

Douglas, Julia

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: December 2, 2020 11:41 AM
To: Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 28561

Submitted on Wed, 12/02/2020 - 11:34

Application ID: 28561

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020**

Choose a topic

Do you know the bill title or business (e.g., pre-budget consultations) you'd like to speak or submit material about?

Yes

Choose an application

Which application would you like to submit?

Submit material only

Add your information

Are you submitting material as an individual or on behalf of an organization?

I am submitting material as an individual

Full name

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Paste submission

I am requesting that Schedule 6 be removed from Bill 229.

This Bill threatens the ability of Conservation Authorities to protect Ontario's invaluable green spaces and reduce flood risk to people and property.

I think 2020 has shown us just how important these green spaces are for the public.

This government is undoing their own heritage of Progressive Conservative party governance of Conservation Authorities - they founded Conservation Authorities in 1946 and strengthened policies through the 1950s. PC's have been in power for about 47 years of Conservation Authority existence.

Why risk damaging that legacy after 73+ years?

We just had significant flooding in Ontario in spring 2019 when 23 municipalities and 1 First Nations community declared states of emergency.

This current PC government commissioned an EXCELLENT third-party Flood Strategy that clearly lays out what we should be doing next in Ontario re: flood management. It was a great first step and I was very happy to see the PC government working to develop this Flood Strategy.

But the same government hasn't developed any plans/funding to actually address Mr. McNeil's recommendations. They're stripping CA Regulatory powers through Bill 229 and have reduced provincial funding to CA's instead.

The playbook is right there and we're not following it.

I urge this government to please remove Schedule 6 and instead start building on the excellent work that they started with Mr. McNeil's report. We have an opportunity to continue to be international leaders in flood management and I don't want to see that opportunity squandered.

Thank you,

Graeme MacDonald