



## **Board of Directors *Notice of Meeting***

**June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 ~1:00 p.m., Mooretown Sports Complex**

**Please contact Ashley if a ride from the SCRCA office is required**

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### **Tentative Agenda**

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1. Chair's Remarks
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests Minutes
3. Minutes
4. General Manager's Report
  - 4.1 GM's Report
  - 4.2 Updating Authority By-Laws
  - 4.3 Environmental Registry Commenting Procedure
  - 4.4 Voluntary Carbon Offset Program
    - 4.4.1 CO Council Report on Carbon Capture
    - 4.4.2 Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program Discussions Paper
  - 4.5 Olde Czech Hall
5. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report
  - 5.1 CO April 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes
6. Land Management Reports
  - 6.1 Conservation Lands Update
7. Water Resources Reports
  - 7.1 Current Watershed Conditions
  - 7.2 Aamjiwnaang First Nation Shoreline Naturalization Work
  - 7.3 Floodplain Mapping Project
  - 7.4 WECI Projects
8. Biology Reports
  - 8.1 Healthy Watersheds Program in Lambton Shores
  - 8.2 Ontario Trillium Foundation Update
  - 8.3 Healthy Watersheds Program Update
9. Conservation Services Report
  - 9.1 Spring Tree Planting
  - 9.2 Larvicide Program in Lambton County
10. Planning
  - 10.1 Regulations Report
  - 10.2 Monthly Planning Report
  - 10.3 Appointment of Enforcement Officer under Section 28 of CAA (O.R. 171/06)
  - 10.4 Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART)
11. Finance Reports

- 11.1 Revenue & Expenditure Report to April 30th
- 11.2 April and May Disbursements
- 11.3 2018 General Levy Update
- 11.4 Investments
- 11.5 MFIPPA and Power of Duty
- 12. Communications
  - 12.1 Education Report
  - 12.2 Student Conference
  - 12.3 Schoolyard Greening
  - 12.4 Art Walk
  - 12.5 AOC Report
  - 12.6 Scholarship Report
- 13. In-Camera
- 14. New Business
  - 14.1 Restricted Acts of Board
- 15. Adjournment

Please contact Ashley (call 519-245-3710, 1-866-505-3710 or e-mail [Afletcher@scrca.on.ca](mailto:Afletcher@scrca.on.ca)) at the Administration Office by June 25, if you are unable to attend.



- 7.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 1, 2018 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.
- 7.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updated report, dated June 15, 2018, on McKeough Operating Criteria.
- 7.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 7.4 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 8.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 8.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2018 on the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant update.
- 8.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 9.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2018 regarding spring 2018 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.
- 9.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.

- 10.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 10.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 10.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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).
- 10.4 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 11.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2018, as it relates to the budget.
- 11.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2018 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$905,572.74.
- 11.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2018 general levy receipts to May 31, 2018.
- 11.4 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the financial investments through May 31, 2018.
- 11.5 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.

- 12.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 12, 2018, on the Conservation Education Progress Report.
- 12.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
- 12.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on the Schoolyard Greening Program in conjunction with Lambton Public Health dated June 11, 2018
- 12.4 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Art Walk dated June 11, 2018
- 12.5 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 11, 2018 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.
- 12.6 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Scholarship Program report dated June 11, 2018.
13. Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors move in-camera at \_\_\_\_\_ to discuss confidential information with the General Manager remaining.
14. Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors rise and report at \_\_\_\_\_.
15. New Business
- Moved by: Seconded by:  
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.
16. Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the meeting be adjourned.



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: April 19, 2018

Time: 10:00 am

St. Clair Conservation Authority Administrative Office

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

Staff Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager; Kevan Baker, Director of Lands; Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/ Regulations Officer; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, IT/GIS Coordinator; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Melissa Gill, Conservation Education/ Community Partnership Technician; Patty Hayman, Director of Planning; Sharon Nethercott, Conservation Education Coordinator; Tim Payne, Forest Management Specialist; Girish Sankar, Manager of Water Resources; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services

Guests Present: Jenna Allain, Source Water Protection Coordinator

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.

- At our Annual General meeting in February, the election of our Vice Chair for 2018 was conducted by a Board appointed Chair, via secret ballot, and was observed and tabulated by Board appointed scrutineers – all aspects of which follows accepted election procedures
- The first vote for Vice Chair resulted in a tie vote
- The second vote for Vice Chair also resulted in a tie vote
- Unfortunately, I was not able to confirm any procedures outlined in the Authority Bylaws for such a situation
- Without assurance that all procedures were being adhered to, the election was deferred to the April Board meeting in order to clarify procedures for an election in the event of a tie
- A review of the Authority's Bylaws found no reference to tie votes or procedures to proceed beyond a tie vote

- A review of the Conservation Authorities Act provided leave the following highlights of interest
  - At the first meeting held in each year or at such other meeting as may be specified by the authority's by-laws, the authority shall appoint a chair and one or more vice-chairs from among the members of the authority
  - Each member of an authority is entitled to one vote
- Historically, failing to have specific procedures to follow, the Authority Board has turned to Robert's Rules of Order for procedural direction
- The following is taken from ROBERT'S RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS - April 18, 2016 - C. Alan Jennings, PRP, PRP
  - Elections are decided by majority vote unless your bylaws provide differently
  - In the case of a ballot election, an election isn't complete until the position is filled, and a position is not considered filled until a candidate receives the threshold number of votes required for election
  - In most cases, the threshold is a majority of the votes cast
  - If you have only two candidates and the vote is a tie, you repeat the balloting until one candidate receives a majority
  - Should there be a tie vote between two candidates, new ballots will be distributed and a second vote held
  - Should there still be a tie after the second ballot a third vote shall be held
  - Should there be a tie after the third vote, the election of the office shall be decided by lot drawn by the Chief Administrative Officer or designate
- With the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, one of the requirements of each Authority is to update the Authority Bylaws, approve and implement these updated bylaws within one year (December 17, 2018)

**BD-18-27**

**Scholten-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the report dated March 29, 2018, and further that the Board of Directors proceed with the election of the Vice Chair for 2018 as outlined in Robert’s Rules For Conducting Elections and further that these election procedures be incorporated into the update of the Authority’s bylaws to be completed in 2018.”**

**CARRIED**



**BD-18-28**

**Marriott-Wesley**

**“That Nicole Drumm and Chris Durand be appointed as scrutineers for the election of Vice Chair of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors for 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

Andy Bruziewicz was elected Vice Chair for 2018.

**BD-18-29**

**Kelch-Wright**

**“That the ballots be destroyed.”**

**CARRIED**

The Nominating Committee Report was presented. One vacancy on the Executive Committee was identified following the election of the Vice Chair. Mike Kelch was nominated by Steve Arnold.

**BD-18-30**

**Wesley-McMillan**

**“That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the revised 2018 Nominating Committee’s Report.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the February 22, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

**BD-18-31**

**McCharles-Miller**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held February 22, 2018, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

Canoe Race

- It is with regret that the Annual Sydenham River Canoe Race be cancelled for 2018.
- Due to localized flooding, the start and finish sites will not be useable in time for the event.

South West Woodlot Association

- The Lambton County Woodlot Owners Association was established by a group of resident woodlot owners in 1994

- The Association’s fundamental purpose continues to be to encourage sustainable forest practices by helping landowners acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to undertake these practices
- In promoting woodlots and their importance, the group holds educational events throughout the year (visits to managed and unmanaged woodlots, tree-planting demonstrations, sawmill tours, and an annual bus tour)
- In 2016 the Lambton Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association changed their name to South West Woodlot Association
- Since its inception, the Authority has provided a Technical Advisor to the group
- Initially, Donald Craig was the appointed advisor, and in his retirement Donald continues to be involved in the organization
- In 2009, Tim Payne was appointed as Technical Advisor to the group and he is prepared to continue in this role

#### Staff Changes

- Patty Hayman has been the Director of Planning with SCRCA since 1989
- Prior to joining SCRCA, Patty had also worked at Kettle Creek and Upper Thames River Conservation Authorities
- Patty will be retiring on May 25<sup>th</sup> after almost 30 years of service to the organization
- Many thanks to Patty for her passion for planning and the watershed and all our best wishes as she moves into the next chapter of her life
- Dallas Cundick will assume responsibility for the Planning department as Manager of Planning as of May 1<sup>st</sup>
- As with any senior staff departure, a review of the organization structure is ongoing to ensure that all options are reviewed for efficiency and effectiveness

#### Innovative Farmer’s Board

- Invitation to Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist to sit on the board of directors as a representative of the Conservation Authorities.

#### **BD-18-32**

#### **Nemcek-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated April 9, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

It was recommended that Tim Payne be appointed to continue as Technical Advisor to

the Association.

**BD-18-33**

**McMillan-Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the correspondence from the Southwest Woodlot Owners Association dated March 29, 2018, and further that Tim Payne be appointed to continue as Technical Advisors to the Association.”**

**CARRIED**

- Black Creek Cemetery is located adjacent one of the upstream properties of the McKeough Dam on the south side of Stanley Line just east of Pretty Road
- The Cemetery Board is dealing space issues and has requested that the Authority review any options for the transfer of a small portion of land to the cemetery
- The Foundation has successfully worked with the Cemetery Board in the past to plant trees on and around the cemetery
- The map below outlines the options that staff have reviewed based on this request
- The Lang Property, known as Property 95, was purchase in 1983
- The north portion of the farm, 47 acres, is lease to an agricultural tenant through 2020

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

- Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan states – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment – and further highlights community conservation and recognition
- Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan states – Build a stronger and more valued organization through business excellence

**Financial Impact:**

- The financial impact of the transfer would be the ongoing loss of agricultural rental revenue for the 0.5 acres requested
- Current rental rate for the property is \$190 per acre
- Therefore, the impact would be the loss of \$95.00 annually
- In the long term, the value of the property could be reduced by \$5,000 - \$10,000

**BD-18-34**

**Bruziewicz-Kelch**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated April 6, 2018, regarding the request from Black Creek Cemetery for a donation of land and further that the one half acre of land be transfer to the Cemetery at their cost.”**

**CARRIED**

A report regarding the locations of past and future Annual General Meetings was presented. Two errors were identified and corrected and two additional sites were added to the list.

**BD-18-35**

**Bruinink-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the additions, and revisions to the schedule of meeting locations for the Conservation Authority’s Annual General Meeting and adopts the list as a preferred rotation for subsequent years.”**

**CARRIED**

A verbal report of the Conservation Ontario Annual General Meeting held on April 16, 2018 was given by Brian McDougall, General Manager.

A new template regarding by-laws was developed and requires completion by December of 2018. SCRCA Staff will present a draft copy for review at the September board meeting. An edited version will be presented in November with the final copy submitted for approval in December, 2018.

The Conservation Ontario 2018 Board of Directors welcomed a new Chair and Vice Chair:

- Chair: Don MacIver, Credit Valley Conservation
- Vice Chair: Mark Burnham, Mississippi Valley CA
- Vice Chair: Lin Gibson, Conservation Sudbury

Carbon offsets program for Ontario is currently being developed. Comments have been made requesting that the farm community be included within this program.

**BD-18-36**

**Scholten-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report of Conservation Ontario’s Annual General meeting held April 16, 2018 at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto as well as Queen’s Park Day April 17, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

Business Arising from last meeting:

Lambton Children’s Safety Village

- Update on self-generated Hydro options contained within handout report

2017 Audited Financial Statements

- Update on Forestry account of \$11,000 (i.e. what this is, what restrictions are on this account)
- Update to be provided at June 28, 2018 Board meeting

#### Highland Glen

- Directors request that signage is posted near boat launch reminding users to pay and outlining how parking fees have allowed for improvements. This may also include future plans and the cost of those jobs.
- Appropriate signage has been completed and will be installed this month.
- Verbal update to be provided at Board meeting

#### **BD-18-37**

#### **Miller-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the February 22, 2018 meeting.”**

**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 financial 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 to be upgraded with new carpet and 4 x 4 lumber
- Roads to be 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 to be upgraded with engineered wood chips and subsurface drainage

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

#### A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

- The concrete sidewalk in front of the pool washrooms to be upgraded
- Improvements to be made to the main entrance roadway between the river crossing and the main parking lot (fall 2018)
- A hydro panel to be upgraded in the main campground area
- Roads to be upgraded with gravel
- Playground equipment surfacing to be 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
- The Maple Syrup Festival was a success this year with over 1,350 people attending

#### Highland Glen Conservation Area:

- Approximately 60ft of new walkway along the inside of the boat ramp seawall to be installed
- Welding repairs will be completed on a section of top railing and 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)
- Conservation Lands staff will be maintaining the Lambton County CN rail trail between Camlachie and Brights Grove; maintenance will include trail surface grading, grass cutting and tree removal and planting.
- 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 and Reid Properties
- Staff have repaired or repositioned many of the boardwalks and bridges damaged by spring floods (Strathroy Conservation Area)
- 13 stumps have been removed from along the access roadway at CJ McEwen

- McLean Property (Foundation) – drainage pump shaft has been upgraded in the field pump house
- Bannerstone (Foundation) – property access gates and signage to be install; a small parking area to be established off of Kent Bridge Line
- Over the winter we have accepted campsite reservations (overnight camping only) at the administration office for our 3 regional campgrounds; as of March 31<sup>st</sup> 839 reservations have been taken, collecting \$109,000.00; as compared to 750 reservations and \$96,649.00.00 collected in 2017 (HST adjusted)

### **BD-18-38**

#### **Nemcek-McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands Update dated April 7, 2018, outlining development and management activities on Conservation Areas, McKeough, Lambton County and Foundation Lands.”**

**CARRIED**

#### Timeline

- August 2017 – Met with LCSV representatives to discuss overall concept
- September 2017 – Overall concept and basic plan presented to the Board of Directors – Board acknowledge report and directed staff to report back on outlined issues – Issues identified include: power supply, septic services, impacts to existing programming (camping, education, lands)
- December 2017 – Updated concept plan shown to Board and verbal report by GM
- February 2018 – Update provided to Executive Committee of Board of Directors
- February 2018 – Hydro One advises that power supply to the proposed development based on the available concept plan will cost between \$35,000 - \$50,000 to make power available to the conceptually proposed development
- February 2018 – Updated the Board of Directors on the capital costs for power supply, advised them of consultant undertaking septic servicing review, concerns brought forward by staff regarding impacts on existing programs and additional information will be provided in April

#### Comments

- The Board of Directors has acknowledged that we are reviewing the concept of having the LCSV developed at LC Henderson CA and they have been updated on the status of that review three times
- At this time, the Board of Directors have not approved the construction of LCSV at LC Henderson CA, endorsed the signing of an operating agreement or an implementation plan for the development

## Issues

- Capital costs to have hydro service improved to have available power for the proposed work - \$50,000
- The report on the septic services is expected to be completed this week and will be provided to the Board on April 19<sup>th</sup>
- Revenues generated from camping cover all operating and maintenance costs, as well as development and staff – no “tax dollars” (municipal levy) are provided to support LC Henderson CA
- Conservation Education programs generate over 50% of their budget from donations and fees
- Any impacts to these programs that result in financial losses (reduced camping use, fewer student programs) could have a direct impact on staff in these program areas
- Based on the updated concept plan shared with the LCSV Committee (below), Authority staff have identified several points of concern that could impact existing programming:
- Education Program potential impacts
  - Loss of useable space – major impacts on 7 existing education programs
  - Noise and visual distractions – it can be difficult to maintain children’s attention without the presence of other stimuli, especially when you are helping them to connect with the sites, sounds and feeling of natural areas
  - Congestion – at lunch time most days and during high wind days (when we do not use forested areas), space can be an issue based on the current use - the proposed additional classroom would help relieve some of this concern but with very limited open space, twice the number of children will reduce the quality of the experience of all programs and increases the risks of other issues
  - Current programs are fully booked – one of the benefits of the LCSV was identified as a draw for students to Authority Education programs – with fully booked programs there can be little impact
  - Parking – very often parents accompanying classes drive separately to the site – at times the existing parking lot does not meet demand (especially with younger classes) – with space already at a premium, any loss to parking is unreasonable, therefore additional classes will simply increase parking issues
  - Construction
- Campground potential impacts
  - Noise and visual distractions – campers in our campgrounds are seeking a quiet and peaceful natural setting for their camping experience – 3 of the 4 camping areas are located in close proximity to the proposed village location



- Mixed messaging – issues, in the past, have resulted in battery powered vehicles (child sized) are not permitted at Authority campgrounds due to noise issues – the LCSV is expected to employ these vehicles as part of their programmes
- Open Space Congestion – the campground operates from May 1 – Thanksgiving – currently no education programming is schedule during July and August, providing opportunities for campers to use open areas – any LSCV programs in the summer months could have an impact
- Washroom Size and Maintenance – issues of use or overuse of washroom facilities or the Authority ability to maintain the facilities to the desired standard may be an issue that could impact camper satisfaction
- Construction
- In order to reduce these impacts, a revised concept plan has been drafted for internal review (below)
- Authority staff have confirmed that the revision does negate some of the issues, but several significant issues remain
  - Potential loss of revenue, noise issues, tree preservation, septic issues, construction disruption and agreement on annual costs sharing continue to be issues identified from the Camping program
  - Changes to the concept plan do move and concentrate the issues, but do not eliminate them – several education programs use the area of the existing mini-golf course and the proximity to the education centre will continue to make student focus an issue – the mini-golf area has also be an important area for shade as classes often use this as a cool down area out of the direct sunlight
  - As well, the mini-golf course has recently undergone a facelift with material costs of almost \$5,000
- This revised concept plan has not been reviewed with LCSV representatives and may not be satisfactory for their needs or desires

The Board of Directors held discussion regarding the possible outcomes, including:

- How the LCSV fits in with SCRCA’s mandate with regards to education
- Competition to and distraction from current educational programs
- Impact on camper experience and potential loss of revenue
- Loss of Investments on improving the LC Henderson grounds (i.e. mini put, tree plantings)
- Accessibility and visibility of the location
- Congestion and overpopulation of the area
- Current hydro and septic capacity

<b>Recorded Vote re BD-18-39</b>		
<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Brewer, Diane		X
Broad, Alan		X
Bruinink, Tony		X
Bruziewicz, Andy	X	
Faas, Joe	X	
Giffen, Norm	X	
Gordon, Larry	X	
Kelch, Mike	X	
MacKinnon, Betty Ann		X
Marriott, Kevin		X
McCharles, John		X
McMillan, Dan	X	
Miller, Steve		X
Nemcek, Frank		X
Rupke, Gerry		X
Scholten, Cindy	X	
Wesley, Jeff	X	
Westgate, Jerry		X
Wright, Muriel	X	
Arnold, Steve		X
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>

**BD-18-39**

**Kelch-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated, April 6, 2018, regarding proposed Lambton Children’s Safety Village and further advises the Lambton Children’s Safety Village Committee that the proposed development will impact the existing programs at LC Henderson CA and therefore that Safety Village cannot be located at this location.”**

**LOST**

<b>Recorded Vote re BD-18-40</b>		
<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Brewer, Diane	x	
Broad, Alan	x	
Bruinink, Tony	x	
Bruziewicz, Andy		x
Faas, Joe	x	
Giffen, Norm	x	
Gordon, Larry	x	
Kelch, Mike		x
MacKinnon, Betty Ann	x	
Marriott, Kevin	x	
McCharles, John	x	
McMillan, Dan	x	
Miller, Steve	x	
Nemcek, Frank	x	
Rupke, Gerry	x	
Scholten, Cindy		x
Wesley, Jeff	x	
Westgate, Jerry	x	
Wright, Muriel	x	
Arnold, Steve	x	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>

**BD-18-40**

**Rupke-Broad**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated, April 6, 2018, regarding proposed Lambton Children’s Safety Village and further directs staff to advise the Lambton Children’s Safety Village Committee of the issues regarding the proposed development at LC Henderson Conservation Area and other Conservation Areas and negotiate a revised plan that alleviates impacts on the Authority programs for review and approval of the Board of Directors.**

**CARRIED**

- Current flow numbers have stabilized into March following the early freshet and rain event in the third week of February which resulted in the operation of the McKeough Floodway. With no significant additional rain, watercourses were flowing at normal seasonal levels. Some ice conditions persisted due to cooler temperatures throughout the March but have now dissipated. Snowfall was also present due to lake effect conditions however; there were no considerable accumulations, which have not had any impact on flow conditions.

- Wallaceburg levels have continued to be consistent with normal conditions with the exception the February flood event and a smaller event in the first week of April. The Top of Bank level has been added for comparison with actual level.

#### Precipitation

- Regional precipitation numbers for the first quarter are at or above average (110.6%) for most stations with the exception of the upper reaches of the watershed at (99.6%). This quarterly average was due to higher than normal precipitation in February. This also increased six month figures (108.6%) but yearly numbers remain consistent with normal (98.5%)

#### Snow Conditions

- Most snowpack in SW Ontario was reduced in March but with overall lower temperatures, some snowfall was evident but with little or no notable accumulations
- As expected snowpack continues to be still in place in northern areas of the province. The presence of snow in these areas may continue to contribute to anticipated higher lake levels.

#### Flood Threat

Consistent but cooler weather patterns into March reduced the flood threat and there were no significant events during the month. Spring rainfall events will, as in all years have potential for flood events when significant rainfall is experienced. Rain and wind events in the first part of April did not create any watershed based flooding however, significant wind coupled with high lake levels has resulted in shoreline surge conditions which are now being monitored. The Great Lakes online surge modelling system has been developed by the Provincial Surface Water Monitoring Centre as a result of the continued impact of high water levels and extreme wind conditions. These models and forecasting are now being utilized by those Conservation Authorities with shorelines to better predict and provide appropriate warning protocols and messaging. We will continue to monitor conditions and issue bulletins as needed.

#### Forecasted Weather Conditions

- Overall - Weather conditions into Spring show a relatively strong La Nina influence.
- Long range - Model showing movement towards neutral effect, but remaining below neutral in La Nina conditions

April - Average to below average temperatures in southwestern Ontario. Precipitation outlook is within seasonal conditions.

May - While the rest of Ontario is moving to above seasonal temperatures and enjoying a traditional spring, our region is forecasted to remain in the seasonal temperature range. Precipitation is anticipated to be seasonal to slightly below seasonal levels

June - Below seasonal temperatures with precipitation conditions drier than normal

Summer - By 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.

#### Great Lakes Levels

The monthly comparison for February 2018 (current available data) indicates that Lake Huron levels higher again (26cm) compared to February 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 (10cm) 52cm above the 10 year average. Both Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair current values (February) continue to remain above the average for the entire period of record.

#### BD-18-41

#### Bruzewicz-Miller

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 5, 2018 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”**

**CARRIED**

- 2018- 2019 Projects have been submitted on February 12, 2018
- 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 WECl projects for 2018 - 2019 is outlined below

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline Restoration – <b>Phase 2</b>	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) <b>Phase 2</b>	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	\$120,000	\$60,000

		Head street and Coldstream dams		
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

### **Courtright Waterfront Restoration – Phase 1**

- A budget of \$720,000 was 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 by Bre-Ex Construction Inc.
- As of April 5, 2018, 49 working days have been completed 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).
- All in-water works were completed before March 30, 2018.
- 2 outfalls were located and needed repair. This was not identified in the contract.
- 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 on-going and the crew will be completing restoration in May, 2018.
- This is the first phase of construction at Courtright Park.
- Pictures below is taken on April 5<sup>th</sup> looking south and north along the Courtright park.

### **Sarnia Shoreline Protection – Phase 1**

- A budget of \$700,000 has been confirmed for the project (WECI \$350,000; City of Sarnia \$350,000)
- Construction work was completed on March 13, 2018.
- Construction crew faced a number of weather related challenges, but were extremely dedicated to complete the project.
- 30 working days was provided for completion of the project under the contract

- Restoration work planned for May, 2018.
- Due to half load restrictions, a pile of armour stone is left on site and will be placed in May, 2018 when the crew returns in May, 2018.
- This is the first phase of construction for Helen avenue to Kenwick park shoreline restoration

#### **BD-18-44**

#### **Scholten-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 6, 2018 on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects and approves the projects submitted for funding in 2018-2019 and further will assist staff in obtaining matching funds, where required, to support these projects upon confirmation of funding approval.”**

**CARRIED**

#### Factsheets

New factsheets are now available on our website. The factsheets include information on how to make early season cover crop planting work and variable rate nutrient application. Both factsheets include case studies on projects we have completed with landowners in our watershed.

#### Educational Signs at Demonstration Farms

Two educational roadside signs are set to be installed in the coming weeks. The signs explain and showcase Agricultural Best Management Practices at demonstration sites across our watershed. A variable rate nutrient application sign will be installed near Dresden and an interseeding cover crops sign will be installed near Oil Springs.

#### Healthy Lake Huron Spring Newsletter

Our Healthy Lake Huron Spring 2018 Newsletter will be mailed to over 300 rural properties in Lambton Shores. The newsletter features articles which promote the use of cover crops to improve soil health, reduce erosion and improve water quality. Our upcoming Biostrips Workshop and cover crop grant program are also highlighted.

#### Soil Health Conference

Our Soil Health Conference in Chatham was extremely successful! Over 185 producers, attended the event, majority of professions broke down into: 75% cash crop producers, 33% vegetable producers, 26% ag business, 22% livestock producers, 19% Certified Crop Advisors (CCA), as well as organic producers, government staff and conservation organizations.

Speakers included Frank Gibbs (formerly of USDA), Dale Cowan (International CCA of the Year), Dr. Wendy Taheri, Dr. David Lobb, Dr. Ivan O'Halloran and Anne Verhallen, all of whom spoke about phosphorus, soil health, economics of soil loss, soil microorganisms and 4R Nutrient Management. Additionally, 15 local farmers spoke on

informal discussion panels to share their experiences with improving soil health and reducing soil erosion.

An important message from the conference was to remember that there is no single answer to improving soil health and nutrient management – it takes a combination of BMPs and that the combination will change from farm-to-farm and even year-to-year.

Feedback comments included the following:

“Thank you for organizing such a great meeting. Good caliber of guest speakers with great take home messages. It was educational with lots to think about. Hope you can do this again”

“Just wanted to say - great job. Thank you for the opportunity to participate. I really enjoyed the mix of speakers and loved hearing the farmers, especially the Soil Network participants present.”

“The conference was excellent, speakers, location, logistics and all. The discussions and information exchanged was very timely. Your team from SCRCA all deserve a pat on the back.”

