



May 29, 2026

BY EMAIL

The Honourable Todd McCarthy
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Re: Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

At its Regular Council Meeting held on May 19, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence dated May 4, 2026 from the Town of Tecumseh regarding proposed consolidation of Conservation Authorities.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R26-05-225

Moved By Councillor Verbeek
Seconded By Councillor Matyi

That the correspondence from the Town of Tecumseh regarding support of Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities, be received and supported; and

That a letter from the Town of Essex be sent to The Honorable Todd McCarthy, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Carried

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jml", written in a cursive style.

Joseph Malandrucolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandrucolo@essex.ca

Enclosure

cc. Anthony Leardi, MPP Essex Anthony.Leardi@pc.ola.org
Town of LaSalle jastrologo@lasalle.ca
Town of Amherstburg clerk@amherstburg.ca
Municipality of Lakeshore clerk@lakeshore.ca
Town of Kingsville atoole@kingsville.ca
Municipality of Leamington clerks@leamington.ca
Town of Tecumseh jalexander@tecumseh.ca



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

May 4, 2026

Via Email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

Attention: The Honorable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

Re: Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

The Council of the Town of Tecumseh, at its regular meeting held April 28, 2026, received a presentation (enclosed) from Mr. Tim Byrne, Chief Administrative Office of the Essex Region Conservation Authority with respect to the recent passing of *Bill 97 (Plan to Protect Ontario Act, 2026)* and relating to the consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities. At this presentation Mr. Byrne sought Council support for ERCA's request that meaningful consultation be provided by the Provincial government with respect to the development of the appropriate regulations for the conservation authorities consolidation and the impacts thereof. At their meeting, Tecumseh Council passed the following resolution:

"Motion: RCM – 102/26

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

Seconded by: Councillor Tania Jobin

That the presentation by the Essex Region Conservation Authority as appended to the Agenda **be received**;

And that the Council of the Town of Tecumseh support Essex Region Conservation Authority's (ERCA) request for meaningful consultation with conservation authorities in the passing of *Bill 97 Plan to Protect Ontario Act, 2026*, on the impacts of merging conservation authorities in Ontario;

And further that a letter be sent to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Windsor -Tecumseh, MPP Andrew Dowie, and area municipalities.

Carried”

Please consider this letter as confirmation of the Town of Tecumseh’s action on the above matter.

Yours very truly,



Robert Auger, LL.B.
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

RA/gj
Attachments

1. ERCA – Council Presentation April 28, 2026

cc: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

MPP Andrew Dowie, Windsor-Tecumseh

Area Municipalities



Proposed Consolidation of Conservation Authorities

**Essex Region Conservation Authority
Tim Byrne, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
Meeting of Council April 28, 2026**

Key Issues

- 1. No evidence to support that consolidation will accelerate housing development while still supporting public safety from natural hazards and the protection of natural, scientific and recreational lands.**
- 2. Absence of Meaningful Consultation and Consensus**
- 3. Scale of the Proposed Regional Conservation Authorities is Impractical and Fails to Respect Science-Based, Watershed-Based Management**

Key Issues

4. Loss of Knowledge and Representation

5. Lack of Details on How Local Watershed Councils Will Operate

6. Regional Consolidation Undermines Source Protection Plans and Drinking Water Protection

7. Inequitable Funding Model will be Exacerbated

Key Issues

8. The Truth about Transition Costs

9. Impact on Corporate Knowledge – Staff Resources

10. Risks to Continuity and Effectiveness of Watershed Management Practices

Concluding Remarks

A landscape photograph of a wetland area. In the foreground, there is a body of water reflecting the sky and the surrounding vegetation. The middle ground is dominated by a dense field of tall, golden-brown reeds or grasses. In the background, a line of trees with some autumn-colored foliage is visible under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Questions