

Sent via email: comm-financeaffairs@ola.org

Attn: Julia Douglas, Committee Clerk
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
99 Wellesley Street West
Room 1405, Whitney Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A2

Re: Schedule 6 to Bill 229

Dear Members of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs:

I respectfully request that you strike-out Schedule 6 of Bill 229 in its entirety.

I write to you as an individual but also as a Registered Professional Planner who works as the Director of Planning and Regulation at the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority in Oshawa. I have spent over 15 years of my professional land use planning career in implementing the *Conservation Authorities Act* and specifically section 28 permits. I can advise that Schedule 6 will not advance protection of people and property from flooding and erosion, but rather adds inappropriate red tape and added complexity to local decision-making, which will not help protect landowners our communities or watersheds more broadly.

Most egregious is the proposed amendment to the *Planning Act* contained in section 26 of the Schedule. Since 1995, conservation authorities have been delegated the responsibility and painstaking task of reviewing site-by-site development proposals to ensure that provincial interests in protecting people and property from flooding and erosion are addressed in planning decisions. Removing conservation authorities' ability to appeal improper decisions to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal does nothing but hamstringing an essential safeguard for public safety in our communities and watersheds.

I urge the government to withdraw Schedule 6 to allow for sober second thought and I ask the committee to exercise its power with respect to this misguided and harmful legislative proposal by striking out Schedule 6 in its entirety.

Sincerely,



Chris Jones, B.U.R.Pl., M.C.I.P., R.P.P.