop effective land-use policies.

In order to move forward with the most effective land use strategies, we need to ensure that the legislation and regulations governing conservation authorities is the most up-to-date, streamlined and practical as possible. In addition, there needs to be a clear, transparent and decisive protocol to follow.

In an effort to continuously improve and uphold the best practices of our Conservation Authorities, I would appreciate your informed feedback and comments concerning legislation, regulations and the organizational responsibilities of the Conservation Authorities, including the good aspects of the organizations as well as what needs to be changed and how these changes need to be implemented.

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration and valuable input.

Yours Sincerely,

Jerry J. Ouellette, MPP

Oshawa

Official Opposition Critic, Natural Resources