

December 6, 2020

CKL Council Members

Re: Martin Municipal Drain Petition

We are the property owners at 32 Settlement Road, Lindsay (Pt Lot 19, Conc 12, Emily Twp) and have recently learned of an application submitted by Adam Martin (1899 Pigeon Lake Rd) for a municipal drain.

This letter is to voice our objections to a municipal drain on the neighbouring property. We are not interested in a municipal drain in our area; it would be of no benefit to our property and financially cannot afford the costs involved with a municipal drain. An Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) report dated October 26, 2017 shows the *average* cost of a municipal drain to be \$138,739, with maintenance costs averaging \$5,553 per year. We understand Mr. Martin wants to tile drain his field and feel if he wants this, he should incur all costs associated with it, without affecting neighbouring properties. We also understand there is an option to tile drain to the ditch. Mr. Martin's property is the only one on Pigeon Lake Road without a culvert, which if installed, should alleviate the water runoff, providing an outlet for the tile draining. We've walked from the corner of Settlement Road to Mr. Martin's driveway, and it is evident the ditch is in need of work for proper water drainage. Costs for a culvert and ditching would then be the burden of Mr. Martin and the City of Kawartha Lakes. This would be a more viable resolution, affecting only those who will reap the benefits.

We own 96 acres consisting of mostly sandy loam soil, limiting agricultural activities. In 2012, we entered into an agreement under the Managed Forest Program to sustain the natural environment and continue to do so. Mapping shows a watercourse on the southeast portion of our property. We question the date when this mapping was done. Our property does have low areas, with standing water. During major rain events water is moving in all different directions, with no apparent main water course. Also of note, the east side of Settlement Road has no functional ditches and only one driveway along this side has a culvert. In 2019, CKL installed a large road culvert going under Settlement Road, moving a large amount of water to the east side, to which there are no ditches. Ditching and culverts on Settlement Road may also assist with the Martin property.

The Drainage Board meeting held on November 24, 2020 addressing the Martin application shows concerns raised from some board members. I strongly encourage CKL Council to watch this meeting from the 11:35 through to the 58:13 minute mark before making a decision on this municipal drain application. Councillor Ashmore brings forth valid questions around the cost of ditching and culvert installation, to which surprisingly, there is no estimation on costs. As tax payers and property owners who may financially be impacted for years to come, we want to know every avenue and/or options, including the costs associated have been researched before the CKL enters into a long term municipal drain commitment for the sake of meeting Drainage Act timelines and for the benefit of an individual landowner.

In closing, we reiterate, we are not interested in a municipal drain and the costs associated with a municipal drain and would request further study of the ditches on Pigeon Lake and Settlement Road.

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