



Board of Directors - Notice of Meeting

June 27, 2019

Time: ~1:00 pm

Warwick Conservation Area

6101 Warwick Village Road

Warwick, ON

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

Tentative Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests Minutes
4. Minutes
 - 4.1 Board of Directors April 18, 2019 Minutes
 - 4.2 Executive Committee May 16, 2019 Minutes
5. General Manager's Report
 - 5.1 GM's Report
 - 5.2 South West Woodlot Association Advisor Appointment
 - 5.3 Provincial Funding Cut
6. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report
 - 6.1 CO April 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes and verbal update of June 24, 2019 meeting
7. Business Arising
8. Land Management Reports
 - 8.1 Conservation Lands Update
 - 8.2 Bridgeview Day Storage Tanks
 - 8.3 Peers Wetland CA Lease Agreement
 - 8.4 Conservation Lands Management
9. Water Resources Reports
 - 9.1 Current Watershed Conditions
 - 9.2 Floodplain Mapping Project
 - 9.3 WECI Projects
10. Biology Reports
 - 10.1 Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Update
 - 10.2 Landowner Testimonials
11. Conservation Services Report
 - 11.1 Spring Tree Planting
 - 11.2 Larvicide Program in Lambton County
12. Planning
 - 12.1 Regulations Report
 - 12.2 Monthly Planning Report
 - 12.3 Appointment of Enforcement Officer under Section 28 of CAA (O.R. 171/06)
 - 12.4 Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART)
 - 12.5 Municipal Drainage Act Review Process
 - 12.6 SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan Update – Ipperwash Beach
13. Finance Reports

- 13.1 Revenue & Expenditure Report to April 30th
- 13.2 April and May Disbursements
- 13.3 2019 General Levy Update
- 13.4 Investments
- 13.5 Corporate Credit Card Renewal
- 13.6 Audit Services Appointment 2019 - 2023
- 14. Communications
 - 14.1 Education Report
 - 14.2 Schoolyard Greening
 - 14.3 AOC Report
 - 14.4 Scholarship Report
 - 14.5 Indigenous Relationship Building Training
- 15. New Business
- 16. Adjournment

Please contact Ashley (call 519-245-3710, 1-866-505-3710 or e-mail Afletcher@scrca.on.ca) at the Administration Office by June 24, 2019 if you are unable to attend.

- 8.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands report dated June 13, 2019.
- 8.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated June 12, 2019 on the progress of the decommissioning of day storage tanks at Bridgeview CA.
- 8.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2019 regarding Peers Wetland and further directs staff to provide written notice to the Wallaceburg Sportsman Club stating that the lease will not be renewed after Dec. 31, 2020, outlining SCRCA's concerns, and offering early termination of the lease.
- 8.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Conservation Authority Lands Management dated June 10, 2019.
- 9.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 14, 2019 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.
- 9.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 14, 2019 on the update to survey work and floodplain mapping project.
- 9.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 14, 2019 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and further acknowledges the updates on the WECl funding for 2019.
- 10.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the update dated June 10, 2019 regarding the Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan.
- 10.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Landowner Testimonials of SCRCA for Conservation Ontario dated June 8, 2019.
- 11.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2019 regarding spring 2019 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.

- 11.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 13, 2019 regarding the treatment of catch basins with a larvicide in Lambton County's rural and urban areas.
- 12.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors accepts the Regulations Activity Reports on "*Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses*" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated June 11, 2019 and includes the period April 1, 2019 to May 31, 2019, as presented.
- 12.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports, dated June 11, 2019 for April and May 2019.
- 12.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 14, 2019 regarding the Appointment of an Officer under Section 28 of Conservation Authorities Act (O.R. 171/06) and appoints Kelli Smith as an Enforcement Officer for the purpose of enforcing regulations made by the SCRCA, pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, in order to carry out the responsibility of administration and enforcement of this Act.
- 12.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 6, 2019 on Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART) Municipal drain activities for April and May, 2019.
- 12.5 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the report dated June 17, 2019, associated with the SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process.
- 12.6 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 17, 2019, associated with the SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan Update – Ipperwash Beach, and directs staff to continue further investigation into the dynamic beach hazard setback at West and Centre Ipperwash Beach.
- 13.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2019, as it relates to the budget.
- 13.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2019 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,289,952.25.

- 13.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2019 general levy receipts to May 31, 2019.
- 13.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the financial investment statements through May 31, 2019.
- 13.5 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Corporate Credit Card Renewal dated June 12, 2019 and further approves an increased total limit of \$35,000 and the change from MasterCard to Visa cards as well as the addition of Brian McDougall as back-up administrator.
- 13.6 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated May 22, 2019 regarding the requests for proposals for audit services for the Authority and the Foundation, further subject to acceptance by the Authority Board of Directors on June 27, 2019, that the Board appoints MNP as their auditors effective July 1, 2019.
- 14.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 13, 2019 on the Conservation Education Progress Report.
- 14.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on the Schoolyard Greening Program in conjunction with Lambton Public Health dated May 31, 2019.
- 14.3 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 6, 2019 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.
- 14.4 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2019 Scholarship Program report dated June 13, 2019.
- 14.5 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors supports the participation of SCRCA staff in Indigenous Relationship Building Training provided by Cambium Aboriginal Inc.
15. New Business
16. Moved by: Seconded by:
That the meeting be adjourned.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: April 18, 2019

Time: 10:00 am

Administration Office, Strathroy

Directors Present: Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; John Brennan, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Carmen McGregor, Dan McMillan, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, Ron Schenk, Mike Stark, Jerry Westgate.

Regrets: Alan Broad, Lorie Scott

Staff Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, Manager of GIS and IT; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

Guests: John Smith, Fawn Island Residents Group; Grant Inglis, Little, Inglis, Price & Ewer

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. 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-19-35

Marriott – MacKinnon

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

CARRIED

2 errors were noted and were amended.

BD-19-36

Gordon – Burrell

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held February 28, 2019, be approved as amended.”

CARRIED

Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations:

- On April 4th, a webinar confirmed the following postings to the Environmental Registry from the Ministries of Environment, Conservation & Parks and Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry
- The posting were made on April 5th
- The Province of Ontario has identified several key issues with CA operations
 - Lack of transparency

- Municipalities concerns regarding costs to fund CAs
 - Lack of direct municipal control over CA budgets
 - The Commission on the Reform on Ontario's Public Services (2012) identified a state of confusion for industry, developers and citizens resulting from "jurisdictional crowding" in agencies and governments – need to eliminate duplication
 - Ontario's Auditor General's special report of Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority made key recommendations to Ontario: clarify board member's accountability, board training and mechanisms for Ministry intervention
- **The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is proposing to amend the Conservation Authorities Act to:**
 - Define the core mandatory programs and services offered by CAs: natural hazard protection and management, conservation and management of CA lands and drinking water source protection
 - Increase transparency in how CAs levy municipalities for mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services
 - Update the CA Act to conform with modern transparency standards by ensuring that municipalities and CAs review levies for non core programs after a certain period of time (e.g. 4 to 8 years)
 - Establish a transition period (18-24 months) and process for CAs and municipalities to enter into agreement for the delivery of non-mandatory programs and services and meet the required transparency requirements
 - Enable the Minister to appoint an investigator to investigate or undertake an audit and report on a CA
 - Clarify that the duty of CA Board Members is to act in the best interest of the CA, similar to not-for-profit organizations
- **Focusing on Conservation Authority Development Permits on the Protection of People and Property, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is also proposing to:**
 - Update definitions to align with the natural hazard management intent of the regulation
 - Clarify restrictions around wetlands that do not help mitigate risks of flooding
 - Exempt low risk development activities from requiring a permit
 - Allow CAs to exempt low-risk development activities from requiring a permit within CA permitting policies
 - Require CAs to develop, consult on, make available and periodically review permitting policies
 - Require CAs to notify the public of changes to regulated areas (e.g. floodplains or wetland boundary expansions)
 - Require CAs to establish, monitor and report on service delivery standards (e.g. timelines for confirm complete applications and permit decisions)

- 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
- **Therefore**
 - 45-Day posting of proposed Conservation Authorities Act amendments on the Environmental Registry which was posted on April 5
 - 45-Day posting of proposal on the Regulatory and Environmental Registries to focus CA development permits on the protection of people and property which was also posted on April 5
 - Further plans for the spring & summer 2019 include development and consultation on a suite of regulatory and policy proposals to support the proposed amendments to and proclamation of un-proclaimed provisions of the Conservation Authorities Act
- **Next steps:**
 - Authority staff will be reviewing the posting, seeking additional input and preparing a draft response to the postings
 - As it is important that the Authority respond directly to these postings, our policies require that the response receives Board approval prior to submission
 - A plan to obtain this permission will be discussed at the meeting
 - This report, written 5 days after the report at Item 6.2, will likely require some of the information to be incorporated into both Environmental Registry responses and Conservation Ontario communication to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the Housing Supply Action Plan

Notes of Thanks:

- Two notes of thanks were reviewed, related to the Authority's Annual General Meeting
- Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group provided their appreciation for being recognized for the Conservation Award
- Tracy Kingston, St. Clair Township Councillor expressed her thanks for the invitation to the meeting

BD-19-37

Marriott – McMillan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated April 9, 2019.”

CARRIED

BD-19-38

Nemcek – Westgate

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report of Conservation Ontario’s Annual General meeting held April 1, 2019 at Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto.”

CARRIED

In June of 2018 a new government was elected and moved quickly to implement the *Plan for the People* platform which included promises to:

- “Cut red tape and stifling regulations that are crippling job creation and growth, and
- ...single-window access for approvals with a hard one-year deadline”

Since that time the government has introduced a number of consultations, draft proposals and proposed amendments to legislation in support of their agenda.

Made in Ontario Environment Plan

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks released the *Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan (2018)* that affirmed support for conservation and environmental planning and specifically mentioned that they would:

- “work in collaboration with municipalities and stakeholders to ensure that conservation authorities focus and deliver on their core mandate of protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards and conserving natural resources”.

Housing Supply Action Plan

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has initiated consultations on a *Housing Supply Action Plan* with the purpose to increase supply and streamline the development approval process. The Ministry is also reviewing the *Planning Act* and the *Provincial Policy Statement* to ensure that the land use planning and development approvals process is aligned with their goal.

Concerns About CAs

Conservation authorities (CAs) in Ontario are part of the planning and development approvals process as we implement our mandate. Concerns have been expressed that conservation authorities “need to stick to their mandate” and that they present a “significant barrier” to timely development approvals. Many of these concerns arise in the Greater Toronto Area where land development is complex, and demands are high, however, it is also very relevant to other areas in the province where development is occurring.

CAs have acknowledged that we can always improve our processes and relationships with the many stakeholders that we interact with. In 2007 Conservation Ontario and CAs participated with the Ontario Home Builders Association (OHBA) and the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) along with municipalities, the province and

other stakeholders as members of the Conservation Authority Liaison Committee (CALC). In 2010, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) approved the *Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities* that would form part of MNRF's Policies and Procedures Manual. Conservation Ontario provided training in 2012 and 2014 to assist CAs in implementing the best practices laid out in this document. Each CA was encouraged to prepare publicly available policies and procedures to ensure transparency and outline expectations to stakeholders including review and permitting timelines and fees. All of St. Clair Region CA's policies, guidelines and mapping are available to our clients and staff work to adhere to the review and permitting timelines as determined through the CALC process.

It is imperative that conservation authorities engage in the conversation about our very important role in land use planning and development approvals as well as helping the new government understand our mandate and the relationships we have with our municipalities.

Analysis:

Conservation Ontario (CO) retained Strategy Corp to provide insights and advice on working with the new government. Through this process a number of General Managers volunteered to establish a small CO working group to work with CO to identify recommendations for solutions that will address the issues identified by the government around the housing supply while still protecting natural hazards management and plan review activities required to protect the health and safety of Ontario's watersheds and residents.

Conservation Authority Mandate

The CO working group discussed clarifying and restating our mandate as supported by the recent update to the *Conservation Authorities Act (2017)* and as described in the province's *Made in Ontario Environment Plan*:

“The core mandate of conservation authorities is to undertake watershed-based programs to protect people and property from flooding and other natural hazards, and to conserve natural resources for economic, social and environmental benefits”.

This has always been the purpose of CAs and now, more than ever, it is necessary to have organizations like this on the ground and being able to work at the right scale to protect and manage natural resources. Our monitoring, identification of issues and appropriate mitigation measures, helps our communities to be able to respond to climate change and increase their resiliency. Further, as the federal and provincial governments restrict their activities more to policy related activities there is a gap in capacity to address local environmental issues.

The following excerpt from a Conservation Ontario briefing note to the province identifies that:

“Conservation authorities are a cost-effective mechanism for the Province and municipalities for the delivery of objectives under the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)

- In addition to acting as a commenting agency on behalf of the Province with regard to natural hazards, conservation authorities also act as regulators. Additionally, conservation authorities act as technical advisors for municipalities in the review of planning applications, and, as source protection authorities under the Clean Water Act supporting policy implementation.
- Conservation authorities ensure that applicants and municipal planning authorities are aware of regulations and requirements as well as assist in the coordination of applications under the Planning Act and the Conservation Authorities Act. The focus is to eliminate unnecessary delay or duplication in the process as it relates to protecting public health and safety from natural hazards, now and into the future.
- Conservation authorities, through the provision of advice from watershed-based science, enable municipalities to cost effectively consider in their decision-making other PPS considerations such as ‘wise use and management of resources’ and stormwater.”

Streamlining Conservation Authority Activities

The CO working group has been evaluating ways that CAs can streamline approval activities and “reduce red tape” in order to help the province address the lack of housing supply. It is recognized that we need to identify the **outcomes** that the province and our municipalities need and review and **modify our processes** to ensure the **best solutions**.

The CO working group developed the following three key solutions that we will work on with the development and construction community and municipalities. Through these activities we will also identify any other specific concerns to be addressed.

1. Improve Client Service and Accountability

- Provide client service training and establish client service standards implementing activities such as one point of contact for applications, and template guidelines for policies, processes, and, CA/Municipal MOUs that have clear deadlines for the different plan review services. (SCRCA has established on point of contact and has increased focus on communication with the applicant)(SCRCA is working with our Board of Directors to develop a Planning Policy Procedural Manual and Technical Guidelines to provide information on deadlines, requirement and processes to ensure that clients have a transparent understanding)
- Our commitment to timely approvals will be reported on annually. (SCRCA provides reporting on time from completed application to approval at each Board meeting)

- Initially, focus efforts on conservation authorities with high growth areas (GGHG/GTA and other parts of the province) where housing supply is needed immediately.
2. Increase speed of approvals
 - Assess current application review/approval timelines, identifying problem areas where timelines are not being met and developing solutions to meet timelines.
 - Establish timelines that match the complexity of development applications (e.g. simple and complete applications can be processed more quickly).
 3. Reduce “red tape” and regulatory burden
 - Examine where conservation authorities can improve or change our processes to speed up or simplify permitting in hazard areas.
 - Explore additional legislative or regulatory amendments to achieve increased housing supply and decreased approval timeframes.

Work Underway Among CAs

Some of these activities have already been started with the CO Section 28 Regulations Committee meeting over the past six months to identify potential streamlining options that can be implemented immediately.

We too experience issues with other regulatory or planning processes that influence our ability to complete our work. We have identified several of these including the opportunity to revisit recent changes to the *Safe Drinking Water Act (O. Reg 205/18)* and streamlining of approvals under the *Endangered Species Act*.

There is always more we can do and St. Clair Region CA is committed to ensuring that we deliver our mandate while working with clients efficiently and effectively. St. Clair Region CA intends to embrace the key actions identified by the CO working group and develop additional actions based on internal discussions.

Communications Plan:

St. Clair Region CA will communicate with our stakeholders any changes to our processes regarding planning and permitting to ensure a smooth transition.

Financial Implications:

Authority programs are intended to be operated on a cost recovery basis. User fees and municipal levies provide revenues to the program and both are established annually by the Board of Directors. As previously presented to the Board of Directors, increases in fees and levy are assisting in bringing revenues up towards expenditures but at this time still appear to be falling short of cost recovery.

Conclusion:

The province is seeking to streamline planning and development approvals to facilitate the housing supply. CAs have a role to play in examining our processes for plan review and permitting and St. Clair Region CA is committed to continuous improvement. This

report outlines three areas for immediate action that we are seeking board endorsement to implement.

BD-19-39

Schenk – Miller

“Whereas the provincial government intends to increase the supply of housing and streamline the land use planning and development approval process to achieve this goal; and whereas the Conservation Authorities play an important role in the planning and development review process with respect to watershed protection and hazard lands; and whereas Conservation Authorities support and can help deliver the Government’s objective not to jeopardize public health and safety or the environment; therefore be it resolved that the Board of Directors endorse the three key solutions developed by the Conservation Ontario working group: to improve client service and accountability; increase speed of approvals; and, reduce ‘red tape’ and regulatory burden; and that staff be directed to work with Conservation Ontario and our clients to identify additional improvements; and further that staff be directed to implement these solutions as soon as possible.”

CARRIED

BD-19-40

Burrell – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors directs staff to draft correspondence to the Ministry of Natural Resources, carbon copying the local MPP, Conservation Ontario and Ministry of Finance requesting a delay in the implementation of funding cuts to the Conservation Authorities and that the funding remain consistent with the matching Municipal levy for the current fiscal year.”

CARRIED

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.
 - Authority staff have left multiple message with Chatham-Kent staff regarding a meeting to discuss Species At Risk legislation without reply
 - On April 2nd, Authority staff met with Chatham-Kent municipal drainage superintendents and managers to discuss the Authorities drain enclosure policy and to confirm fees
 - Several points at issue were clarified, while some remain to be clarified
 - A request was made to the Authority Chair and staff that the policy be reviewed in order to provide additional clarity with specific regard to enclosures on pumped drains and drains with near zero fall
 - Correspondence is being drafted to Chatham-Kent to confirm the justification behind fees
 - Authority staff are proposing to undertake a discussion on the policy and to draft an accompanying document that will provide further clarity with

regards to the policy and that this document and the review be brought to the Board of Directors as a report at the September meeting (especially in light of the Environmental Registry posting described in 5.1)

Regarding BD-18-198

- A request was made for a report on parking fees at Highland Glen
 - A report was included within the agenda

BD-19-41

Miller – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the February 28, 2019 meeting.”

CARRIED

- The Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas
- Six are managed by the local municipality and 9 are operated by the Conservation Authority
- Three of the nine CA’s operated by SCRCA are regional campgrounds offering seasonal camping, overnight camping, and day use opportunities
- Combined, the three campgrounds have over 500 campsites, 420 of these are occupied by seasonal campers
- Surplus Revenues from our campgrounds are used to offset capital improvements
- The camping season in 2019 runs from April 26 to Thanksgiving Day

Camping Statistics:

- Starting January 2nd we have accepted campsite reservations (overnight camping only) for our 3 regional campgrounds
- As of March 30th over 800 reservations have been taken, collecting \$108,502; compared to 839 reservations and \$109,000 collected in 2018 (HST adjusted)
- Seasonal sites will be filled to capacity at all 3 campgrounds; waiting lists are maintained to fill in vacancies as they become available

Campground Capital Upgrades 2019:

Warwick Conservation Area (\$29,000)

- Replacement of hydro panels
- Workshop door replaced
- Subsurface drainage improvements in day use area
- Replace eaves trough and downspouts on pool washroom building
- Upgrade roadways with gravel
- Install a new fishing platform/ dock

L.C. Henderson Conservation Area (\$24,500)

- Replacement of hydro panels
- Replace two 60 gallon hot water heaters

- Install solar pole light
- Purchase two portable washrooms
- Upgrade roadways with gravel

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area (\$20,000)

- Riprap protection for main creek crossing
- Building roof replacements (Pool building and A Group Camp pavilion)
- Replacement of hydro panel
- Purchase two portable washrooms
- Replace 2 chemical feed pumps for the water treatment system
- Upgrade roadways with gravel

All Campgrounds

- Campground septic study to review the existing systems, monitor usage, determine system lifespans, and recommendations for upgrades

BD-19-42

Gordon – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas report dated March 30, 2019.”

CARRIED

- Highland Glen Conservation Area is located on Lakeshore Road in the Town of Plympton-Wyoming
- Has an access roadway, two parking lots, pavilion, beach access, picnic tables, and a boat ramp into Lake Huron
- This property can be extremely busy with boat and vehicle traffic during the spring fishing season and the summer
- Due to the regional usage of the area the Board of Directors designated it a Regional Conservation Area in 2000
- The boat ramp was constructed in 1986 and the seawall protection in 1990
- In 2016 it was determined that upgrades were required to meet public needs and ensure the longevity and safety of the facility
- At the June, 2016 Board of Directors meeting, a motion was passed by the Board directing staff to pursue options to implement user fees for the use of the boat ramp and Conservation Area
- Options considered include a staffed gatehouse to collect fees, a metered and controlled entrance, and the MacKay Pay system
- The MacKay Pay system was selected as the preferred option and in November of 2016 the Board of Directors passed the 2017 Proposed Conservation Area fee schedule

MacKay Pay System:

The MacKay Pay system is an app that allows users to pay with their smart phone or through a toll free number. SCRCA is charged a transaction fee each time the service

is used. This system was implemented to allow for the collection of fees without the expense of staffing the site. Staff are able to view a list of all vehicles which have paid for boat launch or parking passes while on site.

Highland Glen fees are as follows:

Day Use Parking \$5.00
 Season Parking Pass \$60.00
 Day Use Boat Launch \$10.00
 Season Boat Launch Pass \$120.00

Capital Infrastructure Improvements 2017 & 2018

- Approximately 40ft of new walkway has been installed along one side of the boat ramp allowing for more than one boat to dock at a time (2017)
- The existing walkway was elevated in response to rising lake levels (2017)
- Approximately 84' of existing seawall was repaired (2017)
- Armour stone was re-positioned to provide better protection to the seawall (2017)
- Two LED solar marine beacon lights have been installed to guide boaters after dark (2017)
- Beach access points have been re-graded (2017)
- Entrance roadway gravel and grading (2017)
- Approximately 60' of new walkway installed along the inside of the boat ramp (2018)
- One new beacon light installed on the outer seawall (2018)
- Welding repairs on a section of the south seawall (2018)
- A set of steel stairs installed to provide improved beach access (2018)

Note: During times of lower water level, dredging is often required to keep the boat launch functional

Financial Impact:

The following fees have been collected at Highland Glen.