Survey results included the following:

- 97% of attendees found that the conference demonstrated the value of implementing agricultural BMPs
- 100% of attendees found that the information provided was useful, new and increased their knowledge
- Most attendees indicated cost limits the adoption of BMPs followed by limited experience, risk (perceived or actual) and access to information
- 75% of respondents have at least 3 crops in their rotation
- 74% of respondents use cover crops
- 63% of respondents practice regular soil testing
- 58% of respondents practice reduced tillage
- 37% of respondents practice 4R Nutrient Stewardship
- Suggested for future discussion topics: cover crops, agricultural soil biology, biostrips/planting green and reducing compaction

**BD-18-45**

**Kelch-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 6, 2018 on the Healthy Watersheds Program.”**

**CARRIED**



Conservation Authorities (CAs) regulate activities that change, divert, or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse, or that interfere with wetlands. Municipal drains are generally watercourses as defined under the CA Act and are therefore regulated by CAs.

Staff help member municipalities meet regulatory requirements by issuing Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs) as per the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act (DART) Protocol and Letters of Review (LoR) for projects where DART does not apply (Drainage Act, S. 4: Petition Drains and S. 78: Improvements). Staff also meet with Drainage Superintendents on proposed projects and conduct site visits where necessary. If drain repair and maintenance activities are carried out (with or without permission) and result in impact on regulated areas with respect to the Conservation Authority's responsibilities under the Conservation Authorities Act, the Conservation Authority could be held liable for not under taking or enforcing its regulatory authority.

SCRs and LoRs outline project specific sediment and erosion control measures for all projects. Upstream and downstream flooding are considered where appropriate (e.g., culverts and enclosures) and advice is incorporated into review letters and SCRs. Interference with wetlands is discouraged by negotiating project specific mitigations. St. Clair Conservation staff work with municipalities to try to find solutions that meet the requirements of both the Drainage Act and the Conservation Authorities Act.

#### On-site Meetings

In 2017 SCRCA staff started to attend all on-site meetings held by the Municipalities for drainage projects. By doing this staff are able to bring forth any concerns regarding the proposed project early which can help to prevent hold ups later in the process. This also allows SCRCA to develop and maintain greater relationships with our Drainage Superintendents. Approximately 30 on-site meeting were attended by staff in 2017. Some concerns that are brought up include locations of wetlands and significant features. The SCRCA has policy in place with regards to wetlands which provides mitigations and advice for work within and around wetlands.

#### (Zsoldos Drain)

A new municipal drain is proposed in geographic Zone Township, Chatham Kent. The location of the proposed drainage works is within/adjacent portions of the Skunks Misery Provincially Significant Wetland Complex. The new drainage works follow a clearcut of portions of this woodland and wetland. Note: a Woodland Conservation or Tree cutting bylaw does not exist in Chatham Kent. SCRCA biology staff notified (in writing) CK drainage staff and consultant Spriet Associates early in the proposed drainage process of the PSW presence. The PSW is regulated by the SCRCA Ontario Regulation 171/06 "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses". CK has proceeded with drainage nevertheless and the report has received 3rd reading.

To complicate matters, the woodland and wetland is situated in both the SCRCA watershed and LTVCA watershed, with proposed drainage wholly outletting to SCRCA upper watershed tributaries.

SCRCA is working with LTVCA to address the violation and interference with the wetland caused by the clearcut. A separate but related issue is the proposed drainage works (Drainage Act) that as proposed could negatively impact the wetland.

Authority staff are proud of the success in working with municipalities in protecting the remaining wetlands in the watershed. Through this cooperation, SCRCA has generally not required written permission for new drainage works via Ontario Regulation 171/06 and has simply screened and provided general advice if appropriate to ensure wetlands are protected. However, with the concerns with the proposed works adjacent the PSW and the absence of any mention of the PSW in the drainage report, the SCRCA will require that C-K obtain formal written permission under SCRCA Regulation 171/06 to pursue the Zsoldos municipal drainage works. Adherence to the SCRCA Wetland Policies under Section 28 will be required.

**A year in review – 2017**

2017 saw a total of 109 files submitted to SCRCA for review. 63 were reviewed under the DART protocol and received SCR permissions. 45 were reviewed by staff and received LoRs as the works were outside of those specified under the DART protocol.

Categories of Drain Review	January - April 2016	May - August 2016	September - December 2016	Totals
DART Protocol – SCR issued	17	24	22	<b>109</b>
Letter of Review Issued	16	18	11	
Other Types of Files (e.g., Environmental Assessment, sign-off, Assessment changes)	0	0	1	
<b>Total Files</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>34</b>	

**BD-18-46**

**Bruinink-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the report dated March 27, 2018 summarizing 2017 Municipal Drain Review activities including action on the proposed new Zsoldos municipal drain.”**

**CARRIED**

Every five years conservation authorities release watershed report cards to help watershed residents, agency staff and conservation authority directors understand environmental health on a watershed basis. Report cards provide a 'check-up' on the health of many of Ontario's Watersheds. A comparison of SCRCA's watershed conditions with neighbouring watersheds can be found at <http://watershedcheckup.ca/>

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority cards assess and grade surface water quality and forest conditions in 14 sub-watersheds. The Report Cards are compiled every 5 years therefore the 2018 Report Card is based off data collected from 2011-2015. Both the 2013 and 2018 Report Cards use the guidelines and updated grading system recommended by Conservation Ontario in 2011.

Surface water quality indicators include Total Phosphorus, benthic invertebrates, and bacteria (*E. coli*). Forest condition indicators include the percent forest cover, percent forest interior, and the percent of the riparian zone that is forested. Each of these indicators are graded with specific parameters and these grades have been defined from A to F (Excellent to Very Poor). The Report Card analysis is based on water quality data collected by St. Clair Conservation staff, and GIS mapping. The water quality information is collected at individual sites that are selected to reflect the subject watershed. The forest evaluation has been completed at a landscape level from analysis of aerial photographs.

Results for this year's Report Card resulted in surface water quality grades for the St. Clair Region ranging from C to D. Overall, the Middle East Sydenham, Lower East Sydenham, Lower North Sydenham and Lambton Shores Tributaries scored C grades while the remaining sub-watersheds scored D grades. Forest condition grades ranged from C to F; with a C grade in Lambton Shores Tributaries, most watersheds receiving a D grade, and an F grade in Cow and Perch Creeks, and Lake St. Clair Tributaries.

The latest round of report cards reinforces the need for an aggressive strategy to change the watershed. With change and stressors, such as intense agricultural practices, population growth, commercial and industrial development and climate change continually affecting the watershed, recognition of local actions that improve the watershed health is very important. There have been collective efforts over the years including dozens of projects that have been completed through the Healthy Watershed Program and Healthy Lake Huron Clean Water Clean Beaches Program. Examples of these positive contributions are included and summarized in each watershed Report Card.

**BD-18-47**

**Kelch-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2018 on Watershed Report Cards and reporting on the health of St. Clair Conservation watersheds.”**

**CARRIED**

The Biology Department has had great success with grant proposals carrying into this year, with active grants currently totaling over \$1,000,000 and a potential additional \$1,185,000 from new applications in 2018/19.

Financial Impact:

Multi-year grants for 2018/19 include:

- A three year \$160,300 grant from the Friends of the St. Clair River/Ontario Trillium Foundation to conduct aquatic inventories, restore aquatic habitat and for education and outreach.
- A three year \$270,000 grant from Environment and Climate Change Canada for the “Sydenham River Healthy Watersheds Program – An Ecosystem Approach for Species at Risk.”
- A two year \$217,560 grant from Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs for the “to restore, protect and conserve Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health through Agriculture Outreach & Education”
- A two year \$40,000 grant from Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs for the “Healthy Lake Huron – Lambton Shores Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program”
- A three year \$57,400 grant from Environment Canada and Climate Change for the “Healthy Watersheds Program – North Sydenham River Recovery.”
- A three year \$21,500 from Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (Great Lakes Agriculture Stewardship Initiative) for Soil Health, Water Quality, and Pollinator Habitat Outreach and Education.
- A two year \$18,074 grant from Environment and Climate Change Canada for the “North Sydenham Watershed Mussel Inventory”

As well, there were a number of one-year projects funded for 2018/19

- \$30,000 from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the protection, evaluation and restoration of riparian wetlands.
- \$23,378 from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (OCEF) for the “Sydenham Tree Planting and Baseline Health Assessment”
- \$25,000 from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund) for the “Sydenham River Recovery Program”
- \$60,000 from Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for the “Healthy Lake Huron – Lambton Shores Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program”

- \$10,000 from Environment and Climate Change Canada for the “Healthy Lake Huron – Lambton Shores Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program”
- \$70,400 from Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Species at Risk Stewardship Fund for the “Sydenham River Habitat Stewardship Program”
- \$20,000 from Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry’s Land Stewardship and Habitat Restoration Program for Habitat Enhancement of the Hardy Creek Floodplain.

The following additional applications have been submitted to date for 2018/19 funding:

- \$600,000 has been requested from Environment and Climate Change Canada (Great Lakes Protection Initiative – Preventing Toxic and Nuisance Algae Stream) for the “Reducing phosphorus loss through agricultural outreach & stewardship in Southwestern Ontario” (4 year proposal)
- \$143,685 has been requested from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (Species at Risk Stewardship Fund) for the “Reptiles at Risk” Program (3 year proposal)
- \$120,900 has been requested from Environment and Climate Change Canada (Great Lakes Protection Initiative – Citizen Science Stream) for the “St. Clair Region Farmers For Great Lakes Water Quality Science” (4 year proposal)
- \$99,991 has been requested from Environment and Climate Change Canada (EcoAction) for the “St. Clair Region’s Freshwater Reach-ahead Program Pilot” (2 year proposal)
- \$80,000 has been requested from the Canadian Agricultural Partnership for “reducing phosphorus loss through agricultural outreach and education” (18 month proposal)
- \$60,000 has been requested from Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for the “Healthy Lake Huron – Lambton Shores Clean Water, Clean Beaches Program” (1 year proposal)
- \$28,888 has been requested from Environment and Climate Change Canada (Habitat Stewardship Program – SAR Stream) for the “Barrier Removal on Bear Creek at Moore Habitat Management Area” (1 year proposal)
- \$8,900 is requested annually from Fisheries and Oceans Canada for a contract to collect fisheries data (1 year proposal)
- \$5,464 has been requested from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation for the “A.W. Campbell CA Pollinator Meadow” (1 year proposal)
- \$7,050 has been requested from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation – TD Tree Days for Strathroy and Sarnia (1 year proposal)
- \$30,858 has been requested from Canada Summer Jobs to fund three summer positions: A Biological Monitoring Assistant, and two Watershed Conservationists

**BD-18-48**

**Kelch-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated April 4, 2018 on the biology department’s grant/ funding update for 2018/ 19.”**

**CARRIED**

Freshwater mussels play an extremely important role in the health of freshwater rivers and lakes. Buried beneath layers of sand they filter and clean water, are a source of food for many different species and most importantly, act as a “bioindicator” as their health has direct links to the overall health of the aquatic ecosystem. However, due to increased pollution, siltation, habitat loss and invasive species competition, many are listed as “at risk” in Ontario. With at least 80 species of fish and 34 species of freshwater mussels historically found in the Sydenham River, it is one of the most species-rich watersheds in all of Canada – no other river in Canada has greater freshwater mussel diversity. With this knowledge, research and monitoring within this diverse system is an important action in protecting these degrading populations.

**SCRCA Projects - 2017:**

The Sydenham River is made up of two main branches, the East Branch and the North Branch. The East Branch has long been recognized as a hotspot for mussel diversity whereas the North Branch has often been overlooked and understudied. In order to work on closing these knowledge gaps, the SCRCA’s biology staff conducted 28 mussel surveys covering 14km of the North Branch in 2017 and plan to study another 14km in 2018. This year alone, staff captured and processed 5,282 live mussels in addition to 3,040 old shells, thereby adding over 8,000 new data points to the North Branch of the Sydenham. Twenty species were observed including five Species at Risk. This important research project is being funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and the Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP) for Species at Risk.

In addition, the mussel relocation survival assessment phase of the 2016 Bear Creek barrier removal was conducted. The survey took place on July 31-August 1 and 296 live mussels were observed. Only one Species at Risk mussel (Mapleleaf mussel) was observed, however it was the most abundant species of those surveyed. A second survival survey will take place in 2018 to fulfill the permit requirements of the project.

**2017 Canadian Freshwater Mollusc Research Meeting: November 8-9, 2017**

The second biennial Canadian Freshwater Mollusc Research Meeting was held in November at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters in Burlington, Ontario. The meeting was jointly hosted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. This meeting was organized to bring together Canadian malacologists to share past, current, and ongoing research on freshwater molluscs. Topics of discussion included status and distribution, life history, conservation genetics, species at risk, threats, propagation activities, and outreach actions. With representation

from the Pacific to the Atlantic, attendees came from federal departments, provincial/state agencies, academic institutions, environmental nongovernmental organizations, naturalist groups, zoos, museums, and interested citizens. SCRCA biologists attended the meeting and found it as a great environment for building relationships to promote future collaborations and research opportunities, as well as learn about other Freshwater Mussel research and initiatives taking place within other geographic regions.

#### The Sydenham River – An Important Piece to Mussel Research

There are a number of organizations and researchers that travel to the Sydenham River to conduct research as it remains the most diverse mussel habitat in Ontario. Presented at the Canadian Freshwater Mollusc Research Meeting, three research projects listed below used the Sydenham River as a home base. Fisheries and Oceans and MNRF often invite SCRCA biologists to participate in mussel research projects when in SCRCA's watershed.

- Exploring Ontario Nature's first riverine reserve: The Sydenham River Nature Reserve  
A group of biologists from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has launched an inventory survey along a 2.5km stretch within the Sydenham River Nature Reserve. This specific reach has never been inventoried. After a three-day survey, a total of 1691 animals, representing 24 species, were observed, including seven Species at Risk (SAR). This survey provides a better understanding of reach variability as well as the freshwater mussel community throughout the river.
- Selective feeding of freshwater mussels: implications for resource partitioning  
Researchers from the University of Guelph have been examining the feeding of three freshwater mussel species in the Sydenham River at Florence, ON in different flow conditions. The study showed that higher feeding was observed under flowing conditions across all the mussel species and that different mussel species were capable of selectively feeding on particular algal species.
- Can Adaptive Cluster Sampling Improve Ontario Mussel Species at Risk Monitoring?  
Collaborations between MNRF and University of Trent studied simulation-based methods to evaluate whether adaptive clustering sampling could improve single-species monitoring. Data for eight mussel species (including three species at risk) collected from two sites (Rawdon Creek and Sydenham River) were used. It was determined in all cases that adaptive sampling was less accurate and efficient than simple random sampling or systematic sampling with random starts.

For more detailed explanations or to read about additional mussel research, please visit: <http://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/40663693.pdf>

Conclusion:

Mussel monitoring work conducted by SCRCA biology staff throughout the Sydenham watershed plays an important role in the overall research and knowledge of Ontario Freshwater Mussel populations. With the Sydenham River being the most diverse location in Ontario, current knowledge gaps should be filled in order to promote the best possible planning and management practices. SCRCA collects valuable baseline data that is contributing to closing these gaps and providing a greater understanding about species presence and distribution, especially Species at Risk. This data is valuable to a wide range of organizations including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and will be used for various projects for years to come.

**BD-18-49**

**Faas-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated April 4, 2018 on mussel research and monitoring taking place throughout the Sydenham River watershed by SCRCA biology staff and other organizations.”**

**CARRIED**

Stewardship Projects

- There were 12 projects funded by the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund (SARSF) for 2017- 2018. A total of \$31,500 from this program went toward funding riparian buffers, stream bank stabilization, wetland creation, upland habitat improvements, agricultural windbreaks and afforestation projects valued at more than \$168,000
- Construction for some projects began in February and March mainly for wetland creation. Most of the projects are expected to begin May 1st and be completed over the course of four to five weeks
- A new application for SARSF 2018 - 2019 was submitted to MNRF last fall. We received notification on April 5<sup>th</sup> that our proposal was not selected for funding for the 2018/19. SCRCA has received funding from this program since 2008, however the SARSF has changed some of their priority categories and competition for funding has increased. The review committee decided that the SCRCA proposal for stewardship projects was not strong enough to meet SAR recovery needs for priority species.

Tree Planting Program

- Tree seedlings and shipping dates from supplying tree nurseries are operating approximately one to two weeks behind normal spring schedules this year.
- Nurseries don't expect to start lifting seedlings until the week of April 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> due to cold and wet conditions so far this spring.
- Trees are expected to arrive sometime around the 25<sup>th</sup> of April or later.



- SCRCA crews will be planting approximately 55,000 trees on 28 properties this spring.
- Another 5,500 trees will be distributed to an additional 40 landowners for planting.
- Two tractors will be rented and used to operate the two SCRCA owned mechanical tree planters. One hand planting crew will be required for planting difficult sites. Planting is expected to take place starting around the first week of May this year.
- Approximately 10 acres will be planted on Enbridge land at the Wilkesport site in St. Clair Township this spring. This will be the final year of an 8 year-long project to “help reforest” Lambton County under a Naturalization Project they committed to in 2010 in partnership with SCRCA. Union Gas Limited will be subsidizing the cost of 4 of the 10 acres of this Enbridge project for compensation from a tree removal project in St. Clair Township in 2017
- Approximately 275,000 trees require spray maintenance this spring (under the 3 year vegetation control program) plus another 55,000 trees scheduled for planting this year. Two machine sprayers will start herbicide applications in April as soon as weather and site conditions permit.
- The 3 year tending work is paid in advance and carried forward each year to cover the cost of the labour and material.

#### Large Stock Trees

- Approximately 850 large stock trees have been ordered for the spring
- Three municipalities are ordering trees this spring and two other municipalities are interested in a large stock tree program next year. The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is providing a financial incentive to its municipal property owners who purchase and plant trees on their property through this program.
- Trees range in size from a half metre tall for evergreen trees to 2.0 metres tall for the hardwood trees. Most of the trees are 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.

#### Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)

- Many forest property owners have recently been contacting SCRCA for assistance preparing a new plan or approving a renewed plan for the managed forest tax incentive program for the 2019 tax year.
- New plans must be approved by a plan approver and are due June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Plan renewals must also be approved by a plan approver and are due July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- Minimum requirement for the program is 4 hectares of woodland exclusive of residence or non-forestry use structures
- Approved plans are sent to the MNRF and information is then sent to MPAC

- The MFTIP offers a reduction in property taxes to landowners of forested land who prepare a plan and agree to be good stewards of their property

**BD-18-50**

**Gordon-Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 5, 2018 regarding Conservation Services projects and programs.”**

**CARRIED**

- The County of Lambton operates a West Nile virus (WNV) program including a larvicide application program to control mosquito larva in catch basins. The Conservation Authority has been treating catch basins in all rural and urban areas in Lambton County, including the City of Sarnia since 2006 under direction from Lambton Public Health. SCRCA obtains permits each year from the Ministry of the Environment and trains, certifies and registers summer staff as pesticide technicians to treat catch basins with a mosquito larvicide product.
- Catch basins are treated with methoprene (mosquito larvicide) between July 1st and August 30<sup>th</sup> with 3 separate applications at 21-day intervals for mosquito control during the most vulnerable time of the year for transmitting the disease. Methoprene is a growth regulator that prevents the mosquito pupa from emerging as a biting adult mosquito. Approximately 65% of the Lambton County catch basins are located in the City of Sarnia.
- The three year contract for larvicide application between SCRCA and the County of Lambton ended in 2017 under the maximum extended contract term. SCRCA submitted a new price and treatment option plan to the County last month for a new three year contract term.
- A tender for a three year contract for larvicide application by the SCRCA was offered to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent this year and is currently being reviewed for consideration by County staff
- SCRCA staff also conduct efficacy tests in part with the treatment program by collecting mosquito pupa samples throughout the summer. Pupa are monitored for percent adult emergence. Past efficacy tests show an 80% average effectiveness at controlling mosquito emergence.

**BD-18-51**

**Nemcek-McMillan**

**“The Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 6, 2018 on the application of Larvicide to catch basins in Lambton County for the control of West Nile Virus in 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

- Recently, an open ditch drain cleanout took place along the length of the drain where a landowner had planted trees and unfortunately, a large percentage of the trees were damaged in the process
- The landowner gave the cleanout contractor permission to work from his property as long as the contractor agreed to be careful not to damage the trees in the process
- The landowner later contacted SCRCA as well as the municipality to determine if the trees could be replaced
- The trees were planted as seedlings in 2009 as part of a Rural Lambton Stewardship Network (RLSN) habitat improvement project and fully funded by RLSN
- SCRCA was contracted by RLSN to plant the trees on the landowner's side of drain, which is where excavation equipment is normally used during a drain cleanout and where the spoil from the drain is normally placed
- An SCRCA tree planting agreement was still used even though it was a RLSN project
- The landowner was aware of the necessary permission requirements for planting trees along the property line but neglected to contact the municipality regarding the proposed tree planting along the drain
- Fortunately, this is a rare occurrence however; we need to avoid similar occurrences in the future.
- How can SCRCA effectively and efficiently work with landowners and their adjacent landowners to attain all tree planting objectives and ensure with funders that the projects are not only implemented but also successful in the long term?
- With these projects being carried out on private property, the landowner not only has the rights but also the responsibility for the works occurring on their property therefore, how can we ensure that the landowner obtains all necessary permissions and takes full responsibility for their project?
- The existing planting agreement requires landowners who wish to plant trees less than one metre from a neighbouring property must obtain the signature of the adjacent landowner under a statement permitting such encroachment within the property boundary. Should we also require a landowner to obtain permission from the municipality, including a signature as well as the selection of material deposition or landowner paid disposal that would ensure that the property owner has discharged their responsibilities as a landowner in the preparation for a project to be carried out on their property?
- Therefore, staff propose to:
  - Revise the existing Private Landowner's Tree Planting Agreement (below are excerpts from the agreement) to incorporate a clearer statement for planting along municipal drains
  - Add a statement outlining that when a landowner wishes to plant a row or more of trees along a municipal drain, the landowner agrees to have the spoil material from any future drain maintenance placed in another location and removed at the expense of the landowner

- Incorporate a mandatory signature line where the municipality and/or municipal drainage superintendent and the landowner agree to the above method of future drain maintenance works should future maintenance risk damaging existing trees
- A similar statement and signature line will be added for projects that are close to adjacent properties

**BD-18-52**

**Kelch-MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 6, 2018 regarding Private Lands tree planting projects and Municipal Drain Maintenance Projects and further that the Tree Planting Agreement between the landowners and the Authority include awareness of conditions in planting along or adjacent municipal drains and that the planting project has been reported to the drain engineer and municipal drainage superintendent.”**

**CARRIED**

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 ), was reviewed.

**BD-18-53**

**Marriott-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated April 4, 2018 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from February to March 31, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review covering January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018 was reviewed

**BD-18-54**

**Scholten-Kelch**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

A summary of the Municipal drain activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART) covering October 2017 to March 2018, was reviewed.

**BD-18-55**

**Wright-McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the October, 2017 – March, 2018 municipal drain activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART).”**

**CARRIED**

The Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan was approved by the Board of Directors in 2015.

In 2016/17, SCRCA retained W.F. Baird and Associates, Coastal Engineering to undertake the above noted dynamic beach studies. Numerous updates on the studies were forwarded to the Board of Directors in 2016 and 2017. In 2016 public open houses were held and in 2017 further consultation on the West Ipperwash study was necessary due to the complex issues in this Reach.

These studies are included as additional references in the Directors Board Package and on the Director Access website.

Revisions to the SMP are summarized in the Preface Section to the SMP.

A track changes document citing full revisions of the full SMP is available on the Directors Access page on the Authority website. A complete hard copy of the SMP (142 pages) was provided in December 2015.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Meets Goal 1 and Strategic Action 1 of SCRCA Strategic Plan

Study Findings:

As the dynamic nature of the beach was unknown at the time of historic development, a well defined building line was established on a beach deposit. The 2010 provincial dynamic beach default limit extended beyond the development line. The nature of the beach in the vicinity of the development had also been impacted.

Based on the results of the assessments, Baird and Associates recommended that the dynamic beach hazard limit could be reduced. This was based on sound coastal engineering modelling and principles and is outlined extensively in the individual reports. No objections were received on the recommendation of a reduced hazard limit as presented. The consultation process was a beneficial exercise as best management practices were discussed thoroughly with expertise from a well respected coastal engineering firm. Residents and the KSPFN community were appreciative of the expertise and opportunity to discuss issues with the consultant and SCRCA Planning and Regulations staff.

#### Financial Impact:

The individual technical studies financial arrangements were previously approved with grants and special benefitting municipalities sharing costs. No financial impact to SCRCA for changes to documents. Changes done in house and is a Regulatory requirement. Positive financial impact for individual residents as options for redevelopment on parcels were extremely limiting; particularly West Ipperwash.

#### **BD-18-56**

##### **Rupke-Kelch**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the update on Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan Reaches 5 and 36/37 Dynamic Beach studies, which reduces the default dynamic beach limit based on sound coastal engineering modelling and principles and that updates be made to the Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan as circulated as well as any other guidance documents for consistency purposes.”**

**CARRIED**

The review of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) began in Spring 2016 and has concluded with the creation of the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) to replace the OMB. Staff attended an in-person session to discuss the OMB on October 27, 2016.

In addition to the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, Bill 139 – *Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017*, which received Royal Assent December 12, 2017, also made changes to the planning process. Staff attended an information session about the changes to the planning process on March 9, 2018. The majority of changes discussed below take effect on April 3, 2018. This report focuses only on changes related to the Conservation Authority and does not specifically address all changes related to municipalities.

The Authority is involved in the planning process through our delegated responsibility from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to provide comments on natural hazards and our agreements with member municipalities to provide comments on natural heritage.

The Bill 139 changes related to the planning process included:

- repealing the OMB and replacing it with the LPAT,
- establishing the Local Planning Appeal Support Center, and;
- making changes to the Planning Act.

The LPAT will be an independent, province-wide appeal body for land use planning matters. The hearing process will be modernized and made less adversarial by promoting active adjudication, limiting oral evidence and cross examination, requiring mediation before hearings and improving timelines.

The Local Planning Appeal Support Center will be a separate agency, intended to help level the playing field for citizens and provide information on land use planning, appeal procedures and advice. A new user friendly website will be created, with publically accessible decisions on appeals.

Of the changes made to the Planning Act, a summary of those changes which relate to the Authority's responsibilities are outlined below. The direct relation to the Authority is highlighted in *italics*.

#### Longer Decision Timelines

The intended outcome of increasing the decision timelines is to provide more time to assess planning matters, hear input from the public and negotiate solutions to possible issues to avoid potential appeals before making a decision.

- Official Plan Amendments – 210 days extended from 180 days
- Zoning By-law Amendments – 150 days extended from 120 days

*The Conservation Authority will have more time to provide comments to the municipality and work with applicants to achieve a resolution.*

#### Consistency/Conformity Standard

Changes to the Planning Act will restrict the grounds for an appeal of official plan amendments and zoning by-law amendments to **only** matters of consistency and/or conformity with provincial and/or municipal policies and plans. This change will limit the ability of the LPAT to overturn decisions made by locally-elected councils, whereas previously the OMB could make any planning decision that council could have made.

The LPAT must dismiss an appeal of a local decision unless it is inconsistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), does not conform/conflicts with provincial plans, or does not conform with applicable official plans (e.g. upper-tier official plan). If a local decision is determined to be inconsistent or conflicting with policies, the matter must return to the municipality for a new decision. This change does not apply to appeals exclusively site-specific in nature (e.g. subdivision, consents, minor variances).

*Conservation Authority concerns related to Natural Hazards and Natural Heritage will continue to be a grounds for an appeal as they stem from the PPS.*

#### Requirement to Send New Information Back to the Municipality

The LPAT is required to send new information at subdivision hearings back to the municipality for re-evaluation of the original decision, if requested by the municipality. Previously, the OMB had the authority to determine whether to send new information back to the municipality. If material is sent back to the municipality, they have 60 days to reconsider the decision and make a written recommendation back to the LPAT.

*The Conservation Authority, working with the Municipality, can also review new information and provide input to recommendations.*

#### No Appeal of Major Provincial Decisions

With this change, no appeals of provincial decisions on official plans and major official plan updates will be permitted. The intended outcome is to reduce the number of appeals and increase the implementation of provincial policies, in order to protect important provincial interests such as public health and safety.

*Improved implementation of provincial policies related to Natural Hazard and Natural Heritage will assist the Conservation Authority when reviewing applications.*

#### Climate Change

All municipal official plans are required to include climate change policies to identify goals, objectives and actions to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, including through increased resiliency.

*This requirement further supports the Conservation Authority's strategic plan objectives.*

#### **BD-18-57**

##### **Marriott-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated March 12, 2018, regarding the Bill 139 changes related to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.”**

**CARRIED**

The revenue and expenditure report to February 28, 2018, as it relates to the budget, was reviewed.

#### **BD-18-58**

##### **Scholten-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to February 28, 2018, as it relates to the budget.”**

**CARRIED**

The January, February and March 2018 disbursements were reviewed.

#### **BD-18-59**

##### **Kelch-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the January, February and March 2018 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$959,377.55.”**

**CARRIED**

The report on the 2018 general levy receipts to date were reviewed.



**BD-18-60**

**Nemcek-Broad**

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

**CARRIED**

The January, February and March 2018 Investment Reports were reviewed.

**BD-18-61**

**Brunink-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the January, February and March 2018 Investment report.”**

**CARRIED**

The November 29, 2017 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting minutes were reviewed.

**BD-18-62**

**Gordon-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the November 29, 2017 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting minutes.”**

**CARRIED**

Upon request of the Walpole Island Heritage Committee April White of Environment and Climate Change Canada along with Kelly Johnson, St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator attended the Walpole Island First Nation Chief and Council meeting on February 27, 2018. April White made a presentation to Chief and Council regarding re-designation of the Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) – “Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems”, “Restrictions on Dredging” and “Beach Closings”. Chief and Council voted to acknowledge the recommendation. Aamjiwnaang First Nation previously passed a similar motion in regard to re-designation of the BUIs. Support to re-designate the BUIs from “Impaired” to “Not Impaired” has also been received from the Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC) and the Bi-National Public Advisory Council (BPAC). The three BUIs will now continue on through the re-designation process.

**BD-18-63**

**Rupke-Kelch**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 22, 2018 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”**

**CARRIED**

Staff is proposing a Conservation Authority Project Tour on Thursday, June 28, 2018 from 8:30a.m. to 12:00p.m. The bus will leave and return to the Mooretown Sports Complex. We will have lunch followed by the Board meeting. This year, we will be focusing on projects in the western portion of our watershed.

### **Proposed Tour Highlights**

- Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvement Project
- Aamjiwnaang Shoreline Naturalization Project
- Guthrie Park; Area of Concern update
- Bear Creek Barrier Removal
- Stewardship Projects
- Moore Wildlife Habitat Management Area

### **BD-18-64**

#### **Scholten-McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2018 on the proposed project tour scheduled for June 28, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

### **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: 32 Metcalfe Street West, Strathroy

#### **Member’s Project Tour**

Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018

Time: 8:30am to 12:00pm

**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

For details on events, visit [scrca.on.ca/events](http://scrca.on.ca/events)

**BD-18-65**

**Nemcek-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updated schedule of Special Events outlined in the attached flyer.”**

**CARRIED**

**Winter Programing**

Thanks to the Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association, Groundwater and River Bottom Critters programs were the focus of our winter season for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12. Several primary classes also visited Henderson Conservation Area, experiencing an enjoyable and educational winter program with snow on the ground! Union Gas Funding for the Spring Water Awareness Program has ended after 7 years. Staff is currently looking for a new funding source to continue this informative and educational safety program.

**Healthy Kids Community Challenge**

Power off and Play, Funded by Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The SCRCA received \$8,000 in grant money to promote being active. Staff designed a school yard winter program to encourage kids to get outside and play. 6 classes at 5 different schools each participated in 40 minutes of outside nature activities. Post cards

promoting hiking trails at our C.A.'s were also distributed to encourage families to visit C.A.'s.

### **Education Fees**

Education Fees have not increased in over 15 years. They are currently under review for the 2018/2019 school year.

### **Special Events**

*Maple Syrup Festival:* The Alvinston Maple Syrup Festival was a popular place to spend the last weekend of March Break. Bright sunny days and cold frosty nights made for great weather conditions and helped to keep the ground a little less muddy. Over 1,300 visitors walked the trails and viewed the historic displays of making maple syrup.

*Canoe Race:* April 22 is set aside for this year's paddle down the Sydenham. Find a partner and enjoy the beauty of the river on Earth Day! Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.

### **Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)**

Staff is currently developing two new Certification Workshops to add to our SHSM program offerings; Animal and Plant Management, and Habitat Restoration. Both Certifications will focus on Species at Risk within the Sydenham watershed. Students will be introduced to the ways SCRCA manages Conservation Areas to protect and improve habitat for local Species at Risk.

### **ICE Training**

ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) training partnerships continue to grow. SCRCA education staff have two training sessions planned for spring 2018. One partnership with St. François Xavier French Catholic School, Sarnia, will focus on improving the trails at LC Henderson C.A. The other training with Holy Cross Catholic School in Strathroy will focus on coping with mental health issues amid today's stresses by spending time in nature.

### **Fun Fest**

SCRCA staff will be participating in Kids Fun Fest 2018 on Saturday June 9th in Sarnia. The booth will promote camping and SCRCA programs. SCRCA staff will provide children with a hands-on nature themed activity. Past years have included themes such as nest building, mud painting, temporary nature art, and nature-themed games.

**BD-18-66**

**Kelch-Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated April 4, 2018 including the winter programming, program development and expansion, Community Partnerships, and Special Events.”**

**CARRIED**

The letter from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding the Proposed Projects for Crothers Conservation Area was reviewed.

**BD-18-67**

**Wesley-Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the letter from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding the Proposed Projects for Crothers Conservation Area and supports the current trail name change, trail extension and installation of Story Book trail posts”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-68**

**Scholten-Giffen**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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**Steve Arnold**  
**Chair**

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**Brian McDougall**  
**General Manager**

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 4.1**

**Subject:** General Manager's Report

## Recommendation:

That this report be accepted as an update.



## Background:

Healthy Lake Huron

- Since 2011, the partners list at right have 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

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 4.2**

**Subject:** Updating Authority Bylaws

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## **Recommendation:**

That this report and attachments be accepted as an update.

## **Background:**

- 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
- Attached is the templates Table of Contents which will provide the backbone of the update
- 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

# CONSERVATION AUTHORITY Best Management Practices (BMP) and Administrative By-Law Model

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**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 4.3**

**Subject:** Environmental Registry – Commenting Procedure

---

**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report and approves the procedures for providing comments regarding issues posted on Ontario's Environmental Registry.

**Background:**

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 (the list is shown in the table below). 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.

Environmental Registry Alerts	
	
Your Keyword Alerts	
Phrase	Approximate E-mails Per Week
Biodiversity	0.7 Emails
Chatham-Kent	0.7 Emails
Conservation	5.2 Emails
Conservation Authorities	0.3 Emails
Conservation Authority	2.4 Emails
Drinking water	1.8 Emails
Endangered species	1.8 Emails
Environmental assessment	4.8 Emails
Erosion	1.2 Emails
Flood	0.3 Emails
Herbicide	0.1 Emails
Integrated pest management	0 Emails
Lambton County	0.1 Emails
Larvacide	0 Emails
Larvicide	0 Emails
Middlesex County	0.1 Emails
Natural Hazard	0.1 Emails
Natural Heritage	1.1 Emails
Planning act	3.3 Emails
Provincial policy statement	0.8 Emails
Source protection	0.3 Emails
Source water	0.2 Emails
St. Clair river	0.1 Emails
Stewardship	0.5 Emails
Sydenham river	0 Emails
Wetland	1.4 Emails
Woodland	0.4 Emails
Woodlot	0 Emails
Expect to receive around <b>27.7 emails per week</b> with your current keywords.	

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.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

Item 4.4

**Subject:** Carbon Capture

## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report.

## Background:

As requested at the April meeting of the Board of Directors, please find attached the 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.

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. The program brochure can be found at right.

## Plan a Carbon Conscious Event and Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere can be reduced by actually reducing our emissions and by trapping carbon in natural “carbon sinks” such as forests and wetlands. Trees, shrubs and other plants absorb carbon dioxide from the air and use it as their energy source, producing oxygen for us to breathe. Carbon is stored in the organic layers of forest floors and wetlands. The most important solution to global warming is to reduce our CO<sup>2</sup> emissions. Once you have reduced your emissions as much as possible, you can go further. Help off-set your emissions caused by your event by supporting green projects such as tree planting. We need to become Carbon Conscious!

### How Can You Help?

The first step in reducing your carbon footprint is to calculate your carbon dioxide emissions from activities related to your event. Event organizers can contact us to get an estimate of the total amount of Greenhouse Gases produced and the number of trees needed to offset your event based on the number of participants and where they come from. The trees will be planted on lands within the St. Clair region. We will supply you with a **Carbon Conscious** logo to help promote your event.

**carbonconscious**  
This is a carbon conscious event

### For Example

- 10 participants flying to conference total 10,000 kms produces 1.3 tons of Greenhouse Gases \*
- 120 participants driving total 12,000 kms produces 2.3 tons of Greenhouse Gases \*
- Total Greenhouse Gases produced - 3.6 tons
- 1 tree will absorb about .01 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year \*\*
- $3.6 / .01 = 360$  trees to be planted to reduce your carbon footprint caused by travel

Cost per tree - \$3.00

\* based on Tree Canada Homeowner's and Traveller's CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Offset Calculator

\*\* [www.carbonfootprint.com](http://www.carbonfootprint.com)





## VISION 2016 – 2020

Conservation Ontario will be the leader in engaging Conservation Authorities in matters of common interest and in shaping effective policy related to Conservation Authorities

## Conservation Ontario Council Report

From: Jo-Anne Rzadki, Conservation Ontario

Date: April 5, 2018

Subject: Policy Proposal Notice: Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offset Program For Ontario (EBR # 013- 1634).

### Summary

The Environmental Bill of Rights posting #013-1634 states that the purpose of the voluntary carbon offsets program is to develop a separate, quality, branded, class of offsets that the Ontario government, the private sector and others can use to reduce both their carbon and ecological footprint. The Discussion Paper posted for review was intended to start a conversation with Ontarians about the development of the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program. Conservation Ontario staff coordinated a comment letter for endorsement.

### Recommendation

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorses the CO letter on Policy Proposal Notice: Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offset Program for Ontario (EBR # 013-1634)***

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### Background:

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) posted a Policy Proposal Notice titled *Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program for Ontario (013-1634)* to the Environmental Registry for public review and comment (see link below). Please see the December 2017, Business Development and Partnerships report for previous activity on this Proposal notice.

The EBR stated that the purpose of the voluntary carbon offsets program is to develop a separate, quality, branded, class of offsets that the Ontario government, the private sector and others can use to reduce both their carbon and ecological footprint. The Discussion Paper posted for review was intended to start a conversation with Ontarians about the development of the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program.

The proposed voluntary carbon offsets program is separate and distinct from the proposed compliance offsets program and capped emitters will not be able to use voluntary carbon offset credits to meet their compliance obligations under the cap and trade program. The regulatory decision regarding the Ontario Offset Credits regulation under the Climate Change Mitigation and Low-carbon Economy Act,

2016 was posted in December 2017 (see link below). Under the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program, offset projects that wish to be issued voluntary carbon offset credits would be undertaken in accordance with a GHG quantification protocol approved by Ontario.

### **Current Status**

Conservation Ontario staff coordinated written and verbal comments received from Toronto Region, Maitland Valley, Grand River, Ausable -Bayfield CAs, Conservation Halton and Credit Valley Conservation for the development of the attached letter.

Some highlights of comments included supporting:

- The notion of an ecosystem-focused voluntary offset program that would provide additional financial incentives for the conservation, and restoration of natural systems and agricultural lands that sequester carbon. CAs are actively involved in protecting and enhancing greenspace in their watersheds and have considerable technical expertise in both the rural and urban context, that can support the Province's and Ministry's efforts to develop a voluntary carbon offsets program that might bring in additional capital from public and private sector organizations.
- Baselines to be established that align with and build on existing voluntary programs and previous habitat restoration programs, in addition to building on current community-based offset programs
- That the voluntary carbon offset program is science-based in its approach to ensure ecological diversity and integrity.
- Inclusion of sequestration by wetlands is included in the eligible activities. Conservation Ontario is pleased that the Government's "Wetland Conservation Strategy" included an action to work with partners to monitor and assess carbon sequestration in wetlands.
- Consideration of how the voluntary carbon offset program may align and support land securement initiatives of organizations such as conservation authorities and land trusts and contribute to longevity and management of offset projects.
- Consideration of how the voluntary carbon offset program may align with current and future conservation land tax incentive programs

Furthermore the CO letter recommended this program should support, where appropriate, the implementation of existing ecosystem-related and/or watershed plans and strategies developed by municipalities and conservation authorities which respond to local needs/priorities. For example, existing urban and rural forest strategies and natural heritage plans could perhaps be supported with additional capital from the voluntary offset market.

Environmental co-benefits of voluntary offsetting could be prioritized by region, area or watershed. In some watersheds, nutrient loading is an incredibly valuable co-benefit (i.e. Lake Simcoe watershed and Lake Erie basin). Also in those watersheds and many others, flood risk mitigation may have additional and potentially more value. Other co-benefits could include human health and well-being, green infrastructure, behavioral shifts in population towards conservation practices, and climate change resilience should be more explicitly accounted for as co-benefits.

A number of examples of existing CA programs in support of voluntary offsetting were provided as examples of the CA ability to partner with the Province.

## **Conclusion**

Conservation Ontario and conservation authorities have expressed an interest in participating in the technical working groups to leverage scientific and technical expertise towards the development of a Voluntary Carbon Offset program for Ontario. This is in addition to offering our experience in developing and partnering to deliver provincial and local programs/ projects that will be captured through the proposed program. Updates and opportunities to engage will be provided when available.

## **Additional Resources (for information only, not required for printing)**

*["Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program for Ontario" \(EBR #013-1634\)](#)*

*[Discussion Paper pdf](#)*

*[Regulation Decision: Ontario Offset Credits regulation under the Climate Change Mitigation and Low-carbon Economy Act, 2016 \(EBR# 013-1460\)](#)*





January 15, 2018

**By email**

Vidya Anderson  
Project Manager  
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change  
Environmental Programs Division  
Program Planning and Implementation Branch  
135 St Clair Ave West  
Toronto ON  
M4V 1P5

**Re: Policy Proposal Notice: Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offset Program For Ontario (EBR # 013-1634).**

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change's "Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program" discussion paper.

Conservation Ontario (CO) represent Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs), which are local watershed management agencies that deliver services and programs to protect and manage water and other natural resources in partnership with government, landowners, and other organizations. CO and CAs promote an integrated watershed management approach balancing human, environmental and economic needs and acknowledge the importance of reducing GHG emissions to combat climate change, for sustainable growth and to protect, maintain and restore the health of our watersheds.

Conservation Authorities across Ontario have a number of responsibilities related to natural heritage protection management and restoration. CAs protect and manage approximately 478,000 hectares of conservation land and assist their municipalities in fulfilling their responsibilities associated with natural heritage, water resources and natural hazard management under the "Planning Act and Environmental Assessment Act" processes. Conservation Ontario and CA members have an interest in the development of the voluntary

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carbon offset program given our collective role as a major land owner in the Province, and as service providers and resource management agencies supporting implementation of municipal urban and rural forest and natural heritage plans and strategies and as delivery agents for municipal rural water quality programs. Portions of CA lands are also used for agricultural production, and many CAs deliver tree planting (close to 2.3 million trees in 2016), and the rural water quality programs include establishment and management of woodlands, wetlands, grasslands and riparian areas with agricultural producers. As such we are also supportive of opportunities for agricultural sector involvement in the future voluntary carbon offset market, provided that offset projects meet high quality standards.

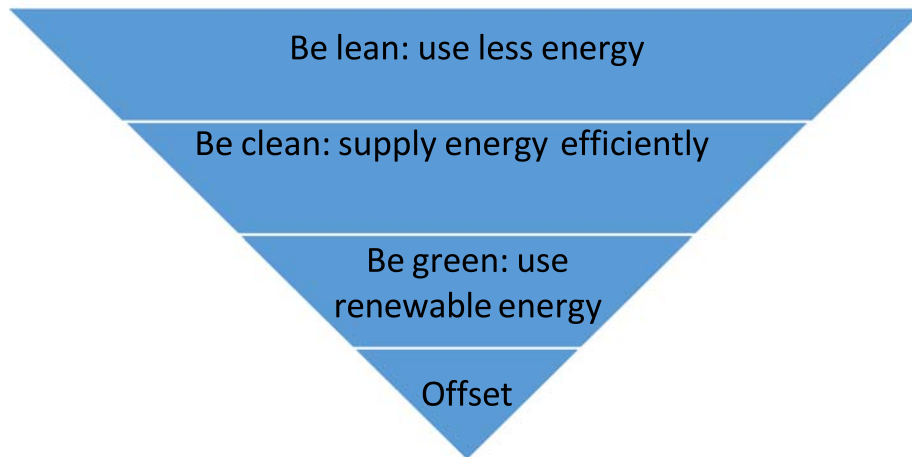
Conservation Ontario staff appreciate the invitation and participated in the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 webinar introducing the proposed voluntary carbon offset program, and have reviewed the discussion paper posted on the Environmental Registry (EBR # 013-1634).

The following comments are submitted for your consideration based upon a review by CAs. They are organized as general comments, and as responses to the questions posed in the Discussion paper. These comments are not intended to limit consideration of comments shared individually by CAs.

### **General Comments**

Conservation Ontario supports the Provincial Government's commitment to demonstrate climate leadership by committing to move towards carbon neutrality, which was articulated in the "Climate Change Action Plan" (2016). Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is one of the most critically important responses to climate change. Setting a bold aspiration to achieve carbon neutrality for Ontario Government operations sets the bar for other public and private sector organizations to follow.

Carbon offsetting is a critical element of any organizational effort to achieve carbon neutrality, and typically is situated as part of a "carbon reduction hierarchy" in terms of priority actions (see figure 1 below). From a cost-effective carbon management perspective, the starting point for efforts to be carbon neutral is efficiency and conservation, followed by shifting to low carbon sources of energy in buildings and vehicle fleets. Finally, an offsetting program can be effective at mitigating any remaining emissions. It would be helpful to see a clearer articulation of the broader long-term strategy for achieving carbon neutrality that the government committed to in the 2016 "Climate Change Action Plan", and the role the proposed voluntary carbon offset program will play relative to other measures.



**Figure 1 Carbon reduction hierarchy, source: Adapted from Greater London Authority**

Conservation Ontario supports the notion of an ecosystem-focused voluntary offset program that would provide additional financial incentives for the conservation, and restoration of natural systems and agricultural lands that sequester carbon. CAs are actively involved in protecting and enhancing greenspace in their watersheds and have considerable technical expertise in both the rural and urban context, that can support the Province’s and Ministry’s efforts to develop a voluntary carbon offsets program that might bring in additional capital from public and private sector organizations.

It should be noted that southern Ontario, including the urban context presents particular challenges from a carbon sequestration perspective, such as fragmented natural landscapes and lower tree survival rates. However, co-benefits can be significant, and as a result we support the Ministry’s inclusion of co-benefits as part of the proposed program.

Conservation Ontario is interested in working with the Ministry to develop approaches to overcome challenges like the development of a project aggregation mechanism that would put together geographically and/or temporally dispersed activities that reduce emissions in a similar manner to streamline the process of qualifying and quantifying emissions offsets. CO and CAs, working with municipal and other partners could collectively and actively work towards in aggregating projects across the Province and jurisdictions. This would result in development and implementation of viable projects that would otherwise be too small to be cost effective participants in the voluntary market, and supporting collaborative provincial or regional approaches to land-based carbon sequestration across Ontario.

In Feb 2017 Conservation Ontario, Forests Ontario and Ducks Unlimited Canada organized a workshop for various provincial stakeholders including agriculture and environmental NGOs and CAs to build an understanding of the carbon offset market and to manage expectations. At that time our organizations proposed further discussions with the Minister of Environment and

Climate Change to collaborate in the development and implementation of regulatory and voluntary Carbon Offset programs. This group of stakeholders could assemble again towards development of this proposed program.

## **Responses to Consultation Questions**

### **1. Are there additional priorities related to the development of the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program that have not been considered in this document?**

Mainstreaming of carbon neutrality strategies across the broader public sector, and private sector, is a priority. It would be desirable for the Government of Ontario to clearly lay out its broader long-term strategy for achieving carbon neutrality beyond this offset program, in order to provide a blueprint for others in the public and private sector to follow. With a long-term strategy in place, the development of a voluntary offset program as a tactical tool to achieve stated objectives follows logically.

Another priority is the development of a land use carbon inventory, which the government committed to in the 2016 Climate Change Action Plan. Critical to this work is a locally relevant scientific understanding of carbon sequestration rates in Ontario ecosystems, including both urban and rural settlements where tree growth and survival rates are known to differ. Some conservation authorities (eg. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority) have initiated projects to undertake land use carbon inventories of forested lands in their watersheds. Conservation Ontario would be interested in partnering with the Province to facilitate knowledge and technical transfer in addition to resources for CAs and others to support the development of the Province's land use carbon inventory. This is a critical prerequisite to the launch of a voluntary carbon offset program, as it will help ensure credible offset projects and support the validity of claims made by buyers in the voluntary market.

We also support in principle the priority placed on ecosystem based carbon offsets. Clean tech, and other energy related offset project types (e.g. efficiency and renewables) are already incentivized through cap-and-trade itself, and so should not be the focus on this voluntary offsets program.

Also critical to the establishment of a successful voluntary carbon offset program Conservation Ontario recommends the Province consider the following:

- Consider the interest and barriers or incentives to participation by different audiences in this program. Conservation Ontario agrees the Province should be considering barriers to participation in the carbon market and the voluntary carbon offset program (see response to Question 3). One of the first steps in developing the program would be to determine what the barriers are to the participation of non-government businesses and individuals. A clear understanding of the target audiences and the availability of land is necessary for the program to succeed.

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- As a result, the development of a community based social marketing strategy for outreach and promotion to businesses, citizens and in engaging indigenous communities will be required. In addition to developing a current understanding of the opportunities and barriers (Question 3), the province can draw on previous studies of the potential for carbon sequestration on private lands. For example: [The Carbon Sequestration Potential from Afforestation in Ontario](#) and Credit Valley Conservation(CVC) and South Nation Conservation (SNC) participated in a study that contributed to a Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry report entitled [Carbon offsets from afforestation and the potential for Landowner Participation in Ontario](#).
- Establish baselines that align with and build on existing voluntary programs and previous habitat restoration programs, in addition to building on current community-based offset programs (see below)
- Ensure that there is clarity around additionality and accounting for projects that may have multiple benefits, like water quality and quantity, species at risk and biodiversity to avoid double counting.
- Ensure that the voluntary carbon offset program is science-based in its approach to ensure ecological diversity and integrity.
- Ensure that sequestration by wetlands is included in the eligible activities. Conservation Ontario is pleased that the Government's "Wetland Conservation Strategy" included an action to work with partners to monitor and assess carbon sequestration in wetlands.
- A specific suggestion would be to distinguish between ecosystem functions (e.g., enhanced biodiversity) and services/benefits to people (e.g., enhance recreational opportunities or protection of their life and property from floods). A beneficiary analysis will be required to ensure we are not lumping together incompatible benefits, i.e. those happening at different scale (site-specific vs. global).
- Consider how the voluntary carbon offset program may align and support land securement initiatives of organizations such as conservation authorities and land trusts and contribute to longevity and management of offset projects.
- Consider how the voluntary carbon offset program may align with current and future conservation land tax incentive programs.

It is a high priority that projects developed under the Ontario voluntary offset program meet the same basic set of criteria that are internationally recognized as critical elements of high quality carbon offset projects, namely: real, additional, permanent, verifiable, and enforceable. We recognize that protocols will be developed to provide the criteria and

framework for developing particular project types. It is a priority for these basic criteria to be included in all protocols under the voluntary program to ensure trust and credibility in the market.

**2. *In addition to the five program objectives listed in this discussion paper (see “Getting There”), are there other objectives that you think the Ministry should consider?***

This program should support, where appropriate, the implementation of existing ecosystem-related and/or watershed plans and strategies developed by municipalities and conservation authorities which respond to local needs/priorities. For example, existing urban and rural forest strategies and natural heritage plans could perhaps be supported with additional capital from the voluntary offset market. The key would be to develop mechanisms to ensure additionality in offset market investment beyond the financial resources that have already been committed to the implementation of such plans.

Although adaptation (versus mitigation) is implied in relation to the Co-benefit and Resilient Community objectives, adaptation and reducing the vulnerability of our communities and natural systems to anticipated climate change impacts and stressors could be more strongly stated. This could occur either more explicitly in the program objectives or in the identification of Co-benefits. Recognition of “climate adaptation champions” could also be incorporated in this program to profile the co-benefits.

**3. *Are there specific barriers to participation in the carbon market that the Ministry should consider when developing the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?***

Further to Conservation Ontario’s response to Question 1 a lack of awareness and literacy surrounding carbon offsets and carbon markets may hinder uptake of a voluntary carbon offset program amongst potential participating organizations, as well as prospective project developers, landowners, and private sector. Transparency around offset protocols, and communications, outreach and engagement around the Ontario government’s overall strategy for achieving carbon neutrality, is necessary to build the market of both buyers and sellers.

Another key barrier for these target audiences may be simply lack of incentive for them to participate in the program if there is no financial gain to be had. A sense of corporate or personal responsibility in relation to climate change will be an important precursor to participation for these groups.

Related to the above, a lack of trust and credibility in carbon neutrality statements, and carbon offsets in particular is a barrier to uptake. See for example the [analysis conducted by the BC Auditor General in 2013](#), which indicated that projects developed to support the BC government’s carbon neutrality commitment did not sequester emissions additional to what would have happened in the absence of the market. Market design and use of stringent offset protocols in the voluntary market would help alleviate such concerns, as

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would an active communications campaign to raise public awareness of the government's approach to achieving carbon neutrality.

The average price per tonne of carbon in the Canadian voluntary offset market space ([\\$7.7/tonne in 2016](#)) is likely too low to support the development of urban forest or other smaller scale ecosystem based project types. One way to address this barrier is to consider a price floor for the voluntary market that incentivizes projects with higher capital and operating costs, but which also provide higher co-benefits (e.g. ecosystem connectivity, flood risk attenuation, etc.).

Related to the above paragraphs, the costs associated with quantification, verification, and ongoing monitoring of carbon offset projects can be a barrier to participation in the market, particularly from smaller scale projects where such transaction costs can make projects financially unviable. The Province/Ministry should consider approaches which could mitigate this risk, such as allowing for aggregation of smaller scale offset projects of a similar nature into a larger project which would provide economies of scale and reduce per unit costs associated with quantification, verification and monitoring.

CO and CA experience in the design and delivery of voluntary best management programs for agricultural producers has observed and demonstrated that the guidelines and expectations must be clear and that on the ground support is key to ensuring that the projects implemented will achieve the goals. CO, CAs and their local municipal partners are already well positioned and could be important partners in facilitating project aggregation on a watershed basis and at regional scales. A localized accredited team could represent several conservation authorities, partners and municipalities to support the program planning, outreach to landowners for marketing and property aggregation, tracking and reporting.

Nevertheless, aggregation with a number of different private landowners will be challenging. Long term security (i.e. permanency), while critical, will be problematic if landowners are required to commit to 100 years. Flexibility in both cases is encouraged in order to address these potential private landowner barriers to participation. Should the Province explore provision of shorter term voluntary offset projects, if the project is functioning and still in place at the end of the term, the offset could be renewed or the project could be offered in the market if the original purchaser no longer required the offset.

Most CAs, rely on member municipalities to fund their programs. CA involvement in the Voluntary Carbon Offset Program will require municipal discussion and approval and would likely require some assistance from the Province. While a voluntary carbon offset program will generate funds from the sale of carbon offsets, it is anticipated that start-up funds will be required in addition to some measure of ongoing financial support. It has been suggested the funds generated will likely not cover the cost of program administration unless the quantification and verification process is simple.

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### **Additionality**

While Conservation Ontario understands the intent of the program to continuously add to the carbon sequestration activities, the land belonging to conservation authorities is already protected land where these activities would be promoted. Requirements associated with the current use of the land could be more flexible so as to promote the involvement of the CA. The Province is encouraged to consider allowing currently undeveloped protected land to qualify for an enhanced quality of carbon sequestration where appropriate (e.g. converting grasslands to forest). The value of the activity could potentially be weighted. The Province is also encouraged to consider the potential for a higher sale price per tonne to promote sequestration efforts in areas with a 'heavier' carbon footprint (to offset high priced developable lands). The inclusion of co-benefits is meant to address this to some extent. That is ecosystem services are more valuable where they are in high demand (eg. in highly populated urbanized areas). Also land and offset project management and time-lag (in carbon capture) are going to be significant factors to the cost of credits and the availability of offsets for purchase.

Finally, land will be the limiting factor in supporting voluntary offsets in regions like the Greater Toronto Area. Land costs and demand are very high. Municipal and CA staff have indicated that existing municipal parks and conservation areas are almost at capacity for naturalization. Naturalization competes with other park activities and stakeholders. Securement of additional lands is going to be necessary to support voluntary offsetting. Therefore the voluntary carbon offset program should consider including financial support for land securement and/or align with/complement existing land securement programs.

#### ***4. What is the best way for the Ministry to facilitate community participation in the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?***

Conservation Ontario recommends that the Ministry strengthen partnerships with local organizations who already have experience with the projects that are being encouraged through the proposed voluntary carbon offset program. Conservation authorities are community-based organizations with a very successful track record in habitat restoration projects and environmental, land use and watershed planning. CAs have existing strong relationships with regional and local municipalities, landowners, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), school boards, businesses and consultants, and we conduct restoration projects on both public and private lands, including agricultural lands.

Conservation Ontario commends the Province for proposing the establishment of science and technical working groups and encourages the establishment of a program development working group. Conservation Ontario is interested in participating to provide input in developing procedures, monitoring protocols. We are also interested in providing input that helps consider transparency and alignment with existing and future initiatives that provide the co-benefits being promoted through the voluntary carbon offset program. Guidelines should be easy to interpret and use, and resources for the necessary technical support for program implementation should be provided to foster participation.

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It will be important to ensure that standards and protocols align with participant's business practices and interests. For example, if municipalities are likely participants (both as creators or purchasers), alignment of the offset program with climate change strategies, asset management approaches, and environmental and land use planning, will help to identify opportunities for participation. As previously noted watershed and subwatershed studies and plans, often identify potential priorities for habitat restoration, tree planting, riparian buffer, and storm water or green infrastructure projects and others that could become offset projects and produce the desired co-benefits.

The Province could also set a maximum amount that it will purchase from a given project, which would avoid a situation where large-scale, low-cost projects contribute disproportionately to the offset market pool. This situation occurred in BC, where two projects were responsible for more than 70% of the offsets purchased by the BC government to meet its carbon neutrality commitment.

Another approach to facilitating community participation would be to implement an added price for projects that can demonstrate community-based ownership and/or management. Such an approach was used successfully in the Ministry of Energy's Feed-in-Tariff program to procure renewable energy from aboriginal and community owned projects.

#### **Potential mechanisms for collaboration and engagement have been initiated**

In Feb 2017 Conservation Ontario, Forests Ontario and Ducks Unlimited Canada organized a workshop for various provincial stakeholders including agriculture and environmental non-government organizations (NGOs) and CAs to build an understanding of the carbon offset market and to manage expectations. Following the session, the participants sent a letter to Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Glen Murray last winter requesting engagement with the Minister/Ministry to discuss how we could collectively engage in the regulatory and voluntary carbon markets. The Province could promote the specific involvement of CO and CAs by facilitating a follow up session with CAs and others to assist in design and implementation of the voluntary and any regulatory program focused on natural heritage/systems. Conservation Ontario would be interesting in helping to facilitate this.

The webinars the Province held about this proposed program in December 2017 specified follow up sessions for a range in stakeholders and an invitation to participate in technical working groups. This is welcomed. The necessary time and resource commitments to participate in an effective manner should be considered, keeping in mind the range and frequency of feedback requests on current Provincial climate change initiatives, including current grant application processes.

Nevertheless, a number of CAs are currently engaging in some carbon offsetting activities and could potentially build on and leverage their work to participate in a Provincial voluntary carbon offsetting program. To reiterate, CA's generally have on-the-ground

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experience, including being the primary delivery agent in a number of provincial and local programs including the 50 Million Tree Program lead by Forests Ontario. CAs can promote landowner action and develop projects in addition to a number of CAs having the expertise to potentially act in some capacity as project verifiers.

**5. What environmental co-benefits (eg flood management) should be prioritized in the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets Program?**

Conservation Ontario recommends that voluntary carbon offsets program support projects that reflect locally and strategically determined priorities, such as those identified in CA watershed plans or municipal forest or natural heritage plans. Environmental co-benefits could be prioritized by region, area or watershed. In some watersheds, nutrient loading is an incredibly valuable co-benefit (i.e. Lake Simcoe watershed and Lake Erie basin). Also in those watersheds and many others, flood risk mitigation may have additional and potentially more value.

Further specific examples of co-benefits include:

- Flood resiliency / Ecological goods and services analyses completed by CVC demonstrate the value of wetlands, forests and grasslands ([Municipal Natural Asset Initiative: Pilot for the Region of Peel](#) 2017) in the provision of flood resiliency services. Flooding is a major climate change impact experienced in Ontario. This should be high on the priority list when reviewing co-benefits and include mitigation of excessive erosion as a component.

Furthermore, the focus on building natural capital lends itself to prioritization of project types that address the infrastructure deficit, a key challenge facing Ontario. Co-benefits relevant to water-related infrastructure include maintaining or enhancing water balance (improving storm water management), flood mitigation, reduction of pollutant loadings (linked to assimilative capacity and wastewater infrastructure), protection of drinking water sources (quality and quantity), and erosion control. These project types also provide a broad range of social and community benefits, which are mentioned in the discussion paper but not elaborated upon (e.g., water security).

- Additionally, the co-benefits of green infrastructure can be increased by a higher diversity of the types of green infrastructure projects (e.g. parks, street tree projects, etc) as well as higher biodiversity used within projects. Allowing for adaptive design and management of diverse green infrastructure projects and innovative practices at small-scales could increase the overall co-benefits associated with this program.
- In the highly fragmented landscape of southern Ontario, natural heritage system restoration has significant potential, providing a range of co-benefits. Enhancing connectivity and restoration of natural features and ecosystem functions (i.e. planting of plantation monocultures is not an appropriate voluntary offset tool) is one of the most important

recommendations to allow space for natural ecosystems to adapt in the face of climate change.

- Well-being and associated improved health is another important co-benefit for consideration
- While considering co-benefits, proper attention should be paid to the difference in scales and contexts with respect to various ecosystem services and benefits. For instance, reduction in heat-related stress is more local in nature, while carbon sequestration benefits are global. In addition, a distinction should be made between final benefits and intermediate (“supporting”) services to avoid duplication and double counting.
- Behavioral shift in the population towards conservation practices.

Finally, ‘climate change resilience’ should be more explicitly accounted for as a co-benefit. This could include general benefits such as increasing habitat and biodiversity as well as more specifically defined benefits such as choosing\considering native species with high resistance\resilience to the anticipated stressors of climate change (weather extremes, drought\flood, insects – see [US Forest Service Modification Factors \(MODFACS\)](#) adaptability scoring’ for tree species as an example).

## **6. What project types should be a priority for the Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?**

Ecosystem or watershed-based restoration or enhancement projects that have been identified as local priorities by municipalities, conservation authorities or other local conservation based agencies should be included in the voluntary carbon offsets program to support their implementation. For example, Maitland Valley conservation authority (MVCA) is working to restore the headwaters of the Middle Maitland River upstream of Listowel. This includes 2,000 acres of flood plain/river valley lands and many co-benefits (flood management, biodiversity, water quality, etc.).

Afforestation should be a priority and co-benefits of any project are realized when the restoration projects are strategically prioritized in locations. For example strategically established riparian buffers will contribute water quality benefits, groundwater recharge, reducing sediment loading on erosion prone agricultural land and provide fish and wildlife habitat and generally support biodiversity. Many CAs have the expertise, accounting and monitoring systems ready to leverage.

In rural and especially urban areas other projects should include interconnected systems of green infrastructure that incorporates bioswales, and vegetative technologies in low impact development, rural stormwater management practices and reclaimed greenspaces. Wetland creation should also be eligible, supporting the Ministry of Natural Resources’ “Wetland Conservation Strategy for Ontario” as well as providing a number of co-benefits such as biodiversity, flood attenuation and improved water quality.

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A variety of the prioritization and decision-making tools can be used to help with selecting project types to provide maximum benefits for carbon sequestration and beyond. For example in 2016, Credit Valley Conservation developed an environmental benefits index (EBI) tool that considers a range of environmental and socio-economic benefits to rank wetland restoration projects in the watershed.

**7. What actions can the Ministry take to support viable end markets for Ontario voluntary carbon offset credits?**

Conservation Ontario encourages the Province to establish mechanisms that ensures the long term viability and implementation of the voluntary carbon offsets program. The offset protocols, being adapted for Ontario will be important and helpful in support of a standardized methodology for calculating the valuation of offsets under a voluntary program. Administration needs to be straightforward with on the ground support for promotion, outreach and assistance with development, verification and monitoring of projects and their co-benefits.

Start-up funding would be helpful towards initiating good quality projects and tax reductions/energy credits might be incentives for offset credit purchasers. Based on Conservation authority experience in delivery of local programs, it is suggested that significant outreach and education resources are required to encourage businesses, agricultural producers, landowners and other stakeholders to develop emission reduction objectives and then decide to contribute or implement the program. Participants could be provided convenient options and tools (eg. websites, calculators) to support decisions and actions to become carbon-neutral. Please see some current conservation authority program examples in response to Question 8.

Conservation Ontario also suggests that the Government prioritize the public release of its long-term strategy for carbon neutrality. This strategy could serve as a rallying point for other public and private sector organizations to follow and align themselves with the Ontario Public Service. Building on this point, consider facilitating the development of a public recognition program that rewards public and private sector organizations for adopting and achieving carbon neutrality commitments.

Furthermore, the Province/Ministry can take steps to encourage the development of a wide geographical distribution of projects within the voluntary offset market, towards participation by local organizations across the province by enabling them to support projects within their community. See for example the initiative of a group of local governments in British Columbia who are pioneering the development of a [local carbon offset program](#).

**8. Are there existing standards or methodologies that you feel the Ministry should consider when developing requirements for the creation of carbon offsets projects?**

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The document mentions many of the existing standards and protocols. While it makes sense to use these well-developed and accepted existing protocols, it will be important to limit the barriers which have not allowed smaller projects and organizations to participate in the compulsory carbon markets.

The World Wildlife Fund (Germany) report entitled "[Making Sense of the Voluntary Carbon Market](#)" recommends that Voluntary Markets need to follow Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) processes so as not to undercut the compliance market offsetting process and maintain the production of verifiable offsets. That being said, while a high level of rigor is necessary, some flexibility is encouraged if the voluntary program is to attract private landowners. Verification and Aggregation approaches should consider the utilization where possible, of surrogate indicators of success rather than direct monitoring to ease overhead burden for the province's voluntary carbon offsets program.

**Conservation Authority Voluntary Carbon Offset Initiatives:**

Conservation authorities in Ontario are exploring various standards and methodologies and some of them have established voluntary carbon offset programs. For example, the Maitland Valley (MVCA) and Ausable-Bayfield (ABCA) conservation authorities, with financial support of a pilot project funded by the County of Huron, created a voluntary carbon compensation/counter-balance (offset) program called "Carbon [Footprints to Forests](#)".

The "Carbon Footprints to Forests" approach would be a beneficial approach to supporting carbon neutrality; co-benefits; and resilient communities and it is community-based; with diverse community participation. The program website is: [Footprints to Forests](#) and hosts an interactive carbon calculator. Through this program, consumers can find out the size of their carbon footprint (from home energy use and travel) and how many trees would need to be planted (permanently) to capture the greenhouse gases (GHGs) released. The calculator includes the cost to have the local conservation authority plant those trees and maintain them to maturity for carbon capture. Seed funding can help to create a program, but to grow the program there needs to be additional dedicated funding to support expertise in community-based social marketing .

For additional background to the "Carbon Footprints to Forests" program and to learn about the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) approach to carbon sequestration and voluntary carbon offset initiatives please access: [ABCA Land Stewardship Initiatives: An Assessment of Carbon Sequestration and Future Funding Opportunities](#) prepared by Kuzuka Ltd. on January 12, 2012. As outlined in this document, this approach would be appropriate as a "quality, branded, voluntary carbon offset class for use by government, private sector and others, as an additional way to enable participants to reduce emissions, and to support the government's carbon-neutral commitment."

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) also established and has been implementing a

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voluntary carbon offset program called [Carbon Neutral](#) since 2011. The program is being cross promoted with participating [businesses](#) and other partners in the Rideau Valley watershed.

More examples to support the potential role of CAs in assisting the province to develop voluntary offset program protocols and standards include experience in developing, reviewing and implementing standards and protocols for green infrastructure that could help to quantify environmental and other co-benefits. This includes Stormwater Management and Low Impact Development monitoring and performance, Wetland water balance monitoring protocols, and monitoring the effectiveness of natural channel design, in addition to the [TRCA Integrated Restoration Prioritization: a multiple benefit approach to restoration planning](#)

Additional references from other jurisdictions include:

- [Restoring native wildlife habitat and capturing carbon](#)
- [Gold Standard Verified Emission Reduction \(VER\)](#)
- [Climate Community and biodiversity standard](#)
- [Climate Action Reserve Urban Forestry Protocol](#)
- [Urban Forest Carbon Registry, City Forest Credits \(US\)](#)

In conclusion, Conservation Ontario thanks the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for the opportunity to comment on the “Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program Discussion Paper” and is supportive of the proposed program. CO and CAs are interested in participating in the technical working groups to leverage scientific and technical expertise. This is in addition to offering our experience in developing and partnering to deliver provincial and local programs/projects that will be captured through the proposed program.

Conservation Ontario also looks forward to opportunities to facilitate meetings with the Province/Ministry, CAs and the organizations who met on this subject in February, 2017. If you have any questions about this submission, please contact me at ext. 224; e-mail: [jrzadki@conservationontario.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservationontario.ca).

Yours truly,



Jo-Anne Rzadki, MSc.  
Business Development and Partnerships

Cc: Kim Gavine, General Manager  
Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario Council

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# Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program for Ontario

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## Discussion Paper

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

November 2017

[ontario.ca/climatechange](http://ontario.ca/climatechange)

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## **Purpose**

Combatting climate change is a shared responsibility that requires collective action. The intent of this discussion paper is to start a conversation with Ontarians about the development of the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program, which will allow the Province to lead by example through making government operations carbon neutral beginning in 2018. This discussion paper aims to:

- Provide an overview of the key elements of the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program;
- Seek input on measures being considered;
- Provide an early opportunity for Ontarians to participate in development of the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program;
- Provide an overview of environmental co-benefits and opportunities to build Ontario's natural capital; and
- Promote opportunities for participation in the carbon market.

This discussion paper will also help the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change in gathering information and gaining your insight on the following topics:

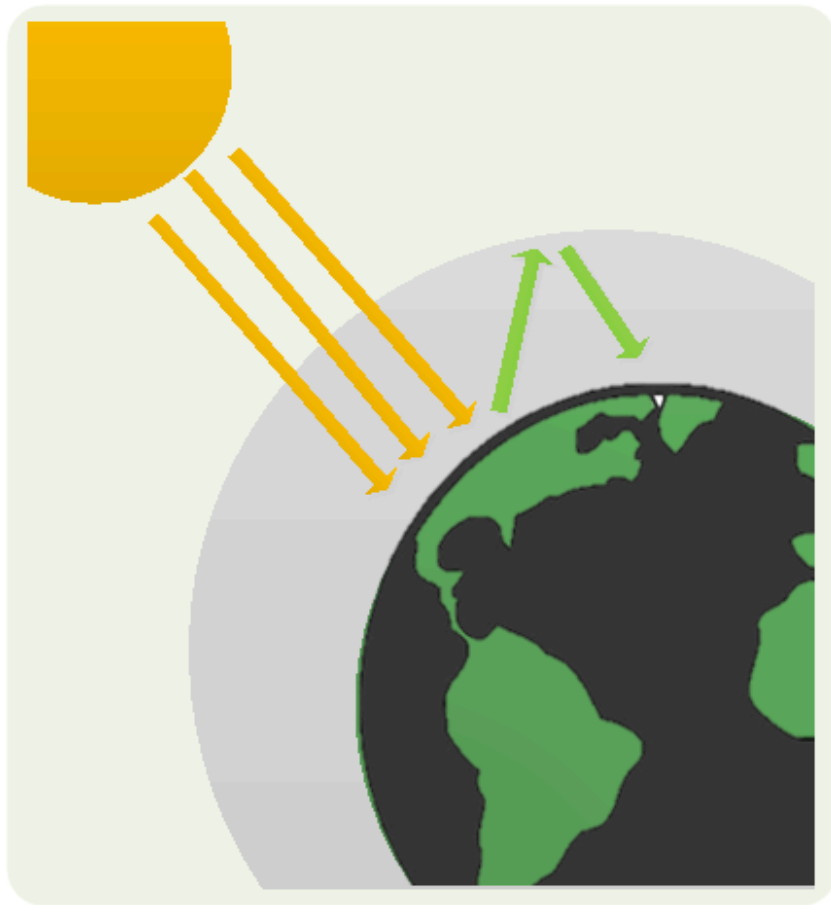
- The scope of the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program;
- Potential projects and activities; and
- Community participation in the carbon market.

## Climate change and its effects

Climate change is the result of a buildup of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) which trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere. Figure 1 below illustrates this process. GHG emissions from manmade sources are higher than they have been in any other point in history (IPCC, 2014).

Across Ontario we have seen an increase in prolonged heat waves, torrential rain storms, windstorms, even drought. These events have become more common – a clear sign of a shift in our weather patterns (NRCan, 2014). This shift is called 'climate change.' It threatens our health and safety, our environment and our economy.

People and businesses in Ontario are already feeling the effects of these changes, which range from damaged infrastructure, extreme weather events such as flooding, to the reduced ability to grow food in some regions.

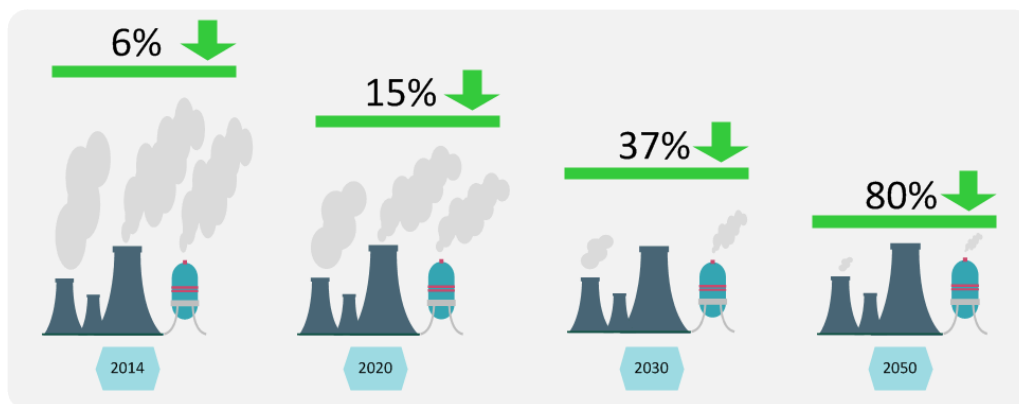


**Figure 1. Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases trap heat in the earth's atmosphere.**

## Tackling climate change in Ontario

The Ontario government recognizes climate change as a problem with unique solutions and opportunities. [Ontario's Climate Change Strategy](#) and [Five Year Climate Change Action Plan \(CCAP\) 2016 – 2020](#) have been developed in order to tackle the complex challenge of climate change.

*Ontario's Climate Change Strategy* sets the long-term goal of reducing GHG emissions in Ontario by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 as shown below in Figure 2. To meet this objective, mid-term targets of 15 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and 37 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 have been set.



**Figure 2. Ontario's greenhouse gas reduction targets.**

To achieve these targets, the Province has implemented a cap and trade program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and drive a prosperous low-carbon, high-productivity economy. In addition, the *Five Year Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2016 – 2020* sets out the various activities that the government will undertake to mitigate the effects of climate change across our province. Actions under CCAP include:

- Reducing GHG emissions in sectors not covered by cap and trade to meet provincial GHG reduction targets;
- Creating a prosperous low-carbon economy with world-leading innovation, science and technology;
- Demonstrating government leadership and collaboration;
- Developing a resource efficient, high productivity society; and
- Facilitating adaptation and risk awareness to the impacts of climate change.

## *Developing a voluntary carbon offsets program for Ontario*

In addition, CCAP includes making government operations carbon neutral beginning in 2018. In order to accomplish this, Ontario will develop a separate quality, branded, voluntary carbon offset class for use by government, private sector and others, as an additional way to enable participants to reduce emissions, and to support the government's carbon-neutral commitment.

These actions build on the foundation already established in Ontario to innovate and invest in a high-productivity economy that values our natural capital. It shifts Ontario to an economy that supports growth and prosperity, while better protecting our air, land and water and leaving a strong environmental legacy of a healthy world for future generations.

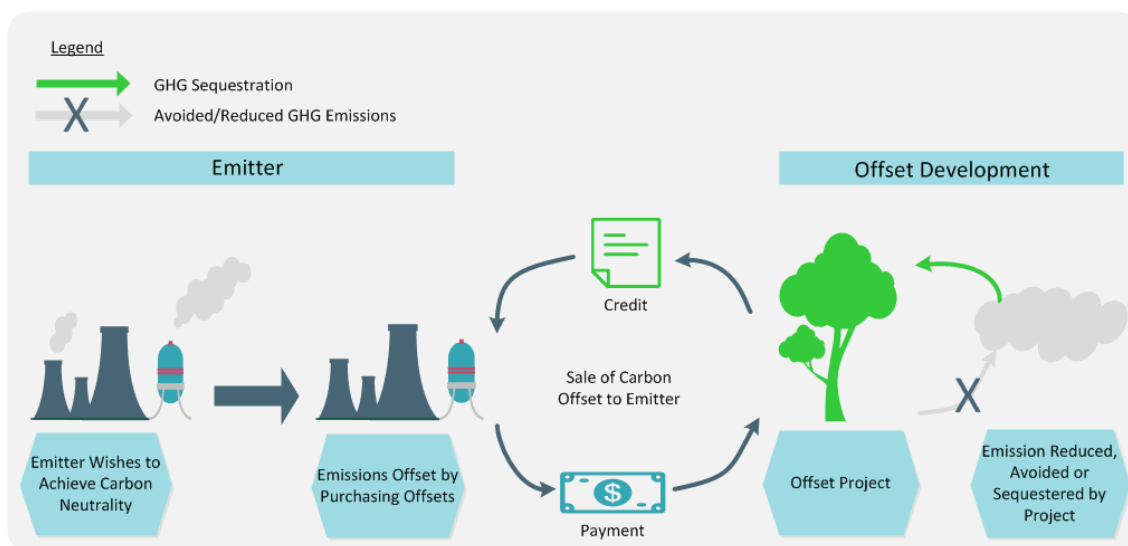
## What are carbon offsets?

A carbon offset is a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases (GHGs) to neutralize or offset emissions made elsewhere. These offsets are generated from projects that reduce, avoid or sequester (i.e., capture or contain) GHGs from sources that are not covered by a cap and trade program. Carbon offsets are a tool that can be used to mitigate and build resilience to the effects of climate change. One carbon offset credit represents the reduction of one metric tonne of carbon dioxide or its equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

There are two markets for carbon offsets. In the compliance market, companies and other entities regulated under a cap and trade program can buy carbon offsets in order to comply with caps on the total amount of CO<sub>2</sub>e they are allowed to emit. In Ontario, compliance offset credits can be used to a maximum of 8 percent to offset emissions under the cap and trade program.

