

May 18, 2017.

Mr. David Ryan
Municipal Drainage Manager
City of Ottawa
2155 Roger Stevens Drive
Ottawa (North Gower), ON
K0A 2T0

Dear Mr. Ryan,

Thank you for the notification regarding the City's intent to appoint a drainage engineer to prepare a report to examine potential improvements to the Hobb's Municipal Drain under Section 78 of the Drainage Act.

RVCA would like to ensure that you are aware that Lot 16 Concession 4 of Goulbourn township is entirely within the Richmond Fen which is a regulated Provincially Significant Wetland (P.S.W.) that falls under the Conservation Authorities jurisdiction and regulations for wetlands and the alteration to waterways provisions of our Act. As you are aware a permit is required for any modifications. Without detailed information about the proposal, it is doubtful that RVCA would be in a position to support draining of wetlands.

The Conservation Authority is aware that under Section 6 (1) of the Drainage Act that an "environmental appraisal" may be requested of the effects of the proposed drainage works and would be responsible for the costs. Under the Conservation Authorities Act and our policies, any analysis required in order for the Authority to evaluate and review a proposal is solely at the applicants' expense. Conservation Authorities are not funded nor do we budget to sponsor such reports. Given the presence of the PSW and in accordance with our board approved policies it can be expected that extensive hydrotechnical studies will be required to satisfy the Authority that there would be no hydrological impacts or ecological implications to the form and function of the PSW as a result of any work. These types of studies may or may not be considered "environmental appraisals" regardless; RVCA recommends that Council invoke Section 6(2) of the Drainage Act which authorizes council to obtain appraisals on its own initiative and at its cost or at the cost of the original requester.

It is also recommended that a meeting be held early in the process with RVCA, City staff and the Drainage Engineer to review the reasons and potential solutions to this drainage issue. Please don't hesitate to contact me or a member of my staff to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SCR', written over a horizontal line.

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
General Manager, RVCA

c.c. A. Robinson, Robinson Consultants
S. Moffatt, City Ottawa Councilor
S. Vander Veen, OMAFRA, DART
J. Boos, Kemptville MNRF
L. Rich, Conservation Ontario, DART