

Paul Galipeau
1-87 Melrose Ave
Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 2Y1

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

To whom it may concern:

I am a life-long Ontario resident. My family's roots in the province go back to the 1880s. I am also a former Parks Canada employee and a former member of the Rideau Trail Association's Board of Directors. I care about Ontario's natural environment, its inhabitants, flora & fauna.

With my submission today, I call on the Government of Canada to remove Schedules 6 & 8 from Bill 229.

Together, Schedules 6 & 8 of Bill 229 take away any control over the protection of our precious wetlands, forests, wildlife habitat and natural spaces from Conservation Authorities, and give huge new powers to developers to push through destructive projects.

Including these changes in a large budget bill that has an unrelated title dangerously discourages public engagement or consultation on these important issues - as is normally required on laws that impact the environment.

Conservation Authorities are integral to substantial and ongoing flood mitigation work that Ontarians depend on, provide precious land for outdoor recreation such as hiking and fishing and work to protect natural spaces that provide essential habitat for many species of Ontario's wildlife, including endangered species found in this great province. If we lose these spaces, we can't get them back.

Please remove Schedules 6 & 8 from Bill 229.

Thank you,

Paul Galipeau
Ottawa, Ontario