In the voluntary carbon offsets market, governments and other entities not regulated by a cap and trade program can purchase carbon offsets to mitigate their own GHG emissions from transportation, heating buildings, and other sources. Voluntary carbon offsets can be used by these entities to achieve their own emissions reduction objectives (e.g., attain carbon neutrality).

An illustration of the relationship between the development and use of carbon offsets (both compliance and voluntary) is shown in Figure 3 below.



**Figure 3. Carbon offset credits created from projects that reduce, avoid or sequester GHGs, can be sold to people, organizations and businesses that want to achieve emissions reductions.**

## *Developing a voluntary carbon offsets program for Ontario*

Examples of activities that may generate offset credits in either the compliance or voluntary markets include the capture or destruction of methane emissions from landfills, re-establishing wetlands or planting trees to sequester carbon.

Methodologies, set out in carbon offset standards and protocols, define the rules that project developers must follow in order to create offset credits. Once offsets projects have been implemented, a project developer can sell these carbon offset credits to people, organizations or businesses that want to offset their emissions. Carbon offsetting allows GHG avoidance, reduction, and sequestration activities to occur in segments of the economy where they can be achieved most efficiently.

## Ontario’s carbon offset pathways

Ontario’s proposed voluntary carbon offsets program is intended to be separate and distinct from the compliance offsets program under cap and trade. Voluntary carbon offset credits would not be eligible for use in Ontario’s cap and trade program. Instead they would be used by government, the private sector and others to meet voluntary emissions reduction objectives (e.g., carbon neutrality commitments).

Another key distinction between Ontario’s compliance and voluntary carbon offsets is the shift in focus from GHG reductions alone, to the inclusion of additional environmental co-benefits.

Table 1 below illustrates the similarities and differences between Ontario’s two offsets pathways.

**Table 1. Ontario has proposed two distinct streams of carbon offsets.**

Compliance grade carbon offsets	Voluntary carbon offsets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A <b>compliance grade offset</b> credit is a credit for one tonne of GHG emission reductions that an entity can buy to help meet up to a maximum of 8 percent of its cap and trade compliance obligations in Ontario.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A <b>voluntary offset</b> credit is for one tonne of GHG emission reductions which the government, private sector and others can purchase to meet voluntary emissions reduction goals (e.g., carbon neutrality commitments).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Compliance offsets</b> may be generated from projects in sectors not covered by the cap and trade program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Voluntary offsets</b> may be generated from projects in sectors not covered by the cap and trade program.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Compliance-grade offset credits</b> would be <b>eligible</b> for trading with jurisdictions that have linked their carbon market with Ontario (i.e., Quebec and California).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Voluntary carbon offset credits</b> would <b>not be eligible</b> for use in Ontario’s cap and trade program.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Compliance offset projects</b> must be conducted and monitored in accordance with a protocol approved by Ontario.</li> <li>Ontario is developing <b>compliance offset protocols</b> including the <i>Landfill Gas Capture and Destruction</i> protocol, currently posted to the <a href="#">Environmental Registry</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offset projects that wish to be issued <b>voluntary offset credits</b>, would be undertaken and monitored in accordance with a protocol approved by Ontario.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ontario’s <b>compliance grade offsets program</b> is focused <b>exclusively on GHG reductions</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ontario’s <b>voluntary carbon offsets program</b> considers the <b>value of additional environmental, social and community benefits</b> in addition to GHG reductions.</li> </ul>

## Getting there

Ontario's proposed voluntary carbon offsets program would create a clear set of requirements for anyone who wants to facilitate the creation of carbon offsets projects to reduce, avoid, or sequester (i.e., capture or contain) GHGs and to sell the carbon offset credits generated from these projects.

Ontario's proposed program for quality, branded voluntary carbon offsets will position our province as a leader in a voluntary carbon offsets market. As illustrated in Figure 4 below, the program will:

- Support the government's commitment to carbon neutrality and meet annual offset demand;
- Promote additional environmental co-benefits;
- Facilitate participation by Indigenous, northern and agricultural communities and municipalities in the carbon market;
- Drive innovation and support the transition to a low carbon economy through investments in natural capital; and
- Provide a mechanism for government, private sector and others to reduce both their carbon and ecological footprints, ensuring that benefits accrue to the citizens of Ontario.

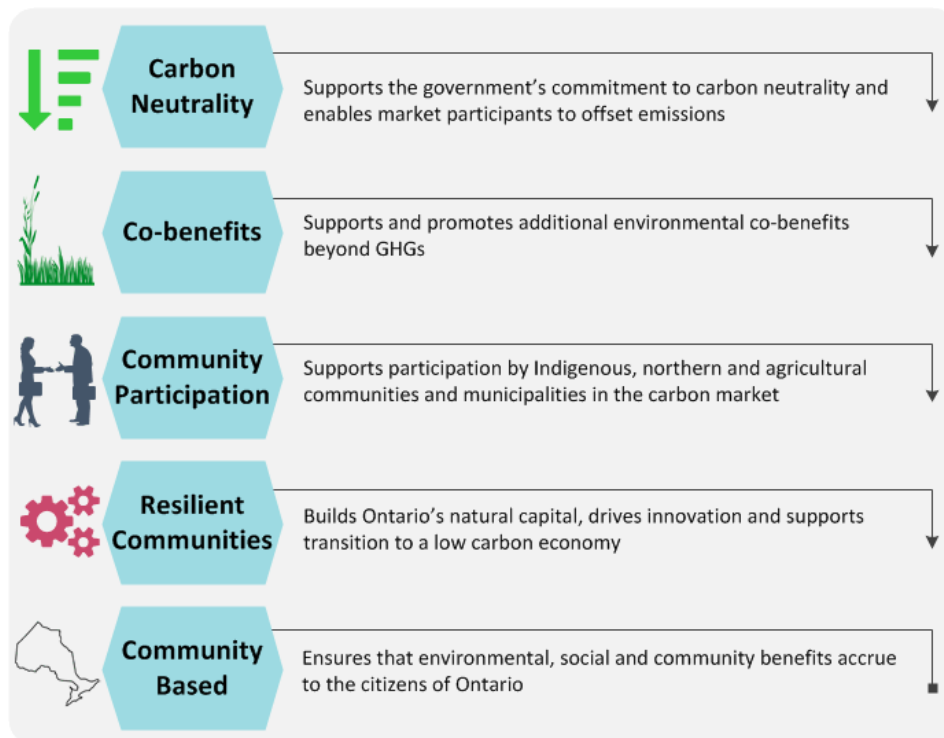


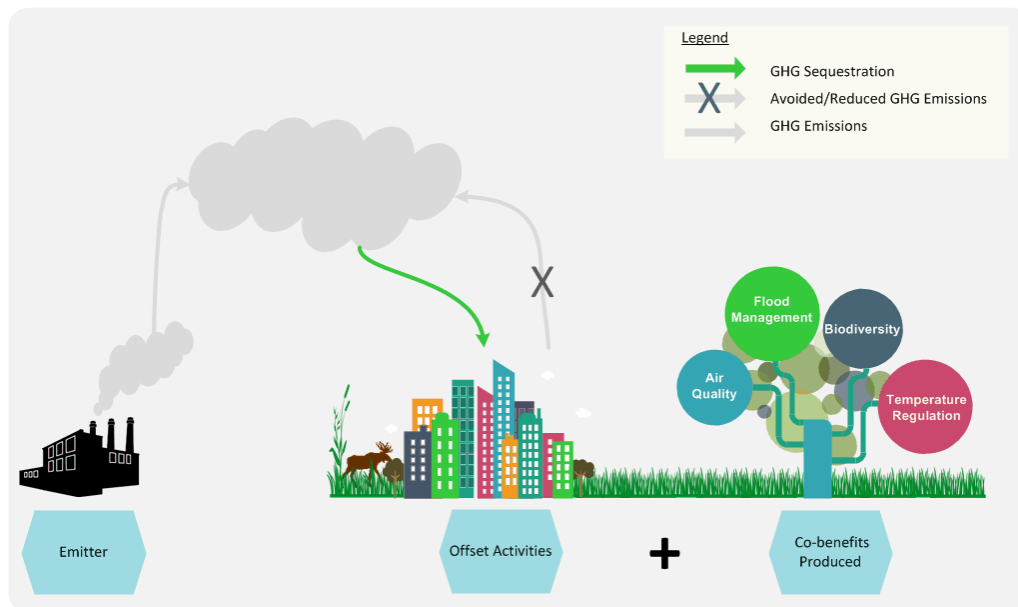
Figure 4. Ontario voluntary carbon offset program objectives.



The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change is proposing to establish criteria for:

- Creating voluntary carbon offsets and ensuring they are credible; and
- Ensuring that voluntary carbon offsets that are generated are rigorous in quality and standard.

Project developers who wish to create voluntary carbon offset credits will be required to include environmental co-benefits in the development of their projects that support ecosystem adaptation to climate change and facilitate climate resilient communities as illustrated in Figure 5 below. Examples of such benefits include capturing and filtering rainwater to reduce flood risk, run-off and nutrient loading to the Great Lakes.



**Figure 5. Voluntary carbon offsets would be measured in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e and demonstrate environmental co-benefits.**

Ontario intends to develop and/or adapt a suite of methodologies, including GHG quantification standards and protocols, to support the development of projects under the voluntary carbon offsets program. These materials will support proponents in the development of projects that reduce/avoid/sequester GHG emissions and generate co-benefits.

The Ministry will establish a series of technical working groups that leverage scientific and technical expertise and traditional knowledge to inform program design and development for the government's proposed Ontario Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program. These technical working groups will provide input into standards development, methodologies and project criteria.

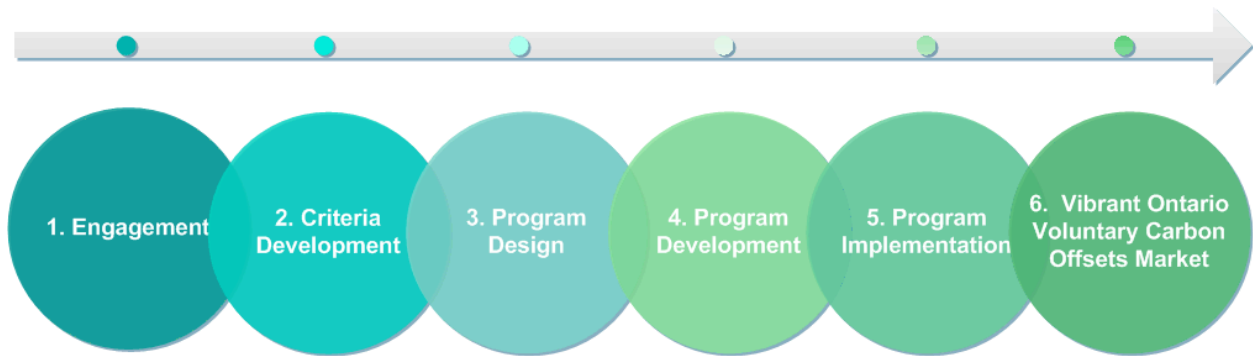
## *Developing a voluntary carbon offsets program for Ontario*

Existing standards and protocols that will be considered include those developed by the Climate Action Reserve (CAR), the American Carbon Registry (ACR), Verified Carbon Standard (VCS), Plan Vivo and Gold Standard as well as the ISO 14064 standards for greenhouse gas inventory and reporting.

In addition to establishing the technical working groups to inform the design of the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change is continuing to engage with Indigenous organizations and community representatives, stakeholders and others to inform the development and implementation of the program including:

- Building knowledge and community partnerships; and
- Promoting opportunities for participation.

Figure 6 below sets out how the process described above will inform the development of the proposed the Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program.



**Figure 6. Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program development roadmap.**

## **Building Ontario's natural capital**

The development of a separate, quality, branded voluntary offset class provides a unique opportunity to mitigate climate change by leveraging land-use activities in the Province. By focusing on land-use to fight climate change, many environmental co-benefits such as flood management, are incorporated into the design of the program. As we consider the role of land-use in mitigating climate change in our province, we must also think of the complex interactions of natural systems and other important services they provide to Ontarians. Ecosystems provide many basic services that make human life possible such as flood management and erosion control provided by trees; air and water purification and natural cooling on hot days provided by forests and wetlands; and pollination by bees of plants and flowers that provide us with food.

These processes work together to make ecosystems healthy, sustainable, functional and resilient to climate change. Recognizing the importance of the complex interdependencies between natural and human systems and the need for a holistic, ecosystems-based approach is a message that the Ministry has heard often in discussions with Indigenous partners. As such, the voluntary carbon offsets program supports *Ontario's Climate Change Strategy*, which includes commitments to:

- Improve the resilience of our communities to climate change;
- Increase our natural capital; and
- Protect valuable agricultural lands, natural resources, and ecosystems for the future.

Increasingly, governments, communities and businesses are considering the value of these services provided by ecosystems and the value of natural capital. These services are often invisible in the way we measure economic growth, but are critical to our province's prosperity. Examples of land-use activities that build natural capital and could generate voluntary carbon offset credits may include:

- Integration of trees into the agricultural landscape to increase biodiversity;
- Building green infrastructure such as green roofs, green walls, bioswales, and reclaimed green space to: restore ecosystems; reduce landscape fragmentation; and improve inter-connected networks of green open spaces to improve habitat connectivity; and
- Re-establishing wetlands.

Project activities that can be used to generate voluntary carbon offsets, including those based on land-use, are shown below in Figure 7 below.

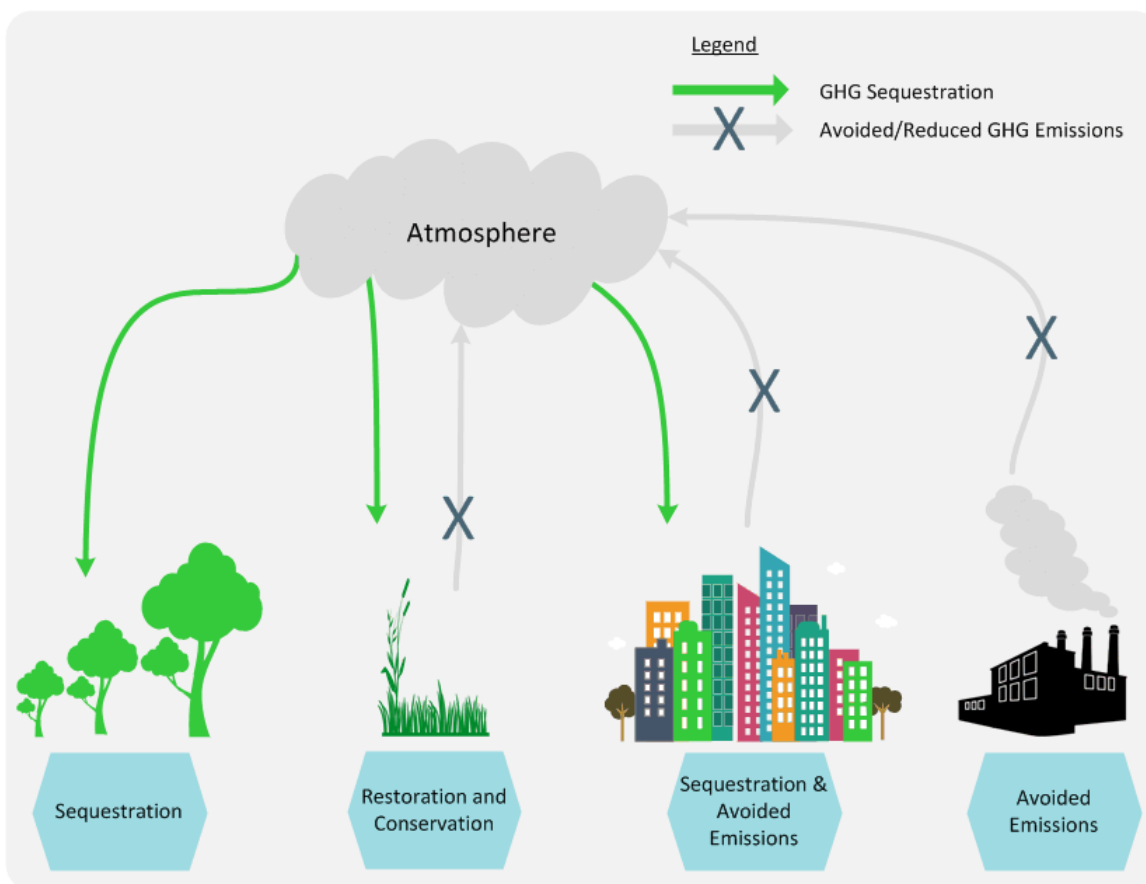


Figure 7. Various project activities can be undertaken to generate voluntary carbon offsets.

## Wetland restoration and conservation

Wetland conservation and restoration activities facilitate carbon sequestration while producing additional environmental co-benefits like improved nutrient management and increased biodiversity. For example, coastal wetlands store and cycle nutrients, thereby protecting the Great Lakes from excess nutrient loading (MNR, 2017). Carbon offset projects that target wetlands are an example of a project type that generates a carbon offset in addition to producing environmental co-benefits. Ontario has approximately 25 percent of all wetland areas in Canada, 10,000 square kilometres of which are located in southern Ontario. Wetlands in the southern part of the province continue to experience significant development pressures and cover a relatively small average area of 25 hectares (MNR, 2017). At the same time, the value of the services provided by these wetlands – including both carbon and beyond-carbon benefits – ranges from between \$15,171 to \$354,632 per hectare per year depending on size and proximity to urban areas (Troy and Bagstad, 2009; MOECC, 2010). The sale of carbon offset credits created from wetlands conservation and restoration projects would recognize in part, the range of ecosystem service values that wetlands provide.

## Thinking globally, acting locally

Climate change does not respect national or provincial borders and GHG emissions anywhere affect people everywhere. In addition to supporting the specific objectives that have already been noted, Ontario's voluntary carbon offsets program aligns with Canada's national climate change objectives as well as several international global development goals.

The Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change sets out a national plan to address climate change. As part of the framework, guidelines are being developed to ensure the transferability of GHG offset credits developed by different programs across the country. The proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program will endeavour to incorporate the terms of this framework.

To strengthen the global response to climate change, countries have adopted the Paris Agreement, which came into force in 2016. In the Agreement, all countries have committed to working to limit global temperature rise this century to well below 2 degrees Celsius, and given the grave risks, to prevent an increase of no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. To this end, Canada has committed to reducing GHG emissions by 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 (Government of Canada, 2017; UNFCCC, 2014). Combatting climate change is a shared responsibility that requires collective action. Ontario is leading by example through its commitment to make government operations carbon neutral beginning in 2018. The proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program would provide a flexible market-based mechanism that aligns with national GHG reduction goals and would enable the government, private sector and others to offset their GHG emissions.

A strong climate agreement backed by action on the ground will support the achievement of the [United Nations \(UN\) Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) to end poverty; build stronger economies; and safer, healthier, and more sustainable societies everywhere. In addition to Goal 13: Climate Action, many of the 17 SDGs directly involve taking action on climate change. By focusing on co-benefits beyond GHG reductions, the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program will align with many of the UN SDGs and their associated targets.

## Share your views with us

Please consider the following questions and share your perspective with us:

1. Are there additional priorities related to the development of the proposed voluntary carbon offsets program that have not been considered in this document?
2. In addition to the five program objectives listed in this discussion paper (see "Getting there"), are there other objectives that you think the Ministry should consider?
3. Are there specific barriers to participation in the carbon market that the Ministry should consider when developing the proposed the Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?
4. What is the best way for the Ministry to facilitate community participation in the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?
5. What environmental co-benefits (e.g., flood management) should be prioritized in the proposed Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?
6. What project types should be a priority for the Ontario voluntary carbon offsets program?
7. What actions can the Ministry take to support viable end markets for Ontario voluntary carbon offset credits?
8. Are there existing standards or methodologies that you feel the Ministry should consider when developing requirements for the creation of carbon offsets projects?

Please submit your comments through the Environmental Registry. Questions can be directed to: [Vidya.Anderson@Ontario.ca](mailto:Vidya.Anderson@Ontario.ca).

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**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 4.5**

**Subject:** Olde Czech Hall

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## Recommendation:

That this report be accepted as an update, that the draft three party agreement be accepted in principle and that the Authority Chair and General Manager be authorized to signed said agreement upon finalization.

## Background:

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
- ◆ As of final edits to this report, the revised draft has not been received from Chatham-Kent but it will be circulated with the package or handed out at the meeting as available
- ◆ That agreement is intended to satisfy all the above

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes from Meeting #1/18**

**April 16, 2018**

**Black Creek Pioneer Village**

**Voting Delegates Present:**

Brian Horner, Ausable Bayfield  
Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario  
Deb Martin-Downs, Credit Valley  
Tim Pidduck, Crowe Valley  
Richard Wyma, Essex Region  
Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region  
Joe Farwell, Grand River  
Cathy Little, Grey Sauble  
Sonya Skinner, Grey Sauble  
Dick Hibma, Grey Sauble  
Hassaan Basit, Halton  
Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha  
Geoffrey Dawe, Lake Simcoe Region  
Mike Walters, Lake Simcoe Region  
Tammy Cook, Lakehead Region  
Mike Columbus, Long Point Region  
Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region  
Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Valley  
Glenda Rodgers, Lower Trent  
Mark Burnham, Mississippi Valley

Duncan Abbott, Mississippi Valley  
Paul Lehman, Mississippi Valley  
Sandy Annunziata, Niagara Peninsula  
James Kaspersetz, Niagara Peninsula  
Lin Gibson, Nickel (Conservation Sudbury)  
Stephen Kaufman, Nickel (Cons. Sudbury)  
Carl Jorgensen, Nickel (Conservation Sudbury)  
Brian Tayler, North Bay-Mattawa  
Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley  
Frank Prevost, Raisin Region  
Richard Pilon, Raisin Region  
Lyle Pederson, Rideau Valley  
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley  
Wayne Brohman, Saugeen Valley  
Rhonda Bateman, Sault Ste Marie  
Doug Thompson, South Nation  
Steve Arnold, St. Clair Region  
Brian McDougall, St. Clair Region  
Murray Blackie, Upper Thames River

**Members Absent:**

Cataraqui Region  
Catfish Creek  
Hamilton  
Kettle Creek  
Maitland Valley

Mattagami Region  
Otonabee  
Quinte  
Toronto & Region

**Guests:**

Keith Murch  
Chris Harrington, Upper Thames River

**CO Staff:**

Kim Gavine, General Manager  
Jane Dunning  
Bonnie Fox  
Chitra Gowda  
Jane Lewington  
Matthew Millar

Nekeisha Mohammed  
Sarah Nichol  
Leslie Rich  
Jo-Anne Rzakki  
Rick Wilson

**1. Welcome from the Chair**

The Chair Dick Hibma welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order.

Mark Burnham (Mississippi Valley) introduced Chair Duncan Abbott.

Dick Hibma (Grey Sauble) introduced Chair Cathy Little

Mike Columbus (Long Point) returning Chair, introduced Judy Maxwell acting General Manager

Doug Thompson (South Nation) announced their new Chair is Fernand Dicaire

Chair Hibma offered congratulations to the 25 Conservation Authorities who were able to launch their watershed report cards together on World Water Day on March 22nd. There are an additional seven report cards coming for a total of 32 CA watershed report cards.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**#01/18 Moved by: Doug Thompson**

**Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT the Agenda be adopted as circulated.***

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was none.

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**#02/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham**

**Seconded by: Geoffrey Dawe**

***THAT the minutes from the meeting December 11, 2017 be approved.***

**CARRIED**

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was none.

**6. Adoption of the 2017 Audited Financial Statements, Final Report to the Budget and Audit Committee & Appointment of Auditors for 2018**

**#03/18 Moved by: Linda Laliberte**

**Seconded by: Joe Farwell**

***THAT the Final Report to the Conservation Ontario Budget & Audit Committee be received;***

***THAT Conservation Ontario accept the Budget and Audit Committee's recommendation that the Financial Statements of Conservation Ontario for the year ended December 31, 2017 be approved;***

***AND THAT Conservation Ontario appoint BDO as its auditor for the 2018 audit.***

**CARRIED**

**7. Conservation Ontario's 2017 Annual Report & Presentation**

The Conservation Ontario 2017 Annual Report was included in the agenda package and will be made available on the CO website. The Chair's presentation is attached to the minutes of the meeting.

**#04/18      Moved by: Doug Thompson                      Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt the 2017 Annual Report.***

**CARRIED**

**8. Council Voting Delegates & Alternates**

Chair Hibma referred members to the orientation presentation created for new and returning Council members. The narrated presentation can be accessed on the members page.

One correction was made to the Voting Delegates list:

Grand River Conservation Authority:

Voting Delegate: Helen Jowett

Alternate: Joe Farwell

2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate: Karen Armstrong

**#05/18      Moved by: Joe Farwell                              Seconded by: Lin Gibson**

***THAT the Voting Delegates and Alternates List be accepted as amended.***

**CARRIED**

**9. Election of Conservation Ontario Chair, 2 Vice Chairs and 3 Directors**

The proceedings were handed over to Kim Gavine (CO). Dick Hibma was thanked for his 12 years of service to Conservation Ontario. All the positions were declared vacant for 2018 and the election procedures were reviewed.

**#06/18      Moved by: Sandy Annunziata                      Seconded by: Wayne Brohman**

***THAT Bonnie Fox and Jo-Anne Rzadki be appointed as scrutineers in the event of a vote.***

**CARRIED**

Kim Gavine called for nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2018.

Mark Burnham (Mississippi) nominated Geoffrey Dawe (LSRCA).

Lyle Pederson (Rideau Valley) nominated Don MacIver (CVC).

Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#07/18 Moved by: Doug Thompson**

**Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT the nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2018 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Each nominee was given 3 minutes to speak. Ballots were cast and counted. Don MacIver was elected Conservation Ontario Chair.

Kim called for nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2018.

Michael Columbus (Long Point) nominated Mark Burnham (Mississippi).  
Brian Tayler (North Bay) nominated Lin Gibson (Sudbury).

Kim called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#08/18 Moved by: Michael Columbus**

**Seconded by: Brian Tayler**

***THAT the nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2018 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Mark Burnham and Lin Gibson accepted their nominations and were declared Vice Chairs for Conservation Ontario for 2018.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for the Directors (staff positions) for 2018.

Tim Pidduck (Crowe Valley) nominated Linda Laliberte (Ganaraska Region).  
Joe Farwell (Grand River) nominated Richard Wyma (Essex Region).

Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#09/18 Moved by: Geoff Dawe**

**Seconded by: Frank Prevost**

***THAT the nominations for staff Directors of Conservation Ontario for 2018 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Linda Laliberte and Richard Wyma accepted their nominations and were declared Directors of Conservation Ontario.

Kim called for nominations for Director for Conservation Ontario for 2018.

Doug Thompson (South Nation) nominated Lyle Pedersen (Rideau Valley)  
Dick Hibma (Grey Sauble) nominated Geoffrey Dawe (LSRCA)

Kim Gavine called a second and third time for nominations and hearing none called for a motion to close the nominations.

**#10/18 Moved by: Doug Hevenor**

**Seconded by: Doug Thompson**

***THAT the nominations for the Director of Conservation Ontario for 2018 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Each nominee was given 3 minutes to speak. **Ballots were cast and counted and Geoff Dawe was elected Director of Conservation Ontario.**

**#11/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham**

**Seconded by: Brian Tayler**

***THAT the ballots be destroyed.***

**CARRIED**

Vice Chair Lin Gibson presided as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **10. Standing Committee Representatives**

**#12/18 Moved by: Steve Arnold**

**Seconded by: Joe Farwell**

***THAT the Budget and Audit Standing Committee membership be ratified.***

***THAT the appointment of Karen Armstrong (Grand River CA) to the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee be ratified.***

**CARRIED**

#### **11. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole**

**#13/18 Moved by: Lyle Pederson**

**Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT the meeting now move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole.***

**CARRIED**

#### **12. Discussion Items**

##### **a. General Manager's Report**

**C.W. #01/18 Moved by: Doug Hevenor**

**Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.***

**CARRIED**

**b. Special Projects Budget 2018**

**C.W. #02/18 Moved by: Linda Laliberte                      Seconded by: Tammy Cook**

***THAT the draft 2018 Special Projects Budget in the amount of \$1,430,735 be approved as presented and as recommended by the Budget and Audit Committee.***

**CARRIED**

**c. Annual Report: April 2017-March 2018 Conservation Ontario (CO) Representatives and Conservation Authorities Program Discussion Group List**

Bonnie Fox highlighted the report noting that the list reflects those active from April 2017 to March 2018.

**C.W. #03/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham                      Seconded by: Steve Arnold**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report.***

**CARRIED**

**d. Conservation Authorities Act Review and Implementation**

Kim Gavine's presentation is attached to the minutes of the meeting.

**C.W. #04/18 Moved by: Joe Farwell                      Seconded by: Michael Columbus**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.***

**CARRIED**

**e. Conservation Authorities Act Implementation: Conservation Authority Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Administrative By-Law Model and Training Plan**

Bonnie Fox introduced Keith Murch noting that there is a legislative requirement to have the CA Administrative By-laws in place by December 2018. The presentation is attached to the minutes of the meeting.

It was requested that a Word version of the presentation be provided to members via the Council members section of the website.

**C.W. #05/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham                      Seconded by: Linda Laliberte**

***THAT Council endorse the "Conservation Authority Best Management Practices and Administrative By-Law Model" (draft April 2018) for implementation***

**CARRIED**



- f. **Conservation Ontario Submissions on the “Amendments to Ontario Regulation 287/07 “General” under the Clean Water Act, 2006” (EBR # 013-1839) and “Establishment of a regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002” (EBR # 013-1840)**

Chitra Gowda provided a verbal update. Comments on the two EBR postings were submitted on February 20, 2018. Very recently, decision notices have been posted on both EBRs. The establishment and operation of liquid hydrocarbon pipelines is added as a prescribed drinking water threat activity under the Clean Water Act. Municipal drinking water system owners can apply for a drinking water works permit for new or changing wells and intakes (and apply for a licence for a new system), only after receiving confirmation from the lead source protection authority that it is satisfied that the required technical work is complete. The required technical work includes delineating vulnerable areas and determining vulnerability scores under the Clean Water Act. Further, treated water can only be supplied to the public after the local source protection plan is updated with policies to protect the sources of drinking water.

**C.W. #06/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham                      Seconded by: Rhonda Bateman**

***THAT Council endorse the letter, dated February 20, 2018 on the “Amendments to Ontario Regulation 287/07 “General” under the Clean Water Act, 2006” (EBR # 013-1839) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.***

***AND THAT Council endorse the letter, dated February 20, 2018 on the “Establishment of a regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002” (EBR # 013-1840) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.***

**CARRIED**

- g. **Drinking Water Source Protection Joint Advisory Committee Membership Renewal**

**C.W. #07/18 Moved by: Mark Peacock                      Seconded by: Michael Columbus**

***THAT Council endorse the appointment of Joe Farwell (Grand River Conservation Authority) as west regional representative on the Source Water Protection Joint Advisory Committee as of February 1, 2018.***

**CARRIED**

- h. **CO Comments on Watershed Planning Guidelines (EBR# 013-1817)**

Bonnie Fox’s presentation slides are attached to the minutes of the meeting.

**C.W. #08/18 Moved by: Geoffrey Dawe                      Seconded by: Stephen Arnold**

***THAT the comments on the “Watershed Planning in Ontario: Guidance for land-use planning authorities” (EBR #013 – 1817) submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change on April 6, 2018 be endorsed by Council.***

**CARRIED**

Members expressed concern with how the role of CAs is neglected in this documentation.

A subsequent motion was suggested:

**C.W. #09/18 Moved by: Dick Hibma**

**Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT Conservation Ontario submit further comments to the Ministers of Natural Resources and Forestry, Treasury Board Secretariat, Environment and Climate Change, and Municipal Affairs to indicate that this Watershed Planning Initiative is a multijurisdictional responsibility between the Province, Municipalities and Conservation Authorities (where they exist);***

***AND THAT the required funding for the work must reflect this multijurisdictional approach.***

**CARRIED**

**i. Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's (MOECC) Approach to Climate Change Adaptation (EBR #013-1520)**

Jo-Anne Rzadki highlighted the submission and noted some recent developments.

There are plans to begin implementing the climate change risk/vulnerability assessments which would take place over a period of 2 or 3 years. There has been a request for bids. The province is also in the process of finalizing the selection of constituting board members for the "new climate change organization". She emphasized that CO will follow up proactively when we receive updates on these two initiatives. Discussion included requests for clarification regarding transferability of internal actions within provincial ministries by Lyle Pedersen and the recommendation of Ouranos as a model for the new organization by newly elected CO Chair – Don MacIver. Jo-Anne clarified that there is support for the new organization having a made in Ontario approach.

**C.W. #10/18 Moved by: Lyle Pedersen**

**Seconded by: Frank Prevost**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorses the CO letter on Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's (MOECC) Approach to Climate Change Adaptation (EBR #013-1520).***

**CARRIED**

**j. Status of Ontario Tree Seed Facility Closure**

Jo-Anne Rzadki updated Council that Forests Ontario and Forest Gene Conservation Association have been developing options for the Business plan noted in the report and the Province is considering.

**C.W. #11/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham**

**Seconded by: Doug Hevenor**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives the following report for information.***

**CARRIED**

**k. Update on the 2018 Latornell Conservation Symposium**

Jane Lewington provided a verbal update: The Symposium dates are November 13-15, 2018. Members were encouraged to consider who they may nominate for a Latornell Leadership Award.

**C.W. #12/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham      Seconded by: Steve Arnold**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.***

**CARRIED**

**l. Proposal to Update CO's Guide to Conservation Areas Brochure**

**C.W. #13/18 Moved by: Linda Laliberte      Seconded by: Frank Prevost**

***THAT Conservation Ontario proceed to update and reprint 85,000 copies of the Guide to Conservation Areas in Ontario.***

**CARRIED**

**m. Program Update**

**- Drinking Water Source Protection**

Chitra Gowda updated members that the agreements for 2018-19 which represents a total of \$7.2 million covering 47 Full Time Equivalent CA staff (down from \$7.8 million and 49 FTEs the previous year). The drop results from a decrease in technical work which was expected as we move forward. Some working groups have completed their work, notably the Knowledge Transfer Working Group. A webinar will take place in the near future for the General Managers.

Municipal drinking water system owners can apply for a drinking water works permit for new or changing wells and intakes (and apply for a licence for a new system), only after receiving a confirmation notice from the lead source protection authority that it is satisfied that the required technical work is complete. Further, treated water can only be supplied to the public after the local source protection plan is updated with policies to protect the sources of drinking water. This is a change in the role of the lead source protection authority, placing it into the municipal business process of applying for drinking water permits and licences, and supply for water to the public. Chitra also reported that MOECC has heard concerns from some municipalities about potential delays on the source protection authority side in issuing the notice to allow for municipalities to apply for drinking waters works permits and licences. The timing of the required updates to and the approval of the Source Protection Plan might result in delay for the municipalities to provide water as a public supply of water. This will be taken to the Joint Advisory Committee to provide recommendations back to the ministry.

**C.W. #14/18 Moved by: Michael Columbus      Seconded by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.***

**CARRIED**

### 13. Consent Agenda

C.W. #15/18 Moved by: Lyle Pedersen

Seconded by: Mark Burnham

***THAT Council approve a consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Items 13a – 13r.***

**CARRIED**

**a. Procedure for Updating Section 28 Mapping: Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation**

*THAT Council endorse the proposed “Procedure for Updating Section 28 Mapping: Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations” dated April, 2018*

*AND THAT it be shared with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.*

**b. Conservation Ontario’s comments on the “Proposed new regulation under the Planning Act to prescribe transitional provisions for the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139)” (EBR#013-1788) and “Proposed Amendments to Matters Included in existing Regulations under the Planning Act Relating to the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139)” (EBR#013-1790)**

*THAT the comments on “Proposed new regulation under the Planning Act to prescribe transitional provisions for the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139)” (EBR #013-1788) and the comments on the “Proposed Amendments to Matters Included in Existing Regulations under the Planning Act Relating to the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139)” (EBR #013-1790) both submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on January 19, 2017, be endorsed.*

**c. Conservation Ontario’s comments on “Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring” (EBR #013-1661)**

*THAT the comments on “Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring” (EBR #013-1661) submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on March 7, 2018 be endorsed.*

**d. Policy Proposal Notice: Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offset Program For Ontario (EBR # 013-1634)**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorses the CO letter on Policy Proposal Notice: Developing a Voluntary Carbon Offset Program for Ontario (EBR # 013-1634)*

**e. Conservation Ontario’s Comments on “New Horizons: The Draft Agricultural Soil Health and Conservation Strategy for Ontario” (EBR #013-1373)**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorse the letter submitted on “New Horizons: The Draft Agricultural Soil Health and Conservation Strategy for Ontario” (EBR #013-1373).*

**f. Submission of Conservation Ontario’s 2017 Annual Effectiveness Monitoring Report on the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects**

*THAT Conservation Ontario’s “2017 Annual Effectiveness Monitoring Report on the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects” be received.*

**g. Update on the Agricultural System and Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.*

**h. Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulation Team (DART) Terms of Reference**

*THAT the “Draft Confidential OMAFRA/MNRF 02/14/2018 Drainage Act & Section 28 Regulations Team (DART) Terms of Reference” be approved.*

**i. Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) Partnership Agreement**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorse the proposed partnership agreement and accompanying memo for signing by CA PGMN Partners.*

**j. Conservation Ontario Group Insurance & Benefits Committee Update**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.*

**k. 4R Ontario Steering Committee Status Report**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

**l. Conservation Authority Staff Representative Appointment to the Lyme Disease Stakeholder Reference Group (Provincial)**

*THAT Council approve the appointment of Craig Machan (Conservation Halton), the current Chair of the Conservation Areas Working Group as Conservation Ontario’s representative on the provincial Lyme Disease Stakeholder Reference Group.*

**m. Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River Shoreline Landowner Survey**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

**n. 2017 CO Council Meeting Effectiveness Survey Results**

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

**o. Program Updates**

- i. Marketing & Communications

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

- ii. Business & Development & Partnerhips

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

- iii. Information Management

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report for information.*

**p. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes to be received:**

August 3, 30, Sept 25, Nov 20, Dec 11/12, 2017

*THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives these minutes.*

**q. Correspondence**

- i. CO Letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne re: Bill 139, Conservation Authorities Act
- ii. CO Letter to Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety re: National Disaster Mitigation Program
- iii. Honourable Bill Morneau Minister of Finance to CO re Budget 2018
- iv. CO Letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne: Re Flooding
- v. Premier Kathleen Wynne to CO re Flooding

**r. Project Tracking**

**14. Presentation: 2018 Flooding Challenges** (J. Farwell (GRCA), Mark Peacock(LTVCA))

Presentations are attached to the minutes of the meeting.

**15. Motion to Move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council**

**#14/18 Moved by: Brian Tayler**

**Seconded by: Linda Laliberte**

***THAT the meeting now move from Committee of the Whole Full Council.***

**CARRIED**

**16. Council Business – Council Adoption of Recommendations**

**#15/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham**

**Seconded by: Brian Tayler**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt Committee of the Whole (C.W.) Recommendations:  
C.W. #01/18 to C.W. #15/18.***

**CARRIED**

**17. New Business**

The Board of Directors will meet directly following the Council meeting.

Kim Gavine provided instructions regarding Queen's Park Day.

**18. Adjourn**

**#16/18 Moved by: Mark Burnham**

***THAT the meeting be adjourned.***

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Kevan Baker, Director of Lands

**Item 6.1**

**Subject:** Conservation Lands Report

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## **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



Bannerstone Property

## 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).



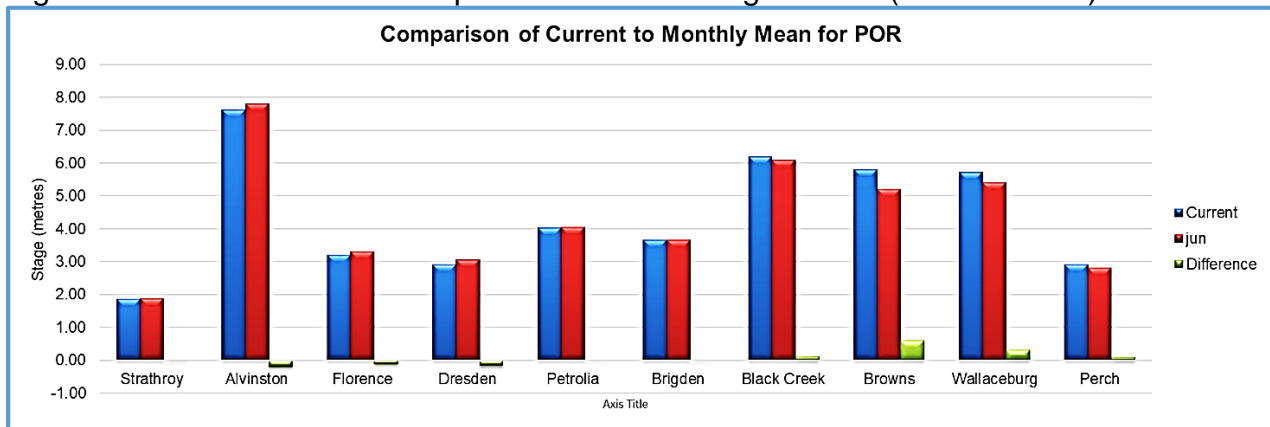
Meeting Date: June 28, 2018  
 Report Date: June 1, 2018  
 Submitted by: Steve Clark

Item 7.1

Subject: Watershed Conditions Report

## Current Watershed Conditions:

Fig 1 Current River Levels Compared to June Average Levels (SCRCA Data)



- Reasonably dry conditions with no major events in May has resulted in river levels (blue) close to average (red) 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:

Fig 2 Regional Precipitation (ECC Data)

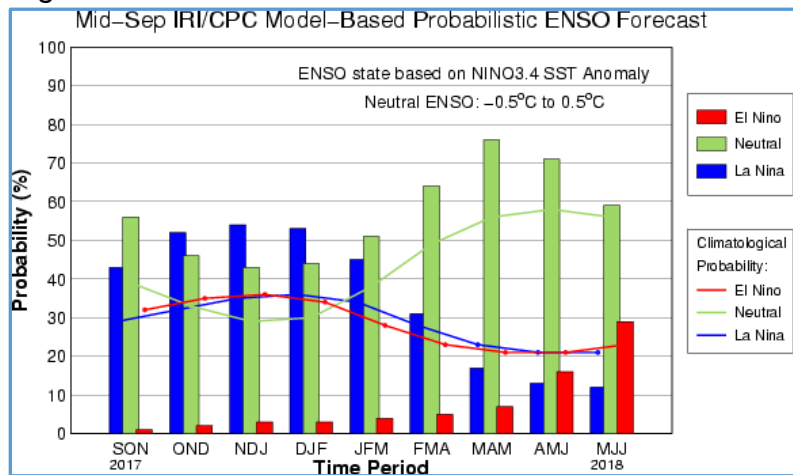
Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
<b>Last Quarter</b>								
March	44.2	62.6	57	74.9	45.9	78.4	66	75
April	103.1	75.4	100.6	84	105.4	82.2	106.6	85.1
May	45.3	69.9	65.2	74	49.2	82.9	153.8	80.8
<b>Averages</b>								
last 3 month totals	192.6	207.9	222.8	232.9	200.5	243.5	326.4	240.9
last 3 month % of normal	92.6%		95.7%		82.3%		135.5%	
regional average	<b>101.5%</b>							
last 6 month totals	342.7	373.7	496	461.7	429.9	466.3	613.3	430.5
last 6 month % of normal	91.7%		107.4%		92.2%		142.5%	
regional average	<b>108.4%</b>							
last 12 month totals	687.8	846.8	893.8	945.1	794.8	987	1134.7	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	81.2%		94.6%		80.5%		123.6%	
regional average	<b>95.0%</b>							

- 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:

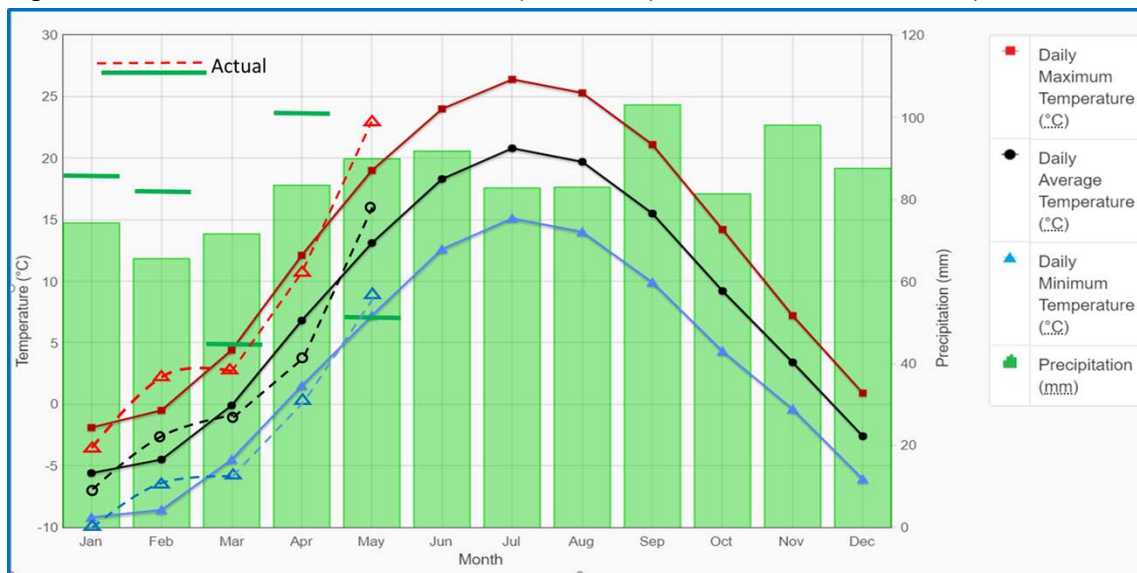
- **Overall** - conditions into Summer show relatively neutral conditions in June stronger El Nino influence into July (Fig 3)
- **June** - Below seasonal temperatures into first of the month with 10mm above average precipitation conditions with a warming trend toward the end of the month.

Fig 3 El Nino\La Nina Influence



- **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.

Fig 5 identifies the seasonal normal (solid line) with 2018 conditions (dashed line)



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.

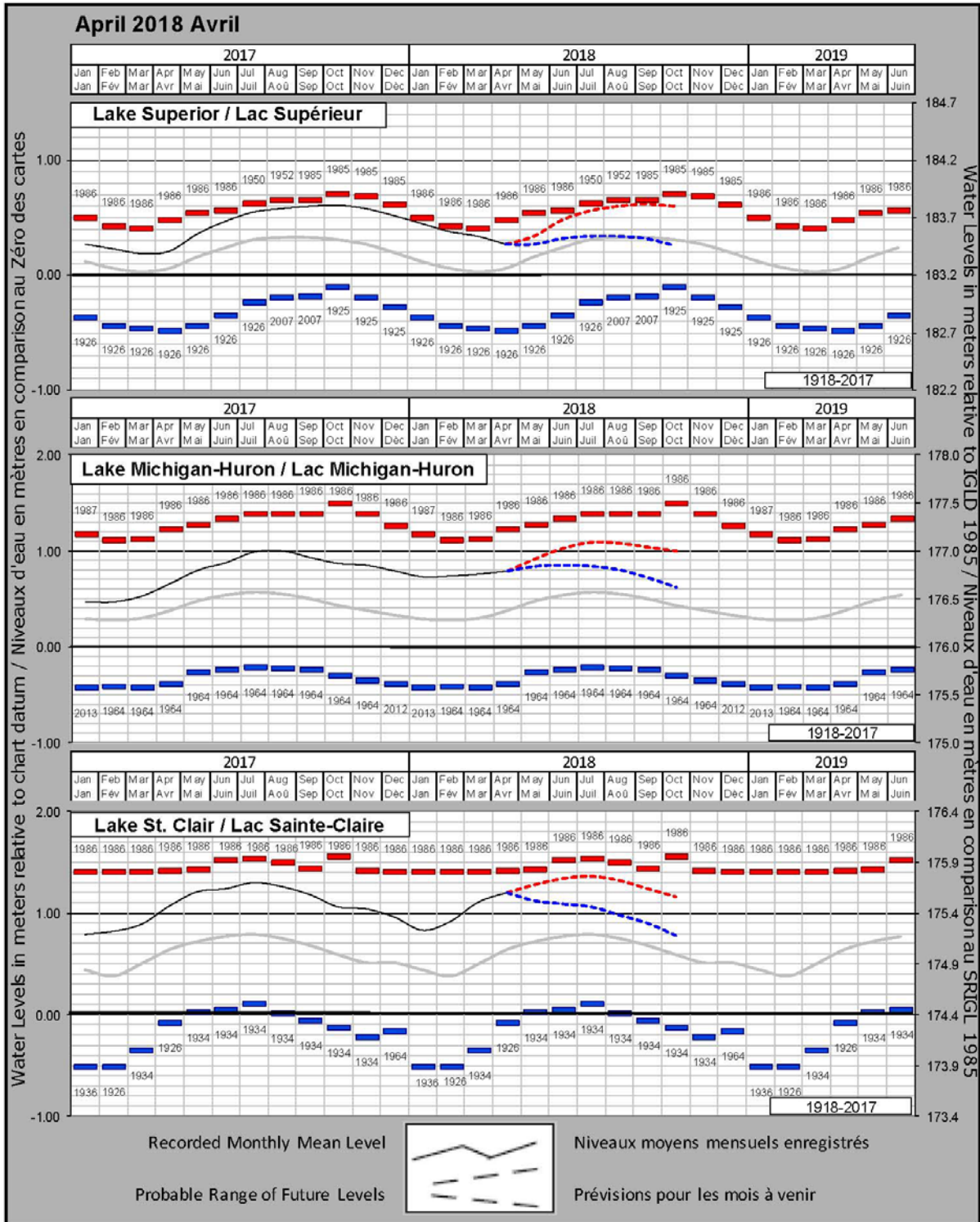
## Great Lakes Levels:

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.

Fig 6 Great Lakes Data (Fisheries and Oceans Canada – \*all figures in Metres)

April 2018	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (preliminary data)	176.79	175.6	174.78
Mean for month last year	176.66	175.47	174.64
Change	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.14</b>
Mean for month, last 10 years	176.19	175.08	174.31
Change compared to current	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.47</b>
Mean for month, All Time	176.38	175.04	174.23
Change compared to Current	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.55</b>
<b>Statistics for period of record</b>			
Maximum monthly mean / year	177.23	175.82	174.98
	1986	1986	1985
Change compared to Current	<b>-0.44</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>-0.20</b>
Minimum monthly mean / year	175.61	174.32	173.38
	1964	1926	1934
Probable mean for next month	176.88	175.6	174.82
Next month compared to current	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.04</b>

Fig 7 Three Year Overview of Lake Levels (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

**Item 7.2**

**Subject:** McKeough Operating Criteria

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**Introduction:** 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.

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.



Water Levels Rainfall Rate & Amount Ice Conditions Great Lakes Water Levels Meteorological Conditions Snow Conditions Ice Breaking Ice Jamming	+	Flow of Bear Creek at Bridgen of 18 cubic m/sec (635 cu. ft./sec) or greater	+	<b>Rate of Rise          at          Wallaceburg          of</b>	<b>And</b>	<b>Water Level          at          Wallaceburg          of</b>	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		176.180m (578.1ft)					
	or						
10mm/hr or greater		176.240m (578.2ft)					
	or						
Regardless of R of R		176.300m (578.4ft)					

Table 1: Operational Criteria for the W. Darcy McKeough Dam and Floodway

### Highlights of February 2018 Event:

Monday, Feb 19

- 12:00 p.m. Staff issue an advisory on Monday, Feb 19<sup>th</sup> - Flood WATCH

Tuesday, Feb 20

- 2 p.m. Flood watch updated with actual rainfall amounts on Feb 20<sup>th</sup>
- 10 p.m. Flood status updated from Flood Watch to Flood Warning

Wednesday, Feb 21

- 6 a.m. McKeough dam in operation

Thursday, Feb 22

- 8 p.m. Updated Flood Bulletin

Friday, Feb 23

- 1 p.m. 0.5 m Commenced opening
- 8 p.m. 0.5 m

Saturday, Feb 24

- 9:15 a.m. 0.5 m opening

**Sat Overnight**



3°  
Feels like -3

POP 90%  
Rain 10-15 mm  
Wind 32 km/h E  
Wind gust 53 km/h  
Humidity 87%  
Dewpoint 1°  
Pressure 100.3 kPa

**Sun Morning**



10°  
Feels like 6

POP 40%  
Rain <1 mm  
Wind 36 km/h W  
Wind gust 56 km/h  
Humidity 82%  
Dewpoint 7°  
Pressure 100.5 kPa

Sunday, Feb 25

- 4:30 p.m. 0.5 m Opened

Monday, Feb 26

- 8:15 a.m. Opened completely

**Previous Operations:** The extent of rising and lowering of gates would depend on the intensity of flooding. The design engineers estimated that the structure would be operated in a flood event once in every seven years. The floodway/diversion channel has been operated 7 times since its construction in 1984.

**Operating Criteria Review:** Requests to review the operating criteria have been brought forward on several occasions from the Town of Wallaceburg (previously) and more recently from Chatham-Kent. Concern has most often been focused on the fact that some minor flooding is already occurring in Wallaceburg, before the criteria for gate closure is met.

