## Brian Masse

Member of Parliament (Windsor West)



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May 7, 2019

Honourable Catherine McKenna Minister of Environment House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

## Re: Environmentally Critical Land in Windsor, Ontario – Ojibway Shores

Dear Minister McKenna,

I am writing to follow-up with you today on my letter from October 25, 2017 (attached), and my question today in the House of Commons regarding the long-term protection of Ojibway Shores.

As you know, Ojibway Shores is a vital 33-acre greenspace and the last remaining, undeveloped natural shoreline in Windsor-Detroit. It is home to hundreds of endangered species that rely on migration through surrounding local parks for survival. This includes Ojibway Park, Spring Garden Natural Area, Black Oak Heritage Park, and the Tallgrass Prairie Park, to name a few. If connected, this area including the Detroit River could become one of North America's treasures. It serves not only as a home and larger ecosystem to these species, but also provides natural heritage areas that our community can enjoy, appreciate, and use for healthy living space and ecotourism.

As proposed in my October 2017 letter, Ojibway Shores is a federal property currently under the management of the Windsor Port Authority (WPA) and I am again requesting that the Government of Canada transfer the management of this property from under the WPA to Environment Canada and that you begin the process of designating it as a national urban park.

Therefore, I am again requesting that you take a proactive role moving this file forward and protecting Ojibway Shores. It is pertinent that discussions happen with those overseeing the adjacent properties in this process, and together, this group of natural

properties would protect the entire area for these endangered species that rely on all of this space for their survival for the long-term.

Since the process is outlined clearly in the attached letter for the transfer of this real property, I have not included it again. However, should you have any questions regarding this process, or if you would like to meet to discuss this matter forward, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to your positive response.

Yours truly,

Sincerely,

Brian Masse M.P.

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Windsor West