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February 18, 2022

The Honourable David Piccini, MPP
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Flr
777 Bay St
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**Re: Additional Member Appointment, agricultural sector representative
s.14 (4) of the Conservation Authorities Act**

Dear Minister,

The Grand River Conservation Authority General Membership has created an ad hoc committee of the Board to advise and direct the corporation on the recent and upcoming Regulations, and to make recommendations to the Board about the Transition Plan and the Programs and Services Inventory.

This Committee recently met and discussed the new agricultural sector representative appointment posting that may result in an additional member being appointed to the GRCA Board. The Committee is very supportive of having agricultural representation on the GRCA Board.

The Grand River watershed is one of the richest agricultural regions in Canada. Approximately 70 per cent of the watershed is farmland, and working with the agricultural community and rural landowners is integral to the work we do at the GRCA. Through long-term GRCA programs and services (e.g.: Rural Water Quality Program, land stewardship services, etc.) we have been working directly with rural landowners and farmers for many years, and have built strong relationships with the agricultural and rural community in the watershed.

There are currently several members on the GRCA Board appointed by the participating municipalities who are active farmers, and thus represent the agricultural sector. The committee has asked staff to follow up with you about the appointment posting to request consideration that an additional member may not need to be appointed to the GRCA Board at this time, since the current membership includes representation of the agricultural sector.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha Lawson".

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer