



June 19, 2008

Dear Property Owner:

RE: NEW WETLANDS IDENTIFIED BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has included the Goulbourn wetlands in updated mapping of Provincially-Significant Wetlands. This updated mapping adds 3600 hectares (9,000 acres) of new Provincially Significant Wetlands and removes 775 hectares (1,900 acres) that were previously designated. Provincial policy requires that the City add the Goulbourn wetlands to the Official Plan in 2009.

The MNR has not directly notified property owners. We feel it is important that you be made aware of these changes that may affect your property.

Your property may be within or adjacent to one of the Goulbourn wetlands. Enclosed you will find the MNR's updated mapping so that you can locate your property. (Attachment 1).

The changes being requested by MNR contradict the Wetlands Resolution Workplan that was approved by Council in July 2006. Through this workplan, Council adopted various recommendations on the treatment of the Goulbourn wetlands. These recommendations cancelled the wetland designation process and set conditions for the re-evaluation of these wetlands. City staff has been implementing these recommendations and an update on their status is included (Attachment 5). We are required by provincial policy to identify the Goulbourn Wetlands in our Official Plan despite the workplan that is in place.

We understand that this new provincial mapping may cause concern for you and your family. This information package has been assembled to ensure all landowners who are affected by the MNR's new wetland mapping are informed of the changes and know who to contact for more information.

Included you will find:

- A map where your property is located in relation to the Provincially-Significant Wetlands as mapped by the MNR. The map also shows how your property is now shown in the Official Plan, which in turn indicates broadly how it may be used.
- The letter the MNR sent to the City, which describes how the MNR identified the new wetlands and provides other information about provincial policies on wetlands. The letter includes a reference the Goulbourn wetlands, indicating the MNR made its determination of

the status of these lands in 2005. Although the City withdrew the wetland evaluation study it commissioned and cancelled the wetland designation process in 2006, the MNR acts independently from the municipality.

- Frequently Asked Questions, which I hope will provide answers to many of the questions you may have.
- A list of contacts to assist you in connecting with the right resource people.
- The recommendations from Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee (ARAC) Interim Report – Wetlands Resolution Workplan and progress to date.

With the MNR releasing the information so close to the summer, this information will not be formally presented to Council until a public meeting is held this fall. The MNR will be invited to this meeting to field questions. We will notify you of the time and date of the meeting. You will also be provided with the draft amendment to add the new wetlands to the Official Plan that will be tabled.

I have provided a list of contacts that can answer any questions you may have. You can also send your comments to:

Ministry of Natural Resources

Kerry Coleman
 Area Supervisor
 Kemptville District 613-258-8614
 E-mail: kerry.coleman@ontario .ca
 Postal Bag 2002
 10 Campus Dr.
 Kemptville, ON
 K0G 1J0

Sincerely,



Nancy Schepers
 Deputy City Manager
 Planning, Transit & the Environment

Attachment 1 – Map of the Provincially-Significant Wetland
 Attachment 2 – Letter to the City from the Ministry of Natural Resources
 Attachment 3 – Frequently Asked Questions
 Attachment 4 - Contact/Resource List
 Attachment 5 - Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee (ARAC) Interim Report – Wetlands Resolution Workplan