

Kattar, Vanessa

From: constance.boldt@utoronto.ca
Sent: December 1, 2020 3:50 PM
To: Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Subject: Omnibus Bill 229 is DIRTY POLITICS

Dear Ms Douglas,

My husband and I live full time on land

that falls within the concern of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA). We have been here for over 20 years.

I have read that the Doug Ford government is trying to hide within omnibus Bill 229 proposed legislation that will undermine the ability of the NVCA and the other 35 Conservation Authorities to protect Ontario watersheds and wetlands across the province. This is an outrage.

Does the Government of Ontario not understand how vital healthy watersheds and wetlands are to maintaining the health of Ontario's water? Healthy water is key to the health of any environment, whether it is the built environment of cities and towns, the agricultural areas of the province, or its undeveloped environments. Preserving undeveloped land in its natural state is an important check on climate change -- the most power threat to human life, as we know it, on the planet. Is that not important to the Government of Ontario, Ms Douglas?

I understand that many of the issues dealt with in Bill 229 relate to the challenges of COVID 19. It is necessary to fast-track those pieces of legislation. However, it is DIRTY POLITICS to bury important environmental matters in Bill 229.

*** PLEASE BLOCK THE PASSAGE of Bill 229 until the proposed amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act are REMOVED ***

Please do not allow

irresponsible legislation to gut the protections that are needed to shield our natural environment from the greed of development, whether for housing or business.

As our one of our local Councillors has stated, " Reforming how we protect our watershed should not be relegated to a small part of a big bill on the premise that is is just another piece of red tape to be cut IN FAVOUR OF MORE GROWTH."

These critical environmental issues MUST BE debated separately and with appropriate attention to conserving the health of our natural world which supports all of us.

Thank you for you kind attention to this issue. I trust you will bring our concerns to the attention of the Standing Committee.

I look forward to hearing from you,
Constance Boldt,
Mulmur Ontario