

Nature London

The McIlwraith Field Naturalists of London Ontario Inc. P.O. Box 24008, London, Ontario N6H 5C4

Actively concerned with Nature since 1864

September 27, 2011

Mayor and Councillors London City Council 300 Dufferin London, ON

Re: Thames Valley Parkway Extension on Westdel Bourne Road Allowance at Kains Road – BNEC report

Nature London members attended the BNEC meeting on September 26, and listened to the discussion regarding the proposed extension of the Thames Valley Parkway near Westdel Bourne. During the public participation portion of the meeting, some members of the public suggested that it might be possible to relocate the pathway to a location closer to the Thames River.

Nature London wishes to remind Council that the Kains Woods Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) occupies most of the land between Riverbend Road and the Thames River. The City of London has long recognized the importance of the Kains Woods ESA. A significant effort was undertaken during the planning and approval process for the Riverbend development, to provide for protection of the natural features and functions of the Kains Woods ESA. The Kains Woods ESA includes areas of upland deciduous forest, floodplain woods, and some prairie vegetation. It provides an important habitat for wildlife, and a migratory corridor for birds.

The Kains Woods ESA has been established in order to protect the features and functions found there. Introduction of a paved recreational path within the ESA is not an appropriate use in this important protected area.

Sincerely,

Sandy Levin, Chair, Conservation Committee