

October 26, 2021

Mr. Ron Taylor CAO Kawartha Lakes

Dear Mr. Taylor,

The Coboconk, Norland & Area Chamber of Commerce supports the Fenelon Falls Second Crossing initiative.

Coboconk, Norland, and the surrounding area is comprised of several rural villages along the Trent-Severn Waterway that are struggling from an economic development perspective. We are an organization committed to the growth of business and enhancement of our communities by facilitating opportunities for knowledge sharing, networking, the promotion of local businesses and tourism sites to residents and visitors, as well as business development in the area.

We are focused on attracting resources to our area to help address these issues at a foundational level to assist our communities with their long term growth, while also working to address present short-term issues and initiatives. Business owners and residents in Coboconk, Norland and surrounding areas are frequent visitors and shoppers to Fenelon Falls. A second crossing will help alleviate extreme congestion entering Fenelon Falls and is vital to ensure continued prosperity and growth for the area. Growth for any part of our area, in Northern Kawartha Lakes is good for us all.

In our opinion, this is not just a 'Fenelon Falls issue' – this is a Kawartha Lakes issue that currently hurts us all, and a second crossing and improvement to infrastructure in Fenelon Falls will benefit us all.

We wish this to be included as a formal submission in the consultation process.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us regarding this issue at <u>chamber@coboconknorland.ca</u> or by phone at 705-454-1110.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

lan Forster, P.Eng. Chair