

In accordance with the notice and submission deadline requirements of Sections 18.1 (b) and 11.3, respectively, of Niagara Region's Procedural By-law, the Regional Clerk received from Councillor Augustyn a motion to be brought forward for consideration at the October 4, 2018 Council meeting respecting Niagara Region Representation on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board.

WHEREAS the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) is a Provincially mandated agency operating in the Region of Niagara, Haldimand County and the City of Hamilton, funded largely by the Region of Niagara;

WHEREAS the each of Niagara's 12 Cities, Towns and Township are collectors and contributors of public funds to the Region of Niagara, and, therefore, a contributor to the NPCA's funding;

WHEREAS the people of all municipalities represented on the NPCA Board deserve openness and accountability relating to how their tax dollars are being spent, how effectively our natural environment is being protected, and how representatives to the NPCA Board are appointed;

WHEREAS currently, 11 of the 12 Niagara members of the NPCA Board are municipal politicians who may not have the necessary conservation and environmental expertise suited to effectively serve on this important Board;

WHEREAS for the City of Hamilton, it has been the practice of their city council to appoint citizen representatives to the NPCA Board, thus highlighting the importance of the ability to provide appropriate knowledge, experience and expertise to the Board and establishing a precedent to support citizen appointment to the NPCA;

WHEREAS the Auditor General, in her September 27, 2018 report to the Ontario Legislative Assembly, recommended that "members of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors should collectively have the skills, experience and training necessary to oversee the NPCA's activities effectively" and that the "NPCA's funding municipalities [should] ensure that their Board appointment processes consider skills and experience requirements";

WHEREAS the informal, past practice of the Niagara Regional Council has been to offer a single appointment from each of the twelve local municipalities by: first, offering appointment to the Regional Councillor(s) or Mayor of the local municipality; and, second by a process that defaults to the local municipal Councillors; and then, finally, to citizen representation; (please see attached description from NPCA website); and

WHEREAS the majority of Council's across the Niagara Peninsula recently supported a formal appointment protocol that allows the local municipalities to seek applications for appointment to the NPCA Board and that a recommendation for appointment then be subsequently provided to the Region by the local municipalities

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Regional Council **ESTABLISH** a formal process for appointments to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board to request and permit each of Niagara's local municipalities to publicly advertise and make recommendations for appointment of a qualified and independent citizen with appropriate skills and expertise to represent their respective municipalities, to take effect following the 2018 municipal election, or immediately should a vacancy on the NPCA Board of Directors occur; and

That a copy of this resolution **BE FORWARDED** to the Auditor General of Ontario; Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; the current NPCA Board of Directors; Niagara MPPs; the City of Hamilton; Haldimand County; and Niagara Local Area Municipalities for information.