



# Board of Directors Annual Meeting

February 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m.  
Clubhouse at Baldoon, Wallaceburg, ON

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## Agenda

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1. Chair's Remarks
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
5. Minutes
6. Presentations
7. 2018 Audited Financial Statements
8. Conservation Awards
9. Service Awards

*Break to seat new directors*

### 2019 Business

10. Code of Conduct
11. Election of Officers
12. Nominating Committee
13. 2019 budget – Matching and Non-matching Levy
14. Authorization to Borrow
15. 2019 Appointments
16. Regular Business
  - 16.1 General Manager's Report
  - 16.2 Current Watershed Conditions and Water Levels
  - 16.3 Phase II – Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements
  - 16.4 Planning Activity Summary Report
  - 16.5 Regulations Activity Summary Report
  - 16.6 2019 Special Events
  - 16.7 Healthy Watersheds Status and Outreach Report
  - 16.8 Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund
  - 16.9 Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Update
17. New Business
18. Adjournment

*Lunch to follow*



**2019 Business**

10. Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and complies with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's Code of Conduct and Administrative By-laws.

11.1 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed chair for the election of the 2019 Chair and Vice Chair.

11.2 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That Ken Williams and \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed scrutineers in the event of an election.

11.3 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That nominations for the position of Chair be closed.

11.4 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed.

12.1 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2019 Nominating Committee's Report.

12.2 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That the 2019 Executive Committee for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be:

- \_\_\_\_\_ , Chair
- \_\_\_\_\_ , Vice Chair
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

12.3 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ be the Board appointment to the Watershed Management Committee.

12.4 Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
That \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ be the Board appointment to the Planning Policy and Procedural Manual and Technical Guidelines Committee.



- 13.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors approves the 2019 budget of \$6,333,732 with a non-matching general levy of \$603,751 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the Modified Current Value Assessment of each Municipality within the Authority's area of jurisdiction.  
**Weighted Motion**
- 13.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors approves the 2019 budget of \$6,333,732 with a municipal matching general levy of \$310,000 including finalized Modified Current Value Assessment values, updates to specific projects and municipal comments received to date.
14. Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Authority Chair or the Vice Chair and the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or Director of Finance be authorized to borrow from the Libro Credit Union, Strathroy for the general operations and capital program of the Authority, a sum not to exceed \$1,223,751 to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed to the member municipalities and general revenue.
- 15.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors recommends the request for proposals for audit services for the Authority for the period of 2019 – 2023.
- 15.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Authority's 2019 representative to Conservation Ontario will be the Authority Chair, the Vice Chair will be the first alternate and the General Manager be the second alternate.
- 16.1 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report dated February 18, 2019.
- 16.2 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 11, 2019 regarding current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.
- 16.3 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 16, 2018 on Phase 2 of the Courtright Park Shoreline Revitalization Project.

- 16.4 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report, dated February 11, 2019 for the period from November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019.
- 16.5 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated February 7, 2019 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019.
- 16.6 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the schedule of Special Events outlined in the attached flyer.
- 16.7 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated February 6, 2019, regarding Healthy Watersheds Program updates.
- 16.8 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the summary report dated January 11, 2019, on the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund "St. Clair Recovery Project".
- 16.9 Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the update on the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan dated February, 2019.
17. New Business
18. Moved by: Seconded by:  
That the meeting be adjourned.



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: December 13, 2018 Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Administration Office, Strathroy

**Present:** Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair; Diane Brewer, Alan Broad, Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Betty Ann MacKinnon, John McCharles, Steve Miller, Gerry Rupke, Cindy Scholten, Jerry Westgate, Muriel Wright

**Regrets:** Mike Kelch, Kevin Marriott, Dan McMillan, Frank Nemcek, Jeff Wesley

**Staff Present:** Brian McDougall, General Manager; Eva Baker, Records Management Clerk; Kevan Baker, Director of Lands; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Melissa Deisley, Regulations Officer; Chris Durand, IT/GIS Coordinator; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Michelle Gallant, Regulations Officer; Tim Payne, Forest Management Specialist; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year. It was requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

### **BD-18-168**

#### **Scholten-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors adopts the agenda for the meeting as presented. It is requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.”**

**CARRIED**

### **BD-18-169**

#### **McMillan-Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors sit as a Hearing Board and acknowledge the reports and exhibits regarding Application R#2018-146 Developments, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Ontario Regulation 171/06 following the Hearing Procedures set out by the Conservation Authorities Act.”**

**CARRIED**

Hearing Board Members Present: Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair; Diane Brewer, Alan Broad, Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Betty Ann MacKinnon, John McCharles, Steve Miller, Gerry Rupke, Cindy Scholten, Jerry Westgate, Muriel Wright

Hearing Procedures were reviewed and confirmation from all parties that notification and documentation was received within the necessary time frame.

The Chair requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest on any item within the Hearing agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest and gave his remarks:

"We are now going to conduct a hearing under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act in respect of an application by John Stathis for permission to construct an interlocking concrete deck and armour stone retaining wall on the subject property.

The Authority has adopted regulations under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act which requires the permission of the Authority for development within an area regulated by the Authority in order to ensure no adverse affect on (the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or pollution or conservation of land) or to permit alteration to a shoreline or watercourse or interference with a wetland.

The Authority staff have reviewed the application and supporting information and provided the applicant with a response and made arrangements for this hearing to be scheduled. A staff report has been prepared and provided to the Hearing Board members and the applicant as part of this hearing.

The Conservation Authorities Act (Section 28 [12]) provides that:

"Permission required under a regulation made under clause (1) (b) or (c) shall not be refused or granted subject to conditions unless the person requesting permission has been given the opportunity to require a hearing before the authority or, if the authority so directs, before the authority's executive committee."

In holding this hearing, the Hearing Board is to determine whether or not a permit is to be issued. In doing so, the Hearing Board can only consider the application in the form that is before us, the staff report, such evidence as may be given and the submissions to be made on behalf of the applicant.

The proceedings will be conducted according to the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. Under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act, a witness may refuse to answer any question on the ground that the answer may tend to criminate the person, or may tend to establish his/her liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the Crown or of any person.

The procedure in general shall be informal without the evidence before it being given under oath or affirmation.

If the applicant has any questions to ask of the Hearing Board or of the Authority representative, they must be directed to the Chair of the Board."

SCRCA staff Michelle Gallant presented the nature and location of the subject application and the conclusions.

SCRCA Staff report was presented by Michelle Gallant

Analee Baroudi, legal representative and Mr. Milo Sturm, Professional Engineer, both retained by the applicants addressed the Hearing Board.

The Hearing Board requested clarification from both SCRCA staff and the applicant.

**BD-18-170**

**Giffen-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Hearing Board move in-camera at 11:00 a.m. to deliberate information provided regarding Application R#2018-146.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-171**

**Bruinink-Scholten**

**“That the Hearing Board rise and report at 11:10 a.m.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-172**

**McCharles-Broad**

**“That the Hearing Board in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act, held a hearing regarding John Stathis, Application No. R#2018-146 on December 13, 2018 and hereby approves the application conditional upon a hold harmless agreement registered on title at the landowner’s expense and directs staff to issue a Notice of Decision.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-173**

**Miller-Gordon**

**“That the Hearing Board sit as a Board of Directors.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the November 8, 2018 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

**BD-18-174**

**Bruinink-Giffen**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held November 8, 2018, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Canada Nature Fund Application:**

- An expression of interest was submitted to the Canada Nature Fund (CNF) for funding support the creation of a land acquisition strategy, land protection measures and property acquisition
- Unfortunately, our proposal was not among those selected for funding, however we were encouraged to submit an application under the next component of the Fund
- The Challenge component for protected and conserved areas, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), and the Private Lands component (a renewal of the Natural Areas Conservation Program) – was launched in the fall and proposals are to be submitted by December 24
- This program will provide opportunities for multi-year funding of conservation projects through March 2023
- Our previous proposal will be updated and submitted through the Fund's website

### **Environmental Commissioner's Visit:**

- On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Environmental Commissioners Office released a 4 volume report entitled Back to Basics with 4 specific focuses – Respecting the Public's Voice on the Environment, Clean Water, Wildlife and Wilderness and Southern Ontario's Wetlands and Forests
- The report outlines few highlights and many failures by the Provincial Government with regards to the four areas of focus
- The report also highlighted Conservation Authority with over 175 references to Conservation Authorities include the positive activities and actions of Conservation Authorities and the potential for the Province to partner with Conservation Authorities to take positive actions in these areas of concern
- On November 15<sup>th</sup>, after almost a quarter century, the Provincial government eliminated the Office of the Environmental Commissioner.
- The Provincial government announced that the duties of the Environmental Commissioner will be absorbed by the Auditor General's office
- It's unclear whether the commissioner, Dianne Saxe or her staff will lose their jobs or will be transitioned to the Auditor General's office.

### **Transition to Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks:**

- Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario continue to communicate with Ministers and staff in both the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- At this point there are few questions being answered and no real engagement with us regarding the transition

- Little other information is being provided, including no specified timelines for the transitions completion.

**BD-18-175**

**Scholten-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated November 30, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

A verbal report from the December 10, 2018 Conservation Ontario Council meeting was given by Brian McDougall.

**BD-18-176**

**Scholten-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report from the Conservation Ontario Council meeting of December 10, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

**Business Arising from the November 8, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting**

**Regarding BD-18-144**

- The Board of Directors requests a report outlining the potential matching funds required from municipalities over the term of the National Disaster Mitigation Program project. A report is included within the agenda.
- SCRCA staff suggest having Project Consultants present to the Board of Directors meeting in order to walk through the guidelines on the development of flood lines. Deferred to 2019.

**Regarding BD-18-146**

- The Board of Directors requested a preliminary agenda and background report regarding the Sydenham Watershed Management Plan prior to the meeting with stakeholders. An agenda was sent to Directors along with the invitation to participate. A report is included within the agenda.

**Regarding BD-18-149**

- A request was made that Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology, meet with staff from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent to further discuss Species At Risk Legislation in respect the drainage works. The Board of Directors also requests a report outlining their discussion and outcomes. A report will be submitted in 2019.

**Regarding BD-18-150**

- The Board of Directors requests an update from staff regarding the outcome of the on-site meeting at the Angus seed plant and a report in 2019 outlining the potential cost involved in developing an in-house seed bank to sustain SCRCA tree planting programs. A report is included within the agenda.

**BD-18-177**

**Bruziewicz-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the November 8, 2018 meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

**Region Conservation Area’s key capital projects in 2019:**

**Warwick Conservation Area**

- Hydro service, lights and a new ag tuff ceiling were installed in the storage shed
- The 9 hole mini golf course was upgraded with new carpet and 4 x 4 lumber
- All interior and exterior light fixtures were upgraded with LED bulbs
- A new laundry shed was constructed at the main washroom building

**L.C. Henderson Conservation Area**

- Playground equipment surfacing was upgraded with engineered wood chips and subsurface drainage
- Trailer pads were installed on 9 campsites in the Towerview camping area
- All interior and exterior light fixtures have been upgraded with LED bulbs
- A catch basin and subsurface tile drainage was installed on two campsites
- A new solar pole light was installed in the un-serviced camping area

**A.W. Campbell Conservation Area**

- A new concrete sidewalk was installed in front of the pool washroom building
- A hydro panel was upgraded in the main campground
- Playground equipment surfacing has been upgraded with engineered wood chips (Foundation Funded)
- The pavilion roof has been replaced with steel
- A 9 hole portable mini golf course has been constructed (Foundation)
- Roadway improvements were completed to the main entrance road between the river crossing and the main parking lot

**Highland Glen Conservation Area:**

- Approximately 60 ft. of new walkway was installed along the inside of the boat ramp (funded through 2017 fees)
- A new beacon light was installed on the outer seawall

**Camper Activities and Events in 2018:**

- Our campgrounds are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated volunteers who assist staff to deliver the many events and activities throughout the camping season
- Below are some of the events and activities which were offered in 2018

**Regular Events:**

- Bingo/wagon rides/kids train rides



- Pot luck dinners/bagel breakfasts/barbeques
- Horse shoe tournaments/yard sales
- Kids crafts/card nights/karaoke nights
- Slip and slide down the Campbell Hill
- Movie nights

### **Special Events:**

- Canada Day Events and Fireworks
- Christmas in the Park/Halloween in the Park
- Fish Fry, Chili Cook-off
- Fishing Derby's
- Turtle Birthday Party
- Live Entertainment
- Camper season ending dinners

### **Other Lands Activities:**

- Sub-surface drainage and soil erosion works were completed on Property 82 (McKeough Upstream lands)
- Wetlands were created on Property 82 and 103 (McKeough Upstream lands)
- Bannerstone (Foundation) – property access gates, signage, and a small parking area has been constructed
- Bates (Foundation) – a new property identification sign was installed

### **Fall work and projects:**

- Lambton Heritage Museum (Lambton County) – staff have reopened a 1 km trail in the wooded portion on the Museum property
- Sandrin Property (Lambton County Heritage Forest) – a new property identification sign was constructed and installed
- Coldstream CA – board walks were upgraded with 40 new boards and 16 cedar post supports
- Strathroy CA – 14 new boardwalks were upgraded along the trail system (Bonduelle Strathroy donated \$2,500.00 towards this project); approximately 75 dead or dangerous trees have been removed from along the trail system
- Staff have planted approximately 75 hardwood trees on Authority lands as part of the Foundation's memorial forest tree planting program
- Many dead and dangerous trees have been removed from along trails, roadways and in day use areas; where possible these trees will be sold in our campgrounds for firewood
- Many of our rural forested properties have been inspected and have had "no hunting signs" posted

**BD-18-178**

**Giffen-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands report, dated November 26, 2018 outlining the maintenance and development activities on Conservation Lands for 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

**Current Watershed Conditions:**

- Reasonably wet conditions throughout the first part of November were followed by several minor storm events resulting in a Flood Outlook Bulletin (Nov 1<sup>st</sup>) followed by a Flood Watch (Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>) and a further Flood Watch update (Nov 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Levels stabilized back to average flows during the middle of the month however, rain events impacted quickly while precipitation in the form of snow limited flow increases. Temperatures then rose and snowfall melted during the middle weeks of the month resulting in increases across most of the watershed again at the end of the month.

**Precipitation:**

- While there were events at the beginning and end of November, the overall amount of precipitation was divided between rain and snow. Moderately significant events were noted November resulting in the average 3 month precipitation numbers slightly above average 103.4% of normal. One notable exception was in Strathroy, where above average rainfall remained higher impacting the upper reaches of the watershed, while Sarnia and the southern areas remained near average. The overall six month numbers are slightly above expected at **103.9%**, which is very close to the three month average. Regional numbers for the year remain above average at **106.9%**

**Weather Conditions and Forecast:**

**ENSO Conditions**

- Trending towards El Nino conditions in the fall and winter months 2018/ 2019.

**December**

- Slightly milder temperatures to begin in December followed by below average (2 degrees below) temperatures into the remainder of the month. Above average precipitation in the form of snow in the last two weeks leading up to a potentially snowy Christmas. **Chance of a white Christmas 75%**

**Fall and Winter 2018\2019**

- Winter temperatures will be close to normal, on average, with above-normal precipitation and snowfall. The coldest periods will be in mid and late December, early and late January, and early February. The snowiest periods will be in early December, mid February, and early to mid March. April and May will be cooler than normal, with above normal precipitation.

### **Flood Threat**

While no specific issues relating to flooding are currently apparent since the watershed levels can accommodate most events at this time of the year, intense storm systems may result in significant rainfall causing drainage ditches and urban areas to become inundated very quickly. Advisories will be issued as needed from our Flood Management Office.

### **Great Lakes Levels:**

October Lake Huron lake level data (latest available as of this report) indicates a slight increase in overall monthly levels compared to last year by 3 cm over October 2017. Lake St Clair and Lake Erie also show slightly higher increases. Current levels remain substantially above the 10 year average as well as above the all-time average (100 years). While it is difficult to establish a trend, lake levels remain high consistent with the overall trend for the past few years however they do not exceed the all-time highest monthly values established in 1986.

### **BD-18-179**

#### **MacKinnon-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2018 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation fund:**

The Government of Canada launched the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF), a national merit-based program that will invest \$2 billion to support large-scale infrastructure projects to help communities better manage the risks of disasters triggered by natural hazards. DMAF projects will support the Government of Canada's objectives laid out in the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

### **Issues/Analysis:**

Over the past 3 decades, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has completed numerous shoreline protection and erosion control Projects along the Lake Huron and St. Clair River.

Several reaches of the existing shoreline appear in a state of disrepair. High winds, ice jams and significant rain events continue to pose a threat to the condition of shoreline. In the last few years, a number of shoreline failures have occurred along Lake Huron and St. Clair River, and this is threatening the existing public and private infrastructure (School, Roads and Parks). In addition, the torn pieces of the existing retaining wall is a safety concern to children, pets and the users of the shoreline.

This project is geared to provide shoreline protection for select locations along Lake Huron and St. Clair River. This shoreline protection will protect critical Municipal Infrastructure of the City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township.

Shoreline rehabilitation work to protect public infrastructure, thereby building resilience to climate change, natural hazards and extreme weather events.

- 1) Review priority areas of shoreline failure
- 2) Design effective shoreline protection measures
- 3) Prioritize shoreline implementation based on severity of shoreline damages and proximity to Municipal infrastructure
- 4) Implement shoreline protection measures
- 5) Inspect and Monitor construction of shoreline works

**Finance:**

The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$2,000,000. The screening application submitted in September has been accepted. **SCRCA has been selected for submitting the Final application (January 11, 2019).**

The funding distribution is 40 - 60%, with 60% of the costs to be matched by the Municipality. If SCRCA is successful in receiving the funds, we will require matching funds from municipalities in the magnitude of \$12 million dollars over 10 years or 1.2 million every year. SCRCA will apply for other shoreline grants to assist with Municipal contributions.

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

Letters have been sent to appropriate contacts in the municipalities providing information on this application.

The main benefits of the undertaking are:

- Prevention of further erosion and river sedimentation
- Improvements to aquatic habitats in the river
- Improvement of the general appearance of the area
- Control of loss of land in this area
- Elimination of hazards associated with existing dilapidated structures
- Improvement of public access to the waterfront

**BD-18-180**

**Scholten-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2018 on the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) for shoreline restoration along Lake Huron and St. Clair River and the Board approves the submission of the application and directs staff to work with the City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township to obtain the required matching funding.”**

**CARRIED**

**Courtright Park Shoreline Restoration – Phase 2**

The site is located in the St. Clair Township along the east shore of the St. Clair River in the community of Courtright. The existing site is protected with concrete rubble and stone and extends approximately 400 meters along the St. Clair River shoreline. A number of

sections along the exposed shore have failed. The purpose of the undertaking is to provide shore stabilization, improve shoreline access, enhance aquatic habitat and to provide general improvements to the existing shore along the entire project site.

**Phase 1 of the project was completed earlier this year (2018)**

Phase 2 funding Breakdown – Total - \$225,000

Carry forward funds	\$80,000
Greatlakes community guardian fund	\$20,000
St. Clair Township	\$125,000

Due to limited funding, approximately 60 meters of shoreline work is expected to be completed. Request for additional funding has been made with the St. Clair Township.

- Staff reviewing design and finalizing tender documents with consulting engineer
- Permits have been obtained
- Construction work is expected to start early 2018 (January, 2018)
- Habitat/fish monitoring will be starting in January, 2018

**BD-18-181**

**Miller-McCharles**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 29, 2018 on Phase 2 of the Courtright Park Shoreline Revitalization Project.”**

**CARRIED**

**Angus Tree Seed Plant**

MNRF held a series of workshops at the Angus tree seed plant the week of November 26<sup>th</sup>:

- a) General Information Workshop - November 27th, 2018
- b) Industry Workshop – November 28th, 2018
- c) Cultural Heritage Working Group – November 29th, 2018

The industry workshop was designed to provide an opportunity for industry service providers to share an overview of their organization, to identify the services they are able to provide in the future as well as discuss current and future market opportunities. MNRF addressed the divestment processes which includes all buildings & land plus all equipment and materials. Further information will be relayed as it becomes available.

Several non-government seed stakeholders, including Ontario Forest Gene Conservation Association, Forests Ontario, 4 central Ontario Crown Forest Licensees, and two large, Ontario private tree seedling producers carried out a comprehensive review of tree seed management in order to mitigate the effects from the government’s exit from tree seed management. A business plan was prepared which included various options. MNRF has been kept involved with these efforts and ongoing review will continue with them in the future.

### **Local Seed Storage Options**

SCRCA staff are currently looking into local tree seed storage options, future tree seed bank on CA land and future tree seedling supply options. Staff met with Winkelmolen Tree Nursery in Lynden and the GRCA Burford Tree Nursery west of Woodstock on November 21<sup>st</sup> to investigate potential future options. Further updates will be provided next year.

### **BD-18-182**

#### **Gordon-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2018 on the Angus Tree Seed Plant and exploration of future local tree supply options.”**

**CARRIED**

The Protect Lake Huron 2018-2022 strategy document and draft correspondence to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks was reviewed.

### **BD-18-183**

#### **Bruziewicz-Westgate**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Protecting Lake Huron Strategy and supports the Chair’s endorsement of the draft correspondence to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks.”**

**CARRIED**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has provided funding for SCRCA to create a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River Watershed. Funding is confirmed for 2018-2019 with possibility of extension for two more years.

The anticipated outcomes of developing this Plan are:

- A summary of the water quality and nutrient status of the Sydenham River Watershed,
- A summary of information and knowledge gaps that exist in water quality and nutrient status for the Sydenham River Watershed,
- An outline of potential next steps to address those gaps,
- Recommendations to guide actions of stakeholders in the future

The overall goal of this Management Plan is to work with stakeholders to compile existing data and knowledge and with that information (or lack thereof), chart a path for phosphorus monitoring, management and reduction in the Sydenham River Watershed.

Year 1 (2018-2019) Goals:

- Determine stakeholders and host a stakeholder meeting to encourage early support of the Plan and obtain data from appropriate sources
- Outline Phosphorus sources as a team of stakeholders
- Develop a Steering Committee and Project Team
- Develop a Project Charter

- Develop a draft Table of Contents to submit to ECCC based on input from stakeholders and available data
- Commence literature reviews on BMP strategies

On November 27, SCRCA hosted a stakeholder meeting in Warwick. We invited a wide range of stakeholders to the event (see below for list of invited groups – we welcome suggestions!) and we had 65 stakeholders in attendance. The goal of the day was to meet and network with stakeholders, introduce the project and get an idea of which stakeholders would like to participate in working groups and determine where SCRCA can obtain data for analysis for the Plan. The afternoon brainstorming session was quite fruitful and staff are currently working towards collating all of the discussions. Our next steps involve creating the Project Team, Steering Committee and Working Groups. Of the 27 surveys we received, 20 respondents would like to be a part of a working group. These respondents are from the wastewater sector, municipalities, provincial and federal departments, agriculture, First Nations, rural non-profit organizations, and Lambton College.

**Feedback we received from our surveys:**

“Great conference”

“Excellent first step”

“Any action needs to be win-win for property owners involved”

“Your questions here and process launched today support a drive to only your agenda not a shared agenda that everyone will come behind” (For reference – please see our survey questions and agenda)

“Great workshop!” – from ECCC staff

**Invites were sent to the following:**

City of Sarnia, Dover Township, Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Municipality of Lambton Shores, Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, Town of Plympton-Wyoming, Township of Adelaide Metcalfe, Township of Dawn-Euphemia, Township of Enniskillen, Township of Middlesex Centre, Township of Strathroy-Caradoc, Township of St. Clair, Township of Warwick, Village of Oil Springs, Village of Point Edward, Village of Newbury, Zone Township, Lambton Public Health, Lambton Public Works, Lambton Planning, Middlesex Planning, Middlesex Public Health, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, Walpole First Nation, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Environment & Climate Change Canada, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, & Rural Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks, Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association, AGRIS/Wanstead Farmers Cooperatives, Lambton College, Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Grain Farmers of Ontario, Beef Farmers of Ontario, Sydenham Field Naturalists, Lambton Wildlife, Greater London & Area Golf Superintendents, Cuddy Farms, Rural Lambton Stewardship Network, Ontario Farmer’s Association, Grand River CA, Upper Thames River CA, Ausable Bayfield CA, Lower Thames River CA

**Directors Comments:**

It is requested that the report be sent to all Municipalities for information.

**BD-18-184**

**Wright-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan update report dated November 29, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

The SCRCA monthly Planning Activity Summary report for the month of October, 2018 was reviewed.

**BD-18-185**

**Scholten-MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

Summary of October, 2018 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-18-186**

**Wright-Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2018.”**

**CARRIED**

The Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee (CRIC) for the St. Clair River Area of Concern announced, in November, a “Not Impaired” status has been granted for three Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) - *Restrictions on Dredging Activities, Beach Closings and Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproduction Problems*. Comprehensive surveys and monitoring confirm restoration targets have been successfully achieved. The “Not Impaired” designation of these BUIs represents significant progress towards the restoration of the St. Clair River.

The “*Restrictions on Dredging Activities*” BUI was initially deemed “Impaired” because dredged material from the navigational channel of the St. Clair River and Sarnia Bay (which was federally owned and serviced freighters) often contained concentrations of metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), oil and grease that exceeded the Provincial guidelines for open water disposal. This added a significant cost for dredging



proponents who were required to transport the dredged material to an inland disposal facility instead of disposing within the open water. Today, open water disposal is no longer an acceptable method of disposal due to adverse impacts on fish and fish habitat and dredged materials are clean enough to be reused for beach nourishment and in-fill for construction.

Since 2000, most dredged material from the St. Clair River has been re-used and none has required special handling or treatment due to contaminant levels. Maintaining safe depths for navigation in the St. Clair River is the main purpose of ongoing dredging in the St. Clair River. Both the federal and provincial governments provide comprehensive control and oversight around the dredging and the disposal of dredged material. The procedures for navigational dredging and disposal of dredged material within the St. Clair River AOC are consistent with those that occur throughout the Great Lakes.

The “*Beach Closings*” BUI was originally deemed “Impaired” due to excessive levels of bacteria at swimming areas along the St. Clair River. Major sources were identified as combined sewer overflows (CSOs), Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) effluent, and agricultural runoff. Since that time, all local municipalities in the AOC have invested in WPCP upgrades and sewer separation. The City of Sarnia alone has invested \$35 million dollars since 2012 for WPCP upgrades and \$60 million in sewer separation projects. Communities along the river have been connected to municipal sewers and Wallaceburg has successfully separated 95% of their combined sewers. In addition, best management practices have been implemented in rural communities including thirty-seven riparian buffer projects that have mitigated the input of bacterial pollution from the surrounding areas.

These combined efforts have dramatically reduced bacteria levels and improved overall water quality of the river. Bacteria levels observed at beaches and swimming areas in the AOC are no different than those recorded at locations outside of the AOC. In most cases, bacteria levels recorded at AOC locations were below the Provincial Water Quality Guideline for safe swimming. Where exceedances were observed, waterfowl and other non-anthropogenic sources were identified as the primary inputs.

The “*Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproduction Problems*” BUI for the St. Clair River AOC was initially identified as “Requiring Further Assessment”. The re-designation of this BUI to “Not Impaired” status is the culmination of several exposure and field studies conducted between 2006 and 2014 by Environment and Climate Change Canada. These studies assessed the prevalence of deformities and reproductive success in two aquatic indicator species, the Northern Leopard frog and the Common Snapping turtle. Based on the studies conducted and the results they revealed, there was sufficient evidence for the designation of “Not Impaired” status.

Final approval of the re-designations was received from the federal agency overseeing the Great Lake’s Area of Concern program. This re-designation means there are now two BUIs designated as “Requires Further Assessment” and four remain “Impaired”.

Kelly Johnson, St. Clair River RAP Coordinator, spoke at the biennial Lake St. Clair Conference held in Michigan at the beginning of November. The presentation focused on the monitoring that was completed relating to the “*Beach Closings*” BUI. The work ultimately led to the recommendation to re-designate the BUI to “Not Impaired” status.

The CRIC met at Aamjiwnaang First Nation on November 22, 2018. One topic of discussion was the 2012 – 2017 Accomplishments Report. CRIC members are now reviewing the document, and hope to have it finalized by early 2019.

A verbal update was given by Brian McDougall regarding the funding obtained for the sediment remediation design. The position of Project Engineer will be posted later this month.

**BD-18-187**

**Faas-Bruzewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2018 regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the September 26, 2018 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting were reviewed.

**BD-18-188**

**Scholten-Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the September 26, 2018 meeting minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee.”**

**CARRIED**

SCRCA revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2018 was reviewed.

**BD-18-189**

**Miller-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2018, as it relates to the budget.”**

**CARRIED**

SCRCA disbursements from November, 2018 were reviewed.

**BD-18-190**

**Wright-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the November 2018 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$383,402.97.”**

**CARRIED**

The report on the 2018 General Levy receipts to date was reviewed.

**BD-18-191**

**Broad-Scholten**

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

**CARRIED**

The changes to the Administration Manual were reviewed.

**BD-18-192**

**Bruinink-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 4, 2018 and approves the 2018 changes to the Administration Manual.”**

**CARRIED**

A verbal summary of comments received on the 2019 Draft Budget was given. Director Wright concurs with the correspondence received and confirmed that Plympton-Wyoming has similar concerns to those received via correspondence.

**BD-18-193**

**Bruziewicz-Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2019 Draft Budget.”**

**CARRIED**

A presentation from BMO Wealth Management was given.

**BD-18-194**

**Miller-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the presentation from BMO Wealth Management reviewing their investment strategy and options.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-195**

**Rupke-Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors move in-camera at 12:05 p.m. to discuss Conservation Awards and personnel information with the General Manager, Manager of Communications, Director of Finance and Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator remaining.”**

**CARRIED**

**ICABD-18-02**

**Faas-Rupke**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 29, 2018, and further approves the nominations for the 2019 Conservation Awards with winners to be invited to the 2019 Annual General Meeting to receive their awards.”**

**CARRIED**

**ICABD-18-03**

**Giffen-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the member’s meeting per diem of \$75.00, the Chair’s honorarium be \$3550.00 and the Vice Chair’s honorarium be \$1675.00 for 2019.”**

**CARRIED**

**ICABD-18-04**

**Rupke-MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges mileage adjustment, the cost of living adjustment to the salary grid and the step adjustments for eligible staff for 2019.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-196**

**Scholten-Westgate**

**“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 12:13 p.m.”**

**CARRIED**

Under new business, a discussion was held regarding the Highland Glen Conservation Area parking and boat launch fees.

**BD-18-197**

**Wright-Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors remove the fee for parking only at Highland Glen.”**

**LOST**

**BD-18-198**

**Wright-Brewer**

**“That the Board of Directors request a report from SCRCA staff on parking fees at Highland Glen.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-18-199**

**Scholten-Westgate**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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**Steve Arnold**  
**Chair**

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



**February 14, 2019**

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

**Present:** Steve Arnold, Authority Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Authority Vice-Chair, Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Muriel Wright

**Also Present:** Brian McDougall, General Manager; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning & Regulations; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas; Ken Williams, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants

**Regrets:** Mike Kelch, Betty Ann MacKinnon

The Chair, welcomed the members and the meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

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

**EC-19-01**

**Faas-Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors adopts the agenda for the meeting as presented.”**

**CARRIED**

**Canada Nature Fund Application:**

- As previously reviewed, expressions of interest were submitted to The Canada Nature Fund (CNF) for funding to support the creation of a land acquisition strategy, land protection measures and property acquisition
- Although we were unsuccessful, we were encouraged to provide another submission to the second component of the fund which is now accepting applications
- We have been advised that the review committee for the fund is most interested in proposals which include ‘large tracts of land’
- This may work towards achieving Canada’s goal of protecting at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water by 2020 (hectares coverage), however it almost ensured that any individual applications put forward would be left unfunded

- As a result, several groups have been forming collectives to submit applications for larger collective areas of land – Conservation Authorities are acting as one collective while many of Ontario’s non-governmental organizations are also intending to make a submission – in order to have the best opportunity to obtain funding, we are working with both collectives
- Without defined parcels targeted or in progress of acquisition, we will be limiting our portion of each submission to land protection measures

### **Transition to Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks:**

- Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario continue to communicate with Ministers and staff in both the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- At this point there are few questions being answered and no real engagement with us regarding the transition
- A General Managers meeting scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> may provide some new insights to be shared verbally at the meeting

### **Legalization of Cannabis:**

- The use of cannabis was legalized across the country in October
- All existing smoking policies have been affirmed by provincial legislation
- The following is a press release from the Upper Thames River CA regarding their 3 main campground areas:

Proud to be Smoke Free – Fanshawe, Wildwood and Pittock Conservation Areas (media release, January 10, 2019)

- Starting in 2019, all forms of smoking are prohibited in all public spaces within Fanshawe Conservation Area (London), Pittock Conservation Area (Woodstock), and Wildwood Conservation Area (St. Marys).
- Smoking is only permitted on a registered campsite or in a designated area. Smoke free overnight sites have been designated for those who want to camp without having anyone smoking on adjacent sites.
- The maps in the 2019 visitors’ guides will show these designated areas and smoke free campsites. Staff will continue to evaluate options on further smoke free initiatives in the future.
- It is important for people to be aware of these changes, as they begin planning their 2019 vacations and outdoor activities.
- Additional report will also be returned to the Board for their review regarding cannabis in Conservation Areas and Conservation Area Campgrounds at an upcoming Board meeting

**Staffing / Organization Update:**

- With four retirements over the last 18 months and two more staff that have moved to pre-retirement part time, several staffing changes have occurred
- Further, at this opportune time we have made some changes to the organization structure to better reflect the division of responsibilities and, as per our Succession Plan, we are continuing to challenge staff to fulfill leadership roles as we look toward the future
- An updated Organizational Structure for staff of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority as of February 1, 2019 was reviewed.

**EC-19-02****Bruzewicz-Bruinink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the General Manager’s report dated February 5, 2019.”**

**CARRIED**

**Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Audit:**

- The Ontario Auditor General released the final Audit of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) last fall
- A total of 24 recommendations with 75 action items are identified within the recommendations
- The majority of these recommendations are specifically directed to the NPCA
- Six recommendations are specifically directed to the Province
- Six more recommendations are geared to all Conservation Authorities.
- Summary of Recommendations relevant to all CAs:
  - Re: Boards of Directors - MECP clarify board members’ accountability to the conservation authority (Recommendation #1; page 21)
    - While no specific direction has been offered by MECP, the update Authority By-Laws provide greater clarity regarding board member accountability
  - Re: Boards of Directors - Proclaim section 40, make a regulation prescribing requirements for board composition and work with CO and CAs to determine whether or not board training is needed (Recommendation #4; page 25)
    - No action to date
  - Re: Floodplain mapping - MNR needs to work with CO to ensure CAs have complete and up to date information about flood risks; establish clear responsibility and criteria for developing and updating floodplain maps; and review current funding levels to CAs to determine how floodplain



mapping can be completed in a timely manner (Recommendation #8, page 30)

- SCRCA, our Municipalities and grant providers continue to support the acquisition of improved data and new modelling to ensure that the best available information is used to update floodplain mapping
- Re: conflicts between ‘conservation’ and ‘development’ - MECP needs to clearly describe what the development of natural resources entails and how it differs from ‘development’ in general; provide guidance to help CAs prioritize the objectives of their programs and services; use regulatory powers to establish minimum requirements and standards for CAs’ delivery of program and services; establish the governance practices that MECP determines CAs should be uniformly following, province-wide (Recommendation #22; page 61)
  - No further clarity to date
- Re: improving accountability - MECP needs to work with municipalities to determine and implement a formal, cost effective and purposeful reporting process that includes a discussion of the outcomes of CAs’ activities (Recommendation #23; page 63)
  - No action on new reporting to date
- Re: Intervening in CA operations: MECP needs to work with municipalities to determine the circumstances when Ministry and/or municipality intervention is warranted; establish mechanisms for Ministry and/or municipalities to intervene when necessary in CA operations; formalize such mechanisms through an MOU that clearly establishes the roles and responsibilities of each party and when intervention is necessary (Recommendation # 24, page 64)
  - No action to date
- Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities have long standing partnerships with both the Province and municipalities, delivering a wide variety of established and valuable watershed management programs and services. These programs protect people from flooding, ensure safe drinking water and build resiliency within Ontario's natural environment
- Since the 2017 modernization of the Conservation Authorities Act, Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities have been working with the Province and many other stakeholders to ensure CAs continue to meet the accountability needs of Ontarians and partners who pay for the many benefits provided by Conservation Authorities programs and services
- As a follow up to the 2017 review and modernization of the Conservation Authorities Act, conservation authorities have been working on CA Administrative

By-laws to ensure compliance with the new Act to ensure CAs continue to meet the accountability needs of Ontarians and partners

- As well, Conservation Ontario and the conservation authorities remain committed to working with a multi-stakeholder provincial Service Delivery Review Committee on modernized regulations under the Act to improve efficiency, consistency, accountability and transparency.
- We appreciate the Auditor General acknowledging the need for additional investments in Conservation Authority floodplain mapping. Public safety is a priority for CAs. Addressing funding shortfalls will ensure CAs can continue to protect people and property from flooding.

#### **EC-19-03**

**Gordon-Giffen**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report regarding the Audit of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority dated February 5, 2019.”**

**CARRIED**

The Conservation Ontario 2019 Ontario Budget Consultation Submission dated January 30, 2019 and press release was reviewed.

#### **EC-19-04**

**Wright-Bruinink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges Conservation Ontario’s Budget Consultation Submission dated January 30, 2019 as well as the accompanying press release.”**

**CARRIED**

#### **Coldstream Conservation Area:**

- Reductions in Provincial funding in the mid 1990’s lead to the review of Conservation Area values and benefits
- The Conservation Areas with campgrounds (AW Campbell CA, LC Henderson CA and Warwick CA), and subsequently Highland Glen CA were all identified as having a regional benefit
- The remaining Conservation Areas were identified as having local benefit
- The management of the campgrounds have ensured that no additional levy has been required to support these areas
- Highland Glen CA as a regional CA would be funded on a regional basis, however usage fees have been establish to control additional levy to support this area
- Non regional CAs have been funded via a different method
- A funding split of 90% municipal and 10% regional was established to support the costs of each local CA

- Further each municipality was provided to opportunity to undertake the maintenance of the local CAs at their cost with only the remaining costs (taxes, insurance, etc.) being divided as per the cost share identified above
- The management of Coldstream Conservation Area over the last 20 + years has been unique in our watershed
- Several individuals around Coldstream were concerned about the maintenance of Coldstream CA and the potential to offer additional programs at Colstream CA in the mid 1990's as this change in local CA management was occurring
- They formed a group, called themselves The Envirofriends of Coldstream, and worked with the municipality and the Authority to sublet the Conservation Area from the municipality (Who had leased it from the Authority intending to manage the property themselves) and took on the challenge of maintaining the Conservation Area
- This has been an incredibly successful arrangement for all parties for over 20 years – Envirofriends of Coldstream was honoured with the presentation of a Conservation Awards in 1995 and 2015 for their works
- Envirofriends have been very successful in fundraising efforts throughout their existing, most specifically through a Gala event held each spring
- However, as with almost everything, good things must come to an end
- Envirofriends have met with the Authority and Middlesex Centre and have advised both organizations that they will not be undertaking the maintenance of the CA in 2019
- One project of Envirofriends was the creation of an accessible bridge over the Sydenham River below the reservoir
- Envirofriends approached the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation with a request that the Foundation match any funds they raised for the bridge in 2014
- The Foundation was supportive of the request but wanted assurances that the bridge would be properly engineered and built to appropriate standards before they would support the project
- Envirofriends will continue to raise funds for this project and is asking the Authority to assume the management of the bridge project
- Authority and municipal staff will be working on a plan to ensure the proper on-going maintenance of Coldstream Conservation Area for 2019 and beyond
- More information will be provided to both the Authority Board and the Board of the Conservation Foundation as discussion proceed.

**EC-19-05**

**Gordon-Bruziewicz**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report regarding proposed changes in the operations of Coldstream Conservation Area dated February 5, 2019.”**

**CARRIED**

**Regarding BD-18-184**

- The Board of directors requested that a report regarding the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan meeting and its outcomes be distributed to all member Municipalities.

Report provided

**EC-19-06**

**Giffen-Faas**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the updates on business arising from the December 13, 2018 meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

A presentation of the 2018 Audited Financial Statements was given by Ken Williams, MPW Chartered Professional Accountants

**EC-19-07**

**Bruziewicz-Bruinink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report from the Authority’s auditors, MPW Chartered Professional Accounts, LLP and accepts responsibility for the 2018 financial statements and the Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds and year end finances and further approves the year-end adjustments, reserves and reserve adjustments as outlined in the schedule dated December 31, 2018 and recommends that the Board of Directors approves the 2018 Audited Financial Statements.”**

**CARRIED**

The November and December, 2018 disbursements were reviewed.

**EC-19-08**

**Faas-Gordon**

**“That the Executive Committee approves the November and December, 2018 disbursements, as presented in the amount of \$630,996.66.”**

**CARRIED**

The summary report on 2018 municipal general levy was reviewed.

**EC-19-09**

**Wright-Bruinink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges that all 2018 municipal general levy has been received.”**

**CARRIED**

The report on 2018 Director Expenses was reviewed.

**EC-19-10**

**Gordon-Bruinink**

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

**CARRIED**

- A budget of \$350,000 has been confirmed for the project (St. Clair Township \$250,000; Carry forward - \$80,000, GLCGF-\$20,000.
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project during the week of January 8, 2019
- Tenders closed on 22 January 2019
- Staff have obtained MNR and DFO for permits
- Construction is expected to begin mid-February 2019
- Errors were noticed in the Tender submitted by DiCocco Contractors and the corrected final price was \$316,779.36
- The lowest bid was submitted by Murray Mills Excavating and Trucking at a total price of \$290,945.72 +H.S.T

Tender Results are provided below:

**Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements – Phase 2**

January 22, 2019

2:05 p.m.

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Administrative Offices

Firm’s Name	Tender Deposit	Agree to Bond	Tender Price
Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking (Sarnia) Ltd.	✓	✓	\$290,245.62
St. Clair Mechanical	✓	✓	\$487,467.31
Dicocco Contractors and Engineers	✓	✓	\$223,067.90
Brandon Contractors	✓	✓	\$396,770.12
R. Russell Construction	-	-	-

#### **EC-19-11**

##### **Giffen-Gordon**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated February 2, 2019 regarding Phase II of the Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements and further that the contract be awarded to the lowest bidder.”**

**CARRIED**

Draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee meeting held on January 10, 2019 were reviewed.

#### **EC-19-12**

##### **Faas-Bruinink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee held on January 10, 2019 in Wallaceburg.”**

**CARRIED**

- 79 hunters received permission to hunt on the McKeough Floodway Upstream Properties from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 - May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019.
- Staff are currently reviewing the changes that the OMNRF made to the Ontario Hunting Regulations summary and are reviewing and revising the 2019-2020 hunting package to keep current with the changes.
- If any revisions are required to the SCRCA hunting program, the 2019-2020 hunting permit application will be updated and posted on our website.
- The controlled deer hunt zone draws were not required this year as the number of hunters applying for each zone were within our allowable numbers, allowing every hunter to hunt their first zone choice.
- The hunting list was emailed to enforcement agencies once the list was finalized and the controlled deer hunt zone allocations were emailed to enforcement agencies before the November and December controlled deer hunt seasons.
- McKeough staff patrol the Floodway and Upstream Properties throughout the hunting seasons.

#### **Controlled Deer Hunt**

- 9 hunters on the controlled deer hunt list for the November season
- 12 hunters on the controlled deer hunt list for the December Season
- There were no hunting related problems or violations found during this controlled deer hunt

#### **Issues and suggestions**

- Staff received a number of requests for permits to hunt after the August 21st deadline Staff discussed the issue and agreed that keeping the August 21st deadline was in the best interest of the CA.

- Staff have also discussed limiting the number of hunting permits issued to keep hunter numbers manageable. This could be achieved either by setting a limit number or by increasing the permit fee. Staff will continue to discuss and explore options.
- Wildlife enforcement officials have suggested that the Conservation Authority install boundary designation/no hunting signs on all conservation properties. It was suggested that the sign include a contact number. This signage would inform the public that the conservation authority does not permit hunting on those lands and it will allow enforcement officials to enforce more stringent game laws and fines.

### **EC-19-13**

#### **Bruziewicz-Brunink**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated February 2, 2019 regarding the 2018 deer hunt on McKeough Upstream Lands.”**

**CARRIED**

The Endangered Species Act provides:

- Science-based assessment: species are assessed by an independent body based on the best-available science and Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge
- Automatic species protection: species classified as endangered or threatened automatically receive legal protection
- Habitat protection: when a species is classified as endangered or threatened, its habitat is also protected

The Act sets out:

- Timelines in the law for producing strategies and plans to recover at-risk species
- Tools to help reduce the impact of human activity on species and their habitats
- Tools to encourage protection and recovery activities

On January 18, 2019, the Ontario government gave notice on the Environmental Registry that that they were conducting a ten year review of the Endangered Species Act, R.S.O. 2007 (the "Act") (which came into effect on June 30, 2008).

A Discussion Paper (attached) produced by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, is posted and feedback from the public will be sought until March 4.

Specifically, the government is looking for feedback on how to:

- Enable positive outcomes for species at risk
- Ensure species assessments are based on up-to-date science
- Address multiple objectives for ecosystem management through stewardship and protection activities
- Increase efficiencies in service delivery for authorization clients
- Streamline processes and provide clarity for those who need to implement the Act



- Maintain an effective government oversight role

According to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks provincially-funded projects have contributed to the restoration of approximately 48,950 hectares of habitat for species at risk. The Species at Risk Stewardship Fund in-part supports SCRCA's Healthy Watershed Program (HSP). In 2017 alone, 27 projects were completed through the Program, including 3 equipment modifications, 2 cover crops (198.4 ha), 14 tree planting projects (20.1 ha), 8 wetland projects (6.9 ha).

### **Comments for the Environmental Registry**

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is located in southwestern Ontario and includes the Sydenham River watershed and smaller watersheds draining directly into southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River and northeastern Lake St. Clair. Our position in the Carolinian Life Zone means we have a high percentage of Ontario's species at risk. This area also has a highly modified landscape with limited protected area, so it is essential to maintain and protect existing natural heritage features and the species at risk that inhabit them. All species, including species at risk, depend on functioning, resilient ecosystems to survive. The primary cause in most species' decline in the province is due to habitat loss and degradation. The ecosystems which provide habitat to all of our species provide numerous irreplaceable benefits such as air and water purification, soil stabilization, flood prevention and climate change mitigation.

SCRCA supports the Ontario government's reaffirmation of "its commitment to protecting species at risk and their habitats" (Ontario government's January 18, 2019 press release, <https://news.ontario.ca/ene/en/2019/01/ontario-taking-steps-to-improve-the-endangered-species-act.html>) and we look forward to a clear conservation-based mandate for the ministry and increased communications and resources for landowners with respect to species at risk.

SCRCA supports the application of the precautionary principle to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). As noted in the ESA R.S.O. 2007 preamble: "lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to avoid or minimize such a threat." We are in support of science-based assessments of the current status of species, and proposed actions to assist with their recovery. While all of the desired information may not be immediately available for all species, delays in listing species and initiating recovery actions will only result in further imperilment of the species. Once more information becomes available, the ranking of species can be changed, or removed from the SAR list altogether.

The government should increase support to SCRCA to undertake activities to protect and recover SAR through funding, agreements, permits (including conditions) and advisory services. SCRCA is uniquely positioned to help support the goals of the Endangered Species Act by implementing actions outlined in Recovery Strategies and Government Response Statements. In many cases, goals and objectives of SCRCA's existing programs and expertise align well with priority actions identified in Government



Response statements. As watershed-based resource managers, SCRCA staff are able to contribute local watershed expertise in a cost-effective and efficient manner. Since the Authority is organized on a watershed basis, projects sites are always relatively nearby, meaning that travel costs are minimal. SCRCA also leverages funding from private and public sources at all levels of government towards projects. SCRCA owns 1,600 hectares of land and manages over 2,696 hectares. Much of this property, is conservation land containing many Endangered and Threatened species at risk occurrences. In the past, SCRCA's species recovery actions have been supported through the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund. Increased funding to SCRCA and other on-the-ground partners will have meaningful impacts to the recovery of species at risk in Ontario.

The Provincial Policy Statement dictates that natural heritage systems shall be identified, and that the diversity, connectivity and long-term ecological function and biodiversity of the systems should be maintained, restored or, where possible, improved. Through natural heritage advisory agreements with our 17 member municipalities, SCRCA is supportive of a landscape-based approach for protecting the remaining habitat for species at risk in our watershed. The Province can provide support to municipalities to update their natural heritage mapping and strategies to help retain natural heritage features to support species at risk populations.

The concept of conservation banking has been proposed as a potential strategy for offsetting impacts to species at risk. This should only be considered as an option after steps have been taken to eliminate and minimize potential negative impacts. The province should carefully examine and provide direction on conservation banking, with input from Indigenous communities, municipalities and stakeholders. If it decides to enable conservation banking through law and policy, it must address such issues as governance and oversight, limits to offsetting, equity, transparency, the mitigation sequence, establishing equivalence, monitoring and enforcement.

### **Strategic Objectives(s):**

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has as its vision, watersheds where human needs are met in balance with the needs of the natural environment. According to *A Way Forward – Strategic Plan*, one of SCRCA's four goals is to: "Goal 2 – Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes."

Based on SCRCA's 2018 Watershed Report Cards we are falling short of meeting provincial and federal targets/objectives required to support environmental health.

**Forest Cover** - In the St. Clair Region forest cover is 11.3%. According to Environment Canada the ideal forest cover for a watershed is at least 30 per cent. Permanent losses and gains in forest area affect the stability and sustainability of forest resources, biodiversity, wildlife habitat and ecosystem services, such as air and water purification and carbon sequestration.

**Forest Interior** - Forest interior for the entire St. Clair Region is 1.97%. Forest interior, refers to the inner core area of a woodlot that is more than 100 m from the forest edge. The percent forest interior is the percentage of the watershed area that is defined as forest interior. Environment Canada (2013) recommends that more than 10% of a watershed area should be forest interior. This protected core area is required by some species to breed successfully. Area-sensitive bird species, such as the Scarlet Tanager or Pileated Woodpecker, require a relatively large forest patch within which to reproduce successfully.

**Water Quality** - Average total Phosphorus 75<sup>th</sup> percentile concentration is 0.15 mg/L, while provincial water quality objectives state that for excessive plant growth in rivers and streams to be eliminated the total phosphorus concentration must fall below 0.03 mg/L.

**Wetland Cover** - Wetland cover is very poor across the St. Clair Region, at 1.1%. Ontario. Environment Canada (2013) recommends that at least 10% of each major watershed and 6% of each subwatershed should be maintained or restored as wetlands. Wetlands can provide valuable ecological and hydrological functions at both site-specific and watershed scales. Many of southern Ontario's flora and fauna inhabit wetlands during part or all of their life cycle, including many species at risk.

Not surprisingly, sensitive plant and animal species that rely on these diminished and/or degraded habitats are showing signs of stress. Twenty-four species of fish, mussels and reptiles which live in and around the Sydenham River are nationally or provincially Species at Risk. The objective of the Endangered Species Act is to ensure their continued survival. The ESA is an important tool for protecting SCRCA's natural systems and aligns with SCRCA's strategic goal #2.

### **Financial Impact:**

The Species at Risk Stewardship Fund was created under the Endangered Species Act to encourage people to get involved in protecting and recovering species at risk through stewardship activities.

Over the five year period from 2013-2017 the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund provided over \$315,000 to SCRCA to implement a variety of stewardship projects such as tree planting, wetland creation, and turtle nesting habitat enhancement. The Fund has also support a variety of outdoor education learning opportunities.

Additional support to the Authority is provided through Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program, Species at Risk Stream. The Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP), established in 2000, provides funding to projects that contribute directly to the recovery objectives and population goals of species at risk listed on Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act (SARA). Over the same five-year period the time this program provided \$411,000 to SCRCA to implement projects.

**Funding from Species at Risk Grants to SCRCA:**

2017: \$70,400 SARSF, \$99,000 HSP SAR  
2016: \$83,950 SARSF, \$90,000 HSP SAR  
2015: \$78,950 SARSF, \$54,000 HSP SAR  
2014: \$79,450 SARSF, \$84,000 HSP SAR  
2013: \$74,470 SARSF, \$84,000 HSP SAR

**EC-19-14****Bruziewicz-Giffen**

**“That the Executive Committee endorse the comments from staff on the 10<sup>th</sup> Year Review of Ontario’s Endangered Species Act.”**

**CARRIED**

Phosphorus loading into local waterways by municipal, commercial, industrial, and agricultural sources is of concern in the Great Lakes basin as excessive levels of this nutrient severely degrade the health of the aquatic environment. Through funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is coordinating the creation of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River Watershed by engaging and seeking input from local stakeholders. ECCC recognizes the Sydenham River Watershed as a Tertiary Watershed of Lake Erie. Under this classification, both the North and East branch of the Sydenham River, Lake St. Clair Tributaries and the St. Clair River Tributaries are all classified into the “Sydenham River Watershed (02GG)”. This will be the classification used in the Management Plan. The objective of the Management Plan is to better understand the sources, movement, and loads of phosphorus in the Sydenham River Watershed and determine measures that can be taken to lessen the impacts of these sources to the receiving water bodies.

ECCC has provided funding to the SCRCA for 2018-2019 with possibility of extension for three more years (April 2019 to March 2022).

**Objectives:**

The anticipated outcomes of developing the Management Plan are:

- A summary of the water quality and quantity, natural heritage, soils, land uses, and nutrient sources in the Sydenham River Watershed;
- A summary of gaps in knowledge and data that need to be addressed as well as steps to address those gaps (e.g., identify areas that require monitoring);
- An evaluation of rural and urban Best Management Practices (BMPs) and areas in the watershed where implementation will have the greatest impact to water quality;
- Engagement and outreach strategies based on an assessment of awareness among stakeholders, strategies to increase uptake of BMP implementation.

#### Year 1 (2018-2019) Goals:

- Determine stakeholders and host a stakeholder meeting to encourage early support of the Plan and obtain data from appropriate sources;
- Outline Phosphorus sources as a team of stakeholders;
- Develop a Steering Committee and Project Team;
- Develop a Project Charter;
- Develop a draft Plan Outline to submit to ECCC based on input from stakeholders and available data;
- Commence literature reviews on Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Although the focus is on the Sydenham Watershed, staff plan to involve all 17 of our member municipalities (through technical staff like drainage superintendents, wastewater treatment operators, etc.) from the beginning. Fourteen of 17 member municipalities have jurisdiction in the Sydenham River Watershed.

Through early engagement in the process, stakeholders will direct the development of the Management Plan by providing input on the potential sources of phosphorus, contributing factors, and solutions. By taking this communal approach, the goal is stakeholder buy-in that will lead to a collective effort to address local phosphorus issues and engagement of the larger community.

#### **November 2018 Stakeholder Meeting:**

On November 27, 2018, staff hosted an introductory stakeholder meeting at the Warwick Community Centre and invited an array of people from of governments, First Nations, private sectors, community groups, and interested landowners to participate – 65 people attended the meeting. Participants that day represented:

- **Municipalities/First Nations:** City of Sarnia, Dover Township; Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston; Municipality of Chatham-Kent; Municipality of Lambton Shores; Municipality of Southwest Middlesex; Town of Plympton-Wyoming; Township of Adelaide-Metcalf; Township of Dawn-Euphemia; Township of Enniskillen; Township of Middlesex Centre; Township of Strathroy-Caradoc; Township of St. Clair; Township of Warwick; Village of Newbury; Aamjiwnaang First Nation;
- **Counties:** County of Lambton; Middlesex County;
- **Provincial/Federal Government:** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Ministry of Agriculture, Food, & Rural Affairs; Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks;
- **Non-profit organizations:** Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association – St. Clair Region; Rural Lambton Stewardship Network; Ontario NativeScape; Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative; Ducks Unlimited Canada;
- **Agricultural Sector:** AGRIS Co-operative; Wanstead Farmers Co-operative; Beef Farmers of Ontario – Kent Chapter;
- **Wastewater Sector:** Jacobs CH2M;
- **Educational Institutions:** Lambton College;
- **Community Groups:** Sydenham Field Naturalists; Lambton Wildlife;

- **Conservation Authorities:** Grand River Conservation Authority; Upper Thames River Conservation Authority; Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority; and St. Clair Conservation Authority.

The day began with a welcome and introduction from Brian McDougall (General Manager, SCRCA) and Steve Arnold, (Mayor of St. Clair Township, SCRCA Board Chair).

Brad Bass (Researcher, Environment and Climate Change Canada) shared information on the nutrient status of Lake Erie. Erin Carroll (Director of Biology, SCRCA) updated stakeholders on the known status of the Sydenham River Watershed. The SCRCA invited Sandra Cooke, the Senior Water Quality Supervisor from Grand River Conservation Authority to highlight opportunities and lessons learned from their recently completed *Grand River Watershed Water Management Plan*. Jessica Van Zwol (Healthy Watershed Specialist, SCRCA), Darrell Randell (Project Coordinator, Ducks Unlimited), and Dale Cowan (Senior Agronomist, AGRIS Co-op Ltd), highlighted phosphorus mitigation programs and actions rural landowners and farmers are implementing to reduce phosphorus losses on their properties. Imtiaz Shah (Environmental Engineer, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority) and Pamela Josse (Senior Soil and Nutrient Management Specialist, Science and Technology Branch, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada) shared information regarding recent phosphorus loading modelling projects and results of watershed characterizations using remote sensing and sustainability metrics to document agriculture's contributions to phosphorus losses and reductions.

After lunch, participants were led by Sarah Hodgkiss (Planning Ecologist, SCRCA) through a brainstorming discussion that enabled participants to contribute ideas on potential threats and stresses impacting the Sydenham River Watershed related to phosphorus. Over 260 ideas were recorded concerning contributing factors/indirect threats, stressors, potential threats, and potential actions – these ideas will be used as the basis for forming the Plan Outline.

Finally, meeting participants were requested to fill in a survey seeking available data and commitment to future Working Groups.

#### **Working Groups and the Advisory Committee:**

Staff are currently assembling the Working Groups under the categories: Non-Point Source and Point Source. The Working Groups will be made up of different levels of government, First Nations, sectors, community groups, and interested landowners. The Groups will discuss and investigate potential threats, contributing factors, and solutions that will be used in the development of the Plan. The Working Groups will receive guidance from an Advisory Committee and a small Water Quality Technical Team of specialists will also be formed to complete the data analysis required for the Management Plan.

The Working Groups will have their initial meetings on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The goal is for each Working Group to meet 3-4 times a year within the watershed.

If individuals are interested in participating in a Working Group by representing an additional stakeholder group or as an invested landowner, please contact Nicole Drumm [ndrumm@scrca.on.ca](mailto:ndrumm@scrca.on.ca) or 519-245-3710.

**Board Member Involvement:**

The two Working Groups will each need one SCRCA Board Member to contribute to the development of the Management Plan. The two Members will also sit on the Advisory Committee.

The "Call for Participation" document that outlines the structure of the Management Plan team was also reviewed.

**EC-19-15**

**Faas-Wright**

**"That the Executive Committee acknowledges the update on the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan and further directs staff to circulate the update and call for participation to all member Municipalities."**

**CARRIED**

Under New Business, the Board of Directors requests that a report be given at the Annual General Meeting defining the Forestry Reserve.

It was also requested that a presentation be given for informational purposes on the Chimney Swift.

**EC-19-16**

**Giffen-Wright**

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

**CARRIED**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. McDougall".

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Steve Arnold  
Chair

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Brian McDougall  
General Manager





## **Board of Directors Acknowledgment Of Code Of Conduct & Administrative By-Laws**

Board Approved Administrative By-Laws – November, 2018

I hereby acknowledge that I have received and read St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Employee Code of Conduct contained in Section 6 of the SCRCA Administrative By-Laws and that I am fully aware of its terms. I also agree to read and comply with all policies adopted by St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

I understand that any breach, or alleged breach, of the Code of Conduct shall be investigated in accordance with the Enforcement of By-laws and Policies procedure outlined or referred to in the Authority's Administrative By-law.

I understand that St. Clair Region Conservation Authority from time to time may issue policies which also govern member conduct. I confirm that I will comply with all provisions of the Code of Conduct and adopted policies.

Board Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** February 20, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 12**

**Subject:** Additional Committees

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### **Recommendation**

That the Board of Directors appoints members to the following committees:

#### **Watershed Management Plan Committee**

2 representatives, one representing the non-point source committee and one representing the point source committee. Both representatives on the steering committee.

#### **Planning Policy Procedural Manual and Technical Guidelines Committee**

The Conservation Authority Chair, Vice-Chair and 4 other members.

**2018 Members:** Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice-Chair; Tony Bruinink; Gerry Rupke; Cindy Scholten and Muriel Wright





## **2019 DRAFT Budget**

1. Quick Facts (pg. 2-3)
2. 2019 Budget Highlights (pg. 3)
3. 2019 Budget (pg. 4-5)
4. 2019 Levy Assessment (CVA) - Schedule "A" (pg. 6-7)
5. 2019 Municipal Funding Summary - Schedule "B" (pg.8-9)
6. 2019 Municipal Budget Impact - Schedule "C" (pg.10-11)
7. 2019 Conservation Areas Maintenance and Operation Budget - Schedule "D" (pg.11-12)
8. 2019 Water Erosion Control Infrastructure – Schedule "E" (pg 13)
9. 2019 Conservation Area's Capital Projects (pg. 14-15)

# St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

## Quick Facts

### General:

- 17 member municipalities from Lambton and Middlesex Counties and the cities of Sarnia and Chatham-Kent (see member directory for full listing)
- 20 members on the Board of Directors appointed by municipalities (see directory)
- 14 watersheds - Sydenham River with its East and North branches, 13 smaller named watersheds entering Lake Huron, St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair.
- of the 36 Conservation Authorities in the province, the St. Clair Region ranks:
  - **9<sup>th</sup> largest in area (4,100 km<sup>2</sup>)**
  - **16<sup>th</sup> in population (151,420 within the watershed)**
  - **35<sup>th</sup> in general levy (\$3.22 per capita) in 2013, excluding Capital projects**
  - **6<sup>th</sup> in receipt of provincial grant from the Ministry of Natural Resources**

### Land:

- owns 4,200 acres of property
- manages another 1,340 acres for the County of Lambton
- manages 16 properties (1,100 acres) for our Conservation Foundation
- has 16 Conservation Areas including 3 regional campgrounds - 522 serviced campsites
- campgrounds are self-sufficient, profits generated from their operations are used to offset capital development
- over 200,000 visitors to Conservation Areas in 2017

### Water Management:

- has the largest flood control dam and diversion in the province (McKeough Floodway)
- 11 recreation dams at 8 Conservation Areas
- assisting Chatham-Kent with maintenance of nearly 20 km of dykes
- assisting Sarnia, Point Edward, St. Clair Township, Chatham-Kent in maintaining almost 10 km of shore protection and erosion control structures
- in excess of \$52 million invested in conservation lands and flood and erosion control structures

### Planning/Regulations/GIS:

- provided technical and professional comments on over 500 municipal planning and regulation matters in 2017
- commented on provincially generated policy related to natural hazards and heritage features
- managing AOC St. Clair River program
- internal and external GIS computer mapping needs for Authority staff and partners

### Education/Communication:

- helped over 13,000 children discover conservation through outdoor education
- work in partnership with over 100 groups and thousands of individuals who support conservation and environmental programs throughout the watershed

### Biology/Research:

- science based research supporting Species at Risk, benthic water quality monitoring, groundwater monitoring, fisheries, municipal drain classifications

### **Forestry/Healthy Watersheds:**

- planted over 3.4 million trees over the last three decades
- constructed over 100 acres of wetlands
- provides technical and professional services to municipalities for land management, erosion control, urban forestry, road side tree planting, private woodlot management
- provided \$2 million in grants to farmers and other landowners to implement Best Management Practices since 2000

### **Finances:**

- 2019 Budget - \$6,333,732 including \$0.2 million in WECl projects.
- 2019 Total Levy excluding WECl \$1,079,586, \$81,671 increase over 2018 Total Levy.
- 2019 General Levy \$49,896 increase over 2018 \$863,855 shared by the 17 member municipalities.

## **2019 Budget Highlights**

We offer the following highlights for your information:

- General Levy for 2019 is \$913,751 shared by the 17 member municipalities, results in an average cost of \$6.17 (2017 \$5.15, 2018 \$5.71) per population count within the watershed per year.
- Total Levy (excludes WECl) for 2019 is \$1,079,586 (2018 \$997,915) which represents an overall increase of 8%.
- Matching and Non-Matching Levy for 2019 are budgeted to be a \$49,896 increase from 2018. This is an average increase of 34 cents per population count for the year within the watershed per year.
- Schedule "C" provides an analysis of General Levy Increase as a percentage of the 17-member Municipal Budgets.
- Schedule "E" provides a summary of WECl projects and municipal matching fund requirements.
- Provincial grants to Conservation Authorities support flood control, planning, administration, legal expenses and technical studies.
- In addition, grants continue to be available for studies, inspection, major maintenance, minor maintenance and preventative maintenance of water and erosion control structures to protect significant investments made by the province and municipalities.
- St. Clair Region has in excess of \$52 million invested in flood and erosion control structures and lands.
- Grants applied for in the business plan are used to develop the budget. However, the received grants may not be as indicated in the budget. Upon confirmation of approved grants, the budget will be revised to reflect those grants with the combined levy (matching and non-matching) remaining unchanged.
- Detailed budgets for each program or project are available upon request.

**Proposed St. Clair Region Conservation Authority 2019 Operation  
Budget Summary - November 5, 2018**

	2018 Budget	2019 Proposed Budget	Provincial Grant
Flood Control Operations & Maintenance	\$ 498,200	\$ 535,200	\$ 223,500
Erosion Control Operations & Maintenance	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 20,500
WECI Capital Projects	\$ 1,575,500	\$ 580,000	
Source Protection Planning	\$ 160,400	\$ 106,000	
Planning and Regulations	\$ 557,155	\$ 487,594	\$ 20,000
TS - Hazard & Flood Information Management	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ 4,500
TS - Lake Huron Shoreline Plan	\$ 11,253	\$ -	
TS - Aquatic systems monitoring	\$ 291,066	\$ 375,513	\$ -
TS - Healthy Watershed	\$ -	\$ -	
AOC Management	\$ 120,500	\$ 582,050	
Conservation Services/Healthy Watershed	\$ 674,335	\$ 509,650	
MNR Species At Risk	\$ 80,000		
Recreation	\$ 1,304,050	\$ 1,329,011	
CA Capital Development	\$ 68,500	\$ 119,000	
Property Management	\$ 243,096	\$ 243,996	
Communication and Education	\$ 232,110	\$ 226,640	
IT Capital	\$ 9,600	\$ 9,600	
Equipment	\$ 72,000	\$ 72,000	
Legal	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Administration	\$ 988,322	\$ 1,026,978	\$ 41,000
<b>Total CA Budget</b>	<b>\$ 6,940,587</b>	<b>\$ 6,258,732</b>	<b>\$ 310,000</b>
Employment Programs	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	
Stewardship Programs	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total 2017 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>\$ 7,015,587</b>	<b>\$ 6,333,732</b>	<b>\$ 310,000</b>

\* Detailed budgets of each project / program are available upon request

Other Grant/Program Funds	Matching Levy	Non Matching Levy	Special Levy	Revenues	Reserves
\$ 12,000	\$ 223,500	\$ -	\$ 73,000	\$ 3,200	
			\$ 20,500		
\$ 60,000			\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	
\$ 106,000					
	\$ 20,000	\$ 159,000	\$ -	\$ 115,081	\$ 173,513
\$ -	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500			
\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
\$ 178,095		\$ 34,000		\$ 163,418	
\$ -					
\$ 582,050					
\$ 155,000				\$ 354,650	\$ -
		\$ 13,500	\$ 72,335	\$ 1,243,176	\$ -
				\$ -	\$ 119,000
				\$ 243,996	\$ -
\$ 10,000		\$ 90,000		\$ 90,000	\$ 36,640
				\$ 9,600	
				\$ 72,000	
	\$ 500				
\$ 12,000	\$ 61,500	\$ 302,751	\$ -	\$ 509,119	\$ 100,608
<b>\$ 1,115,145</b>	<b>\$ 310,000</b>	<b>\$ 603,751</b>	<b>\$ 425,835</b>	<b>\$ 3,064,240</b>	<b>\$ 429,761</b>
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>\$ 1,115,145</b>	<b>\$ 310,000</b>	<b>\$ 603,751</b>	<b>\$ 425,835</b>	<b>\$ 3,139,240</b>	<b>\$ 429,761</b>

	2018	2019	% Increase
Base	863,855	913,751	5.8%
	<u>863,855</u>	<u>913,751</u>	
	49,896	5.8%	

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority 2019 Budget Summary November 6, 2018

	Budget	Provincial Grant	Other Grant/Program Funds	Matching Levy	Non Matching Levy
Flood Control Operations and Maintenance	\$535,200	\$223,500	\$12,000	\$223,500	\$0
Erosion Control Operations & Maintenance	\$41,000	\$20,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Projects	\$580,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$0	\$0
Source Protection Planning	\$106,000	\$0	\$106,000	\$0	\$0
Planning and Regulations	\$487,594	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$159,000
TS - Hazard & Flood Information Management	\$13,500	\$4,500	\$0	\$4,500	\$4,500
TS - Aquatic systems monitoring	\$375,513	\$0	\$178,095	\$0	\$34,000
St. Clair AOC Management	\$582,050	\$0	\$582,050	\$0	\$0
Conservation Services	\$509,650	\$0	\$155,000	\$0	\$0
MNR Species at Risk	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation Areas	\$1,329,011	\$0		\$0	\$13,500
Capital Development	\$119,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Property Management	\$243,996	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Information and Education	\$226,640	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$90,000
IT Capital	\$9,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$72,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Legal	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0
Administration	\$1,026,978	\$41,000	\$12,000	\$61,500	\$302,751
<b>Total CA Budget</b>	<b>\$6,258,732</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$1,115,145</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$603,751</b>
Employment Programs *	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$6,333,732</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$1,115,145</b>	<b>\$310,000</b>	<b>\$603,751</b>
<b>Percentage of Budget</b>		<b>4.9%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>9.5%</b>

Total Municipal Funding % Excluding Spec Levy

14%

\* The Authority assists in the administration of the Employment programs, therefore these items must be approved under the Authority's budget for signing authorization. The funds are only transferred in and out with the Authority having no direct spending controls.

**St. Clair Region Conservation Authority 2019 Budget Summary November 6, 2018**

<b>Special Levy</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Reserves</b>
St. Clair - McK Maint \$2,600 Dam OP. Review CK \$19,000, SC \$1,000 C-K- McK Maint - \$49,400, Arda - \$1,000	Carryforwards - \$3,200	\$0
Sarnia - SECP \$13,000 Pt. Edward - PEECP \$2,000 C-K - Dres RetWalls&CECP \$500 Sarnia - SBCEP \$2,000 C-K - Wallaceburg Walls \$1,000 Strathroy - StrECP \$1,000 St. Clair - Corrunna Ret Wall \$1,000		\$0
\$260,000	Carryforwards - \$260,000	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0
	Fees - \$115,081	\$173,513
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	Carryforward \$163,418	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	Fees - \$279,650 Carryforward \$75,000	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0
Shetland - Dawn-Euphemia \$9,900 Wawanosh - City of Sarnia \$10,000 Clark Wright - Strathroy-Caradoc \$3,100 Bridgeview - Town of Petrolia \$900 Coldstream - Middlesex Centre \$1,300 Crothers - Chatham-Kent \$3,300 Stranak - Chatham-Kent \$5,900 Peers - Chatham-Kent \$1,650 Strathroy - Strathroy-Caradoc \$23,000 McEwen - Plympton-Wyoming \$12,110 Dodge - Lambton Shores \$1,175	Fees - \$1,194,250 Parking Fees - \$8,000 Other Donations - \$2,500 Foundation - \$1,000 (Mclean) - \$23,400 Carryforward - \$6,026  Rental Income - \$8,000	\$0
\$0		\$119,000
\$0	Rental Income - \$166,400 County of Lambton - \$18,300 Carryforward - \$500 Revenue - \$58,796	\$0
\$0	Fees - \$25,000 Donations - \$65,000	\$36,640
\$0	\$9,600	\$0
\$0	\$72,000	\$0
\$0		\$0
\$0	Rental Income - \$15,000 Interest Income - \$25,000 Foundation - \$31,950 Allocated Admin & IT Costs - \$66,100 Admin Fees - \$65,500 Other Income - \$33,450 Oil & Gas Revenue - \$75,000 Carryforward - \$197,119	\$100,608
<b>\$425,835</b>	<b>\$3,064,240</b>	<b>\$429,761</b>
\$0	\$75,000	\$0
<b>\$425,835</b>	<b>\$3,139,240</b>	<b>\$429,761</b>
<b>5.9%</b>	<b>50.4%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>

Schedule "A"

2019 Levy Assessment

Municipality	2018 Current Value Assessment (modified) in Watershed	2018 CVA Apportionment %
Township of Adelaide Metcalfe	\$ 387,976,905	1.7919%
Township Brooke-Alvinston	\$ 356,373,401	1.6459%
Municipality Chatham-Kent	\$ 2,824,364,093	13.0442%
Township Dawn-Euphemia	\$ 539,038,504	2.4895%
Township Enniskillen	\$ 395,062,311	1.8246%
Municipality Lambton Shores	\$ 1,069,478,214	4.9393%
Municipality Middlesex Centre	\$ 459,907,479	2.1241%
Village Newbury	\$ 31,502,314	0.1455%
Village Oil Springs	\$ 42,843,836	0.1979%
Town Petrolia	\$ 548,872,159	2.5349%
Town Plympton-Wyoming	\$ 1,137,211,064	5.2521%
Village Point Edward	\$ 506,536,439	2.3394%
City Sarnia	\$ 8,475,223,214	39.1424%
Municipality Southwest Middlesex	\$ 246,944,056	1.1405%
Township St. Clair	\$ 2,381,997,742	11.0011%
Township Strathroy - Caradoc	\$ 1,802,521,211	8.3248%
Township Warwick	\$ 446,451,745	2.0619%
	<b>\$ 21,652,304,687</b>	<b>100%</b>

2019 Municipal General Levy : \$49,896 increase over 2018

CVA Apportionment is based on information provide from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry



<b>2019 Current Value Assessment (modified) in Watershed</b>	<b>2019 CVA Apportionment %</b>	<b>2018 General Levy</b>	<b>2019 General Levy</b>
\$ 417,217,351	1.8398%	\$ 14,763	\$ 16,811
\$ 381,810,261	1.6837%	\$ 13,560	\$ 15,385
\$ 2,944,257,785	12.9832%	\$ 107,465	\$ 118,634
\$ 580,082,657	2.5580%	\$ 20,510	\$ 23,374
\$ 419,939,924	1.8518%	\$ 15,032	\$ 16,921
\$ 1,122,502,776	4.9499%	\$ 40,693	\$ 45,230
\$ 483,809,439	2.1334%	\$ 17,499	\$ 19,494
\$ 34,647,385	0.1528%	\$ 1,199	\$ 1,396
\$ 44,961,487	0.1983%	\$ 1,630	\$ 1,812
\$ 571,783,579	2.5214%	\$ 20,884	\$ 23,039
\$ 1,198,973,962	5.2871%	\$ 43,270	\$ 48,311
\$ 516,044,830	2.2756%	\$ 19,273	\$ 20,793
\$ 8,776,269,841	38.7005%	\$ 322,476	\$ 353,626
\$ 261,523,066	1.1532%	\$ 9,396	\$ 10,537
\$ 2,520,273,450	11.1136%	\$ 90,633	\$ 101,551
\$ 1,913,077,444	8.4361%	\$ 68,584	\$ 77,085
\$ 490,204,969	2.1616%	\$ 16,987	\$ 19,752
<b>\$ 22,677,380,206</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 823,855</b>	<b>\$ 913,751</b>

**2019 Municipal Funding  
Schedule "B"**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>2018 CVA Apport.%</b>	<b>2019 CVA Apport.%</b>	<b>2018 General Levy</b>	<b>2019 General Levy</b>	<b>2018/2019 General Levy Increase or (Decrease)</b>
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	1.7919%	1.8398%	\$ 15,479	\$ 16,811	\$ 1,332
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	1.6459%	1.6837%	\$ 14,218	\$ 15,385	\$ 1,167
Chatham-Kent M	13.0442%	12.9832%	\$ 112,683	\$ 118,634	\$ 5,951
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	2.4895%	2.5580%	\$ 21,506	\$ 23,374	\$ 1,868
Enniskillen Tp	1.8246%	1.8518%	\$ 15,762	\$ 16,921	\$ 1,159
Lambton Shores M	4.9393%	4.9499%	\$ 42,668	\$ 45,230	\$ 2,562
Middlesex Centre M	2.1241%	2.1334%	\$ 18,349	\$ 19,494	\$ 1,145
Newbury V	0.1455%	0.1528%	\$ 1,257	\$ 1,396	\$ 139
Oil Springs V	0.1979%	0.1983%	\$ 1,710	\$ 1,812	\$ 102
Petrolia T	2.5349%	2.5214%	\$ 21,898	\$ 23,039	\$ 1,141
Plympton-Wyoming T	5.2521%	5.2871%	\$ 45,371	\$ 48,311	\$ 2,940
Point Edward V	2.3394%	2.2756%	\$ 20,209	\$ 20,793	\$ 584
Sarnia C	39.1424%	38.7005%	\$ 338,133	\$ 353,626	\$ 15,493
Southwest Middlesex M	1.1405%	1.1532%	\$ 9,852	\$ 10,537	\$ 685
St. Clair Tp	11.0011%	11.1136%	\$ 95,034	\$ 101,551	\$ 6,517
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	8.3248%	8.4361%	\$ 71,914	\$ 77,085	\$ 5,171
Warwick Tp	2.0619%	2.1616%	\$ 17,812	\$ 19,752	\$ 1,940
			\$ 863,855	\$ 913,751	\$ 49,896

2019			
Flood Control Oper/Maint	Erosion Control Oper/Maint	Recreation	Total Municipal Funding
			\$16,811
			\$15,385
\$68,400	\$2,500	\$10,850	\$200,384
		\$9,900	\$33,274
			\$16,921
		\$1,175	\$46,405
		\$1,300	\$20,794
			\$1,396
			\$1,812
		\$900	\$23,939
		\$12,110	\$60,421
	\$2,000		\$22,793
	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$378,626
			\$10,537
\$3,600	\$1,000		\$106,151
	\$1,000	\$26,100	\$104,185
			\$19,752
\$72,000	\$21,500	\$72,335	\$1,079,586

**2019 Municipal Funding Analysis**  
**Schedule "C" Increase on Municipal Budget**

Municipality	2018	2019	2019
	General Levy	General Levy Increase	General Levy
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	\$ 15,479	\$ 1,332	\$ 16,811
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	\$ 14,218	\$ 1,167	\$ 15,385
Chatham-Kent M	\$ 112,683	\$ 5,951	\$ 118,634
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	\$ 21,506	\$ 1,868	\$ 23,374
Enniskillen Tp	\$ 15,762	\$ 1,159	\$ 16,921
Lambton Shores M	\$ 42,668	\$ 2,562	\$ 45,230
Middlesex Centre M	\$ 18,349	\$ 1,145	\$ 19,494
Newbury V	\$ 1,257	\$ 139	\$ 1,396
Oil Springs V	\$ 1,710	\$ 102	\$ 1,812
Petrolia T	\$ 21,898	\$ 1,141	\$ 23,039
Plympton-Wyoming T	\$ 45,371	\$ 2,940	\$ 48,311
Point Edward V	\$ 20,209	\$ 584	\$ 20,793
Sarnia C	\$ 338,133	\$ 15,493	\$ 353,626
Southwest Middlesex M	\$ 9,852	\$ 685	\$ 10,537
St. Clair Tp	\$ 90,633	\$ 6,517	\$ 101,551
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	\$ 68,584	\$ 5,171	\$ 77,085
Warwick Tp	\$ 16,987	\$ 1,940	\$ 19,752

<b>Municipal 2016 Base  Budget</b>	<b>General Levy Increase as % of  Municipal Budget</b>	<b>Total General Levy as % of  Municipal Budget</b>	<b>Total Levy as % of  Municipal Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>
\$ 6,330,265	0.021%	0.266%	0.266%	2015 Budget
\$ 3,878,179	0.030%	0.397%	0.397%	
\$ 287,827,143	0.002%	0.041%	0.070%	
\$ 5,169,218	0.036%	0.452%	0.644%	
\$ 3,982,675	0.029%	0.425%	0.425%	2015 Budget
\$ 22,616,562	0.011%	0.200%	0.202%	
\$ 40,671,888	0.003%	0.048%	0.051%	
\$ 799,208	0.017%	0.175%	0.175%	
\$ 878,215	0.012%	0.206%	0.206%	
\$ 11,597,734	0.010%	0.199%	0.206%	2015 Budget
\$ 14,075,708	0.021%	0.343%	0.429%	
\$ 11,254,331	0.005%	0.185%	0.203%	
\$ 132,499,474	0.012%	0.267%	0.286%	
\$ 7,738,451	0.009%	0.136%	0.136%	
\$ 25,162,455	0.043%	0.404%	0.422%	2014 Budget
\$ 28,342,030	0.030%	0.272%	0.368%	
\$ 7,339,961	0.038%	0.269%	0.269%	

# Schedule "D"

## 2019 Conservation Area Maintenance and Operation Budget

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Special Levy
403- Shetland	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	\$9,900( Dawn-Euphemia)
404 - Sinclair	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
405 - Wawanosh	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	\$10,000 (City of Sarnia)
413 - Clark Wright	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,100	\$3,100 (Strathroy-Caradoc)
416 - -Bridgeview	\$ 900	\$ 4,976	\$900 (Town of Petrolia)
417 - Campbell	\$ 331,650	\$ 326,850	
419 - Coldstream	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300	\$1,300 (Middlesex Centre)
448 - Crothers	\$ 2,900	\$ 3,300	\$3,300(Chatham-Kent)
455 - Peers	\$ 7,100	\$ 11,600	\$1,650 (Chatham-Kent)
458 - Warwick	\$ 528,600	\$ 537,900	
470 - Stranak	\$ 7,200	\$ 5,900	\$5,900 (Chatham-Kent)
472 - Henderson	\$ 319,800	\$ 332,000	
474 - Strathroy	\$ 24,500	\$ 23,000	\$23,000 (Strathroy-Caradoc)
485 - McEwen	\$ 13,400	\$ 13,510	\$12,110 (Plympton-Wyoming)
486 - Mclean	\$ 22,100	\$ 23,400	
489 - Highland Glen	\$ 19,000	\$ 18,000	
493 - Dodge	\$ 500	\$ 1,175	\$1,175(Lambton-Shores)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,305,050</b>	<b>\$ 1,329,011</b>	<b>\$ 72,335</b>

Notes:

**Regional Conservation Areas** (A.W. Campbell, L.C. Henderson, Warwick, Highland Glen)

**Local Conservation Areas** (Shetland, Wawanosh, McEwen, Clark Wright)

**In Town Conservation Areas** (Strathroy, Coldstream, Dodge, Stranak, Crothers, Bridgeview)

Detailed budgets for specific conservation areas available upon request.

The areas are supported by employment programs, fundraising, friends of groups, St. Clair Region Foundation and grants programs from corporate and non-profit organizations.

<b>Non-Matching General Levy</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Other Donations</b>	<b>Other</b>
\$ 1,100				
		\$ 1,000		
\$ 1,000				
				\$ 4,076
	\$ 324,350		\$ 2,500	
	\$ 8,000			\$ 1,950
	\$ 537,900		\$ -	
	\$ 332,000			
\$ 1,400				
	\$ 23,400			
\$ 10,000	\$ 8,000			
<b>\$ 13,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,233,650</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>	<b>\$ 6,026</b>

**Summary of Authority / Foundation Land Holdings**

Hectares

Conservation Lands	556
Conservation Forests	81
McKeough Upstream Lands	746
McKeough Dam & Channel	236
Foundations Lands	<u>317</u>
Total	1936

Flood Easements 647

To ensure the wisest use of these lands, the Authority works with the public and private sectors by entering into various lease agreements including agricultural, residential and other resource management leases. 918 hectares are under lease.

**2019 Municipal Funding  
Schedule "E" - Water Erosion Control Infrastructure**

Municipality	2019 Proposed General Levy	2019 Proposed Special Levy	2019		
			Courtright Shoreline Protection	Flood Plain Mapping Project NDMP	Total Municipal Funding
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	\$ 16,811	\$ -			\$16,811
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	\$ 15,385	\$ -			\$15,385
Chatham-Kent M	\$ 118,634	\$ 81,750			\$200,384
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	\$ 23,374	\$ 9,900			\$33,274
Enniskillen Tp	\$ 16,921	\$ -			\$16,921
Lambton Shores M	\$ 45,230	\$ 1,175			\$46,405
Middlesex Centre M	\$ 19,494	\$ 1,300			\$20,794
Newbury V	\$ 1,396	\$ -			\$1,396
Oil Springs V	\$ 1,812	\$ -			\$1,812
Petrolia T	\$ 23,039	\$ 900			\$23,939
Plympton-Wyoming T	\$ 48,311	\$ 12,110			\$60,421
Point Edward V	\$ 20,793	\$ 2,000			\$22,793
Sarnia C	\$ 353,626	\$ 25,000		\$36,000	\$414,626
Southwest Middlesex M	\$ 10,537	\$ -			\$10,537
St. Clair Tp	\$ 101,551	\$ 4,600	\$200,000	\$24,000	\$330,151
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	\$ 77,085	\$ 27,100			\$104,185
Warwick Tp	\$ 19,752	\$ -			\$19,752
	\$ 913,751	\$ 165,835	\$200,000	\$60,000	\$1,339,586

**Note : WECl Projects are considered if there is matching funds from both the Province and the benefitting Municipality and vary from year to year based on granting approval process.**



St. Clair Conservation  
Conservation Areas 2019 Proposed Capital Projects

**Warwick Conservation Area**

Hydro Panels replaced: (\$8,000.00)

Workshop door replaced (\$3,000.00)

Subsurface drainage work in main day use area: (\$4,000.00)

Eave troughs and downspouts replaced on pool washroom building: (\$3,000)

Upgrade roadways with gravel:

- Estimated cost \$6,000.00

Fishing platform/dock (\$5,000.00)

**Total capital cost for Warwick: \$29,000.00**



**L.C. Henderson Conservation Area**

Upgrade roadways with gravel:

- Estimate cost \$6,000.00

Hydro panels replaced: (\$8,000.00)

Replace 2-60 gallon power vented hot water heaters: (\$7,000)

Solar pole light installed (\$1,500)

2 portable washrooms: (\$2,000)

**Total capital cost for L.C. Henderson \$24,500**



**A.W. Campbell Conservation Area**

Main road creek crossing riprap protection: (\$2,000)

Building roof replacement (Pool building & A Group Camp pavilion) (\$4,000)

Hydro panel & upgrade: (\$4,000)

2 portable washrooms: (\$2,000)

2 pool Stenner chemical feed pumps (\$2,000)

Upgrade roadways with gravel:

- Estimated cost \$6,000.00

**Total capital cost for A.W. Campbell Conservation Area \$20,000.00**



**Total capital cost for regional campgrounds \$73,500.00 (funds to complete these capital works are obtained through profits gained in the regional campgrounds)**

### **Campground septic study:**

We presently have 6 washroom buildings that are connected to septic systems that were constructed in the mid 1970's and mid 1980's. This study will review existing septic systems, monitor water usage trends, provide replacement timelines and engineering recommendations for the new systems.

Estimated cost for the study (\$15,000)

**Total capital cost for 2019 \$88,500.00**



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member of



Conservation Ontario Website  
[www.conservation-ontario.on.ca](http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca)

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** February 18, 2019  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 16.1**

**Subject:** General Manager's Report

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**Recommendation:**

That this report be accepted as an update.

**Forestry Reserve:**

- ❖ Questions regarding the intent of the restricted Forestry Reserve have been raised over the last year at multiple Board meetings
- ❖ As stated in the Audited Financial Statements - This reserve has been set aside to assist the Authority's forestry program with certain restrictions for its use
- ❖ The Reserve predates digital records and we will be reviewing hard copy files stored off site and will provide a report to the April meeting of the Board of Directors

**Transition to Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks:**

- ❖ Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario continue to communicate with Ministers and staff in both the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- ❖ At this point there are few questions being answered and no real engagement with us regarding the transition
- ❖ It is anticipated that the Provincial Government will be bringing forward their 2019 budget over the next few weeks and that channels of communication may flow more readily as we move toward spring

**Staffing / Organization Update:**

- ❖ With four retirements over the last 18 months and two more staff that have moved to pre-retirement part time, several staffing changes have occurred
- ❖ Further, at this opportune time we have made some changes to the organization structure to better reflect the division of responsibilities and, as per our Succession Plan, we are continuing to challenge staff to fulfill leadership roles as we look toward the future
- ❖ The following page provides Organizational Structure for staff of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority as of February 15, 2019



# St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Organization Structure - February 15, 2019



Legend: Blue - Permanent Green - Permanent Part Time Red - Seasonal Yellow - Contract

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** February 11, 2019  
**Submitted by:** Steve Clark

**Item 16.2**

**Subject:** Watershed Conditions Report and Great Lakes Water Levels

### Current Watershed Conditions:

- The mid-winter months have been influenced significantly by major swings in temperature and precipitation due to the movement of the “Polar Vortex” bringing periods of extreme cold temperatures with extensive lake effect snow often followed by periods of thaw notably in late January and the first and second weeks of February
- River levels rose considerably during a warmer temperature period melting snowpack in conjunction with a rain resulting in a Water Safety bulletin (Feb 4<sup>th</sup>); a Flood Outlook (Feb 5); and a Flood Watch (Feb 6<sup>th</sup>). As levels increased large amounts of ice on the watercourses were released increasing flows over several days.
- While moving ice restricted some outflow, no major ice jamming was experienced on the Sydenham at this time however, colder temperatures may again freeze ice in place into the month of February

Fig 1 Current River Levels – February All gauges (SCRCA - WISKI Data)

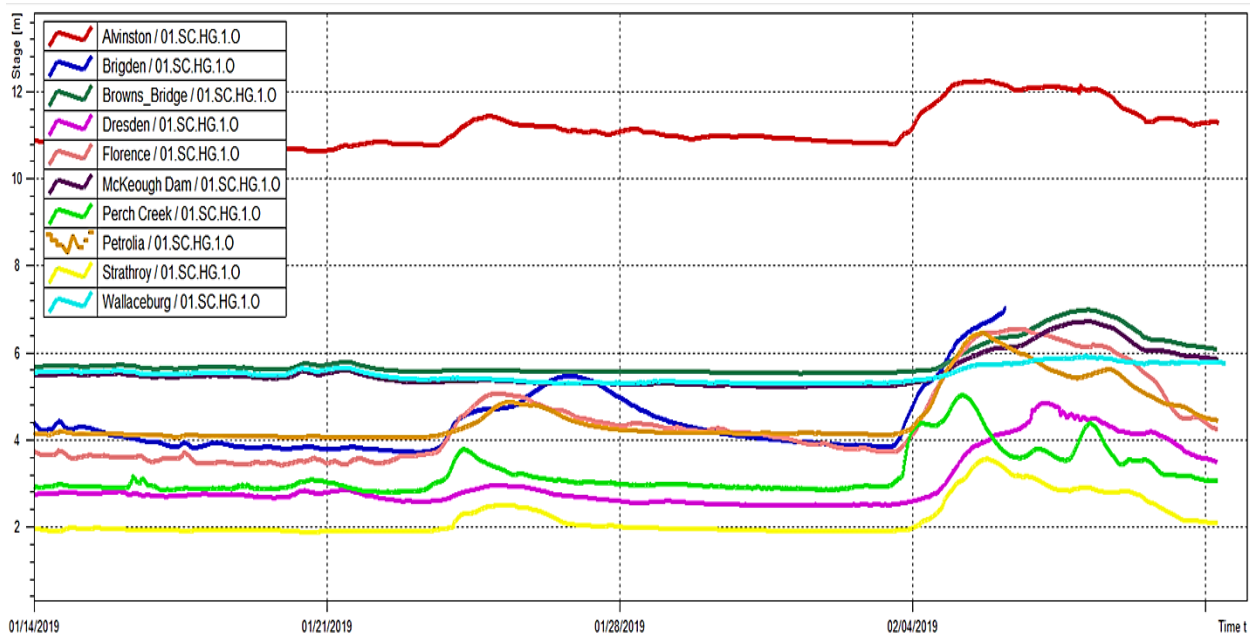
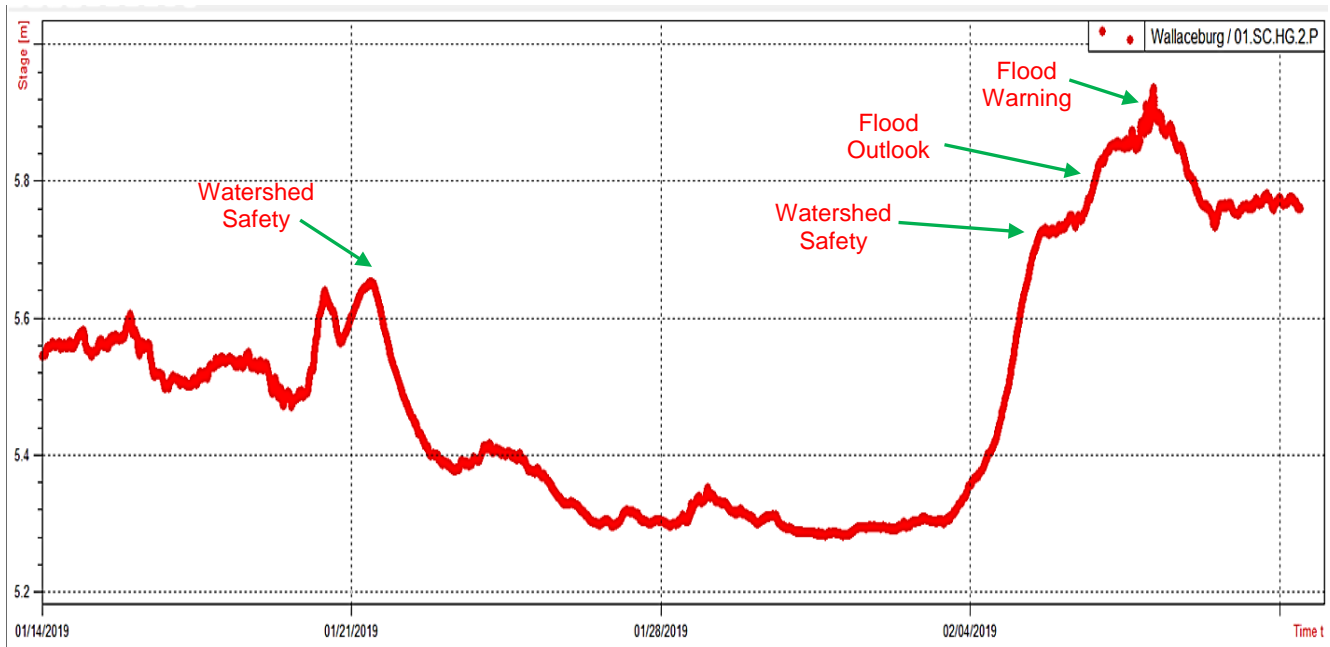


Fig 2. Wallaceburg Levels and Bulletins – January\February. (WISKI Data)



**Precipitation:**

Fig 3. Regional Precipitation (ECC Data)

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
Last Quarter	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
Nov	83.9	76.4	108.6	94.5	103.8	91.1	41.8	75.5
Dec	67	68	85.2	92.4	67.1	88.6	55	74.7
Jan	43.6	50.1	71.8	75.3	62.1	74.2	69.6	57.6
<b>Averages</b>								
last 3 month totals	194.5	194.5	265.6	262.2	233	253.9	166.4	207.8
last 3 month % of normal	100.0%		101.3%		91.8%		80.1%	
regional average	<b>93.3%</b>							
last 6 month totals	433.5	455.6	599.8	501.3	489	522.5	357.3	472.8
last 6 month % of normal	95.1%		119.6%		93.6%		75.6%	
regional average	<b>96.0%</b>							
last 12 month totals	884.7	846.8	1104	945.1	932.3	987	947.3	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	104.5%		116.8%		94.5%		103.1%	
regional average	<b>104.7%</b>							

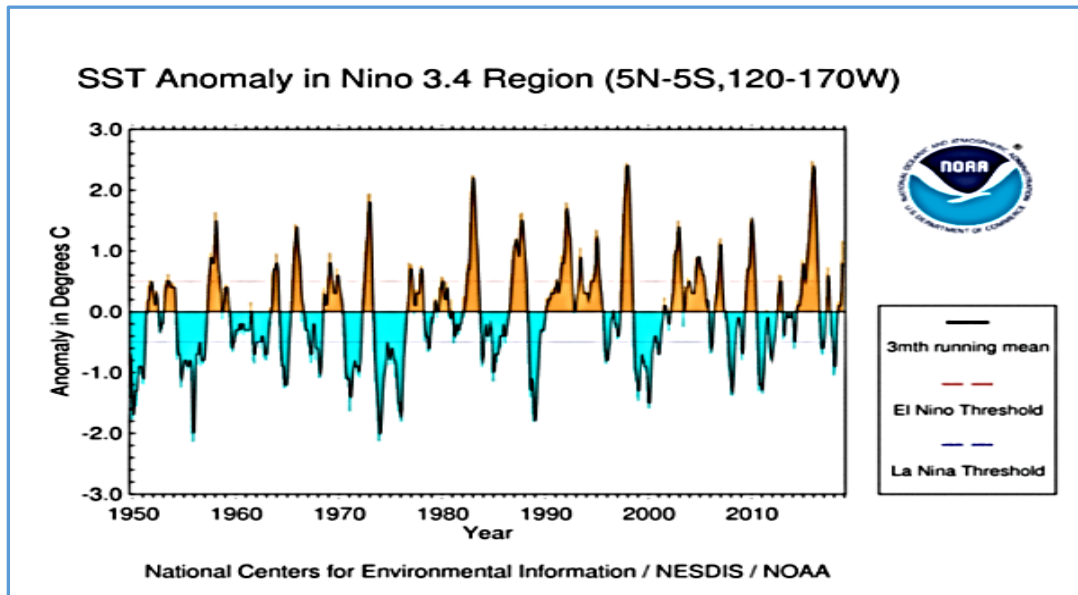
- As mentioned, warmer periods brought precipitation in the form of rain and freezing rain conditions. Total accumulations for January remained at or in some cases below normal. (Note: all types of precipitation are identified and converted to a total volume for the purpose of monthly comparison regardless of season)
- Subsequently the three and six month averages were down and while the annual numbers remain slightly above average **104.7%**

## Weather Conditions and Forecast:

(Note: Some meteorological data not available due to the US government shut down and the lack of NOAA information, so other models were used to formulate the forecast)

### ENSO Conditions

Fig 4 - Historical ENSO Anomalies – (NOAA)



### ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillation)

- El Niño peak came around November/December, since then it has been dropping but is expected to stop dropping soon, possibly close to a positive neutral
- However, ENSO predictions forecasting a recovery back into deeper El Niño conditions, bringing possibly warmer than normal conditions

### Comparative Years (years with similar ENSO conditions)

- February: 2010, 1969; Overall Winter Conditions: 2018/2019 2009/2010, 2004/2005; Spring: 1969, 2010, 1990

### February

- Temperatures expected to be normal, with slight colder than normal areas (confidence not high on this forecast)
- American forecasts indicate everywhere is colder than normal but other models, including Canadian model, say warmer than normal everywhere (but this model has warmer than normal bias all the time);
- Expect storm tracks to bring precipitation into the province with southwestern Ontario getting higher than normal precipitation.



## March

- Seasonal to cooler than normal temperatures, but other models saying warmer than normal
- Precipitation expected to be seasonal to above normal precipitation
- March basically expected to be a 'typical' March

## April

- American model calling for warmer than seasonal, but only by 0.5 a degree
- Precipitation forecasted to be seasonal (American model), but Canadian model saying drier than normal.

Fig 5. Farmers Almanac Predictions (comparison purposes only)

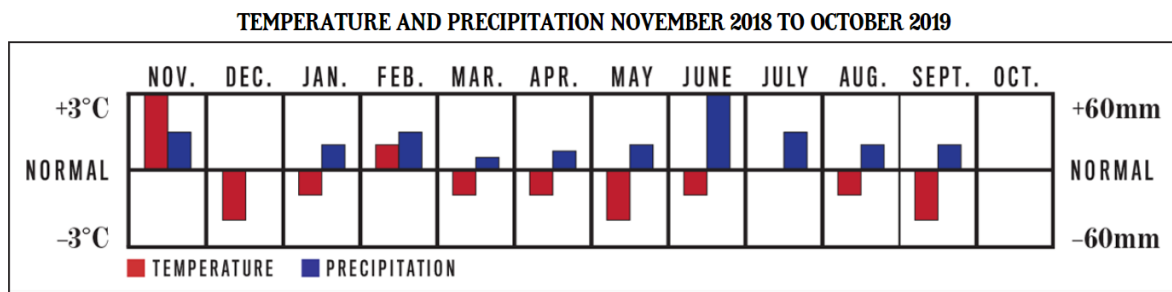
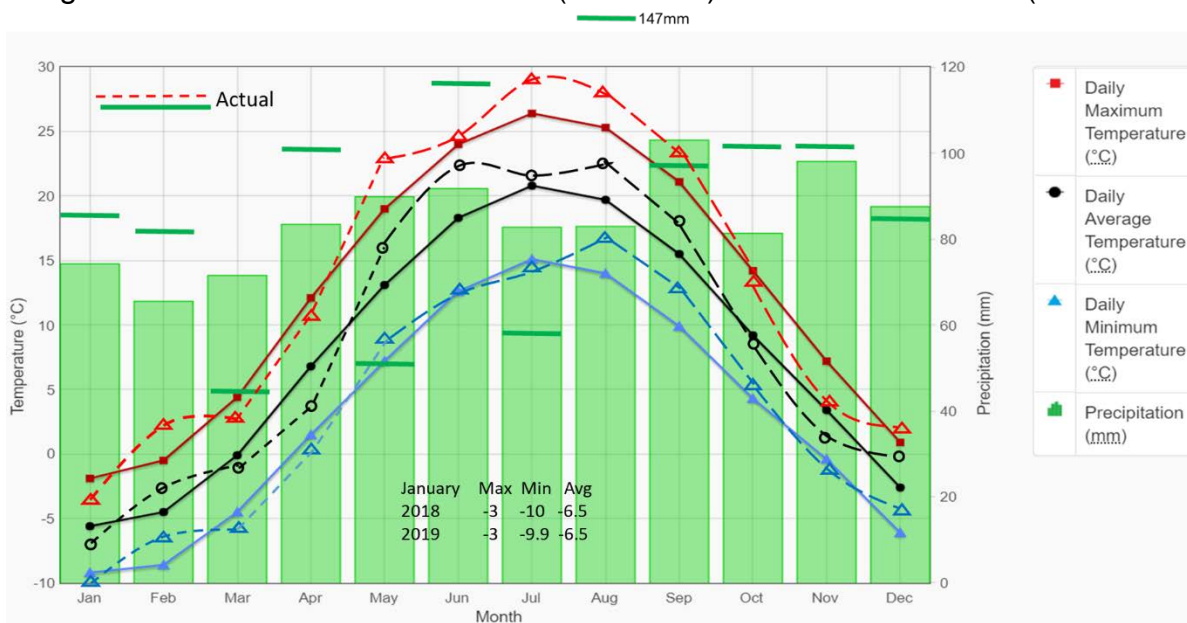
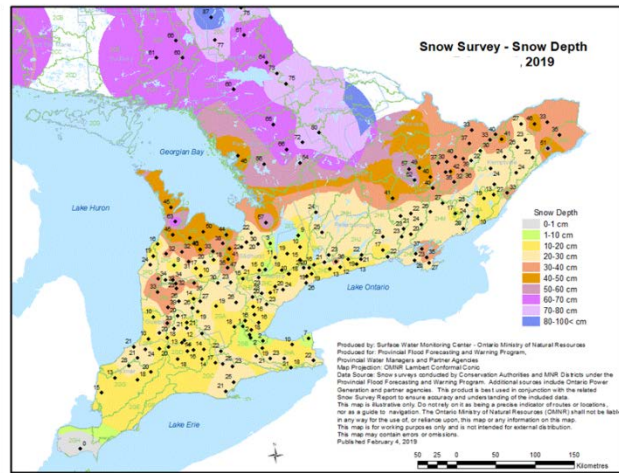
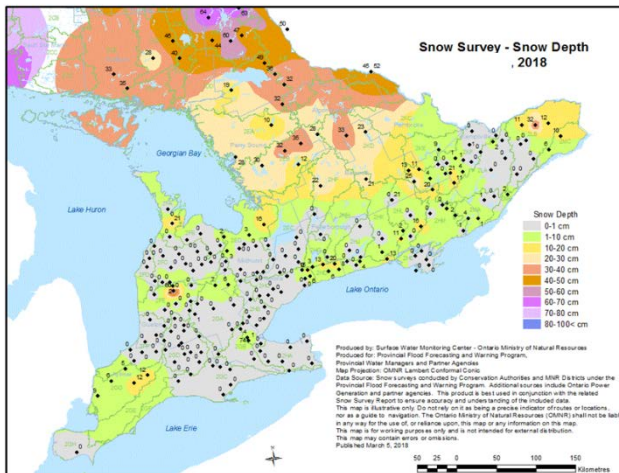


Fig 6. Identifies the seasonal normal (solid lines) with 2018 conditions (dashed lines)



## Current Snow Conditions

Significant amounts of snowpack has been released in SW Ontario in first part of February but may be replaced considering it is still the winter season. By comparison, reported figures by MNR/F for the first part of February 2018 compared to the same period in 2019 illustrate the change from year to year.



## Lake Ice Conditions

- Lake ice conditions are very similar to last year with varied amounts of thickness across Lake Huron with some central areas of open water. This condition continues to result in some lake effect snow but less than earlier in January with reduced open water.

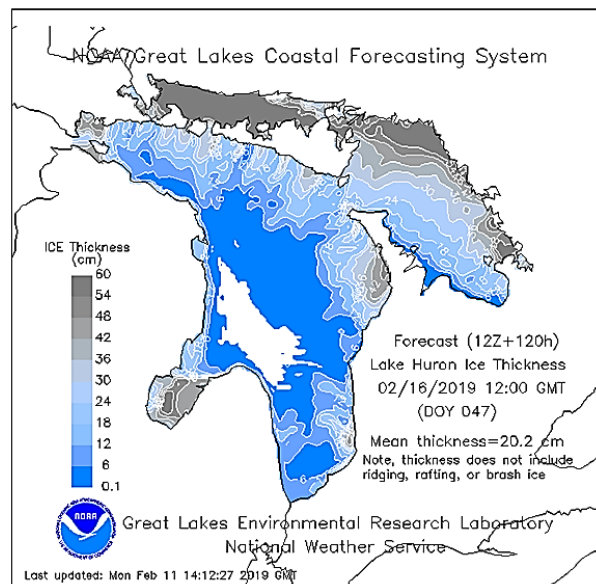
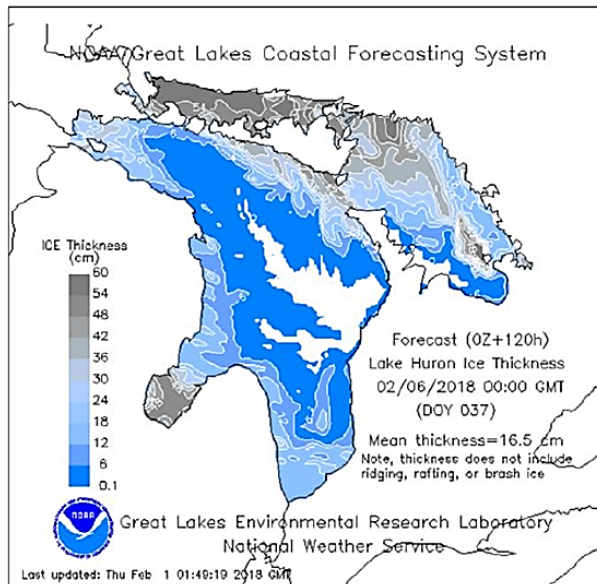
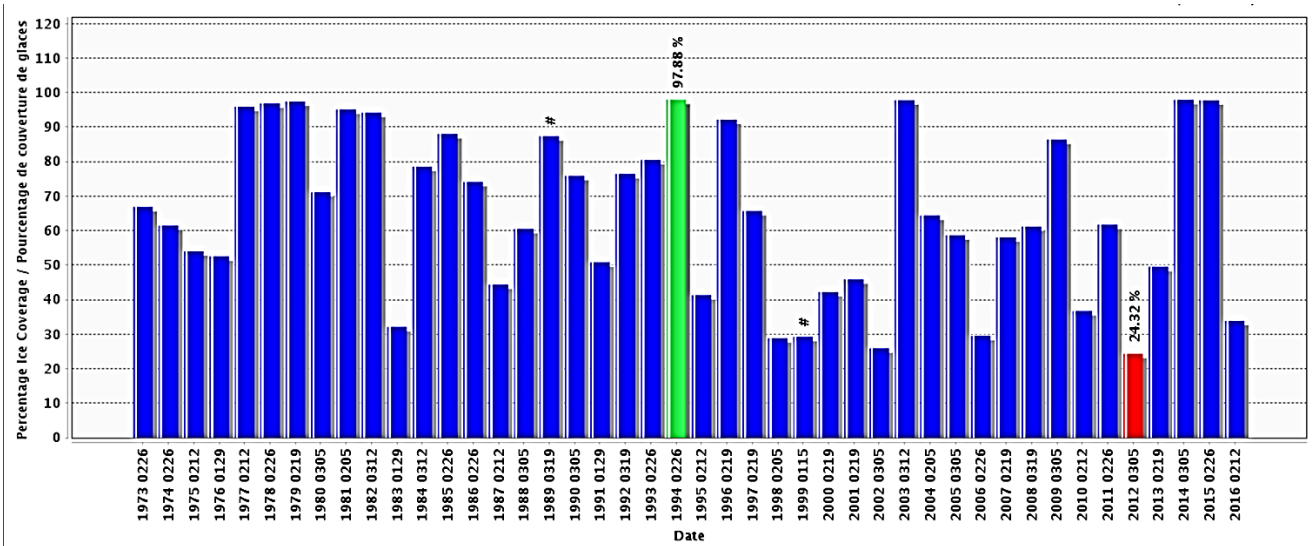


Fig 7. Historical Lake Huron Ice Coverage – February 1972 to 2016



**Flood Threat**

With several bulletins issued and the potential high water conditions prevailing, any significant rainfall or snowmelt may result in over-bank conditions throughout the watershed. Since we are moving into the freshet period, we continue to monitor water levels carefully. **Advisories will be issued as needed from our Flood Management Office.**

**Great Lakes Levels:**

December Lake Huron lake level data (latest available as of this report) indicates a slight increase in overall monthly levels compared to last year by **4cm** over December 2017. Lake St Clair and Lake Erie also show higher increases. Current levels remain substantially above the 10 year average as well as above the all-time average (100 years). While it is difficult to establish a trend, lake levels remain high consistent with the overall trend for the past few years however they do not exceed the all-time highest monthly values established in 1986.

Fig 8. Historical Record – Lake Huron 1918 to 2018

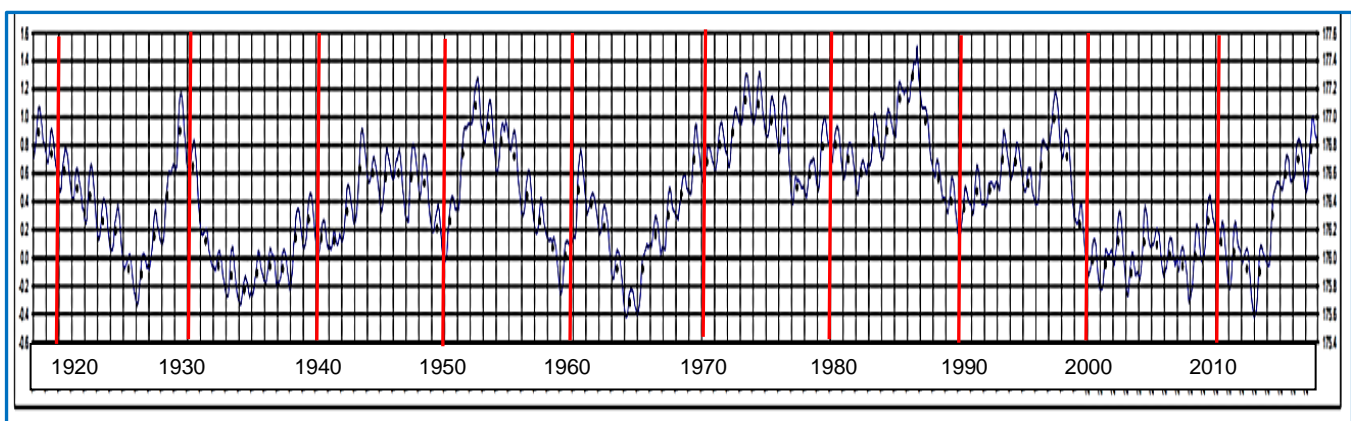


Fig 7. Great Lakes Data (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)

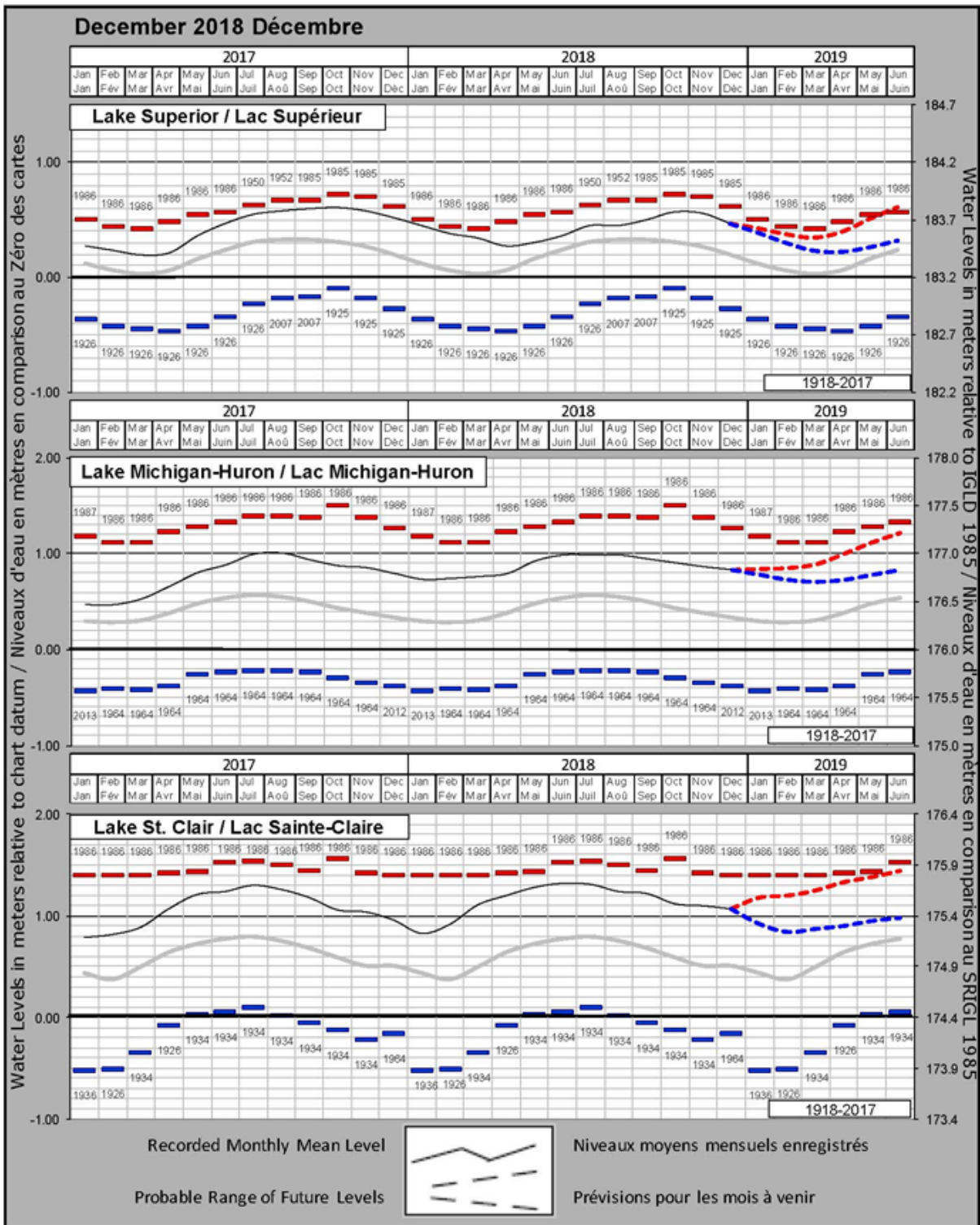
December 2018	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (preliminary data)	176.83	175.47	174.59
Mean for month last year	176.79	175.36	174.44
Change	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.15</b>
Mean for month, last 10 years	176.21	174.95	174.10
Change compared to current	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.49</b>
Mean for month, All Time	176.33	174.91	173.99
Change compared to Current	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.60</b>
<b>Statistics for period of record</b>			
Maximum monthly mean / year	177.26	175.8	174.89
	1986	1986	1986
Change compared to Current	<b>-0.43</b>	<b>-0.33</b>	<b>-0.30</b>
Minimum monthly mean / year	175.61	174.24	173.19
	1964	1934	1934
<b>Next Month Estimate</b>			
Probable mean for next month	176.81	175.48	174.58
Next month compared to current	<b>-0.02</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>-0.01</b>

Ongoing dynamic beach erosion at Ipperwash Beach – October 2018





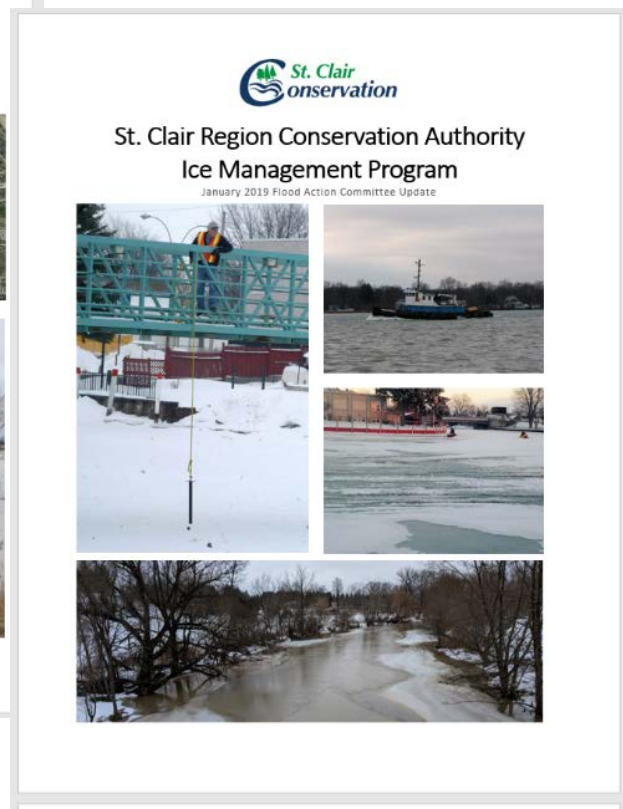
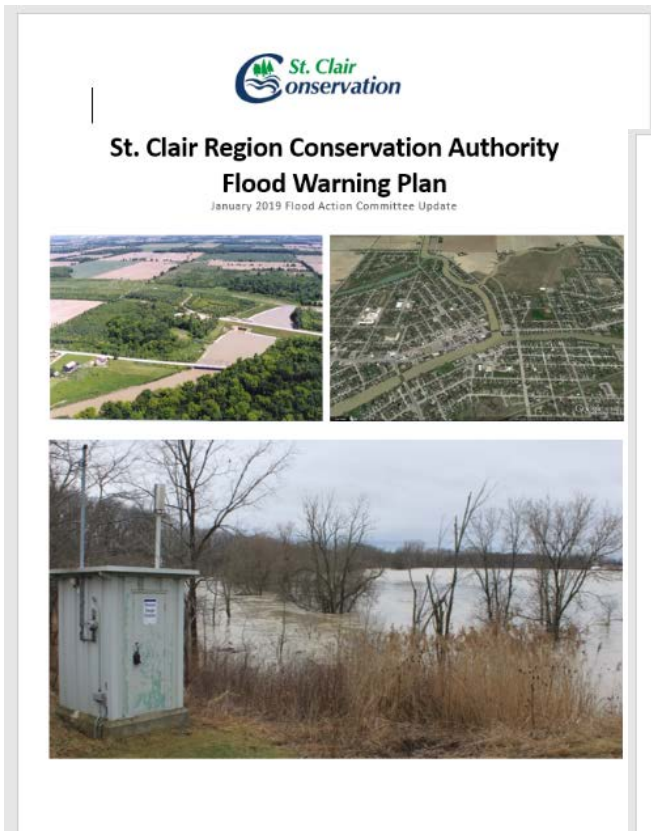
Fig 8. Three year Lake Levels – (Canadian Hydrometric Service)



## Flood Action Committee

Every December staff review and update the St.Clair Flood and Ice Management Plan to ensure that meets the current standard criteria for risk management and emergency response for the coming year.

The water resources department held its annual meeting with the Flood Action Committee on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at the Wallaceburg municipal office. These meetings are an opportunity for staff from the Conservation Authority to sit with Wallaceburg representatives and discuss the Flood Warning and Ice Breaking Plans. This entails ensuring contact information is accurate, briefing members on emergency protocols and improvements to flood forecasting and management, and updating the committee on current watershed conditions and the winter outlook. The outcome of the meeting is revised editions of both Plans that would be used during a flood emergency, as well an agreement that that the Conservation Authority will provide continued collaborative coordinating of ice breaking operations.



**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** February 16, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

**Item 16.3**

**Subject:** Phase II – Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements

**Background:**

- A budget of \$350,000 has been confirmed for the project (St. Clair Township \$250,000; Carry forward - \$80,000, GLCGF-\$20,000).
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project during the week of January 8, 2019
- Tenders closed on 22 January 2019
- Staff have obtained MNRF and DFO for permits
- Construction is expected to start February 2019
- Errors were noticed in the Tender submitted by DiCocco Contractors and the corrected final price was \$316,779.36
- The lowest bid was submitted by Murray Mills Excavating and Trucking at a total price of \$290,945.72 +H.S.T
- Tender has been awarded to Murray Mills Excavating and Trucking

Tender Results are provided below:

**Courtright Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements – Phase 2**

January 22, 2019

2:05 p.m.

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Administrative Offices

Firm's Name	Tender Deposit	Agree to Bond	Tender Price
Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking (Sarnia) Ltd.	✓	✓	\$290,245.62
St. Clair Mechanical	✓	✓	\$487,467.31
Dicocco Contractors and Engineers	✓	✓	\$223,067.90
Brandon Contractors	✓	✓	\$396,770.12
R. Russell Construction	-	-	-

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019 **Item 16.4**  
**Report Date:** February 11, 2019  
**Submitted by:** Erica Ogden, Sarah Hodgkiss

**Subject:** Planning Activity Summary  
 November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019

A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review is presented below. This report covers the period from November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019

### Municipal Plan Input and Review

**File Reference:** PL#2018-095

Municipality:	Adelaide-Metcalf	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	620 Second Street		

**File Reference:** PL#2019-001

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	473 Brown Street		

**File Reference:** PL#2019-007

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	29065 Bluewater Crescent		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-078

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4376 Lasalle Line		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-099

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	3764 Oil Springs Line		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-110

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	First Ave		

**File Reference:** PL#2018-111

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	38T-07001
Property Location:	Country View Drive		



**File Reference: PL#2019-004**

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Lot 12, Con 4		

**File Reference: PL#2018-096**

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	7418 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-102**

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	5478 Beach Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-105**

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	6778 East Parkway Drive		

**File Reference: PL#2019-005**

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	East of Lake Valley Grove Road		

**File Reference: PL#2019-011**

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	9532 & 9569 Ipperwash Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-023**

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	39T-MC1701
Property Location:	Ilderton Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-119**

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	39T-MC0401
Property Location:	Timberwalk Trail		

**File Reference: PL#2019-002**

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	A23/18
Property Location:	5233 Egremont Drive		

**File Reference: PL#2019-008**

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	39T-MC1901
Property Location:	Timberwalk Trail		

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

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	First Ave & Garden Crs		

**File Reference: PL#2018-100**

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Part Lot 11, Concession 11		

**File Reference: PL#2018-007**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	OPA 46
Property Location:	3476 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-022**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	38T-18004
Property Location:	Queen Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-045**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	OPA 39, ZBA16/2016, 38T-18005
Property Location:	5706 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-055**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	3424 Egremont Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-062**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	7096 Bonnie Doone Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-073**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4914 Ann Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-098**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	North of 6810 King Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-109**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	North of 6810 King Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-112**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	OPA 32
Property Location:	Egremont Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-116**

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	3790 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-028**

Municipality:	Point Edward	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Venetian Boulevard		

**File Reference: PL#2018-014**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	OPA 12
Property Location:	834 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-048**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1408 Churchill Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-052**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1273-1289 London Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-072**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1873 London Line		

**File Reference: PL#2018-081**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	B1/2019, B2/2019, A1/2019
Property Location:	544 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-084**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	2024 London Line		

**File Reference: PL#2018-104**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	B30/2018, A42/2018, A43/2018
Property Location:	2681 Old Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-107**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	A50/2018
Property Location:	1930 Lakeshore Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-108**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1425 Vidal Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-118**

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	11-2018-85, SD2-2018, CD1-2018
Property Location:	1992 Estella Street		

**File Reference: PL#2019-013**

Municipality:	Southwest Middlesex	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	48 York Street		

**File Reference: PL#2019-010**

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4683 Riverside Drive		

**File Reference: PL#2018-017**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	39T-SC1704
Property Location:	22828 Rougham Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-056**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Pt Lt 25, Con 2, Second Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-058**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	ZBA01-2019, B10/2018, B11/2018
Property Location:	22701 & 22681 Adelaide Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-074**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	39T-SC1801
Property Location:	Park Street & Ridge Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-083**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Lot 24, Conc 2		

**File Reference: PL#2018-097**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	B20/18
Property Location:	22708 Glen Oak Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-103**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Second Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-106**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	589 Victoria Street		

**File Reference: PL#2018-117**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	343 & 369 Metcalfe Street East		

**File Reference: PL#2019-003**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Melbourne Road & Century Drive		

**File Reference: PL#2019-006**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	399 Metcalfe Street		

**File Reference: PL#2019-009**

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	A2/19
Property Location:	8476 Olde Drive		

**File Reference: PL#2018-094**

Municipality:	Warwick	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	5896 First School Road		

**File Reference: PL#2018-101**

Municipality:	Warwick	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	7047 London Line		

**Environmental Assessment Review****File Reference: EA#2019-001 Municipality: Chatham-Kent**

Proposal:	Lord Selkirk Bridge rehabilitation - Municipal Class EA, Schedule A		
Proponent:	AECOM		

**Legal Inquiry Summary**

LL#2018-018	Century Drive	Southwest Middlesex
LL#2018-019	3272 Devonshire Road	Plympton-Wyoming
LL#2018-020	689 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair
LL#2018-021	6828 Barbara Street	Lambton Shores
LL#2018-022	10266 Ilderton Road	Middlesex Centre
LL#2019-001	Falconbridge Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-002	800 Wallace Street East	Chatham-Kent
LL#2019-003	669 & 585 McCready Road	Dawn-Euphemia

## **Meeting Summary**

Nov 5 - County of Middlesex Natural Heritage

Nov 6 – North Strathroy Meadows

Nov 21 – Municipal Exchange: Risk and Return on Investment for Flood Mitigation

Nov 26 – 4914 Ann Street

Nov 27 – Sydenham River Phosphorus Stakeholder Meeting

Dec 18 – 589 Victoria Street

Dec 20 – Floodplain Mapping Start-up Meeting

Jan 11 – Forward Planning – The Future of the Planning Profession

Jan 14 – 5478 Beach Street

Jan 16 – 1873 London Line

Jan 22 – Key Homes Subdivision

Jan 23 – Presentation to the Strathroy-Caradoc Committee of Adjustment

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019 **Item 16.5**  
**Report Date:** February 7, 2019  
**Submitted by:** Dallas Cundick, Melissa Deisley, Michelle Gallant, Eva Baker

**Subject:** Regulations Activity Summary for the period dated November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019

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 November 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019.

### Regulations Permits:

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-357	<b>Municipality:</b>	Brooke-Alvinston		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Nauvoo Road ~500m North of Petrolia Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	County Road 79 Bank Stabilization Project				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	10/29/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/2/2018	<b>Days:</b>	4

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2019-009	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	McNaughton Avenue Wallaceburg				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Bridge Rehabilitation				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/18/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	1/4/2019	<b>Days:</b>	17

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-418	<b>Municipality:</b>	Chatham-Kent		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	937 Elgin Street				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a new 18ft by 32ft shed				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/24/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	12/24/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-407	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Bentpath Line and Mandaumin Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	25th Side Road Drain				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/14/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	12/14/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-380	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Lot 25 Concession 1 Bentpath Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Pipeline maintenance				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/20/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/20/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-358	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Irish School Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Culvert Rehabilitation				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/1/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/2/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-376	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1230 Oil Heritage Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a new dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/21/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/29/2018	<b>Days:</b>	8

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-360	<b>Municipality:</b>	Dawn-Euphemia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Lambton Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Culvert Rehabilitation				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/1/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/2/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-385	<b>Municipality:</b>	Petrolia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4050 Englehart Drive				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a Garden Shed				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/27/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	12/3/2018	<b>Days:</b>	6

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-387	<b>Municipality:</b>	Plympton-Wyoming		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	3139 Egremont Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Re-Constuction of detached garage				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/30/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/30/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-342	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1794 Lakeshore Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Like for Like Replacement of Seawall				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/7/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/8/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-370	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2681 Old Lakeshore Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Minor Foundation Improvements & Extension of Dormer				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/6/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/9/2018	<b>Days:</b>	3

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2019-022	<b>Municipality:</b>	Sarnia		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2086 Lakeshore Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Tear down and rebuild				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/18/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	1/10/2019	<b>Days:</b>	23

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-237	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	2928 Rokeby Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a New Dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	11/23/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	1/3/2019	<b>Days:</b>	41

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-408	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	Bentpath Line				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Culvert Replacement				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/14/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	12/14/2018	<b>Days:</b>	1



<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-271	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	1872 Kimball Road				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of In-ground pool, retaining wall & cabana				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	12/17/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	1/10/2019	<b>Days:</b>	24

<b>Application No:</b>	R#2018-381	<b>Municipality:</b>	St. Clair		
<b>Subject Property:</b>	4104 St. Clair Parkway				
<b>Proposal:</b>	Construction of a new single family dwelling				
<b>Submission Complete By:</b>	10/23/2018	<b>Permit Issued:</b>	11/20/2018	<b>Days:</b>	28

**Total No. of Applications: 18    Average No. of Days to Issue Permit: 9**

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:**

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Location</b>
R#2019-057	Adelaide-Metcalf	3586 Sexton Road
R#2018-173	Adelaide-Metcalf	28275 Centre Road
R#2018-179	Adelaide-Metcalf	28275 Centre Road
R#2019-043	Adelaide-Metcalf	3183 Napperton Road
R#2018-013	Adelaide-Metcalf	1425 Melwood Drive
R#2018-405	Adelaide-Metcalf	525 Metcalfe Street
R#2018-403	Brooke-Alvinston	8352 Courtright Line
R#2018-392	Brooke-Alvinston	3772 Little Ireland Road
R#2018-269	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke Alvinston
R#2018-005	Brooke-Alvinston	6684 Oil Springs Line
R#2019-007	Brooke-Alvinston	8352 Courtright Line
R#2019-048	Chatham-Kent	136 St. George Street
R#2018-365	Chatham-Kent	11151 Croton Line
R#2018-375	Chatham-Kent	15 Bayview Street
R#2018-397	Chatham-Kent	29489 Florence Road
R#2018-371	Chatham-Kent	314 Margaret Avenue
R#2018-367	Chatham-Kent	7005 Dufferin Avenue
R#2018-362	Chatham-Kent	303 Trerice Street
R#2019-021	Chatham-Kent	29025 Connection Road
R#2018-351	Chatham-Kent	470 Brown Street
R#2018-417	Chatham-Kent	9678 Darrell Line

R#2018-406	Chatham-Kent	58 Mcnaughton Avenue
R#2018-369	Chatham-Kent	14 Tackel Line
R#2019-008	Chatham-Kent	586 Sandra Crescent
R#2019-003	Chatham-Kent	600 Wall Street
R#2019-002	Chatham-Kent	8581 Electric Line
R#2019-047	Chatham-Kent	7186 Bassette Line
R#2019-023	Chatham-Kent	6074 Dufferin Ave
R#2018-356	Chatham-Kent	7810 Bay Line
R#2019-042	Dawn-Euphemia	LOT 13, CON 14, DAWN
R#2018-072	Dawn-Euphemia	1537 Inwood Road
R#2019-014	Dawn-Euphemia	822 Florence Road
R#2018-382	Dawn-Euphemia	1362 Dawn Valley Road
R#2019-006	Enniskillen	3990 Petrolia Line
R#2018-174	Enniskillen	4436 Rokeby Line
R#2018-416	Enniskillen	6000 Shiloh Line
R#2019-050	Lambton Shores	6176 London Road
R#2018-378	Lambton Shores	8320 Lake View Haven Drive
R#2018-393	Lambton Shores	9672 Ruth Place
R#2018-186	Lambton Shores	6790 East Parkway Drive
R#2019-033	Lambton Shores	Cliff Road
R#2019-035	Middlesex Centre	5171 Egremont Road
R#2019-040	Plympton-Wyoming	Lot 16, Con 2
R#2018-031	Plympton-Wyoming	6766 Franklin Avenue
R#2019-046	Plympton-Wyoming	4532 William Street
R#2018-003	Plympton-Wyoming	Augusta Street
R#2018-388	Plympton-Wyoming	3260 Devonshire Road
R#2018-352	Plympton-Wyoming	4532 William Street
R#2018-364	Plympton-Wyoming	449 Broadway Street
R#2019-071	Plympton-Wyoming	3949 Point View Drive
R#2018-395	Plympton-Wyoming	4481 Forsyth Trail
R#2019-045	Plympton-Wyoming	4274 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-004	Plympton-Wyoming	4180 Lakeshore Road
R#2018-068	Plympton-Wyoming	4764 Mack Avenue
R#2018-398	Plympton-Wyoming	5431 Michigan Line
R#2018-415	Plympton-Wyoming	General Inquiry
R#2019-016	Plympton-Wyoming	Ivy Lane
R#2019-054	Plympton-Wyoming	5269 Douglas Line
R#2018-236	Plympton-Wyoming	3544 Queen Street
R#2018-377	Plympton-Wyoming	7150 Bonnie Doone Road
R#2018-034	Plympton-Wyoming	6758 Blue Heron Road
R#2018-361	Plympton-Wyoming	4860 Forsyth Trail
R#2018-062	Sarnia	1778 & 1761 London Line
R#2018-391	Sarnia	1751 Lake Huron Parkway
R#2019-056	Sarnia	Plank Road
R#2018-386	Sarnia	1425 Vidal Street

R#2018-372	Sarnia	Churchill Road
R#2018-400	Sarnia	End of Blackwell Side Road
R#2018-348	Sarnia	2273 Goldie Lane
R#2018-139	Sarnia	2851 Second Street
R#2018-015	Sarnia	2060 Lakeshore Road
R#2018-070	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road
R#2018-411	Sarnia	Outlet of Perch Creek
R#2019-039	Sarnia	2092 Lakeshore Road
R#2018-227	Sarnia	2876 Lakeshore Road
R#2018-349	Southwest Middlesex	3316 Knapdale Drive
R#2018-185	Southwest Middlesex	Lot 3 Con 6 N Pt
R#2019-052	Southwest Middlesex	6067 Falconbridge
R#2019-059	Southwest Middlesex	48 York Street
R#2018-409	Southwest Middlesex	Dogwood Road and Concession Drive
R#2018-011	St. Clair	Old River Road
R#2018-004	St. Clair	4673 St.Clair Parkway
R#2019-058	St. Clair	4801 St. Clair Parkway
R#2019-025	St. Clair	697 Catalpa Way
R#2019-032	St. Clair	781 St. Clair Parkway
R#2019-015	St. Clair	781 St. Clair Parkway
R#2018-029	St. Clair	733 St. Clair Parkway
R#2018-036	St. Clair	813 St. Clair Parkway
R#2018-394	St. Clair	379 French Line
R#2018-383	St. Clair	339 Beresford Street
R#2019-017	St. Clair	1757 Lasalle Line
R#2019-028	St. Clair	Waubuno Road
R#2018-379	St. Clair	Bickford Line
R#2018-368	St. Clair	3571 St. Clair Parkway
R#2018-399	St. Clair	Not specified
R#2018-224	Strathroy-Caradoc	7914 Walkers Drive
R#2018-252	Strathroy-Caradoc	McEvoy Rd and Scotchmere Drive
R#2018-061	Strathroy-Caradoc	8513 Hickory Drive
R#2018-001	Strathroy-Caradoc	250 Joel Court
R#2018-396	Strathroy-Caradoc	Carrie Street North of Albert Street
R#2018-096	Strathroy-Caradoc	461 Metcalfe Street East
R#2018-401	Strathroy-Caradoc	6755 Century Drive
R#2018-355	Strathroy-Caradoc	Falconbridge lot
R#2019-010	Strathroy-Caradoc	Falconbridge Drive Pt Lt 6, Con 3
R#2018-142	Strathroy-Caradoc	Union Road
R#2018-010	Warwick	8290 Zion Line
R#2019-018	Warwick	8028 Brick Yard Line
R#2018-022	Warwick	6445 Brick Yard Line

**Total Inquiries: 108**

# Special Events 2019

## **A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival**

Date: Saturday, March 16 to Sunday, March 17, 2019

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Location: A.W. Campbell Conservation Area



## **Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak Race**

Date: Sunday, April 28, 2019

Registration: 10 am to 11 am

Start Location: Mossie Line at Sydenham River

End Location: Shetland Conservation Area



## **Denning's Strathroy Memorial Forest Dedication**

Date: Sunday, May 26, 2019 (Tentative)

Time: 2 pm

Location: Centennial Park, Strathroy

## **Project Tour**

Date: Thursday, June 27, 2019

Time: 10 am

Location: Warwick Conservation Area

## **Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup - Ipperwash Beach**

Date: To Be Determined

Time: 9 am to 11 am

Location: Centre Ipperwash Beach Boat Launch



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

Date: Sunday, September 15, 2019 (Tentative)

Time: 2 pm

Location: Keith McLean Conservation Lands

## **A Geocaching Adventure**

Date: Sunday, September 15, 2019

Time: 9 am

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

## **Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication**

Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019

Time: 2 pm

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area



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



**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** February 6, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Jessica Van Zwol

**Item 16.7**

**Subject:** Healthy Watersheds Programs Outreach Update

Staff have applied for the following grants:

Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Aquatic Habitat Stewardship Program - \$140,000/year for 3 years

EcoAction - \$78,000 for stewardship and educational outreach in the St. Clair Region.

**Habitat Stewardship Program 2018-2019**

Over \$200,000 in grants were provided this fiscal year to landowners in our region for stewardship projects including tree planting (nearly 45,000 and over 18 ha land retired to trees) and 9.5 ha wetlands.

### **Lambton Soil & Crop Improvement Association Annual General Meeting January 11, 2019**

SCRCA Chair Steve Arnold presented David Williams with this year's Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award. The CA booth was at the front of the room and just below the new presenting screen (at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre), so every participant had a good view of our booth all day! Staff spoke in front of the crowd of 150 farmers and ag reps encouraging uptake of BMPs, including signing up for our Tree Planting Program.



**Upcoming events:**

**Ducks Unlimited Canada Strathroy Chapter Fundraising Event** – March 30, staff will attend, network and provide a short presentation highlighting the great partnership SCRCA has with DUC and past wetland projects in the Headwaters of the East Branch of the Sydenham River.

**Meeting Date:** February 28, 2019  
**Report Date:** January 11, 2019  
**Submitted by:** Erin Carroll

**Item 16.8**

**Subject:** Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund Grant Summary – “St. Clair Recovery Project”

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report on the Great Lake Guardian Community Fund “St. Clair Recovery Project”.

**Background:**

The goal of the “St. Clair Recovery Project” was to restore 20 acres of wetlands and uplands along Hardy Creek, in the St Clair Region, to help enhance habitat for at risk, reptile species and engage local students on related issues.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

This project relates to SCRCA’s goal to “Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems”

**Financial Impact:**

Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund provided \$25,000 to SCRCA to complete this project.

As part of Ontario’s Great Lakes Strategy and to support the Great Lakes Protection Act, the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund (GLGCF) was set up to help people take action to protect and restore their corner of the Great Lakes.

Since it launched in 2012, the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund has awarded \$7.5 million to 375 community-based projects, which supported more than 37,000 volunteers to plant over 285,000 trees and shrubs, release over 800,000 fish, create or enhance 760 kilometres of trail and collect over 2,800 bags of garbage.

In 2018/19, “St. Clair Recovery Project” was one of the two SCRCA projects supported by Great Lake Guardian Fund. The Fund has supported a number of projects coordinated by SCRCA and its partners. Other projects of note include:

- 2018/19 - \$25,000 Courtright Shoreline Restoration
- 2016/17 - \$24,995 Lambton Shores Coastal Wetland Restoration

- 2015/16 - \$24,725 Lambton Shores Coastal Wetland Restoration
- 2012/13 - \$21,915 Talfourd Creek Restoration Monitoring and Education Program

**Outdoor Education and Outreach**

One of the objectives of “St. Clair Recovery Project” was to provide education and outreach relating to Great Lakes restoration. This component of the project included a handful of outdoor education programs delivered by Educators and Biologists who worked together to develop age appropriate hands-on material with linkages to school curriculum. Some students got into the creek and learn about how these habitats support sensitive species. They also helped evaluate stream health by investigating the benthic macro-invertebrates, fish and mussels.

In October 2018, about 150 elementary school students participated in “River Day”. The whole school visited the river where they learned about aquatic monitoring including fish identification, monitoring gear, freshwater mussel identification, and monitoring techniques. Students learned about the importance of the Great Lakes as a freshwater resource which provides drinking water, recreation opportunities, tourism and supports a fishery. Water cycle, wetlands, lakes and rivers were also a focus of the day.



In October 2018, about 150 elementary school students participated in “River Day”



Students learn about fish identification from a SCRC A biologist.



### **Hardy Creek Habitat Restoration**

A stewardship project at the Ikert's property involved the retirement of 23.86 acres (9.66 ha) of a 57-acre (23 ha) pasture on Hardy Creek. This area has had wetlands created and lands allocated for 2,180 seedlings this spring. The landowner has fenced the areas where restoration work has taken place to ensure cattle do not impact the wetlands and treed areas. Excited with these developments, the landowner agreed to retire an additional 2.1 ac (0.85 ha) of active farmland to trees. This land retirement will see an additional 1,700 trees planted.



**Before** wetland creation, tree planting and livestock restriction on Hardy Creek.



**After:** The stewardship project at Nathan Ikert's involved the retirement of 23.86 acres (9.66 ha) of a 57-acre (23 ha) pasture on Hardy Creek.

The "St. Clair Recovery Project" also supported components of SCRCA reptile at risk program which has been featured in a the September Board Package, Item 10.3.

## **Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Update**

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority AGM – February 2019

### **Background:**

Phosphorus loading into local waterways by municipal, commercial, industrial, and agricultural sources is of concern in the Great Lakes basin as excessive levels of this nutrient severely degrade the health of the aquatic environment. Through funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is coordinating the creation of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River Watershed by engaging and seeking input from local stakeholders. ECCC recognizes the Sydenham River Watershed as a Tertiary Watershed of Lake Erie. Under this classification, both the North and East branch of the Sydenham River, Lake St. Clair Tributaries and the St. Clair River Tributaries are all classified into the “Sydenham River Watershed (02GG)”. This will be the classification used in the Management Plan. The objective of the Management Plan is to better understand the sources, movement, and loads of phosphorus in the Sydenham River Watershed and determine measures that can be taken to lessen the impacts of these sources to the receiving water bodies.

ECCC has provided funding to the SCRCA for 2018-2019 with possibility of extension for three more years (April 2019 to March 2022).

### **Objectives:**

The anticipated outcomes of developing the Management Plan are:

- A summary of the water quality and quantity, natural heritage, soils, land uses, and nutrient sources in the Sydenham River Watershed;
- A summary of gaps in knowledge and data that need to be addressed as well as steps to address those gaps (e.g., identify areas that require monitoring);
- An evaluation of rural and urban Best Management Practices (BMPs) and areas in the watershed where implementation will have the greatest impact to water quality;
- Engagement and outreach strategies based on an assessment of awareness among stakeholders, strategies to increase uptake of BMP implementation.

### **Year 1 (2018-2019) Goals:**

- Determine stakeholders and host a stakeholder meeting to encourage early support of the Plan and obtain data from appropriate sources;
- Outline Phosphorus sources as a team of stakeholders;
- Develop a Steering Committee and Project Team;
- Develop a Project Charter;
- Develop a draft Plan Outline to submit to ECCC based on input from stakeholders and available data;
- Commence literature reviews on Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Although the focus is on the Sydenham Watershed, staff plan to involve all 17 of our member municipalities (through technical staff like drainage superintendents, wastewater treatment operators, etc.) from the beginning. Fourteen of 17 member municipalities have jurisdiction in the Sydenham River Watershed.

Through early engagement in the process, stakeholders will direct the development of the Management Plan by providing input on the potential sources of phosphorus, contributing factors, and solutions. By taking this communal approach, the goal is stakeholder buy-in that will lead to a collective effort to address local phosphorus issues and engagement of the larger community.

### **November 2018 Stakeholder Meeting:**

On November 27, 2018, staff hosted an introductory stakeholder meeting at the Warwick Community Centre and invited an array of people from of governments, First Nations, private sectors, community groups, and interested landowners to participate – 65 people attended the meeting. Participants that day represented:

- **Municipalities/First Nations:** City of Sarnia, Dover Township; Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston; Municipality of Chatham-Kent; Municipality of Lambton Shores; Municipality of Southwest Middlesex; Town of Plympton-Wyoming; Township of Adelaide-Metcalf; Township of Dawn-Euphemia; Township of Enniskillen; Township of Middlesex Centre; Township of Strathroy-Caradoc; Township of St. Clair; Township of Warwick; Village of Newbury; Aamjiwnaang First Nation;
- **Counties:** County of Lambton; Middlesex County;
- **Provincial/Federal Government:** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Ministry of Agriculture, Food, & Rural Affairs; Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks;
- **Non-profit organizations:** Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association – St. Clair Region; Rural Lambton Stewardship Network; Ontario NativeScape; Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative; Ducks Unlimited Canada;
- **Agricultural Sector:** AGRIS Co-operative; Wanstead Farmers Co-operative; Beef Farmers of Ontario – Kent Chapter;
- **Wastewater Sector:** Jacobs CH2M;
- **Educational Institutions:** Lambton College;
- **Community Groups:** Sydenham Field Naturalists; Lambton Wildlife;
- **Conservation Authorities:** Grand River Conservation Authority; Upper Thames River Conservation Authority; Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority; and St. Clair Conservation Authority.

The day began with a welcome and introduction from Brian McDougall (General Manager, SCRCA) and Steve Arnold, (Mayor of St. Clair Township, SCRCA Board Chair).

Brad Bass (Researcher, Environment and Climate Change Canada) shared information on the nutrient status of Lake Erie. Erin Carroll (Director of Biology, SCRCA) updated stakeholders on the known status of the Sydenham River Watershed. The SCRCA invited Sandra Cooke, the Senior Water Quality Supervisor from Grand River Conservation Authority to highlight opportunities and lessons learned from their recently completed *Grand River Watershed Water Management Plan*. Jessica Van Zwol (Healthy Watershed Specialist, SCRCA), Darrell Randell (Project Coordinator, Ducks Unlimited), and Dale Cowan (Senior Agronomist, AGRIS Co-op Ltd), highlighted phosphorus mitigation programs and actions rural landowners and farmers are implementing to reduce phosphorus losses on their properties. Imtiaz Shah (Environmental Engineer, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority) and Pamela Joesse (Senior Soil and Nutrient Management Specialist, Science and Technology Branch, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada) shared information regarding recent phosphorus loading modelling projects and results of watershed characterizations using remote sensing and sustainability metrics to document agriculture's contributions to phosphorus losses and reductions.

After lunch, participants were led by Sarah Hodgkiss (Planning Ecologist, SCRCA) through a brainstorming discussion that enabled participants to contribute ideas on potential threats and stresses impacting the Sydenham River Watershed related to phosphorus. Over 260 ideas were recorded concerning contributing factors/indirect threats, stressors, potential threats, and potential actions – these ideas will be used as the basis for forming the Plan Outline.

Finally, meeting participants were requested to fill in a survey seeking available data and commitment to future Working Groups.

### **Working Groups and the Advisory Committee:**

Staff are currently assembling the Working Groups under the categories: Non-Point Source and Point Source. The Working Groups will be made up of different levels of government, First Nations, sectors, community groups, and interested landowners. The Groups will discuss and investigate potential threats, contributing factors, and solutions that will be used in the development of the Plan. The Working Groups will receive guidance from an Advisory Committee and a small Water Quality Technical Team of specialists will also be formed to complete the data analysis required for the Management Plan.

The Working Groups will have their initial meetings on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The goal is for each Working Group to meet 3-4 times a year within the watershed.

If individuals are interested in participating in a Working Group by representing an additional stakeholder group or as an invested landowner, please contact Nicole Drumm [ndrumm@scrca.on.ca](mailto:ndrumm@scrca.on.ca) or 519-245-3710.

**Board Member Involvement:**

The two Working Groups will each need one SCRCA Board Member to contribute to the development of the Management Plan. The two Members will also sit on the Advisory Committee.

Please see attached for the “Call for Participation” document that outlines the structure of the Management Plan team.



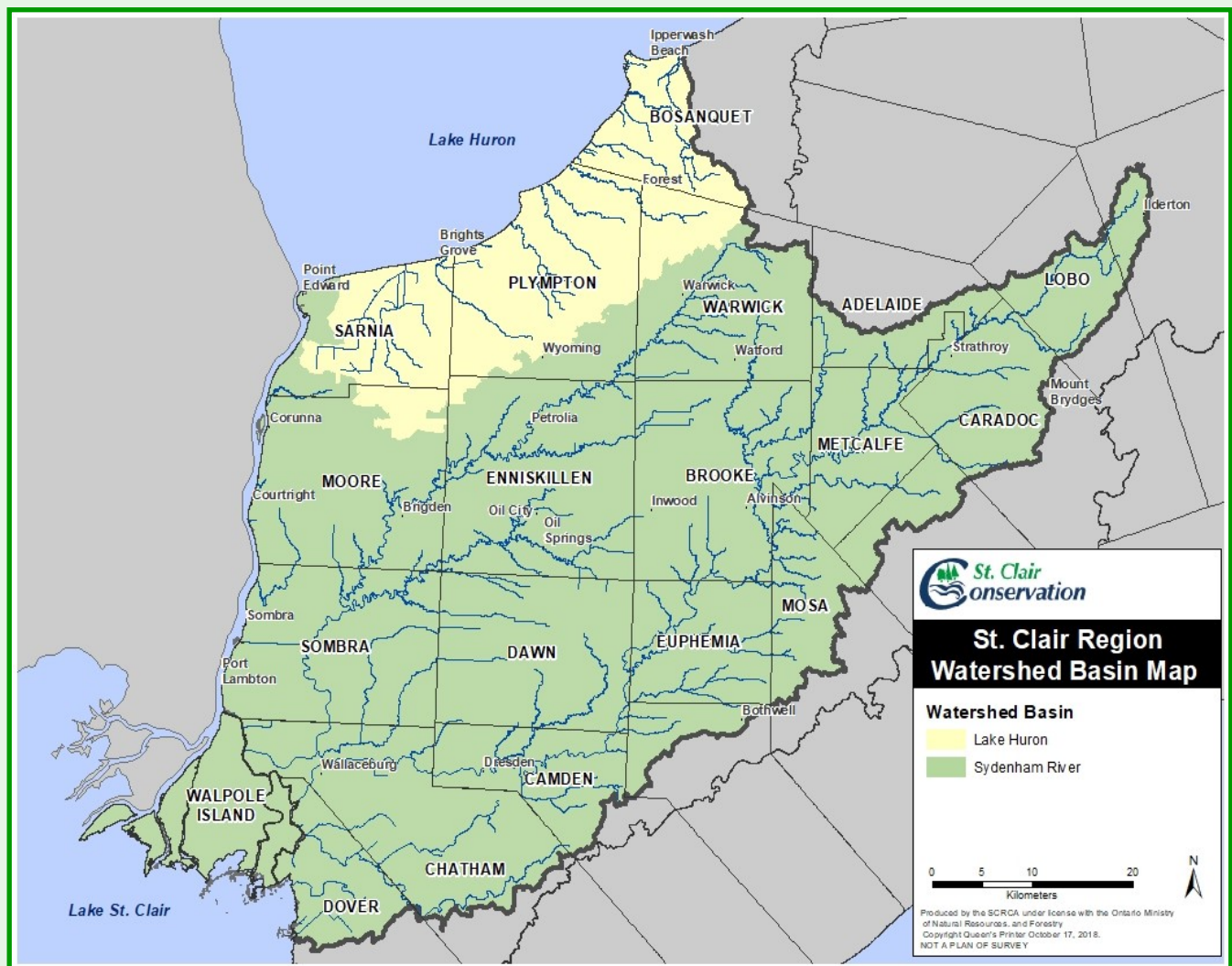
# Call for Participation: The Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan

Item 16.9

## A Way Forward

Phosphorus loading into local waterways by municipal, commercial, industrial, and agricultural sources is of concern in the Great Lakes basin as excessive levels of this nutrient severely degrade the health of the aquatic environment. Through funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is coordinating the creation of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River Watershed by engaging and seeking input from local stakeholders. The objective of the Management Plan is to better understand the sources, movement, and loads of phosphorus in the Sydenham River Watershed and determine measures that can be taken to lessen the impacts of these sources to the receiving water bodies.

From the early stages of the Plan, we would like to engage and receive input from a range of stakeholders to ensure all perspectives are represented. We are hoping to have representation include government, First Nations, industry, agriculture, community groups, and interested landowners. Together we can work to determine local sources and the best methods of reducing excess phosphorus from entering our watercourses.



**Map:** Environment and Climate Change Canada defines the Sydenham River Watershed (02GG) as a Tertiary Watershed of Lake Erie. This will be the classification used for the Management Plan.

# Call for Participation: The Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan

## Objectives

Our goal is for the Management Plan to include:

- A summary of the water quality and quantity, natural heritage, soils, land uses, and nutrient sources in the Sydenham River Watershed;
- A summary of gaps in knowledge and data that need to be addressed as well as steps to address those gaps (e.g., identify areas that require monitoring);
- An evaluation of rural and urban Best Management Practices (BMPs) and areas in the watershed where implementation will have the greatest impact to water quality;
- Engagement and outreach strategies based on an assessment of awareness among stakeholders, strategies to increase uptake of BMP implementation.

For an example of a [water quality assessment](#) completed in 2015 for the Thames River Watershed, please visit: [thamesrevival.ca](http://thamesrevival.ca).

## How can you help?

For the Management Plan to be successful, we would appreciate your help in any of the following ways:

1. Ongoing support for the Plan during its development over the next three years. This support could include participation on a working group or technical team, which would involve attending a few meetings per year, providing local knowledge, water quality and quantity data, and/or analysis of data;
2. Connect us with a point person from your organization who can provide relevant data/analysis;
3. Share successes of nutrient management and/or best management practices in your industry that could benefit a wider audience.

**Are you interested in helping? Do you know someone who would be? If so, please contact Nicole Drumm at [ndrumm@scrca.on.ca](mailto:ndrumm@scrca.on.ca).**



Water Quality Monitoring



Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades



Agricultural BMPs – Grassed Waterways

**For more information, contact:**

Nicole Drumm  
Special Projects Technician  
519-245-3710 x220  
[ndrumm@scrca.on.ca](mailto:ndrumm@scrca.on.ca)

# Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Team Structure