2017 Fee Summary					
Fee Type	Fee (\$)	# Paid	Gross Total	Transaction Fees(\$0.35)	Net Revenue
Day Use Parking	\$5	89	\$445	\$31.15	\$413.85
Season Parking	\$60	9	\$540	\$3.15	\$536.85
Day Use Boat Ramp	\$10	270	\$2700	\$94.50	\$2605.50
Season Boat Ramp	\$120	66	\$7920	\$23.10	\$7896.90
Totals			\$11605	\$151.90	\$11453.10

2018 Fee Summary					
Fee Type	Fee (\$)	# Paid	Gross Total	Transaction Fees(\$0.35)	Net Revenue
Day Use Parking	\$5	207	\$1035	\$72.45	\$962.45

Season Parking	\$60	12	\$720	\$4.20	\$715.80
Day Use Boat Ramp	\$10	317	\$3170	\$110.95	\$3059.05
Season Boat Ramp	\$120	52	\$6240	\$18.20	\$6221.80
Totals			\$11165	\$205.80	\$10959.20

Funds raised from the fees will provide upgrades to the facilities at Highland Glen improving visitor experience. Surpluses will be allocated to Highland Glen Conservation Area Reserve to support future projects. In 2019, staff will create a Capital Improvement Plan for the property, addressing upgrades to infrastructure such as the boat ramp, access lane, parking surface, parking organization, and site amenities.

BD-19-43

Schenk – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated March 28, 2019 regarding Highland Glen Conservation Area day use fees.”

CARRIED

A discussion was held regarding the collection of fees for day use and several ideas were exchanged.

BD-19-44

Schenk-Stark

“That the Board of Directors directs staff to remove the fees for day use and seasonal parking at Highland Glen Conservation Area and further recommends that the fees for use of the boat launch be revised to \$15 for single use and \$150 for a seasonal pass.”

CARRIED

Lake Ice Conditions

Ice is still present along the eastern shoreline of Lake Huron, with noticeable buildup at Upperwash Beach, however thickness has greatly reduced with vast visible open water since the last update in February.

Precipitation Conditions

Average precipitation for the past three and six months are slightly below normal, however average totals for the past year are par with normal precipitation patterns, with Strathroy showing particularly above normal precipitation for the past year. A blast of winter was observed on March 30th and lasted into the early part of the week of April 1st, bringing snow depths of 2-6cm across the watershed. Warmer spring-like temperatures which followed removed the snow only a few days later. A snow survey was conducted on April 1st as part of the monitoring program with MNRF, and the associated snow survey maps can be found in Figure 2, below.

A SWE of 1-25mm was present in our watershed and across southwestern Ontario on April 1st, which is 200-250% of normal for this time of year (During this snow survey, the St. Clair watershed had an average of 4cm across the region.

Flood Threat

Unseasonal temperatures and rainfall at the start of February greatly reduced ice and snow cover over the region and resulted in an early freshet.

The freshet, which began on February 4th, had four watershed conditions bulletins released during the event, including one water safety bulletin, two flood outlooks, and one flood watch bulletin. One water safety bulletin was issued on March 14th during a warm spell and rain event, however the received precipitation was 50% of what was forecasted and the event did not escalate.

At present, the flood threat on the Sydenham River is low. With the snowmelt early in the week of April 1st, water levels had risen but are since on the decline. All water levels are below the top of bank elevations with the exception of Florence and Black Creek, which are gradual slopes and prone to breaching into the natural adjacent floodplain.

Some precipitation is forecast in the upcoming week, however predictions are prone to changing. Soil has been saturated with the snowmelt, and any further rain could lead to rivers rising more quickly, however significant flooding is not expected at the time of this report. Water levels and the weather forecast will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Great Lakes Levels

Data collected from Fisheries and Oceans Canada water levels bulletin show the changes in water levels between months, years and decades. Data shows water levels are remaining high, with increases in the water levels compared to previous years. Furthermore, forecasts show water levels on Lakes Huron and St. Clair as being high but are not anticipated to exceed record water levels.

Seasonal Outlook

Seasonal outlooks are provided each month by Jerry Shields, meteorologist for the Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services branch of the MNRF. This information is used internally to prepare for potential increased flood or drought conditions in the distant future. A summary of the outlook is provided below:

- April and May are forecast as being slightly warmer than seasonal for this time of year, with slightly above seasonal precipitation
- June is modelled to be quite cooler than normal with slightly below seasonal precipitation
- Summer is anticipated to have a late start, with cool temperatures from June continuing into July, and precipitation forecast as being slightly below seasonal
- El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) forecast to recovery back into El Nino (positive) conditions and remain strongly positive through the summer and into Fall. Matching years for ENSO conditions for April is 2010, and 1969 for summer.

BD-19-45**Brown – Kennes**

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”

CARRIED

- 2019 - 2020 Projects will be submitted on April 12, 2019
- The WECl program is still subject to funding approval from the Province
- All applications will be reviewed by a committee of provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives in late April or early May and will be ranked in comparison to all submitted projects from across the Province
- If funding is confirmed for this program, a list of approved projects may be available in June
- A list of WECl projects for 2019 - 2020 is outlined below

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline Restoration – Phase 3	Shoreline work at Courtright Park along St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	\$700,000	\$350,000
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 2	Carry out construction of Phase 2 from the recommendation of engineering study.	\$800,000	\$400,000
Head Street/ Coldstream Dams	Decommissioning Study	Study to consider decommissioning of the Head street and Coldstream dams	\$120,000	\$60,000
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Mechanical Inspection of Equipment and Painting	Inspect gate equipment and Waterproofing/sealant coating and paint the gatehouse building	\$150,000	\$75,000
ARDA Dyke	Hazard Tree Removal	Remove trees and shrubs along the dyke that pose stability issues to the dyke	\$24,000	\$12,000
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Drain repairs, Channel floor repair	Perform Channel and Drain repairs on the McKeough Floodway as identified in the Engineering reports.	\$60,000	\$30,000

BD-19-46

Burrell – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects and approves the projects submitted for funding in 2019-2020 and further will assist staff in obtaining matching funds, where required, to support these projects upon confirmation of funding approval.”

CARRIED

Courtright Waterfront Restoration – Phase 2

- A budget of \$350,000 was confirmed for the project (WECI \$80,000; St. Clair Township - \$250,000, Great Lakes Community Guardian fund \$20,000)
- Construction work started late February, 2019 by Murray Mills Excavating
- As of April 4, 2019, All works have been completed under 20 working days of the contract.
- All in-water works were completed before March 30, 2019.
- 1 outfall was located and repair was completed as designed
- Approximately 60 meters of Shoreline work has been completed.
- Due to timeline restrictions, no additional work will be completed.
- Minor restoration and repair work is on-going and the crew will be completing restoration in May, 2019.
- Pictures below was taken on March 29 looking south and north along the Courtright Park.

BD-19-47

Brown – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 on the Phase II Courtright Park Shore Protection Project.”

CARRIED

National Disaster Mitigation Program

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

Issues/Analysis:

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

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

In 2018, Staff at SCRCA were successful in the first round of applications to NDMP for floodplain mapping – Phase 1 work which includes City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township. This work is currently being undertaken by Riggs Engineering.

SCRCA has received a notification from NDMP about **successful funding approval** for **Phase 2** to complete an updated floodplain mapping study for the remaining part of the watershed. Total contribution from NDMP - \$155,250.

With this work completed, SCRCA will have updated floodplain mapping for the entire watershed.

Finance:

The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$310,500. A proposal from Riggs Engineering will be submitted by mid-April.

50% of the costs have to be matched by the remaining municipalities, of which 15% is in-kind contributions such as labour, use of facilities and equipment, which can be readily absorbed by SCRCA. SCRCA is seeking the remainder (\$135,000) from remaining Municipalities. Staff will continue to look into other funding sources to provide matching funds for this project. As in Phase I, the special levy for the remaining municipalities will be determined based on Modified Current Value Assessment, as the levy of the Authority budget.

BD-19-48

Marriott – Gordon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 on NDMP funding Phase II and directs staff to work with the municipalities to obtain the required matching funding and continue to acquire proposals from Riggs Engineering.”

CARRIED

In 2007, the Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Implementation Committee (CRIC) started a detailed assessment of the sediment contamination in the river along the Sarnia petrochemical complex and extending to the southern tip of Stag Island. A report on the initial risk assessment of the sediments was completed in 2009. This report helped to identify three priority areas within the area of study.

Environ environmental consultants was retained by the SCRCA to provide advice on sediment management options in each of the three priority areas, resulting in a 2013

report. Community and First Nation engagement was conducted in 2013 on the different sediment management options described in the report. Feedback received indicated a preference for the use of hydraulic dredging and backfilling.

Project Highlights:

The final step before implementation is the need to prepare a detailed engineering and design plan of the preferred options. SCRCA is working on the Request for Proposals (RFP) document to be provided to pre-qualified consultants with experience in developing detailed engineering designs for contaminated sediment. It is anticipated that preparation of the plan will take two years to complete.

Staff at SCRCA are currently reviewing a draft RFP and a list of pre-qualified consultants with MECP, DOW Canada and ECCC. Once the list is established, the RFP will be finalized and provided to the consultants on April 23, 2019.

A number of open houses are being organized to educate the community of the tasks and timelines associated with the preparation of the engineering and design plan to manage the three areas of historical sediment contamination along the St. Clair River.

- Sarnia open house – April 15, 2019 from 6:00 pm – 8:00pm
- Wallaceburg open house – Wednesday April 17, 2019 from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
- Courtright open house – April 17, 2019 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Meetings have also been arranged with the Aamjiwnaang First Nation Environment Committee for April 16, 2019, and the Walpole Island First Nation Heritage Centre Committee for April 17, 2019.

Finance:

All costs associated with this phase of the project work will be covered through funding provided by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Dow Canada.

The outcome of the Request for Proposals process will determine what consulting firm is selected to prepare the engineering and design plan, as well as the cost to prepare the plan.

BD-19-49

Brennan – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 regarding the St. Clair River Sediment Remediation project and directs staff to acquire proposals from pre-qualified engineering consulting firms and further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the selected consulting firm and sign an agreement for services, subject to confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through the available funding.”

CARRIED

New Floating Dock Proposal

- Fawn Island is a small Canadian island located in the St. Clair River between Sombra, Ontario and Marine City, Michigan.
- The Fawn Island Residents Association (FIRA) have outlined concerns regarding permitted use as well as structural and safety concerns regarding existing docks south of the channel (identified in the picture below)
- Fawn Island residents have growing concerns regarding emergency egress for personal watercraft adjacent the existing dock.
- FIRA contacted SCRCA to allow installation of 4 floating docks on the south side of the parking lot along the outlet of the McKeough Floodway.
- SCRCA received a letter from St. Clair Township confirming the need for emergency access to the Fawn Island residents. The letter requested SCRCA to consider this proposal.
- SCRCA had received confirmation from the group to address:
 - Costs associated with installation, removal and maintenance (Received)
 - Insurance certificate exonerating SCRCA and Township from any liability (Pending)
 - Agreement to install and remove the dock annually (Received)

Outlet Park

In Spring of 2017, St. Clair Township staff contacted SCRCA to consider the outlet park as a parking space for the residents of Fawn Island. SCRCA staff coordinated with Golder Associates to assist with providing a concept of parking lot. The following concerns were considered:

- effects of Ice and Ice Jam along St. Clair River
- wave action
- high flows in St. Clair River
- floodway operation and high flows

The parking lot was **installed in summer of 2017**. The principle use of the outlet park had shifted from a public park with modest parking area supporting passive recreation and fishing opportunities to an area with significant parking with docking facilities which was available for the use of Fawn Island residents.

It was anticipated that an agreement from St. Clair Township to assume management and maintenance of the park as an open municipal park which will also function as the primary parking, launch and ferry dock for property owners on Fawn Island. Such an agreement will require a tree saving plan, approval of any construction plans and construction and maintenance costs to be borne by the municipality.

Recent communications with the St. Clair Township indicate an unwillingness to enter any type of maintenance agreement. Staff continue to correspond with the Township to find an agreeable solution between SCRCA and Township.

BD-19-50

Burrell – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors approves the placement of the floating docks as outlined on the south side of the Outlet Park upon receipt of outstanding documentation, including signed hold harmless agreements from all dock funders and confirmation of dock use being open to all Fawn Island residents and further that staff and Board members representing the Township of St. Clair work with the municipal staff and Council to develop an understanding of maintenance requirements and financial responsibilities for the Outlet Park.”

CARRIED

Stewardship projects (Grants available) SCRCA secures funding from federal, provincial, municipal and private sources to support landowner-implemented stewardship projects including riparian buffers, block tree planting, windbreaks, wetlands, and erosion control measures. Staff meet with landowners and offer advice and project design and where applicable, support projects with grants. Call today for more information.

Update:

Staff have applied for the following grants to support landowner stewardship projects and education & outreach:

- Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Aquatic Habitat Stewardship Program - \$140,000/year for 3 years
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Canada Nature Fund \$960,000 for 4 years
- EcoAction - \$78,000 for stewardship and educational outreach in the St. Clair Region

SCRCA Habitat Stewardship Program 2018-2019

Total Project Cost: \$647,500 (excludes the value of land retirement of 32.15 ha/79.44 acres)

Grants awarded to Stewardship Projects: \$336,300

Staff assisted or found grant funding for the following projects:

- 3 Erosion Control Projects
- 1 Organic Amendments Project
- 63 Riparian Buffer and Marginal Land Tree Planting Projects (~73,070 trees)
- 10 Wetland Projects
- 2 Cattle Exclusion Fencing Projects
- 1 Bank Stabilization Project
- 1 Grassed Waterway Project

Outreach, Education, Partner Projects

- **March 14**
Lake Huron Coastal Centre for Conservation Steering Committee meeting for Coastal Action Plan development
- **March 28**
Innovative Farmers Association of Ontario Board Meeting
- **April 4**

Phosphorus & Stewardship in the Sydenham River Watershed Presentation at
Lambton Cattlemen's Association Meeting

BD-19-51

McGregor – Brennan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2019 on the Healthy Watersheds Program.”

CARRIED

Through funding provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is coordinating the development of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River watershed to reduce the impact of this nutrient on the Great Lakes basin. When phosphorus becomes available in excessive amounts in freshwater environments it can cause algal blooms and hypoxic (low oxygen) conditions. This severely degrades the water quality of lakes and rivers and can impact the safety of water for drinking, recreation, and wildlife. The objective of this multi-year project (potentially 2018-2022) is to work with local stakeholders and communities to identify sources of phosphorus, collect and analyze available data, and determine the most effective solutions for our region. A community engagement and outreach strategy will also be developed to implement the Management Plan.

On November 27, 2018, the SCRCA hosted an initial stakeholder meeting to introduce and receive direction for the project. Over 65 people were in attendance representing a variety of interests including municipalities, counties, First Nations, federal and provincial government, agricultural and wastewater sectors, neighbouring conservation authorities, educational institutions, community groups, and other individuals.

Four committees have since been established, including an Advisory Committee, Water Quality Technical Team, Non-Point Source (NPS) Working Group, and Point Source (PS) Working Group that will be coordinated by the SCRCA Project Team. SCRCA Board Members, Steve Miller and Terry Burrell, will sit on the NPS and PS Working Groups, respectively, and will both be on the Advisory Committee.

Feedback from the November Meeting was used to develop drafts of guiding documents for the project, including a Project Charter, NPS and PS Working Group Terms of Reference, and a Plan Outline.

On March 7, 2019, the first meetings for the NPS and PS Working Groups were held where feedback was received on the proposed Project Charter, Terms of Reference, and Project Outline. The discussions at these meetings were very productive and will be used to guide further progress on the project.

In the upcoming months, the first Advisory Committee and Water Quality Technical Team meetings will be held.

The Management Plan “Draft Project Charter” was also reviewed.

Strategic Objectives:

The Phosphorus Management Plan is a project that ties into our existing programs and will help us to meet our strategic objective to focus on programs that reduce the loading of phosphorus to the Great Lakes in order to protect, manage, and restore our natural systems.

Goal 2:

“Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes.”

Strategic Actions:

“Develop New Tools to Promote Stewardship Practices and Evaluate the Effectiveness of Best Management Practices: Evaluate the current model of landowner outreach and voluntary stewardship and explore new tools and collaborations that expand conservation opportunities utilizing information from our watershed report cards. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are encouraged to promote soil health, improve water quality, and provide for more resilient watersheds. Efforts need to be made to evaluate the various BMPs to ensure they are creating the results expected such as reducing nutrient loss from farm fields (with a focus on phosphorus) and decreasing sedimentation in watercourses. This is an opportunity to work with colleges and universities, farming groups, and others to develop solid science to evaluate BMP effectiveness.”

“Focus on Programs to Reduce Phosphorous Loading into the Great Lakes: Governments on both sides of the border have been taking action setting targets for the Great Lakes to deal with the problem of excess Phosphorus. Stewardship programs, while also addressing other watershed needs, should focus on reducing Phosphorous levels entering the Great Lakes.”

BD-19-52

Schenk – McMillan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2019 on the Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan.”

CARRIED

All tree planting activities take place in the spring of the year. Vegetation control operations are carried out in both the spring and the fall for trees planted within the past 3 years. Several larger planting projects are maintained throughout the growing season on County and CA lands plus several other private corporate planting projects. Approximately 30 individual sites totalling approximately 60,000 are planted annually. Vegetation control work is carried out on approximately 100 sites totalling over 250,000 trees annually.

Tree Planting Program

- This year conservation services staff will be planting approximately 68,000 trees for 36 separate projects on private, corporate public lands.

- Two tractor-mounted mechanical tree planters each operated by a 3 person crew and one 4 person hand planting crew will be deployed in the last week of April to plant trees over a 3 to 4 week time frame.
- Another 5000 trees will be sold to a number of landowners to plant on their own.
- We currently have several federal, provincial and local grant dollars available as financial incentives for property owners this year to subsidize a larger portion of the cost of trees, planting services and long term vegetation management.
- All trees planted under this program will receive a pre-emergent herbicide treatment soon after planting unless otherwise requested by the landowner.
- Approximately 200,000 trees are scheduled for herbicide retreatment this spring for sites that were planted in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

Large Stock Trees

- Approximately 600 large stock trees have been ordered for the spring
- Two municipalities are ordering trees this spring.
- The Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston has been providing a financial incentive for several years now to its resident property owners who purchase and plant trees on their properties through this program.
- The Township of Warwick is new to our program this year and has also provided a financial incentive to its resident landowners who order large stock trees to plant on their properties.
- Trees range in size from a half metre tall for evergreen trees to 2.0 metres tall for the hardwood trees. Most of the trees are potted or in a dirt ball with burlap. Some species and oversized trees come in bare root form. The bare root trees are less expensive, however, they require much more protection when transporting and storing.

Director’s Comment: A request was made for a report providing a breakdown of Municipality participation in the Tree Planting Program

BD-19-53

Miller – Westgate

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2019 regarding Conservation Services projects and programs.”

CARRIED

The Authority is contracted by the County of Lambton to apply a larvicidal treatment to all municipal catch basins in cities, towns, villages and rural areas throughout the county. The conservation services department is responsible for the Authority’s pesticide operators license, has three permanent staff with MOECC applicator licenses and one staff person to train and licence seasonal staff as pesticide technicians. SCRCA has a positive working relationship with the county, has been providing this service since 2006 as well as other services to the County and therefore this program is a good fit for both organizations. The conservation authority works with Lambton Public Health for this program and takes direction from the health protection department.

Update:

- The Conservation Authority will be treating catch basins again this summer under contract with the County of Lambton. SCRCA obtains permits each year from MOECC and trains, certifies and registers summer staff as pesticide technicians to treat catch basins with a mosquito larvicide product.
- Catch basins are treated with methoprene (mosquito growth regulator) between June 25th and August 25th with 3 separate applications at 21-day intervals for mosquito control during the most vulnerable time of the year for transmitting the disease. Methoprene prevents the mosquito pupa from emerging as a biting adult mosquito. Approximately 65% Lambton County's municipal catch basins are located in the City of Sarnia.
- SCRCA staff conduct pre-treatment larval activity sampling as well as post treatment efficacy testing in part with the treatment program by collecting mosquito pupa later in the summer. Pupa are monitored for adult emergence. Past efficacy monitoring averages 80% effectiveness at controlling mosquito pupa from emerging into adult biting mosquitos.

Dan McMillan offered his thanks to SCRCA on behalf of Health Canada for larvicide treatments offered to Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

BD-19-54

Burrell – Brown

“The Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2019 on the application of larvicide to catch basins in Lambton County for the control of West Nile Virus in 2019.”

CARRIED

The Regulations Activity Summary Report dated April 2, 2019 on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from February 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-55

Burrell – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated April 2, 2019 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from February 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019.”

CARRIED

A declaration of pecuniary interest was made by Carmen McGregor.

The Planning Activity Summary Report dated April 2, 2019 for February 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-56

MacKinnon – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Report dated April 2, 2019 for February 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019.”

CARRIED

The Municipal Drain Activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART) from November, 2018 to March, 2019.

Director’s Comments: It was requested that Dallas Cundick confirm via e-mail whether consultation occurred with Sarnia drainage superintendents regarding the Policy on closed drains adopted on September 7, 2017

BD-19-57

Nemcek – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the November, 2018 – March, 2019 municipal drain activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART).”

CARRIED

The revenue and expenditure report to February 28, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-58

Burrell – MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to February 28, 2019, as it relates to the budget.”

CARRIED

The January, February and March 2019 disbursements were reviewed.

BD-19-59

Kennes – Brennan

“That the Board of Directors approves the January, February and March 2019 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$873,269.68.”

CARRIED

The status report on the 2019 general levy receipts was reviewed.

BD-19-60

Gordon – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2019 general levy receipts to date.”

CARRIED

The Investment reports to February 28, 2019 were reviewed.

BD-19-61

Kennes – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Investment reports to February 28, 2019.”

CARRIED

The November 28, 2018 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting minutes were reviewed.

BD-19-62

Brown – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the November 28, 2018 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting minutes.”

CARRIED

The Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) held their last meeting on January 24, 2019 at the ARLANXEO facility in Sarnia, Ontario. At this meeting ARLANXEO gave a presentation to the BPAC focussed on their safety protocols and environmental safeguards. The next BPAC meeting is being held on April 4, 2019 at the St. Clair Power Plant in East China, Michigan.

On February 21, 2019 Kelly Johnson, St. Clair River RAP Coordinator, participated in the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation’s Speaker Series held in Sarnia, Ontario. Kelly provided the audience with a broad overview of the St. Clair River AOC and highlighted progress that has been made towards delisting of the St. Clair River.

The St. Clair River Science Symposium is being held in Sombra, Ontario on the evening of April 10, 2019. This is a free event open to the public and will feature informative presentations on fish diversity, health and habitat. A buffet dinner will be held prior to the presentations. The Symposium is being hosted by Environment and Climate Change Canada, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, and Walpole Island First Nation.

Kelly has or will be participating in the following outreach events in the AOC:

- St. Clair River Days – Aamjiwnaang First Nation, March 6, 2019
- Aamjiwnaang Earth Day Event – Aamjiwnaang First Nation, April 27, 2019
- Lambton Heritage Museum Speaker Series – Grand Bend, May 8, 2019

As mentioned in the December 2018 St. Clair River AOC update, the Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee (CRIC) is working to finalize the 2012 – 2017 Accomplishments Report. The document is currently in the final stages of editing and will be printed and available to the public by the end of April 2019.

BD-19-63

Burrell – McMillan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 2, 2019 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”

CARRIED

Staff are proposing a Conservation Authority Project Tour on Thursday, June 27, 2019 from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. The bus will leave and return to the Warwick Conservation Area located at 6101 Warwick Village Road. Lunch will be provided and will be followed by the Board meeting. In 2019, the project tour will focus on the northern region of our watershed.

Proposed Tour Highlights:

- Lambton County Phragmites Partnership
- Healthy Lake Huron Program and Agricultural Outreach
- Esli Dodge Conservation Area, Forest
- TD Tree Days, Forest
- Highway 402 Tree Planting
- C.J. McEwen and/or Highland Glen Conservation Areas
- Lambton County Heritage Forest

BD-19-64

Burrell – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2019 on the proposed project tour scheduled for June 27, 2019.”

CARRIED

Winter Programing:

Thanks to the Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association, Groundwater and River Bottom Critters programs were the focus of our winter season for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12. Plains Midstream has provided funding for the Spring Water Awareness Program, allowing the program to continue into its 8th year. Friends of the St. Clair River continue to sponsor the River Rap program. See below for detailed explanation of recent expansion of this program.

Severe winter weather affected how many primary classes were able to visit Henderson Conservation Area, for outdoor winter programming. Students who were able to attend experienced an enjoyable and educational wonder-filled day. Maple Syrup school program was revived this year and a full week of classes enjoyed their time learning about the tradition of maple syrup production, from the early First Nations, pioneer and modern methods.

Elementary school students visited the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area to get a first-hand look at how maple syrup production has evolved throughout the years. Pictured left is a student taking part in the maple syrup sap collection activity.

Special Events:

Maple Syrup Festival

Over 800 community members visited the Alvinston Maple Syrup Festival at AW Campbell Conservation Area March 16th and 17th. Bright sunny days and cold frosty nights made for great weather conditions and helped to keep the ground a little less muddy.

Canoe Race

April 28th is set aside for this year's paddle down the Sydenham. Find a partner and enjoy the beauty of the river; Board Members are encouraged to come and join the fun! Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.

River Rap Program Secondary School Expansion:

Pilot programs are being run April 1-16th for this new program expansion. The program is designed to meet the needs of multiple curriculums (ex. Biology, Chemistry, Geography) allowing for high numbers of classes to participate. This new program focuses on the issue of excessive phosphorus in Lake Erie & is intended to give youth a voice in the development of the 'Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan'.

New Secondary School Environmental Partnership:

Education Staff have formed a new partnership with Strathroy District Collegiate Institute, as they begin a new 3-credit Environment course in conjunction with a new Environment SHSM. This means Strathroy secondary students now have opportunity to specialize their education toward future environmental studies. SCRCA is excited to assist SDCl wherever possible, to ensure this program's success.

ICE Training

ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) training partnerships continue to grow. SCRCA education staff have two training sessions planned for spring 2019. One partnership with St. François Xavier French Catholic School, Sarnia, will focus on coping with mental health issues amid today's stresses by spending time in nature. The other training with Strathroy District Collegiate Institute, in Strathroy will focus on forest management in local Conservation Areas, in particular managing community safety/accessibility in the presence of beavers at Strathroy CA.

Fun Fest

SCRCA staff will be participating in Kids Fun Fest 2019 on Saturday June 8th in Sarnia. The booth will promote camping and other SCRCA programs. SCRCA staff will provide children with a hands-on nature themed activity. Past years have included themes such as nest building, mud painting, temporary nature art, and nature-themed games.

Frank Nemcek expressed his thanks regarding the support of the Maple Syrup Festival.

BD-19-65

Nemcek – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated April 3, 2019 including the winter programming, program development and expansion, Community Partnerships, and Special Events.”

CARRIED

A recess was called at 11:20 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 11:30 a.m.

BD-19-66

Brennan – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors agrees to recess and reconvene at 11:30 a.m.”

A presentation was given by Grant Inglis of Little, Inglis, Price & Ewer LLP.

BD-19-67

Gordon – MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the presentation given by Little, Inglis, Price & Ewer, LLP regarding the legal aspect of the roles, responsibilities of SCRCA Board Members.”

CARRIED

Under New Business:

The last two weeks have seen some significant communication by the Province regarding Conservation Authorities.

On April 5th, two postings to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) outlined proposals being brought forward by the Ministries of Environment, Conservation and Parks and Natural Resources and Forestry (attached).

These postings outline in brief summary the Province’s intention to:

- Define Conservation Authorities core mandatory program and services
- Ensure open and transparent communications and agreements with municipalities regarding core and non-core programs
- Enable to Minister to appoint and investigator to audit and report
- Clarify the duties of Board members
- Update or create definitions for key regulatory terms (i.e. wetlands, watercourses, pollution, interference, conservation of land, etc.)
- Exempt ‘low risk’ development activities and reduce regulatory restrictions from the Authority’s permit program
- Require periodic review and consultation on internal policies that guide permitting decisions as well as public notification of regulatory mapping
- Establishment, monitoring and reporting on service delivery standards

These documents were posted without any consultation with Conservation Authorities.

These proposals could lead to legislative changes that would have significant impacts to Conservation Authority structure, operation and regulations. As a result, staff are working on a draft response to these postings to be circulated to the Board for review, comment and approval prior to submission to the ERO.

Last week, the Provincial government released the 2019 Budget entitled Protecting What Matters Most. As anticipated, with the government's previously stated intentions, funding was cut to most Ministries, including MNRF which was cut by almost 20% and MECP which was cut by 35% (including the elimination of time limited investments).

Subsequent correspondence from MNRF (attached) provided notification that the Transfer Payment from the Province to support eligible natural hazard programs of flood control, erosion control, flood forecasting and warning, municipal plan input and review and administration will be \$160,037.80 for 2019. In 1996, the provincial government committed to providing financial support in equal partnership with municipalities to fund these program areas. In 1996, SCRCA outlined a budget of \$620,006 for those program areas and received \$310,003 in funding from the Province. Despite its commitment to match municipal funding to these program areas, funding from the Province had remained unchanged from 1996 to 2018. Therefore the 2019 cut to core mandatory programs is over 48%.

Staff will provide a report to the June Board meeting detailing options that may provide relief of this funding shortfall.

BD-19-68

Bruzewicz – McMillan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 17, 2019 regarding Provincial communications regarding Conservation Authorities.”

CARRIED

BD-19-69

Burrell – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors directs staff to prepare a draft response to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #013-4992 Focusing conservation authority development permits on the protection of people and property and further directs staff to prepare a draft response to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #013-5018 Modernizing conservation authority operations – Conservation Authorities Act for circulation to the Board for comments and subsequently for approval at an Executive Committee meeting to be scheduled in mid-May.”

CARRIED

BD-19-70

Burrell – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the correspondence dated April 12, 2019 from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks notifying the Authority that the 2019-2020 transfer payment for Section 39 Eligible Natural Hazard Management Grant will be \$160,037.80, a 48.38% reduction (\$149,965.20) from the \$310,003.00 received annually to support Section 39 programs, which had remained unchanged since 1996, and further direct staff to prepare a report for the June meeting of the Board of Directors detailing any options that may provide relief of this shortfall in the approved 2019 Authority Budget.”

CARRIED

BD-19-71

Loosley – Brennan

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED



Joe Faas
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 16, 2019

Time: 10:00 am

St. Clair Conservation Authority Administrative Office

Present: Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice-Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Mark McGill, Steve Miller, Lorie Scott

Staff Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager; Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Sarah Hodgkiss, Planning Ecologist; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. 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.

EC-19-17

Loosley – Scott

“That the Executive Committee adopts the agenda for the meeting as presented.”

CARRIED

Dealing with Provincial Funding Cuts:

- On April 12th SCRCA was notified that 2019-2020 Provincial funding for Hazard Management would be reduced by \$149,965.20
- As discussed at the April 18th Board Meeting – with municipal budgets and the Authority’s budget approved, requesting additional funds from member municipalities is not a reality for 2019
- In reviewing our options to deal with the impact of these lost revenues, we have to understand what Authority programs were to be funded by these funds
- Hazard Management funding from the Province of Ontario was provided to support the following program areas:
 - Flood Control Structures – Operation, Minor Maintenance & Preventative Maintenance
 - Erosion Control Structures – Operation, Minor Maintenance & Preventative Maintenance
 - Flood Forecasting & Warning – System Operation & Rationalization
 - Plan Input
 - Information
 - Legal Costs
 - Administration
- A list of options as well as a proposal for 2019 budget balancing measures will be brought forward at the June Board of Directors meeting

- The list of options will include: capital project postponement, drawing on reserves funds, spending controls & if required service reductions in non-emergency areas
- Alternative funding sources for programs in this area are limited to non-existent, however, any reasonable opportunity will be sought out
- It seems rather ironic that the same page that defines programs that are eligible for Hazard Management funding also specifically identifies the total funding available to Conservation Areas under Hazard Management but also confirms a commitment to funding 50% of the overall cost of these programs
- On April 18th SCRCA was informed that Forests Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program (funded directly by the Government of Ontario) was going to be eliminated at end of the current planting season
- This will result in a reduction in grants to landowners of ~\$65,000 (based on an average of the last 10 years)
- Authority staff are already seeking grant funding to replace this lost opportunity
- Additional grant applications have already been submitted
- Further staff are reviewing other potential sources of funding
 - Donation from the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation
 - Direct donations to the SCRCF to support seedling tree planting
 - Corporate sponsorships

Conservation Ontario General Managers Meeting:

- GMs met on Monday, May 13th with many regions are on active flood watch
- The impact of provincial funding cuts varies greatly amongst the various Conservation Authorities
- Staff will implement changes to reduce non-emergency spending for this fiscal year with help from reserves. Moving forward, additional changes will be needed.

Request from the Municipality of Plympton-Wyoming

- Council has passed a motion to request that the C.J McEwen Conservation Area be reacquired from SCRCA.
- A decision will be requested from the Board of Directors
- The Board of Directors requests a staff report which is to the funds invested into the property to date.

Discussion:

- Various ideas for cost savings and fund generation were discussed and Included the following potential strategies:
 - Additional fundraisers
 - Corporate sponsorships
 - Building partnerships and obtaining grants from private foundations
 - Private woodlot management as a fee for service
 - The severance of McKeough table lands
 - Entering into agreements with Municipalities for the maintenance of select Conservation lands.

EC-19-18

Burrell – MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the General Manager’s report date May 9, 2019.”

CARRIED

EC-19-19

Loosley – Bruziewicz

“That the Executive Committee directs staff to request a meeting at the convenience of Members of Provincial Parliament to discuss concerns with Provincial funding cuts at which time a special meeting will be called by the Chair.”

CARRIED

Comments regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting Modernizing conservation authority operations – Conservation Authorities Act

**Posted by Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks on April 5, 2019
#013-5018**

In April 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted the above noted document on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) for comment.

The following details the comments formally submitted by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) in the response to the above noted posting.

The Conservation Authorities Act, an Act introduced in 1946, enables programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources throughout watersheds in Ontario. Under the Act, 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs) were created at the request of municipalities. They are governed by municipally appointed representatives to deliver local resource management programs at a watershed scale for both provincial and municipal interests. The initial focus of Conservation Authorities was to prevent flooding, erosion, drought, and deforestation through improved land, water and forestry management practices. As extreme weather, particularly heavy rains and flooding becomes more frequent due to climate change, the core frontline role that Conservation Authorities play in our communities is becoming increasingly important. Since the 1940s when the Act was established, the programs and services delivered by Conservation Authorities have expanded. Conservation Authorities are the second largest landowners in Ontario, next to the Province; collectively they own and manage 146,000 hectares of land in Ontario.

Through Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-In-Ontario Environment Plan, released in November of 2018, this government committed to **“work in collaboration with municipalities and stakeholders to ensure that conservation authorities focus and deliver on their core mandate of protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards and conserving natural resources.”**

Proposed Changes	SCRCA Response
<p>Clearly define the core mandatory programs and services provided by conservation authorities to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural Hazard Protection and Management 2. Conservation and Management of conservation authority lands 3. Drinking water source protection (as prescribed under the <i>Clean Water Act</i>) 4. Protection of the Lake Simcoe watershed (as prescribed under the <i>Lake Simcoe Protection Act</i>) 	<p>It is our understanding that these 4 core mandatory programs and services are to be placed in the legislation and then standards and requirements would be described in regulation, making them a legal requirement. With regard to 3 and 4, reference to “as prescribed” under the respective Acts, fails to clearly describe implications to all Conservation Authorities. Under the Clean Water Act, Lead Conservation Authorities have different requirements than non-lead Authorities. Under the Lake Simcoe Protection Act, the objectives of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan are outlined in specific detail including many objectives that would fall under Natural Hazard Protection and Management and many other objectives that may not. Are these objectives to be broadly applied to all Conservation Authority watersheds in order to ensure commonality across all Conservation Authorities?</p> <p>CAs currently receive provincial transfer payments to provide programs and services for core mandates #1 and #3. The recognition, by the Province, that CAs play an important role in the protection of the Province’s interest in local resource management must be supported financially in order to ensure that Authorities are able to implement the role. SCRCA supports the need for clarity in defining the role of Conservation Authorities but cannot support the proposed 4 ‘core mandatory’ programs as outlined as they do not recognize the value and importance of the broader landscape understanding. Specifically, Conservation Authorities promote an integrated watershed management approach to deliver services and programs to protect and manage impacts on water and other natural resources. We recommend that this be identified in core mandate #1</p>

<p>Increase transparency in how conservation authorities levy municipalities for mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services. Update the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i> an Act introduced in 1946, to conform with modern transparency standards by ensuring that municipalities and conservation authorities review levies for non-core programs after a certain period of time (e.g., 4 to 8 years)</p>	<p>Section 39 programs are clearly outlined under the existing legislation. Conservation Authorities have received financial support at a static level from the Province to support these program areas since 1996. While Provincial support has been flat lined to 23 years, Municipalities have provided funding to match Provincial Section 39 funds and further financial support necessary to cover costs for Section 39 programs, as well as funding to support locally supported programs, has been provided by Municipalities through ‘non-matching and special levies’. Support for these programs and the associated cost of these programs is obtained annually through a budgetary process that provides multiple opportunities for municipalities or their representatives on the Board of Directors to seek or request further information or to voice their support or concern for these budget components. SCRCA supports the need for transparency, however, the existing budget process provides ample transparency and further SCRCA does not support the requirement for a review requirement within a set timeframe as these actions are already undertaken annually.</p>
<p>Establish a transition period (e.g. 18 to 24 months) and process for conservation authorities and municipalities to enter into agreements for the delivery of non-mandatory programs and services and meet these transparency standards</p>	<p>Further clarity on provincial plans to legislate agreements with municipalities is required for SCRCA to understand the terms of the agreements. There is a need for Conservation Authorities to contribute to the design of the agreements, to ensure support and capacity for the programs and services included. Should such agreements be required SCRCA supports a transition period of 24 months to ensure that agreements can be executed and implemented. SCRCA supports the transparency of these agreements and any standards that may be contained within. Conservation Ontario is addressing these agreements as part of the <i>Client Service and Streamlining Initiative – Improving Client Service and Accountability</i>.</p>
<p>Enable the Minister to appoint an investigator to investigate or undertake an audit and report on a conservation authority</p>	<p>SCRCA has no concern with the proposed additional power being provided to the Minister.</p>
<p>Clarify that the duty of conservation authority board</p>	<p>SCRCA supports the provision of further clarity regarding the duties of Authority Board members.</p>

<p>members is to act in the best interest of the conservation authority, similar to not-for profit organizations</p>	
<p>General Comments</p>	
<p>Modernizing conservation authority operations – <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i></p>	<p>A webinar hosted by MECP for all Conservation Authorities held on April 4, 2019, provided background to this proposed modernization of Conservation Authority operations. Citing climate change and flooding, land use planning, environmental protection and drinking water protection, it was explained that the Province was consulting on ‘how CAs can improve delivery of core programs and services’. Ministry staff went on to identify the drivers behind the modernization of CA operations. The first two drivers listed were specific to CA member municipalities regarding the costs of funding CAs and the municipalities’ lack of control over CA budgets. SCRCA undertakes a lengthy budget process offering multiple opportunities for municipal comment and further offers to present the proposed budget to Councils at the municipalities’ request. The Board members who approve the CAs annual budgets and therefore they have ultimate control of all CA budgets are appointed by their local municipalities. Municipalities concerned about the costs to fund CAs have concurrently voiced concerns that the Province is not living up to their commitment to provide 50% financial support to the Section 39 programs as outlined in 1996. These issues are then further compounded by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry decision to cut transfer payments for Section 39 programs by almost 50% in last month’s budget. The third driver identified was the 2012 report from the <i>Commission on the Reform of Ontario Public Services</i>, which identified jurisdictional crowding as an issue in the development sector. This issue was addressed with the review of the Conservation Authorities Act and the passage of Bill 139 in 2017. The final driver identified was the Ontario Auditor General’s 2018 <i>Special Audit of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority</i> and several key recommendations included. Ministry staff brought forward issues regarding clarity of board member accountability, board member training and mechanisms for Ministry</p>

	intervention. Unfortunately, other key messages from that same report were not brought forward. In particular, Ontario's Auditor General also recommended a <i>'review of current funding levels to CAs to determine how floodplain mapping can be completed in a timely manner'</i> .
--	--

EC-19-20

MacKinnon – Bruziewicz

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated May 9, 2019 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #013-5018 - Modernizing conservation authority operations – Conservation Authorities Act and further approves the proposed response to this posting and directs staff to submit this response to the identified provincial contact on behalf of the Board of Directors.”

CARRIED

Comments and Responses on the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry consultation on “Focusing Conservation Authority Development Permits on the Protection of People and Property”

Posted by Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to the Environmental Registry on April 5, 2019 #013-4992

In April 2019, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) posted the above noted document on the Environmental Registry for comment.

The following details the comments to be formally submitted by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) in the response to the above noted posting.

The posting Proposal summary states:

“We are proposing a regulation that outlines how conservation authorities permit development and other activities for impacts to natural hazards and public safety. The proposed regulation will make rules for development in hazardous areas more consistent to support faster, more predictable and less costly approvals.”

SCRCA staff are anticipating that a further opportunity for consultation on the S.28 permitting process will take place through the establishment of the enabling regulations.

The following tables are titled by each of the proposal details with our comments shown underneath and potential details to be considered for the Regulation opposite.

Proposed Changes:	
Consolidating and harmonizing the existing 36 individual conservation authority-approved regulations into 1 Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry approved regulation	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>As noted in the posting, this new regulation will need to be quite flexible to allow for differences in risks posed by flooding and other natural hazards.</p> <p>As the goal is to ensure consistency across the province, it will be necessary for MNRF to update or provide additional policy and technical guidelines and implementation support tools to support the natural hazards programs for Conservation Authorities (CAs) to align and base their internal policies upon for greater consistency and modernization.</p> <p>MNRF should coordinate mandatory training on the new regulation, and provide consistent technical and appropriate financial support to CAs to implement CA regulatory responsibilities on behalf of the Province.</p>	<p>Further flexibility should be provided through additional Schedules to the Regulation.</p> <p>SCRCA's Ontario Regulation 171/06 references specific flood events standards, including; the Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan, the Great Lakes System Flood Levels and Water Related Hazards, and varied Flood Event Standards such as Hurricane Hazel Flood Event Standard, 100 Year Flood Event Standard and the 100 Year Flood Level plus Wave Uprush.</p>

Proposed Changes:	
Update definitions for key regulatory terms to better align with other provincial policy, including:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Wetland" 2. "Watercourse" 3. "Pollution" 	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>Developing more explicit language in the CA Act is needed to support CA's in their role of reducing risks posed by flooding and other natural hazards and strengthening Ontario's resiliency to extreme weather events.</p> <p>Again, as the goal is to ensure consistency across the province, this will also require MNRF to update or provide</p>	<p>Wetland: Clearly confirm and outline importance of protecting wetlands to help to reduce flows and store floodwaters, which reduce risk and allow people increased response time to flood events.</p> <p>In addition, align the definition with that found in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014.</p>

<p>additional policy and technical guidelines and implementation support tools to support the natural hazards programs for CAs to align and base their internal policies.</p>	<p>Watercourse: Existing features that contribute to watershed resilience, by preventing and reducing flooding and erosion, need continued protection to ensure there are no impacts to natural hazards or public safety.</p> <p>Pollution: is an important consideration and more explicit language in the regulation is required to outline that factors such as erosion and sedimentation and the release of hazardous substances due to natural hazards (e.g. floods) are priority concerns.</p>
---	--

<p align="center">Proposed Changes: Defining undefined terms including: “interference” and “conservation of land” as consistent with the natural hazard management intent of the regulation</p>	
<p>Comments</p>	<p>Details for Regulation</p>
<p>More explicit language in the CA Act is needed to support CA’s in their role of reducing risks posed by flooding and other natural hazards and strengthening Ontario’s resiliency to extreme weather events.</p> <p>These definitions should be inclusive to support the role CA’s play in natural hazards, public safety, and climate change.</p> <p>Again, as the goal is to ensure consistency across the province, this will also require MNRF to update or provide additional policy and technical guidelines and implementation support tools to support the natural hazards programs for CAs to align and base their internal policies.</p> <p>MNRF should coordinate mandatory training on the new definitions.</p>	<p>SCRCA supports the documentation that Conservation Ontario has provided regarding the interpretation of these definitions.</p> <p>Interference: Any anthropogenic act or instance which hinders, disrupts, degrades or impedes in any way the hydrologic and ecologic function of a wetland or watercourse.</p> <p>Conservation of Land: the protection, management, or restoration of lands within the watershed for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing the natural features vegetative cover, hydrologic and ecological functions within the watershed for natural hazard management.</p>

