

**Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**

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Ontario

June 29, 2021

Stephen Brickman
Project Manager/Engineer
Headway Engineering
Stephen.brickman@headwayeng.ca

Grant Collins
Drainage Superintendent
Township of Huron Kinloss
gcollins@huronkinloss.com

Dear Stephen and Grant:

Thank you for your thorough submission dated June 11, 2021, requesting an emergency designation under Section 124 of the [Drainage Act](#) for the construction of a detention facility east of Lake Range Drive in the Township of Huron-Kinloss.

Your letter states that this watershed has experienced significant storm events in the past several years which have caused considerable damage to both private and public property, including road infrastructure. The accompanying photographs/videos show the need for improved drainage as a more recent flooding (August 16, 2020) has caused significant damage to property.

Headway Engineering has been appointed by the Township of Huron-Kinloss to prepare a report for a new drain based upon the receipt of a petition under Section 4(1)(c) of the Drainage Act. As part of the new drain, you are proposing the creation of a detention facility. You stated that the request for an emergency designation is only for the detention facility.

Your letter states that due to the time required to complete the report, obtain approvals and proceed through the Drainage Act process (including the appeals), the municipality will be unable to complete the Drainage Act process and construct the drain this year.

After considering this information and despite the thorough submission, I am unable to designate the construction of a detention facility east of Lake Range Drive in the Township of Huron-Kinloss to be an emergency under Section 124 of the Drainage Act because the request is not being made for an existing drain constructed under the Drainage Act.

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I would encourage the engineering firm and the municipality to continue working through the regular Drainage Act process expeditiously for the entire drainage system to protect the road and other properties in the watershed.

I understand and appreciate the severity and urgency of this issue. I have asked staff from my ministry to reach out to you to get more information on the project and explore the issues further.

Sincerely,



Lisa Thompson
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

c: Tim Brooks, Drainage Coordinator Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

COVID-19 Reminders

- For vaccination booking details visit: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>
- Follow your local public health/safety measures: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions>
- Practice physical distancing – stay 2 metres away from others in public
- Get the facts - www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread