

November 19, 2025

Re: KCCA Board Resolution Re: Bill 68 and ERO Posting 025-1257

On October 31, 2025 the Ontario government announced plans to create a provincial board-governed agency, the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), to provide leadership, governance and strategic direction to Conservation Authorities. On November 6, Bill 68 “Plan to Protect Ontario Act” was released including Schedule 3 which outlines changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* to establish the OPCA. The Bill is currently in 3rd reading.

In addition, the Province is currently consulting on a proposal to consolidate 36 Conservation Authorities into 7 Regional CAs. The “Proposed Boundaries for Regional Consolidation of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities” (ERO #025-1257) is open for public consultation until December 22, 2025. Under this proposal Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA) would be consolidated into the Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority together with seven other CAs and encompass 81 municipalities. The new governance structure is proposed to be effective following the municipal elections in 2026.

KCCA’s Board of Directors considered the formation of the OPCA and regional CAs at its November 19, 2025 meeting and passed the attached motion.

The KCCA Board of Directors strongly encourages our member municipalities and partners to carefully evaluate the province’s proposal. The CA network was built on local resources, local knowledge and local decisions.

Local watershed management decisions and resources need to stay in the hands of local decision-makers.

Stakeholders are encouraged to provide comments through the posting [ERO #25-1257 Proposed boundaries for regional consolidations of Ontario’ Conservation Authorities](#), well in advance of the closing date December 22, 2025.

Sincerely,



Todd Noble
Chair, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority

Attached: KCCA Board Resolution, November 19, 2025

RESOLUTION RE: Conservation Authority Consolidation

Date: November 19, 2025
Resolution: FA112/2025
Moved by: Sam Trosow
Seconded by: Jim Herbert

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has posted Environmental Registry Notice No. 025-1257 (“Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities”), proposing to reduce Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities to 7 regional entities as part of a broader restructuring that would create a new Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency to provide centralized oversight and direction under the *Conservation Authorities Act*; and

AND WHEREAS under this proposal, the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority (KCCA) would be merged into a new “Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority” together with the: Essex Region, Lower Thames Valley CA, St. Clair Region CA, Upper Thames River CA, Catfish Creek CA, Long Point Region CA, and Grand River CA, forming a single organization stretching from Windsor, through London, Brantford and north of Waterloo region;

AND WHEREAS the Board acknowledges and supports the Province’s goals of improved efficiency, consistency and fiscal responsibility in conservation delivery, but find that the proposed “Lake Erie Region” configuration would create a geographically vast and administratively complex entity; dilute local accountability and municipal partnership; generate substantial transition costs, including human-resources integration, governance restructuring, IT migration and policy harmonization that would divert resources from the front-line service delivery making it hard for applicants to obtain timely local advice, resolve issues or expedite housing and infrastructure approvals that support the Province’s goals;

AND WHEREAS KCCA has always worked with its member municipalities, the province and partners to be fiscally responsible while ensuring the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources within the Kettle Creek watershed including modernizing its programs and services and aligning them with provincial guidance and neighbouring CAs and will continue to do so;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT KCCA Board of Directors does not support the proposed “Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority” boundary configuration outlined in the Environment Registry Notice 02-1257; and the Board instead requests that the Ministry engage directly with affected municipalities and conservation authorities to evaluate a reduced geographic scope for consolidation that better reflects established relationships and enhances cost-efficient delivery of integrated watershed management, grassroots connections and local understanding;

AND FINALLY THAT this resolution, be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment Conservation Parks, local members of Provincial Parliament, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, all municipalities and CAs within the proposed Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority and Conservation Ontario.

Carried