



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Minister

Ministere des
Richesses
naturelles

Ministre

SM
RECEIVED MAY 15 1996
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1W3
416 / 314-2301

FAXED

MAY 14 1996

96-00862-MIN

Ms Sarah Miller
Chair
Sustainable Water Resources Taskforce
Great Lakes United
c/o Canadian Environmental Law Association
517 College Street, Suite 401
Toronto, Ontario
M6G 4A2

Dear Ms Miller:

Thank you for your letter of February 26, 1996, which was also addressed to the Honourable Al Leach and the Honourable Brenda Elliott, regarding the proposal by York Region to consider accessing Georgian Bay for a domestic water supply.

As you point out, this major initiative demonstrates the importance that all citizens place on a viable potable water supply and the complexity that this resource issue can and will take on in the future as demands change and increase.

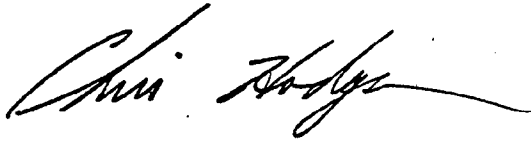
The Ministry of Natural Resources continues to support a policy of water conservation, and has a strategy and education initiative to deliver this message to the public.

However, conservation alone will not suffice to address projected supply demand issues. Other options must be considered, including further study of the Oak Ridges Moraine aquifers. As you note, the nature and scope of York Region's proposal ensure that it will be subject to intensive examination.

Your group and other knowledgeable public interest organizations can assist in bringing about a wider understanding of this issue by participating actively in the review process.

Again, thank you for bringing your concerns to our Government's attention.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hodgson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hon. Chris Hodgson
Minister of Natural Resources, and
Northern Development & Mines

cc: Honourable Brenda Elliott, MPP
Guelph

Honourable Al Leach
St. George-St. David

GREAT LAKES UNITED

An international coalition to conserve and protect the
Great Lakes/St. Lawrence River ecosystem

May 8, 1996

Roger Justus
Morris, Rose & Ledgett
Canada Trust Tower
BCE Place
161 Bay Street, Suite 2700
Toronto, Ontario
M5J 2S1

Dear Roger,

Re: Georgian Bay Pipeline Proposal

Here is the chronology of letters, background materials, and newspaper clippings from 1992 to the present on the potential pipeline, water diversion proposals brewing for the York region. I hope they are of use to you and to your clients, the Walpole Island Band. Please encourage Dean Jacobs or other band members to contact me if they would like to discuss this further or join us in our efforts to oppose and prevent this and other diversions from the Great Lakes watershed. We are about to launch a campaign for a sustainable water conservation strategy to be in place for the Great Lakes by 2000. It will be crucial to have native nations at the tables for all discussions of future water use and policy. As I mentioned we are writing a report on the shameful lack of sustainable water practices and protection in the Great Lakes. This report looks at the stresses to come and concludes that population growth, climate change, continental water shortages, and increased treatment of water as a commodity are leading us toward many future water use conflicts within the Basin as well as between regions of North America. I can be reached at CELA, 960-2284.

Best Wishes,

Sarah Miller

Sarah Miller
Chair, Sustainable Water Resources Taskforce of Great Lakes United
c/o Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA)
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Toronto, Ontario
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