



SaveTheBalaFalls.com

Public Safety Concerns

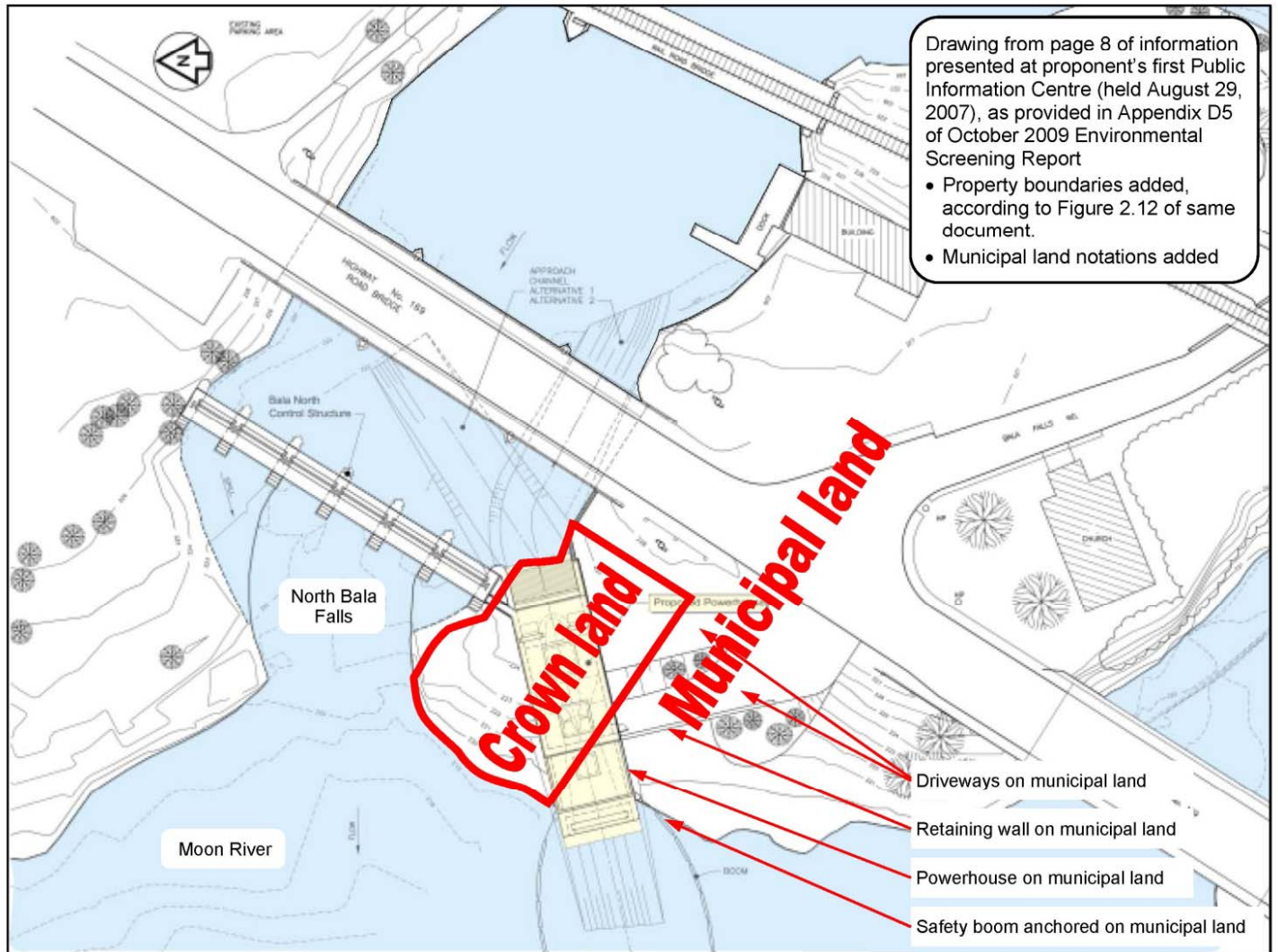
Agenda

- Option 1, Option 2, Alternative 1A
- Public safety, construction risks, riparian rights
- Bala is unique, and visitors are crucial



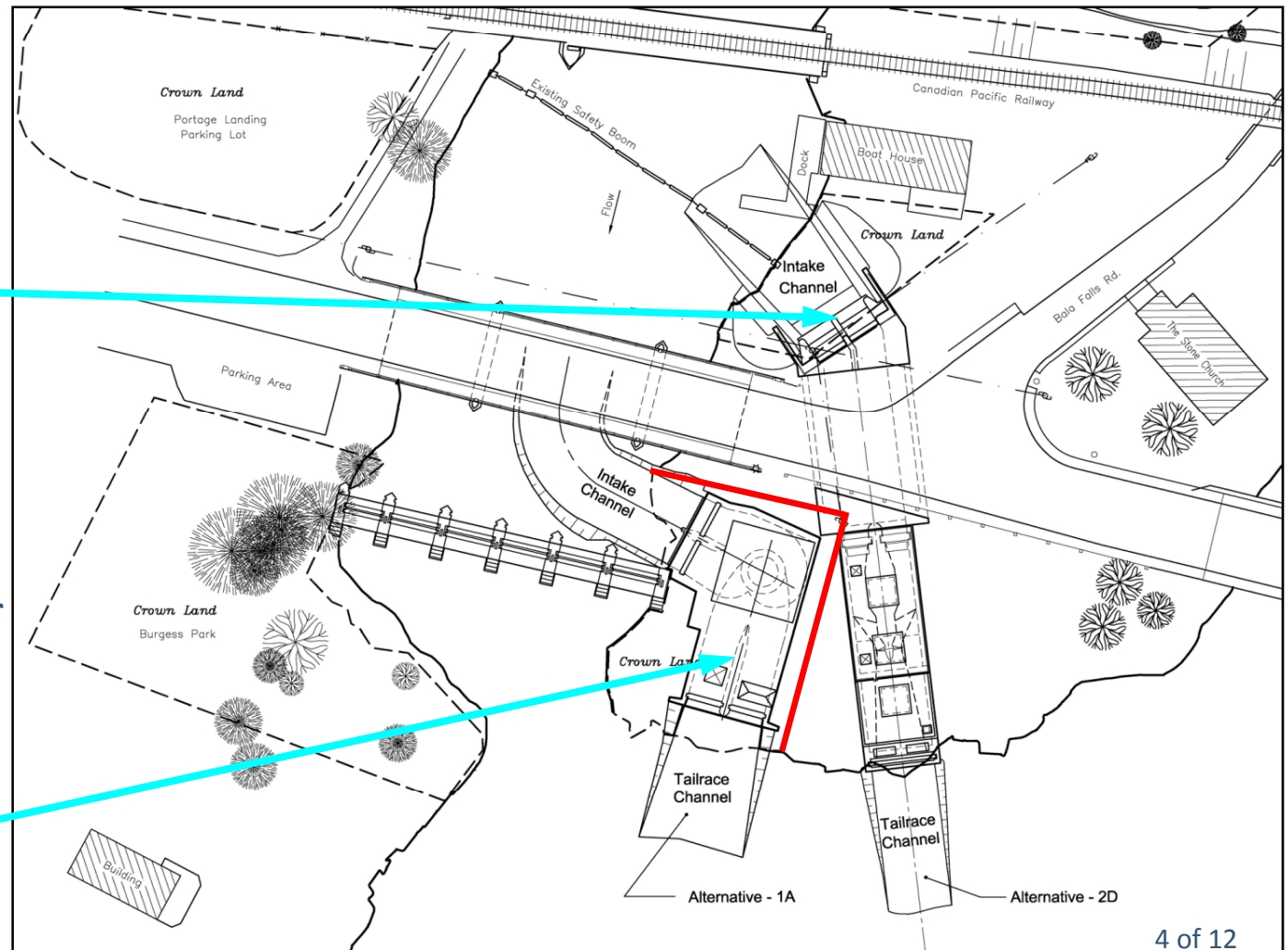
Option 1

- 2005 to 2008
- Proponent claimed it would fit solely on Crown land
 - But it would not
 - Neither would the retaining wall or driveway



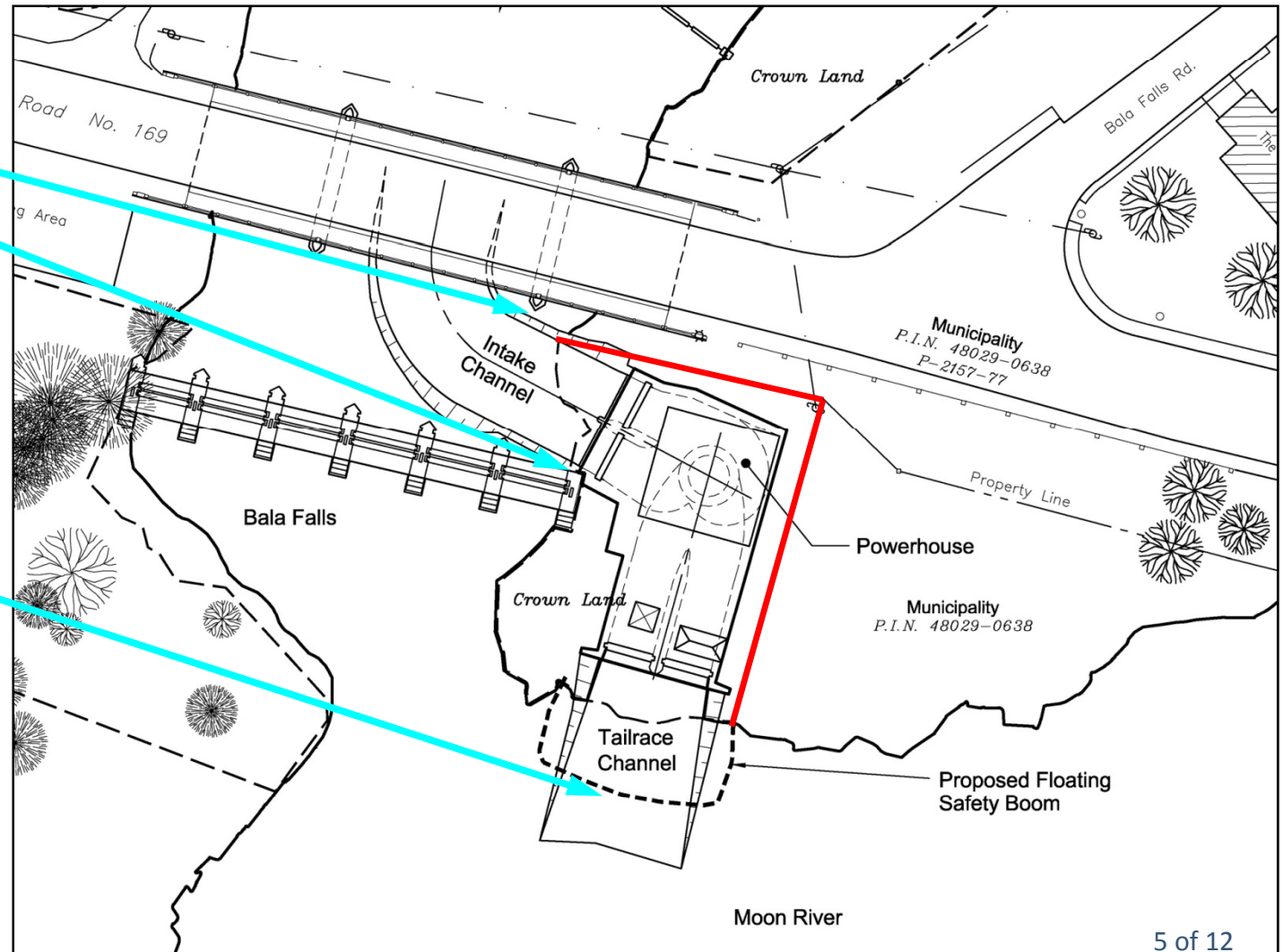
Option 2 and Alternative 1A

- They actually didn't want to build solely on Crown land anyways
- **Option 2**
 - 2008 to 2012
 - This also needed municipal land
 - Proponent wouldn't answer public's questions
- **Alternative 1A**
 - 2012



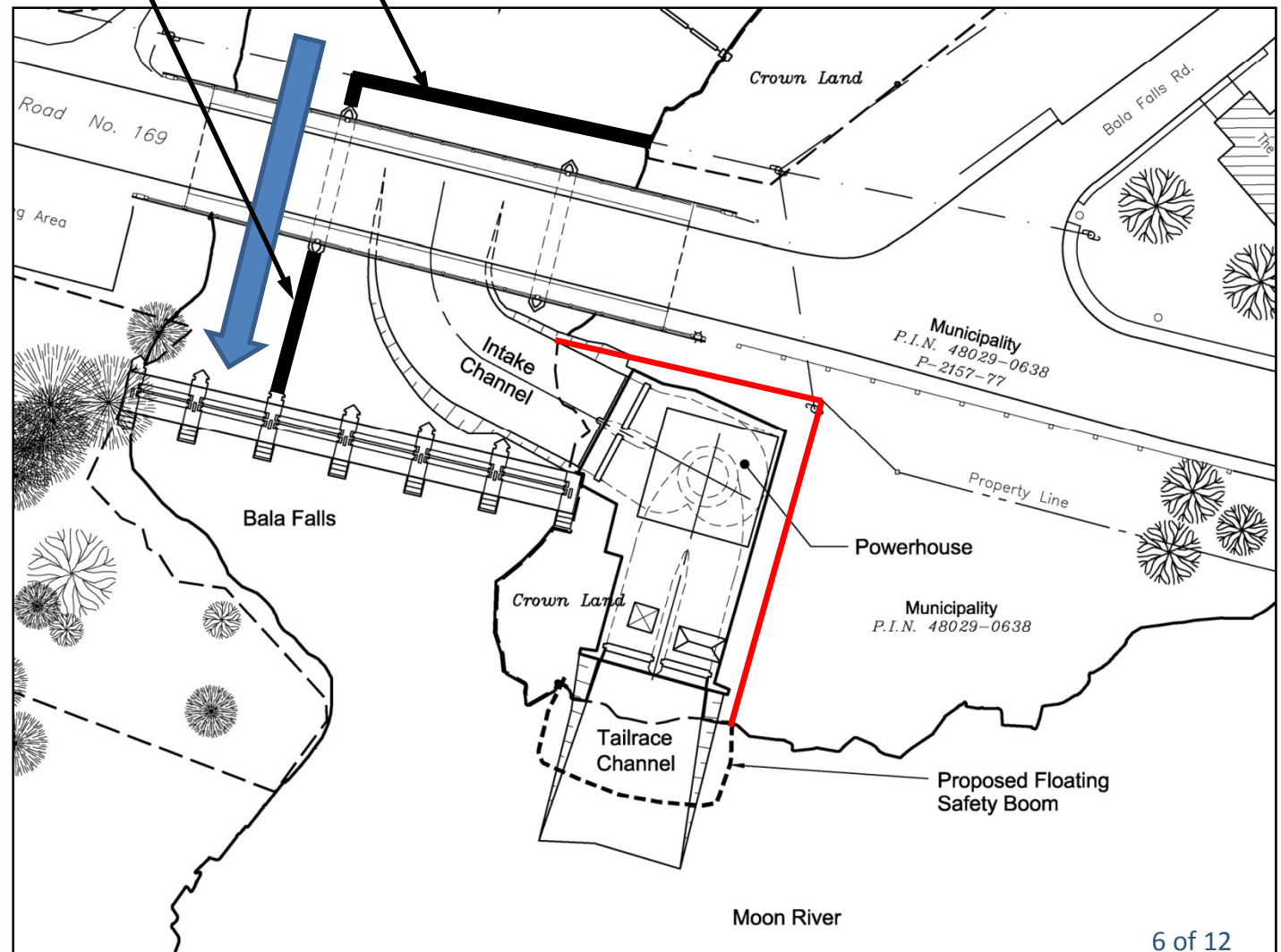
Alternative 1A: Public Safety Concerns

- 40'-deep excavation at Highway support piers and north dam
 - Damage could be expensive and catastrophic
- Dangerously turbulent and fast water
 - **Outside** of safety boom
 - *Would begin at any time, without warning*



Alternative 1A: Public Safety Concerns

- Cofferdam required during construction for intake excavation would obstruct 85% of the north channel
 - Flooding of Bala Bay and Lake Muskoka could result



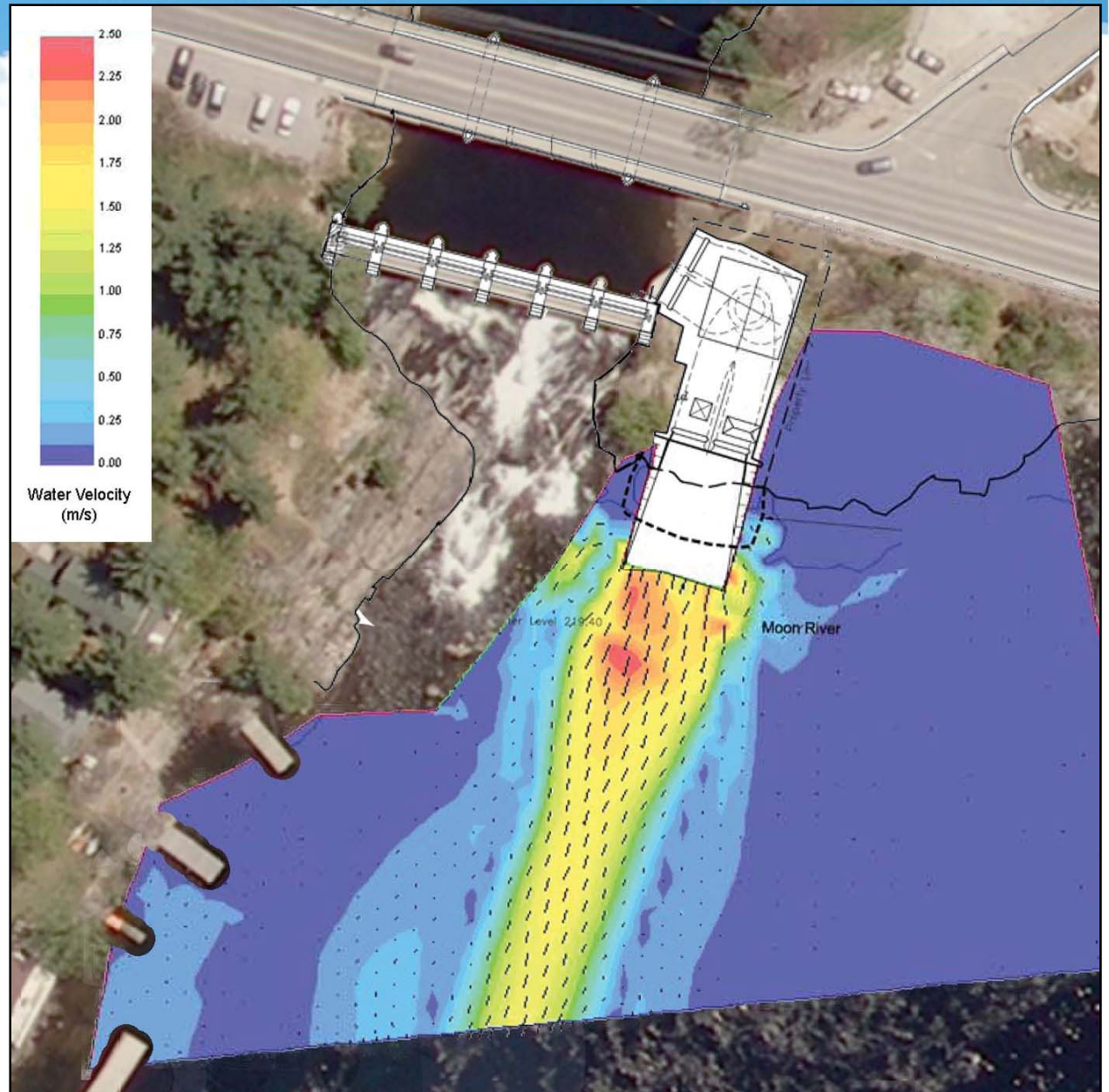
Construction Risks

- North channel would be obstructed during construction
 - Risking flooding Bala Bay and Lake Muskoka
- Requires a *Dam Safety Review*
 - Public should see this
- Highway bridge could be damaged by blasting or flooding
 - 50 km detour, and expensive to fix
- Margaret Burgess Park would be inaccessible
 - And used for construction truck and equipment access
 - A construction bridge would be built **over the north falls**



Riparian Rights and Marine Navigation

- Shoreline landowners have *Riparian Rights*
 - Including the right of safe marine navigation to their dock
 - The Town Docks on the Moon River would be affected
- *Boats and people would be swept out to the river*



The Bala Falls are Unique

■ Visiting these southern Ontario generating stations:

- Hanna Chute (Bracebridge)
- Matthias Falls (Bracebridge)
- Minden
- Muskoka South Falls (Bracebridge)
- Trethewey Falls (Bracebridge)
- Bracebridge Falls
- Wilson's Falls (Bracebridge)
- High Falls (Bracebridge)
- Ragged Rapids (Bala)
- Wasdell Falls (Severn Bridge, planned)
- Fenelon Falls
- Auburn (Peterborough)
- London Street (Peterborough)
- Shand Dam (Fergus)
- Heywood (St. Catharines)
- Elliot Falls (Kawartha Lakes)

■ Shows that NONE:

- Have **in-water recreation both upstream and downstream** within 50' – but Bala does
- Have **public and private boat docks** within 200' – but Bala does
- Have **private residences** within 200' – but Bala does
- Are the focal point for visitors – but the Bala Falls are

Postcards

- Visitors to Bala have had the opportunity to sign a postcard to Premier Wynne
 - Over 975 separately mailed so far

Date: _____

Dear Premier Wynne,
I do not support the construction of a
hydro-electric generating station in
Bala, Ontario.
Please stop the proposed Bala generating
station immediately.

Sincerely,

Name: (please print) _____

Signature: _____

I live in: _____

My home postal code is: _____

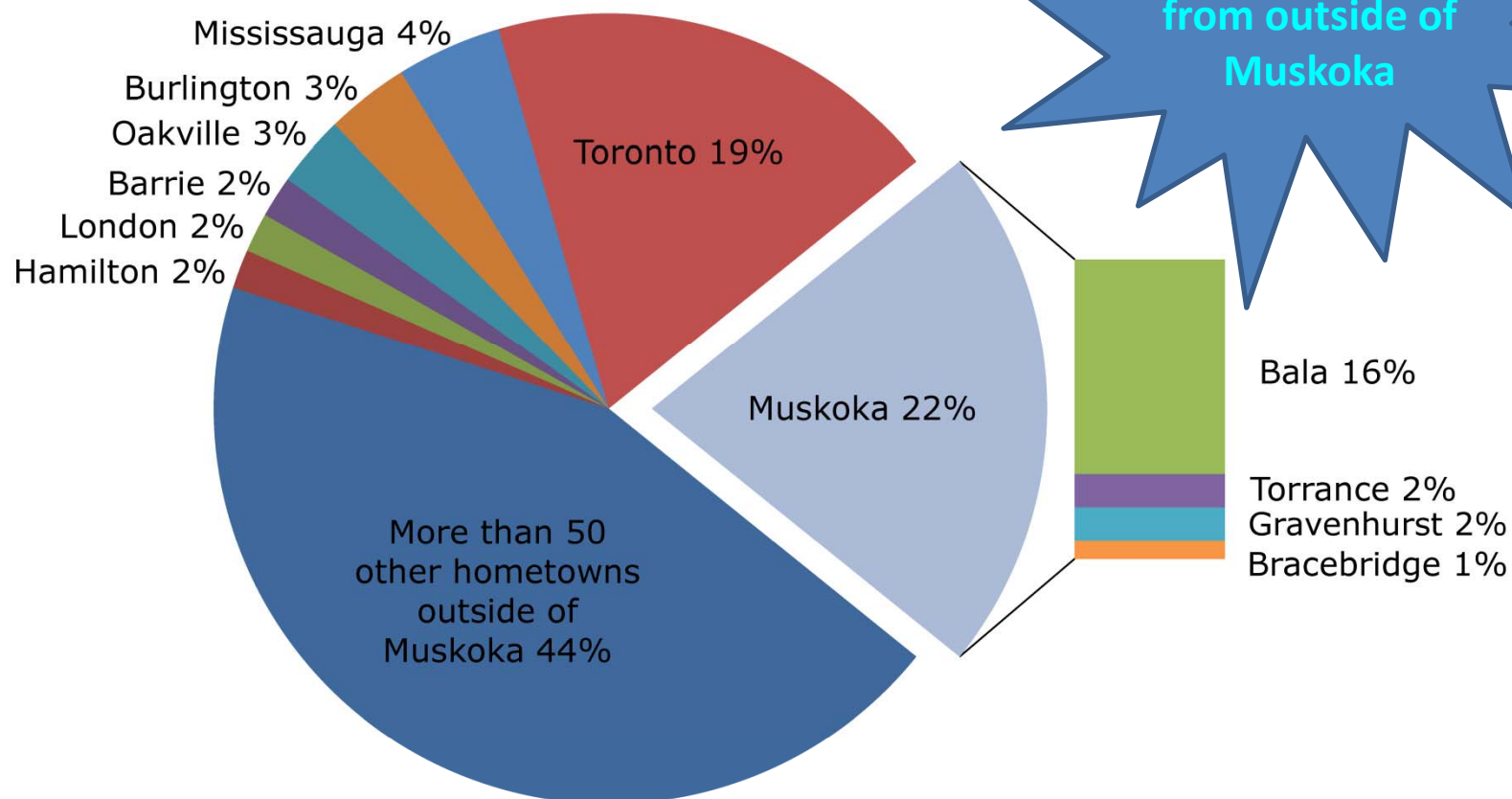
Return Address: Box 346, 1038 Bala Falls Road, Bala, ON P0C 1A0

Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
11 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1



savethebalafalls.com

Postcards signed and sent to Premier Wynne



Hometowns of postcard senders

Summary

- The public deserves to know:
 - Would it be **safe** – surprisingly there is no provincial requirement
 - Would it be **beautiful**, as the area is
 - Would there be enough **water over the falls** to continue to draw people to Bala

?? Would it be legal ??

- It is **not** a “done deal”
 - Many serious issues of; public safety, riparian rights, risk to public and private property, risk of flooding
 - Many approvals still required from all four levels of government