Further, there have been multiple requests for the review of the criteria to permit operation of the floodway to reduce flooding in areas beyond the boundaries of Wallaceburg. Although these can be reviewed, the expropriations certificate which provided the basis for acquiring upstream easements and properties appears to close off this option.

**Previous Modifications to Criteria:** The initial operating criteria had allowed for modifications to the operating rule with experience and knowledge of different scenarios requiring Mckeough dam operation. The criteria was modified in 1985 and 1987. In the mid 1990's, a review was undertaken with a committee of Authority Board Members consummating in a decision to maintain the existing criteria.

Subsequent to the February 2009 Flood in Wallaceburg and February 2018, it has been requested that the operating criteria be reviewed and recommendations be brought forward to improve the data available to assist in decision making. Ice jamming in 2008 and 2009 further highlighted the need for additional monitoring stations in or near Wallaceburg to provide more data to improve the understanding of water levels in Wallaceburg.

Thirty years of data on water levels, flows, wind conditions and lake effects as well as a quarter century of experience in operating the floodway could provide significant input into an engineer's review of the operating criteria of the structure.

***“Flood easements purchased upstream of the dam were acquired based on the understanding that the dam would only be operated when Wallaceburg was in ‘imminent’ threat of flooding. Any change to the criteria must reflect this and a legal review should be sought to confirm that there would not be legal and/or financial implications to any change to the operating criteria.”***

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 1, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

**Item 7.3**

**Subject:** Floodplain Mapping Project

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## **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

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 15, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources

**Item 7.4**

**Subject:** Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl) Projects

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

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Received (\$)
All Structures	Engineering Inspection	Engineering inspection and reporting to review structural integrity and required maintenance of all authority owned dams	\$20,000	\$20,000

### 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.
- Pictures below is taken on April 5<sup>th</sup> looking south and north along the 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



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 8, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Jessica Van Zwol and Laura Biancolin

**Item 8.1**

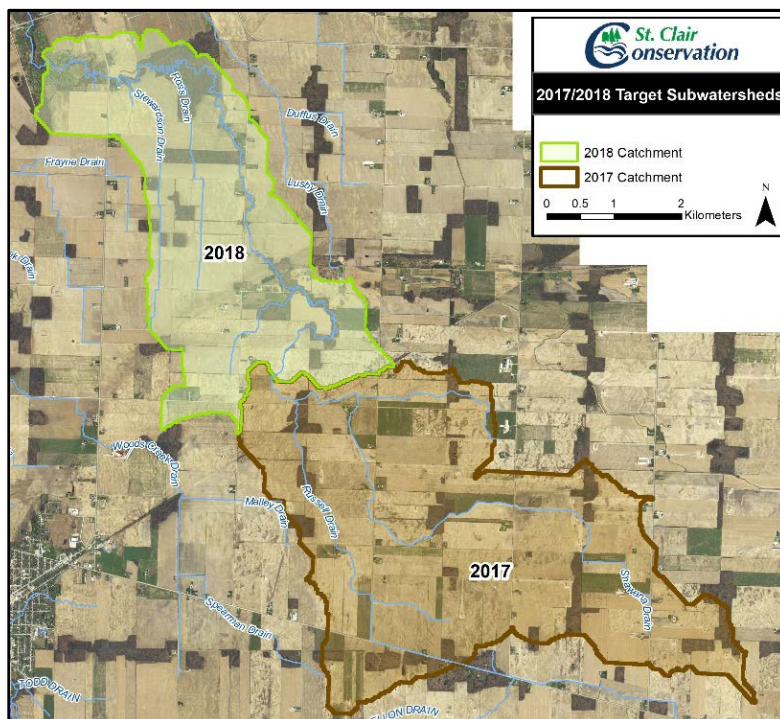
**Subject:** Healthy Watersheds Program Update – Walk the Watershed

**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated June 8, 2018 on the Healthy Watersheds Program Update

**Background:**

**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.

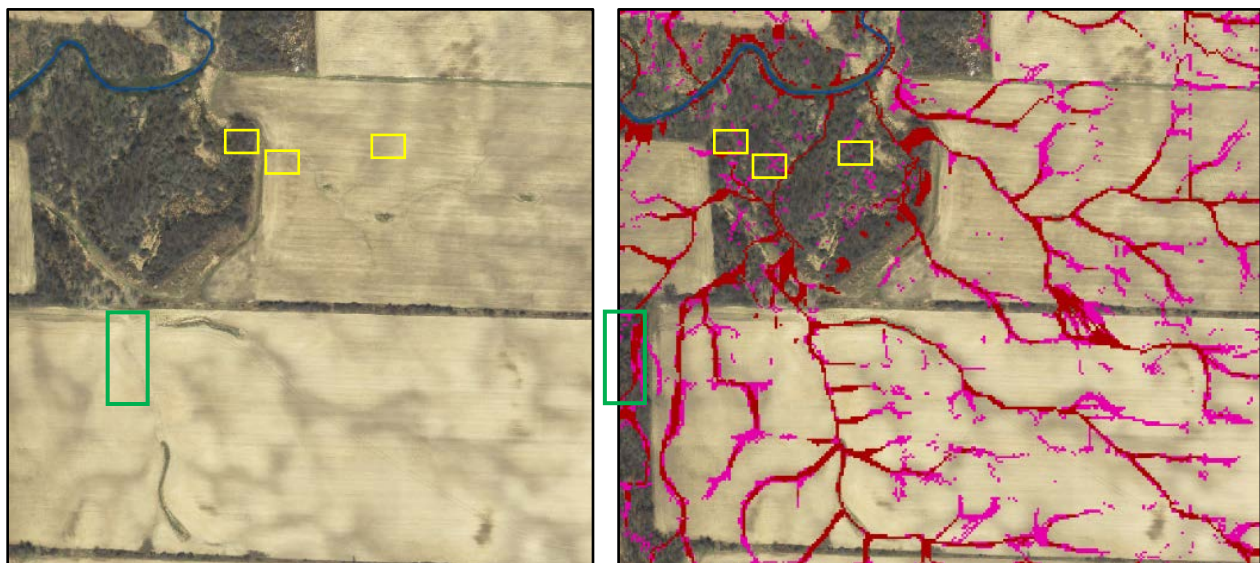


This year's Walk the Watershed focus area was Shashwandah Creek lowlands, downstream of the Shashwandah headwaters focus area from 2017. Watercourses included in the focus area are, Shashwandah Creek, Stewardson Drain, Ross Drain and Davidson Drain. Over 27 landowners have been contacted. So far, 20 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.

## 2018 watercourse features

Watercourse	Drain Class	Drainage Area	Channel Length	Channel Slope	Agriculture land use	Tree cover
Shashwandah Creek	C: warm water no top predators	2018: 1,300ha Total: 3,400ha	2018: 13.4km Total: 27.5km	0.15%	86.7%	8.6%
Stewardson Drain	F: Intermittent	2.8km <sup>2</sup>	5.2km	0.70%	88.5%	7.1%
Ross Drain	F: Intermittent	1.8km <sup>2</sup>	4.6km	0.42%	82.9%	12.3%
Davidson Drain	F/T: Intermittent & enclosed	2.0km <sup>2</sup>	4.0km	0.21%	90.2%	5.3%

**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.



At left: aerial photo without model layers, showing grassed waterway (green) and three narrow based berms (yellow) created to prevent soil erosion.

At right: aerial photo with model layers (SPI, red; TWI, pink) confirming the value of the infield grassed waterway and berms. Staff confirmed these erosion features in person and with the landowner.



Below: the GIS derived indices (SPI & TWI) frequently matched exact locations of erosion in the field.



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 8, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Greg Wilcox

**Item 8.2**

**Subject:** Summary of 3-year (2016 – 2018) Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant in Partnership with Friends of the St. Clair River

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## **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledge this report dated June 8, 2018 on the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant update.

## **Background:**

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).



Above: Lake Chubsucker



Above: Grass Pickerel

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.



Mapleleaf



Lilliput



Fawnsfoot



View from Bickford Line as the mussel relocation took place

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.

### Barrier Removal and Riffle Creation



Before

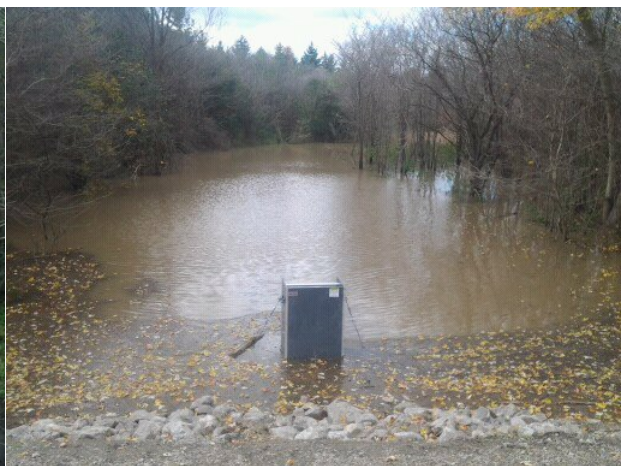


After

### Wetland Creation with Control Structure



Before



After

## 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.



Students getting familiar with our equipment



Staff demonstrating seine netting



Students up close with St. Clair River Fish

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.



Staff helping highschool students at the fish station.

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

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 8, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Jessica Van Zwol and Laura Biancolin  
**Subject:** Healthy Watersheds Program Update

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**Item 8.3**

## **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated June 8, 2018 on the Healthy Watersheds Program Update

## **Background:**

**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)** – this 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



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 13, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Steve Shaw

**Item 9.1**

**Subject:** Conservation Services Spring Tree Planting

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report summarizing tree planting throughout the watershed this spring.

**Background:**

**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.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 13, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Steve Shaw

**Item 9.2**

**Subject:** Conservation Services Larvicide Program Update

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## Recommendation:

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

## 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.



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018 **Item 10.1**  
**Report Date:** June 12, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning  
 Melissa Deisley, Regulations Coordinator  
  
**Subject:** Regulations Summary  
 April 1, to May 31, 2018

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 April 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

### Regulations Permits:

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-102	<b>Municipality:</b>	Adelaide-Metcalfe		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Napier Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Integrity Dig				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 14	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 22	<b>Days:</b>	8

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-053	<b>Municipality:</b>	Brooke-Alvinston		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6246 Shiloh Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of an Addition				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 16	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 17	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-103	<b>Municipality:</b>	Brooke-Alvinston		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Ebenezer Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Integrity Dig				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 16	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 22	<b>Days:</b>	6

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-123	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	295 St. George Street South				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a Gas Station Canopy				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 30	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 30	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-023	<b>Municipality:</b>	Lambton Shores		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6851 Clemens Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 05	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 12	<b>Days:</b>	7

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-067	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	560 First Ave				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of New Single Family Dwelling & Minor Re-grading				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 10	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 15	<b>Days:</b>	5

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-119	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Hillsboro Road over Hickory Creek				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Hillsboro Road Culvert Structure Repairs				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 29	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 29	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-079	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3718 Beverly Glen				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Tear Down/Rebuild New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 28	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 28	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-122	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3011 Sandpiper Trail				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of an Addition on South Side of Existing Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 23	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 29	<b>Days:</b>	6

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-097	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	5786 Churchill Line 27,				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Tear Down & Rebuild New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 08	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 15	<b>Days:</b>	7

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-078	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	7394 Ivy Lane				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 30	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 01	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-064	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4995 Michigan Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Foundation Construction				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 14	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 15	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-080	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Property West of 5285 Fisher Line 22,				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 02	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 02	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-054	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3836 Ferne Avenue				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construct Accessory Structures				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 04	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 19	<b>Days:</b>	15

<b>Application No:</b>	FA#11316	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3836 Ferne Avenue				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Proposed Helical Pier Foundation and Roof Truss Works				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 04	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 18	<b>Days:</b>	14

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-094	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	580 Woodrowe Ave				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a Minor Addition				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 07	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 16	<b>Days:</b>	9

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-108	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1410 Andover Lane				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of New Detached Garage				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 06	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 24	<b>Days:</b>	18

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-040	<b>Municipality:</b>	Southwest Middlesex		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6297 Olde Drive				
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 10	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 10	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-098	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Part 6, Plan 25R-7404				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 31	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 31	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-071	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2627 Tulloch Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 25	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 26	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-048	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4076 St. Clair Parkway				
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Single Family Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 06	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 16	<b>Days:</b>	10

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-106	<b>Municipality:</b>	Strathroy-Caradoc		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	286 Pinetree Lane				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of Inground Pool & Move an Existing Shed				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	May 17	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	May 23	<b>Days:</b>	6

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-066	<b>Municipality:</b>	Strathroy-Caradoc		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Calvert Drive, 306m east of Glen Oak Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Install New 4" Gas Main via HDD				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 25	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 25	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	FA#2018-012	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	268 Ward Line		
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Dwelling		
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 03	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 13
		<b>Days:</b>	10

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-047	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2697 Waterworks Road		
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Sanitary Pump Station		
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 04	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 13
		<b>Days:</b>	9

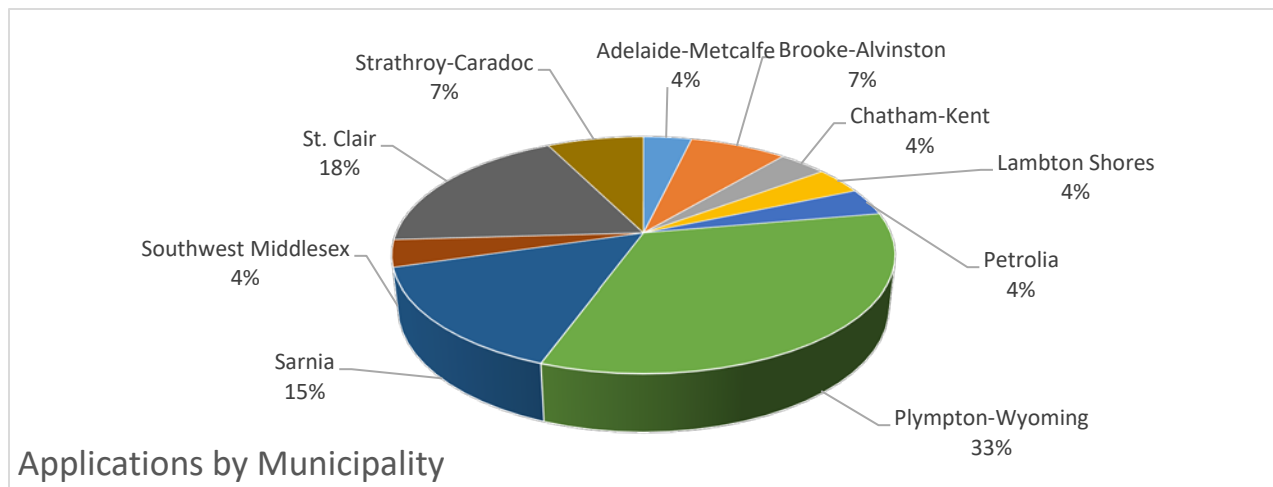
<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-033	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2060 Lakeshore Road		
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of an Addition & Renovation to Existing Dwelling		
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Apr 05	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 06
		<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-026	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4444 St. Clair Parkway		
<b>Proposal:</b>	New Single Family Dwelling		
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	Mar 24	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	Apr 03
		<b>Days:</b>	10

**Total No. of Applications: 27    Average No. of Days to Issue Permit: 6**

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 the 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.



## Regulations Inquiries:

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<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-013	<b>Municipality:</b>	Adelaide-Metcalf
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1425 Melwood Drive		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-090	<b>Municipality:</b>	Brooke-Alvinston
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6393 Oil Springs Line		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-121	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent
<b>Subject Property:</b>	26602 Winter Line Road		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-100	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent
<b>Subject Property:</b>	219 Camden Street		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-112	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent
<b>Subject Property:</b>	508 Davies Street West		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-044	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Labadie Road		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-050	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Jane Road & Zone Centre Line		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-072	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1537 Inwood Road		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-085	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1537 Inwood Road		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-073	<b>Municipality:</b>	Enniskillen
<b>Subject Property:</b>	5909 Rokeby Line		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-117	<b>Municipality:</b>	Enniskillen
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4058 Oil Springs Line		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-045	<b>Municipality:</b>	Enniskillen
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3992 Oil Springs Line		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-055	<b>Municipality:</b>	Lambton Shores
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Esli Dodge CA		
<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-049	<b>Municipality:</b>	Lambton Shores
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6526 Pine Trail Ave		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-057	<b>Municipality:</b>	Middlesex Centre
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6 Ashley Lane		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-099	<b>Municipality:</b>	Middlesex Centre
<b>Subject Property:</b>	10139 Ilderton Rd		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-111	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4048 Englehart Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-110	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4042 Englehart Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-118	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	488 1st Avenue		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-052	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4050 Englehart Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-074	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4340 Lambton Lane		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-060	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4338 4344 Bluepoint Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-068	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4764 Mack Avenue		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-083	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4041 Michigan Line		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-081	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3548 Queen Street		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-095	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4410 Lakeshore Road		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-105	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4698 Egremont Road		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-034	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	6758 Blue Heron Road		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-042	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming
<b>Subject Property:</b>	7128 Muskoka Trail		



<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-070	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1010 Plank Rd		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-043	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1794 Lakeshore Rd		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-108	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1410 Andover Lane		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-075	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1410 Andover Lane		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-107	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	5101 Brigden Road		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-038	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1274 Michigan Avenue		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-120	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Tyler Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-125	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1452 Courtright Line		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-091	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1324 St. Clair Parkway		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-092	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4166 St. Clair Parkway		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-093	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2693 St. Clair Gardens		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-113	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4677 Riverside Drive		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-036	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	813 St. Clair Parkway		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-037	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	959 Wilkesport Line		

<b>File Reference:</b>	R#2018-035	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1728 Baby Road		

**File Reference:** R#2018-124      Municipality: Strathroy-Caradoc  
**Subject Property:** 30 Adelaide Street

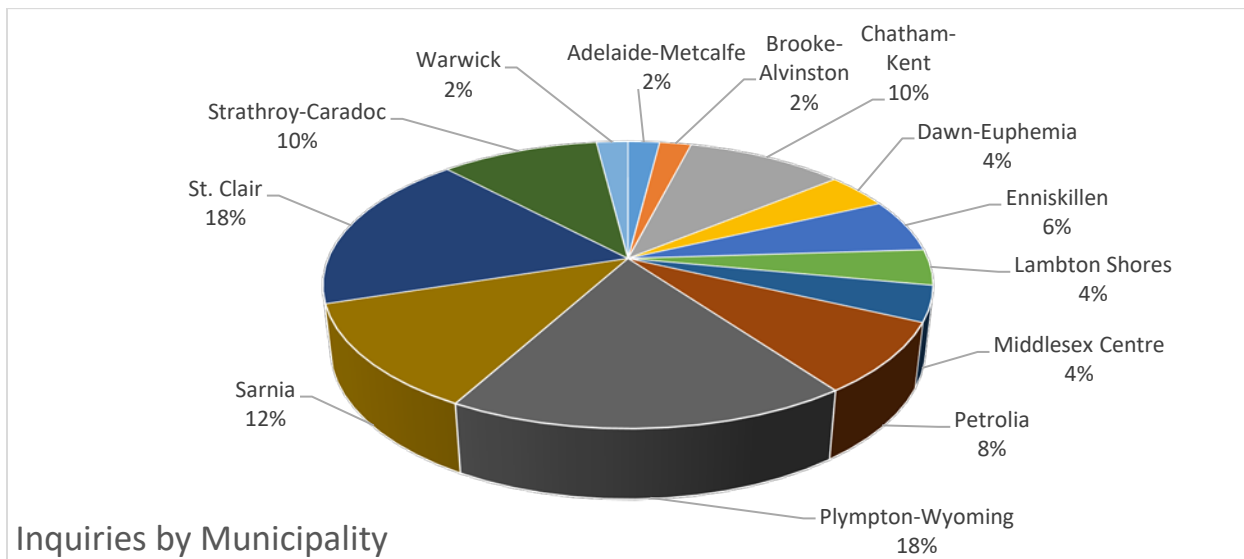
**File Reference:** R#2018-017      Municipality: Strathroy-Caradoc  
**Subject Property:** SE Corner of Century Drive & Melbourne Rd.

**File Reference:** R#2018-061      Municipality: Strathroy-Caradoc  
**Subject Property:** 8513 Hickory Drive

**File Reference:** R#2018-046      Municipality: Strathroy-Caradoc  
**Subject Property:** 989 & 991 Wright Street & 27886 Pike Road (Adelaide Metcalfe)

**File Reference:** R#2018-041      Municipality: Strathroy-Caradoc  
**Subject Property:** 8527 Hickory Drive

**File Reference:** R#2018-022      Municipality: Warwick  
**Subject Property:** 6445 Brick Yard Line



**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018 **Item 10.2**  
**Report Date:** June 6, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Erica Ogden, Planner  
 Sarah Hodgkiss, Planning Ecologist  
  
**Subject:** Planning Activity Summary  
 April 1 to May 31, 2018

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A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review is presented below. This report covers the period from April 1, 2018 to May 31, 2018

### Municipal Plan Input and Review

**File Reference:** PL#2018-027

Municipality:	Adelaide-Metcalf	Municipal Reference:	B03-2018
Property Location:	4225 Calvert Drive		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-016

Municipality:	Dawn-Euphemia	Municipal Reference:	Inquiry
Property Location:	Property Inquiry		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-012

Municipality:	Dawn-Euphemia	Municipal Reference:	B003-18
Property Location:	1602 Oakdale Road		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-034

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	ZO-04/2018
Property Location:	6218 Juniper Lane		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-042

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	39TMC0201
Property Location:	Part of Lot 8, Concession 8		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-019

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	SUB
Property Location:	First Avenue & Garden Crescent		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-039

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	A09/2018
Property Location:	4106 Aberarder Line		

**File Reference: PL#2018-038**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	A08/2018
Property Location:	6885 Dalrymple Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-032**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	B09/2018
Property Location:	1575 Plank Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-033**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	A015/2018
Property Location:	1930 14 Franklin Avenue		

**File Reference: PL#2018-029**

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	A-07-18
Property Location:	4110 St. Clair Parkway		

**File Reference: PL#2018-030**

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	A-05-18
Property Location:	4334 St. Clair Parkway		

**File Reference: PL#2018-037**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	A09/2018
Property Location:	424 Victoria Lane		

**File Reference: PL#2018-018**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	SUB
Property Location:	Rougham/Falconbridge/Adelaide Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-015**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	ZBA 8-2018
Property Location:	170 Victoria Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-005**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	ZBA 7-2018
Property Location:	Wright Street		

**Environmental Assessment Review****File Reference: EA2018-006 Municipality: Chatham-Kent**

Proposal:	Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update		
Proponent:	Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission		

**File Reference: EA2018-007 Municipality: Chatham-Kent**

Proposal:	Class EA Rose Beach Line Slope Stability		
Proponent:	Municipality of Chatham-Kent		

**File Reference: EA2018-008 Municipality: Sarnia**

Proposal:	Class EA for Infrastructure Crossing of Highway 402
Proponent:	City of Sarnia

**Legal Inquiry Summary**

LL#18102-02	27689 Pike Road	Adelaide-Metcalf
LL#18094-01	1145 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalf
LL#18127-01	6328 William Street	Lambton Shores
LL#2018-002	6 Ashley Lane, Coldstream,	Middlesex Centre
LL#18102-01	4560 William Street	Plympton-Wyoming
LL#2018-003	22697 Adelaide Road, Mount Brydges,	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2018-001	Part 1, Plan 33R-1220, s/e Parts 1-7, Plan 33R-17142	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#18103-01	24364 Saxton Road	Strathroy-Caradoc

**Meeting Summary**

April 11	Pre-consultation Meeting Mt. Brydges Subdivision	EO, SH
April 12	Bill 139 Webinar	EO, SH
April 13	Pre-consultation Meeting Point Edward	EO, SH
April 17	Southwest CA Meeting	DC, EO, SH
April 24	1400 Venetian Blvd Teleconference	EO, GS
May 15	Pre-consultation Meeting Plympton-Wyoming	DC, SH
May 28	Pre-consultation Meeting Timberwalk Phase 5	EO, SH
May 29	Poplar Woods Meeting	EO, SH
May 31	Planning Ecology Meeting, Credit Valley CA	SH

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018 **Item 10.3**  
**Report Date:** June 12, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning

**Subject:** Appointment of Officer under Section 28 of CAA (O.R. 171/06)

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**Recommendation:**

That 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.

**Background:**

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.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 13, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Kelli Smith

**Item 10.4**

**Subject:** Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART)  
 Completed Files

**Recommendation:**

That the board acknowledges and concurs with the April 2018 to May 2018 municipal drain activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART)

**Background:**

**SCRCA DART FILES**

**2018 APRIL**

<b>FHR #</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Geographic Township</b>	<b>Drain Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>SCRs Issued</b>
2869	Chatham-Kent	Dover	Crawford Drain	Emergency culvert replacement	1

**SCRCA DART FILES**

**2018 MAY**

<b>FHR #</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Geographic Township</b>	<b>Drain name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>SCRs Issued</b>
2890	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Metcalfe	Brigham-Watt Drain	Full cleanout, brushing bank slope, brushing top of bank, bank repair	4
2891	Chatham-Kent	Dover	Burke Drain	Bottom only cleanout	1
2871	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Molly Creek West Branch	Culvert replacement	1
2872	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Kersey Drain	Culvert replacement	1

2873	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	25 Sideroad Drain	Culvert replacement	1
2875	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Archie McMurphy Drain	Culvert replacement	1
2877	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	12 <sup>th</sup> Concession Drain	Culvert replacement	1
2879	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Coronation Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2880	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	W.G. McGuire Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2881	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Turrill Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2882	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Molly Creek Drain East Branch	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2883	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Waite drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2884	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Patterson McDonald Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2885	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	11 <sup>th</sup> Concession Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2886	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Atchison Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus on bank slope	1
2887	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Bannister Drain	Bottom only cleanout	1



2888	Dawn- Euphemia	Dawn	20-21 Sideroad Drain	Brushing bank slope, bank repair or stabilization and pipe outlet repair	2
2874	Dawn- Euphemia	Euphemia	Coleman- Turner Drain	Culvert replacement	1
2876	Dawn- Euphemia	Euphemia	Thompson and Brown Drains	Culvert replacement	1
2878	Dawn- Euphemia	Euphemia	Johnston Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope	1
2870	Southwest Middlesex	Mosa	Reycraft- Hurdle Drain	Beaver dam removal	1
2889	Strathroy- Caradoc	Caradoc	McEvoy Drain	Bank repair or stabilization and pipe outlet repair	1

**SCRCA DART FILES**

**2018 JUNE**

<b>FHR #</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Geographic Township</b>	<b>Drain name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>SCRs Issued</b>
2897	Chatham- Kent	Dover	King Drain	Bottom only cleanout, brushing bank slope	2
2898	Chatham- Kent	Dover	Baldoon Drain	Bottom only cleanout, brushing bank slope	2

Prepared By: Tracy Prince  
 April 5, 2018

**ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenditure**  
**For the Four Months Ended 30/4/2018**

Item 11.1

	Actual To Date			Annual Budget		Variance from Budget	
	Revenue	Expenditures	Surplus(Deficit)	Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
<b>Flood Control &amp; Erosion Control</b>	\$1,279,119	\$801,692	\$477,427	\$1,851,200	\$1,851,200	(\$572,081)	(\$1,049,508)
<b>Capital Projects/WECI</b>	\$276,500	\$28,329	\$248,171	\$267,500	\$267,500	\$9,000	(\$239,171)
<b>Conservation Area's Capital Development</b>	\$68,500	\$9,481	\$59,019	\$68,500	\$68,500	\$0	(\$59,019)
<b>IT Capital</b>	\$6,448	\$0	\$6,448	\$19,200	\$19,200	(\$12,752)	(\$19,200)
<b>Equipment</b>	\$23,600	\$0	\$23,600	\$72,000	\$72,000	(\$48,400)	(\$72,000)
<b>Planning &amp; Regulations</b>	\$283,731	\$143,063	\$140,668	\$558,155	\$558,155	(\$274,424)	(\$415,092)
<b>Technical Studies</b>	\$418,457	\$18,373	\$400,084	\$316,819	\$316,819	\$101,638	(\$298,447)
<b>Recreation</b>	\$885,023	\$187,287	\$697,736	\$1,305,160	\$1,305,160	(\$420,137)	(\$1,117,873)
<b>Property Management</b>	\$50,502	\$59,937	(\$9,434)	\$243,096	\$243,096	(\$192,594)	(\$183,159)
<b>Education and Communication</b>	\$93,956	\$56,309	\$37,647	\$232,110	\$232,110	(\$138,154)	(\$175,801)
<b>Source Water Protection</b>	\$51,429	\$32,102	\$19,327	\$160,400	\$160,400	(\$108,971)	(\$128,298)
<b>Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds</b>	\$876,167	\$311,832	\$564,335	\$754,335	\$754,335	\$121,832	(\$442,503)
<b>Administration/AOC Management</b>	\$663,855	\$263,258	\$400,597	\$1,167,112	\$1,167,112	(\$503,257)	(\$903,854)
	<b>\$4,977,287</b>	<b>\$1,911,662</b>	<b>\$3,065,625</b>	<b>\$7,015,587</b>	<b>\$7,015,587</b>	<b>(\$2,038,300)</b>	<b>(\$5,103,925)</b>

**Notes:**

1. Municipal matching, non-matching, and Recreation levies have been invoiced and are recorded in the actual revenue reported above. See General Levy Report for amounts outstanding.
2. The significant variances from budget to actual is reflective of the nature/timing and uniqueness of the particular projects. The variances will reduce and disappear as the year progresses.

**ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
DISBURSEMENTS FROM April 1 to May 31 2018**

Sarah Kellestine

Item 11.2

CHQ. #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
19631	4/3/2018	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 28,681.21
19686	4/13/2018	SLOAN'S NURSERY & CHRISTMAS TR	Trees	\$ 9,976.54
19661	4/13/2018	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 30,226.11
19660	4/13/2018	Atlantis Marine Construction Canada Inc	Brights Grove Project	\$ 332,375.94
19695	5/3/2018	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 6,990.00
19708	5/3/2018	Konica Minolta Business Solutions (Canada) Ltd.	Document Management	\$ 31,747.35
19714	5/3/2018	Marsh Canada Limited	Insurance	\$ 70,398.92
19696	5/3/2018	Bre-Ex Construction Inc	Courtright Park Restoration	\$ 197,226.93
19731	5/14/2018	LARRY MACDONALD CHEV OLDS	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 22,201.49
19749	5/17/2018	MAX UNDERHILL'S FARM SUPPLY	Pesticides	\$ 13,250.00
				<b>\$ 743,074.49</b>

**TOTAL CHEQUE DISBURSEMENTS - BANK #1 -**

**INTERNET BANKING January to March 2018**

TRANS #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
8937	4/30/2018	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	6,553.45
8929	4/30/2018	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	11,796.72
8918	4/30/2018	Canada Revenue Agency - HST	HST	23,378.93
8925	4/30/2018	OMERS	Pension	39,404.56
8927	4/30/2018	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	61,065.06
8948	5/31/2018	MASTERCARD	Purchases	5,988.19
8958	5/31/2018	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB (3 pays)	11,003.13
8953	5/31/2018	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	11,722.37
8949	5/31/2018	OMERS	Pension (3 pays)	59,834.48
8951	5/31/2018	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions (3 Pays)	98,825.87
				<b>\$ 329,572.76</b>

**TOTAL INTERNET DISBURSEMENTS - BANK NO. 1 -**

**PAYROLL RUNS**

PAYROLL NO. 7	\$	65,787.68
PAYROLL NO. 8	\$	71,261.65
PAYROLL NO. 9	\$	71,812.30
PAYROLL NO. 10	\$	79,914.45
PAYROLL NO. 11	\$	86,573.24
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		

**TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS -**

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -**

**\$ 375,349.32**

**\$ 1,447,996.57**

**2018 GENERAL LEVY SUMMARY**

**GLYSUM2018**  
**Sarah Kellestine**  
**31-May-18**

<b>MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>GROSS LEVY</b>	<b>PAID TO DATE</b>	<b>OUTSTANDING</b>
Sarnia	\$ 338,134.00	\$ 169,067.00	\$ 169,067.00
Chatham-Kent	112,683.00		112,683.00
Brooke-Alvinston Twp.	14,218.00	14,218.00	0.00
Dawn Euphemia Twp.	21,506.00	5,376.50	16,129.50
Enniskillen Twp.	15,762.00		15,762.00
Lambton Shores M.	42,668.00	42,668.00	0.00
Oil Springs V	1,710.00	1,710.00	0.00
Petrolia T	21,898.00	21,898.00	0.00
Plympton-Wyoming T	45,371.00		45,371.00
Point Edward V	20,209.00	20,209.00	0.00
St. Clair Twp.	95,034.00	95,034.00	0.00
Warwick Twp.	17,812.00	17,812.00	0.00
Adelaide Metcalfe Twp.	15,479.00		15,479.00
Middlesex Centre Twp.	18,349.00	18,349.00	0.00
Newbury V	1,257.00	1,257.00	0.00
Southwest Middlesex M.	9,852.00	9,852.00	0.00
Strathroy-Caradoc M.	71,914.00	35,957.00	35,957.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 863,856.00</b>	<b>\$ 453,407.50</b>	<b>\$ 410,448.50</b>

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Account Number: **460-16010**  
 Account Type: Regular Account  
 For the Period: **May 1 to 31, 2018**  
 Last Statement: April 30, 2018

ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION  
 AUTHORITY  
 205 MILL POND CRES  
 STRATHROY ON N7G 3P9

**Address Information**

255 Queens Avenue  
 Suite 900  
 London ON  
 N6A 5R8



Phone: (519) 679-9490  
 Website: www.scotiawealthmanagement.com  
 Branch Manager: Matt Berry



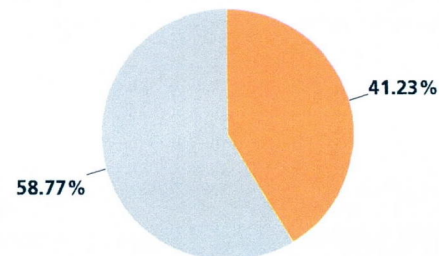
**Your Wealth Advisor**

Craig Emptage (519) 660-3259  
 craig.emptage@scotiawealth.com

**CANADIAN Account Overview**

Currency: CANADIAN DOLLAR

Asset Class Summary	May. 31, 2018 Market Value	% of Total Assets
<b>Fixed Income</b>	302,908	41.23
<b>Other</b>	431,720	58.77
<b>Total Value of Account</b>	<b>\$734,628</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Total Value on Last Statement, April 30, 2018	\$734,182	



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Regulated by  
 Investment Industry Regulatory  
 Organization of Canada

## Details of Your Account Holdings

Type	Security Description	Quantity	Average Cost	Adjusted Book Value	Market Price	Market Value
<b>Fixed Income</b>						
CASH	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659)	6,373.221	12.724	81,095	11.788	75,128
CASH	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) See Endnote 1	16,212.086	14.482	234,796	14.050	227,780
<b>Total Fixed Income</b>						<b>\$302,908</b>
<b>Other</b>						
CASH	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES PWF (6526) See Endnote 1	22,499.464	9.985	224,670	9.673	217,637
CASH	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137)	21,707.863	10.282	223,202	9.862	214,083
<b>Total Other</b>						<b>\$431,720</b>
<b>Total Account Holdings</b>				<b>\$763,763</b>	<b>\$734,628</b>	

The average cost and adjusted book value displayed on this statement incorporates re-invested dividends and/or mutual fund distributions and does not necessarily reflect your original purchase price. Please see Average Cost & Adjusted Book Value in the Statement Notes for more information.

## Monthly Activity

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
<b>Opening Cash Balance</b>						<b>\$0.00</b>
May. 01, 2018	CASH	DIVIDEND	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 04/30/18 @ \$14.1472 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.705 BOOK VALUE \$759.77	53		
May. 22, 2018	CASH	DIVIDEND	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES PWF (6526) REINVEST 05/18/18 @ \$9.6151	42		

## Monthly Activity - continued

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
			PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.741 BOOK VALUE \$410.96			
May. 28, 2018	CASH	DIVIDEND	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) REINVEST 05/25/18 @ \$11.7906 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.285 BOOK VALUE \$180.22	15		

**Closing Cash Balance**

**\$0.00**



## Summary

### Income Summary

	This Period	Year-to-Date
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>



### Go paperless with Scotia OnLine

ScotiaMcLeod® clients can choose paperless record keeping within Scotia OnLine. Receive monthly statements, trade confirmations, mutual fund prospectuses, annual trading summaries and tax slips, all within the secure environment of your Scotia OnLine account.

To learn more about the ScotiaMcLeod services and features available through Scotia OnLine, please contact your advisor or a member of their team.

## A Note From ScotiaMcLeod

### Foreign Currency Fee

Beginning August 1, 2018, a 1% fee will be charged on cash balances of British Pounds (GBP), Swiss Francs (CHF), and/or Euros (EUR). The Foreign Currency Fee will be charged monthly and calculated daily, based on the closing deposit balance. Please note that your account will be charged in the foreign currency held and only if the monthly fee is 50 (EUR/ CHF/ GBP) or higher.

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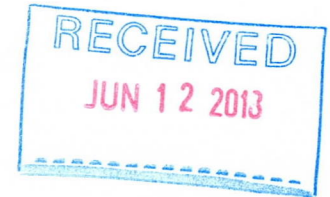
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ST. CLAIR REGION  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
205 MILL POND CRESCENT  
STRATHROY ON N7G 3P9



Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2018



## Your Investment Report



### ▶ Account Summary

This table provides an overview of your account; including the opening and closing balance for the reporting period.

Your Investments	Opening Value May 1, 2018	Closing Value May 31, 2018	Balance on May 31, 2018 (CAD\$)
Canadian Dollar Investments			
Cash Account	1,417,592.13	1,425,474.79	1,425,474.79
	1,417,592.13	1,425,474.79	<b>1,425,474.79</b>
<b>Grand Total (CAD\$)</b>			<b>1,425,474.79</b>
		<b>Last Statement Apr 30, 2018</b>	<b>1,417,592.13</b>

You can access your up-to-date account information online through BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway at: <https://gateway.bmonesbitburns.com>. If you have not yet registered for Gateway access, please contact your Investment Advisor.

### ▶ We're here to help

Our team is dedicated to helping you succeed in meeting all of your wealth management goals. Please call any member of the team referenced below if you have questions about Your Investment Report. Visit [bmo.com/nesbitburns](http://bmo.com/nesbitburns) for the latest information on investing and wealth planning.

JONATHAN BATCH  
Investment Advisor  
519-646-3044

Batch Investment Group  
[www.batchinvestmentgroup.com](http://www.batchinvestmentgroup.com)  
Assistant: Sharon Tingley  
[sharon.tingley@nbpcd.com](mailto:sharon.tingley@nbpcd.com)

DAVID HAAK  
Branch Manager  
(519) 672-8560

Suite 1900  
One London Place  
255 Queens Avenue  
London, ON N6A 5R8

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Non-registered account #440-17189-13

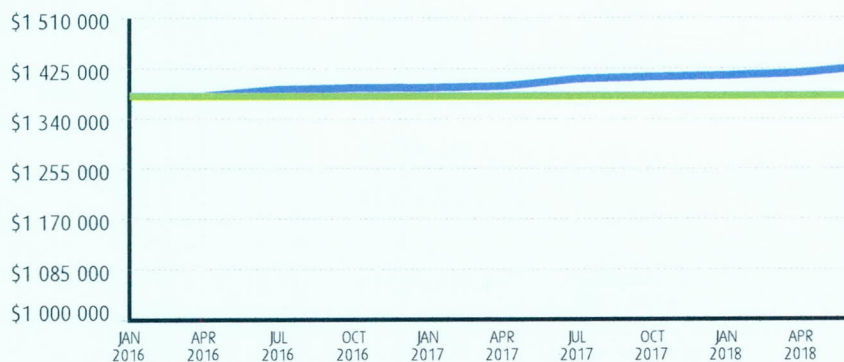
May 31, 2018

## ► Changes to your account

This table provides a summary of the change in value of your account, including all deposits, withdrawals and the change in market value of your investments, for both the current year and as of the start of reporting. Where applicable, balances have been converted to Canadian dollars, see page 1 for exchange rates.

Net Invested is the value of total deposits less the value of total withdrawals.

	This Year (2018)	Since January 1, 2016
<b>Opening Value</b>	<b>1,413,457.76</b>	<b>1,379,179.68</b>
Deposited	+ 0.00	+ 0.00
Withdrawn	- 0.00	- 0.00
<b>Net Invested</b>	<b>= 0.00</b>	<b>= 0.00</b>
Change In Market Value	+ 12,017.03	+ 46,295.11
<b>Closing Value on May 31, 2018</b>	<b>1,425,474.79</b>	<b>1,425,474.79</b>



● MARKET VALUE  
● NET INVESTED

**The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$46,295.11.**

This amount includes gains, losses and income received with respect to the investments held in your account.

Non-registered account #440-17189-13




May 31, 2018

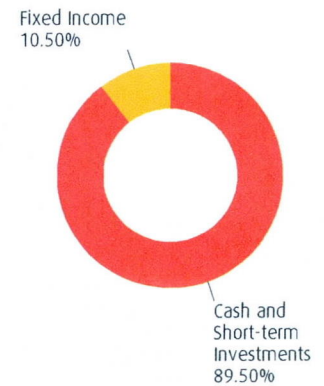
## ▶ Summary of your investments in Canadian dollars

### Your Investor Profile

Investment Objective Income

Time Horizon 10 yrs and more

Investment Category	Amount	Target %	Holdings %
 Cash and Short-term Investments	1,275,474.79	10.00	89.50
 Fixed Income	150,000.00	90.00	10.50
 Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,425,474.79</b>		<b>100.00</b>



The investments in your account have been chosen based on the investment objectives you selected on the Client Account Agreement. As your life circumstances change, it is important to talk to your Investment Advisor about updating these objectives as may be applicable.

## Your Canadian Dollar Investments

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

### ▶ Income you received

Type of Income	Current Month	Year to Date
Interest	7,882.66	12,017.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,882.66</b>	<b>12,017.03</b>

### ▶ Your investment details

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on May 31, 2018	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
<b>Cash Account</b>					
<b>• Cash and Short-term Investments</b>					
CASH			313,952.79		313,952.79
CONCENTRA BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/08/2018 1.550% (See Bulletin board)	87,000	100.000	87,000.00	100.000	87,000.00
PEOPLES TRUST GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/08/2018 1.800% (See Bulletin board)	88,000	100.000	88,000.00	100.000	88,000.00

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2018

## Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

### ▶ Your investment details (continued)

	Cost			Market Value on May 31, 2018	
	Quantity	Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
VANCITY GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/08/2018 1.250% (See Bulletin board)	87,000	100.000	87,000.00	100.000	87,000.00
BMO TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/20/2018 1.400%	153,800	100.000	153,800.00	100.000	153,800.00
LAURENTIAN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/20/2018 1.460%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
BANK OF MONTREAL GIC 30 DAY CASHABLE ANNUAL DUE 11/26/2018 0.850%	245,722	100.000	245,722.00	100.000	245,722.00
CANADIAN WESTERN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 2.200%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 2.200%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>1,275,474.79</b>		<b>1,275,474.79</b>
<b>Fixed Income</b>					
<b>Fixed Income</b>					
HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.220%	50,000	100.000	50,000.00	100.000	50,000.00
PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
<b>Fixed Income Subtotal</b>			<b>150,000.00</b>		<b>150,000.00</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>150,000.00</b>		<b>150,000.00</b>
<b>Total for Cash Account</b>			<b>1,425,474.79</b>		<b>1,425,474.79</b>
<b>Total Canadian Dollar Investments</b>			<b>1,425,474.79</b>		<b>1,425,474.79</b>

Average cost and market price indicator descriptions can be found in Important information about your account at the end of this statement.

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2018

▶ **Account activity for this month**

Date	Activity	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Commission	Amount
<b>Cash Account</b>						
May 1, 2018		<b>Opening Cash Balance</b>				<b>306,070.13</b>
May 14, 2018	Interest	CANADIAN WESTERN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/11/18 PAY 05/13/18	100,000		0.00	2,200.00
May 14, 2018	Interest	EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/11/18 PAY 05/13/18	100,000		0.00	2,200.00
May 14, 2018	Interest	PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 INT 2.360% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/11/18 PAY 05/13/18	100,000		0.00	2,360.00
May 14, 2018	Interest	HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 INT 2.220% CPN INT ON 50000 BND REC 05/11/18 PAY 05/13/18	50,000		0.00	1,110.00
May 22, 2018	Interest	INTEREST ON CREDIT BALANCE AT 0.050% 04/22 THRU 05/21			0.00	12.66
May 31, 2018		<b>Closing Cash Balance</b>				<b>313,952.79</b>

This report includes only activity recorded in your account since your last report. For a more comprehensive listing of your account activity, sign into your BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway at: <https://gateway.bmonesbittburns.com>.



Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2018

## Your Year-to-Date Fees Summary

### ▶ Fees you paid

This section summarizes all compensation received by BMO Nesbitt Burns with respect to your account. Our compensation comes from two sources: what we charge you directly (Operating and Transaction Charges), and what we receive through any third parties.

	CAD (\$)
<b>Operating charges</b>	
<b>Total operating charges</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Transaction charges</b>	
<b>Total transaction charges</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total fees you paid in 2018</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Please see examples of standard operating charges in the Important Information about your Account section. Some fees and charges may be reported as before-tax amounts and applicable tax is being reported separately within the 'Sales Tax' line item. Where this is not possible the sales tax is included within the line item. Please contact your Investment Advisor if you have any questions about your 'Year-to-Date Fees Summary'.

### ▶ Payments BMO received from third parties

	CAD (\$)
<b>Total payments BMO Nesbitt Burns received from third parties in 2018</b>	<b>0.00</b>

### ▶ Bulletin board

The following security in your Cash Account account 44017189 matures in the near future. Your Investment Advisor Portfolio Manager has investment alternatives.

CONCENTRA BANK GIC  
ANNUAL  
DUE 06/08/2018 1.550%

The following security in your Cash Account account 44017189 matures in the near future. Your Investment Advisor Portfolio Manager has investment alternatives.

PEOPLES TRUST GIC  
ANNUAL  
DUE 06/08/2018 1.800%

The following security in your Cash Account account 44017189 matures in the near future. Your Investment Advisor Portfolio Manager has investment alternatives.

VANCITY GIC  
ANNUAL  
DUE 06/08/2018 1.250%

For foreign exchange rates, please refer to the Account Summary section on page one of your statement.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Tracy Prince

**Item 11.5**

**Subject:** Municipal Freedom of Information Privacy Protection Act (MFIPPA) and Power of Duty

**Recommendation:**

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.

**Background:**

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	<del>X</del>
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	<del>X</del>
• 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	<del>X</del>
• Information available or soon to be published (S.15)	X	<del>X</del>

Power of Duty Cont.	Executive Committee	GM or Designate
• 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
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	X

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 12, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Sharon Nethercott  
Melissa Gill  
**Subject:** Conservation Education Progress Report

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Item 12.1

## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 12, 2018, including the canoe race, spring education programs, ICE Training, special events, and committees.

### 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.

Standing water was still covering the parking lot area at the starting line on Friday, April 20, 2018. Conditions at the finish line located at Shetland Conservation Area were also similar.

### 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Holy Cross Secondary School participated in a condensed 5-hour training session held at Strathroy C.A. and the SCRCA main office.
- May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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)!



Students from Ecole Secondaire Catholique Saint-Francois-Xavier install a boardwalk over a muddy area at L.C. Henderson Conservation Area.

## 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. Photo shows an example of the natural artwork created by youth who visited SCRCA booth.



## 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.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018 **Item 12.2**  
**Report Date:** May 25, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Sharon Nethercott  
Melissa Gill  
**Subject:** Proposed Fee Increase, Conservation Education, Fall 2018

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated May 25, 2018 on Conservation Education Fees and approve the recommended fee increases for Fall 2018 programming.

**Background:**

Fees have not increased since 2008.

**Outdoor Education Field Trip Fees:**

<b>Current:</b>	<b>Proposed:</b>
\$4.50 per student per 2 hour program	\$5.50 per student per 2 hour program
\$8.50 per student per 2 programs	\$10.00 per student per 2 programs
\$60.00 minimum fee per 2 hour program	\$110.00 per 2 hours (\$5.50 x 20 students in a class = \$110.00)

**Fees at Other Attractions: (LOCAL MUSEUMS)**

Stones and Bones, Sarnia, \$7.00 per adult, \$3.00 per child under 12  
Oil Museum of Canada: Family \$15, Adults \$5, Students (13+) \$4, Children (4-12) \$3

**Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) and ICE Training**

Attendance at SHSM programs is often between 10-15 students. A lot of planning and development is involved in being prepared for these students and our minimum \$60.00 fee does not accurately reflect the amount of work that goes into developing these programs.

<b>Current:</b>	<b>Proposed:</b>
\$4.50 per student per 2 hour program (\$60.00 minimum fee)	\$250/half day and \$400 per full day

ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship Training) is a Ministry of Education mandated requirement for SHSM students where students are led through a series of activities designed to teach them how to solve a challenge. Training includes brainstorming, prototyping, strategizing and testing their ideas. SCRCAs act as a sector partner providing Conservation oriented challenges for students to solve.

Current:  
None

Proposed  
\$400.00 per day

## **Neighbouring Conservation Authority SHSM and ICE Fees:**

### UTRCA:

\$7.00 per student per 2 hour program

\$120.00 minimum fee per program

SHSM Fee: \$200.00 - \$400.00 per day, depending upon program

ICE Training: \$400.00 per day

### ABCA:

\$7.00 per student per 2 hour program

\$119.00 minimum fee per program

SHSM Fee: 2hr program = \$12/student (minimum \$204.00)

ICE Training = \$275 per day per instructor flat rate

### LTVCA:

\$8.00 per student per 2 hour program

\$14.00 per student per 2 programs (4 hours)

\$120.00 minimum fee per 2 hour program

\$210.00 minimum fee per 2 programs (4 hours) in same day.

SHSM: Not currently offered.

## **In School fees (unsponsored programs): Taking Outdoor programs to the schools**

\$100.00/1 hour/class

\$75.00/1 hour for each additional class in same school on same day. – Recommend to keep fee the same. There is not a lot of request for these programs, since we offer several sponsored in school programs.

## **Community Groups: (Youth/Special Request)**

Current  
\$60.00

Proposed  
\$80.00

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Nicole Drumm

**Item 12.3**

**Subject:** Tomorrow's Greener Schools Today

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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.



Through the planting project, students help bring much needed greenspace to their schoolyards

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.



A TDFEF recognition event was held at one of the participating schools. The event was attended by Liz Bujaki, Principal at Gregory Hogan Catholic School; Martina Jackson, Health Promoter with Lambton Public Health; Krista Campbell, TD Branch Manager; Joel Houle, TD Branch Manager; Steve Arnold, SCRCA Chair; Nicole Drumm, SCRCA Communications Technician; and a group of students participating in the Greener Schools program.

**Feedback:**

It is so exciting for Rosedale to be the recipient of 11 trees. Our large playground is hot during June and September, and the shade these trees will begin providing now, and continue to provide in years to come is immeasurable.

The experience applying for the “grant” for the trees was a wonderful opportunity for Grade 5 students to understand persuasive (a form of writing we study) in an authentic setting. Examining our site, and proposing where trees would benefit our playground, and not interfere with open games areas, was a way to apply science and geography for a true purpose.

We can only imagine the number of requests you must receive, and appreciate that our application was successful.

Definitely the greatest joy for the students came on tree planting day. The organization of the event by the SCRCA staff was amazing. Students dug the holes and planted the trees. The pride they have in themselves and the project and the environment is significant. Being a contributor to our school and larger community is an important part of understanding character education.

Through this project, students have seen the importance of their learning in a real life way. Thank you so much for the opportunity, and the success!

Sincerely,

Jim Brennan,  
Principal, Rosedale Public School



Hello everyone:

On behalf of all of us at Gregory A. Hogan we would like to extend our sincerest thank-you in approving our school to participate in the **Tomorrow's Greener School TODAY** project.

It was such an incredible endeavour for our students. The learning, excitement and the call to action that students demonstrated as a result of their participation in this project was truly inspiring. They have taken their role as environmental ambassadors very seriously and have gained a deeper awareness and appreciation of what it means to be environmental stewards of our community.

You have helped us to create a greener play space for our students and for that we are extremely grateful. Your partnership with our school has been a wonderful experience that students and staff will treasure for many years to come.

With gratitude,  
Merci mille fois de tous les élèves  
de l'école Gregory A. Hogan

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Donna Blue

**Item 12.4**

**Subject:** Sarnia Artwalk 2018

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## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 11, 2018 on the SCRCA's participation at Sarnia Artwalk.

## Sarnia Artwalk 2018:

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.





**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Kelly Johnson

**Item 12.5**

**Subject:** St. Clair River Area of Concern Update

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**Recommendation:**

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

**Background:**

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.

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 11, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Donna Blue

**Item 12.6**

**Subject:** Scholarship Program

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**Recommendation:**

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

**SCRCA Scholarship Program 2018:**

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

**Meeting Date:** June 28, 2018  
**Report Date:** June 27, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 14.1**

**Subject:** Restricted Acts Period for Authority Board

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## **Recommendation:**

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.

## **Background:**

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”.