

Legal and Clerks Services

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December 5, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne Premier of Ontario

Via email to: kwynne.mpp.co@liberal.ola.ca

Kathryn McGarry Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry Via email: kmcgarry.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Bonnie Lysyk Auditor General of Ontario

Via email to: comments@auditor.on.ca

Re: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) - Investigation Our File No. 35.2.2

Please be advised that Council, at its regular meeting held on December 5, 2016, unanimously supported the following resolution regarding Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) - Investigation:

"WHEREAS the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority(NPCA), a Provincial agency operating in the Regions of Niagara and Haldimand County and the City of Hamilton, is funded largely by the Region of Niagara; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines is the single largest local tier municipal contributor of public funds to the Region of Niagara and, therefore, the largest contributor to the NPCA's funding;

WHEREAS, serious questions have been raised about the financial and human resource management of the NPCA; and

WHEREAS, serious questions have been raised about the functioning of the NPCA in upholding its duty to fulfill the legislative mandate, as set out for it in Section 20 of The Conservation Authorities Act, "to establish and undertake programs designed to balance the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources."; and

WHEREAS, Niagara MPPs and citizens have called for a forensic audit of the NPCA's business practices; and

WHEREAS the people of the City of St. Catharines, the Region of Niagara and the Province of Ontario deserve openness and accountability as to how their tax dollars are being spent and how effectively our natural environment is being protected;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Council requests a letter be sent to Premier Kathleen Wynne and Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Auditor General of Ontario, with copies distributed to the NPCA, all Niagara MPPs, the Niagara Region, local tier municipalities in Niagara, Haldimand County and the City of Hamilton, urging the Province to immediately initiate an appropriately thorough investigation be it a value for money and/or a forensic audit of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. FORTHWITH

The information contained in the above-noted is self-explanatory, should you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at 905-688-5601 ext. 1506.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Nistico-Dunk

City Clerk

cc MPP Jim Bradley
MPP Wayne Gates
MPP Cindy Forster
MPP Sam Oosterhoff
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
Regional Municipality of Niagara Council
All Niagara Region Municipalities
Haldimand County Council
City of Hamilton Council