Proposed Changes: Reduce regulatory restrictions between 30m and 120m of a wetland and where a hydrological connection has been severed	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>With Climate Change impacts SCRCA understands that the more unpredictable and forceful flooding patterns we see today are the 'new normal'.</p> <p>Wetlands play an important role to help reduce flows and store floodwaters, which reduce risk and allow people greater response time to flooding emergencies.</p> <p>SCRCA recognizes that the magnitude of potential impacts to the hydrologic function of a wetland is based on scope/scale/details of a proposed development. Therefore, SCRCA already reduces the requirements for permit applications (taken as regulatory restrictions) between 30m and 120m, as appropriate based on the specific details of the development proposal (i.e. low risk activities that would not impact the hydrologic function or public safety).</p>	<p>Ontario Regulation 171/06, Section 2. (1) (d) and (e) states;</p> <p>(d) wetlands; or</p> <p>(e) other areas where development could interfere with the hydrologic function of a wetland, including areas within 120 metres of all provincially significant wetlands, and areas within 30 metres of all other wetlands. O. Reg. 171/06, s. 2 (1); O. Reg. 83/13, s. 1 (1-3).</p> <p>Further clarification and/or inclusion of a further clause that allows a modification of the extent of the regulated area where hydrologic connection has been properly assessed and it is demonstrated that hydrological connection has been severed, is recommended.</p>

Proposed Changes: Exempt low-risk development activities from requiring a permit including certain alterations and repairs to existing municipal drains subject to the Drainage Act provided they are undertaken in accordance with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>A large percentage of watercourses in the SCRCA watershed are Municipal Drains.</p> <p>Drainage works have the potential to impact flood control in the SCRCA watershed, and it is essential that CAs be notified of the proposed work in advance for proper screening to help the Municipality ensure works do not increase risks posed by flooding and other natural hazards.</p>	<p>If exemptions were contemplated, there is the need to provide clear direction that an exemption is only provided for works that would not increase risk posed by flooding or other natural hazards (i.e. differentiation between DART Standard Compliance Requirements within regulated wetlands limits vs. outside of regulated wetland limits).</p>

<p>SCRCA utilizes the DART Protocol as its written permission (permit) and this has streamlined review.</p>	
---	--

<p>Proposed Changes: Allow conservation authorities to further exempt low-risk development activities from requiring a permit provided in accordance with conservation authority policies</p>
--

Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>A CA permit is a technical review/assessment and the regulation covers a range of natural hazards. The natural hazards in a CA's jurisdiction and the extent of the activities (i.e. scale and scope) contribute to the assessment of risk and the ability to be flexible. A risk management framework should be applied on a watershed jurisdiction basis and resultant outcomes will vary accordingly.</p> <p>To this effect, MNRF should provide consistent technical and financial support to CAs to consistently implement CA regulatory responsibilities.</p> <p>Implementation requirements need to be in place, and could include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current and reliable regulation maps to avoid enforcement issues; • Provincial investment to update components of the natural hazard maps is necessary (e.g. floodplain and wetland mapping). 	<p>Include a section that would allow CAs to further exempt low-risk development activities from requiring a permit, provided that development is in accordance with CA policies.</p> <p>This proposal should only apply where there is current technical information and mapping that would allow a conservation authority to develop possible exemption policies based on the hazards and development pressures found within their watershed.</p>

Proposed Changes: Require conservation authorities to develop, consult on, make publicly available and periodically review internal policies that guide permitting decisions	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>SCRCA strongly supports and is committed to this requirement as it contributes to the overall transparency and accountability of the S. 28 regulatory program.</p> <p>To ensure greater consistency across the province, it is recommended that the MNRF should provide implementation support materials for CAs to base their internal policies upon.</p> <p>Additional resources will be required in order to meet any additional legislative administrative responsibilities as well as best management practices to ensure a consistent approach.</p>	

Proposed Changes: Require conservation authorities to notify the public of changes to mapped regulated areas such as floodplains or wetland boundaries	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>SCRCA supports this recommendation.</p> <p>The requirement for public notification should differentiate between;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already completed changes (e.g. MNRF Wetland PSW); • Proposed changes (e.g. Floodplain Mapping Study Update); and, • the scale and scope of changes; <p>Further requirements should be considered in terms of the goal for consistency, and faster more predictable and less costly approvals. Technical and</p>	<p>Conservation Ontario Council endorsed the <i>“Procedure for Updating Section 28 Mapping: Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations”</i> which could form the basis for these notification requirements.</p> <p>The regulation should be maintained as a “text based” regulation and not a “mapped based” regulation, to ensure a consistent approach.</p>

financial support should be provided appropriately.	
---	--

Proposed Changes:	
Require conservation authorities to establish, monitor and report on service delivery standards including requirements and timelines for determination of complete applications and timelines for permit decisions	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>SCRCA is committed to providing good client services and implementing best management practices as per the MNRF 2010 Policies & Procedures for CA Plan Review and Permitting Activities.</p> <p>SCRCA currently reports on timelines for permit decisions as described in the <i>“Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities”</i> to our Board of Directors at each meeting.</p> <p>Conservation Ontario is currently proposing and has under review <i>“Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review”</i>.</p> <p>The SCRCA supports a review and update of these standards in order to address streamlining and consistency concerns. Improved definitions (such as complete application) and training opportunities would support the desired improvement.</p> <p>CO proposed <i>“Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review”</i> outlines opportunities to improve the complete application process and improve the quality of technical submissions to achieve faster approvals.</p>	<p>Recommend that the requirements are consistent with the CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative.</p>

Proposed Changes:	
The proposed changes will also provide the business sector with a clear and consistent regulatory environment in which to operate and will help to make approval processes faster, more predictable and less costly.	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>Conservation Ontario Council recently endorsed the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative with these goals in mind, with the important note that these goals should only come while not jeopardizing public health and safety or the environment in the process.</p> <p>The SCRCA is already under-way with many of the activities associated with CO's and this initiative. SCRCA facilitates pre-consultation will applicants to ensure application process proceeds as smoothly as possible, in an efficient manner.</p> <p>SCRCA concurs with CO and believes the key to faster approval processes is through better quality submissions by the applicants, and adequate technical review of the hazards.</p> <p>Policy support from the Province and updating technical guidance documents to the level and scope required of the business sector is a key first step.</p>	

Proposed Changes:	
As more extreme weather events occur that threaten our homes, businesses and infrastructure, it is important to ensure conservation authorities deliver on their core mandate for protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards. Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of these regulations is critical component of this government's strategy for strengthening Ontario's resiliency to extreme weather events.	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>SCRCA strongly supports CO messaging on utilizing S. 28 as one tool to address adapting to a changing climate. As part of the update to the S. 28 regulation, it is recommended that the Province include</p>	<p>Including standards and requirements to mitigate the impacts of climate change and provide for adaptation to a changing climate, including through increasing resiliency.</p>

<p>specific elements to address extreme weather events, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updating the technical guidelines to provide provincial direction on how to include climate change considerations. These guidelines should support CA decision-making for both planning and permitting functions; ○ Standards and requirements to mitigate the impacts of climate change and provide for adaptation to a changing climate, including through increasing resiliency; <p>Ensuring that the definition of “conservation of land” ties to the CA role in mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts.</p>	
---	--

Proposed Changes: Once established, the Province is also proposing to bring into force un-proclaimed sections of the Conservation Authorities Act associated with conservation authority permitting decisions and regulatory enforcement.	
Comments	Details for Regulation
<p>SCRCA supports the proposed enactment of “Part VII – Enforcement and Offences” section of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>.</p> <p>Increased funding should be provided to CAs in order to prosecute offenders more fairly and effectively to meet Provincial objectives.</p>	<p>Acknowledgement that the implementation any exemptions could put an unfunded compliance burden on Conservation Authorities.</p>

EC-19-21

Burrell – Bruziewicz

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated May 9, 2019 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #013-4992 - Focusing conservation authority development permits on the protection of people and property and further approves the proposed response to this posting and directs staff to submit this response to the identified provincial contact on behalf of the Board of Directors.”

CARRIED

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

A discussion paper, 10th Year Review of Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Discussion Paper (ERO number: 013-4143), was posted on January 18, 2019. The comment period was 45 days from January 18 to March 4, 2019. SCRCA staff prepared comments on the discussion paper which were presented to the SCRCA Executive Committee at the February 2019 meeting, and subsequently submitted to the Environmental Registry. The decision was posted April 18, 2019.

The government received 14,964 comments through the Environmental Registry, email and mail, and 10 comments through public consultation. Generally, respondents supported:

- Improving the implementation of the current legislation, including improved enforcement
- Stringent protections for species at risk and their habitat and clear requirements and conditions for authorizations
- Maintaining a science-based process for species to the Species at Risk in Ontario list
- Allowing the Minister the ability to seek re-assessment of species' classifications by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO)
- Greater Indigenous representation on the COSSARO and consideration for Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Increased discretion, transparency and certainty, transparency about when and where protections for species at risk and/or their habitat will apply
- Greater consideration of community knowledge and on-the-ground realities
- Reducing burden, shortening timelines, and increasing clarity for obtaining approvals under ESA, including by establishing new tools such as the ability to make a payment in-lieu of some requirements
- Enabling positive outcomes for species at risk
- Enhancing stakeholder and Indigenous community engagement in recovery planning

Concerns were expressed regarding:

- Any changes that would lower protections to species at risk and their habitat
- Any re-assessment of species' classifications by the COSSARO that would lower protections
- Any negative impacts to species if it takes too long to develop the Government Response Statement or complete a review of progress towards the protection and recovery of the species
- Any landscape approaches that may be interpreted too broadly, depending on the circumstance and the species impacted
- Any changes that reduce requirements and conditions of authorizations
- Any payment-in-lieu approach that is not stringent and would result in reduced outcomes for species at risk

- Ensuring appropriate transparency, accountability and effectiveness monitoring for any payment-in-lieu approach
- Allowing activities that will have an adverse impact to species at risk to proceed under exemption regulations

As a result of the review, the government is proceeding with proposing amendments to the Endangered Species Act. These are outlined in 10th Year Review of Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Proposed Changes (ERO: 013-5033). The proposal was posted April 18, 2019, with the comment period open for 45 days from April 18 to May 18, 2019.

The proposed changes fall under five categories:

1. Assessing species at risk and listing them on the Species at Risk in Ontario List
2. Defining and implementing species and habitat protections
3. Developing species at risk recovery policies
4. Issuing Endangered Species Act permits and agreements, and developing regulatory exemptions
5. Enforcing the Endangered Species Act

Comments for the Environmental Registry

It is important to keep in mind the three purposes of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), namely:

- 1) To identify species at risk based on the best available scientific information, including information obtained from community knowledge and aboriginal knowledge;
- 2) To protect species that are at risk and their habitats and to promote the recovery of species that are at risk
- 3) To promote stewardship activities to assist in the protection and recovery of species that are at risk. As such, the first desired outcome of the review, to "achieve positive outcomes for species at risk", serves as a good litmus test against which to evaluate proposed changes. Many improvements to implementation are possible without jeopardizing the original intent of the ESA.

According to the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 0130-4143 the desired outcome of the proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act:

- 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

SCRCA support changes that to the Act that attain these goals without compromising the three main purposes of the ESA.

Geographic Context

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 level of biodiversity, and a high percentage of Ontario's species at risk. The proposed changes to the ESA would require CASSARO to consider a species' condition around its broader biologically relevant geographic area, inside and outside Ontario, before classifying a species as endangered or threatened. This could mean that many of the species currently listed under the ESA would receive less or no protection. This is especially concerning in the face of climate change, because healthy species, populations, and their habitat are needed at their northern limits to help species adapt to changing climatic conditions. Changing conditions also necessitate an increased need for habitat connectivity for movement of species, and high biodiversity provides resilience and adaptability to a changing climate.

Landscape Approach

The Sydenham River watershed and the other smaller watersheds draining directly into southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River and northeastern Lake St. Clair consist of a highly modified landscape with limited protected area, so it is essential to maintain and protect existing natural heritage features. Across SCRCA's region, SCRCA owns or manages 1808 ha of forests, and 259 ha of wetlands. Environment Canada recommends a minimum 30% forest cover for a healthy watershed, while forest cover for the entire St. Clair region is 11.3%. From our 2013 to our 2018 Watershed Report Card, we recorded a 3.28 km² decrease in forest cover. Environment Canada recommends that at least 10% of each major watershed and 6% of each sub watershed should be wetland to sustain water balance and biodiversity functions, while wetland cover for the entire St. Clair region is just 1.1%. The primary cause in most species' decline in the province is due to habitat loss and degradation, and habitat connectivity is a limiting factor in species recovery. All species, including species at risk, depend on functioning, resilient ecosystems to survive. 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.

Conservation Offsetting

The proposed changes to the ESA include creating a Species at Risk Conservation Trust, to allow municipalities or other infrastructure developers the option to pay a charge in lieu of completing certain on-the-ground activities required by the act. The funds would support strategic, coordinated and large-scale actions that assist in the protection and recovery of species at risk. It is proposed that the funds would only support those activities that are reasonably likely to support the protection and recovery of prescribed species.

The concept of conservation banking should be approached with a high degree of caution, and the decision to use this approach 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. If this Species at Risk Conservation Trust is created, interdisciplinary watershed managers with local watershed knowledge should be involved to ensure that actions are directly appropriately.

A major concern is the potential for loss of regional habitat and biodiversity in areas which have high land values if offsets are provided elsewhere in the province. It is difficult to establish equivalency, and any monetary value must include the value of the lost habitat plus an overall benefit.

The use of conservation banking offers promise in that there is increased certainty of benefitting the species when offsets are established in advance. Conservation Authorities are already actively involved in helping proponents address their overall benefit obligations through the delivery of habitat improvements required under S. 17(2)c permits. While Conservation Authorities could also be effective partners in the delivery of on-the-ground habitat improvements under alternative authorization tools such as conservation banking and/or a conservation fund, a cash-in-lieu approach solely for the purposes of expediency of approvals should be avoided.

Land Use Planning Efficiencies

In order to reduce duplication and streamline processes, the municipal land use planning process in Ontario provides an ideal framework within which the Endangered Species Act could nest. 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.

Consideration of SAR and ESA requirements at the early stages of the land use planning process would allow for improved outcomes for species at risk, and increased efficiency for development proponents. The Province can provide support to municipalities to update their natural heritage mapping to identify natural heritage constraints at the outset of the development process, rather than constraints being identified part way through the process when time and money have already been invested.

SCRCA supports efforts to provide greater clarity and certainty to project applicants. In the context of municipal land use planning practices, the best way to achieve this outcome is to integrate ESA requirements into existing considerations for other components of the natural heritage system, with the addition of the overall benefit

requirement for species at risk. The Act already allows for such an approach under Section 18.

It is also important to note that the scale of impact to a species is not necessarily coincident with the scale of economic development; it is possible that a significant economic development project may have very little impact on species at risk and conversely, it is also possible that a project of little economic significance could have a major impact on species at risk.

Science-based Assessments

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. It would be undesirable to provide longer timelines before a species is listed because the list should be current with the science. Also, species only become eligible for many funding programs, including SARSF, once they have been listed. Delayed funding for recovery means that projects become more expensive and less likely to succeed. In addition, allowing the Minister the ability of suspend species and habitat protections based on social or economic, not scientific, protections would mean that the public would receive no notice and would have no input on such decisions.

Extending the timeline for development of Government Response Statements should occur when it is for the benefit of the species to slow the process down and ensure that the GRS is well thought out, however there needs to be a maximum time within which a final GRS is required to ensure that the species is not left unprotected indefinitely. Similarly, with progress reports, as these are a useful resource for practitioners to understand what activities have occurred and the success of these actions.

The proposal to open up the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario to members with “community knowledge” rather than the current membership of scientific experts is problematic. “Community knowledge” is a vague term that could open up the committee to those who do not have adequate expertise, or who have a different agenda than species protection.

Local Expertise

In many cases, the goals and objectives of SCRCA's existing programs and expertise align well with the Endangered Species Act; particularly protecting habitat and promoting stewardship projects. We have leveraged funding from private and public sources which provide benefits to species at risk, while also contributing towards ecosystem services such as flood and erosion control. SCRCA supports continued

government commitment to providing meaningful impacts to the protection and recovery of species at risk in Ontario.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Goal 2 – Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes

Current Action:

Ecosystem Recovery Planning: The SCRCA has partnered with organizations to produce Action Plans for ecosystem recovery. Plans exist for the Sydenham River, Lake St. Clair Coastal, and Ausable River - Kettle Point to Pinery. The Sydenham River Recovery Strategy is unique in that it is the first multi-species watershed recovery strategy in Canada. An action plan for Lake Huron Coastal is currently under development.

Reptile Species at Risk: The objective of the Reptiles at Risk Monitoring program is to encourage good stewardship for snakes and turtles in the St. Clair Region. Program activities include tracking occurrences, protecting and improving habitat on Authority and Foundation owned lands, and encouraging local community members to take similar actions.

Strategic Actions:

Support Protection of Natural Heritage Systems: Through collaboration with partner organizations, the SCRCA will provide biological and ecological expertise for natural heritage plans, strategies and policies. The responsibility for natural heritage protection falls to municipalities under The Planning Act. The Conservation Authority can provide ecological and biological expertise to support our member municipalities in satisfying provincial policies.

EC-19-22

Miller – Loosley

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated May 9, 2019 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting #013-5033 - 10th Year Review of Ontario’s Endangered Species Act: Proposed changes and further approves the proposed response to this posting and directs staff to submit this response to the identified provincial contact on behalf of the Board of Directors.”

CARRIED

Correspondence was received from Mr. Randy Dayman. The subject property is 3840 Lakeshore Road, the Owner is Melissa Kelly, and Randy Dayman (father) is representing the owner. Mr. Dayman’s concerns are with the costs incurred for a permit from the SCRCA in 2007 to construct a new single family dwelling at 3840 Lakeshore Road. Mr. Dayman’s concerns are that these fees should never have been incurred, as the SCRCA does not have jurisdiction on the municipal drain.

Mr. Dayman outlined that the following fees were incurred for a permit from the SCRCA to construct the house at 3840 Lakeshore Road;

\$100.00 dollar initial fee for comments on severance;
\$400.00 dollars for application;
\$722.81 dollars for engineering fees for permit for house construction;
Total of \$1222.81;

The following is an excerpt from the SCRCA Fee Schedule:

SCRCA Fee Appeal Process

“To appeal a fee which has been charged, the applicant must submit a written request to the Authority's Board of Directors via the General Manager outlining their concerns with the fee charged. Written concerns should be submitted to stclair@scrca.on.ca. The decision to revise the fee will be made by the Authority's Board of Directors via an impartial review by the General Manager and Director of Finance. This is in accordance with the MNR/CO Policies and Procedures for Charging of CA Fees, 1997 and the SCRCA Fee Administration Guidelines.”

<https://www.scrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/planning-regs-Fees.pdf>

SCRCA Staff Understanding of Chronology of Events Related to Fees:

- June 2006, SCRCA commented on severance application B-17/06 for 3834 Lakeshore Road (to create lot 3840 Lakeshore Road). Fee for comments \$100.00;
 - Comments outlined there appears to be sufficient developable area outside flood line, recommended a geotechnical investigation to determine safe setback from drain;
- December 2006, Geotechnical Report submitted to SCRCA;
- January 10, 2007, SCRCA Application No. 10031 granted for new dwelling at 3840 Lakeshore Road. Fee for application review \$400.00;
- October 2011, fill placement works started at 3840 Lakeshore Road in regulated area without prior written permission of the SCRCA;
- November 2011, SCRCA notified proponent that the property was regulated and fill placement works require written approval of the SCRCA prior to commencement;
- November 2011, proponent submitted application to the SCRCA for minor fill work already completed and additional proposed works of more fill placement and a driveway realignment;
 - Application review fee of \$200.00 submitted at this time;
- Application included proposed additional fill and driveway realignment works in addition to minor fill work already completed. SCRCA staff reviewed the application and notified the proponent that the proposed additional fill and driveway re-alignment works could not supported by SCRCA staff without further technical information;
- SCRCA required that the proponent appropriately grade and stabilize the minor fill already completed to resolve the file initially opened for the unauthorized works;

- Further, as per previous correspondence from the proponent it was SCRCA's understanding that if there was concerns with the submitted application for additional fill and laneway re-alignment the proponent would cancel the application, review position and look at other avenues to resolve the problem;
- Therefore, the submitted fee of \$200.00 for the submitted application was returned to the proponent and the SCRCA outlined that if the minor fill works already completed were appropriately graded and stabilized the file initially opened for the unauthorized works would be closed;

Discussion of SCRCA Jurisdiction under O.R. 171/06;

Under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act, Conservation Authorities (CAs) regulate development in or adjacent to watercourses, wetlands, the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or inland lakes, river or stream valleys, hazardous lands and other areas where, in the opinion of the Minister, development should be prohibited or regulated or should require the permission of the authority. A conservation authority may grant permission for development if, in the opinion of the authority, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land is not affected. CAs also regulate activities that change, divert, or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse, or that change or interfere in any way with a wetland. Municipal drains are generally watercourses as defined under the CA Act and are therefore regulated by CAs.

The Conservation Authorities Act contains the following definition:

“watercourse” means an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs; (“cours d’eau”)

Ontario Regulation 171/06 contains the following sections dealing with river or stream valleys and hazardous lands.

“Development prohibited

- 2.(1) Subject to section 3, no person shall undertake development or permit another person to undertake development in or on areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority that are,
 - (b) River or stream valleys that have depressional features associated with a river or stream, whether or not they contain a watercourse, the limits of which are determined in accordance with the following rules:
 - (i) Where the river or stream valley is apparent and has stable slopes, the valley extends from the stable top of bank, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side,
 - (ii) Where the river or stream valley is apparent and has unstable slopes, the valley extends from the predicted long term stable slope projected from the existing stable toe of the slope or, if the toe of

the slope is unstable, from the predicted location of the toe of slope as a result of stream erosion over a projected 100-year period, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side,

- (iii) Where the river or stream valley is non-apparent, the valley extends the greater of,
 - A. the distance from a point outside the edge of the maximum extent of the floodplain under the applicable flood event standard, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side, and
 - B. the distance from the predicted meander belt of a watercourse, expanded as required to convey the flood flows under the applicable flood event standard, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side.”

- (c) Hazardous lands;

The attached map shows the approximate area regulated by the SCRCA based on flooding and erosion setbacks from Errol Creek.

“Permission to develop

- 3.(1) The Authority may grant permission for development in or on the areas described in subsection 2(1) if, in its opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development.
- (2) The permission of the Authority shall be given in writing, with or without conditions.”

The updated regulation, Ontario Regulation 171/06, Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses, was adopted May 4, 2006, and was coincident with the expiry of the previous regulation.

EC-19-23

Burrell – Gordon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated May 9, 2019 regarding a request for appeal of fees and costs regarding 3840 Lakeshore Road in Plympton-Wyoming and further denies the request for appeal of fees.”

CARRIED

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry told Forests Ontario, the day after the Progressive Conservative government delivered its April 11 budget, that funding for the program was being eliminated. SCRCA has partnered with Forests Ontario since 2008 in delivery of this provincial program investing over \$700,000 in St. Clair region. As indicated in the table to the right, the funding for this program is secure through the 2019 tree planting projects that are currently underway. However, this could effectively eliminate more than 300 full-time seasonal jobs across Ontario in 2020 for those who

collect tree seeds, grow saplings, recruit sites for tree planting, assess the sites, plant trees and inspect planted trees, all aspects of tree establishment funded through this program.

The Ontario government has funded tree planting in southern Ontario for more than a century, said Forests Ontario in a statement. This particular program was created in 2007 to expand and create new contiguous forest cover. Since then, Forests Ontario and its partners have planted 27 million trees in Ontario on over 4,000 properties covering close to 15,000 hectares as a carbon sequestration effort — the process of naturally removing carbon from the atmosphere.

Forests are able to extract carbon from the air and incorporate it into their biomass. Reforestation programs such as the 50 Million Tree Program are widely accepted to contribute to speeding up that process and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to global warming and climate change. Planting trees also contributes to better public health and helps mitigate flooding.

The government provided \$4.5 million a year to the 50 Million Tree Program, which translates to a mere \$1.50 per tree. Landowners continued to have a financial stake in the afforestation of the properties contributing on average 20-40 cents per tree.

"Fewer trees means less wildlife habitat, soil erosion, acceleration of climate change and lower water quality," Forests Ontario said in a statement.

According to a recent Green Analytics report, the value of ecosystem services derived from the trees planted through Forest Ontario's efforts is conservatively estimated at \$82.7 million annually with significant benefits derived from pollination and dispersal, recreation opportunities and nutrient and waste regulation. For every \$1.80 that Forests Ontario spends to support tree planting, approximately \$19.85 is saved in economic and environmental costs.

The elimination of the funding source will have a significant impact on our tree planting program moving into the next decade. Landowners in St. Clair region are very prudent. They understand the value of land, the need to control erosion of soil, ensure proper nutrient levels and control nutrient loss, the value of windbreaks, buffers and that importance of natural areas. We have had great success in working with our local landowners by providing technical advice and garnering financial support for their projects through programs such as the 50 Million Tree program. However, those same farmers also understand the bottom line for their operations and if the cost benefit of moving forward with a tree planting program has a negative impact on their bottom line, we will see fewer landowners coming forward to participate in our tree planting program.

(Some excerpts above from Fatima Syed in Canada's National Observer)

Strategic Objective:

SCRCA Strategic Plan – Goal 2 – Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes

Reforestation & Afforestation: The SCRCA plants approximately 60,000 trees each year for private and public landowners. (Over 70,000 in 2019.) Trees are usually planted as

windbreaks or for plantations. Local seeds are collected throughout the watershed and supplied to a nursery who will grow local tree stock for planting. Grants are provided to subsidize the cost of tree seedlings and planting services for the landowner. For a tree planting project to be successful, maintenance of the trees is essential. The Authority offers a service to control competing vegetation around newly planted seedlings for three years.

In spite of a very successful tree planting program, tree cover in the St. Clair region has remained all but unchanged over the past decade. Woodland conservation bylaws and Greening programs are also providing support in maintaining tree cover, but it has not been enough to generate any increase. The value of farmland and commodity prices continue to make it financially viable to clear areas for agriculture. Changes in the economy may have an impact on clearing land in the future, but without funding support, the willingness of landowners to undertake tree planting projects will be significantly reduced, potentially to levels last experienced when provincial tree nurseries were closed and financial support for planting services was eliminated.

Financial Impact:

For more than a decade, Authority staff have trumpeted the fact that we have been able to establish partnerships with funders that have resulted in significant financial investments in our watersheds. This has also drawn concern as we have developed annual budgets, and that reliance on these grants may lead to issues if these grants were to disappear.

Staff as always are looking for funding opportunities that may be able to offset this loss to the program. Results of these grant applications will be provided to the Board upon receipt.

EC-19-24

Scott – Bruziewicz

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report date May 9, 2019 regarding the cancellation of the Province’s 50 million Tree Program and further approves drafted correspondence under the Chair’s signature to be sent to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry.”

CARRIED

- Wawanosh is a 110 acre property adjacent to Highway 402 with an access laneway off Blackwell Sideroad
- 2.5km of trails around the wetlands and through the plantation
- Parking lot with portable washroom
- Pavilion on site
- Dock and wildlife viewing platform
- No day use fees
- Open to public during posted hours

Issue:

- Have received a complaint from the neighbour (originally through neighbour’s realtor) residing on the south of the laneway

- They are trying to sell house and consistent comments from potential buyers is that the conservation area has too much after hours traffic
- They believe after hours use is decreasing their property value and should be controlled

History:

- In the past, an old gate was operated by a neighbour in the morning and evenings (don't know when this was removed)
- Police confirmed there were issues with vehicles being locked into the property in the evening when neighbours controlled the gate
- No staff are in close proximity to operate a gate daily (year round)
- Current conditions were existing when the neighbours house was constructed (the house is not there in 2016 air photo)

Police and Staff Consultation:

- Police consultation confirmed there is regular after hours use
- They do patrol the area, complaints are only from one neighbour
- Complaints from the neighbour relate specifically to laneway use
- Majority of problems for police were during daylight hours
- A few tickets were issued in 2018 for trespassing
- Police recommended improved (larger) signage
- Staff occasionally find used needles when maintaining the site

Signage Upgrades

- Staff are currently working on the design of a larger "hours of use" signage for the front entrance
- New signage will be 106" x 18" and be installed under the property identification sign at the road
- An additional 3'x3' "hours of use" sign may be constructed in the parking lot if deemed necessary (where headlights coming down the laneway would illuminate the sign)

Neighbours' Offer:

- The neighbour has proposed a one time donation that would cover the costs to install an automated gate for the property (approx. \$25 000)
- This is one of the options that was investigated by staff during this process
- It would include a new hydro service, concrete pads for the gate arm, automatic gate operating on a timer, free exit system for any vehicle trapped in after hours, LED lighting, and security cameras
- The proposed donation is expected to almost cover the capital investment costs for the gate - no funds would be provided to offset annual expenses associated with the gate

Financial Impact (estimated):

- New hydro service - \$100/month

- 2 Service calls per year - \$500 each
- Capital reserve to repair occasional more significant damage - \$1000 annually
- Staff time to deal with gate related issues - \$500 annually
- Total estimated annual costs \$3700

EC-19-25

Scott – Miller

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated May 15, 2019 regarding the concerns regarding after hours use of Wawanosh Conservation Area and declines the proposed donation to assist in installing an automated gate and further directs staff to improve trespassing signage.”

CARRIED

EC-19-26

Scott – Gordon

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

Joe Faas
Chair



Brian McDougall
General Manager

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 17, 2019
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Item 5.1

Subject: General Manager's Report

Recommendation:

That this report be accepted as an update.

Conservation Authority Operations:

❖ Bill 108

- The Schedule amends the Conservation Authorities Act.
- The Schedule imposes the duty on every member of an authority to act honestly and in good faith with a view to furthering the objects of the authority.
- The Act is also amended to list specific programs and services that are required to be provided by an authority if they are prescribed by the regulations, which may include programs and services related to the risk of flooding and other natural hazards.
- Authorities continue to be authorized to provide other programs and services, including programs and services that it determines to be advisable to further its objects.
- If financing by a participating municipality under section 25 or 27 of the Act is necessary in order for the authority to provide such programs and services, the authority and the participating municipality must enter into an agreement in order for the authority to provide the program or service. On and after a day prescribed by the regulations, the authority is prohibited from including capital costs and operating expenses in respect of such programs and services in its apportionment of payments to the participating municipality if no such agreement has been entered into. Authorities are required to prepare and implement a transition plan in order to ensure they are in compliance with this requirement when it takes effect.
- An authority is authorized to determine the amounts owed by specified municipalities in connection with the programs and services the authority provides in respect of the Clean Water Act, 2006 and Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008.

- Other amendments include authorizing the Minister to appoint one or more investigators to conduct an investigation of an authority's operations.
- ❖ **Ministerial Program Breakdown**
- In October 2018, the responsibility for the administration of the Act was transferred from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), with the exception of the natural hazards and Crown land components and section 28 regulations
 - This change in responsibility for the Act was made through Order in Council 1149/2018 under the Executive Council Act
 - Responsibility for the administration of the Act, including Minister's Approvals under the Act and required reporting, is now with MECP, Great Lakes Office, Great Lakes and Inland Waters Branch, Land and Water Division
 - The conservation authorities team is led by Carolyn O'Neill, Manager, Great Lakes Office, with staff Jessica Isaac and Liora Burton joined by staff Liz Mikel and Rheanna Leckie who have been transferred from MNRF to MECP.
 - Approvals related to land dispositions, revenue from dispositions and projects under Section 24 of the Act (e.g., land acquisition strategies) will now be administered by this office
 - Procedures for these approvals have not changed, and requests for approval, as well as audited financial statements and any other materials to be submitted to the province under the Act or its policies not related to natural hazards, should now be addressed to the MECP Great Lakes Office
- ❖ **Modernizing conservation authority operations – Conservation Authorities Act**
- The MECP, under the above noted Environmental Registry posting, identified “core mandatory” programs and services provided by conservation authorities
 - Natural Hazard Protection and Management
 - Conservation and Management of conservation authority lands
 - Drinking water source protection (as prescribed under the *Clean Water Act*)
 - Protection of the Lake Simcoe watershed (as prescribed under the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*)

- MECP has confirmed that the protection of Lake Simcoe is specific to the Lake Simcoe watershed and is not to be used as a template for broader Conservation Authority programs and services
- Therefore the remaining 3 'core mandatory' programs may broadly outline the programs and services that Authorities will be able to levy member municipalities for support
- Further definition of these program and service areas is required and may be presented in the anticipated regulations
- Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authorities have drafted the following definitions in order to have a starting point for discussion with the Ministry

Draft Text for Mandatory Programs and Services Regulation

❖ Natural Hazard (Management)

- The purpose of the natural hazard (management) mandatory program and service is to advance and contribute to the:
 - Assessment and reduction of risk and protection of life and property from natural hazards;
 - Successful implementation of the five pillars of Emergency Planning and Management in Ontario for natural hazards: Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery;
 - Effective delivery of plan review and permitting in support of achieving complete communities

- The standards and requirements that advance the purpose include:
 - Efficient and effective delivery and enforcement of Section 28 Regulation under the Conservation Authorities Act;
 - Efficient and effective delivery of Plan Review on matters of provincial interest relating to the Natural Hazards (Section 3.1 under Public Health and Safety under the Provincial Policy Statement – excluding forest fire);
 - Forecasting of flood events and the issuance of flood warnings, alerts and advisories to prepare those who must plan for, respond to and recover from the flood event;
 - Activities undertaken to inform and coordinate those who must respond to a low water event;

 - Operation and maintenance of infrastructure for the purposes of flood and/or erosion control and/or low flow augmentation to mitigate risk to life and property damage from flooding and/or erosion and/or which assist in managing the impacts of low water events;
 - Watershed scale data collection, monitoring, data management and modelling;

- Watershed scale studies, plans, assessments and/or strategies, that inform/identify actions to reduce natural hazard risk and protect life and property from natural hazards, including climate vulnerability risk assessment;
- Provision of water and land management and stewardship activities to minimize flooding and erosion and to reduce risks;
- Activities undertaken to minimize flooding and erosion from ice build-up and jamming; and,
- Communication, outreach and public education activities to ensure broader public appreciation of the importance of managing natural hazards and their associated risks for the protection of life and property

❖ Source Protection Authority

- The purpose of the source protection authority mandatory program is to: advance and contribute to the protection of existing and future sources of drinking water in Ontario.
- The standards and requirements that advance the purpose include:
 - Watershed scale data collection, monitoring, data management, modelling, and studies and assessments necessary to update the source protection plans to ensure that policies address threats to drinking water sources;
 - Provision of stewardship activities to reduce risks to drinking water sources;
 - Policy interpretation of the Source Protection Plan to support provincial and local decision making; and,
 - Communication, outreach and public education activities to ensure broader public appreciation of protecting our drinking water sources.
- Roles for the lead source protection authorities of source protection regions and for stand-alone source protection authorities including:
 - Administering source protection committees to support local source protection planning;
 - Annual progress reporting to assess the effectiveness of source protection policy implementation across Ontario;
 - Information management to ensure that data is retained and databases and models are updated and maintained;
 - Providing scientific, technical and administrative support and resources to other source protection authorities in a source protection region; and
 - Serving as a liaison between the Ministry and other source protection authorities in a source protection region.

❖ Conservation and Management of Conservation Authority Lands

- The purpose of the conservation and management of conservation authority lands mandatory program and service is to advance and contribute to the:
 - Conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity and natural heritage;

- Preservation of areas of significant environmental and ecological importance; and,
- Provision of education and recreational opportunities in the natural environment.
- The standards and requirements that advance the purpose include:
 - Watershed scale data collection, monitoring, data management, and modelling necessary to evaluate the health of the watershed natural resources and changes in health from stresses affecting the watershed that will inform conservation authority land acquisition and management goals and objectives;
 - Acquisition of conservation land;
 - Inventories and surveys to create baseline documentation of what natural features and conservation values are present on conservation authority owned properties;
 - Preparation of a land management plan for each property owned by a conservation authority;
 - Monitoring programs and enforcement actions to ensure the maintenance of land title, ecological integrity of conservation authority owned properties, and public safety;
 - Provision of water and land management and stewardship activities to ensure the property is maintained in accordance with the approved property plan; and,
 - Communication, outreach and public education activities to ensure broader public appreciation of conservation authority lands.



South West Woodlot Association
A Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association

April 16, 2019

Brian McDougall
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
bmcdougall@scrca.on.ca

Subject: Appointment of a technical advisor.

Dear Brian;

This letter is to ask the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority to appoint a technical advisor to South West Woodlot Association for the 2019 term.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Jessica Smeekens at swwaowa@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Jessica Smeekens

Jessica Smeekens.
2019 Term President

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 17, 2019
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Item 5.3

Subject: Provincial Funding Cut

Recommendation:

That this report be accepted and that the proposed plan be approved for implementation.

Dealing with Provincial Funding Cuts:

- ❖ On April 12th SCRCA was notified that 2019 – 2020 Provincial funding for Hazard Management would be reduced by \$149,965.20
- ❖ Hazard Management funding from the Province of Ontario was provided to support the following program areas:
 - Flood Control Structures – Operation, Minor Maintenance & Preventative Maintenance
 - McKeough Dam & Floodway, ARDA Dykes
 - Erosion Control Structures – Operation, Minor Maintenance & Preventative Maintenance
 - Sarnia Erosion Control, Sarnia Bay Erosion Control, Point Edward Erosion Control, Dresden Erosion Control, Wallaceburg Walls, Strathroy Erosion Control, Corunna Erosion Control
 - Flood Forecasting & Warning – System Operation & Rationalization
 - System operation, data collection, model calibration and operation, communications, systems plan, response to a flood
 - Ice Management
 - Preventative measures supported by a current ice management plan (sediment removal, ice breaker standby, etc.)
 - Plan Input
 - Commenting of Municipal Official Plans and Amendments
 - Information
 - Watershed Planning & Technical Studies
 - Legal Costs
 - Legal costs where the Authority/Province is named pertaining to Authority capital projects

- Administration
 - Overhead and support costs not related to delivery of a specific program
- ❖ With municipal budgets and the Authority's budget approved, requesting additional funds from member municipalities is not a reality for 2019
- ❖ In reviewing our options to deal with the impact of these lost revenues, we have to understand what Authority programs were to be funded by these funds
- ❖ Alternative funding sources for programs in this area are limited to non-existent, however, any reasonable opportunity will be sought out
- ❖ Budget balancing measures reviewed have focused on expenditure reduction, elimination and postponement

- ❖ The following measures were reviewed and discarded as they had the potential to have negative or long lasting impacts:
 - staff reductions
 - full-time to part-time or full-time to seasonal
 - reduced salary expenditures
 - leave without pay, Rae days
 - eliminating staff training
 - reduce training costs to only those required to undertake projects
 - reducing board expenses
 - eliminating after meeting meals, bus tour
 - service reductions
 - Flood Control – ARDA Dykes – currently inspect dykes for issues and report to Chatham-Kent for action
 - Eliminating grant allocated to this program (\$4,000) could jeopardize structures – program or costs may be downloaded to municipalities
 - This may be a necessary change for 2020
 - Erosion Control – All erosion control projects – current inspect annually and undertake minor maintenance on projects
 - Eliminating grant allocated to program (\$20,500) could jeopardize structures – program or costs may be downloaded to municipalities
 - This may be a necessary change for 2020
 - Any changes to Flood Forecasting and Warning – would have an adverse effect on program delivery and protection of people and

property, there is an increasing demand on staff services due to high lake levels and precipitation trends.

- Flood Control – McKeough Dam – operating changes may be able to provide for modest savings
- Our municipalities and watershed residents have requested a reasonable level of service regarding municipal plan input – increases in fees and levy to this area have been necessary to approach desired targets – reduce support to this area would be a significant step back

❖ The following measures are recommended for implementation to assist in eliminating the funding shortfall:

- Administration
 - Fleet management – postpone the proposed acquisition / replacement of an Authority fleet vehicle in the second half of 2019
 - \$25,000-\$45,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
 - Administrative Office Capital Improvement – postpone the proposed office reorganization/desk acquisition proposed for second half of 2019
 - ~\$10,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
 - Memberships / Subscriptions – reduction to only those required to support ongoing projects
 - ~\$2,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
- Flood Control – McKeough Dam
 - Reduced fleet commitment – reallocate a vehicle from the McKeough to the office for project and general use by other departments
 - ~\$2,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
 - Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure funding will permit a redirection of some salary costs to complete proposed projects
 - ~\$10,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
- General spending control and 'belt tightening' could result in reduced expenditures across all eight hazard management program areas
 - ~\$6,000 expenditure reduction in 2019
- The above reductions (~\$75,000) balance approximately half of the shortfall
- A review of the Authorities existing Reserves outlines that:
 - 11 Reserves have current balances totaling just under \$4,000,000
 - Some of these reserves have spending controls, however most of them have only guidance controlling spending

- The Administration reserve is the largest with over \$1,000,000 to its credit
- Obtaining the remainder of the funding shortfall from Reserves will result in a ~2% reduction in the overall reserve totals
- Although this may not be the preferred option, the reserves were established for just this purpose
 - ~\$75,000 to be drawn from Reserves at year end, if required to balance shortfalls in these eight hazard management program areas

COUNCIL MEETING**Minutes from Meeting #1/19****April 1, 2019****Black Creek Pioneer Village****Voting Delegates Present:****Chair: Don MacIver, Credit Valley**

Brian Horner, Ausable Bayfield
 Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region
 Geoff Rae, Cataraqui Region
 Rick Cerna, Catfish Creek
 Chris Wilkinson, Catfish Creek
 Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario
 Karen Ras, Credit Valley
 Deb Martin-Downs, Credit Valley
 Richard Wyma, Essex Region
 Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region
 Joe Farwell, Grand River
 Cathy Little, Grey Sauble
 Sonya Skinner, Grey Sauble
 Susan Fielding, Hamilton
 Lisa Burnside, Hamilton
 Ted Smith, Kawartha
 Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha
 Elizabeth VanHooren, Kettle Creek
 Wayne Emmerson, Lake Simcoe Region
 Scott MacPherson, Lake Simcoe Region
 Mike Walters, Lake Simcoe Region
 Michael Columbus, Long Point Region
 Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region
 Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Valley
 Jim Alyea, Lower Trent
 Glenda Rodgers, Lower Trent

Members Absent:

Lakehead Region
 Mattagami Region

CO Staff:

Kristin Bristow
 Kim Gavine
 Nicholas Fischer
 Bonnie Fox
 Chitra Gowda

Dave Turton, Maitland Valley
 Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi
 Sally McIntryre, Mississippi
 Dave Bylsma, Niagara Peninsula
 Diana Huson, Niagara Peninsula
 Gayle Wood, Niagara Peninsula
 Lin Gibson, Nickel District (Con.Sudbury)
 Carl Jorgensen, Nickel District (Con.Sudbury)
 George Watson, Nottawasaga Valley
 Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley
 Andy Mitchell, Otonabee
 Dan Marinigh, Otonabee
 James Flieler, Quinte
 Frank Prevost, Raisin Region
 Richard Pilon, Raisin Region
 Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley
 Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley
 Dan Gieruszak, Saugeen
 Maureen Couture, Saugeen
 Wayne Brohman, Saugeen
 Bill Smirle, South Nation
 George Darouze, South Nation
 Angela Coleman, South Nation
 Joe Faas, St. Clair Region
 Brian McDougall, St. Clair Region
 Sandy Levin, Upper Thames River
 Ian Wilcox, Upper Thames River

Guests:

Geoff Dawe, Lake Simcoe Region
 Phil Beard, Maitland
 Mark Burnham, Mississippi Valley
 Brad McNevin, Quinte

Jane Lewington
 Nekeisha Mohammed
 Leslie Rich
 Jo-Anne Rzadki
 Rick Wilson

1. Welcome from the Chair

- Introductions
- Glenda Rodgers Retirement Acknowledgement
- Matthew Millar – CO staff - Acknowledgement
- Gayle Wood – NPCA Biennial Tour – ***noted that the tour is delayed to September 2020***
- Council Survey – additional question regarding location
- Don MacIver thanked the outgoing CO Board members for their contributions and asked them for a brief address on their experiences

2. Adoption of the Agenda

#01/19 Moved by: Lin Gibson Seconded by: Bill Smirle

THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

#02/19 Moved by: Cathy Little Seconded by: Dan Gieruszak

THAT the minutes from the meeting December 10, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6. Adoption of the 2018 Audited Financial Statements, Final Report to the Budget and Audit Committee & Appointment of Auditors for 2019

#03/19 Moved by: Richard Pilon Seconded by: Alan Revill

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

THAT Conservation Ontario accept the Budget and Audit Committee's recommendation that the Financial Statements of Conservation Ontario for the year ended December 31, 2018 be approved;

AND THAT Conservation Ontario appoint BDO as its auditor for the 2019 audit.

CARRIED

7. Conservation Ontario's 2018 Annual Report & Presentation

Don MacIver provided an overview of the Annual Report presentation with some detail about the process and related to that report.

#04/19 Moved by: Joe Farwell Seconded by: George Watson

THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt the 2018 Annual Report.

CARRIED

8. Council Voting Delegates & Alternates

The following corrections were made to the Voting Delegate List:

Ausable Bayfield Conservation:

Alternate: Doug Cook

2nd Alternate: Brian Horner

Lake Simcoe Region Conservaton Authority:

Alternate: Scott MacPherson

2nd Alternate: Mike Walters

Grand River Conservation Authority:

Voting Delegate: Helen Jowett

Alternate: Joe Farwell

Quinte Conservation:

Alternate: James Fleiler

2nd Alternate: Janice Maynard

Saugeen Valley Conservation:

Alternate: Maureen Couture

#05/19 Moved by: Pieter Leenhouts

Seconded by: Cathy Little

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

CARRIED

9. Orientation for New Council Members

Jane Lewington provided Council members with an orientation which is attached to the minutes.

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

The proceedings were handed over to Kim Gavine (CO). All the positions were declared vacant for 2019 and the election procedures were reviewed.

#06/19 Moved by: Lin Gibson

Seconded by: Joe Farwell

THAT Jane Lewington and Rick Wilson be appointed as scrutineers in the event of a vote.

CARRIED

Kim Gavine called for nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2019.

Karen Ras nominated Wayne Emmerson

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

#07/19 Moved by: Bill Smirle

Seconded by: Pieter Leenhouts

THAT the nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2019 be closed.

CARRIED

Wayne Emmerson accepted his nomination and was declared Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2019.

Kim called for nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2019.

Cathy Little nominated Lin Gibson

Pieter Leinhouts nominated Alan Revill

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

#08/19 Moved by: Joe Farwell

Seconded by: Mark Peacock

THAT the nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2019 be closed.

CARRIED

Lin Gibson and Alan Revill accepted their nominations and were declared Vice Chairs for Conservation Ontario for 2019.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for the Directors (staff positions) for 2019.

Joe Farwell nominated Richard Wyma

Jim Alya nominated Linda Laliberte

Wayne Emerson nominated Deb Martin-Downs – *Deb Martin-Downs stood aside for this position*

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

#09/19 Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Ted Smith

THAT the nominations for staff Directors of Conservation Ontario for 2019 be closed.

CARRIED

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

Kim called for nominations for Director for Conservation Ontario for 2019.

Wayne Emmerson nominated Deb-Martin Downs

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

#10/19 Moved by: Joe Farwell

Seconded by: Linda Laliberte

THAT the nominations for the Director of Conservation Ontario for 2019 be closed.

CARRIED

Deb Martin-Downs accepted her nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario.

Wayne Emmerson presided as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

11. Standing Committee Representatives

#11/19 Moved by: Deb Martin-Downs

Seconded by: Alan Revill

THAT the appointment of the Budget and Audit Standing Committee membership (as identified below) be ratified.

THAT the appointment of the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee membership (as identified below) be ratified.

THAT the appointment of the Occupational Health and Safety/Risk Management Committee membership (as identified below) be ratified.

CARRIED

12. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole

#12/19 Moved by: Joe Farwell

Seconded by: Lin Gibson

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

CARRIED

13. Discussion Items

(Item 14b) from Consent Agenda

Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Consultation: Increasing Housing Supply in Ontario" (ERO #013-4190) and Conservation Ontario's Blog Post "Putting Growth in the Right Spot Ensures Public Health and Safety: A Response to the Housing Supply Consultation"

C.W. #01/19 Moved by: Deb Martin-Downs

Seconded by: Joe Farwell

THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Consultation: Increasing Housing Supply in Ontario" (ERO #013-4190) dated January 29, 2019 be endorsed.

CARRIED

a) General Manager's Report

Deb Martin-Downs noted that retaining Strategy Corp was a positive decision for our strategic government relations work.

Wayne Emmerson noted that the BILD connection with CO is a positive one and that the meeting with Minister Phillips is an important one to have.

C.W. #02/19 Moved by: Lin Gibson

Seconded by: Dan Gieruszak

THAT Council Ontario Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

b) Proposed Collective Conservation Authority Core Mandate and Objectives; and Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative; and Representatives for leadership and support Committees

i) C.W. #03/19 Moved by: Jennifer Innis Seconded by: Alan Revill

THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorse the "Collective Conservation Authority Mandate and Objectives" for consistent use by CAs;

CARRIED

John Mackenzie commented on the lack of reference to CA education programs in the core mandate. It was explained that the core mandate and objectives are communicated at a high level and education was intended to be covered by the "connect people to the natural environment" but that it could be made more explicit.

ii) C.W. #04/19 Moved by: Andy Mitchell

Seconded by: Scott MacPherson

WHEREAS the provincial government intends to increase the supply of housing and streamline the land use planning and development approval process to achieve this goal;

AND WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities play an important role in the planning and development review process with respect to watershed protection and hazard lands;

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities support and can help deliver the Government's objective not to jeopardize public health and safety or the environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorse the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative (as amended) and that the resolution be sent to our clients, represented by Ontario Homebuilders Association (OHBA), Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and to the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Environment, Conservation and Parks; and, Natural Resources and Forestry;

AND THAT Conservation Ontario Council request that all Conservation Authority Boards endorse a commitment to pursue streamlining and client service measures in order to contribute to achieving provincial priorities and to send such a resolution to local Municipal Councils and MPPs;

CARRIED

Bonnie directed the Council to the detailed report in the agenda and provided an overview of the three action areas (1.Improve client service and accountability; 2. Increase speed of approvals; and, 3. Reduce red tape and regulatory burden) identified in the CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative (Attachment 2, pp66-67). Further to discussion, Bonnie noted that the committee recommendations will be guidelines and best practices for all CAs to consider in their local context and not requirements for all CAs. For clarity, Council requested that each of the three client service and streamlining action areas, identified to help the Province address the demand for housing supply, include a reference to 'protecting public health and safety, and, the environment'. The resolution includes "...endorse the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative (as amended)..." to enable incorporation of this amendment.

iii) C.W. #05/19 Moved by: Bill Smirle Seconded by: Susan Fielding

THAT Joe Farwell (Grand River Conservation Authority); Mike Walters (Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority); Chris Darling (Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority); Brian Tayler (North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority); Deborah Martin-Downs (Credit Valley Conservation); Sommer Casgrain-Robertson (Rideau Valley Conservation Authority); and, Angela Coleman (South Nation Conservation) be endorsed as members of the Conservation Ontario Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Steering Committee

CARRIED

iv) C.W. #06/19 C.W. #07/19 Moved by: Lin Gibson Seconded by: Joe Farwell

THAT Alison McDonald (South Nation Conservation); Barbara Veale (Conservation Halton); Chris Jones (Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority); Glen McDonald (Rideau Valley Conservation Authority); Michael Nelson (Essex Region Conservation Authority); Nancy Davy (Grand River Conservation Authority); Paula Scott (North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority); Rob Baldwin (Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority); Sameer Dhalla (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority); and, Tracy Annett (Upper Thames River Conservation Authority) be endorsed as the Conservation Ontario Timely Review and Approvals Task Force

CARRIED

c) **Special Projects Budget 2019**

C.W. #08/19 Moved by: Linda Laliberte

Seconded by: Dave Turton

THAT the 2019 Special Projects Budget in the amount of \$1,186,977 be approved as presented and as recommended by the Budget and Audit Committee.

CARRIED

d) **Annual Report: April 2018-March 2019 Conservation Ontario (CO) Representatives and Conservation Authorities Program Discussion Group List**

C.W. #08/19 Moved by: Scott MacPherson

Seconded by: Alan Revill

THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report.

CARRIED

e) **Program Updates**

i. **Drinking Water Source Protection**

Chitra Gowda provided an overview of the program update for the DWSP program.

C.W. #09/19 Moved by: Karen Ras

Seconded by: Dave Bylsman

THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

ii. **Marketing & Communications**

Jane Lewington provided an overview of the program update for the Marketing and Communications program. Nekeisha Mohammed provided an overview or the Conservation Ontario Guide to Ontario's Conservation Areas.

C.W. #10/19 Moved by: Susan Fielding

Seconded by: Dan Gierusak

THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

iii. **Business Development & Partnerships**

Jo-Anne Rzdki provided a slide presentation and overview of the Business Development and Partnership program.

C.W. #11/19 Moved by: Rick Cerna

Seconded by: Scott MacPherson

THAT Angela Coleman (General Manager, Secretary Treasurer-SNC); Tim Mereu (Director, Watershed Management-CVC); Melinda Bessey (Acting Manager, Planning-LSRCA); Ashlea Brown (Senior Environmental Regulations Analyst/Capital Projects Analyst – LSRCA) and Jo-Anne Rzdki (Business Development and Partnerships Coordinator –CO) be endorsed to represent Conservation Ontario on the Federal Flood Risk Land Use Advisory Committee

AND THAT Mark Peacock (CAO/Secretary Treasurer -LTVCA) be endorsed to represent Conservation Ontario on the Natural Research Council Federal Building Code Committee to review changes to address climate change and flood resilience.

CARRIED

iv. Information Management

Rick Wilson provided an overview of the program update for the Information Management program.

C.W. #12/19 Moved by: Bill Smirle Seconded by: Cathy Little

THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

14. Consent Items

C.W. #13/19 Moved by: Ted Smith Seconded by: Lin Gibson

THAT Council approve a consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Items 14a, 14c – 14m.

CARRIED

- a) Conservation Ontario's comments on Schedule 10 of Bill 66: Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018 (ERO#013-4293); the Proposed open-for-business planning tool (ERO#013-4125) and the New Regulation under the Planning Act for open-for-business planning tool (ERO#013-4239)

THAT the comments on Schedule 10 of Bill 66: Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018 (ERO#013-4293); the Proposed open-for-business planning tool (ERO#013-4125) and the New Regulation under the Planning Act for open-for-business planning tool (ERO#013-4239) submitted to the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade on January 18, 2019, be endorsed.

- ~~b) Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Consultation: Increasing Housing Supply in Ontario" (ERO #013-4190) and Conservation Ontario's Blog Post "Putting Growth in the Right Spot Ensures Public Health and Safety: A Response to the Housing Supply Consultation"~~

- c) Conservation Ontario's comments on "Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan" (ERO#013-4208)

THAT the comments on "Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan" (ERO#013-4208) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on January 28, 2019, be endorsed.

- d) Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017" (ERO #013-4504)

THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017" (ERO #013-4504) dated February 28, 2019 be endorsed.

- e) Conservation Ontario's comments on the "10th Year Review of Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Discussion Paper" (ERO#013-4143)

THAT the comments on the “10th Year Review of Ontario’s Endangered Species Act: Discussion Paper (ERO#013-4143) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on March 4, 2019, be endorsed.

- f) Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee (PFFWC) and Ontario Hydrometric Program Coordinating Committee (OHPCC) Representatives

THAT Steve Jackson (MVCA) be endorsed as the South West representative on the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee and Dwight Boyd (GRCA) be endorsed as an alternate representative.

AND THAT Kurtis Romanchuk (NBMCA) be endorsed as the Northern CA representative on the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee.

AND THAT Iryna Shulyarenko (KC) be endorsed as the Central CA representative on the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Committee and Sameer Dhalla (TRCA) be endorsed as an alternate representative.

AND THAT Steve Jackson (MVCA) be endorsed as the CO representative on the Ontario Hydrometric Coordinating Committee and Dwight Boyd (GRCA) be endorsed as an alternate representative.

- g) Certified Crop Advisors Representation

THAT Conservation Ontario (CO) Council thank Mark Eastman (CVC) for his contributions as Conservation Ontario representative on the Certified Crop Advisor Association Board of Directors since 2013;

AND THAT CO Council endorse Michael Dick (ERCA) as CO representative on the Certified Crop Advisor Association Board of Directors.

- h) Conservation Ontario’s comments on the “Proposed regulatory amendments to Ontario Regulation 267/03 under the Nutrient Management Act (ERO#013-4388)

THAT the comments on the “Proposed regulatory amendments to Ontario Regulation 267/03 under the Nutrient Management Act” (ERO#013-4388) submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on February 22, 2019, be endorsed.

- i) Submission of Conservation Ontario’s 2018 Annual Effectiveness Monitoring Report on the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects

THAT Conservation Ontario’s “2018 Annual Effectiveness Monitoring Report on the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects” be received as information.

- j) Update on the Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One

THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report as information.

- k) Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Executive Committee and Annex Sub-Committees Updates and Decision Items (i) Conservation Ontario’s Comments on “2019 Progress Report of

the Parties” and (ii) Conservation Ontario Representatives for Lake Erie Action Plan (LEAP) Implementation Team

- i. THAT Conservation Ontario Council receives this report and, THAT Conservation Ontario’s comments dated January 31, 2019 on “2019 Progress Report of the Parties” be endorsed
 - ii. THAT Richard Wyma (ERCA); **Brian McDougall (SCRCA) (Nicole Drumm (SCRCA-Alternate));** Joe Farwell (Grand River) (Sandra Cooke (Grand River-Alternate); Ian Wilcox (UTRCA) (Chris Harrington, Karen Maaskant (UTRCA –Alternates)); Mark Peacock (LTVCA) (Jason Wintermute (LTVCA –Alternate)) and Jo-Anne Rzadki (CO) be endorsed as Conservation Ontario’s representatives on the Lake Erie Action Plan Implementation Team
- l) Dam Owners Advisory Committee letter to Minister re: Red Tape Reduction – Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act

THAT this report and attached letter to Minister Yakabuski dated January 9, 2019 be received by Conservation Ontario Council for information.

- m) Correspondence
- Ottawa River Watershed CAs to Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada
 - Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks to Conservation Ontario

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

#13/19 Moved by: Joe Farwell

Seconded by: Linda Laliberte

CARRIED

16. Council Business – Council Adoption of Recommendations

#14/19 Moved by: Dave Turton

Seconded by: James Fleiler

THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt Committee of the Whole (C.W.) Recommendations: C.W. #01/19 to C.W. #13/19.

CARRIED

17. New Business

Deb Martin-Downs provided an overview for Latornell November 19-21, 2019, and asked for auction items from CAs for the Dream Auction. It was noted that Leadership nominations are pending, and the call for those nominations will go out the second week of April.

18. Adjourn

15/19 Moved by: Bill Smirle

Seconded: Pieter Leenhouts

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 7**
Report Date: June 14, 2018
Submitted by: Ashley Fletcher

Subject: Business Arising

Regarding BD-18-144

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 September, 2019.

Regarding BD-19-53

Breakdown of Municipalities participating in Large Stock Tree Planting programs
Deferred to September, 2019

Regarding EC-19-18

The Board of Directors requests a staff report outlining the funds invested into the C.J. McEwen property to date.
Deferred to September, 2019

Regarding EC-19-19

The Executive Committee directs staff to request a meeting at the convenience of Members of Provincial Parliament to discuss concerns with Provincial funding cuts at which time a special meeting will be called by the Chair.
Correspondence has been put forward. No response to date.

General Updates:

Update on Rules Surrounding E-mail Voting:

E-mail voting is not explicitly accepted by the Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th Edition, 2013, but special rules can be included within organizational by-laws. The SCRCA Administrative By-Laws adopted in 2018 do not contain specific reference to voting by e-mail and therefore parliamentary authority applies. Furthermore, as per the SCRCA by-laws (Item 4.9 Electronic Participation) "A member shall not participate electronically in a meeting that is closed to the public".

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 8.1

Subject: Conservation Areas Report

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas report dated June 13, 2019.

Background:

- The Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas
- Six are managed by the local municipality and 9 are operated by the Conservation Authority
- Three of the nine Conservation Areas operated by SCRCA are regional campgrounds offering seasonal camping, overnight camping, and day use opportunities
- Combined, the three campgrounds have over 500 campsites, 420 of these are occupied by seasonal campers
- Profits obtained from our campgrounds are used to offset capital improvements
- The camping season in 2019 runs from April 26 to Thanksgiving Day

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area

- Riprap protection for main creek crossing
- Building roof replacements (Pool building and A Group Camp pavilion)
- Replacement of one hydro panel
- Purchase two portable washrooms
- Replace two chemical feed pumps for the water treatment system



Steel roof being installed

Warwick Conservation Area

- 2 hydro panels replaced
- Park internet will be upgraded to fibre optic and two internet hub locations will be established
- Lambton Wildlife grant obtained (\$1000) to naturalize approximately 200m of shoreline along the reservoir to combat erosion and another pollinator garden will be planted



New riprap at road crossing

L.C. Henderson Conservation Area

- 2 hydro panels replaced
- Replaced two 60 gallon hot water heaters
- Installed solar pole light
- Purchase two portable washrooms

All Campgrounds

- New recycling receptacles within the parks
- Waste Management recycle bins painted blue and are now lockable to reduce load contamination
- New spinal boards purchased for the pool at Warwick and LC Henderson
- New procedure using swim tests and coloured wristbands for pool access (children under 10) as required for Class A pools by Ontario Public Pool Regulation

Day Use Only Conservation Areas:

- Bonduelle will be supplying boardwalk material and will assemble boardwalk sections for the Strathroy CA
- 70' of new boardwalk to be built at Strathroy CA and 50' of boardwalk will be repaired using the Bonduelle supplied material
- Strathroy District Collegiate high school environmental program spent a day removing garlic mustard at Strathroy CA
- Anderson Windows spent a day removing garlic mustard at Strathroy CA
- new agreement with Middlesex Centre for Coldstream CA maintenance is being drafted

- Highland Glen fee structure set to change on July 1, 2019 with new signs ready for installation (\$15 boat ramp fee, no parking fee)
- Boat ramp walkways installed at Highland Glen, not able to re-install stairs to beach due to significant erosion
- New signs installed at Wawanosh CA detailing the hours of use for the property
- Sydenham Field Naturalists will be conducting a phragmites removal day at Peers Wetland with their volunteers in July



Addition to sign at Wawanosh CA



New sign at Wawanosh CA

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 12, 2019
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 8.2

Subject: Decommissioning Oil Day Storage Tanks at Bridgeview CA

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated June 12, 2019 on the progress of the decommissioning of day storage tanks at Bridgeview CA.

Background:

In 2016, the Ontario MNRF contacted SCRCA with regards to old oil day tanks located at Bridgeview Conservation Area in Petrolia. MNRF staff had identified and provided GPS locations of three storage tanks that were open at the surface. The open tanks pose a risk to public safety as many are located in close proximity to trails.

Initial correspondence with the MNRF included the following:

As the landowner, and therefore legal operator of these former works under the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act; you are required to remove each tank and rehabilitate the area as per Section 5 of the Provincial Operating Standards which states:

Oil Gas and Salt Resources Operation Standards (V2.0)

5.1 (c)

The operator shall:

(c) ensure that all waste, unused equipment is removed and disposed of properly

5.1.1 (c)

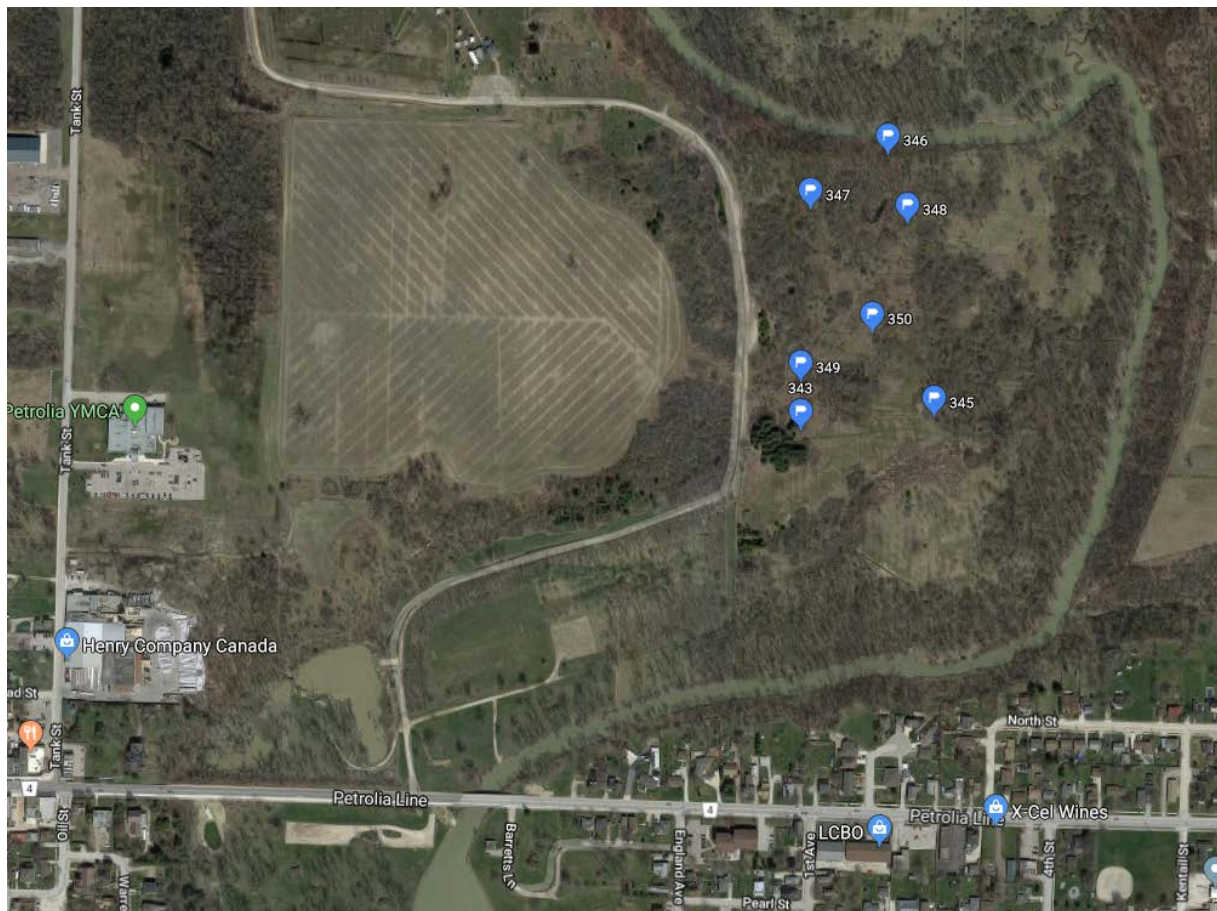
The operator of a work shall ensure that:

(c) all rubbish, debris and refuse from a well or work or resulting from any operation at a well or work is removed immediately from buildings, tanks, wells, pump stations or other sources of ignitable vapours and disposed of in such a manner that no fire hazard is created and in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act;

Current Project Status:

In 2017, \$4000 was budgeted for decommissioning. To date the project has not been completed and the \$4000 has carried forward in the 2018 and 2019 budgets. There have been challenges acquiring a contractor for this work and receiving guidance from the province.

This spring a new contractor was contacted and a site visit was held to assess the project. While on site, an additional storage tank was discovered. As a result, a more thorough search of the property was conducted and a total of seven storage tanks were found.



Location of oil day storage tanks

GPS Waypoint	Diameter	UTM Easting	UTM Northing	Latitude	Longitude
343	3'	407305	4748676	42.8850604	-82.1351263
345	6'	407442	4748688	42.8851851	-82.1334509
346	8'	407398	4748954	42.8875747	-82.1340335
347	4'	407317	4748899	42.8870697	-82.1350161
348	8'	407417	4748884	42.8869467	-82.1337893
349	4.5'	407306	4748725	42.8855017	-82.1351221
350	3.5'	407379	4748773	42.8859427	-82.1342362

Size and location of each oil day storage tank



Waypoint 350 – 3.5' diameter



Waypoint 348 – 8' diameter

Financial Impact:

At this time we are waiting on an updated estimate of costs from the contractor that would include the removal of all seven tanks. The contractor will be responsible for the removal and proper disposal of the contents (water, sediment). The contractor will excavate and remove the structures and backfill the sites. Staff will need to clear access to each of the locations for the contractor and acquire fill. Conservation staff and Municipal staff may be able to assist in the overall project, thereby reducing costs.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 8.3

Subject: Wallaceburg Sportsman Club Lease at Peers Wetland

Recommendation:

That staff are directed to provide written notice to the Wallaceburg Sportsman Club stating that the lease will not be renewed after Dec. 31, 2020, outlining SCRCA's concerns, and offering early termination of the lease.

Background:

Peers Wetland is a 26.75 acre property located at 29644 Kimball Rd, Wallaceburg. It contains a large wetland, some woodlot, plantation, and is bordered on two sides by Otter Creek. Two lease agreements exist on this property (Cogeco and Wallaceburg Sportsman Club).

Peers Wetland was purchased in 2012 with fundraising support from the local and regional community. At the time of acquisition the Wallaceburg Sportsman Club had a long-term lease (20 year) that continued until December 31, 2020. A new lease was created after the property acquisition that honoured the terms of the lease with the previous owner. The building belongs to the Sportsman Club as per the property purchase agreement.

Nature and Origin of Concerns:

In the Spring of 2019, SCRCA was contacted by Chatham-Kent Police Service informing staff that the door of the Sportsman Club building was open and no one was present. Staff were unable to contact a member of the Club and went to site to close the door. The staff member who closed the door expressed concern over the building condition. A meeting was arranged with members of the club to tour the building and the following concerns arose:

- Siding and shingles in disrepair
- Clutter around the perimeter of the building
- Large number of empty beer and liquor containers inside



- Safety concerns with woodstove and electrical
- Caution tape on wooden ramp to dock because a club member collided with the ramp while riding a snowmobile
- Historic conflict with other user groups (field naturalists)
- Is a Sportsman (Snowmobile) Club a compatible tenant for this site?

Legal Consultation:

- The current lease agreement does not have an option for early termination
- Termination would require a court order (expensive)
- Can offer early termination if both parties agree
- Can send a letter outlining SCRCA concerns (liability, building safety, alcohol consumption, building/property cleanliness)

Financial Impact:

The Sportsman Club pays \$500 annually plus hydro and a share of the commercial property taxes (22%, \$822.32 in 2018). This portion of the property should no longer be taxed at commercial rates if the building were to be removed. There would be some costs associated with building removal (relocation of hydro service, decommissioning of septic and well, site repair, etc.).



Siding and Fascia missing from building



Trim missing around windows and plywood coming off of wall



This sign is present in all windows



Clutter around the building

Below is a summary table to proposed allowed recreational uses at Peers Wetland Conservation Area.

Table 2. Recreational uses at Peers Wetland Conservation Area.

Activity	Occurring (Y/N)	Allowed (Y/N)	Details/Comments
Hiking/walking	Y	Y	Hiking and walking is permitted. A formal trail is being developed.
Berry Picking, Other Harvesting	?	N	Berry picking, harvesting, seed collection not permitted as per regulation 131 (See Section 6.1).
Bird Watching	Y	Y	Bird watching is encouraged for access trails. Ad hoc trails that could develop from birding activity will impact ground flora.
Picnicking	N	Y	No plans to install picnic table or other facilities.
Camping	N	N	
Agricultural	N	N	Farm retired upon purchase of property.
Hunting	N	N	Hunting is not a permitted use.
Fishing	N	N	Fishing activity may increase with establishment of trail system. Not technically as per regulation 131 4(2) (See Appendix IV). Not enforced.
Four-wheel Driving	N	N	Four-wheel driving is not permitted.
ATV Use	N	N	ATV use is not permitted.
Trail Riding (horse)	N	N	Horses are likely to damage the trail and dyke.
Snowmobiling	Y	N	Conservation Authorities Act Reg. 131 – “with permit, where designated”. Not a designated use at Peers Wetland Conservation Area.
Cross-country Skiing	N	N/A	No groomed trails. Not appropriate where there are not designated trails.
Swimming	N	N	
Cycling	N	N	Under Conservation Authorities Act Reg. 131 – Reg. 131 - cycling is allowed “Where designated by Authority”

The above table is from the Peers Wetland Master Plan - Section 5.11 “Recreational Uses”, which outlines that snowmobiling is not a designated use at this property

Under Regulation 131, 12.

No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle, an off-road vehicle or a motorized snow vehicle in the conservation area except,

(a) under a permit issued by the Authority and in a place designated by the Authority for the operation, with permits, of all-terrain vehicles, off-road vehicles or motorized snow vehicles; or

(b) In a place designated by the Authority for the operation, without permits, of all-terrain vehicles, off-road vehicles or motorized snow vehicles. R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 131, s. 12.

Conservation Authorities Act regulation 131, 12 from Peers Wetland Conservation Area Management Plan

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 8.4**
Report Date: June 10, 2019
Submitted by: Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry

Subject: Conservation Authority Land Management

With the retirement of the Director of Lands, the responsibility of managing lands has been split into two positions. The Manger of Forestry is responsible for the McKeough Upstream Lands, Foundation Lands, and the Woodland Management of the County of Lambton Lands.

For the first half of the year, Lands Management for the Conservation Authority has been focussed mainly on the familiarization of the leases, file storage, bookkeeping and reporting.

Recently, there has been a change to access at Moore Wildlife Habitat Management Area for the agricultural tenant that has been harvesting the hay fields. The lease agreement has been terminated mutually based on the access issue. The landlocked nature of this field dictates the necessity to work with adjacent farm tenants. Negotiations with a new tenant for a one year lease are in progress.

The retirement of highly erodible acreage on property 79 was completed this spring through the planting of trees by the Conservation Services Department.

A tenant for property 103 and 105 is in the process of resolving delinquent payments. If unresolved by the end of June, 2019, the lease will be terminated according to the agreement.

A full review of all land records and land designations is in progress. The Ten year management plan will begin this year.

Maintenance logs will be updated and works started in the drier weather for erosion, buffers, access lanes, and agreement compliance.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 9.1**
Report Date: June 14, 2019
Submitted by: Emily De Cloet, Water Resources Specialist

Subject: Watershed Conditions Report

Current Watershed Conditions

Precipitation Conditions

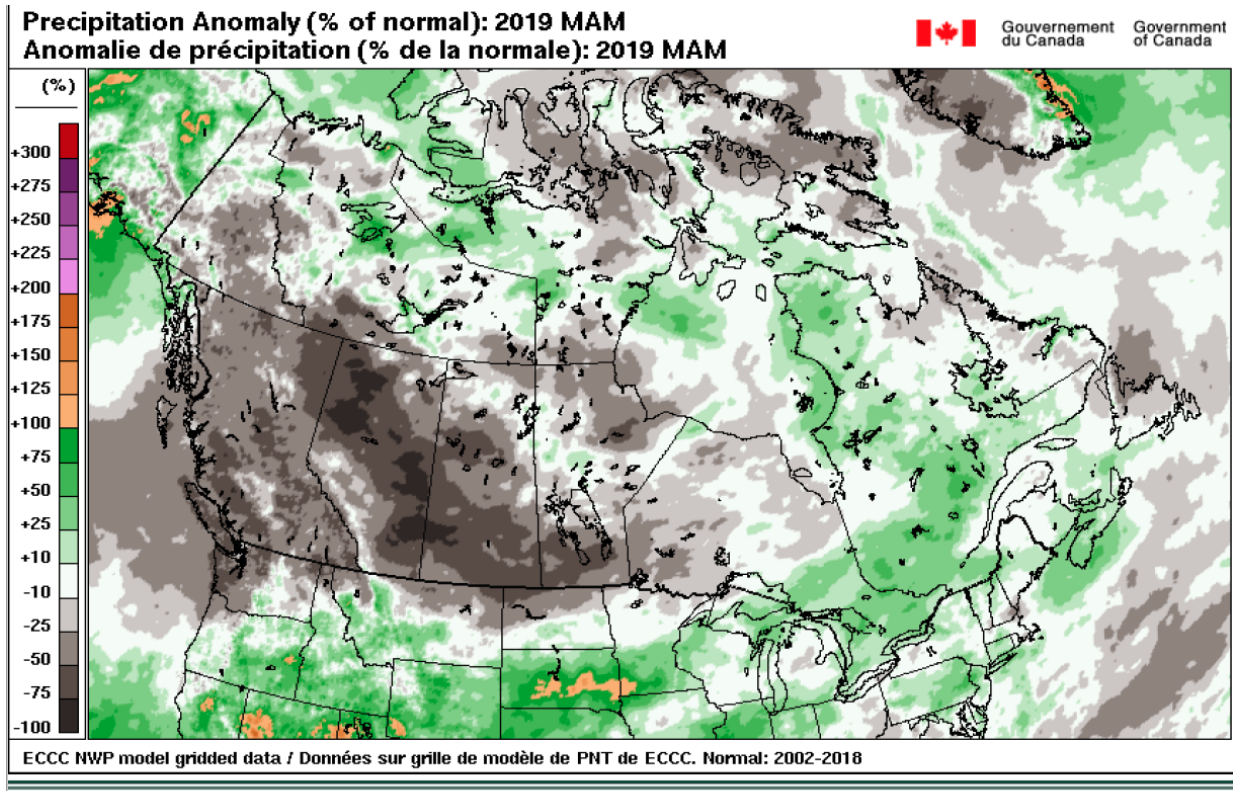
Table 1, below, outlines the precipitation received within the watershed and surrounding areas for the past year. Average totals for the past three, six and twelve months are above normal for all areas aside from Windsor, which was near average for the six month period and almost 13% below average for the twelve month period.

Table 1: Precipitation totals compared to monthly normals.

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
Last Quarter								
March	58.4	62.6	71	74.9	74.3	78.4	62.3	75
April	114.9	75.4	116	84	109.8	82.2	152.1	85.1
May	79.5	69.9	134	74	115.2	82.9	100	80.8
Averages								
last 3 month totals	252.8	207.9	321	232.9	299.3	243.5	314.4	240.9
last 3 month % of normal	121.6%		137.8%		122.9%		130.5%	
regional average	128.2%							
last 6 month totals	418.7	373.7	560	461.7	520.5	466.3	424.4	430.5
last 6 month % of normal	112.0%		121.3%		111.6%		98.6%	
regional average	110.9%							
last 12 month totals	916.7	846.8	1189.8	945.1	1041.6	987	803.1	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	108.3%		125.9%		105.5%		87.4%	
regional average	106.8%							

The high amount of precipitation received this spring can be seen visually in Figure 1, below, which depicts the precipitation anomaly experienced across much of North America between March and May of this year.

Figure 1: Precipitation anomaly, expressed as percent of normal, for North America from March 1 to May 31, 2019. Source: Government of Canada.



2019 March 1 to May 31 – Precip Anomaly



Flood Threat

An unusually wet spring has resulted in sustained high water levels across the watershed, particularly in Wallaceburg, and a high flood threat for this time of year (Figure 2). Typically in June, Wallaceburg would have approximately 20 to 30 cm between the water level of the Sydenham River and the top of the sheet piling in downtown Wallaceburg. As shown in Figure 3, the average water level for Wallaceburg this June has only been 3 cm below the top of bank of 6.03 m). This minimal freeboard has resulted in small precipitation events elevating the water level and causing various degrees of flooding in the area. Other stream gauges are showing similar trends of water levels being higher than previous years in June, with the exception of Strathroy (Note: data gaps resulted in no data for Florence in 2017). Since January, SCRC has had 9 flood events and sent 23 bulletins, compared to 2018 which saw 5 events and 17 bulletins for the whole year. Table 2 outlines flood event timing and bulletins issued to date.

Figure 2: Comparison of daily precipitation (green blocks), water level at Wallaceburg stream gauge (blue line) and Wallaceburg top of bank (red line). Source: SCRCA WISKI data, March 13, 2019 – June 13, 2019.



Figure 3: Comparison of average monthly water levels for June for years 2017, 2018 and 2019 for Water Survey of Canada-owned stream gauges. Source: Water Survey of Canada and SCRCA data, 2019.

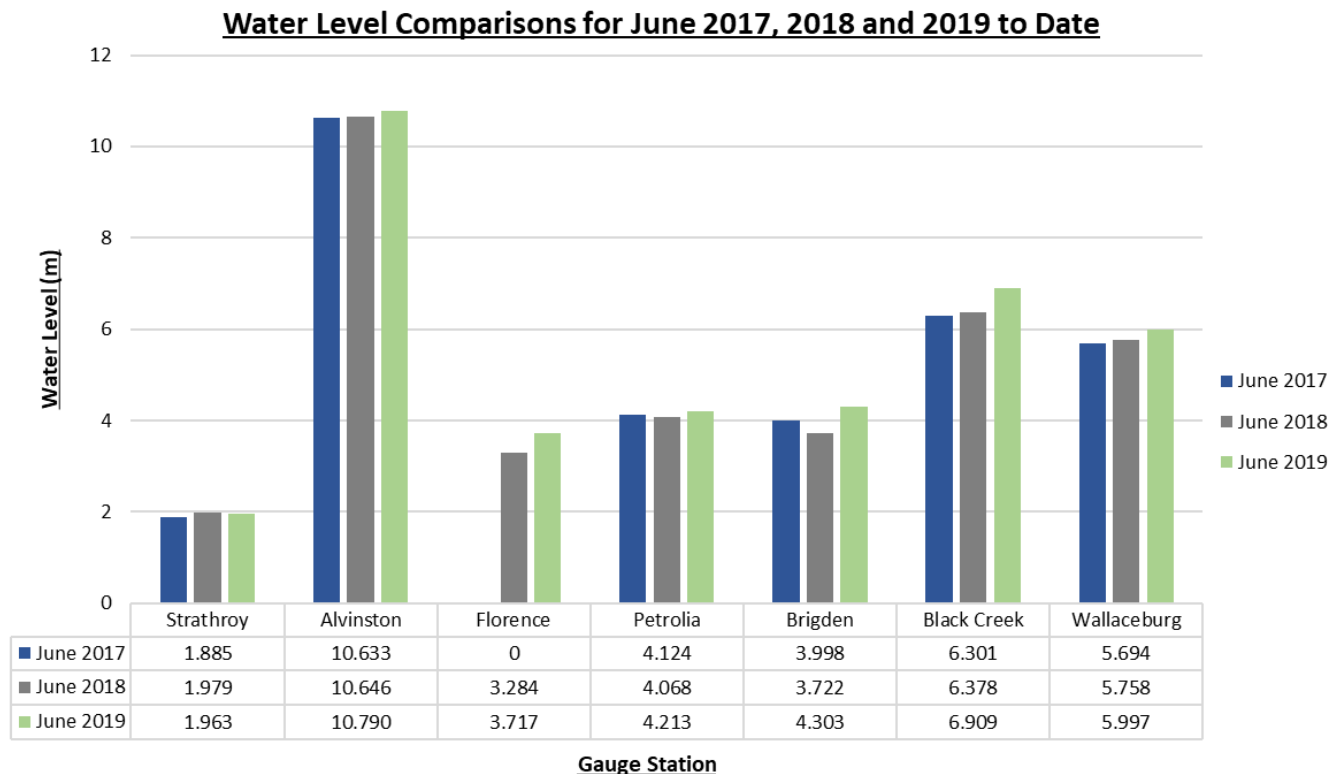


Table 2: Summary of flood events and bulletins, January – June, 2019.

Event	Dates	Bulletins
1	January 23 - 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Safety (1)
2	February 4 - 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Safety (1) • Flood Outlook (2) • Flood Watch (1)
3	March 14 - 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Safety (1)
4	April 12 - 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Safety (2) • Flood Watch (2) • Flood Warning (1)
5	April 26 – May 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Outlook (1) • Flood Watch (1) • Flood Warning (3)
6	May 9 –10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Watch (1)
7	May 14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Watch (1)
8	May 27 – June 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Outlook (1) • Flood Watch (1)
9	June 12 – (ongoing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Watch (2) • Flood Warning (1)

Moderate amounts of precipitation is forecast in the upcoming week, however predictions are prone to changing. Soil has been saturated with numerous rain events this season, and any further rain could lead to rivers rising more quickly. Given the current watershed conditions, the threat of minor flooding is high however significant flooding is not expected at the time of this report. Water levels and the weather forecast will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

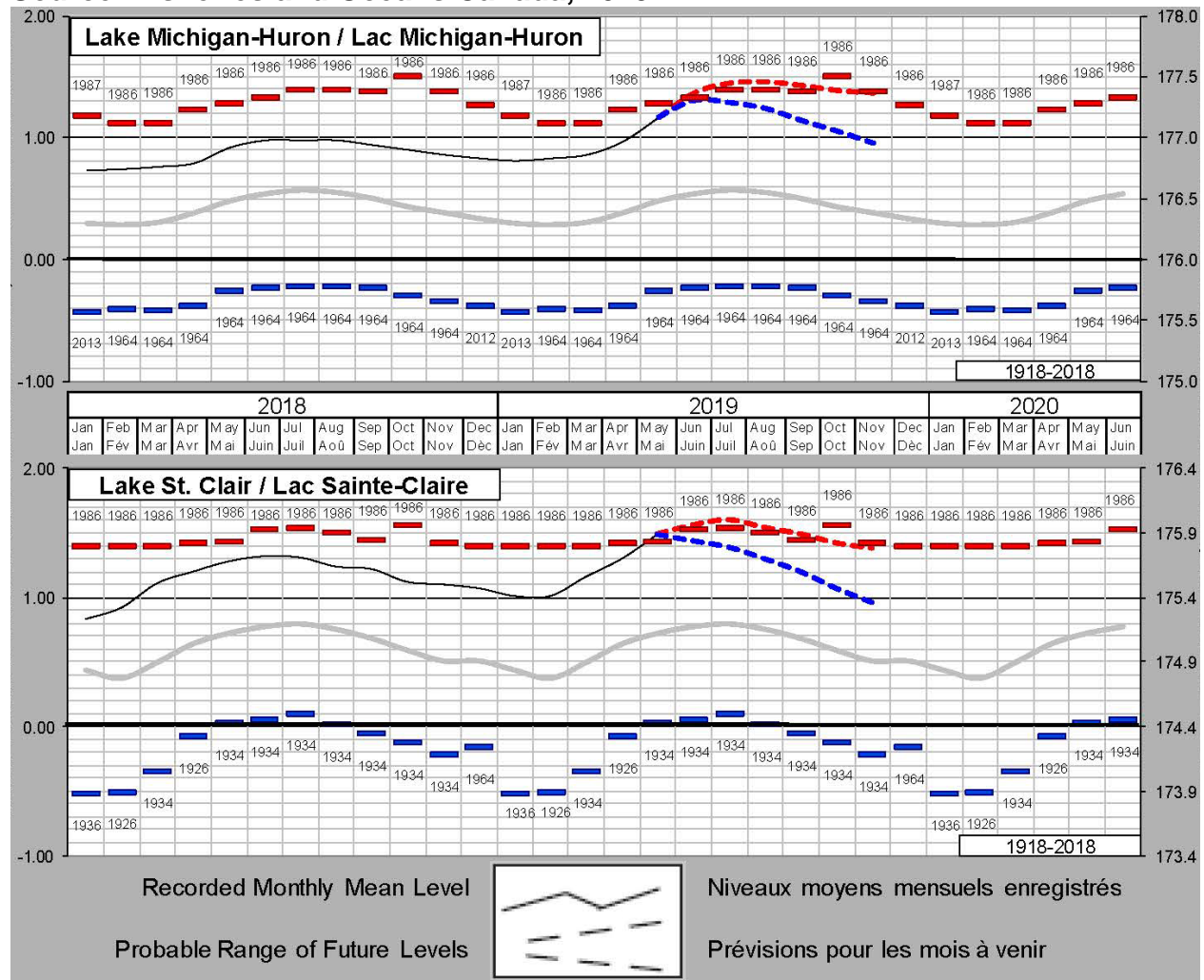
Great Lakes Levels

Data collected from Fisheries and Oceans Canada water levels bulletin show the changes in water levels between months, years and decades. Data depicted in Table 3 shows water levels are remaining high, with increases in the water levels compared to previous years and surpassing previous highs. Water levels in Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair are anticipated to further rise for the month of July (Figure 4).

Table 3: Comparison of Great Lakes water levels for May 2019. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2019.

May 2019	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (Preliminary Data)	177.17	175.89	175.05
Mean for Month Last Year	176.92	175.68	174.88
Change	0.25	0.21	0.17
Mean for Month, Last 10 years	176.40	175.23	174.45
Change Compared to Current	0.77	0.66	0.60
Mean for Month, All Time	176.28	174.79	174.00
Change Compared to Current	0.89	1.10	1.05
Statistics for Period of Record			
Maximum Monthly Mean / Year	177.28	175.83	174.97
	1986	1986	1986
Change Compared to Current	-0.11	0.06	0.08
Minimum Monthly Mean / Year	175.74	174.42	173.44
	1964	1934	1934
Change Compared to Current	1.43	1.47	1.61
Next Month Estimate			
Probable Mean for Next Month	177.34	175.92	175.06
Next Month Compared to Current	0.17	0.03	0.01

Figure 4: Recorded and projected water levels for Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair.
 Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2019.



