



# Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: June 28, 2018

Time: 1:00 pm

Mooretown Sports Complex, St. Clair Township

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**Present:** Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair; Diane Brewer, Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, John McCharles, Dan McMillan, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, Gerry Rupke, Cindy Scholten, Jeff Wesley, Jerry Westgate, Muriel Wright

**Regrets:** Alan Broad, Mike Kelch

**Staff Present:** Brian McDougall, General Manager; Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology; Donna Blue, Manager of Communications, Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/Regulations Officer; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, IT/GIS Coordinator; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Manager of Water Resources; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed thank you to SCRCA staff for planning and organizing the annual project tour. 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 April 19, 2018 meeting were reviewed. A typographical error was noted and corrected.

## **BD-18-69**

### **Scholten-Giffen**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held April 19, 2018, be approved as corrected.”**

**CARRIED**

### Healthy Lake Huron

- Since 2011, the partners involved worked on projects in their jurisdictions and in the southeast watersheds of Lake Huron as a whole in a concerted effort to address shoreline water quality concerns such as nuisance algae and bacterial issues and to promote safe and clean beaches from Sarnia to Tobermory
- Progress has been made – in 5 targets watershed, including the watershed in southern Lambton Shores, landowners have been and continue to implement best management practices on farms, repair or replace faulty or failed septic systems and monitoring of water quality of the waterways has provided vital information to assist in decision making
- However, additional works need to be completed to turn the tide against water quality concerns

- This year, a new five year plan is being drafted to provide a new impetus and updated targets using monitoring reports and watershed report cards, the plan to be drafted this summer is to be reviewed this fall and should be available in late 2018

### **Participants/ Supporters**

#### Government of Canada

- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Parks Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada

#### Government of Ontario

- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

#### Regional Government

- Bruce County
- Huron County
- Lambton County

#### Conservation Authorities

- Ausable Bayfield Conservation
- Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
- Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
- Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
- St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

#### Public Health

- Grey-Bruce Health Unit
- Huron County Health Unit
- Lambton Public Health

#### Local Organizations

- Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association
- Bruce Power
- Environmental Defence
- Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation
- Pine River Watershed Initiative Network
- Western University

#### International Stakeholders

- Lake Huron Binational Partnership

**BD-18-70**

**Miller-Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated June 15, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

- Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act passed in December 2017 contains a new section
- Section 19.1 outlines a number of specific requirements for Conservation Authority By-laws
- Additionally, all Conservation Authorities are required to have their bylaws updated and approved prior to the end of 2018 and that those bylaws will be in compliance with Section 19.1
- To assist Authorities in completing this task Conservation Ontario worked with staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and several Conservation Authorities to create a template for these updated bylaws as well as best management practices to guide the updating process
- In order for the Board to have appropriate opportunity to revision the updated Bylaw, the following schedule of review is proposed:
  - September 2018 – draft bylaw presented to Board of Directors for review and comment
  - November 2018 – revised bylaw based on comments, etc presented to the Board of Directors for review and comment
  - December 2018 – final draft of bylaw presented to Board of Directors for approval

**BD-18-71**

**Rupke-McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2018, regarding the need to approve and implement new bylaws for the Authority based on the updated Conservation Authorities Act and the proposed process for review and approval of new bylaws.”**

**CARRIED**

The Environmental Registry (“Registry”) is a website that provides public access to a database holding information about environmental proposals and decisions made by the Ontario government. Proposals vary from individual permit to take water applications, official plans, environmental compliance and licensing, legislation and regulations, etc.

The Registry is an important part of ensuring that the public can participate in decisions being made on environmental issues. The Environmental Registry is the only one of its

kind in Canada and was created under Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993 (EBR).

Through providing internet access to environmentally-relevant information, the Environmental Registry allows the Authority and the public to exercise its right to be given public notice of a range of government proposals and decisions related to environmental matters, and be able to provide comments on those issues.

The Environmental Commissioner of Ontario is responsible for monitoring that the government fulfils its obligations under the Environmental Bill of Rights, including the Registry. Additional information is available on the Environmental Commissioner's website ([www.eco.on.ca](http://www.eco.on.ca)).

Postings to the Registry ranged from 1416 to 2290 from 2008 – 2014. Postings have been significantly higher since - 2675 postings in 2015, 3261 postings in 2016 and 2680 postings in 2017. With 1271 posting to date in 2018, it appears that the Registry will surpass last year's postings.

The comment period for postings varies greatly. Some postings have comment period of less than 20 days and some as long as 120 days.

Conservation Ontario has been helpful in drawing together comments from all Authorities and providing one submission on our behalf on many issues. However, some issues that are of great importance or may have a regional or local focus require local comments. The Authority has contributed to many of Conservation Ontario's submissions and has also provided comments from the Authority directly – such as the Authority's comments regarding the Conservation Authorities Act review approved by the Authority Board in June of 2016.

Concern has been brought forward that a procedure for Board approval of comments should be established in order for any comments provided under the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority banner has Board support. Several other Authority Boards have had similar concerns and comparable procedures for providing comments have been implemented.

Therefore, the following procedure has been drafted to ensure that any postings relevant to St. Clair Region Conservation Authority will be responded to with any necessary comments.

Proposed Commenting Procedure:

1. Authority staff have established a list of words and phrases that have been provided to the Registry. Any postings containing any of these words and phrases are then automatically emailed to the Planning Ecologist and the General Manager. A copy of this list is found at right.
2. These postings are then reviewed to confirm relevance to St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. If the posting is relevant, the posting is discussed with appropriate staff to determine the necessity for comments.
3. Subject to this review, staff will recommend that comments may be forwarded to Conservation Ontario for inclusion in a broad comments correspondence in response to the posting or that the comments should be provided directly from SCRCA due to the local importance, legislative significance or if Conservation Ontario is not providing a joint comment.
4. If comments are to be forwarded to Conservation Ontario for joint comments, staff will draft the comments for review by the General Manager. Approved comments will be forwarded to Conservation Ontario.
5. If comments are recommended to be directly from SCRCA, staff will review the schedules for Board meetings and Registry posting comments and if required, will request an extension to the Registry posting deadline in order to have the opportunity to present the proposed comments to the Board of Directors for review and approval. Comments will subsequently be drafted for Board review and will be included in the Board package. Subsequent to any edits and approval of the Board of Directors the comments will be submitted in the Authority's name to the Registry.

