

June 15, 2016

Mr. Brent McCurdy, Chief of Staff,
Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry,
Whitney Block, Room 6630,
99 Wellesley Street West,
Toronto, ON
M7A 1W3

RE: Water Level Management on the Muskoka Lakes

Dear Mr. McCurdy,

After what we believed was a good start to discussions on how to mitigate the risks of future flooding and damage to Muskoka Lakes' shoreline properties, we are disappointed to have progress sidelined by potential legal issues. This letter is to assure you that the Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA) is not a party to any pending legal action nor is it supportive of such a course of action at this time. We believe that the way forward is through collaborative and productive discussions. We stand ready to resume communications with you and your team as soon as this can be accomplished. If there is any action or assurance that we can provide to facilitate this, please let us know.

As we have discussed, the MLA wishes to accomplish protection for its shoreline property owner members through a three point action plan:

1. Lower water levels in Lake Muskoka, Lake Rosseau and Lake Joseph to the lower limits of their respective Normal Operating Zones by March 15th of each year until a new acceptable Muskoka River Water Management Plan (MRWMP) is implemented.
2. Initiate a process to revise the MRWMP as soon as possible.
3. Allow the MLA to be one of the participating parties to create the new MRWMP.

During our earlier discussions, we have received your support on point three, above. Prior to this hiatus, your commitment to ongoing discussions indicate support for reaching some solution to our points one and two. We would appreciate a written commitment to support these initiatives, since other forms of communications are currently not possible.

In our last meeting, you wanted to stay up to date on the findings of our damage survey. We have completed the analysis and had a final report ready to give you last week, when you delayed our meeting. This would be useful to your pursuit to resolving this material matter.

Looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Hart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Hart
President

Cc: Hon. Bill Mauro, MPP Thunder Bay-Atikokan
Hon. Kathryn McGarry, MPP Cambridge
Thinesh Varatharajah, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry
John Klinck, District Chair, District Municipality of Muskoka
Mayor Don Furniss, Township of Muskoka Lakes
Mayor Graydon Smith, Town of Bracebridge
Mayor Paisley Donaldson, Town of Gravenhurst
Mayor Bruce Gibbon, Township of Seguin