



Board of Directors Annual Meeting

February 22, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
Petrolia Royal Canadian Legion

Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
5. Minutes
6. Presentations
7. 2017 Audited Financial Statements
8. Conservation Awards
9. Service Awards

Break to seat new director

2018 Business

10. Election of Officers
11. Nominating Committee
12. Authorization to Borrow
13. 2018 Appointments
14. Regular Business
 - 14.1 General Manager's Report
 - 14.2 Current Watershed Conditions and Water Levels
 - 14.3 Current WECI Projects
 - 14.4 Proposed WECI Projects
 - 14.5 Regulations Activity Summary Report
 - 14.6 2018 Special Events
 - 14.7 Healthy Watersheds Status and Outreach Report
 - 14.8 Ontario Community Environment Fund Grant
 - 14.9 Hazard Tree Management Policy
15. New Business
16. Adjournment

Lunch to follow

February 22, 2018

**St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
Annual General Meeting Proposed Resolutions**

3. Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting be adopted.
4. It is requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.
- 5.1 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held December 14, 2017, be approved as distributed.
- 5.2 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held February 8, 2018, be approved as distributed.
- 6.1 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the presentation regarding Innovations to Flood Forecasting in the St. Clair Region given by Steve Clark, Water Resources Specialist, and Emily De Cloet, Water Resources Technician.
- 7.1 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority accepts the recommendation of the Executive Committee and report from the Authority's auditors, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants LLP, and further approves the 2017 Audited Financial Statements.
- 8.1 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the Board of Directors congratulates the 2017 Conservation Award Winners and thanks them for their contributions to conservation.
- 9.1 Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the service awards presented to the directors and staff and further that they be thanked for their years of dedicated service.

Conclusion of 2017 Business

2018 Business

10.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That Bill Bilton be appointed chair for the election of the 2018 Chair and Vice Chair.

10.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That Ken Williams and Dean Edwardson be appointed scrutineers in the event of an election.

10.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That nominations for the position of Chair be closed.

10.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed.

11.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2018 Nominating Committee's Report.

11.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the 2018 Executive Committee for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be:

_____, Chair
_____, Vice Chair

12. Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Authority Chair or the Vice Chair and the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or Director of Finance be authorized to borrow from the Libro Credit Union, Strathroy for the general operations and capital program of the Authority, a sum not to exceed \$1,173,855 to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed the member municipalities and general revenue.

13.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That MPW Chartered Professional Accountants LLP, be appointed auditors for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for 2018.

- 13.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Authority's 2018 representative to Conservation Ontario will be the Authority Chair, the Vice Chair will be the first alternate and the General Manager be the second alternate.
- 14.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report dated February 7, 2018.
- 14.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 1, 2018 regarding current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.
- 14.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 6, 2018 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed.
- 14.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 5, 2018, regarding potential Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects that will be submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources for funding in 2018-19.
- 14.5 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated January 31, 2018 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from December 31, 2017 to January 31, 2018.
- 14.6 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the schedule of Special Events outlined in the attached flyer.
- 14.7 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated January 30, 2018, regarding Healthy Watersheds program, stewardship outreach events including the David R. Montgomery lecture, the Lambton Soil and Crop Improvement Association's Annual Meeting and the Soil Health Conference.

- 14.8 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated January 26, 2018, on the Ontario Community Environment Fund grant “St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA)’s Tree Planting and Baseline Health Assessment” and authorizes St. Clair Conservation Authority to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Province of Ontario.
- 14.9 Moved by: Seconded by:
The Board of Directors acknowledges the receipt of the Hazard Tree Management Policy and further approves the implementation of the policy on lands owned and managed by the Conservation Authority.
16. Moved by: Seconded by:
That the meeting be adjourned.

December 14, 2017

The Board of Directors Meeting of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was held on the above date, at the Administrative Office, at the hour of 10:05 a.m.

Present: Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair; Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Mike Kelch, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Don McCallum, John McCharles, Dan McMillan, Jerry Westgate

Regrets: Alan Broad, Kevin Marriott, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, Gerry Rupke, Cindy Scholten, Jeff Wesley, Muriel Wright

Staff Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager; Kevan Baker, Director of Lands; Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, IT/GIS Coordinator; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Patty Hayman, Director of Planning; Tim Payne, Forest Management Specialist; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Manager of Water Resources

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous 2018.

It was requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

Minutes of the November 9, 2017 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

Giffen-MacKinnon

BD-17-168

That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held November 9, 2017, be approved as distributed.

CARRIED

Ontario Bill 139 - the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act

- Standing Committee on Social Policy made minor changes to the Section 4 - Conservation Authorities Act
- Third reading debate has occurred on November 23rd and 29th
- We have been advised by the Minister that she expects final reading of the Bill prior to the Christmas recess

Ontario Bill 148 - the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act

- Received Royal Assent on November 27th
- Direct changes to:
 - Employment Standards Act
 - Labour Relations Act
 - Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Impacts of 6 additional Acts
- Impacts for Authority
 - Increased minimum wage – summer Conservation Area and Conservation Services staff
 - On Call and Call-In minimum payments – Conservation Area and Water Management staff

GOAL: Reduce Canadian phosphorus loadings by 40 per cent	
CATEGORY OF ACTION	ACTIONS
A. Reduce phosphorus loadings	<p>A1. Support watershed and nearshore-based strategies and community-based planning for reducing phosphorus loadings</p> <p>A2. Reduce phosphorus loadings from urban areas</p> <p>A3. Reduce phosphorus loadings from agricultural and rural areas</p>
B. Ensure effective policies, programs and legislation	<p>B1. Support and strengthen policies, programs and legislation</p> <p>B2. Strengthen decision-making tools</p>
C. Improve the knowledge base	<p>C1. Conduct monitoring and modelling</p> <p>C2. Conduct research to better understand nutrient dynamics in the Lake Erie basin</p> <p>C3. Conduct research to better understand and predict the impact of climate change on the Lake Erie ecosystem</p> <p>C4. Conduct research to improve existing practices and develop new innovative practices and technologies for phosphorus loss reduction</p>
D. Educate and build awareness	<p>D1. Enhance communication and outreach to build awareness, improve understanding and influence change</p> <p>D2. Share data and information</p>
E. Strengthen leadership and co-ordination	<p>E1. Improve communication and co-ordination</p> <p>E2. Establish an adaptive management framework</p>

Draft Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan - Partnering on Achieving Phosphorus Loading Reductions in Lake Erie from Canadian Sources

- This action plan identifies a range of on-the-ground actions to reduce phosphorus loadings from urban, agricultural and rural lands, and to encourage good environmental stewardship
- These actions need to be co-ordinated with and linked to current federal, provincial and municipal government initiatives, as well as initiatives conducted by conservation authorities, key sectors and others
- The actions are separated into five categories and thirteen general actions
- 37 specific actions have been identified under Category A – 4 specific action attributed to Conservation Authorities
- 15 specific actions under Category B – 1 specific action attributed to Conservation Authorities
- 46 specific actions under Category C – 8 specific action attributed to Conservation Authorities
- 15 specific actions under Category D – 1 specific action attributed to Conservation Authorities and 1 specific action attributed to Conservation Ontario
- 10 specific actions under Category E – 1 specific action attributed to Conservation Authorities
- 123 total specific actions as of the last draft reviewed
- 15 specific actions attributed to Conservation Authorities and as many more where Authorities are included as unidentified partners of senior government
- Conservation Authorities figure prominently throughout the document as the senior levels of government look to us as a significant partner in any implementation plan to achieve a 40 percent reduction in phosphorous loads to Lake Erie by 2025
- The Action Plan is expected to be released in early 2018.

MacMillan-Kelch

BD-17-169

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report, dated November 30, 2017.

CARRIED

A verbal report from the December 11, 2017 Conservation Ontario Council meeting was given by Brian McDougall.

Bruinink-McCallum

BD-17-170

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report from the Conservation Ontario Council meeting of December 11, 2017.

CARRIED

From the November 9, 2017 meeting:

- (RE BD-17-145) Motion directed staff to offer letter to J. Burbidge in support of a petition to Plympton-Wyoming for an updated drainage report.
 - *Letter of support prepared for Chair's signature*
- As the SCRCA moves toward reducing our environmental footprint in the workplace, Board Packages have been made available online as of September 2017. For each board package not printed, this saves an average of 64 pieces of paper and \$11.47 in printing and courier costs. The Board of Directors have been asked to sign for their preferred format and current preferences are as follows:

Board of Directors - Preferred format	
Electronic	9
Printed copy	6
Not yet signed	5

An updated voting sheet was re-circulated at the meeting to allow for Board members to consider a new option of receiving the board package on a couriered USB rather than in paper format.

Kelch-Gordon

BD-17-171

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the November 9, 2017 meeting.

CARRIED

Conservation Areas Year in Review:

Camping Statistics:

- 418 full, half and quarter seasonal campers have registered in our 3 campgrounds, down from 421 in 2016. 190 seasonal campers are registered at Warwick (191 in 2016), 121 at LC Henderson (123 in 2016) and 107 at A.W. Campbell (107 in 2016).

- Our 3 regional campgrounds were busy this year, gross revenues to the end of October were \$ 1,184,000 (up 3 %), and net revenues are up 23% (seasonal camping up 2 % to \$824,000; overnight camping up 4% to \$231,000; and pump-out up 5% to \$38,000.00)

Warwick Conservation Area

- A 24 x 32 ft pole type storage shed was constructed
- Engineered wood chip playground protective surfacing was installed under the main day use area play equipment
- Hydro and water was installed to two overflow campsites in the woodlot campground
- 550 meters of chip and dust trail was developed around the perimeter of the 5-acre climate change tree growth plantation (Foundation).

L.C. Henderson Conservation Area

- One shower area was upgraded with new shower surround and ceramic tile on the floor and walls
- Two new hydro panels were installed, one in the main washroom building and one in the campground area
- Weir surfacing was improved with erosion control matting and gravel surfacing (WECI)
- New carpet and 4 x 4 side railings were installed on the mini put golf course

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

- Permanent hydro (6 – 30 amp campsites) was installed at the Campbell house group camp area
- The water distribution pump house was renovated with new internal and external siding and new internal plastic water lines
- Upgrades were completed at the main campground washroom (new concrete sidewalk) and at the gatehouse and entrance area (new signage and fee box)
- A weather station was installed (Water Resources Department)

Keith McLean Conservation Lands (Foundation Property):

- Scott O'Brien was hired as the property superintendent
- a trail identification sign was installed at the main parking lot
- A tower agreement was negotiated with XplorNet, the tower will be installed along Kent Bridge Line this fall
- The first Denning's Memorial Forest dedication was held on Sunday, September 17th; over 60 people attended

Highland Glen Conservation Area:

- 40ft of new walkway was installed along one side of the boat ramp
- An existing seawall was repaired by excavating and installing new tie back supports
- The armor stone on the outer seawall was re-positioned
- 2 LED beacon lights were installed on the outer seawall
- The McKay pay on-line payment system was implemented for vehicles and boat ramp traffic.

Other Lands Activities:

- A 3-acre wetland was constructed at property 97 in the McKeough Upstream Lands; this included a 2 acre pond and 1,000 hardwood trees (funded by Union Gas and Wildlife Habitat Canada)
- Approximately 680 meters of randomized tile drainage was installed on 2 McKeough Upstream agricultural properties.
- Esli Dodge - 4 tennis courts were constructed with asphalt surfacing and new fencing (project of Lambton Shores)
- Bridgeview – 2 oil wells were decommissioned (MNR funded)
- Coldstream – board walks were upgraded with 60 new boards and 20 cedar post supports
- Staff have maintained over 35 kms of trails by removing fallen, dead or dangerous trees and installing or repairing boardwalks
- Staff planted 72 hardwood, 35 cedar and spruce trees and 30 shrubs on Authority lands this fall (Foundation - Bingo)

McMillan-Bruinink**BD-17-172**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands report, dated November 30, 2017 outlining the maintenance and development activities on Conservation Lands for 2017.

CARRIED

Enviro-Friends of Coldstream Newsletter reviewed.

Gordon-Faas

BD-17-173

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the letter received from the Enviro-Friends of Coldstream highlighting activities and events at the Coldstream Conservation Area in 2017.

CARRIED

Watershed Stream Flow

- Review of precipitation and the associated flow at Wallaceburg during October and November identifies an average response to rain events increasing flows by no more than 20cm at the gauge. With milder temperatures, precipitation fell as rain and was quickly absorbed by the watershed returning to normal after a few days with the exception of a late November event which caused levels to rise prompting a **Watershed Conditions - Flood Outlook Bulletin**. This resulted from precipitation concentrated upstream in the central areas of the watershed as noted by Warwick OTT Pluvio High resolution rain gauge
- A comparison of monthly flow averages indicate flows in November are very close to normal with the exception of Alvinston. As temperatures cool into the winter months flows will continue to moderate to average levels with freezing conditions. January average levels are indicated with the blue line.
- Regional precipitation numbers for the last quarter are lower at most stations (**71%** to **89%**) and above average for Windsor and the southern areas of the Watershed resulting in an overall average of **86.7%** for the region. Six month rainfall was a little below that at **83%** however the full years regional average is right on target at **99.5%**

Flood Threat

Based on current conditions we continue to monitor any major rain events as they occur. Several rain events influenced river levels and current weather patterns are anticipated to continue to remain seasonal into the winter months and these are expected to prevail with seasonal flows remaining in the average range. Advisories will be provided as conditions dictate.

Weather Forecast

(Weather Network data)

- Short term conditions indicate slightly above normal temperatures and normal precipitation into the first part of December.

Great Lakes Levels (Canadian Hydrometric, data – October 2017)

The monthly comparison for October 2017 (current available data) indicates that Lake Huron levels higher again (**18cm**) compared to October 2017 suggesting a continued higher trend in local lake levels. Numbers also continue to increase above the 10-year average for Lake Huron by **67cm**. Lake St. Clair levels are higher than last year (**14cm**) and **50cm** above the 10 year average. Both Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair current values (October) continue to remain above the average for the entire period of record by **44cm** and **47cm** respectively.

- Research data provided by the Great Lakes Environmental lab outlines the balance or water budget for major inputs and outputs from each of the Great Lakes. Continued research in the is area can be used to assist in predicting changes in the basin system and which factors may influence lake levels now and in the future.

Gordon-McMillan

BD-17-174

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 1, 2017 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.

CARRIED

Status Update: Phase I

- A budget of \$600,000 has been confirmed for the project (St. Clair Township \$300,000; MNRF (WECl) - \$300,000)
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project during the week of November 8th
- Tenders closed on 23rd November
- Staff reviewed the tenders and made the recommendation to the Board Members on December 14.
- Staff are coordinating with MNRF and DFO for permits
- Construction is expected to begin early January 2018
- Lowest Tender is by Bre-Ex Construction Inc for \$441, 453.60 Inclusive of H.S.T

Tender Results were reviewed.

McCharles-Bruinink

BD-17-175

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2017 regarding the tender opening for Phase 1 – Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements and further accepts the tender of Bre-Ex Construction Inc subject to a complete review of the tenders, a satisfactory financial capabilities review of the preferred contractor and authorizes the Chair to sign contracts for the project.

CARRIED

Status Update: Phase I

- A budget of \$600,000 has been confirmed for the project (City of Sarnia \$300,000; MNRF (WECI) - \$300,000)
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project during the week of November 13th
- Tenders closed on November 30th
- Staff reviewed the tenders and made the recommendation to the Board Members on December 14.
- Construction is expected to begin early January 2018
- Awaiting permit from DFO
- Lowest Tender is by Atlantis Marine Construction Canada Inc for \$531, 828.85 Inclusive of H.S.T

Tender results were reviewed.

Bruinink-Kelch

BD-17-176

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2017 regarding the tender opening for Phase 1 – Brights Grove – Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue and further accepts the tender of Atlantis Marine Construction subject to a complete review of the tenders, a satisfactory financial capabilities review of the preferred contractor and authorizes the Chair to sign contracts for the project.

CARRIED

Upcoming Events:

David R. Montgomery Lecture – December 12, 7-9 pm Sarnia

David R. Montgomery is a geologist and professor of Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington, Seattle. His research has focused on how soil erosion has undermined once-great civilizations around the world. He will discuss how soil has shaped us and we, the soil. Despite mapping out this correlation, soil degradation on a global scale remains outside of the spotlight, yet it is one of the most solvable crises.

Montgomery highlights farmers who focus on improving soil health and regenerative practices can mend damaged environments and improve their bottom line. He shows how no-till, cover crops, and diverse crop rotations can sustain the indispensable soil microbial ecosystem and in turn, a farmer's crops and livelihood. In doing so, agriculture can help feed the world and pull carbon from the atmosphere.

Montgomery will be joining us in Sarnia to discuss his research combining ancient wisdom with modern science to make the case for a vision where agriculture becomes the solution to environmental problems. The event is free and all are welcome – farmers, gardeners, and the community.

Soil Health Conference – February 15, 2018, Chatham

We are really looking forward to our upcoming Soil Health Conference! Frank Gibbs (Wetland and Soil Consulting Services, LLC) worked for the USDA in Ohio for 36 years and will speak on BMPs in hydric soils. Dr. David Lobb (University of Manitoba) will share on the economics of soil loss through wind, water and tillage erosion. Dr. Wendy Taheri (Terra Nimbus) is a specialist in arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi & plant growth. Dale Cowan (AGRIS and Wanstead Cooperatives) is a Senior agronomist and sales manager, 4R Nutrient Stewardship Specialist, and 2016 International Certified Crop Adviser of the Year who will speak about local initiatives.

In addition, 15 local farmers will be sharing their experiences on our farmer panel discussions. Panel topics include reducing tillage, cover crop and rotational grazing, erosion control methods, soil stewards on big acres, planting green, and making interseeding work. The event is funded through OMAFRA COA.

To register: <https://www.scrca.on.ca/events/soil-health-conference/>

Westgate-MacKinnon

BD-17-177

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 22 2017 on the Healthy Watersheds Programs Outreach Update.

CARRIED

SCRCA Planning activity summary for the month of September, October and November was reviewed.

Faas-Kelch

BD-17-178

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for September, October and November 2017.

CARRIED

Summary of September, October and November 2017 activity related to the Conservation Authority's Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04) was reviewed.

McMillan-Gordon

BD-17-179

That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for September, October and November 2017.

CARRIED

"Cracks in the Foundation" – Oct 13, 2017 Hamilton Spectator article was reviewed.

Bruinink-Kelch

BD-17-180

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the newspaper article dated October 13, 2017 on erosion occurring on the Niagara Escarpment as an informational item only.

CARRIED

- The Committee held its 1st meeting November 28, 2017 at the SCRCA Administration Office.
- The Committee requests the entire draft Manual be reviewed by the Committee before its first release. The first release of the manual involves circulation to municipal technical focus groups.
- The Committee would like to see a general timeline.
- A detailed public and First Nations communication strategy will be developed in the future. Approximate public release is anticipated for 2018-2019. The communication strategy is to be reviewed and approved by the Committee. This phase of consultation will consider how input is to be received and incorporated. Expertise from the SCRCA Communications Department will be obtained for the development of this strategy; with the focus being Education and Information sharing.
- The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday February 8th, 2018 at 9:00 am at the Strathroy Administrative Office.

McCharles-Giffen

BD-17-181

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the summary of the Planning Procedural Manual and Technical Guidelines Committee meeting held November 28, 2017.

CARRIED

SCRCA September 27, 2017 Joint Health & Safety Committee Minutes were reviewed.

**Kelch-Westgate
BD-17-182**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the September 27, 2017 meeting minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee.

CARRIED

Revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2017 was reviewed.

**McMillan-MacKinnon
BD-17-183**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2017, as it relates to the budget.

CARRIED

The SCRCA disbursements from November 2017 were reviewed.

**Bruinink-Bruziewicz
BD-17-184**

That the Board of Directors approves the November 2017 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$423,484.17.

CARRIED

The report on the 2017 General Levy Receipts to date was reviewed. It was confirmed that all levies are now paid.

**Kelch-Gordon
BD-17-185**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2017 general levy receipts to date.

CARRIED

The report on Investment Analysis and the Investment reports for the period ending October 31, 2017 were reviewed.

**Faas-Gordon
BD-17-186**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 1, 2017 on Investment Analysis and attached Investment Reports for the period ending October 31, 2017.

CARRIED

The draft Statement of Operations as at September 30, 2017 was reviewed.

Bruinink-Giffen

BD-17-187

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the draft Statement of Operations as at September 30, 2017

CARRIED

Changes to the Administrative Manual were reviewed.

Kelch-McMillan

BD-17-188

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report and approves the 2017 changes to the Administration Manual.

CARRIED

2018 budget was considered and a weighted vote for non-matching levy was recorded.

Municipal Funding Summary	2018	2018			
	Budget	Budget		y/n	
	Total CVA	CVA	Representative	Vote	
Municipality	Apport.%	Apport.%			
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	1.7919%	1.7919%	Betty Ann MacKinnon	y	
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	1.6459%	1.6459%	Frank Nemcek		regrets
Chatham-Kent M		6.5221%	Joe Faas	y	
Chatham-Kent M	13.0442%	6.5221%	Jeff Wesley		regrets
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	2.4895%	2.4895%	Alan Broad		regrets
Enniskillen Tp	1.8246%	1.8246%	Kevin Marriott		regrets
Lambton Shores M	4.9393%	4.9393%	Gerry Rupke		regrets
Middlesex Centre M	2.1241%	2.1241%	Dan MacMillan	y	
Newbury V	0.1455%	0.1455%	Don McCallum	y	
Oil Springs V	0.1979%	0.1979%	Kevin Marriott		regrets
Petrolia T	2.5349%	2.5349%	John McCharles	y	
Plympton-Wyoming T	5.2521%	5.2521%	Murel Wright		regrets
Point Edward V	2.3394%	2.3394%	Larry Gordon	y	
Sarnia C		13.0475%	Mike Kelch	y	
Sarnia C		13.0475%	Cindy Scholten		regrets
Sarnia C	39.1424%	13.0475%	Andy Bruziewicz	y	

Southwest Middlesex M	1.1405%	1.1405%	Don McCallum	n	
		5.5006%	Steve Arnold	y	
St. Clair Tp	11.0011%	5.5006%	Steve Miller		regrets
		4.1624%	Norm Giffen	y	
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	8.3248%	4.1624%	Tony Bruinink	y	
Warwick Tp	2.0619%	2.0619%	Jerry Westgate	y	

100% 100%

57.440% Yes

1.141% No

**Total of CVA Levy
Apportionment
Present**

58.581% Total

**Vote Passed
By**

98.053%

Vote for

12

**McMillan-Bruinink
BD-17-189**

That the Board of Directors approves the 2018 budget of \$7,015,586 with a non-matching general levy of \$553,855 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the Modified Current Value Assessment of each Municipality within the Authority's area of jurisdiction.

CARRIED

**Kelch-Gordon
BD-17-190**

That the Board of Directors approves the 2018 budget of \$7,015,586 with a municipal matching general levy of \$310,000 including finalized Modified Current Value Assessment values, updates to specific projects and municipal comments received to date.

CARRIED

This surplus equipment has no value, and will be delivered to an e-waste facility.

- OLD Win 2003 Server Tower “Hyde” – non-functioning
- OLD Win 2003 Server Tower “GIS-Data” – obsolete, not supported
- C0084 Desktop Tower – non-functioning
- C0092 Desktop Tower - non-functioning
- C0063 Desktop Tower - non-functioning
- LG 17” LCD Monitor - non-functioning - S/N 708NDKD56213
- Lexmark Colour Laser Printer C543dn - non-functioning – S/N 9468NNM
- Linksys 2.4 GHz Wireless Router – obsolete - S/N CDFB0F3A8849
- Linksys 2.4 GHz Wireless Router – obsolete – S/N CDF80E4P4310
- DLink Router – obsolete – S/N R3ET1D3000975
- Misc – broken keyboards/mice/cables

Faas-McMillan

BD-17-191

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 4, 2017 regarding the disposal of nonessential and surplus equipment and approves the disposal method as outlined.

CARRIED

MacKinnon-Bruinink

BD-17-192

That the Board of Directors go in camera at 11:26 a.m. to discuss Conservation Awards and Personnel issues with the General Manager, Director of Finance and Communications Technician remaining.

CARRIED

Bruziewicz-Kelch

BD-17-194

That the Board of Directors rise and report at 11:40 a.m.

CARRIED

MacKinnon-Kelch

BD-17-193

That the Board of Directors endorse the motions from the in-camera discussion.

CARRIED

Under New Business:

- A Presentation on the 2017 Conservation Authorities Bi-ennial Tour at Credit Valley Conservation and Conservation Halton was given by Tony Bruinink.

- The Board of Directors requests that the high and low year figures be represented on each surface water elevation graph provided within the Current Watershed Conditions reports.

Faas-Bruziewicz

BD-17-195

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



Steve Arnold
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager

February 12, 2018

The Executive Committee of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority met at the Administration Office in Strathroy, on the above date, at the hour of 10:30 a.m.

Directors Present: Steve Arnold, Chair
Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair
Joe Faas
Norm Giffen
Larry Gordon
Betty Ann MacKinnon
Cindy Scholten
Jeff Wesley
Muriel Wright

Also Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager
Kevan Baker Director of Lands
Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology
Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator
Tracy Prince, Director of Financial Services
Girish Sankar, Manager of Water Resources
Mitch Geerts, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants
Ken Williams, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

The Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act 2017

- The attached correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF) confirms that Royal Assent was received for the above noted act.
- Some changes to the Conservation Authorities Act are effective immediately, timelines are provided for implementation of other changes and still further changes are expected through subsequent regulations
- Changes effective immediately include:
 - Section 2 – definition of operating expenses
 - Section 20 – public access to agreements
 - Section 21 – Fee establishment, collection and review
 - Section 23 & 24 – Levy apportionment and payment

- Section 25 & 26 – Regulations and permitting
- Section 27 – Authority lands
- Section 29 – Enforcement and offences
- Section 33 – Governance and Minister’s Regulations
- Additional information available upon request
- Authority bylaws are to be updated by December 2018 – Conservation Ontario is working with MNRF to provide a template for all Authorities that should be available by March

New Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

- A cabinet shuffle at Queen’s Park on January 17 provided a new Minister for MNFRF
- Nathalie Des Rosiers, the new Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, formerly held the position of Parliamentary Assistant with the Ministries of Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and was also a member on the Standing Committees for Estimates and Justice Policy – She is a well-known constitutional law expert and has held many respected positions
- Conservation Ontario is seeking an introductory meeting with the new Minister

Lambton Children’s Safety Village

- Staff continue to seek assessments of the existing hydro service and septic facilities to obtain an understanding of the capacity of LC Henderson CA to accommodate the proposed safety village
- A verbal update was given at the meeting. Hydro Assessment is estimated at \$50,000 and advised that primary metering would be more costly

EC-18-01

Wright-Scholten

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the General Manager’s report dated January 30, 2018.”

CARRIED

A presentation of the 2017 Audited Financial Statements was given by Ken Williams, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants.

EC-18-02

Giffen-Faas

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report from the Authority’s auditors, MPW Chartered Professional Accounts, LLP and accepts responsibility for the 2017 financial statements and the Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds and year end finances and further approves the year-end adjustments, reserves and reserve adjustments as outlined in the schedule dated December 31, 2017 and recommends that the Board of Directors approves the 2017 Audited Financial Statements.”

CARRIED

The December 2017 disbursements were reviewed.

EC-18-03

Gordon-Bruziewicz

“That the Executive Committee approves the December 2017 disbursements, as presented in the amount of \$413,799.79.”

CARRIED

The report on 2017 municipal general levy summary was reviewed.

EC-18-04

MacKinnon-Gordon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges that all 2017 municipal general levy has been received.”

CARRIED

The report on 2017 Director Expenses was reviewed.

EC-18-05

Scholten-MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the Status Summary report, dated January, 2018 on directors’ expenses from January 1 to December 31, 2017.”

CARRIED

The following campground capital improvements were approved in the 2018 budget and completed with profits generated from camping revenues.

Warwick Conservation Area

- Install hydro and a new ag tuff ceiling in the storage shed that was constructed in 2017

- Renovate the 9 hole mini golf course with new carpet and 4 x 4 lumber
- Upgrade roadways with gravel
- All light fixtures and exterior lighting to be upgraded with LED bulbs and new fixtures
- Laundry shed has been constructed and installed on site

L.C. Henderson Conservation Area

- Upgrade beneath the playground equipment with engineered wood chips and subsurface drainage
- Upgrade roadways with gravel
- Install trailer pads on 5 campsites in the Towerview camping area; pads will enable trailers to be installed and removed during wet conditions
- Light fixtures to be upgraded with LED bulbs
- Catch basins and subsurface drainage tile to be installed to improve roadside and campsite drainage
- Install one solar pole light in the un-serviced camping area

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

- The visitor center concrete sidewalk and deck to be upgraded
- Improvements to be made to the main entrance roadway between the river crossing and the main parking lot
- A hydro panel to be upgraded in the main campground area
- Roadways to be upgraded with gravel
- Pavilion roof to be replaced with steel
- All light fixtures and exterior lighting to be upgraded with LED bulbs and new fixtures

Highland Glen Conservation Area:

- Install approximately 60 ft of new walkway along the inside of the boat ramp seawall
- Repair a section of top railing and re-weld a number of joints on one of the outer seawalls

Other Lands Activities:

- 12 board walk sections have been constructed and will be placed along conservation area trails (funded by Foundation)
- Sub-surface drainage and soil erosion works are planned for Property 82 on the McKeough Upstream lands

- Forest management reviews and inventories will be carried out on the Evoy, Coldstream woodlot, McPhail and the Bannerstone properties
- Forestry staff will be preparing a MFTIP application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the Reid Conservation Area; this will significantly reduce the taxes on 70 acres of woodlands currently zoned residential
- Maple Syrup Festival is planned for the March 17th and 18th weekend at the AW Campbell Conservation Area
- Staff have been busy taking campsite reservation for the 2018 camping season; to date we have taken 380 reservations (378 in 2017) and have collected over \$54,000.00, in revenue (GST adjusted) (\$56,000.00 in 2017) (numbers to January 19th, 2018).

EC-18-06

Scholten-Faas

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the Conservation Lands status report dated January 22, 2018.”

CARRIED

- Current flow numbers have stabilized following a warmer period during the week of January 23rd when several days of above zero temperatures melted much of the snowpack combined with 20 - 30mm rainfall
- River ice that was firmly in place since the colder period in December and early January, had melted as of this report. Cooler seasonal conditions into February may result in moving ice becoming frozen in place in many areas of the watershed
- January levels as compared to monthly expected averages at all gauges. Normal March average levels by comparison, are close to our existing levels
- A comparison of flow at Wallaceburg of 2016 to 2017 indicates that flows were generally lower in 2017 likely due to lower temperatures and most precipitation falling as snow and not entering the watercourses immediately
- Regional precipitation numbers for the last quarter are at or above average for most stations with the exception of Sarnia (70.7%). This is due to extensive lake effect snowfall in the upper reaches of the watershed notably in December resulting in an overall average of 107.1% for the region. Six month precipitation was a little below that at 85.3% however the full years regional average is right on target at 100.7%

St. Clair River/Lake Huron Ice Conditions

- Extensive ice formation due to low December temperatures on the lower parts of Lake Huron as well as the formation of ice in the St. Clair River has resulted in significant formation of ice jamming south of Courtright this year. Damage to the

Sombra ferry docks and many other private docks along the river has been extensive. With a milder trend at the end of January we have now observed movement of the ice pack further south toward Walpole Island

- Levels are currently being monitored and advisories will be included in SCRCA Flood Bulletins based on Fisheries and Oceans hydrology data located at Point Edward and Port Lambton. Additional equipment will also be deployed to provide increased monitoring capabilities in this region
- Lake Huron ice conditions have moderated with the shift to warmer temperatures opening up previously frozen areas at the southern portion of the lake as of January 28th
- An annual comparison of lake temperatures and ice formation identifies 2018 as being a colder (4.7C) than 2017 (5.9C) and 2016 (6.4C). Open lake conditions may contribute to additional lake effect snow.

Snow Conditions

- As noted 2017 had extensive snow in December but very little in the remaining year
- By contrast 2018 received significant accumulations until mid-January when a thaw reduced snowpack to zero in most of the watershed. This situation may change into February.

Flood Threat

Changeable weather patterns into February and March will potentially contribute to an uneven ice breakup. Ice jamming can cause unpredictable areas of high-level conditions both throughout the watershed and on the St. Clair River. Milder conditions in conjunction with precipitation events may create flooding in flood prone areas into the spring. We will continue to monitor conditions and issue bulletins as needed.

Current Weather

- It was evident that the end of 2017 and into the first part of 2018 was generally colder than normal, being significantly below the monthly means for the period. Temperatures moderated into the end of January and into February.
- Anticipated temperatures and precipitation suggest a slightly below average February and a mild and wet March
- The effect of El Nino on continental weather systems has been evident this winter season with colder temperatures
- While these factors may dominate during a given period, any combination of three influencing factors may contribute to our weather systems.

Great Lakes Levels (Canadian Hydrometric, data – December 2017)

The monthly comparison for December 2017 (current available data) indicates that Lake Huron levels higher again (24cm) compared to December 2016 suggesting a continued

higher trend in local lake levels. Numbers also continue to increase above the 10-year average for Lake Huron by 70cm. Lake St. Clair levels are higher than last year (24cm) 49cm above the 10 year average. Both Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair current values (December) continue to remain above the average for the entire period of record by 46cm and 45cm respectively.

EC-18-07

Scholten-Wesley

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated January 23, 2017 on the Great Lakes water levels and current watershed conditions.”

CARRIED

Minutes of the January 11, 2018 Flood Action Committee meeting were reviewed.

EC-18-08

Bruziewicz-Faas

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee held on January 11, 2018 in Wallaceburg.”

CARRIED

Motion from the January 11, 2018 Flood Action Committee was brought forth to the Executive Committee.

EC-18-09

Bruziewicz-Faas

“That the Flood Action Committee requests that the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority request funding support from both the Provincial and Federal governments for the removal of fallen and falling trees as well as woody debris obstructions from the waterways to prevent flood issues, control local infrastructure protection costs and reduce risks to personal and commercial watercraft that use the lower Sydenham River.”

CARRIED

- There were 66 hunters on the 2017-2018 McKeough Floodway Upstream Properties Conservation hunting list
- Staff are currently revising the 2017-2018 hunting package to keep current with changes to the Ontario Hunting Regulations.
- Once the final revisions have been completed the 2017-2018 hunting permit application will be posted on our website.

- The controlled deer hunt zone draws were not required this year as the number of hunters applying for each zone were within our allowable numbers, allowing every hunter to hunt their first choice zone.
- The finalized hunting list was e-mailed to enforcement agencies and the controlled deer hunt zone allocations were emailed to enforcement agencies before the November and December controlled deer hunt seasons.

November Controlled Deer Hunt

- There were 5 hunters on the controlled deer hunt list for the November season
- McKeough staff patrolled the channel and upstream properties at random times throughout the week during the controlled deer hunt.
- There were no hunting related problems or violations found during the controlled deer hunt

December Controlled Deer Hunt

- There were 11 hunters on the controlled deer hunt list for the December Season
- The 11 hunters were hunting in 4 groups
- McKeough staff patrolled the channel and upstream properties at random times throughout the week during the controlled deer hunt.
- There were no hunting related problems or violations found during this controlled deer hunt.

Issues and suggestions

- Wildlife enforcement officials have once again suggested that we install signs on all properties with the boundary designation, similar to those installed on the McKeough upstream properties. It was also suggested that a contact number be included on the sign and that we install 'no hunting' signs on properties where the Conservation Authority does not permit hunting to inform the public and allow enforcement officials to enforce more stringent game laws and fines.
- Staff received a number of requests for permits to hunt after the August 21st deadline - Staff discussed the issue and agreed that keeping the August 21st deadline was in the best interest of the Conservation Authority.

EC-18-10

Scholten-MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated January 25, 2018 regarding the 2017 deer hunt on McKeough Upstream Lands.”

CARRIED

EC-18-11
Faas-Giffen
“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED



Steve Arnold
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager

Meeting Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: February 7, 2018
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Item 14.1

Subject: General Manager's Report

Recommendation:

That this report be accepted as an update.

Background:

Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act Receives Royal Assent

- ❖ The above legislation includes changes to the Conservation Authorities Act
- ❖ Some changes are effective immediately, timelines are provided for implementation of other changes and still further changes are expected through subsequent regulations
- ❖ Changes effective immediately include:
 - Section 2 – definition of operating expenses
 - Section 20 – public access to agreements
 - Section 21 – Fee establishment, collection and review
 - Section 23 & 24 – Levy apportionment and payment
 - Section 25 & 26 – Regulations and permitting
 - Section 27 – Authority lands
 - Section 29 – Enforcement and offences
 - Section 33 – Governance and Minister's Regulations
 - Additional information available upon request
- ❖ Authority bylaws are to be updated by December 2018 – Conservation Ontario is working with MNR to provide a template for all Authorities that should be available by March

New Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

- ❖ On January 17, Nathalie Des Rosiers, was named Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
- ❖ She formerly held the position of Parliamentary Assistant with the Ministries of Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
- ❖ Conservation Ontario is seeking an introductory meeting with the new Minister in the near future

Lambton Children's Safety Village (LCSV)

- ❖ Hydro One has provided a verbal estimate for the draft development plan for the LCSV at LC Henderson CA – changes to the existing servicing will be able to provide the necessary hydro based on the draft plan – however, updates to existing transformers, lines of service, etc. have been estimated at a minimum of \$50,000.00 – these costs are in advance of any construction costs
- ❖ MIG Consulting Engineers will be providing an assessment of the septic facilities, the capabilities to accommodate the proposed increase services and use, as well as a cost estimate for any changes, additions, etc. that would be required to support the proposed development
- ❖ Updates to the draft development plan have raised additional concerns with staff regarding the impacts on the existing education programs and the campground
- ❖ A report will be provided to the April Board meeting providing further details on the servicing costs and impact concerns



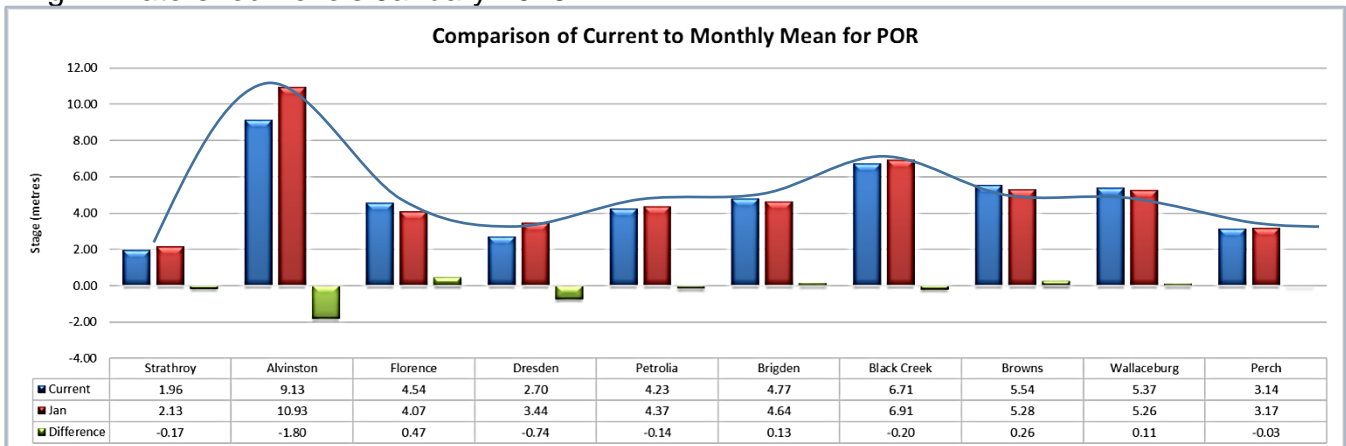
Meeting Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: February 1, 2018
Submitted by: Steve Clark, Water Resources Specialist

Item 14.2

Subject: Current Watershed and Lake Conditions

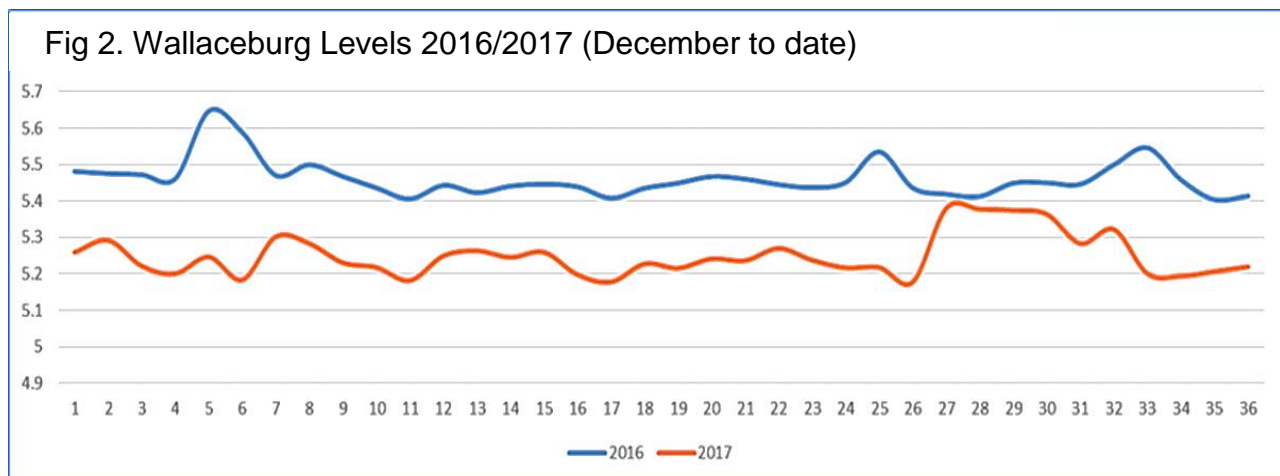
Watershed Stream Flow

Fig 1. Watershed Levels January 2018



- Current flow numbers have stabilized following a warmer period during the week of January 23rd when several days of above zero temperatures melted much of the snowpack combined with 20 - 30mm rainfall
- River ice that was firmly in place since the colder period in December and early January, had melted as of this report. Cooler seasonal conditions into February may result in moving ice becoming frozen in place in many areas of the watershed
- Fig 1 identifies January levels (red bars) as compared to monthly expected averages (blue bars) at all gauges. Normal March average levels (blue line) by comparison, are close to our existing levels.

