

Ministry of Natural
Resources

Office of the Minister

Room 6630, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tel: 416-314-2301
Fax: 416-314-2216

Ministère des Richesses
naturelles

Bureau du ministre

Édifice Whitney, bureau 6630
99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416-314-2301
Télééc.: 416-314-2216

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - P42



MNR4046MC-2010-44

MAR 25 2010

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1



Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your letter and the report adopted by Council regarding the regional municipality's Great Lakes intra-basin water transfer application and policy advocacy. I am pleased to respond.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has committed to facilitate "prior notice and consultation" (PNC) with the other Great Lakes jurisdictions on the Region of York's proposed intra-basin water transfer, as stated in the report by York Region's Environmental Services Committee. Staff of this ministry are working with staff of York Region and the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) to undertake the PNC process in a timely manner while demonstrating leadership in how the *Great Lakes Charter* consultation process is conducted and in how the York Region's intra-basin transfer proposal aligns with the spirit of the new environmental standards of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement.

We appreciate the input provided by York Region staff as active members of Ontario's Agreement Advisory Panel and look forward to ongoing dialogue as we work with the MOE to develop the regulations and policies required to implement Ontario's commitments under the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Jeffrey".

Linda Jeffrey
Minister of Natural Resources

c: The Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of the Environment
Erin Mahoney, Commissioner, Environmental Services, York Region
Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection, York Region