

Board of Directors Meeting Addendum

Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held by WebEx videoconference.

The meeting can be viewed live on HCA's You Tube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/HamiltonConservation

- 7. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence
 - 7.4.1. 52 Items of correspondence respecting the 2022 Election of Officers, labelled fp) to hn)

7.4 (fp)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Conservation, Not Exploitation

Date: January 25, 2022 6:17:42 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Marler** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Tue, Jan 25, 2022 at 4:26 PM Subject: Conservation, Not Exploitation To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a Hamilton Center resident and a new member of the HCA. I have read the recent letters to the "Spectator" voicing concern on the Stewardship and direction being taken by the Board, specifically the current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson who appears to confuse conservation with exploitation. I urge the electors to vote to change the course which the Chair is apparently so determined to steer despite the HCA's clear mission and vision statements.

David Marler Hamilton, ON

David Marler

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2T2

From:
To:
Jaime Tellier
Subject:
HCA Chair

Date: January 25, 2022 7:06:02 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

We know the value and importance of protecting our watershed. We need a Chair at the helm of the Conservation Authority that advocates for this.

A Chair that prioritises profit over conservation work is taking Hamilton in the wrong direction. Bulldozing wetlands and moving creeks, known as offsetting, disturbs natural systems in immeasurable ways and increases the risk we face with climate change. HCA staff have recommended against an offsetting policy and HCA needs a Chair that truly supports this.

Pressures on the watershed will remain but sound decision making that upholds the mandate of the Conservation Authority will help ensure a safe watershed. A Chair that thinks diverting sewage overflow to Ancaster Creek is in any form acceptable, an action which clearly goes against sound reasoning and science, has no place representing the HCA watershed.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF THE HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY SHOULD BE TO PRESERVE OUR WATERSHEDS NOT ADVOCATE FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION.

- 1) I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.
- 2) I support the election of a Chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CAs mandate.
- 3) I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Scott Stutter

Joe Stutter

Hamilton, Ontario L9H5J7

From: To:

Jaime Tellier

Subject: Saving Hamilton's water

Date: January 25, 2022 10:25:26 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Water has an intrinsic value all over the world. It's in the news everyday. Hamilton is blessed with many water features. All of which are valuable to humans and wildlife alike. As a turtle rehabber for hamilton I can see the effects of pollution in the turtles and all the challenges they have. I live on one if the eleven tributaries that feed Cootes paradise and it has been degraded heavily in the last ten years. Once running, albeit slowly for the first half of my 17 year home ownership, it now has no flow except after rainfall for five months now. This has a major impact on our wildlife and often in most vulnerable times. This kind of thing is widespread and needs a lot of attention to correct it. More development is never the answer. We are talking about the opportunity for a healthy ecopark here. Stop the short sighted behaviour before it's too late.

Caroline Thomson

Hamilton, Ontario L9h 5x1

From:
To: Jaime Tellier

Subject: #FREETHEWELL and Please remove Councillor Ferguson as Chair

Date: January 26, 2022 8:45:41 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

The Ancaster Well is NOT A SMALL DRINKING WATER SYSTEM – and you all know that.

Your board decision of Oct 5th 2017 was a lie to public - https://saveourspring.ca/hca-board-motion-re-ancaster.../

My experience with #FREETHEWELL and Save Our Spring was and still stands that the Arsenic Scare started by Lloyd Ferguson was intentional to make people believe the Well was not worth saving, in a successful effort to remove the land use restrictions for the surrounding properties as described in Bylaw 18-068 to open up old Hwy 99 for development. https://www.toronto.com/.../7516894-ancaster-coun-lloyd.../

The Ancaster Well belongs to the community of Ancaster and should never of been put behind bars. Are you going to allow greedy developers to take away a public water source from a community with contaminated streams?

Lloyd Ferguson is not the person to be leading the Hamilton Conservation Authority he is beholden to development and does not put the environment first. He needs to be removed from the Chair position on your Feb 3rd. vote.

Please VOTE OUT LLOYD FERGUSON and #FREETHEWELL

Many Thanks
Joanne Turnell
Ancaster Ontario

Joanne Turnell

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 1P1

From:
To: Jaime Tellier

Subject: Remove Lloyd Ferguson as Chair now.

Date: January 26, 2022 9:50:51 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

I am a homeowner, taxpayer and resident of the City of Hamilton and I have learned from a friend who lives in Ancaster about what has been happening there and it must be stopped.

I strongly encourage the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) to replace Mr. Lloyd Ferguson as Chair with someone else who does not have pro construction/anti conservation agenda. As a taxpayer, I vehemently oppose him sitting at the helm any longer. Hamilton deserves a Chair with a conservation agenda, as the organization's authority is over conservation, not construction.

I DO NOT support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on Feb 3, 2022.

Instead, I encourage you to elect a chair and vice chair who has not voted in favour of paving over wetlands and letting developers push them around.

I believe the HCA should work to preserve wetlands, not conspire against nature and work alongside developers looking to pave over them and replacing them with second class wetlands where they want them to be, just to act like they care.

Lloyd Ferguson has demonstrated his support for paving over wetlands and natural heritage and for that reason, he must be removed as Chair and actually removed from the Board entirely.

I expect members elected to the HCA Board, and especially the chair and vice chair, to listen to the HCA staff who are experts and have, themselves, a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, groundwater, biodiversity and environmental matters, in order to be elected to the Board.

I support Garner Marsh and will not stand by and watch it be destroyed by the likes of Mr. Ferguson and One Properties etc. and folks like them.

Merrilea Shields

Hamilton, Ontario L8P2B3

From:
To:

Jaime Tellier

Subject: Hamilton Conservation Authority Chairman position.

Date: January 26, 2022 1:48:23 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

We are Tom and Teresa St. Michael. We live at which has been in my wife's family for over sixty (60) years. Teresa was born and raised in Greenside acres, while I spent my childhood growing up in Spring Valley. We both had the absolute good fortunate of have conservation areas at the end of our streets.

We are not pleased with the present Hamilton Conservation Authority chairman, Councillor Lloyd Ferguson. He is definitely pro development over conservation.

The Garner Road Marsh is a registered watershed area and is protected by the HCA. It should not be ruined for the sake of a developer looking to build a warehouse. Warehouses belong in Industrial Parks. Build it there.

The provincial government has decided the term for the HCA chair can be extended. Premier Ford also took it upon himself to enact an offsetting policy whereby conservation areas can be poached by greedy developers.

Councillor Ferguson is not a friend of conservation, therefore he is not the person to sit as the chairman overseeing our beautiful nature that is so precious and dear to all who have enjoyed it. We have kids and three gandkids who have also grown to appreciate the wonder of everything the HCA has to offer.

Last time I looked as I drove into Ancaster on HWY # 403 from Brantford, was a large green side with the message ' YOU ARE ENTERING THE GREEN BELT'. Well, let's make sure someone like Councillor Ferguson isn't allowed to use the chairman seat to ruin what we have with his attitude of development over conservation.

Respectfully,

Tom and Teresa St. Michael

Tom St. Michael

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 2E2

From:
To:
Jaime Tellier
Subject:
Election of HCA chair
Date:
January 26, 2022 3:21:13 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Allan Buck and it has been brought to my attention that Lloyd Ferguson is seeking re election as chair of HCA. Mr Ferguson,s track record as chair of HCA., I would characterize as the proverbial fox in the hen house. Please choose someone who respects the environment more then development. Thank You.

Allan Buck

Hamilton, Ontario L8M 3G2

From:
To:
Subject:
Jaime Tellier
Protect the Streams

Date: January 26, 2022 8:42:43 PM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello,

Hamilton councilors declared a climate emergency just a few years ago. The development of our wetlands will cause irreversible damage to the environment. Wetlands and streams are crucial for preventing flooding, and preserving biodiversity. The natural water systems of this land are sacred to Indigenous Peoples. Hamilton citizens have been fighting for climate justice for years. We are waiting to see our councilors take action to protect the land and water. Do not develop our marshes, wetlands, streams, nor any sensitive ecosystem. There is a better way, and we need to go in the right direction.

Akira Ourique

Hamilton, Ontario L8L5P2

From:
To:

Jaime Tellier

Subject: Election for Chair of the HCA Board, February 3, 2022

Date: January 27, 2022 7:01:26 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

As a long-time resident of Hamilton (43 years), I know that we have a hidden gem here. Most outsiders used to think only of a polluted Hamilton. The HCA provides so much green space for citizens to enjoy the outdoors! (During the pandemic, we all know that that many from within and beyond Hamilton, have discovered the HCA!)

I MOST DEFINITELY do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

Hamiltonians deserve a chair who has a proven track record of defending our watershed and natural heritage, and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CA"s mandate.

Hamiltonians expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Please elect a Chair for the HCA Board who will responsibly represent so many who have discovered and embraced the outdoors, for enjoyment and mental health!

Kathy Weber

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 1N3

From: To:

Jaime Tellier

Subject: Time for new leadership at HCA

Date: January 27, 2022 11:19:46 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

To Ms.Jaime Tellier it's important to have a chair that is for conservation

Susan Lock

Burlington, Ontario L7L2M2

From: <u>nature</u>
To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: FW: Regarding Councillor Llloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA

Date: January 27, 2022 2:42:35 PM

Please see below.

Randall Kovacs Reception Hamilton Conservation Authority Phone: 905-525-2181 ext 100



A Healthy Watershed for Everyone

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From: Valerie Gardner

Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 2:05 PM

To: nature < nature@conservationhamilton.ca>

Subject: Regarding Councillor Llloyd Ferguson as Chair of the HCA

To Whom It May Concern,

As current members of the HCA, we are writing with our concern about Councillor Ferguson's position as the Chair of the HCA.

Given his conflict-of-interest record, as outlined by Margaret Shkimba, writing in the Hamilton Spectator, on January 18, 2022, we ask the Board not to renew Councillor Ferguson's position as Chair, at your annual meeting on February 3, 2022.

Sincerely,

Peter Miller and Valerie Gardner

Stoney Creek, ON

7.4 (ga)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Change in leadership at the Hamilton Conservation Authority

Date: January 31, 2022 8:26:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chris Cardey** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 2:59 PM

Subject: Change in leadership at the Hamilton Conservation Authority

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Mr Brad Clark and Mr Powers - Hamilton Conservation Authority
I am writing to both of you to urge your fellow HCA board members to bring in new leadership at the HCA. The current chair does not appear to be focused on environmental issues but rather development issues. This was quite evident in the Garner Road Wetlands issue. The mission of the HCA is "To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature" and the focus of the HCA is to ensure "A healthy watershed for everyone". We need an individual to lead the HCA who has a record of protecting the environment vs taking action against it. In Feb 2021 when the issue of electing a new chair takes place please vote for the environment!

Thank you,

Chris Cardey

Hamilton

Chris Cardey

Hamilton, Ontario L8P4Z4

7.4 (gb)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Chair change needed at HCA

Date: January 31, 2022 8:26:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jane Sianchuk

Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 3:18 PM Subject: Chair change needed at HCA To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Jane Sianchuk and I have lived in Hamilton all of my 61 years. I was very shocked to learn that the HCA is no longer trying to protect our natural environment and the water that sustains us all. I thought this was why conservation authorities were created. It is time the HCA returns to their original mandate and remove Mr. Ferguson as chair. Our world is in crisis and we need to start caring more for nature and the environment around us. Our children deserve a future they can live in.

Jane Sianchuk

Hamilton, Ontario L8M 3G7

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: HCA Chairs need a strong conviction to support the environment. Ferguson does not have it.

Date: January 31, 2022 8:28:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: James Quinn

Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 3:45 PM

Subject: HCA Chairs need a strong conviction to support the environment. Ferguson does not

have it.

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a professor of biology. Beyond my ecological research, I teach courses in ecology and evolution as well as conservation biology. As a citizen living in Hamilton for over 20 years I am also aware of and concerned about the grip that developers have on many decision-makers in Hamilton city council and, sadly, on the board of the HCA.

I must say that it infuriates me to hear the current Chair of the HCA board disagreeing with most of the other board members and dismissing the importance of protecting wetlands while making statements about needing to increase tax dollars and jobs. This is a short-sighted view that is entirely consistent with Mr. Ferguson's positions on City Council, where he is not representing the natural world or the long-term wellbeing of Hamiltonians. This is not the right person to chair the HCA's board, where the mandate is not about jobs and money, except indirectly because of the extraordinarily important ecosystem services and biodiversity supported by our wetlands.

Please select your Chair and Vice-chair with the mandate of the Conservation Authority at the front of mind. If you do this, we will have a much better chance for the effective management of watersheds and natural areas that are under the authority of the HCA.

James Quinn

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3H5

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: It is time for new leadership at the Hamilton Conservation Authority

Date: January 31, 2022 8:29:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Luigia DeDivitiis < info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 3:57 PM

Subject: It is time for new leadership at the Hamilton Conservation Authority

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Since my husband and I bought a house and moved to Hamilton 9 years ago, I have maintained my concern for the local environment. I am confused and upset by some of the Hamilton Conservation Authority resent actions such as, drafting an offset policy.

Clearly, it is time for better leadership at the Hamilton Conservation Authority. Councilor Ferguson's record on issues of the natural environment has not shown him to be committed to the conservation and restoration of the little nature we have left. In fact his record on matters like the Cootes Paradise contamination and the Spencer Creek overflow pipe show quite the opposite. At voting time please remember your responsibilities to the water, land and natural habitats and choose a new chair. Do not vote for Councilor Ferguson.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for give this important matter you attention.

Luigia DeDivitiis

Hamilton, Ontario L8M 3G2

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Not in favour of Re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of HCA

Date: January 31, 2022 8:30:09 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Geoffrey Honey** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 7:12 PM

Subject: Not in favour of Re-election of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of HCA

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, I am Geoffrey Honey, living in Bartonville in Hamilton. Our family are HCA pass holders. I have been extremely disturbed by Lloyd Ferguson's reluctance to listen to and advocate for and follow HCA staff recommendations against offsetting the Garner Rd. wetland. Mr. Ferguson just does not understand the fundamentals of wetlands. They are like old growth forests. They can't be "offset". If they are offset, they are destroyed. The fact that Mr. Ferguson argued against staff recommendations shows his total lack of understanding of how crucial wetlands and preserved watersheds are in dealing with climate change challenges, species preservation, flood control and biodiversity.

I support ONLY the election of HCA chair and vice chair who have NOT voted in favor of wetland offsetting. A true conservationist would be fighting to protect our diminishing wetlands and marshes. That is what I want for our grandchildren who live in Delta East. I think it is essential that any board member, especially the Chair or Vice Chair, have at least a fundamental or basic understanding of the vital role that Wetlands, Watersheds, Flood Management and Biodiversity have in protecting water quality and quantity for our future generations!

Thank you for considering my views,

Geoffrey Honey

Hamilton ON L8K 2Z8

Geoffrey Honey

Hamilton, Ontario L8K 2Z8

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Who will protect our watershed?

Date: January 31, 2022 8:30:31 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sharon Hall**

Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 6:38 AM

Subject: Who will protect our watershed? To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Sharon Hall and I am a resident of Hamilton. I am writing to share my concern regarding the upcoming election. I want you to know that I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of chair of the HCA Board at the AGM on Feb 3, 2022.

We require a chair and vice chair who has not voted in favour of any offsetting schemes. It is essential to have strong leadership focussed on conservation.

The community you serve expect that members elected to the HCA Board, and especially the chair and vice chair, listen to the expert HCA staff and have, themselves, a basic knowledge and understanding of watersheds, wetlands, groundwater, biodiversity and environmental matters in order to be elected to the Board. Please consider the bigger picture.

The decisions you make today will have consequences for years and generations to come. Will you stand up for protection and do your part? Much depends on this. This is so important. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sharon Hall

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3T8

7.4 (gg)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair

Date: January 31, 2022 8:30:51 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Wallis**

Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 9:50 AM

Subject: HCA Chair

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello My Name is David.

I am a long-time resident of Ancaster/West Hamilton. I wish to voice my concern of the current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson remaining in this role in future. It is evident through many of his actions and public statements he is not as strong on the mandate or culture of HCA. I am particularly concerned about his support of moving wetlands in order to accommodate warehouses and revenue. I think HCA's mandate should always reflect what is good for nature and conservation first. I also found his recent comments about the public just needing to learn more or not understanding of wetlands and moving them - to be arrogant and condescending to those of us that do follow the environment. Sincerely,

David Wallis, Ancaster, ON

David Wallis

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 0A3

To Whom it May Concern,

I wish to add my thoughts to the many which have been voiced regarding the upcoming vote for the Chair of the HCA.

I feel compelled to voice my considerable dismay to think there could be any possibility that the present Chairperson, Lloyd Ferguson, could be given the remotest consideration for continuing in this role.

Mr.Ferguson has consistently voted in such a way as to undermine the Board's mandate in favour of jobs, tax revenue, and developers. It has become evident that Mr.Ferguson is incapable of distinguishing between his role as City Councillor for Ancaster and his role as Chairperson for the Authority's Board, and that he values and inordinately favours his role as Councillor to the neglect of his responsibilities as Board Chairperson.

He has even gone so far as to propose an offsetting policy that would undermine the Authority's effectiveness while, at the same time, enhance the ambitions of developers.

In no uncertain way should Mr. Ferguson be allowed to pursue, as Authority Chairperson, his obvious pro-developer, anti-environmental agenda.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns,

Mr. Brian Fisher

Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Wetlands are vital to our environment

Date: January 31, 2022 8:31:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Heather Gregersen** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 2:28 PM

Subject: Wetlands are vital to our environment To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Heather. I have a keen interest in the preservation of habitat for species, especially those at risk. I know how vital swamps are for regulating water. Conservation Authorities should conserve nature, not destroy it. The chair and members should be knowledgeable about environment, species at risk, climate change (ie global heating). Please make a very careful selection of the next Chair.

Heather Gregersen

Hamilton, Ontario L8T 1T5

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>
Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA

Date: January 31, 2022 8:31:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Gill** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 10:03 PM

Subject: Chair of HCA

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, my name is Michael Gill and I am a long time resident of Hamilton.

I am writing to express that I do not support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

I believe that the mandate of the HCA is to conserve and protect the waters, wetlands, and parks in Hamilton. Chair Lloyd Ferguson's actions have demonstrated that he does not have the interests of those protections at heart. When the public must curtail the actions of the Chair in order to protect the very resources that the Conservation Authority has the responsibility of managing, clearly something is wrong.

The public relies on the HCA to perform it's job and function and instead we find ourselves stepping in to prevent the actions of the Chair from damaging the environment.

Chair Lloyd Ferguson does not have the support of this member of the public.

- Michael Gill

Michael Gill

Hamilton, Ontario L9B 1B3

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: HCA Board members election **Date:** January 31, 2022 8:32:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Teodora Filipova** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Fri, Jan 28, 2022 at 11:44 PM Subject: HCA Board members election To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, I hold a Masters degree in ecology and forestry and I petition for HCA Board members to be elected on the Board only if they possess basic knowledge and understanding of biodiversity and environmental matters. Once elected, adherence to expert's recommendations is a must in order to preserve the already fragile ecosystem Thank you!

Teodora Filipova

Hamilton, Ontario L8s3w2

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Time for a change at HCA (Lloyd Ferguson the fox on the henhouse)

Date: January 31, 2022 8:32:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Virginia HAWTHORNE**Date: Sat, Jan 29, 2022 at 1:36 PM

Subject: Time for a change at HCA (Lloyd Ferguson the fox on the henhouse)

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, This letter is from Virginia and John Hawthorne long time residents of the Flamborough area . The articles written in the Hamilton Spectator have brought to our attention the concerns regarding Mr. Fergusons pro development ideas which are a real conflict of interest with the conservation of the environment. Between Doug Ford's pro development ideas and

Lloyd Fergusons ideas concerning the conservation of environmental land including the greenbelt could easily be paved over.

Elect a fighter for the environment as you next chair PLEASE!!!!