Fig 2. Wallaceburg Levels 2016/2017 (December to date)



- A comparison of flow at Wallaceburg (fig 2) of 2016 to 2017 indicates that flows were generally lower in 2017 likely due to lower temperatures and most precipitation falling as snow and not entering the watercourses immediately.
- Regional precipitation numbers (fig 3) for the last quarter are at or above average for most stations with the exception of Sarnia (**66.7%**). Extensive lake effect snowfall was evident in the upper reaches of the watershed notably in December and January for Strathroy resulting in an overall average of **103%** for the region. Six month precipitation was a little below that at **90.3%** however the full years regional average is on target at **99.7%**

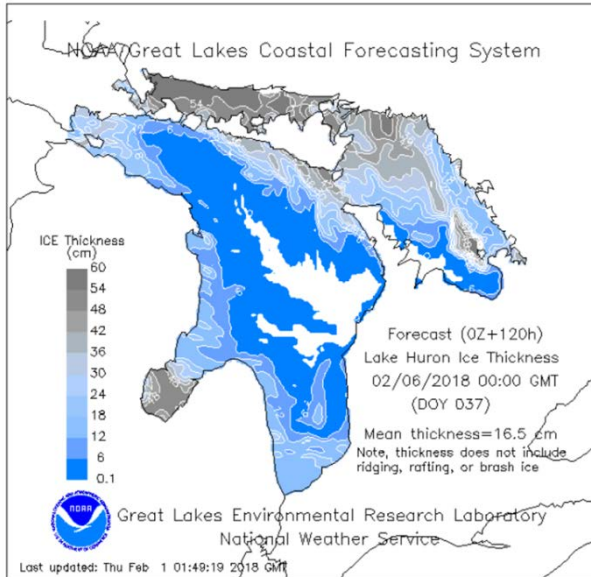
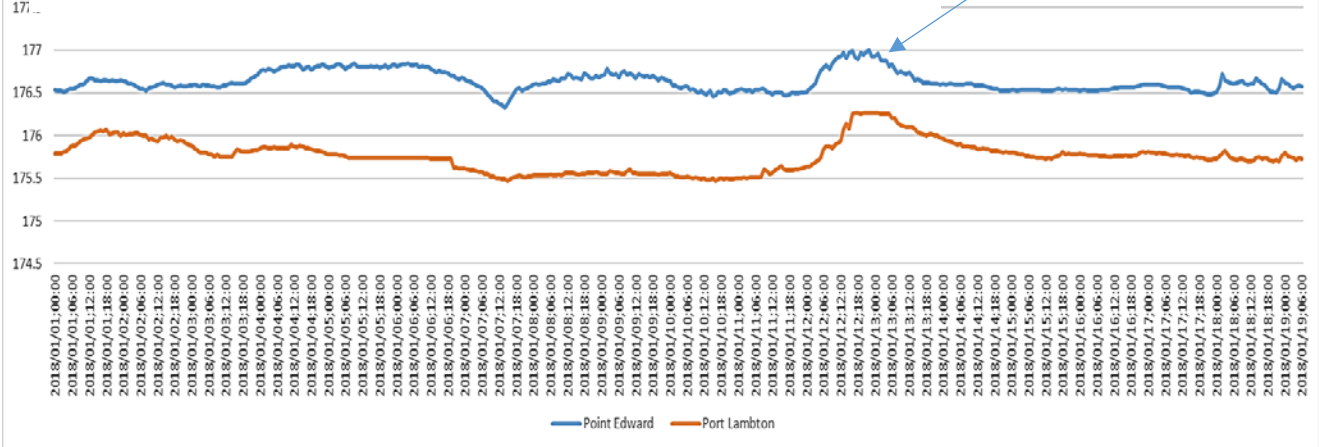
Fig 3. Regional Precipitation

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
Last Quarter								
November	62	76.4	93.6	94.5	88.4	91.1	140.2	75.5
December	25.3	68	82.2	92.4	63.5	88.6	124.8	74.7
January	41.3	50.1	96.6	75.3	84.4	74.2	44.5	57.6
Averages								
last 3 month totals	128.6	194.5	272.4	262.2	236.3	253.9	309.5	207.8
last 3 month % of normal	66.1%		103.9%		93.1%		148.9%	
regional average	103.0%							
last 6 month totals	303.2	431.6	436.4	504.9	395.6	514.5	572.9	448.6
last 6 month % of normal	70.3%		86.4%		76.9%		127.7%	
regional average	90.3%							
last 12 month totals	700	846.8	989.7	945.1	934.3	987	1046.5	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	82.7%		104.7%		94.7%		113.9%	
regional average	99.0%							

St. Clair River/Lake Huron Ice Conditions

- Extensive ice formation due to low December temperatures on the lower parts of Lake Huron as well as the formation of ice in the St. Clair River has resulted in significant formation of ice jamming south of Courtright this year. Damage to the Sombra ferry docks and many other private docks along the river has been extensive. With a milder trend at the end of January we have now observed movement of the ice pack further south toward with open water in much of the river north of Walpole Island
- Levels are currently being monitored and advisories will be include in SCRCA Flood Bulletins based on Fisheries and Oceans hydrology data located at Point Edward and Port Lambton. Additional equipment will also be deployed to provide increased monitoring capabilities in this region (fig 4)

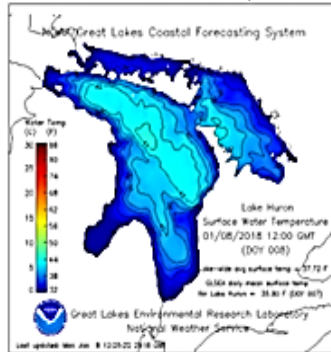
Fig 4. St. Clair River Levels – January to Date



- While Lake Huron ice conditions moderated with the shift to warmer temperatures in mid-January opening previously frozen areas at the southern portion of the lake, colder temperatures into February forecasts indicate re-freezing some areas of open water in the lake.

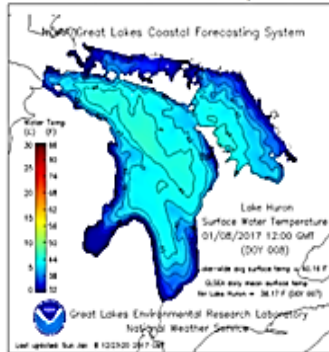
- An annual comparison of lake temperatures and ice formation identifies 2018 as being a colder (4.7C) than 2017 (5.9C) and 2016 (6.4C). Open lake conditions may contribute to additional lake effect snow.

Lake Huron Whole Volume Temp = 40.4 F



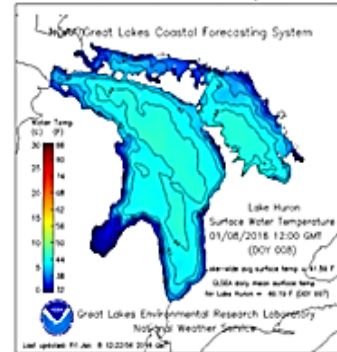
2018

Mean Lake Huron Whole Volume Temp = 42.8 F



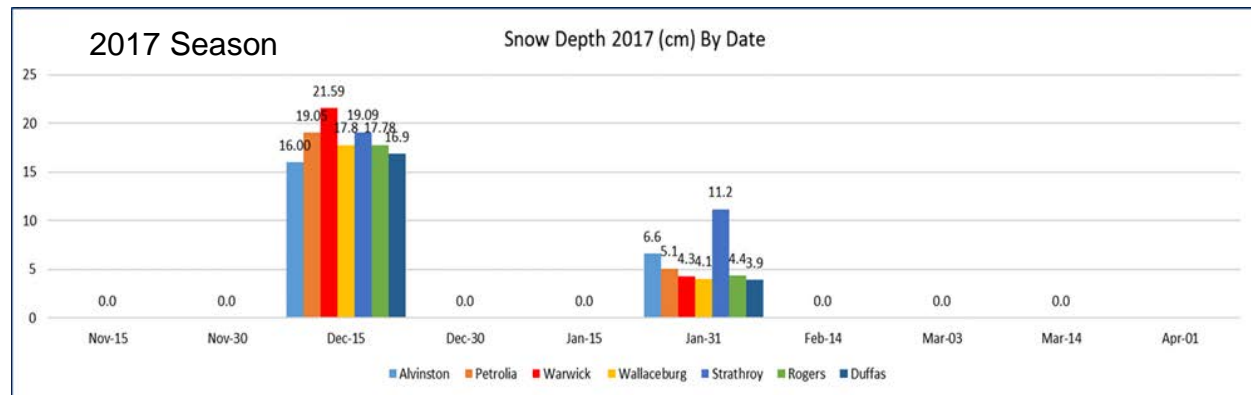
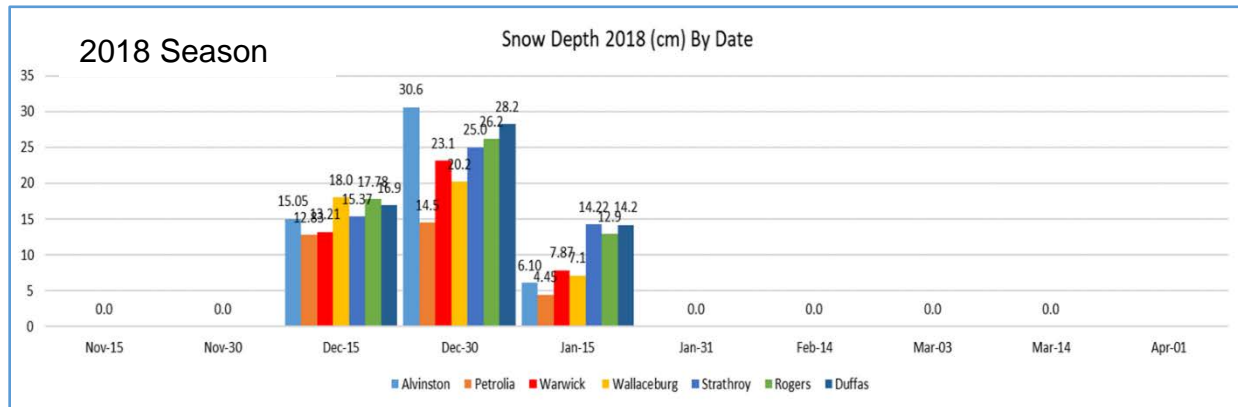
2017

Mean Lake Huron Whole Volume Temp = 43.5 F



2016

Snow Conditions



- As noted 2017 had extensive snow in December but very little in the remaining year
- In contrast 2018 received significant accumulations until mid-January when a thaw reduced snowpack to zero in most of the watershed. This situation may change into February.

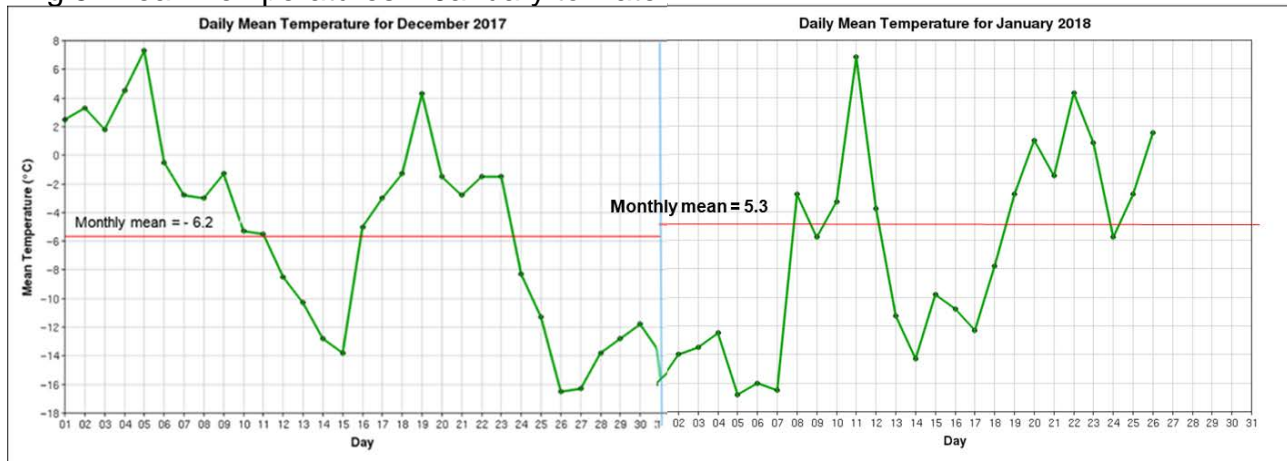
Flood Threat

Changeable weather patterns into February and March will potentially contribute to an uneven ice breakup. Ice jamming can cause unpredictable areas of high-level conditions both throughout the watershed and on the St. Clair River. Milder conditions in conjunction with precipitation events may create flooding in flood prone areas into the spring. We will continue to monitor conditions and issue bulletins as needed.

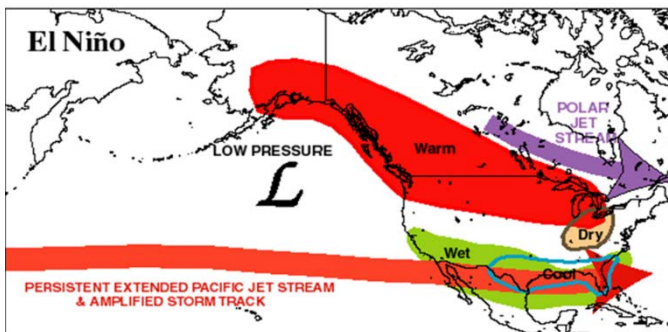
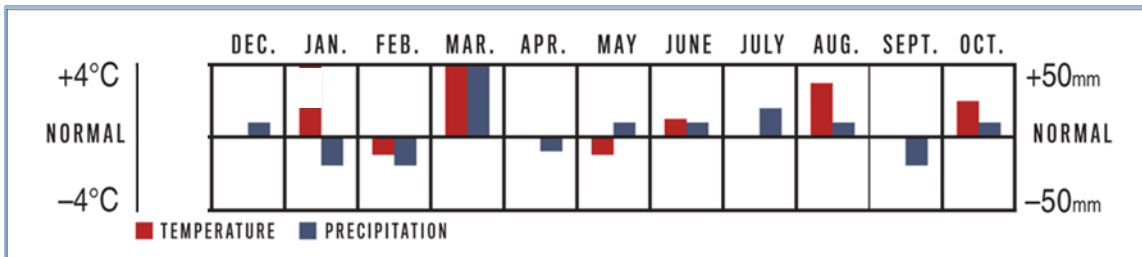
Current Weather

- It was evident that the end of 2017 and into the first part of 2018 was generally colder than normal (fig 5) being significantly below the monthly means for the period. Temperatures moderated into the end of January and into February.

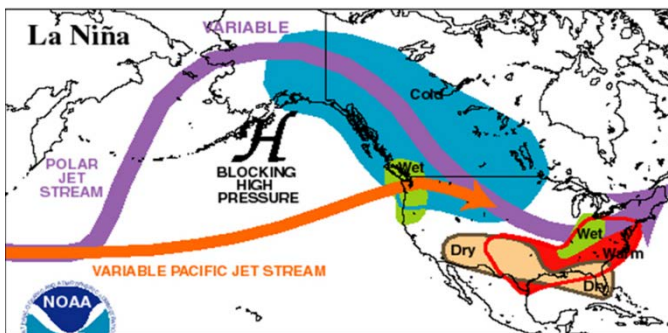
Fig 5. Mean Temperatures – January to Date



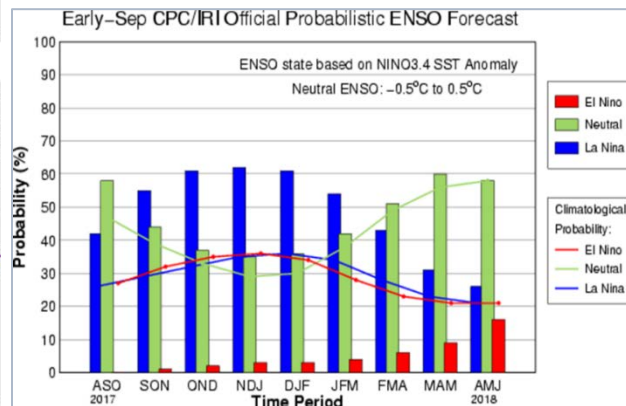
- Anticipated temperatures and precipitation suggest a slightly below average February and a mild and wet March



- The effect of El Niño on continental weather systems has been evident this winter season with colder temperatures



- While these factors may dominate during a given period, any combination of three influencing factors may contribute to our weather systems as illustrated below.



Climate Prediction Center/NCEP/NWS

Great Lakes Levels (Canadian Hydrometric, data – December 2017)

The monthly comparison for December 2017 (current available data) indicates that Lake Huron levels higher again (**24cm**) compared to December 2016 suggesting a continued higher trend in local lake levels. Numbers also continue to increase above the 10-year average for Lake Huron by **70cm**. Lake St. Clair levels are higher than last year (**24cm**) **49cm** above the 10 year average. Both Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair current values (December) continue to remain above the average for the entire period of record by **46cm** and **45cm** respectively.

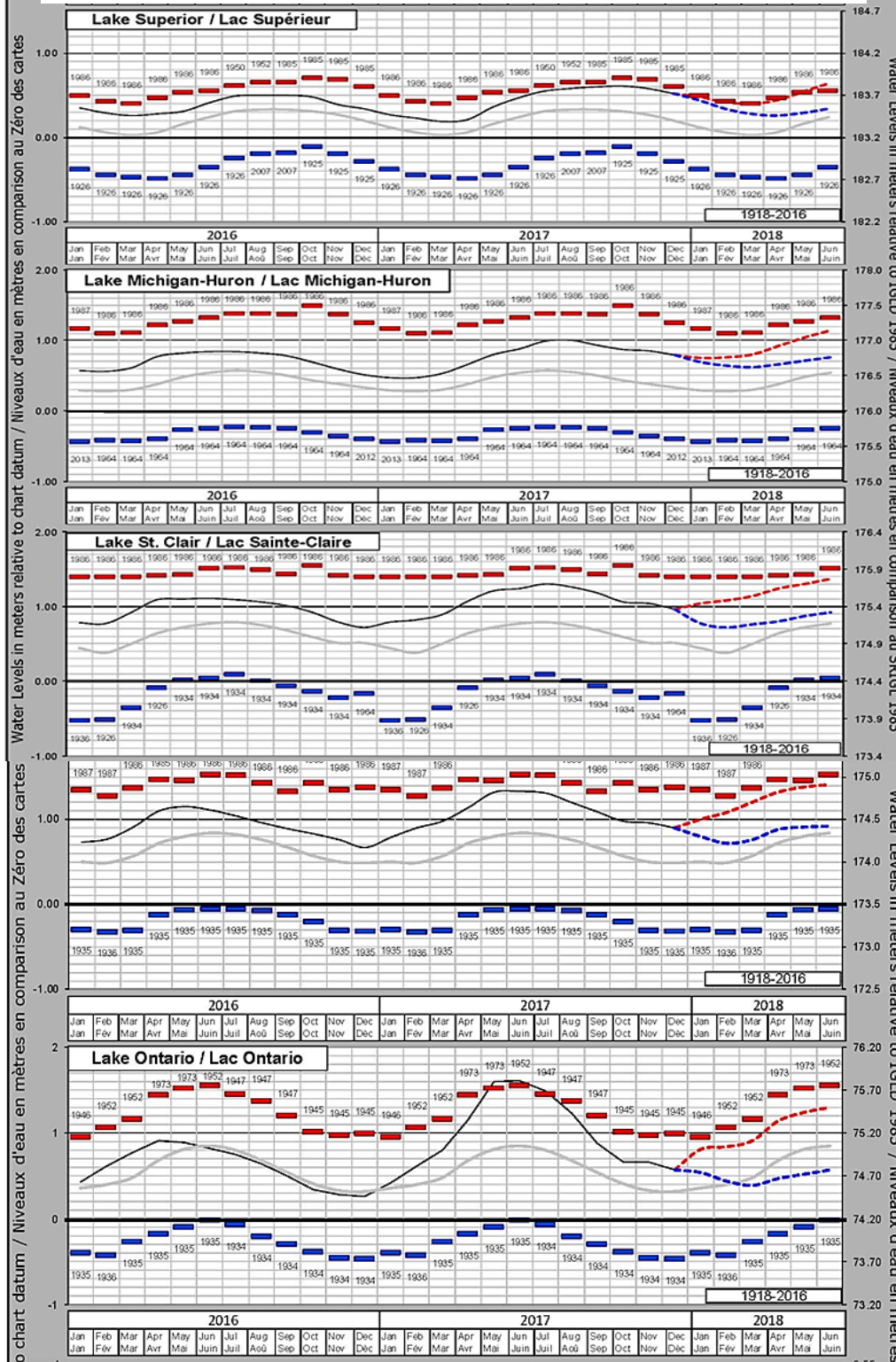
Fig 6. Lake Levels - December, 2017 (Canadian Hydrometric Services)

Monthly Mean Water Levels in metres referred to IGLD 1985		Niveau d'eau moyen mensuels en metres par rapport au SRIGL 1985				
December 2017 Décembre	Superior Supérieur	Huron	St. Clair Sainte-Clair	Erie Érié	Ontario	Montréal
Mean for Month (preliminary data) Moyenne mensuelle (données préliminaires)	183.72	176.79	175.36	174.40	74.77	6.67
Mean for month last year Moyenne mensuelle, l'année dernière	183.54	176.51	175.12	174.17	74.46	5.96
Mean for month, last 10 years Moyenne mensuelle, 10 dernières années	183.29	176.09	174.87	174.04	74.47	6.13
Statistics for period of record Statistiques pour la période d'observation	1918-2016	1918-2016	1918-2016	1918-2016	1918-2016	1967-2016
Maximum monthly mean / year Moyenne mensuelle maximale / année	183.81 1985	177.26 1986	175.80 1986	174.89 1986	75.20 1945	7.24 1972
Mean for month, All Time Moyenne mensuelle, Tous temps	183.40	176.33	174.91	173.99	74.52	6.45
Minimum monthly mean / year Moyenne mensuelle minimale / année	182.92 1925	175.61 2012	174.24 1964	173.19 1934	73.74 1934	5.56 2007
Probable mean for next month Moyenne probable du mois prochain	183.66	176.71	175.33	174.36	74.82	6.49
Chart Datum / Zéro des cartes	183.2	176.0	174.4	173.5	74.2	5.55

Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair Level Statistics - December 2017

Units	Current Monthly Level	Monthly Level Last Year	Change 2016/2017	Current Month Avg for Last 10	Change Current compared to 10 year	Anticipated Next Month	Average for Month for Period of Record
Lake St. Clair							
Metric (m)	175.36	175.12	0.24	174.87	0.49	175.33	174.91
Imperial (ft)	575.33	574.54	0.79	573.72	1.61	575.23	573.85
Lake Huron							
Metric (m)	176.79	176.51	0.28	176.09	0.70	176.71	176.33
Imperial (ft)	580.02	579.10	0.92	577.72	2.30	579.76	578.51

Fig 7. Great Lakes Levels – All Lakes – 2016 to 2017



Meeting Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: February 7, 2018
Submitted by: Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources

Item 14.3

Subject: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects

- We continue to wrap up projects on a monthly basis. Status of other WECI projects is outlined below:

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline restoration	Shoreline work at Courtright Park is ongoing.
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 1	Construction work is progressing well at Brightsgrove
Esli Dodge Dam	Esli Dodge Repair Project	ongoing
L.C.Henderson Weir #1	L.C.H. Outfall Repair Project	Completed
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Drop Structure Downstream Erosion Control	Close to Completion
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Vegetation Management Plan	Completed
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Watercourse Obstruction Removal	Completed
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	McKeough Sill Repair	Completed
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Wing wall repair	Completed

Courtright Waterfront Restoration – Phase 1

- Contract awarded to BRE-Ex Construction
- A budget of \$720,000 has been confirmed for the project (WECI \$350,000; St. Clair Township - \$350,000, Great Lakes Community Guardian fund \$20,000)
- Construction work started last week of January 2018
- 50 working days have been provided for completion of the project under the contract (a working day is any day during which the



conditions permit the contractor to be able to undertake work to greater than 60 percent of capacity).

- Approximately 130 meters of Shoreline work will be completed in this phase
- Construction work will be completed April 2018 with restoration work planned for May 2018.
- This is the first phase of construction at Courtright Park.

Sarnia Shoreline Protection – Phase 1

- Contract awarded to Atlantis Marine Construction Canada Inc
- A budget of \$700,000 has been confirmed for the project (WECI \$350,000; City of Sarnia- \$350,000)
- Construction work started last week of January 2018
- 30 working days have been provided for completion of the project under the contract
- Construction work will be completed April 2018 with restoration work planned for May 2018.
- This is the first phase of construction for Helen avenue to Kenwick park shoreline restoration

Meeting Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: February 5, 2018
Submitted by: Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources

Item 14.4

Subject: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects

- Potential applications for WECI projects are being reviewed by Authority Staff
- 2018- 2019 Projects should be submitted by February 12 2018
- Once submitted, all applications will be reviewed by a committee of provincial and conservation authority staff representatives in March and will be ranked in comparison to all submitted projects from across the Province
- list of approved projects is anticipated in May or early June
- list of potential WECI projects for 2018 - 2019 is outlined below

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline Restoration – Phase 2	Shoreline work at Courtright Park along St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	\$700,000	\$350,000
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 2	Carry out construction of Phase 1 from the recommendation of engineering study.	\$800,000	\$400,000
Head Street/ Coldstream Dams	Decommissioning Study	Study to consider decommissioning of the Head street and Coldstream dams	\$120,000	\$60,000
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Equipment Painting	Paint equipment and Waterproofing the gatehouse building	\$150,000	\$75,000
ARDA Dyke	Hazard Tree Removal	Remove trees and shrubs along the dyke that pose stability issues to the dyke	\$24,000	\$12,000
All Structures	Engineering Inspection	Engineering inspection and reporting to review structural integrity and required maintenance of all authority owned dams	\$60,000	\$30,000

January 31, 2018

TO: SCRCA Chair and Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Administration – Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines Watercourses Regulation

FROM: Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner / Regulations Officer
Melissa Deisley, Regulations Officer

A summary of staff activity related to the Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04) is presented below. This report covers the period from December 31, 2017 to January 31, 2018

December 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Application No.	Applicant and Subject Property	Proposed Works <i>Permissions may be granted where in the opinion of the CA, the control of Flooding, Erosion, Dynamic Beach, Pollution, or the Conservation of Land will not be affected by the development.</i>	Submission Complete:
			Permit Issued:
11346	St. Clair Township 477 French Line Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culvert Replacement Sediment & Erosion Control will be installed 	27/11/2017
			04/12/2017
11347	1789 St. Clair Parkway Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of a Garage Addition Pole Barn style garage, wet passive floodproofed to 177.7m GSC or higher 	29/11/2017
			01/12/2017
11348	3042 Sandpiper Trail Town of Plympton-Wyoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovation of Existing Single Family Dwelling Proposed works meet SCRCA Shoreline Policy 	29/11/2017
			08/12/2017
11349	161 Bickford Line Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheet Pile Wall Repair Repairs to an existing structure 	29/11/2017
			08/12/2017
11350	3394 Schram Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deck Construction 	01/12/2017

	Town of Plympton-Wyoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed works meet SCRCA Shoreline Policy 	08/12/2017
11351	West of 4076 St. Clair Parkway Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoreline Protection Works Repair Proposed works will not cause or aggravate slop instability 	30/11/2017
			08/12/2017
11352	5308 Broadview Ave Mun. Lambton Shores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoreline Protection Works Repairs No adverse impact on the control of flooding and erosion 	06/12/2017
			08/12/2017
11353	5310 Broadview Ave Mun. Lambton Shores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoreline Protection Works Repairs No adverse impact on the control of flooding and erosion 	06/12/2017
			08/12/2017
11354	5306 Broadview Ave Mun. Lambton Shores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoreline Protection Works Repairs No adverse impact on the control of flooding and erosion 	06/12/2017
			08/12/2017
11355	75 Mason Street Mun. Chatham-Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Addition and SWM Pond Minimum required flood elevations are a condition of the permit 	14/12/2017
			14/12/2017
11357	Telfer Road, North of Churchill Rd City of Sarnia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Replacement over Perch Creek on Telfer Rd. Proposed works will not alter flow velocities or elevations 	21/12/2017
			21/12/2017

January 1, 2018 to January 31, 2018

Application No.	Applicant and Subject Property	<p align="center">Proposed Works</p> <p align="center"><i>Permissions may be granted where in the opinion of the CA, the control of Flooding, Erosion, Dynamic Beach, Pollution, or the Conservation of Land will not be affected by the development.</i></p>	Submission Complete:
			Permit Issued:
11356	1933 Franklin Ave City of Sarnia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling Lowest opening elevation will be minimum 180.32m GSC 	02/01/2018
			03/01/2018
2018-001	3083 St. Clair Parkway Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of New Addition and Covered Patio Works are outside the flood hazard of the St. Clair River 	14/12/2017
			04/01/2018
2018-002	150 m South of Wilksport Line Township of St. Clair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion Control Project The control of flooding and erosion is not adversely impacted 	22/12/2017
			08/01/2018
2018-003	2996 Lakeview Trail City of Sarnia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition/Renovation to Existing Dwelling Proposed works meets SCRCA Shoreline Policy 	22/01/2018
			26/01/2018

Total No. of Application = 15

Average No. of Days for SCRCA to Issue Permit = 7 Days

Permit Review Timelines are outlined in the document "*Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities*" Final Version May 2010, completed by the Conservation Authority Liaison Committee (CALC). In this document it states;

- CAs are to make a decision (i.e. recommendation to approve or referred to a Hearing) with respect to a permission (permit) application and pursuant to the CA Act within 30 days for a minor application and 90 days for a major application.

Recommended and Approved by:

Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/Regulations Officer

Melissa Deisley, Regulations Officer

Patty Hayman, Director of Planning

2018 Special Events

Soil Health Conference

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018

Time: 8am to 5pm

Location: John Bradley Convention Centre, Chatham

A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival

Date: Saturday, March 17 to Sunday, March 18, 2018

Time: 10am to 3pm

Location: A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak Race

Date: Sunday, April 22, 2018

Registration: 10am to 11am

Start Location: Mossie Line at the Sydenham River

End Location: Shetland Conservation Area

Denning's Strathroy Memorial Forest Dedication

Date: Sunday, May 27, 2018

Time: 2pm

Location: Centennial Park, Strathroy

Member's Project Tour

Date: Thursday, June 21, 2018

Time: 10am

Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup – Ipperwash Beach

Date: Saturday, September 8, 2018

Time: 9am to 11am

Location: Centre Ipperwash Beach boat launch

Denning's Chatham-Kent and West Elgin Memorial Forest Dedication

Date: Sunday, September 16, 2018

Time: 2pm

Location: Keith McLean Conservation Lands

A Geocaching Adventure

Date: Sunday, September 16, 2018

Time: 9am

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication

Date: Sunday, September 23, 2018

Time: 2pm

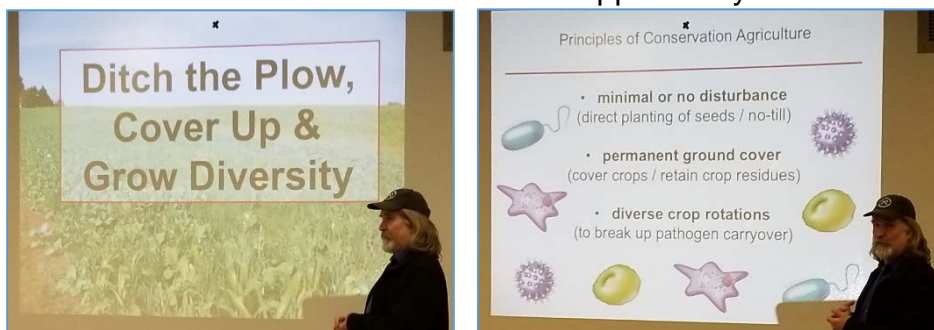
Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area



Meeting Date: February 22, 2018 **Item 14.7**
Report Date: January 30, 2018
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist
Subject: Healthy Watersheds Programs Outreach Update

David R. Montgomery Lecture– December 12, 7-9 pm Sarnia

A classic Canadian snowstorm was not enough to prevent over 120 people from attending SCRCA's guest lecture by David R. Montgomery in Sarnia. Montgomery is a geologist and professor of Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington. Montgomery combines ancient wisdom, modern science and firsthand experience to demonstrate that soil regeneration is possible for farms of any size and in any climate. He outlined conservation agriculture principles used by farmers across the world, that when practiced together can restore soil and increase yields from year to year. The audience was quite engaged and asked many questions. The *Sarnia Observer* highlighted the event with two articles –one before and one after. The event was supported by GLASI funding.



Lambton Soil & Crop Improvement Association Annual General Meeting January 13, 2018

SCRCA Chair Steve Arnold presented Belan Farms with this year's Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award. Belan Farms has also received SCRCA's Conservation Award for their farm business' focus towards soil conservation and sustainability. Staff spoke in front of the crowd of 100 encouraging uptake of BMPs and extending an invitation to our Soil Health Conference.



Soil Health Conference - February 15, 2018, Chatham



We collaborated with Lower Thames Valley CA to reduce the registration costs and help with advertising costs. We also secured 13 sponsors to have a booth. Their sponsorship fees helped to pay for the venue and food costs. This event was a main deliverable in our watershed-wide OMAFRA COA funding (2016-2018).

Frank Gibbs (Wetland and Soil Consulting Services, LLC) worked for the USDA in Ohio for 36 years and spoke on BMPs in hydric soils. Dr. David Lobb (University of Manitoba) shared the economics of soil loss through wind, water and tillage erosion. Dr. Wendy Taheri (Terra Nimbus) is a specialist in arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi & plant growth. Dale Cowan (AGRIS and Wanstead Cooperatives) is a Senior agronomist and sales

manager, 4R Nutrient Stewardship Specialist, and 2016 International Certified Crop Adviser of the Year. Dale spoke about local initiatives. We had Ivan O'Halloran and Anne Verhallen, both from OMAFRA begin and end the day with talks on phosphorus and how to conduct your own soil tests.

