

August 17, 2020

Mr. Mike Walters
Chief Administrative Officer
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
M.Walters@lsrca.on.ca

Dear Mr. Walters,

As a follow up to the letter sent from Marty Blake, A/Assistant Deputy Minister, Regional Operations Division on July 28, 2020, I am writing to provide further information on our findings with respect to ownership of the Pefferlaw Dam in the Town of Georgina.

We appreciate your patience in allowing us time to investigate this matter, while the majority of our staff continue to work remotely. The Ministry has now completed a review of our historical records and found no indication in our files that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has ever owned this dam or acted in the capacity of owner at this site.

Our files show that the dam and surrounding property were privately owned in the early 1970's, and we found records showing that the dam was operated by the Township of Georgina at times during that period.

When the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) boundaries were extended to include the Pefferlaw area around 1978, our records indicate a public interest in having LSRCA take over the dam at that time.

Our records indicate that the land and the dam were subsequently purchased by the Township of Georgina/LSRCA around 1981, and that LSRCA has acted in an ownership capacity with respect to this dam since the early 1980's, including tendering a number of repair/rehabilitation contracts at the dam throughout the ensuing years.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you in resolving this matter. If you require additional information, or would like to discuss this further, I encourage you to contact Vanessa Aspri, Resource Management Supervisor, Aurora District, at vanessa.aspri@ontario.ca.

Thank you for writing and I look forward to continued successful collaboration between MNRF and the LSRCA.

Sincerely,

Brad Allan
Aurora District Manager

c: Monique Rolf von den Baumen-Clark, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry,
Serge Imbrogno, Deputy Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks