



**Ganaraska Region
Conservation Authority**

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MEMBER OF
CONSERVATION ONTARIO

January 10, 2024

Mayor Cleveland and Council
Town of Cobourg
55 King Street West
Cobourg, ON K9A 2M2

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

At the December 21, 2023, the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) passed the following motion.

GRCA 68/23

MOVED BY: Miriam Mutton

SECONDED BY: Randy Barber

THAT the Board of Directors request the Town of Cobourg grant an exemption from stormwater charges for Cobourg Conservation Area.

CARRIED.

Most lands held by the GRCA are lands with significant features that are being protected and/or preserved. Cobourg Conservation Area, located at 700 William Street, Cobourg, contains natural hazard features such as floodplain and erosion hazards. Conservation lands support natural habitat and the wildlife found within and are considered natural assets. These lands facilitate passive use and nature appreciation by all ages and families are able to visit a conservation area and have a nature-based experience with natural habitat and species. GRCA conservation areas are held for the enjoyment of all and contribute to the health and well-being of area residents. The implication of storm water charges on one conservation area can have devastating results on the GRCA as a whole. If all the other partner municipalities introduced storm water charges on GRCA owned lands, this would result in over \$1,800,000 in costs at Cobourg's 2023 rate of \$402.10 a hectare which would represent approximately 50% of the whole 2024 Preliminary GRCA budget.

The Board of Directors thanks you for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

Mark Lovshin, Chair