

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council: December 14, 2016

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. JOHNSON.....

Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Audit

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

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has asked in the past for the Province of Ontario to review and oversee operations at the NPCA;

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

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";

WHEREAS, the City of St. Catharines has unanimously passed a motion asking the Province to initiate an appropriately thorough investigation be it a value for money and/or a forensic audit of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority;

WHEREAS, the Township of Wainfleet unanimously passed a motion; "That Wainfleet Town Council request the NPCA Board to consider obtaining an independent third party audit, such as a value for money audit and/or forensic audit, above and beyond their annual financial audits;

WHEREAS, both Niagara on the Lake and City of Port Colbourne also passed unanimously a motion requesting a forensic audit of the NPCA; and,

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Hamilton, Region of Niagara, Haldimand County and 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:

That the Mayor, on behalf of Council, send a letter 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 Hamilton and Niagara MPPs, the Niagara Region, local tier municipalities in Niagara, and Haldimand County, 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.

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That the Rules of Order be waived to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Audit.

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