



February 19, 2021

Via email  
[Minister.MECP@ontario.ca](mailto:Minister.MECP@ontario.ca)

Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Yurek,

### **Section 17 Exemption Request**

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) to request up to a 2-year exemption to the term limit for the position of Chair per Sections 17 (1.1) and (1.3b) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, proclaimed February 2, 2021.

MVCA's Administrative By-Laws mandate annual elections but have allowed the Chair to hold the position for a maximum of 4 consecutive years, generally coinciding with municipal council terms. This has provided the organization with good business continuity by allowing the Chair sufficient time to become familiar with the workings of the organization and to lead changes where needed. The current Chair, Janet Mason, has been in the position since the February 2019 AGM, and has sat on the Board since 2015.

When notified of the proclamation, our Authority was preparing for its 53rdth Annual General Meeting, held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. At the AGM, it was universally felt by Board members that given Ms. Mason's experience, leadership, and the significant and ongoing changes facing the Authority that continuity at the helm of the Board was essential. No other candidate was nominated or stood for the position. Accordingly, the Board appointed Janet Mason as "Interim Chair" and directed that I submit this request for your consideration.

All changes proclaimed into law that required amendment to the Authority's by-laws were approved by the Board at our AGM.



On behalf of the MVCA Board of Directors, I appreciate you taking the time to consider this request.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Sally McIntyre'.

Sally McIntyre  
General Manager

cc. MVCA Board Members  
MVCA member municipalities