

**Ministry of Natural Resources
and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des Richesses
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Bureau 6630, Édifice Whitney
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416 314-2301



May 30, 2023

Mayor Josh Morgan
Barb Westlake-Power, Deputy City Clerk
City of London
bwestlak@london.ca

Dear Mayor Morgan and Ms. Westlake-Power:

Thank you for your application on behalf of the City of London seeking Minister's exceptions under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) from the requirement in subsection 14 (1.1) for at least 70 per cent of municipal appointments to a conservation authority to be selected from among members of municipal council.

After carefully considering your application regarding the appointment of one non-elected member to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) and two non-elected members to the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA), I have decided to not grant the City of London exceptions to subsection 14 (1.1) of the CAA pursuant to my authority under subsection 14 (1.2).

Allowing the City of London appoint one non-elected member as the only member to the LTVCA and two non-elected members and one council member to the KCCA, thereby avoiding the requirement for at least 70 per cent of a participating municipality's appointees to be selected from among members of municipal council, does not meet the intent of section 14 of the CAA which is to ensure greater elected council representation in conservation authorities. In this instance, I think it is important for the City of London to comply with this requirement and it is not appropriate to grant these exceptions. As a result, I would request that the City of London ensure that the necessary steps are taken during the 2023 recruitment process to ensure members of council are appointed to the LTVCA and the KCCA in compliance with the requirements of subsection 14 (1.1) of the CAA.

I would ask that once council members have been appointed to the LTVCA and the KCCA, that you confirm in writing via email to my Ministry (ca.office@ontario.ca) that the City of London has taken the necessary steps to comply with this provision with respect to both conservation authorities.

Please share this correspondence with municipal council as well as the LTVCA and the KCCA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graydon Smith', written in a cursive style.

The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Jennifer Keyes, Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch,
MNRF
Conservation Authority Office (via ca.office@ontario.ca)