

UPPER THAMES RIVER

CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



"Inspiring a Healthy Environment"

June 3, 2014

Planning & Environment Committee
The Corporation of the City of London
P.O. Box 5035
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, Ontario N6A 4L9

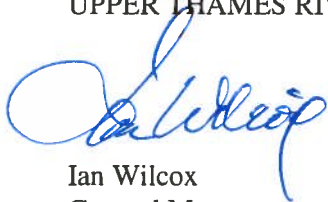
Attention: Chair, Councillor Baechler & Committee Members

Dear Councillor Baechler & PEC Committee Members:

Re: UTRCA Comments – City of London Urban Forest Strategy & Implementation Plan

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) has had the opportunity to review these reports and fully supports the City's plan to protect, enhance and monitor London's Urban Forest. We have been on board since day one as a key partner in the UFORE project wherein Authority Staff compiled the baseline information for this strategy. In moving forward, the UTRCA offers its assistance to the City in implementing the strategy which includes ensuring that London's urban forest is considered within the broader natural heritage framework at a regional or watershed level. Our partnership with the County of Middlesex and the City of London to update the Middlesex Natural Heritage Study provides a regional context which will support the City of London Urban Forest Strategy. In terms of implementation, the activities that are proposed align with the services that the UTRCA is already delivering such as tree planting, community forestry, habitat restoration, natural heritage protection and of course our partnership with the City of London for ESA management. We look forward to partnering with the City on the implementation of this important and exciting plan.

Yours truly,
UPPER THAMES RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Ian Wilcox
General Manager