In the future it is hoped that through improved digital communication (e-mailed links to postings, attached draft comments and emailed responses of support) we may be able to obtain support for proposed comments in a timely fashion.

**BD-18-72**

**Gordon-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2018, regarding Ontario’s Environmental Registry and approves the proposed policy for the submission of comments regarding items posted on the Environmental Registry.”**

**CARRIED**

The St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation has a “Green Meetings” program, designed for environmentally conscious groups (companies, events, family gatherings, etc.) to be able to better understand their carbon footprints and to assist in sequestering an equal amount of carbon via a donation to the Foundation to support tree planting. Similar programs are available through other Foundations across the Province.

A discussion paper on Voluntary Carbon Offsets (MOECC) posted to the Environmental Registry as well as comments from Conservation Ontario submitted in response to the Registry posting were also reviewed.

**BD-18-73**

**Marriott-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2018 regarding Ontario’s proposed Voluntary Carbon Offset Program.”**

**CARRIED**

The Olde Czech Hall has been a fixture in the community of Dresden for decades. The Hall was struggling to make ends meet in the 1980’s and was purchased by Dresden Motors who own the adjacent property for use as a showroom. Some community events continued to be held in the Hall through the generosity of Dresden Motors.

1992

- Purchased as part of Dresden Motors by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority as part of the Dresden Floodplain Acquisition Program – Dresden remains one of the most flood vulnerable communities in the province
- When the Authority purchased the property the public petitioned the Town of Dresden to keep this building as a community center
- After considerable discussion the property was leased in 1993 to the Town of Dresden, who sublet the building to a group to maintain and operate the facility
- This was intended to be short term as the Province was not prepared to use the Floodplain Acquisition program to purchase a building for recreation purposes
- Certain conditions were placed on the lease, ie no overnight accommodation, development, if any, was to have prior approval and not to increase chances of loss of life and property
- The intent was to eventually remove the building from the floodplain

1999

- Formal lease of this facility to Chatham-Kent as part of the overall lease of Authority owned property in Dresden to Chatham-Kent

2000

- To date the authority has supported the use of the building to meet the needs of the community as requested and based on the conditions of the lease which includes limitations to the development and use as it relates to flooding, property damage and loss of life
- There are several other conditions including the removal of the building from the floodplain once the community sees no further need for the structure

Further:

- There are numerous partners who have enhanced the grounds around the Czech Hall including the Dresden and District Horticultural Society, Lambton Kent

Composite School and numerous volunteers and individual who have contributed time and money

- The St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation continues to provide tax receipts for the Horticultural Society for projects which have enhanced the floodplain area
- Over the past 20 years, multiple meetings have been held to reviews issues, propose ideas and exchange information
- The Authority has supported the Czech Hall project based on the municipal and public requests and will take direction from Chatham-Kent with input from the Olde Czech Hall Committee in determining the point at which the Hall no longer is valued as an event location

#### Organizational Objectives:

- SCRCA
  - Must ensure that the building is removed and the site is rehabilitated to meet the requirements of the floodplain acquisition program
    - Funds provided to the program by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry covered the 50% of the cost of property acquisition, building removal and site rehabilitation for the Dresden Motors property
    - Funds provide were allocated to works completed to date
    - The cost of building demolition and site rehabilitation will be the remainder of the matching municipal funding required to complete the project and are therefore the responsibility of Chatham-Kent
  - The Authority maintains demolition insurance, to cover the cost of building removal in the event of significant damages
  - The Authority requires that they are also named in the liability insurance for the Olde Czech Hall Committee
- Municipality of Chatham-Kent
  - Maintains its support of the Dresden Floodplain Acquisition Program and the Community of Dresden in having the availability of a small event location on a fee for service basis, however, with other services available in the community and in a continuing effort to reduce risk, Chatham-Kent is seeking to change its involvement in this situation to a partnership rather than a lessee
  - The Authority requires that they are also named in the liability insurance for the Olde Czech Hall Committee
- Olde Czech Hall Committee
  - Is seeking the opportunity to maintain the availability of the Olde Czech Hall as an event location for the residents of the Community of Dresden and surrounding area on a fee for service basis

- Fees are used to support the direct costs of the hall as well as maintenance costs of the structure and the securement of liability insurance
- The proposed 3 party agreement was drafted by the Authority and is being edited by Chatham-Kent Legal Services
- That agreement is intended to satisfy the above identified objectives
- That agreement is intended to satisfy all the above

**BD-18-74**

**Wright-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2108 regarding the Olde Czech Hall and further accepts the three party agreement in principle and authorizes the General Manager to sign said agreement upon finalization.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the Conservation Ontario Annual General Meeting on April 16, 2018 were reviewed.

**BD-18-75**

**MacKinnon-Wesley**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the minutes of Conservation Ontario’s Annual General meeting held April 16, 2018 at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto.”**

**CARRIED**

Conservation Areas:

- The Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas and manages 17 properties for the Foundation
- Of those 15 conservation areas, 6 are managed by the local municipality and 9 are operated by the Conservation Authority
- Of these 9, 3 conservation areas are regional campgrounds which attract campers from primarily Southwestern Ontario
- Our three regional campgrounds have over 500 campsites and 420 seasonal campers and are financially self sufficient
- Profits obtained from our campgrounds are used to offset capital improvements
- The camping season in 2018 runs from Friday, April 27 to Thanksgiving Day

Warwick Conservation Area

- Hydro service, lights and a new ag tuff ceiling have been installed in the storage shed
- The 9 hole mini golf course has been upgraded with new carpet and 4 x 4 lumber
- Roads have been upgraded with gravel



- All light fixtures and exterior lighting have been upgraded with LED bulbs and new fixtures
- A new laundry shed has been constructed and installed at the main washroom building

#### L.C. Henderson Conservation Area

- Playground equipment surfacing has been upgraded with engineered wood chips and subsurface drainage
- Roads have been upgraded with gravel
- Trailer pads have been installed on 5 campsites in the Towerview camping area
- All light fixtures and exterior lighting have been upgraded with LED bulbs and new fixtures
- A catch basin and subsurface tile drainage will be installed on two campsites
- A new solar pole light has been installed in the un-serviced camping area
- 36 stumps have been removed and the area leveled with topsoil

#### A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

- A new concrete sidewalk has been installed in front of the pool washroom building
- Improvements to be made to the main entrance roadway between the river crossing and the main parking lot (fall 2018)
- A hydro panel has been upgraded in the main campground area
- Roads have been upgraded with gravel
- Playground equipment surfacing has been upgraded with engineered wood chips and subsurface drainage (Foundation Funded)
- The pavilion roof has been replaced with steel
- All light fixtures and exterior lighting have been upgraded with LED bulbs and new fixtures

#### Highland Glen Conservation Area:

- Approximately 60 ft of new walkway has been installed along the inside of the boat ramp (funded through 2017 fees)
- A new beacon light has been installed on the outer seawall
- Welding repairs will be completed on a section of the south seawall

#### Other Lands Activities:

- Sub-surface drainage and soil erosion works have been completed on Property 82 on the McKeough Upstream lands
- A new property identification sign has been installed (Strathroy Conservation Area)
- 13 stumps have been removed from along the access roadway at CJ McEwen
- Bannerstone (Foundation) – property access gates, signage, and a small parking have been constructed

- County Rail trail – staff have cut along the trails edge and graded the gravel surface

#### Marketing/Camping Statistics:

Our conservation areas have been marketed in the following publications or events in 2018:

- Sarnia Lambton and Chatham-Kent Tourism Guide
- Camping ad has been placed on MyFm website
- Conservation Ontario – “Your Guide to Conservation Areas”
- Central Lambton Travel Guide
- Hayter Publication’s Special Editions (4) “Cottage and Campers”
- Sarnia Art Walk (Downtown Sarnia, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>)
- 418 seasonal campers have registered in our 3 campgrounds, up from 415 in 2017. 190 seasonal campers are registered at Warwick (189 in 2017), 121 at LC Henderson (119 in 2017) and 107 at A.W. Campbell (107 in 2017).

#### 2018 Conservation Area Staff

Director of Lands Kevan Baker

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

Mike Tizzard (Superintendent)

Don Skinner (Assistant Superintendent)  
 Mary Ann Niewenhuizen (Maint. Foreperson)  
 Scott Vail (Visitor Services)  
 Michela Searson (Lifeguard - summer)  
 Erikah Campbell (Lifeguard- summer)  
 Amy Dymond (Visitor Services)

L.C. Henderson Conservation Area

Terry Barrie (Superintendent)

Luke Derks (Assistant Superintendent)  
 Sherry Turner (Maint. Foreperson)  
 Abbigail Withers (Visitor Services)  
 Eric Hughes (Lifeguard – summer)  
 Griffin Allen (Gatehouse, summer, part-time)

Warwick Conservation Area:

Bill Turner (Superintendent)

Glenn Baxter (Assistant Superintendent)  
 Jesse VanderVaart (Visitor Services- seasonal)  
 George Rueger (Visitor Services – seasonal)  
 Dawson Nethercott (Visitor Services – seasonal)  
 Emily Leyten (Gatehouse/ Events – summer)  
 Cailey Cook (Gatehouse/Events – summer)  
 Blake Leyten (Maintenance – summer)  
 Michael Cotton (Maintenance – summer)

Morgan McKay (lifeguard – summer)  
Sydney Robbins (lifeguard – summer)  
Keith McLean Conservation Lands:  
Scott O'Brien (Superintendent) (Part-time - Foundation)

**BD-18-76**

**McMillan-Wesley**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands Update, dated June 11, 2018 on Conservation Areas, McKeough Upstream lands and Foundation properties.”**

**CARRIED**

- Reasonably dry conditions with no major events in May has resulted in river levels close to average into June. Hot and dry weather at the end of May with few major storms saw a reduction in flow at all gauging stations. This is expected to prevail into summer based on long term weather reports

Precipitation:

- With a wet April followed by a drier month of May, the 3 month precipitation numbers remained close to average at 101.5% of normal and overall six month numbers slightly above expected at 108.4%.
- The 12 month numbers remain slightly below average at 95% likely due to a drier period across the region in the fall of 2017.

Weather Conditions and Forecast:

- Overall - Conditions into Summer show relatively neutral conditions in June stronger El Nino influence into July
- June - Below seasonal temperatures into first of the month with 10mm above average precipitation conditions with a warming trend toward the end of the month.
- July - Our region is modelled at warmer than normal temperatures with precipitation modelled to be seasonal to drier than normal. Years identified as being similar based on modelling include 2006 and 2013.

While March had notably below temperature normal numbers conditions improved significantly into April and May as we moved quickly into Summer This graph will continue to be updated in future board reports to show the trend pattern for the entire year.

Great Lakes Levels:

April lake level data (latest available as of this report) indicates a continued increase in overall levels for the Great Lakes in our region by 13cm over April 2017. Similarly, current levels remain above the 10 year average as well as above the all-time average (100 years). In addition, Lake Huron levels are reported to be 14cm higher in June than current reported April Levels.

**BD-18-77**

**Rupke-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 1, 2018 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”**

**CARRIED**

The W. Darcy McKeough Floodway is intended to mitigate flooding in Wallaceburg. The control gates remain open under normal flow conditions, but when Wallaceburg is threatened by flooding, they are closed to divert the flow down the diversion channel into the St. Clair River. The McKeough Floodway controls all flood water upstream of the dam by diversion and temporary storage. The diversion channel is capable of diverting high flows from both the Bear and Black creeks when the dam is closed.

Operating procedure:

The Flood Coordinator shall present the facts on the circumstances of the flood threat to the General Manager. Where there is a probability that operation of the gates should be considered, the General Manager will present the facts with a recommendation to the Chair and a decision will be made. The gates at the dam shall be operated accordingly. The operating procedures for the gates are based on the following three observed/measured parameters:

- Water levels in Wallaceburg
- Rate of rise in Wallaceburg; and
- Bear Creek flow at the Brigden gauge

The table below shows the current operating guidelines established by consulting engineers; this is used as a criterion to operate the Floodway.

Water Levels Rainfall Rate & Amount Ice Conditions Great Lakes Water Levels Meteorological Conditions Snow Conditions Ice Breaking Ice Jamming	+	Flow of Bear Creek at Brigden of 18 cubic m/sec (635 cu. ft./sec) or greater	+	Rate of Rise at Wallaceburg of	And	Water Level at Wallaceburg of	=	Closure of the Gates of the McKeough Dam
				50mm/hr or greater		176.000m (577.5ft)		
					or			
				40mm/hr or greater		176.060m (577.7ft)		
					or			
				30mm/hr or greater		176.120m (577.9ft)		
	or							
		20mm/hr or greater		or		176.180m (578.1ft)		
		10mm/hr or greater		or		176.240m (578.2ft)		
		Regardless of R of R		or		176.300m (578.4ft)		

The McKeough Dam has 2 concrete gates that are lowered into place to divert flows from the north branch of the Sydenham River down the channel to the St. Clair River. The gates can operate individually, however, it is recommended that both gates be opened or closed slowly and with the same opening. The exception to this would be when the gates are used on a temporary basis to break-up ice cover or to assist in releasing an established ice jam. It is a general practice to raise/lower gates in intervals of about 0.5 to 1m. The opening of the dam gates is a slow process and usually takes place over a period of 72 hours.

**BD-18-78**

**Nemcek-Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updated report, dated June 15, 2018, on McKeough Operating Criteria.”**

**CARRIED**

**National Disaster Mitigation Program:**

The National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) was established by the Government of Canada to address the increasing dangers and costs faced by Canadian Communities as a result of flood events. The program will receive \$200 million in funding over the course of five years to improve knowledge regarding flood risks and enhance current flood response programs. These improvements will help protect property and public safety by ensuring more efficient mitigation efforts and recovery procedures following flood events.

**Issues/Analysis:**

In Ontario, conservation authorities have been delegated the primary responsibility for risk assessments and flood plain mapping from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. In the 1970's and 1980's floodplain mapping commenced under the Flood Damage Reduction Program (FDRP). Since that time, there has been no federal or provincial investment towards flood plain analysis.

The existing floodplain mapping of SCRCA is based on older Digital Elevation Models with coarse contour intervals of 5 meters. Floodplain elevation discrepancies are often noticed during review process, often 1 – 2 meters or more. Through the SWOOP program, our office has acquired accurate imagery (2010) that can be used to create an extremely detailed DEM with greater accuracy. A flood study using this DEM will deliver accurate floodplain mapping for the watershed.

Staff at SCRCA propose to apply for funding to complete an updated floodplain mapping study for the watershed. However, considering the resources and funding limitations, the practical approach is to consider a pilot study to be conducted over the next 2 years (2018 and 2019) focussing on 2 regions in the watershed. Staff have identified a rural watershed (St. Clair Township) and an urban (Sarnia) watershed to conduct this mapping exercise.

#### Finance:

The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$200,000. SCRCA has been approved for NDMP funding, 50% of the costs have to be matched by the Municipality, of which 15% is the in-kind contribution such as labour, use of facilities and equipment, which can be readily absorbed by SCRCA. The SCRCA is seeking the remainder (\$70,000) from

- 1) City of Sarnia
- 2) St. Clair Township

Highlights of this floodplain mapping project will include:

- Hydrologic model using DEM and/or Lidar data
- Surveying work to validate the model
- 2D Hydraulic model using a hydraulic software
- Produce flood maps and reports
- Train staff to develop floodplain mapping
- Calibrating/Validating flood model
- Review flood map

Staff are working on a Terms of Reference for this project. We are looking to partner with a consulting organization that has worked with our office on similar projects previously. Staff have shortlisted 3 pre-qualified consultants for this work.

1. Riggs Engineering
2. Stantec Inc
3. Golder Inc

#### **BD-18-79**

##### **Wright-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2018 on NDMP funding and directs staff to work with the municipalities to obtain the required matching funding and continue to acquire proposals from the pre-qualified consulting firms.”**

**CARRIED**

Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl)

- 6 projects were submitted
- Only one project secured part funding to date

Courtright Waterfront Restoration – Phase 1

- Approximately 130 meters of Shoreline work has been completed as of today.
- Due to timeline restrictions and higher cost provided by Bre-Ex, SCRCA recommended that no additional work be completed.
- Minor restoration and repair work is completed as of June 15, 2018.
- This is the first phase of construction at Courtright Park.

Sarnia Shoreline Protection – Phase 1

- Construction work was completed on June 1, 2018

- Construction crew faced a number of weather related challenges, but were extremely dedicated to complete the project.
- Restoration work is ongoing and will be completed by June 20, 2018
- This is the first phase of construction for Helen avenue to Kenwick park shoreline restoration

## **BD-18-80**

### **Bruziewicz-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 15, 2018 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and further acknowledges the updates on the WECl funding for 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

Walk the Watershed (WTW) is an annual project in Lambton Shores in which landowners voluntarily allow SCRCA staff to walk their property to assess watercourse buffer condition, potential erosion concerns and ground-truth GIS modelling. The project provides an opportunity to build a relationship with local landowners, raise awareness of our presence in Lambton Shores for the purpose of improving water quality and soil health, assist in reducing erosion, and connect landowners with resources and grants to improve best management practices on their properties.

This year’s Walk the Watershed focus area was Shashwandah Creek lowlands, downstream of the Shashwandah headwaters focus area from 2017. Watercourses included in the focus area are, Shashwandah Creek, Stewardson Drain, Ross Drain and Davidson Drain. Over 27 landowners have been contacted. So far, 20 properties and over 500ha have been assessed. Overall landowner feedback has been positive with most landowners agreeing to walk with SCRCA staff. Property assessments are set to finish mid-June.

GIS Procedure for Locating Agricultural BMPs in a Lambton Shores sub-watershed: To identify areas with potential erosion in the focus area, staff used a 2m resolution Digital Elevation Model (DEM) to create two derivative indices: Stream Power Index (SPI) and Topographic Wetness Index (TWI). SPI is a measure of a water body’s erosion power and can predict locations where gullies are likely to occur. SPI is calculated based on slope and contributing area. TWI uses similar data sets as SPI but can be used to predict areas of surface saturation. Staff made improvements to the mapping model based on last year’s experience. Meeting with landowners and showing property maps with the updated overlaid indices allowed staff to ground truth in the field and make use of the landowner’s existing knowledge of the land.

Aerial photos with model layers (SPI and TWI) confirm the value of the infield grassed waterway and berms. Staff confirmed these erosion features in person and with the landowner.

**BD-18-81****Marriott-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2018 on the Healthy Watersheds Program “Walk the Watershed” in Lambton Shores, and endorses staff efforts to engage private landowners in Best Management Practices to improve the surface water quality.”**

**CARRIED**

The St. Clair River flows 64 km from Lake Huron to Lake St. Clair. The St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) covers 3350 km<sup>2</sup> (335 000 ha) and includes the river, its delta, channels and its immediate drainage basin. The AOC was designated under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (Canada & US). The wetlands and shallow open waters of the lower St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair provide important habitat for many species and are considered some of the most important wetland areas in the Great Lakes basin. The project focuses on one of the Beneficial Use Impairments (BUI's), “Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat”, which requires wetland habitat creation, improved wetland quality, enhanced fish habitat, and tributary buffer creation to remove this BUI.

**Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Funding:**

An application was submitted in partnership with the Friends of the St. Clair River in November of 2015 for a 3-year Grow Stream Grant for \$160,300. Funding was approved for the full amount. The Grow Grant aligned with the following OTF goals.

Action Area: Green People

Priority Outcome: More ecosystems are protected and restored

Grant Result: Conservation and restoration efforts are better planned and more sustainable

This collaborative project consists of three major components.

1. St. Clair River AOC Aquatic Inventory – The St. Clair River Watershed Plan states that mussel and fish data is lacking for the tributaries in the AOC. Current mussel, fish, invertebrate, and water quality data is essential to prioritizing aquatic restoration efforts mandated to de-list the area.
2. St. Clair River AOC Aquatic Habitat Restoration – Although much of the St. Clair River AOC requires further inventory studies to assist in restoration decisions, some projects were ready to proceed. Aquatic habitat restoration is a key component of the AOC recovery and de-listing efforts. Aquatic habitat restoration project examples include wetland creation/restoration, fish barrier removal, natural riffle/pool construction in streams, and tributary buffer creation.
3. St. Clair River AOC Aquatic Outreach and Education – Improved engagement of local residents through education and outreach on the topic of the loss of fish and wildlife habitat. Education will be provided to school children through hands-on opportunities to experience and learn about the wildlife in the region. The project will help us better understand the AOC aquatic health and communicate the progress made towards de-listing the St. Clair River AOC.



## Progress:

### Aquatic Inventories

To date, thirty-nine fish surveys have been completed throughout the AOC (15 in 2016/17, 10 in 2017/18, 14 in 2018/19). A total of 57 species have been observed with over 20,000 fish captured and identified. Five species at risk have been observed at sixteen sites. At risk fish include Blackstripe Topminnow (Special Concern), Silver Lamprey (Special Concern), Spotted Sucker (Special Concern), Grass Pickerel (Special Concern), and Lake Chubsucker (Threatened).

Mussel surveys were completed in both 2016 and 2017, with 2018 surveys taking place this summer. The 2016 mussel work consisted of a large mussel relocation on Bear Creek as part of a barrier removal project. The project was successful as over 600 mussels were surveyed and over 300 relocated including 69 Mapleleaf (Threatened). A Fawnsfoot (Endangered) mussel was discovered, which is a new species record for the North Branch of the Sydenham River. Additional species surveyed include White Heelsplitter, Pink Heelsplitter, Giant Floater, Fragile Papershell, Deertoe, Flutedshell, Spike, and Three-ridge.

In 2017, fourteen intensive timed searches were completed on a 7km stretch of Black Creek. 1296 live mussels were surveyed, as well as 1369 dead mussels. In total 11 species were observed including 529 Mapleleaf (Threatened) and 1 Lilliput (Threatened). The Lilliput is the only current (in the last 25 yrs.) record for the North Sydenham. A 1-year follow up survey was completed as part of the previous year's mussel relocation. An additional 294 mussels were surveyed.

In 2018, another fourteen timed searches will be conducted on Bear Creek. If funding is approved to remove another barrier, a new mussel relocation will begin.

To date, seven watercourses have been monitored for temperature in the AOC. After data analysis, watercourses will be categorized as either warm, cool, or cold water. In 2016, 3 sites had temperature loggers deployed and all 3 were classified as coolwater. In 2017, 2 sites were completed with both classified as warmwater. In 2018, 2 additional sites are being monitored and analysis will be completed in the winter.

### Habitat Restoration:

Through the first two years, OTF funds have contributed to 10 restoration projects in the AOC. One project was a barrier removal and riffle habitat creation, seven have been wetland creation, and two were riparian buffer plantings. A total of 23.1 acres of habitat have been improved/created and one in-stream barrier to fish passage has been removed.

### Outreach and Education:

In 2016, SCRCA education and biology departments joined a local AOC elementary school in a River Day Celebration along the St. Clair River. Students participated in Fish survey demonstrations and grade appropriate curriculum connected games and activities. All students (160) of the school attended.

In 2017, OTF funds were used to develop and implement the biological component of the Great Lakes Student Conference held in Mooretown. SCRCA staff gave students hands-on opportunities to handle and process live fish. Students also went through a mussel survey station where they could sift through sediment, find mussel shells, and learn how to identify them. The conference was an effort to increase Great Lakes literacy and had participation from the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB). Over 70 students from four LKDSB high schools attended the conference and had the opportunity to learn about issues surrounding the Great Lakes, possible career paths, and explore cultural connections.

In the fall of 2018, we will again run the “River Day” program at an elementary school located close to the St. Clair River.

### **BD-18-82**

#### **Wright-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2018 on the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant update.”**

**CARRIED**

#### Healthy Lake Huron

Staff attended a Lambton Shores Communities in Bloom meeting to partner on a few projects. Through Healthy Lake Huron funding, we are providing coupons for discounts to landowners who purchase any of the three native tree/shrub species highlighted by Communities in Bloom this season. Communities in Bloom encourages local residents to plant native vegetation where possible.

To support the local Phrag Phighters team, staff attended a Phrag Info night at the Forest Library on May 9. Although the turnout was smaller than expected, those in attendance were keen to put into action what they learned that evening.

Staff attended the “Is the Coast Clear” 2-day conference hosted by the Lake Huron Coastal Centre for Conservation. It was a great opportunity for networking and learning. We were able to connect with a number of speakers who would provide great educational talks for landowners in our region.

Staff are also planning to attend the Judges Tour on July 10 to highlight the partnerships among local residents, SCRCA, CH2MHill, and Communities in Bloom in the habitat restoration project of the Forest Sewage Lagoons.

#### Healthy Watersheds Program (watershed wide)

It has been a very busy spring with many site visits regarding wetland and erosion control project implementation! Staff have met with nine landowners, providing project options and ideas. Quite exciting to see such interest in wetlands this spring! Staff will be speaking about Eastern Sand Darter, habitat restoration, and highlighting landowners who have implemented habitat projects in a short film series created by Pinegrove Productions with funding from OMNRF.

Upcoming events staff plan to attend and/or speak at:  
Healthy Lake Huron All Committees meeting, Ripley, June 13  
Keynote speaker at the Women in Ag event at Podolinsky's, Petrolia, June 19  
Innovative Farmers Association Meeting, Guelph, June 27  
Southwestern Ontario Crop Diagnostic Days, Ridgeway, July 4 & 5

### **BD-18-83**

#### **Gordon-Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2018 on the Healthy Watersheds Program Update, and endorses staff efforts to engage private landowners in Best Management Practices to improve the surface water quality and continue to work towards a Healthy Lake Huron initiative.”**

**CARRIED**

#### Tree Planting Program

- Tree seedlings were almost 2 weeks behind normal delivery schedule this spring. The first tree delivery was not received until May 1<sup>st</sup>, making it the latest spring tree planting start date our tree planting program has ever seen.
- SCRCA planting crews started almost immediately after trees arrived and planted approximately 55,000 trees for 28 separate projects on private and industrial lands over a 3½ week period.
- 9,000 of these trees were planted for Enbridge at the Wilkesport metering station. This marked the final planting year of a multi-phase planting program and agreement between SCRCA and Enbridge gas storage division to naturalize 2 of its large properties in St. Clair Township. To mark the occasion, 17 Enbridge employees volunteered to spend an afternoon planting 900 trees on the site.
- Another 6600 trees were ordered for 40+ landowners to plant on their own.
- More than \$168,000 in federal, provincial and local grant dollars was provided to property owners this year to subsidize some of the cost of trees, planting services and long term vegetation management.
- All sites were sprayed for weed control soon after planting.
- Another 200,000+ trees were resprayed for weed control this spring on sites that were planted in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

#### Large Stock Trees

- Thirteen landowners plus 2 municipalities purchased approximately 800 large stock trees this spring.
- Wholesale trees were purchased from 3 individual nurseries. There were 9 species of deciduous and coniferous trees to choose from.
- Trees range in size from 0.5 metre tall for evergreen trees to 2.0 metres tall for the hardwood trees. Most of the trees come potted or in a dirt ball with burlap. Some species and oversized trees come in bare root form. The bare root trees are less expensive, however, they require much more protection when transporting and storing.

**BD-18-84****Scholten-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2018 regarding spring 2018 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.”**

**CARRIED**

**West Nile Virus Program**

- The Conservation Authority signed a new 3 year contract with the County of Lambton to treat catch basins in all rural and urban areas within Lambton County, including the City of Sarnia. SCRCA staff will be working under the direction of Lambton Public Health during the treatment operations.
- Aamjiwnaang catch basins will be treated under a separate contract with approval from Health Canada.
- Permits to treat surface water are obtained from the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change under the Authority’s Pesticide Operators Licence and Insurance.
- Pre-treatment larvae sampling has been scheduled for the week of June 11<sup>th</sup>. If activity is low, a second sampling may be required the following week.
- Larvae results are sent to Lambton Public Health. Activity levels will be used to determine treatment start date. Approval from the Lambton Medical Officer of Health is required before treatments commence.
- Catch basins will be treated with methoprene in pellet formulation. Methoprene is a growth regulator which prevents the larvae of mosquitoes and other insects from becoming adults. There will be 3 separate larvicide applications set at 21-day intervals starting around June 25<sup>th</sup> and finishing around the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.
- The use of larvicide is limited to an exterminator with a Mosquito/Biting Fly licence or a trained technician under the supervision of a Mosquito/Biting Fly licence holder
- SCRCA staff will also conduct efficacy tests as part of the treatment program by collecting mosquito pupa samples throughout the summer. Pupa are monitored for percent adult emergence. Past efficacy tests show an average of 80% effectiveness for controlling mosquito emergence.
- A different colour paint mark for each application of larvicide is applied to the centre of every catch basin treated.

**BD-18-85****Nemcek-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2018 regarding the treatment of catch basins with a larvicide in Lambton County’s rural and urban areas.**

**CARRIED**

The Regulations Summary report for April and May, 2018 were reviewed.

**BD-18-86**

**Faas-McMillan**

**That the Board of Directors accepts the Regulations Activity Reports on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated June 5, 2018 and includes the period April 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018, as presented.”**

**CARRIED**

The Planning Summary report for April and May, 2018 was reviewed

**BD-18-87**

**Miller-Westgate**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports, dated June 6, 2018 for April and May 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

Michelle Gallant is appointed as an Enforcement Officer for the purpose of enforcing regulations made by the SCRCA, pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, in order to carry out the responsibility of administration and enforcement of this Act.

For the purpose of enforcing the regulations made by the SCRCA, pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authority Act*, it is necessary for the Authority to appoint personnel as Enforcement Officers. This appointment pertains to Ontario Regulation 171/06 made under Section 28 of the Act.

It is also necessary to have the staff Enforcement Officers designated as Provincial Offences Officers in order that they may commence proceedings under the *Provincial Offences Act*.

Michelle completed the CA Level 2 Advanced Provincial Offences Officer Course provided by Conservation Ontario, certificate issued May 29, 2018.

**BD-18-88**

**Marriott-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 12, 2018 regarding the Appointment of Officer under Section 28 of CAA (O.R. 171/06).”**

**CARRIED**

The Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART) report for April and May, 2018 was reviewed

**BD-18-89**

**Gordon-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 13, 2018 on Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART) Municipal drain activities for April and to date June 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

The statement of revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2018 was reviewed.

**BD-18-90**

**Scholten-Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2018, as it relates to the budget.”**

**CARRIED**

The April and May 2018 disbursements were reviewed.

**BD-18-91**

**Scholten-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2018 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$905,572.74.”**

**CARRIED**

The status report on the 2018 general levy receipts to May 31, 2018 was reviewed.

**BD-18-92**

**Bruziewicz-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2018 general levy receipts to May 31, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

The status report on the financial investments to May 31, 2018 was reviewed.

The Board of Directors requested a comparative review of various banking institutions and their respective investment options.

**BD-18-93**

**McMillan-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the financial investments through May 31, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

We are updating the power of duties for the Freedom of Information Coordinator to streamline and expedite the process of an MFIPPA request. The following chart demonstrates the suggested changes in red

Power of Duty	Executive Committee	GM or Designate
Severing records (S.4(2))	X	X
Disclosing records: grave environmental, Health, or Safety hazards (S.5)		X
Deciding if exemptions apply:		
• Draft by-laws, private bills, closed meetings (S.6)		X
• Advice or recommendations (S.7)	X	X
• Law enforcement (S.8)		X
• Relations with Governments (S.9)	X	
• Third party information (S.10)		X
• Economic and other interests (S.12)	X	
• Solicitor-Client privilege (S.13)	X	
• Danger to safety or health	X	
• Personal privacy (S.14)	X	X
• Information available or soon to be published (S.15)	X	X
• Individual's access to own personal information (S.38)		X
Determining compelling public interest (S.16)	X	
Assisting requester clarify request (S.17(2))		X
Forwarding and transferring requests (S.18)		X
Issuing Notices:		
• Forwarding or transferring requests (S.18(2),(3))		X
• Regarding access to records (S.19, 21, 22)		X
• Time extensions (S.20)		X
• To affected parties (S.21)		X
Decisions concerning manner of third party representations (S.21 (6))		X
Granting access to original records (S.23)	X	
Making record descriptions available (S.25,34)		X
Preparing Annual Reports		X
Notice of collection of personal information (S.29(2))		X
Ensuring accuracy of personal information (S.30(2))		X

Power of Duty Cont.	Executive Committee	GM or Designate
Disposal of personal information (S.30(4))	X	
Personal information banks (S.35)		X
Access to personal information (S.37(3))	X	
Representing institution on appeal (S.41)		X
Requiring examination of record on site (S.41)		X
Fees (S.45)	X	<b>X</b>

**BD-18-94**

**Giffen-Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and accepts the suggested revisions to the Delegation of Authority (Power Of Duty), and appoints the Director of Finance as the Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Individual Privacy Act.”**

**CARRIED**

**Canoe Race:**

Due to high water levels at the start and finish of the race, the 2018 Sydenham Canoe Race had to unfortunately be cancelled. Despite the cancellation, some paddlers still made donations to Conservation Education, raising a total of \$1,118.25!

**Spring Education Programs**

Conservation Education continues to be a popular field trip focus for area schools. Programs are booked daily from early April through to June 26<sup>th</sup>. Teachers appreciate the hands on opportunities to connect classroom learning to the natural world. They recognize that our programs cannot be replicated in the school yard.

**ICE Training: (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship)**

SCRCA continues to expand ICE Training for Secondary School partners. This spring we delivered two full ICE training sessions to watershed schools.

- May 16th, 2018 – Holy Cross Secondary School participated in a condensed 5-hour training session held at Strathroy C.A. and the SCRCA main office.
- May 23rd, 28th and June 4th, 2018 – École Secondaire Catholique Saint-François-Xavier (SFX) participated in a 3-day ICE training session. In addition to the training, SFX was able to secure funding to make the students ‘winning idea’ into a work project at LCH. On June 4th the students built a boardwalk over a ‘problem area’ on one of our teaching trails! It was a wonderful experience to have the students experience the problem (day 1), brainstorm ways to fix the problem (day 2) and finally implement the solution (day 3)!



## Special Events

### Kid's Fun Fest Sarnia:

SCRCA staff participated in Kids Fun Fest 2018 on Saturday June 19th in Sarnia. The booth highlighted camping and SCRCA programs. Outdoor education staff offered two activities for local kids to learn more about the natural world.

## Committees

### Sarnia-Lambton Arbour Week Committee:

Education Staff continue to chair the committee and helped to organize a tree planting at Standing Oaks (Home for the medical fragile) in Sarnia this May. We planted 11 large stock native trees including Serviceberry. Sugar maple seedlings were delivered to each student in 4 winning classrooms in Lambton County who participated in the Arbour Week Contest. Students were encouraged to think about the variety of ways that trees protect us and our communities. Each student created a poster that reflects his or her understanding of the important roles trees play in cities and towns.

### **BD-18-95**

#### **Rupke-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 12, 2018, on the Conservation Education Progress Report.”**

**CARRIED**

Fees have not increased since 2008. A list of current and proposed fees was reviewed.

### **BD-18-96**

#### **Scholten-McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated May 25, 2018 on Conservation Education fees and approve the recommended fee increase for Fall 2018 programming.”**

**CARRIED**

For the second year, the SCRCA and Lambton Public Health have partnered for a schoolyard greening initiative called “Tomorrow’s Greener Schools Today – Lambton.” The intent of the project is to plant trees with elementary school students to increase greenspace and shade in playgrounds. From a health perspective, once the trees mature they will protect children from harmful UV radiation. From a conservation perspective, by teaching the children how to plant trees the project encourages environmental stewardship. An educational component regarding the benefits of trees is provided by the Authority and Lambton Public Health during each event.

There is continued enthusiasm for the project. Last year staff planted 40 trees with five elementary schools, this year 68 trees were planted with 139 students at six elementary schools. Feedback from the schools has been very positive – it is a source of pride for the students and it is the first time many of the students have had the opportunity to plant trees.

This year, Lambton Public Health and the Authority were successful in securing a \$5,000 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation grant as well as \$1,000 from the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund to cover the cost of the trees for 2018.

Positive feedback received from participants of the initiative were reviewed.

**BD-18-97**

**McCharles-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on the Schoolyard Greening Program in conjunction with Lambton Public Health dated June 11, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

On Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>, Christina Street in downtown Sarnia was closed to traffic to allow for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Sarnia Artwalk. The event, which draws approximately 25,000 people to the downtown core, celebrates Sarnia’s arts and culture community.

Once again, the SCRCA set up a booth displaying information on the services and programs we offer. This year, the display focused on our conservation areas and campgrounds along with Species at Risk. Kids and adults alike were drawn to our booth by the Eastern Foxsnake display and the chance to win a free camping weekend at one of our local parks. We also handed out pens and bags with the SCRCA logo along with pamphlets highlighting our campgrounds, conservation areas and stewardship programs.

Despite the rain on Sunday, the event was a resounding success and provided us the opportunity to talk with and educate our local community on who we are as an organization and what we do to promote conservation.

**BD-18-98**

**Westgate-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Art Walk dated June 11, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

After receiving support for re-designation from the Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC) and the Bi-National Public Advisory Council (BPAC), and acknowledgment from Aamjiwnaang First Nation and Walpole Island First Nation, Status Assessment Reports for three Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) - “Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems”, “Restrictions on Dredging” and “Beach Closings”, were posted on the Friends of the St. Clair River website for public comment for one month. One comment was received. The Status Assessment Reports have now been presented to federal and provincial government officials for re-designation consideration. If approved, these BUIs will be move from “Impaired” to “Not Impaired” status.

Staff continue to draft the 2012 – 2017 Accomplishments Report. It is anticipated that the report will be complete by the end of summer.

**BD-18-99**

**Bruinink-Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 11, 2018 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”**

**CARRIED**

Applications for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) Scholarship Program were mailed to local high school principals and their department heads in February 2018. Four scholarships are available to graduating high school students who are pursuing post-secondary studies in an environmental field (e.g., biology, ecology, agriculture, etc.). Eligible students must live or attend a secondary school within the SCRCA boundary.

This year, we received 5 applications. Applications were reviewed by a committee established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation. The selection committee consisted of Steve Arnold, Archie Kerr, Brian McDougall and Donna Blue. The Foundation Board of Directors approved the recommended scholarship recipients at their meeting on June 7, 2018.

All four scholarship recipients have demonstrated their interest and involvement in local environmental initiatives. The following awards will be presented in July.

A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship - \$1000

Jared Newport, Lambton Kent Composite School, Dresden, Ontario

Brandon Jordon, Wallaceburg District Secondary School, Wallaceburg, Ontario

Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship - \$500

Naomi Rosedale, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, Strathroy, Ontario

Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship - \$500

Emily Smith, Great Lakes Secondary School, Sarnia, Ontario

**BD-18-100**

**Faas-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Scholarship Program report dated June 11, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

The Board of Directors went in-camera to discuss confidential information.

**BD-18-101**

**Nemcek-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors move in-camera at 1:30 p.m. to discuss confidential information with the General Manager remaining.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-102**

**Wesley-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 1:37 p.m.”**

**CARRIED**

The Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016 outlined many changes that effect this fall’s municipal election as well as future elections.

In 2018, one of the specific changes is the duration of the Restricted Acts or “Lame Duck” period for municipal councils and subsequently for Conservation Authority Boards based on the municipal council’s members that comprise many Boards.

There are two potential Restricted Acts or “Lame Duck” periods as follows:

1. Between July 27, 2018 to October 22, 2018 (Nomination Day to Election Day).
2. Between October 23, 2018 and December 1, 2018 (The day after the election to the end of the term of Council).

When is a Council in a “Lame Duck” Situation?

A municipal council can be in a “Lame Duck” situation if it is determined that there is the potential or certainty that less than three-quarters (75%) of the existing council members will not be returning to office as determined on:

1. Nomination Day – July 27, 2018
2. Voting Day – October 22, 2018

The Authority Board of Directors is comprised of 17 elected representatives and 3 appointed representatives. Appointments for 2018 commenced at the 2018 Annual Meeting on February 22, 2018 and continue to the 2019 Annual Meeting scheduled for February 28, 2019.

Therefore, as of this date, as three members of the Board of Directors have confirmed that they are not seeking re-election this fall and as three members of the Board of Directors who have been nominated for the October 22 election and, if circumstances remain unchanged, will face opponents in the election, the Authority Board of Directors fall under the Restricted Acts or “Lame Duck” classification as of July 27, 2018 as less than 75% (a maximum of 14 out of 20, as of this date, equalling 70%) will be returning.

What are the Restricted Acts (Section 275 (3)) of the Municipal Act?

1. The appointment or removal from office of any officer of the municipality;
2. The hiring or dismissal of any employee of the municipality;
3. The disposition of any real or personal property of the municipality which has a value

exceeding \$50,000.00 at the time of disposal; and

4. Making any expenditures or incurring any other liability, which exceeds \$50,000.00.

Act 4, as underlined above, is the only act that the Board of Directors would be in contravention of in the normal course of proceedings for the Authority Board.

Funding applications, agreements and the Authority's annual budget are believed to be the only traditional business exceeding \$50,000.00 that would be transacted during the period from July 27, 2018 – December 1, 2018.

Staff proposed to continue with the traditional budget process for the development and communication of the draft 2019 Budget, save endorsement of a set of guidelines to be used by staff in the preparation of the draft 2019 budget.

The following guidelines have been drafted for the Board's review and support:

- Inflation: Annual Consumer Price Index for Ontario as per Statistics Canada
- General Levy Increase: up to 5%
- Interest Income Surplus directed to Reserves
- Continue to adjust planning and regulation fees toward user pay system
- Balance increased fees and general levy

Further, in order to maintain business continuity, it is recommended that the Board of Directors delegate the General Manager to act on their behalf in submitting applications and executing agreements in the Authority's best interest during the period from July 27 – December 1, 2018. All actions undertaken under this temporary delegation will be reported to the Board of Directors, during the period of "Lame Duck".

**BD-18-103**

**Faas-Miller**

**"That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 27, 2018, regarding Restricted Acts (Section 275) of the Municipal Act, and endorses the proposed 2019 budget development guidelines as presented and further approves a temporary increase in the General Manager's signing Authority to \$500,000 for the period from July 27, 2018 – December 1, 2018."**

**CARRIED**

Under New Business, a discussion was held regarding planning regulations and the need for greater accuracy in floodplain mapping. SCRCA staff to investigate further.

**BD-18-104**

**Faas-Wesley**

**"That the meeting be adjourned."**

**CARRIED**



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**Steve Arnold**  
Chair



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**Brian McDougall**  
General Manager