

Report to Council

Report Title:	Bill 229: Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020		
Prepared By:	Fiona Hamilton, Clerk		
Department:	Clerk's		
Date:	December 8, 2020		
Report Number:	CLK2020-44	File Number:	C11CL
Attachments:	Association of Municipalities of Ontario Letter to Premier of Ontario – Bill 229 Ontario Federation of Agriculture Submission to Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs – Bill 229 Report from Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority Chair		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2020-44 - Bill 229: Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Clerk for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

On November 5, 2020, the Province of Ontario released [Bill 229: Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act \(Budget Measures\), 2020](#). The Bill is being proposed to implement Budget measures and to enact, amend, and repeal various statutes.

Bill 229 will affect a significant number of Acts, including the *Conservation Authorities Act* (identified as Schedule 6 in Bill 229). The amendments deal with matters such as membership; objects, powers and duties of the Conservation Authority; fees; land use planning; and enforcement.

The changes could require that a member of the Conservation Authority be a municipal councillor (with the Minister able to appoint a representative from the agricultural sector). The legislation also limits the objective of the Conservation Authority to matters prescribed by regulation and would require Conservation Authorities to enter into an Agreement with municipalities if municipal funding will be required. The Conservation Authority is still permitted to set fees and issue permits, but the fees and permits could be appealed to an administrative tribunal. Finally, a provision that had not yet been declared into force allowing Conservation Authorities to issue stop work orders has now been repealed such that the Conservation Authorities will not have this ability.

Analysis:

Bill 229 received First Reading on November 5, 2020 and has begun Second Reading throughout November 2020. As of November 23, 2020, Bill 229 was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs pursuant to the order of the House. At the time of writing this report, the Bill is still under the status of Consideration of a Bill by the Standing Committee.

Staff have attached correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and documentation from the Chair of the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority regarding Bill 229's impact on Conservation Authorities for further consideration.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

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| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | No |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | No |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer