TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH STORMONT

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July 14, 2007

To: All Ontario Municipalities
Re: Drain Maintenance

The Council of the Township of South Stormont passed the following resolution on July 11, 2007. Your consideration and support would be greatly appreciated. Please send any resolution of support to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, with a copy to the Township of South Stormont.

Moved by: Councillor Barry Brownlee
Seconded by: Councillor Tammy Hart

Resolution #209/2007

Whereas the Department of Fisheries and Oceans review and approval for drain maintenance has proven to be a lengthy process;

And Whereas re-application of previously approved works, which may not have been completed due to a relatively short and inflexible construction/maintenance season, or other circumstances beyond the control of the municipality, are subject to the standard application with apparently no reduction in turn around time of the issues previously addressed in the original application;

And Whereas the cost of implementing the conditions for approving the drain maintenance is an added cost passed on to those assessed for the drainage works. These works include many costly requirements which are not provided for in the provincially approved Engineers’ Report passed by municipal by-law;

And Whereas errors and inconsistencies in the drainage mapping, used for drain classification by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans could result in delays and increased additional costs;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council of the Township of South Stormont hereby petitions the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to review and shorten the time frame required for approval of drainage maintenance requests to allow for a more flexible and reasonable construction/maintenance season especially where weather conditions warrant an extended season and, provide federal funding for increased costs for those expenses incurred over and above those provided for within the approved Engineers Report.

Furthermore be it resolved that this motion be forwarded to Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs, Minister of Natural Resources, local Conservation Authorities, local MPs and MPPs, Eastern Ontario Warden’s Caucus, all Ontario municipalities and any other individual or association as deemed appropriate.

The Council of the Township of South Stormont appreciates your support of this resolution.

Yours truly,
Betty de Haan, CMO
CAO/Clerk