



Office of the Mayor - Bureau du maire

May 17, 2019

**Brian Bigger**  
Mayor / Maire  
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The Hon. Rod Phillips  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park 5th Flr,  
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**RE: ERO Proposal 013-5018-Modernizing Authority Operations**

Dear Minister Phillips,

It was a pleasure meeting you at the Ontario Good Roads conference in February. During that time, we discussed the importance of the work we have undertaken in Greater Sudbury to significantly improve the environment, including our greening efforts and the remediation of almost all of our 330 lakes (we have two left to go!). City Council has asked that I write to you regarding Conservation Sudbury.

The City of Greater Sudbury has an excellent relationship with Conservation Sudbury and supports the current work being undertaken by this organization. The Conservation Authority provides essential and beneficial services to all residents within the jurisdiction of its watersheds that promote clean waters and safe communities.

Most recently, it has been very active in monitoring flooding. Our area has thankfully not been impacted this year, due in part to the good work of the authority in guiding planning and development away from flood-prone areas.

As you are aware, as a municipality we are legislated to provide clean, safe drinking water for our citizens. Our work with Conservation Sudbury is integral to doing just that. This coupled with the other work they do in the community means that they are vital to Greater Sudbury. As such, we would ask that you continue to keep its core mandate comprehensive, namely that it continue to “study and investigate the watershed and to determine programs and services whereby the natural resources of the watershed may be conserved, restored, developed and managed.”

Like many northern and rural communities in Ontario, a significant percentage of our households are not connected to a municipal water system. In our city over 20% of households draw water directly from our many lakes, streams and private wells. As you can appreciate, we are exceptionally blessed, yet dependent on the drinking quality of our local watersheds. That is yet another reason why the Conservation Authority is so incredibly important, and why any proposed policy changes would consider the financial impact to our municipality.

Further, as a Council, we ask that you consider maintaining funding levels for Conservation Sudbury in partnership with us so that they can provide the continued exceptional work that we have come to rely on at the City of Greater Sudbury.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Brian Bigger  
Mayor  
City of Greater Sudbury

Cc: Lin Gibson, Chairperson, Conservation Sudbury  
Joscelyne Landry-Altman, Councillor