Virginia HAWTHORNE

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories L8B 0B8

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Please save Hamilton's eco-sensitive wetlands for the future generations

Date: January 31, 2022 8:33:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jason Sheldon** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Sat, Jan 29, 2022 at 6:16 PM

Subject: Please save Hamilton's eco-sensitive wetlands for the future generations

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello, my name is Jason. I am a non-status by choice, Anishinaabe man. As an Indigenous person within Canada who just turned 50 years old, I've seen how industrial and residential development has had negative impacts on cities and the citizens. I have lived in Ontario most of my life. I remember when most of Mississauga was farm land. Now it is a growing metropolis that is car centric for most who live there. I have lived in Hamilton for close to 20 years, in that time I have seen sub-divisions and surveys created out of farm lands, 4 acre box store plazas that many can't access because the distance to walk is too far for tired or disabled people. Transit plans are only beginning to catch up. It will likely take Hamilton 15-20 more years to extend transit services to the city limits as things stand today.

What I would like anyone who reads this message to consider is this:

What will Hamilton look like for your Grandchildren? Their Children? Will it be a place that they will be proud to live in, to call home? Or will it just be another part of the always growing GHTA? A metropolis within a greater metropolis.

Will these Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren be able to afford living there? How will their lives be impacted by the decisions of whomever Chairs the HCA? Will they make the right decisions for the following generations, or will they side with economic advancement no matter the cost to your family?

ALL of Hamilton was once wetlands, I was taught in Burlington Central High School that Hamilton harbour is (was?) the largest land fill in North America. Much of the lower city sits upon slag from the Steel Mills and whatever they could dredge from the waterways. My people the Anishinaabe, had a name for Hamilton that is millennia old, the translation of it to English is "The marshy place of snakes". Please don't let the corporate snakes ruin the beauty and majesty of Hamilton and it's greenspaces. Ensure that whomever you vote for the Chair of HCA is someone you'd trust with your families future. Because it will.

Jason Sheldon

7.4 (gn)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Conservation needed **Date:** January 31, 2022 8:33:48 PM

----- Forwarded message ------

From: **Chris Lucas** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Sun, Jan 30, 2022 at 9:50 AM Subject: Conservation needed

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

This man does not care about protecting the environment - he is against the Lrt and stopping sprawl - he should not be part of the conservation board

Chris Lucas

Hamilton, Ontario L8R 3B7

From: <u>Save our Streams Hamilton</u>

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Destruction of wetlands. **Date:** February 1, 2022 10:03:26 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brian Ramirez** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Sun, Jan 30, 2022 at 10:33 AM Subject: Destruction of wetlands.

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

The natural environment should not need an excuse to continue to exist every time someone wants to destroy parts of it, as by now, the average person, especially those who hold public office, should know the importance of conserving it. As a constituent of Hamilton, I would like to see our Conservation Chair be a more suitably concerned and qualified officer. Thank you.

Brian Ramirez

Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1P6

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Feb 3/22 HCA meeting

Date: February 1, 2022 10:03:46 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ed Zacharewski

Date: Sun, Jan 30, 2022 at 12:10 PM Subject: Feb 3/22 HCA meeting

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

i am writing to you today to express my opposition to the re-election of Lioyd Ferguson as HCA chair. While many other have pointed to his advocacy for certain initiatives , i would like to remind the Board of his position regarding the Chedoke Creek sewage spill. His unapologetic defence of the deceit, negligence and breach of trust make him unfit to hold this office or any other public position.

As a long time resident of Hamilton, i urge you all to recommit the HCA to the principles of conservation and restoration, principles that so many of my fellow citizens value

Thank you for your attention to this . I will be watching with great interest.

Regards

Ed Zacharewski

Ed Zacharewski

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 3W2

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Chair of HCA Board of Directors

Date: February 1, 2022 10:04:02 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Margaret Tremblay < info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Date: Sun, Jan 30, 2022 at 5:09 PM

Subject: re: Chair of HCA Board of Directors To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Dear Members of the HCA Board of Directors,

My name is Margaret Tremblay and I am a long time resident of Hamilton. Our family has supported the HCA for many years. I am writing to request that a new chair who is strongly committed to the goals and responsibilities of the mandate of the HCA to protect and preserve the watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage of our conservation areas be chosen.

Current Chair, Lloyd Ferguson, has demonstrated that he puts development, tax revenue and jobs as his prime focus over the health and preservation of this natural heritage. This is contrary to the very mandate of the conservation authority. For the health of all of us, we cannot afford to damage these precious watersheds. They are not replaceable.

Be brave, be bold and select a new chair who has demonstrable experience in preserving watershed areas. Ensure all board members have knowledge of wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage. The consequences of not protecting the escarpment and watershed areas are devastating.

Respectfully,
Margaret Tremblay

Margaret Tremblay

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 4P5

7.4 (gr)

mary Tysolale and Dundas, ON-

Mrs. Jaime Tellier JAN 3 1 2022 H. E.a. P.O-Box 8167 838 Mineral Springs Rd.

ancaster, ON. To the Hamelton Conservation availy This letter is regarding filling a chair, Freb 3, 2022 Lloyd Ferguson, who was on the board for construction in The past and by association with the development maybe given the shair. It begs the question, why should Su be given itnis chair. Lioyd Jurguion has shown the people of samueton his attempth to cover up this horrefic massive containment of Cooter Paradies, and some lawyer sided with firm,

To H.C.A.

Sad as it is some don't have the equivite love of nature around us, and befor you realize this very needed wonder has duappeard.

members of the Hamilton Conservatory achority please look for someone with leadership look for someone with leadership natural quality to protect the natural inviornment and the water which in important.

Thank you.

Mary Tysdale

7.4 (gs)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>
Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair

Date: February 1, 2022 10:05:17 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Judy West** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 9:24 AM

Subject: HCA Chair

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am a lifetime resident of Hamilton/Dundas and would like

a Chair that does not prioritize profit over conservation. The current chair is taking Hamilton in the wrong direction. I have heard there is a proposal to Bulldoze wetlands and move the course of creeks, known as offsetting, which will disturbnatural systems in immeasurable ways and increases the risk we face with climate change. Have we learned nothing in the last 30+years?! These mistakes are irreparable. HCA staff have recommended against an offsetting policy and HCA needs a Chair that supports this.

Sound decision making that upholds the mandate of the Conservation Authority will help ensure a safe watershed. We need a Chair that is focused solely on representing the HCA watershed

Judy West

Hamilton, Ontario L9A 2M6

From: <u>Save our Streams Hamilton</u>

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Lloyd Ferguson must resign.

Date: February 1, 2022 10:04:21 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: martyn kendrick < info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 10:46 AM Subject: Lloyd Ferguson must resign. To: <saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

we need a Conservation Chair to speak for not against the restoration of our wetland. He must resign. He is untrustworthy.

Martyn Kendrick, Writer, Artist, Hamiltonian

martyn kendrick

Hamilton, Ontario L8N 1E3

From: <u>Lisa Burnside</u>
To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>
Subject: FW: HCA Leadership

Date: January 31, 2022 2:43:58 PM

From: thomas beckett

Sent: January 31, 2022 12:19 PM

To: Lisa Burnside <Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca> >

Subject: HCA Leadership

HCA Leadership

In the next few days the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board will have the opportunity to elect a new chairman. While I do not question Lloyd Ferguson's integrity and sincerity, I do question his philosophy on conservation.

The Chairman of the HCA must always be a person dedicated to the Board's principles of conservation and have a working knowledge of how these principles apply to the immediate world around us.

I was Chairman of the Authority during the late 50s and early 60s and had I found myself in conflict with my own staff advisors I would have deemed it necessary to step aside so the Authority could advance a unified view on the conservation issues facing it.

The HCA has become a controversial organization when this need not and should not be. It's time for a change in its leadership.

Thomas A Beckett, QC Dundas

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: HCA Chair for Conservation

Date: February 1, 2022 10:04:45 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sue Markey** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 12:31 PM Subject: HCA Chair for Conservation

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

To the Hamilton Conservation Authority Board.

My name is Sue Markey. I am a retired teacher and live in Hamilton.

I am writing to urge you not to re-elect Chair Lloyd Ferguson to Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

My concern is not focused on him as a person, but on his actions in interfering with the conservation's mandate by supporting development in Hamilton's watershed. Given the loss of so many wetlands and that we are in a climate crisis, it is vital that the HCA Board elect a person who has experience, knowledge and commitment to preserving watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

I expect that members elected to the HCA Board, especially the Chair, have a basic knowledge in all these important interconnected areas of our environment.

Sincerely,

Sue Markey

Sue Markey

Hamilton, Ontario L8M 2V2

7.4 (gw)

From: <u>Save our Streams Hamilton</u>

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: New Chairperson

Date: February 1, 2022 10:05:02 AM

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Glenn Meldrum < info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 12:33 PM

Subject: New Chairperson

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Glenn Meldrum. I live in Dundas, Ontario. I do not support the re-election of the Chair, Lloyd Ferguson. We need someone to protect wetlands and not cave to builders. Thank you.

Glenn Meldrum

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 6A6

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: HCA Member - Not in Support of Cllr Lloyd Ferguson as Chair

Date: February 1, 2022 10:05:38 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Danica Evering** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Mon, Jan 31, 2022 at 8:17 PM

Subject: HCA Member - Not in Support of Cllr Lloyd Ferguson as Chair

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

My name is Danica Evering and I am a resident of East Hamilton. I love the HCA's spaces and trails and our family has a HCA membership.

I want to encourage you not to support the re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson to the position of Chair of the HCA Board at the Annual General Meeting on February 3, 2022.

Cllr Ferguson has shown that he does not understand the sensitivity of the ecosystems the HCA is responsible for stewarding. By prioritizing profits, bulldozing wetlands, and redirecting creeks, Ferguson has demonstrated limited understanding of the science of watersheds. As climate change progresses, and the wetlands and watersheds the HCA is responsible to requires a Chair who will put biodiversity, flood control, and the preservation of species first.

These ecosystems do not grow back easily. Much as I enjoy spending time in HCA parks, I feel a responsibility to these natural spaces and the species which inhabit them, which are important to keep alive now and for future generations to come. As a taxpayer and member of the HCA, I expect the Board and Chair to defer to science and understand the critical importance of watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity and natural heritage.

Danica Evering

Hamilton, Ontario L8H 2T7

7.4 (gy)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>
Subject: New Chair

Date: January 31, 2022 8:49:08 PM

Name: Wendy Cleaver

Email:

Message: We must preserve our watersheds and wetlands and not turn them into industrial parks!

We do not support re-election of Chair Lloyd Ferguson. We need someone who has a deep interest in defending our watershed and natural heritage and not interfering with natural hazards at the core of a CA.s mandate. We also expect that members elected to the HCA board have a basic knowledge of wetlands, watersheds, biodiversity and natural heritage. Thank you

Subject: Vote in a Conservarion Chair responsible FOR wetlands

Date: February 2, 2022 8:32:55 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello.

I am Gerten Basom and have lived in Ancaster since 1980. I am a member of the Hamilton Naturalists Club as well as being a Master Naturalist and have long understood the crucial importance of wetlands and conservation of them.

Simply put, we can not afford to lose any more wetlands let alone the areas which are heads of wetlands. To build over these wetlands is pure insanity and irresponsibility to all and future generations.

I urge you on Februrary 3rd to choose a Chair person who supports wetlands for conservation in the true fashion in which a Conservation Authority should. Lloyd Ferguson is not a person who should be sitting on such a board. He has long shown us all that development is more important to him over any form of conservation. Please vote responsibility and replace him!

Sincerely, Gerten Basom

Gerten Basom

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 3L1

7.4 (ha)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Wetland conservation **Date:** February 1, 2022 5:58:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Frances Murray

Date: Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 11:09 AM Subject: Wetland conservation

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I live in Ward 2 in the City of Hamilton.

It is so important to conserve our few remaining natural areas, and we require a HCA board that prioritizes this goal above the needs of business. Business and the economy will always have a larger appetite for destruction than nature can provide. Humans are finally waking up to this reality.

Please vote for a Chair who understands the concept of conservation.

Frances Murray

Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3L5

7.4 (hb)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: Jaime Tellier
Subject: Fwd: New HCA chair
Date: February 1, 2022 5:59:10 PM

----- Forwarded message ------

From: **Summer Thomas** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 1:07 PM

Subject: New HCA chair

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

To whom it may concern,

As a young community member I think it is well past time a new chair was elected for the HCA board. Lloyd Ferguson may boast that no wetlands have been destroyed during his time as chair, but as one of the delegates at the offsetting policy meeting I recall him being "very disappointed" in staff for not recommending paving over the locally significant garner marsh, and his clearly evident development-first mindset that took precedent over the protection of Hamilton's natural heritage. I encourage board members to stand up to this bully and push for a new chair who will put local ecology first.

Thank you,

Summer Thomas

Summer Thomas

Hamilton, Ontario L9G3B1

7.4 (hc)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Time for a Pro Conservation Change in Leadership

Date: February 1, 2022 5:59:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kathie Clark

Date: Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 2:00 PM

Subject: Time for a Pro Conservation Change in Leadership

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

As a resident of rural Ancaster who lives near the Garner Road wetlands, I am writing to urge the HCA Board of Directors to elect a new Chair on Feb. 3. The HCA needs a Chair who is pro-conservation and not an advocate for development. It is time for a change in HCA leadership.

Sincerely

Kathie Clark

Kathie Clark

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 3L1

7.4 (hd)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Change the Chair

Date: February 1, 2022 5:59:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ruth Pickering** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 4:01 PM

Subject: Change the Chair

To: < saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com>

- SOS Hamilton,

I am an 83 year old grandmother who despairs over the future we are leaving everyone's children. The Conservation Authorities provide many services (flood control, maintenance of endangered species, protection of swamplands, and many more). It is vital to have the HCA Chair be someone who values the work of the Conservation Authorities.

Ruth Pickering

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 2R5

7.4 (he)

From: Save our Streams Hamilton

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Fwd: Election of a new Chair of the HCA Board on February 3, 2022

Date: February 1, 2022 6:00:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Eileen Booty** < <u>info@email.actionnetwork.org</u>>

Date: Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 4:05 PM

Subject: Election of a new Chair of the HCA Board on February 3, 2022

To: <<u>saveourstreamshamilton@gmail.com</u>>

- SOS Hamilton,

Hello,

My name is Eileen Booty. I'm a long time supporter and promoter of the glorious trails of the HCA. I am very interested in seeing an individual elected to the board who has expertise and understanding of the delicate, yet powerful cycle of nature which contributes to the health of our biosphere for today, and for many generations to come.

Such an individual will need courage, passion and above all -wisdom- in order to defend and protect our natural land heritage.

It is time to step up and do the right thing. We are running out of time!

Thank you, Eileen Booty

Eileen Booty

Hamilton, Ontario L9G1A7

From:

To: <u>Jaime Tellier</u>

Subject: Opposition to reelection of Lloyd Ferguson as Chair of HCA.

Date: February 2, 2022 7:08:56 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello, I am a resident of Dundas and long-term member and user of the HCA Conservation properties. I believe in the importance of the HCAs wetland preservation and stewardship role and believe that the leadership of the HCA should be advocates and leaders in that cause. While I appreciate that the interests of many stakeholders must be considered in land management matters, it is essential that the HCA view its central function as conservation advocacy. Statements made by Mr Ferguson suggest that he is not primarily such an advocate and he should not be reelected as Chairman.

Lawrence Masterman

Hamilton, Ontario L9H2R5

Subject: HCA Chair Election - Time For a NEW Chairperson

Date: February 2, 2022 8:36:53 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Hello. My name is John Strong and I live in Ward 8 in Hamilton.

I have been following the HCA for some time and am dissatisfied with the performance of the current chairperson, Lloyd Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson has expressed views contrary to the mission of the HCA on several occasions, the most recent being his position on an "offsetting policy". His position often appears to be in support of enabling developers to "pave over" critical natural features.

He also has reportedly berated/bullied the HCA staff members who delivered a professional report that recommended that an "offsetting policy" would not be appropriate for the HCA to adopt.

My preference would be for the HCA Board members to select a NEW CHAIRPERSON to lead this important agency.

The HCA Chairperson should be free of any connection to the development/construction industry, as there may be a bias (or appearance of bias) in their actions. Also, the chair of any board needs to have and show the utmost respect for the professional staff members who work for the HCA, even if/when they don't agree with staff recommendations.

Thanks for your consideration of my email,

John Strong

John Strong

Hamilton, Ontario L9B 1L3

Subject: A Conservation Chair that"s actually for conservation

Date: February 2, 2022 9:05:52 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Good morning,

I'm a resident and homeowner in Dundas Ontario and work in the field of Architecture. Over the past I've seen questionable standpoints and actions from the current HCA Chair. I am writing to implore council to stand by your mandate, replace Cllr Ferguson if his true interests lie elsewhere. During a climate crisis, we have a responsibility to first conserve our ecosystem, our wildlife, clean water and air, for now and future generations. We should be endeavouring to find solutions to other problems while still prioritizing conservation (even if this means learning to make sacrifices of convenience, or of luxury/profit). I trust you will all do the right thing.

Thanks,

Jill

Jill Tonini

Hamilton, Ontario L9H4H1

Subject: Conservation-Oriented Chair Required Date: February 2, 2022 9:07:03 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Rita Giulietti. I've been advocating for the environment for many years including as a member of the Friends of the Eramosa Karst. Protecting the environment requires leaders who don't have a vested interest in development and who are not afraid to stand up to developers who would destroy precious wetlands. Please choose a new chair who meets that standard as a bare minimum. We cannot continue to irreversibly damage our environment through "development as usual".

Best Regards, Rita Giulietti

Rita Giulietti

Hamilton, Ontario L8J 2S4

From:
To:
Jaime Tellier
Subject:
New Chair Needed!!

Date: February 2, 2022 9:41:02 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

As a Hamilton resident who frequently visits and promotes the HCA to family and friends - it's time for Councillor Lloyd Ferguson to go and some new leadership to Chair the HCA to come on board! Hamiltonians overwhelming support no urban sprawl and our conservation lands need to be "conserved"!

Liane Carruthers

Hamilton, Ontario L9C 7R4

From:
To: Jaime Tellier
Subject: Our streams

Date: February 2, 2022 9:43:04 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

Our streams are a meter of the health or sickness of our environment I will be watching and so will many of our fellow citizens. Councilor Ferguson has no credentials to make environmental changes to this habitat.nd in your own words tell the HCA why it's important to have a Chair that's for conservation. [DELETE this Tip before sending]

Sandro Giulietti

Oakville, Ontario L6L 1G6

From:
To:
Subject:

Chair of the HCA

Date: February 2, 2022 10:18:49 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

I am a local resident of Ancaster living on a farm on Trinity Road. We are trying to maintain our farm in a way that respects the environment and protects the water courses that run through our property (part of the Brant Conservation Area). Although we are not directly affected by decisions made by the HCA, we are very concerned by the pro development statements made by the current chair, Lloyd Ferguson. The chair should be an advocate for "conservation" not development. I urge the board to elect someone else as chair at your upcoming meeting. Malcolm Clark

Malcolm Clark

Hamilton, Ontario L9G 3L1

From: To:

Jaime Tellier
Stop killing our future

Subject: Date:

February 2, 2022 10:40:45 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Ryan and I grew up in Dundas, pretty much the luckiest place in southern Ontario when it come to wild space. What we have done to not only the Hamilton area but this whole country in the name of progress without any thought of our future is shameful.

Lloyd Ferguson is another sad example in human history where jobs(in his opinion) are more important than life on earth. The science is clear and we don't need another warehouse beside an airport. We should be expanding wild spaces not killing them.

Please go work for a greedy corporation Lloyd and leave conservation to people that care.

Ryan Stahlbaum

Hamilton, Ontario L9H 2N4

Subject: It"s time for a new Chair

Date: February 2, 2022 11:16:18 AM

Ms. Jaime Tellier,

My name is Barry Coombs. I'm a visual artist and have taught at the Dundas Valley School of Art, and other schools, for over thirty years. My hobby is birding and I'm a member of the Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington team. My wife and I support the HCA through our annual membership. We use the properties frequently as artists and as birders.

Wetlands are not replaceable. Fortunately, the Chair of the Board is replaceable. The current Chair sits on other local environmental boards, as well. I believe that he attempts to influence policy in favour of development.

In addition to that, he has expressed a cynical attitude towards biodiversity. Last April, I delegated to a GIC committee. At that committee, he said "Can you give me a layman's definition of what biodiversity is? That's why I asked. It sounds good, but I just wasn't sure what it meant." This was a shocking comment from a public representative who sits on these boards.

Please, select a new Chair who believes in the science of conservation and who will accept the expert advice of staff and who does not have strong ties to the construction and development industry. Thank you.

Barry Coombs

Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2X7