In addition, 15 local farmers shared their experiences on our farmer panel discussions. Panel topics included reducing tillage, cover crop and rotational grazing, erosion control methods, soil stewards on big acres, planting green, and making interseeding work. Over 100 farmers, agriculture industry representatives, and researchers participated in the event.

Upcoming events:

Winter Manure Spreading Education Event

March 22, a collaboration with Lambton Soil & Crop Improvement Association and Lambton Cattlemen's Association. An OMAFRA representative will be speaking about incorporating manure and reducing water quality risks.

Ducks Unlimited Canada Strathroy Chapter Fundraising Event

March 24, staff will attend, network and provide a short presentation highlighting the great partnership SCRCA has with DUC and past wetland projects in the Headwaters of the East Branch of the Sydenham River.

Focus on the Thames Forum

March 27 & 28, staff are participating in discussions in this 2-day workshop at Upper Thames CA.

Meeting Date: February 22, 2018
Report Date: January 26, 2018
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 14.8

Subject: Ontario Community Environment Fund supports “Sydenham Tree Planting and Baseline Health Assessment”

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report on the Ontario Community Environment Fund (OCEF) grant “Sydenham Tree Planting and Baseline Health Assessment” and authorizes St. Clair Conservation Authority to enter into a funding agreement with the Province of Ontario.

Background:

The Sydenham watershed is heavily impacted through human activities. Sustained monitoring of benthic communities and surface water is important to assess long-term changes in water quality. By obtaining baseline data on these watercourses we can better understand the risks of nutrient loading, runoff, and potential spills from various land uses and how to manage them. Tree planting such as block planting, wind breaks, and riparian buffers help to sequester carbon, improve water quality, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat.

In February 2017, a proposal was submitted to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) requesting all available funds totaling \$23,378 from the Ontario Community Environment Fund (OCEF) to support St. Clair Conservation’s Aquatic Monitoring Program and Tree Planting Program.

Specifically, SCRCA requested funding to:

- Conduct annual sampling at 13 benthic macro-invertebrate stations
- Collect surface water quality samples from 14 stations monthly from April to November.
- Plant 10 000 trees within the Sydenham watershed

Amount requested from OCEF:	\$23,378
Amount from all other sources (cash / donations):	\$40,958
Amount from all other sources (in-kind):	\$25,369
Total value of project:	\$89,706

St. Clair Conservation was notified by MOECC in September of 2017 that \$23,378 was allocated from the OCEF towards the project for 2017/18. This is the second consecutive year that SCRCA received funding from this program.



St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
Hazard Tree Management Policy

January 2018



“working together for a healthy environment”

Hazard Tree Management Policy

Background:

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) owns over 30 properties and maintains approximately 40 kilometers of trails. Trees comprise a high percentage of the overall land use in many of our properties; providing ecological and environmental benefits. In some cases, trees are located near structures or in areas where the public and staff may frequent. As living organisms, trees may become susceptible to insect and disease infestations and if left unmanaged they may present a potential hazard. Recognizing hazard trees and taking proper corrective actions can protect property and save lives. We anticipate that through the implementation of this policy Authority staff will be able to better manage our forest resource and ultimately reduce the risks associated with hazard trees on SCRCA properties.

Policy Statement:

ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY WILL TAKE REASONABLE STEPS TO MAINTAIN THE SAFETY OF IT'S LANDS FOR THE PUBLIC AND ITS STAFF, FROM HAZARDOUS TREES.

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the Hazard Tree Program and assign staff responsibilities in order to manage hazard trees. The need to develop such a program is based on the Occupiers Liability Act and the "duty of care" and responsibility that SCRCA has to its visitors and staff.

SCRCA reserves the right to prohibit access to or close an area which may include, but limited to; buildings, designated parking areas, campsites, picnic sites and trails due to unsafe conditions, if it is deemed necessary to do so. Such areas will be re-opened once the hazard tree(s) has been removed.

Therefore, this Policy sets out to:

- Provide an inspection strategy designed to monitor hazard trees in a routine and systematic approach and to ensure trees identified as hazard trees are managed in a timely manner
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of staff with respect to hazard tree management

Definitions:

Hazard Tree	<p>A tree, identified to have a structural defect, combination of defects or disease that, under normal environmental conditions, will result in the loss of a major structural component of the tree in a manner that may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Damage assets (property, structures, trail systems, etc.);2. Cause personal injury; or3. Prevent emergency access in the case of medical hardship <p>A tree with defects is not hazardous unless some portion of it is within striking distance of a target.</p>
Defect	<p>Anything on a tree which may increase its likelihood of failure in whole or part. Defects may be both naturally occurring and influenced by an outside party.</p>
Target	<p>Any person, private or authority property, located on or in a designated area intended for public use.</p>
Inspector	<p>Any member of the St. Clair Conservation staff who has received training, obtained experience or been designated as an inspector by the Director of Lands. A current list will be maintained by the Director of Lands. Anyone designated as an “Assessor” is also deemed to be an inspector.</p>
Assessor	<p>Only a Forest Technician, Forester, or Certified Arborist may undertake the role of Assessor. If required, the assessor’s task is to re-evaluate an inspector’s tree appraisal and determine if the tree(s) in question should be retained or removed. Once identified, the appropriate procedures should be implemented to ensure both public and worker safety. The Director of Lands will maintain a list of current Assessors.</p>
Certified Butternut Assessor	<p>Butternut is listed as a Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO), ONT Reg 230/08. SCRCA may employ a Certified Butternut Assessor who have received specialized training in the identification of this species and assessing tree health and viability. The Director of Lands maintains a list of the current Certified Butternut Assessor</p>

Introduction:

A tree is considered a hazard tree when it has the potential to cause damage to people or property. A tree becomes a hazard tree when it has a target that it may hit; provided the target is located on or in a designated area intended for public use.

Designated areas may include:

- Maintained marked trails
- Buildings and structures
- Day use areas, parking lots, and permitted campsites
- Waterfront and boat launch areas

The management of hazard trees is a key component of the risk management program for SCRCA. The identification of defects on trees is an important part of managing hazard trees and reducing liability and property damage. Where the immediate removal of a hazard trees is not possible, SCRCA may decide to limit or close access to an area, or divert a trail until the hazard has been remediated.

The degree of risk posed by a hazard tree is related to the potential to do harm. In general, the greatest risk of harm will be found on lands where there are greater numbers of people (visitors) on these lands. Therefore, this policy identifies the levels of inspection required and the management of hazard trees related to the risk they pose to life and property.

This policy identifies procedures that SCRCA has developed when dealing with hazard trees once they have been identified:

- Conservation lands staff trained in chainsaw certification will remediate the majority of hazard trees along trails, in day use, and camping areas
- External Arborists may be contracted when the amount or nature of the work exceeds the capabilities of the Conservation lands staff

Land Classifications and Inspections:

Active Use Areas:

- these are areas where pay for use applies, regional campgrounds or boat launch areas
- inspection areas on these properties will include but not limited to campsites, day-areas, buildings, and maintained marked trails
- Properties in this classification include Warwick, A.W. Campbell, L.C. Henderson and Highland Glen

Inspection frequency:

- campsites and day use areas will be inspected twice annually and on an ad hoc or complaint basis
- trails will be inspected once annually, and on an ad hoc or complaint basis
- inspections to be conducted by an inspector
- un-authorized or non-maintained trails will only be inspected on a complaint basis

Passive Use Areas:

- these areas have no fee paid for entry or activity, have limited infrastructure such as minimal signage, seasonal washrooms and limited parking facilities
- inspected areas on these properties will include roadway access points, parking lots, day-use facilities and maintained marked trails
- properties in this classification that are owned and managed by St. Clair Conservation are Strathroy, C.J. McEwen, Wawanosh, and Clark Wright (inspections will be the responsibility of SCRCA inspectors)
- properties in this classification that are owned by the authority but managed by a local municipality are Coldstream, Esli Dodge, Bridgeview, Crothers, Shetland and Tony Straank (inspection criteria and frequency will be determined by the managers and municipality of these properties)
- properties in this classification that are owned by the County of Lambton but managed by the Conservation Authority are Lambton County Heritage Forest, Marthaville, Perch Creek, and Bowens (inspections will be the responsibility of the SCRCA inspectors)

Inspection Frequency:

- properties owned and/or managed by the SCRCA will be inspected once annually, and on an ad hoc or complaint basis
- inspections to be conducted by an inspector
- un-authorized or non-maintained trails will only be inspected on a complaint basis

Rural Areas:

- these areas have no fee paid for entry or activity, used primarily for agricultural purposes and are all or partly forested; have limited infrastructure and minimal signage
- inspected areas on these properties will include farm laneways and property perimeters
- properties in this classification that are owned or managed by the Conservation Authority include Harrison, Coldstream Gravel Pit, Cuddy Woods, Sinclair, Gawne, Huff, McLean, Bates, Sterling, Bannerstone, McKeough Dam and Upstream lands, Reid, Chantos, Cochrane, Evoy, Maples, Camden, McPhail, and McAlpine.

Inspection Frequency:

- properties will be inspected on an ad hoc or complaint basis

Tree Assessment Process:

Initial hazard tree inspections are undertaken by an inspector who will examine the individual property and will mark hazard trees with either a painted "X" or spot on the tree. A hazard tree will have obvious signs of defect that could include, but not limited to:

- visible fruiting bodies or other evidence of fungi
- obvious damage to crown, trunk or main limbs
- de-foliage or unexpected foliage behavior
- hung up limbs
- excessive lean
- dead trees

Once the inspection process has been completed, the inspector will report to the Director of Lands who will arrange for maintenance staff or arborist contractor to remediate the hazard tree(s) or defect as soon as possible after the inspection. The Director of Lands may solicit the expertise of an Assessor to re-evaluate all or part of the inspection work. All inspection and remediation work will be documented in the computer inspection and work logs for each property. Computer work logs will be maintained at either the conservation area or the administration office depending on which individual or crew is responsible for that property.

Inspectors maybe required to conduct intermittent inspections. These inspections may include, but not limited to, inspections prior to special events, inspections after extreme weather events, and pre-season inspections. Intermittent inspections should be documented in the computer inspection and work log.

In all cases, SCRCA will endeavor to schedule and complete tree management activities and remedial work in a timely manner.

Responsibilities:

Director of Lands:

1. Ensures that this policy is implemented and maintained.
2. Manages the inspection process and ensure the computer inspection and work logs are maintained up to date.
3. Provides or makes arrangement for training for inspectors; assigns assessors as needed.
4. Makes arrangement where necessary for quotation from arborist contractors.
5. Undertakes property inspections as required.
6. Ensures all work is performed by a competent person and in accordance with the OHSA (Occupational Health and Safety Act).

Area Managers (Conservation Area Superintendent and Assistant):

1. Perform inspections as required
2. Undertake or supervise remedial work
3. Maintain inspection and work logs up to date.
4. Ensure all work performed is by a competent person and in accordance with the OHSA (Occupational Health and Safety Act)

Conservation Services Department:

1. Act as an Assessor as required
2. Act as a Certified Butternut Assessor as required

Document Maintenance:

This document will require updates subject to changes in legislation and/or SCRCA staffing. Therefore, reviews and updates will be completed as required.