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December 19, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Hassaan Basit  
Chief Conservation Officer

Sent by email to: [todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org), [Hassaan.Basit@ontario.ca](mailto:Hassaan.Basit@ontario.ca)

**Re: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities – Bill 68**

At its special meeting of Council held on December 19, 2025, the Township of Amaranth Council discussed the proposed amalgamation of the Conservation Authorities and passed the following motion.

**Background**

Located in the aptly named Headwaters Region of Southern Ontario, the Township of Amaranth in the County of Dufferin is currently very under the jurisdiction of three Conservation Authorities: Grand River, Nottawasaga Valley and Credit Valley. The Township of Amaranth has been under the jurisdiction of these three Conservation Authorities since they were established. Amaranth is currently well served by all three Conservation Authorities.

Under the proposal put forward by the provincial government as part of Bill 68 referenced above, the Township of Amaranth would remain split between three much larger Regional Conservation Authorities: Lake Erie, Huron-Superior and Central Lake. This proposal severely dilutes local accountability, potentially eliminating the voice of this municipality and the taxpayers who support the work of the Conservation Authorities with levies paid as part of property taxes. Meanwhile the provincial contribution to CAs continues at a level that funds less than 3% of the Conservation Authorities' respective budgets.

The Township of Amaranth values the significant watershed specific infrastructure investment as contributed by its three unique Authorities and the science-based knowledge that guides the decision making in each of the specific geographical areas of each Authority.

Conservation Authorities have been working hard to streamline permitting processes, improve delivery timelines and focus on fiscal prudence and consistency within their mandated roles. Through shared services, the improvement to modernization and

system evolution can continue with less system-wide disruption and without additional transition expense.

**Resolution #: 2**

**Moved by:** G. Little

**Seconded by:** V. Paan

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council of the Township of Amaranth opposes the amalgamation process as defined in Bill 68.

Further, the Township of Amaranth proposes a three-year hiatus of any transition changes while evaluation is completed with proper, appropriate consultation of all partners in Conservation Authorities to review any proposed boundary realignments, additional governance oversight, potential service adjustments and other Conservation Authority model proposals.

For (5): C. Gerrits, G. Little, S. Graham, B. Metzger, and V. Paan

**CARRIED (5 to 0)**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you require any further information on this matter.

Nicole Martin, Dipl. M.A.  
CAO/Clerk

Cc: Dufferin MP and MPP  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Ontario Municipalities  
Conservation Authorities in Ontario  
Ministry of Natural Resources