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April 23, 2012

The Honourable Jim Bradley
Minister of the Environment
77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2T5

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that Oxford County Council, at its meeting held on April 11, 2012, adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that many of the resources of this planet are finite and are necessary to sustain both life and the quality of life for all future generations,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that the global population will increase from the current 7 billion people to at least 9 and possibly 10 billion by 2050 and that this increased population will put even greater demand for the resources of the planet,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that as populations evolve, their demand for more resources will increase as is the case currently in several of the heavily populated Asian Countries,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that the reduction in use, reuse and recycling of all resources is the only viable option for long term societal sustainability,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that the disposal of resources in landfills is unsustainable and further it creates potential environmental concerns which may take numerous generations to become apparent and could have significant human and financial costs before the problems are rectified,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that all levels of government are elected to lead their constituents with concern for the well being of this and future generations,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that landfill proposals create anxiety within the community in regards to the physical, mental, emotional and financial health of the community which can create tension within the community,

WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that the natural environment provides for the basic sustenance of life and must be protected from any potential damage,

AND WHEREAS Oxford County Council recognizes that the scale of potential health risks to the community increases in direct relation to the proximity of the community to any landfill site,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Oxford County Council demand a moratorium on any future landfill construction or approval until such time as a full review of alternatives can be completed which would examine best practices in other jurisdictions around the world,

AND FURTHER that this review of alternatives would give special emphasis on (a) practices which involve the total recycling or composting of all products currently destined for landfill sites in Ontario and (b) the production of goods which can efficiently and practically be recycled or reused so as to not require disposal in landfills,

AND FURTHER that Oxford County Council investigate a potential timeline that would see the maximum reduction in land filling with the goal being (a) to have this program in place within a decade and (b) that the current County landfill site would be sufficient for County needs until at least the year 2100,

AND FURTHER that Oxford County Council advise the provincial government that we are embarking on this course of action, and that it will be expected that Oxford County will have the full cooperation of all ministries and that Oxford County may require special and specific funding for investigation, research and implementation of the alternatives to our current disposal based system,

AND FURTHER that Oxford County Council send this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario for support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,



Brenda J. Tabor
Clerk

- Copy - The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
- Municipal Councils, All Municipalities in Ontario
- Ernie Hardeman, M.P.P., Oxford
- Members, Oxford County Council
- Michael Bragg, C.A.O., County of Oxford