



February 12, 2015

By email only

Thomas E. Farrell, MCIP, RPP
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
50 Bloomington Road West
Aurora, ON L4N 3G8

Dear Tom,

**Subject: Maple Lake Estates
19T-87055; Plan 65M-2903
Paradise Beach – Island Grove Wetland Complex
Town of Georgina, Regional Municipality of York**

As you may be aware, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) is currently working with the Town of Georgina, Regional Municipality of York, and Metrus Developments Inc. with regard to the development of the above-noted Registered Plan of Subdivision. There has also been recent meetings and discussions between various parties including special interest groups regarding the suitability and development potential of this site as it relates to the natural heritage features on the property including the existing wetland.

On October 18, 2004, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) provided written correspondence to Metrus Developments Inc. regarding the existing wetland on the property. By using the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES), the on-site wetland was reclassified by your Ministry in 2003 from a non-provincially significant status to a wetland of provincial significance. Your letter further stated that the MNR recognizes the legal status of the Registered Plan of Subdivision to be implemented as proposed without due regard to the wetland complex.

As you know, all wetlands within the Lake Simcoe watershed regardless of classification are subject to Ontario Regulation 179/06 under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. As a result, written permission is required from the LSRCA prior to any development within or adjacent to this provincially significant wetland (within 120 metres) located on the property. It appears, based on existing mapping, that the majority of the property is located within this provincially significant wetland.

On this basis and based on your October 18th letter where your Ministry recognizes that due regard to the wetland complex is not necessary, we are seeking clarification and direction from the Ministry with regard to the processing of any permit application submitted under Ontario Regulation 179/06 to allow for the existing Registered Plan of Subdivision. We believe that clarification is required to determine if the Ministry's letter presupposes any intent to protect the provincially significant wetland and the subsequent permit process under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

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Thank you for your assistance on this matter and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Baldwin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rob Baldwin
General Manager
Planning & Development

CB/tb

Copy: Harold Lenters - Town of Georgina, Harold Lenters
Mike Walters – CAO, LSRCA
Charles Burgess – Planning Coordinator, LSRCA