



Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority

July 15, 2019

George Watson,
Chair of the Board
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
8195 8th Line
Utopia, Ontario
L0M 1T0

Dear George,

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) and its Board of Directors are in receipt of your letter dated July 8, 2019.

The Board requested your resignation due its loss of confidence in your ability to appropriately Chair the organization. This stemmed from the position you took on the Town of Wasaga Beach's ("Wasaga's") comments regarding the regional governance review requesting the dissolution of the NVCA, the very organization you chair, and a neighboring conservation authority and the transfer of their jurisdiction to the County of Simcoe. As you can appreciate, your support of this recommendation to dissolve the NVCA, puts the Board into a very difficult situation. Your remarks could seriously undermine the operation and mandate of the NVCA; undermine the public's confidence in the Authority as well as staff's confidence in the Chair. Your position on this issue created a conflict between your role as Chair and your role as a member of Wasaga's Council. In short, your support of Wasaga's position raised serious concerns as to whether you can discharge your duties as Chair in a fair and impartial manner.

Recently passed Bill 108 amends the *Conservation Authorities Act* to include that "Every member of an authority shall act honestly and in good faith with a view to furthering the objects of the authority". This along with the NVCA's Administrative By-laws and Code of Conduct are the methods in which a Board (member and as a whole) are to conduct themselves. As the Chair of the NVCA, your position is held to an even higher standard, given the amount of time that the Chair is out representing the organization.

You noted that you were disappointed with the discussion that took place. It is the Chair's responsibility to ensure that the meetings follow the administrative bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order when the bylaws are silent.

This issue has now been brought to your attention. On behalf of the Board, I am hopeful that we can now move forward as a united Board to continue to discharge our mandate and deliver the very important services the NVCA has been providing to the citizens of its watershed for almost 60 years.

If you would like to discuss this matter further or have any questions, Mr. Hevenor and I are available to meet with you next week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a horizontal line.

Keith White
Vice-Chair
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority