

**Ministry of Natural Resources  
and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des Richesses  
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June 8, 2023

Santina Moccio, Acting Chair  
Hamilton Region Conservation Authority  
c/o [Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca)

Lisa Burnside, CAO  
Hamilton Region Conservation Authority  
[Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:Lisa.Burnside@conservationhamilton.ca)

Dear Chair Moccio and Ms. Burnside:

Thank you for your application on behalf of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (HRCA) seeking a Minister's exception under subsection 17(1.3) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) relating to chair and vice-chair appointments.

After carefully considering your application regarding the appointment of the chair and vice-chair, I am granting the HRCA an exception to subsection 17 (1.2) of the CAA pursuant to my authority under clause 17(1.3) (b) for the chair and vice-chair positions in 2023 and 2024.

This exception allows the HRCA to appoint as chair and vice-chair members who are from the same participating municipality as the outgoing chair and vice-chair, for the 2023 and 2024 terms. This would mean there would be no rotation of the chair and vice-chair positions amongst participating municipalities for the 2023 and 2024 terms. If there are questions about this exception, please feel welcome to reach out to the Conservation Authority Office at [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca).

I note that the intent section 17 of the CAA is generally to provide for varying perspectives in a conservation authority's leadership roles, including by encouraging fuller representation from participating municipalities in a conservation authority. I encourage the HRCA membership to take this into account when considering future appointments to the positions of chair and vice-chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graydon Smith".

The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Jennifer Keyes, Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch  
Conservation Authority Office (via [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca))