

URGENT

Dear Supporters of Save Georgian Bay,

This is an urgent request—for the second week in a row. Please help us if you are able.

What Do We Need?

We need you to write Meaford Council **again** and/or register to make an in-person or virtual deputation at the next meeting on Monday, March 11th.

Why?

At the last stormy Meaford Council meeting on February 26th—where Save Georgian Bay members turned up in such numbers we spilled over into the hall—Councillors agreed not to give TC Energy a seat on the planned Pumped Storage Advisory Committee, as the company requested. But it also stripped designated seats from three specifically recommended groups: the Meaford Chamber of Commerce, Save Georgian Bay and those residents whose properties lie directly below the proposed 375-acre reservoir.

Those groups had been recommended by council consultants, the Ainley Group, council staff and an Internal Working Group that included the mayor and deputy mayor.

Since then, council appears to have had second thoughts about some of the actions it voted on—but did not finalize—last week. To the surprise of many, on March 4^{th} it announced that it was "still considering the Terms of Reference" for this community committee.

This is our opportunity to push for Save Georgian Bay and the other two groups to be given back the designated seats they had on the committee and for our concerns to be heard.

While we agree the advisory committee should include voices from across the community—including Meaford business and youth—that would still leave five seats open to citizens at large.

But we urge the selection committee to ensure that Save Georgian Bay has a guaranteed voice on a committee designed to consider the project's benefits and risks. Our members include environmental consultants and engineers, and we can say with assurance that no other community group in Meaford has access to such in-depth research and knowledge about TC Energy's plan—or has so much at risk.

Council will be reconsidering the committee's Terms of Reference and all amendments on March 11th, so we have another chance to urge councillors to change their minds and, as Mayor Ross Kentner put it, "get it right."

Here's How You Can Help:

- 1. Send letters/e-mails to <u>council@meaford.ca</u> before March 11. We suggest the earlier the better so Council members have a chance to read them before the meeting.
- 2. Make a deputation up to five minutes either in person or virtually. You must register at deputyclerk@meaford.ca by 10 am on March 11.
- 3. Come to the March 11th Council meeting, 1 pm at Meaford Council Chambers, 157859 7th Line. Show Councillors our voices matter and have much to contribute.
- 4. Apply for a seat on the committee. Applications will be open until 4:30 p.m. March 15 at https://www.meaford.ca/en/our-government/resources/Council-Advisory-Committee-Application-Form.pdf
- 5. Donate to Save Georgian Bay at https://smallchangefund.ca/project/save-the-bay/

Thank you!

Let's save the Bay,

Tom Buck for Save Georgian Bay