

Greetings Mayor Wilhelm and Mayor Strathdee, and Mayor Cole, Brent Kittmer, Rebecca Clothier,

It has been a privilege for more than a decade to represent the Municipalities of Perth South, South Huron and the Town of St. Marys as your representative on the Board of the UTRCA for more than a decade. During this time I have seen the UTRCA transition into a new state of the art facility and grow in significance and authority that entangles many aspects of community planning and development. The UTRCA operations are more complex and integrated than simply what a conservation conscious individual might think and its relevance and impact to our communities significant.

The UTRCA have a dedicated team who believe in their mission and it plays a critical role in the protection of people and property throughout the watershed but the organization is greatly influenced by the City of London and larger urban centers especially when it comes to budgeting decisions. Despite that, I can assure you I have in every opportunity tried to bring the rural, small town voice to the table as loudly and influential as possible.

I would like to think in some way I have influenced positive gains in the accounting and information sharing as directors now see much better financial information not simply a pie chart. I presently sit on the UTRCA "hearings and personnel committee" and "audit and finance committee" besides the regular UTRCA Directors role. I am pleased to say there were many positive gains but especially to see the end of a couple legacy items specifically the end of

Springbank dam fiasco and closure coming to the Glengowan dam project (TBA).

If I may, I would like to suggest the representative you select should have more than an environmental conservation (protectionism) mindset as it is my perspective that the greatest weakness of representation is people who have only those ambitions of conservation or a one purpose agenda, or are there as a municipal councilor representative with mildly interested perspective, or the members fail to recognize impacts to financial and economic burdens to small, midsize and rural communities today and for the future. A business or financial background and a balanced perspective would serve your communities best in my opinion.

I hope you have numerous excellent candidates to apply but if by chance that does not happen I am willing to fill the gap for a little while longer as necessary. I now reside just outside of the boundary of Perth South in West Perth and it is likely long past time for a change in representation but as long as I am a resident of the UTRCA watershed my understanding is that I can still represent your communities without conflict if necessary.

Thank You,

Yours truly,

Tony Jackson

UTRCA representative,

South Huron, St Marys, Perth South