

The Premier
of Ontario

Parliament Buildings
Queen's Park
Toronto Ontario

March 28, 1977

Dear Mr. Levy:

This is to acknowledge your letter regarding the proposed bridge over the Elora Gorge. My response in this matter is long overdue and I must ask you to accept my sincere apology.

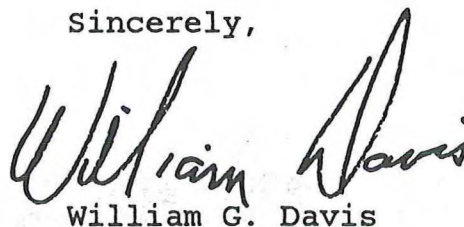
As a result of the continual concern expressed by individuals and groups, the Honourable John Rhodes, Minister of Housing, has ordered a review by the Ontario Municipal Board of the proposed amendment to the Central Wellington Official Plan which relates to the bridge proposal. He has also asked that Mr. W. Shub, Q.C., Chairman of this board to arrange an early date for a public hearing. If you are interested in attending this hearing, you should write to the Board at 180 Dundas Street West, Toronto, to request a notice of hearing when the date has been set.

I now turn my comments to the issue of standing, or locus standi, which gives members of the public the right to initiate legal proceedings in respect of public issues. Because of the need to canvass other jurisdictions and examine in depth the very complex legal issues involved in the question, the Ontario Law Reform Commission has initiated a study to review the whole question of standing before the courts and government agencies of all description. I am therefore confident that the public and the Government will have the benefit of the fullest possible analysis of this issue which, as you point out, is a matter of major public concern.

I hope that my comments on this proposal clarify for you this government's position.

Thank you for taking the time to write me personally with your views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and the last name "Davis" clearly distinguishable.

William G. Davis

Mr. Alan D. Levy,
66 Charles Street East,
Toronto, Ontario.
M4Y 1T1