

May 6, 2004.

Honourable Gerry Phillips
Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet
Queen's Park, Management Board Secretariat
77 Wellesley Street West
12th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1N3

Letter also sent to:
David Ramsay, MNR
John Gerretsen

Dear Mr. Phillips:

**Re: Interest in North Oakville Lands owned by the
Ontario Realty Corporation**

It has come to Conservation Halton's attention that the Province of Ontario is considering retaining a portion of the lands currently owned by the Ontario Realty Corporation in North Oakville and South Milton for conservation protection. Oakville MPP Kevin Flynn has requested formal notification of our interest and willingness to accept the dedication of these lands.

The Conservation Halton Board of Directors met on April 29, 2004 and unanimously passed the following resolution:

THAT the Conservation Halton Board of Directors recognize the importance of the protection of the significant valley and tablelands associated with the Sixteen Mile Creek in the vicinity of North Oakville and South Milton as currently owned by the Ontario Realty Corporation;

AND FURTHER, THAT the Provincial Ministers of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs and Housing, as well as the Ontario Chair of Management Board of Cabinet be advised that, should the Province decide to exclude the Ontario Realty Corporation lands from urban development, Conservation Halton would be receptive to receiving ownership and managing lands currently owned by the Ontario Realty Corporation in North Oakville and South Milton associated with the valley and tableland areas of the Sixteen Mile Creek to ensure the long term protection of these significant lands;

AND FURTHER, THAT the Chair of the Board of Directors of Conservation Halton forward a letter advising the Provincial Ministers and the Ontario Chair of Management Board of the above, and that such letter be copied to the Mayor of the Town of Oakville, the Mayor of the Town of Milton, the Chair of the Region of Halton, the Chair of the Provincial Greenbelt Protection Task Force and the three Halton MPP's.

Since 1958, Conservation Halton has identified lands associated with the Sixteen Mile Creek for greenspace and conservation purposes. This includes lands in Oakville along the Sixteen Mile Creek in the vicinity of the hamlet of Glenorchy north of Highway 5 and south of Lower Base Line. These lands were also identified in early conservation reports, prepared by the Provincial

Government as an ideal candidate conservation area and given the name Glenorchy Conservation Area. The 1983 Interim Watershed Plan approved by Conservation Halton reconfirmed the interest in these lands.

Conservation Halton believes that the Province of Ontario has a great opportunity to create an environmental legacy in North Oakville by assisting in the protection of a significant natural heritage system associated with the Sixteen Mile Creek valley and surrounding lands. The natural heritage system provides a significant link to the Bronte, Sixteen Mile and Joshua's Creeks' valleys and acts as a spur off the provincial corridor associated with the Niagara Escarpment. The lands would also have the potential to create large forest tracts that would provide interior forest habitat and help retain areas of cultural meadow and related habitats. Such areas are generally difficult to protect and accommodate in a landscape that is slated for development. These types of habitats are rapidly being lost across Southern Ontario. The retention of such a large conservation protection area would have great value for wildlife habitat protection, recreation and the ecological integrity of natural landscapes.

Conservation Halton applauds the Government's current interest and pro-active approach for environmental protection in Ontario. The possible dedication of parklands in North Oakville would be a significant and bold step that would have enormous impacts for future generations.

Conservation Halton would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this matter further.

Yours truly,

Jean L. Williams
Chairman.

GH:mrl

ccs: Mayor Ann Mulvale, Town of Oakville, 1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville L6J 5A6
Mayor Gord Krantz, Town of Milton, 43 Brown Street, Milton L9T 4B6
Chair Joyce Savoline, Region of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville L6M 3L1
Mayor Rob Maclsaac, Chair of the Provincial Greenbelt Protection Task Force, City of Burlington, 426 Brant Street, Burlington L7R 3Z6
Mr. Kevin Flynn, MPP, 2330 Lakeshore Road West, Oakville L6L 1H3
Mr. Ted Chudleigh, MPP, 100-192 Main Street, Milton L9T 1N8
Mr. Cam Jackson, MPP, 460 Brant Street, Unit 19, Burlington L7R 4B6