Full Authority 24 February 2022 Agenda Item: 10

CA Act Board Changes

Background

Bill 229 received Royal Assent on the 8th of December 2020. The bill made a number of changes to the Conservation Authorities Act. Included in these changes is the following:

Member from agricultural sector appointed

(4) In addition to the members of an authority appointed in accordance with subsections (1) to (2.1), an additional member may be appointed to the authority by the Minister as a representative of the agricultural sector. 2020, c. 36, Sched. 6, s. 2 (5).

Limitation on voting

(4.0.1) The member of an authority appointed under subsection (4) shall not vote on,

(a) a resolution to enlarge an authority's area of jurisdiction that is presented at a meeting called under section 10;

(b) a resolution to amalgamate an authority with another authority that is presented at a meeting called under section 11;

(c) a resolution to dissolve the authority that is presented at a meeting called under section 13.1; or

(d) a resolution relating to any budgetary matter that is presented at a meeting held under section 16. 2020, c. 36, Sched. 6, s. 2 (5)

Announcement

• On the 8th of February 2022, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks issued the following statement:

As you are aware, changes made to the Conservation Authorities Act in 2020 (subsection 14(4)) enable the Minister to appoint a member from the

agricultural sector to each conservation authority to increase agricultural sector perspectives in authority operations.

I am writing to inform you that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks has now posted job advertisements on the Public Appointments Secretariat website for the agricultural sector position for each of the thirtysix conservation authority memberships. The advertisements will be posted until February 21, 2022 and can be found at <u>Advertised Positions -</u> <u>Public Appointments Secretariat (gov.on.ca)</u>. We encourage you to share these postings locally and invite any individuals from your local agricultural sectors who may be interested and meet the qualifications listed in the advertisement to apply.

- The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) has confirmed they will be working with MECP to ensure an agricultural voice and perspective will be brought forward to the Board rooms of Conservation Authorities. The OFA has stated they believe it is important to be at the table with CAs since they care for the land, water and air and what it means for the environment and agriculture in Ontario.
- Minister Piccini has stated, "Farmers, rural property owners and other members of the agricultural community have an interest in the health and sustainability of the resources that support the agricultural sector, and are the best stewards of our environment."
- A zoom meeting with MECP representatives and the thirty-six conservation authorities will be held prior to the CVCA Board meeting to answer questions and concerns. A verbal update will be provided at the Board meeting on the 24th.