Seasonal Outlook

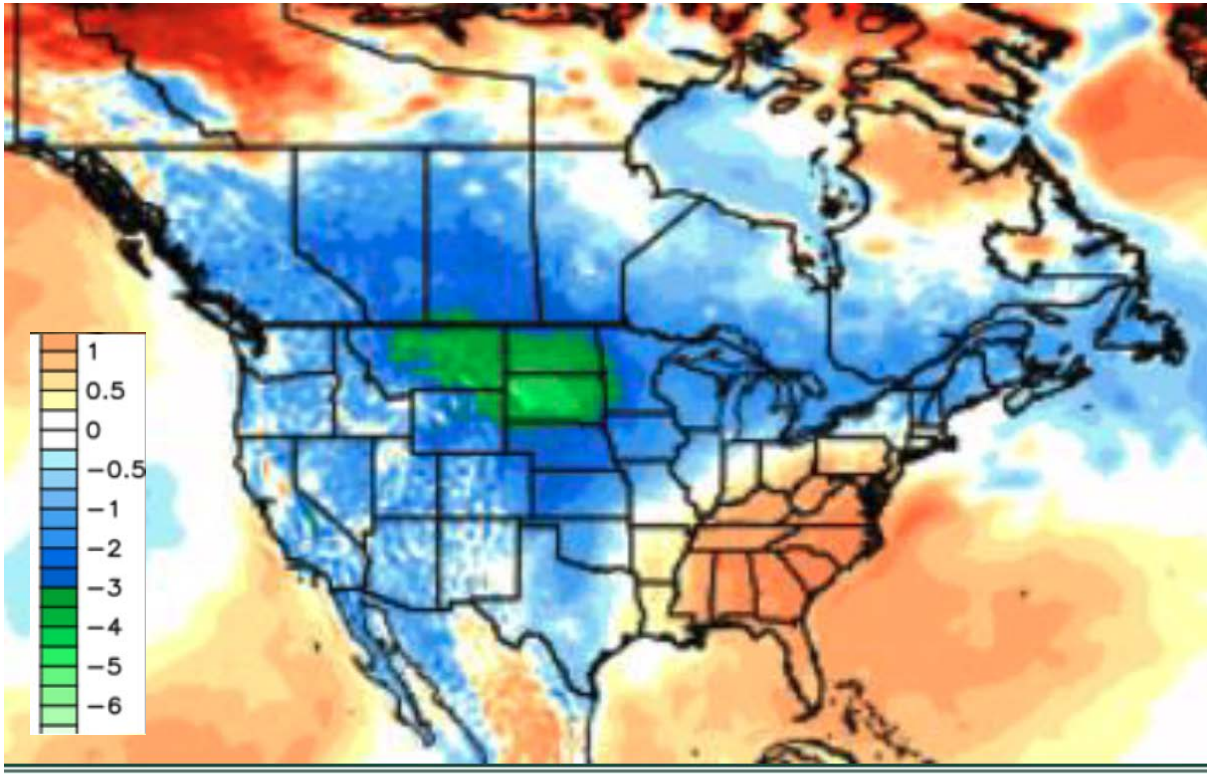
Seasonal outlooks are provided each month by Jerry Shields, meteorologist for the Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services branch of the MNR. This information is used internally to prepare for potential increased flood or drought conditions in the distant future. A summary of the outlook is provided below:

- July, August and September are modelled as being close to seasonal temperatures, with July anticipated to be around seasonal for precipitation amounts, and August and September being drier than seasonal;
- October is modelled as being cooler than normal, with precipitation forecast as being drier than seasonal.

In addition to higher than seasonal precipitation this season, our area has also experienced cooler than normal temperatures this year. Figure 5, below, depicts this

temperature anomaly for most of Canada and the continental US, for January to June, 2019.

Figure 5: Temperature anomaly for Canada and the US from January to June, 2019.
Source: Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2019.



2019 January 1 – June 12 – Temp Anomaly



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 14, 2019
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 9.2

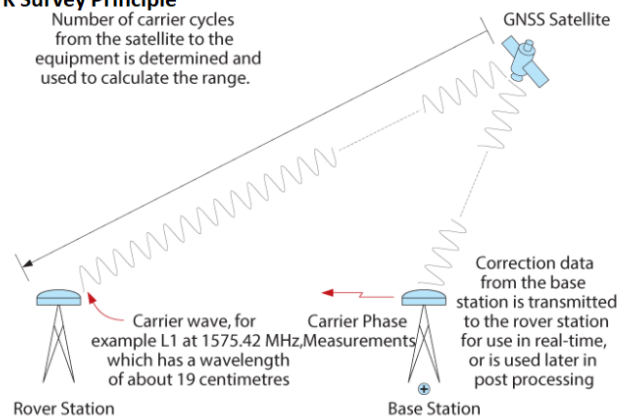
Subject: Floodplain Mapping project

- SCRCA has procured survey equipment early this spring
- 2 dedicated staff (Nicholas Hagerty and Nathan Clark) have been performing surveying on a daily basis
- Survey work includes surveying cross-sections of creek and measuring culverts and bridges
- Survey work has been completed for Cow and Perch creek watersheds
- Phase 1 mapping work
 - City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township watersheds
- Phase 2 mapping work
 - The rest of the SCRCA watershed
- Cross-section information will be input into a Digital Elevation Model being developed by Riggs Engineering
- Hydrologic Analysis and Modelling will be performed, followed by floodplain mapping.



RTK Survey Principle

Number of carrier cycles from the satellite to the equipment is determined and used to calculate the range.



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 14, 2019
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 9.3

Subject: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects

- 2019 - 2020 WECI Projects were submitted on April 12, 2019
- All applications were reviewed by a committee of provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives
- SCRCA submitted 6 projects
- A list of WECI approved projects for 2019 - 2020 is outlined below

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Received (\$)
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 2	Carry out construction of Phase 2 from the recommendation of engineering study.	\$800,000	\$242,942.61
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Mechanical Inspection of Equipment and Painting	Inspect gate equipment and Waterproofing/sealant coating and paint the gatehouse building	\$150,000	\$75,000
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Drain repairs, Channel floor repair	Perform Channel and Drain repairs on the McKeough Floodway as identified in the Engineering reports.	\$60,000	\$30,000

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 10.1**
Report Date: June 10, 2019
Submitted by: Nicole Drumm, Jessica Van Zwol

Subject: Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Update

Background:

Through funding provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is coordinating the development of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Sydenham River watershed to reduce the impact of this nutrient on the Great Lakes basin. Phosphorus is essential to life but when it becomes available in excessive amounts in freshwater environments it can cause algal blooms and hypoxic (low oxygen) conditions. This severely degrades the water quality of lakes and rivers and can impact the safety of water for drinking, recreation, and wildlife.

The objective of this multi-year project is to work with local stakeholders, First Nations, and communities to identify sources of phosphorus, collect and analyze available data, and determine the most effective solutions for our region. A community engagement and outreach strategy will also be developed to implement the Management Plan.

Meetings held to-date:

Date	Meeting	Purpose/Outcome
November 27, 2018	Initial Meeting	Introduced project to local stakeholders, First Nations, and other community members; brainstorming session; received initial feedback and direction
March 7, 2019	Non-Point Source Working Group Meeting <i>Board Representative: Steve Miller</i>	Introduced project to committee members; presented information that is currently known; reviewed proposed Project Charter, Terms of Reference, Project Outline; received feedback and direction
March 7, 2019	Point Source Working Group Meeting <i>Board Representative: Terry Burrell</i>	Introduced project to committee members; presented information that is currently known; reviewed proposed Project Charter, Terms of Reference, Project Outline; received feedback and direction

The SCRCA Project Team has compiled the feedback from these meetings and are using it to direct ongoing research. The information is being compiled and will be discussed at upcoming meetings.

Upcoming committee meetings:

- Indigenous Engagement Committee Meeting
- Advisory Committee Meeting
- Water Quality Technical Team Meeting

Strategic Objectives:

The Phosphorus Management Plan is a project that ties into our existing programs and will help us to meet our strategic objective to focus on programs that reduce the loading of phosphorus to the Great Lakes in order to protect, manage, and restore our natural systems.

Goal 2:

“Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes.”

Strategic Actions:

“Develop New Tools to Promote Stewardship Practices and Evaluate the Effectiveness of Best Management Practices: Evaluate the current model of landowner outreach and voluntary stewardship and explore new tools and collaborations that expand conservation opportunities utilizing information from our watershed report cards. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are encouraged to promote soil health, improve water quality, and provide for more resilient watersheds. Efforts need to be made to evaluate the various BMPs to ensure they are creating the results expected such as reducing nutrient loss from farm fields (with a focus on phosphorus) and decreasing sedimentation in watercourses. This is an opportunity to work with colleges and universities, farming groups, and others to develop solid science to evaluate BMP effectiveness.”

“Focus on Programs to Reduce Phosphorous Loading into the Great Lakes: Governments on both sides of the border have been taking action setting targets for the Great Lakes to deal with the problem of excess Phosphorus. Stewardship programs, while also addressing other watershed needs, should focus on reducing Phosphorous levels entering the Great Lakes.”

Financial Impact:

Staff have submitted the 2018-19 report to ECCC detailing the work that has been completed and have received \$100,000 for the first year of the project. Staff are currently working with ECCC to finalize a work plan and three year contribution agreement that will cover 2019-2022.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 10.2**
Report Date: June 8, 2019
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist

Subject: Landowner Testimonials of SCRCA for Conservation Ontario

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Landowner Testimonials of SCRCA for Conservation Ontario dated June 8, 2019.

Background:

In light of recent provincial budget cuts, Conservation Ontario wanted to advocate on behalf of the efforts of Conservation Authorities to promote conservation and restoration in the province. CO requested SCRCA to send in any recent testimonial from landowners, farmers that specifically reference the important work we do – rural waterquality, restoration, tree planting etc. Staff sent out a request to many of the landowners we've worked with in the past and the following are the responses we received.

Testimonials

The Ipperwash Beach community has benefited greatly with support from the Saint Clair Region Conservation Authority. They have provided summer students, staff, equipment, supplies and environmental recommendations since 2016. Without the assistance of the summer students, over a period of 2-3 days each summer the removal of invasive Phragmites and Sweet White Clover from the dunes stretching 3 miles along the shoreline would not have been successful. Attached is a comparison of a property before and after Phragmites and Sweet White Clover were removed. Their efforts, and the positive results seen by the community, have encouraged more locals to take part in this yearly remediation.

The SCRCA has also provided staff, equipment and support each year for our Ipperwash Beach cleanup. They are there no matter what the weather conditions. I can't express how important the funding provided to the SCRCA has benefited our community.

Sandra Marshall
Chairperson Ipperwash Phrag Phighters

The Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group has appreciated the support given to our habitat restoration work by St. Clair Region Conservation Authority over the past 6 years. In 2012, the shoreline from Lake Valley Grove to Kettle and Stony Point First Nation in Lambton Shores was infested with invasive Phragmites and with their support

and other community partners, we have been able to manage Phragmites and restore a large section of the habitat in this Provincially Significant Wetland. We look forward to continuing our partnership to complete this work.

Nancy Vidler
President, Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group

I want to express my deep appreciation for the strong support and guidance I've received from the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority in reforesting my farm near Komoka. We've been working closely over the past five years to plant a wide variety of trees typical of Carolinian forests in an effort to return the farmland to a natural state representative of the original forest. The expertise and commitment of the staff at the Conservation Authority - not to mention the financial grants - has been crucial in making this dream a near-reality. I look forward to continuing the relationship as we work together to create a conservation area that meets the UNESCO definition of a private protected area and directly and significantly contributes to the important habitat restoration and conservation efforts of Ontario and Canada.

David Livingstone
Landowner

The pond created here by SCRCA in partnership with the London Foundation is doing well. It is changing to a wetland where many species such as wood ducks, marsh grasses and bullrushes can re-establish themselves. It supports deer and turkey populations as well as amphibians.

Prior to the pond making it was a 3/4 acre plot that was rutted and too wet each fall and spring to work as cropland. Instead, it was filling in with invasive species like purple loosestrife.

As you know, we have retired other farmland sections of this property which was first settled in the 1820's. In areas where the erosion was so severe all or much the top soil had been removed we have planted hundreds of trees with the support of UTRCA which now are controlling the erosion and slowing the release of the run off to the Oxbow Creek and then to the Thames River. As part of the tree planting process, we have had classes held on this property.

We could not have found the funds to do these developments ourselves as we were raising a young family paying for education from preschool to university. I appreciate how in the past the government saw fit to help me do something for the greater good and long-term health of our community. It is a pleasure to maintain, share, and enjoy these "conserved" areas.

Walter Lenny
Landowner

I believe the key to a healthy and productive environment lies in the soil beneath our feet and within our freshwater basins. So much damage has already been done throughout previous generations, which happens so slowly it goes relatively unnoticed. Today's Farmers can be instrumental participants in shifting this paradigm by helping to sequester carbon and keep pollution out of our waterways. Perhaps some of this

damage is reversible but the longer we wait to implement these practices the more challenging it will be. I was pleasantly surprised when I learned that our Conservation Authority was participating in this grassroots movement. Our C.A. has been instrumental in providing education workshops and even bringing world renowned Academics to our area that Producers have been able to learn from and share our own experiences with.

Jake Chapman
Farmer

The SCRCA has been awesome for the citizens of Sarnia, we have done numerous tree planting naturalization projects throughout the City uniting both local and foreign volunteers, residents, schools, local businesses along with staff of the City and SCRCA. These special projects increase the level of living in Sarnia to a higher standard, install community pride as well as improving the environment by reducing our carbon footprint. We at the City and all involved look forward to this annual project each and every year and hope they continue to happen.

Chuck Toth
Supervisor, Horticulture & Arboriculture, City of Sarnia

I thought to send you a brief update on our wetlands project you helped deliver to us a few yrs ago.

The wetlands area is now well established with plant and wildlife. We get numerous ducks and geese that we never saw in past years at our small pond. Most interesting for me has been ferrets and possibly a mink I have seen in the early mornings. Deer numbers have increased as well as wild turkey. Muskrats are common as are various herons.

Water wildlife is up as well, painted turtles, snapping turtles and a few others I can identify are usually seem. Frogs and toads are always around.

My Managed Woodlands project was approved and it somewhat encompasses the wetland areas - I am hoping these two managed together will make a nice area for wildlife and habitat conservation.

Strathroy Landowner

The St. Clair Regional Conservation Authority has been an excellent source of trees and expertise for the repair of riparian areas on my farm. Reforesting strips of land along the stream bank has reduced erosion and allowed native plants to regenerate.

The native plants, in turn, have provided habitat for a great number of different pollinating insects. It has also provided nesting sites for a variety of birds.

All of these environmentally positive consequences are a direct result of the Conservation Authority mandate to control flooding, which in itself is a subject of great concern at the present time.

These efforts need to be supported and many more landowners could make use of the resources available simply by asking.

Andrew Thompson
Landowner

Approximately 12 years ago, my wife and I purchased a 58-acre parcel of land that had a 40-acre woodlot. The remaining 18 acres was farmed for grain crops as well as hay. Our intent was to “naturalize” the 18 acres. I had thought that this project would take many years with significant personal investment of time and financial resources. However, I contacted the SCRCA as well as at that time the Lambton Stewardship Network. The support in terms of materials as well as services was absolutely essential in order to quickly within two years establish a 4 pond “flow through” wetland as well as several acres of Tall Grass. In addition, over 1000 berry-producing shrubs were planted as a food source for Avian species.

This property has been recognized in the form of awards received from: The South West Woodlot Owners, The Sydenham Field Naturalists as well as my wife and I being designated as “Landowner Leaders” by Carolinian Canada!

This Naturalized property has also received accolades from numerous visitors who have requested tours. It is an escape from the omnipresent and increasingly dominant view in SW Ontario of the barren monoculture of grain crops and piles of destroyed woodlots.

It would be prudent for our Political Leaders to exhibit the wisdom and to understand that at day’s end, it is NATURE AS SUPPORTED BY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE SCRCA that ULTIMATELY DETERMINES THE QUALITY OF OUR FUTURE!

BEYOND TODAY-THERE IS A TOMORROW!

SUPPORT EFFORTS FOR A NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TODAY OR GET READY TO PAY THE SOCIETAL COSTS OF: FLOODS, CROP DISEASES (eg. VOMITOXIN), A CONTAMINATED FRESH WATER RESOURCE, AS WELL AS MULTIPLE OTHER ISSUES SUCH AS HUMAN HEALTH CONCERNS TOMORROW!

Gary Eagleson
Ridgetown

The Alvinston Community Group would like to thank you and others at the St. Clair Conservation Authority, for all the help you have recently given us.

With your suggestions, support and guidance, we went from wanting to “just clean up the Millpond” to creating a wonderful wetlands for wildlife and birds.

Your suggestions were very impactful and will greatly improve the area. Things such as not removing what we thought was “scum” from the top of the water, but you helped us to realize that it was duckweed and it was very beneficial to the bugs and to help prevent an explosion of algae in the water. You also recommended that we do not remove all the dead and fallen trees from the pond as they improve the habitat for creatures such as frogs and turtles.

Your work with us to help develop signage for unique plant and tree species will help people walking by to realize just how special some of the greenery is in our area.

These things and more, would never have happened without your support and input. Thank you so much from everyone on the Alvinston Community Group.

Helen Lomax
President, Alvinston Community Group

I would like to thank you and your staff at St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for there tremendous effort to help organize on farm tours at our farm with not only local farmers but also local high school students that are interested Agriculture. With your team I was able to promote soil health and soil conservation practices on our farm to others. This is a great asset to myself and others interested in protecting our soil and growing our knowledge in sustainable Agriculture.

Mike Belan
Belan Farms

A few years ago we purchased 26 acres of land at the back of our farm. The farmer behind us had to cross Bear Creek to get to 7 acres he farmed. After the purchase St. Clair Conservation came in and planted 7500 Black Walnuts. This was flood land area, and should not have been cleared. The remaining 26 acres was woodlot. A few years later they came back and planted White cedar for a wind break on both sides for the full length of our two farms. My wife and I are pleased with the end result. Thanks again.

LeRoy and Donna Willer
Watford

Once again I was extremely disappointed to read about the 2019 provincial budget cuts of 50% to Conservation.

During the past 10 I have worked closely and receive grants from our local SCRC and Conservation Ontario. We have partnered in cost shared projects such as:

- Equipment modification
- Cover crops seed
- Cover crops seeding modification
- Monitoring tile outlet water to see a difference in VMP and what cover crops do to our water quality
- Hosting events for cover crop and BMP studies.

Living 1 km from Lake Huron, I was particularly interested in reducing run off, soil erosion and phosphorus control.

All of these cost sharing projects wouldn't have been done without the support Conservation, with your cut our water quality will be seriously compromised.

Doug J. Rogers
Lambton Shores farmer

This note is to strongly support the continuation of the great work that is being done by SCRCA and Conservation Ontario.

Financial cuts are a reality, especially if governments have not been financially responsible over a period of time.

However, it is never a good idea to throw the baby out with the water and serious consideration must be given to the benefits and quality of life issues when making decisions.

Alarmed at the speed which urban development was occurring in the London area and causing loss of large areas of prime farm land and animal habitats, I decided to change over from farming to developing a nature area on my 50 acre hobby farm.

Soil erosion was also a significant problem,

With help from the local conservation agency (both financially and with appropriate information) work was done to improve this area for wildlife.

A dam was built, a large 2 acre pond and also a smaller one were created by Ducks Unlimited and about 15 acres were planted with prairie wild grasses and flowers.

The results have been impressive, with good development of the flora which are very attractive in the summer, the soil erosion has been stopped and there has been a significant increase in wild life from bees and butterflies to water fowl and shore birds, deer, wild turkey etc.

They have also planted hundreds of tree saplings that are growing well.

None of this would be possible without their help and guidance and for that I am extremely grateful.

The urban sprawl that is going on in the London area continues and in my opinion it is extremely important for that to be balanced by an active conservation program as has been available in the past.

The quality of our lives and the environment are of prime importance and need to be on the front burner not the back burner.

We cannot get these lands back once concrete replaces the soil.

We and our co-existing wild animal friends need the benefits that a well managed wild life/ environmental program provides both for our physical, mental and societal needs.

Paul Garner MD
Mount Brydges

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Steve Shaw

Item 11.1

Subject: Conservation Services Report Spring Tree Planting

Update:

Tree Planting Program

- Seedling stock trees arrived approximately one week later than normal this year.
- 80,000 trees were placed in cold storage on April 29th
- For the first 2 weeks only hand planting could be accomplished due to wet weather and poor ground conditions.
- Machine planting crews could only plant several sites for the entire month of May with not much improvement in the first week of June.
- With extended work day hours for the machine planting crews as well as working weekends to make up for the numerous days off during the week because tractors could not get onto the land, approximately 75% of the seedlings were planted by June 10th.
- Machine crews should be finished planting by June 18th if the rain holds off. This is almost one month later than the normal tree planting season.
- With a maximum recommended cold storage time of 4 to 5 weeks for bare root seedlings before survival starts to decline, 2019 will be a true test for tree shelf life.
- This spring's total project value was more than \$300,000 for the cost of trees, planting and long term tending.
- Landowners will be contributing \$57,500 this year.
- SCRCA has secured \$205,000 in numerous grants which were provided to landowner's for projects costs.
- There is approximately \$8000 in unconfirmed grant that SCRCA may or may not receive from the Ontario Community Environment Fund spills action program.
- Conservation services may have to absorb approximately \$30,000 - \$40,000 in project costs this year.



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Steve Shaw

Item 11.2

Subject: Conservation Services Larvicide Program

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated June 13, 2019 regarding the treatment of catch basins with a larvicide in Lambton County's rural and urban areas.

Update:

- Catch basin treatments with a mosquito larvicide will be conducted in all rural and urban areas within the County of Lambton and the city of City of Sarnia starting in late June and ending in mid-August. SCRCA staff will be working under the direction of Lambton Public Health during the treatment operations.
- Catch basins located within Aamjiwnaang will also be treated under a separate contract with approval for funding from Health Canada.
- Permits to treat surface water are obtained from the MECP under the Authority's Pesticide Operators Licence and Insurance and department exterminator's licences.
- Pre-treatment larvae sampling has been scheduled for the week of June 17th. If activity is low, a second sampling may be required the following week.
- Larvae results are sent to Lambton Public Health. Mosquito activity levels will be used to determine treatment start date. Approval from the Lambton Medical Officer of Health is required before treatments commence.
- Catch basins will be treated with methoprene in pellet formulation. Methoprene is a growth regulator which prevents mosquito larva from becoming biting adults. There will be 3 separate larvicide applications set at 21-day intervals starting around June 25th and finishing around the 15th of August.
- The use of larvicide is limited to an exterminator with a Mosquito/Biting Fly licence or up to 7 trained technicians working under the supervision of a licence holder.
- SCRCA staff will also conduct efficacy tests as part of the treatment program by collecting mosquito pupa samples throughout the summer. Pupa are monitored for percent adult emergence. Past efficacy tests show an average of 80% effectiveness for controlling mosquito emergence.
- A different colour paint mark for each application of larvicide is applied to the centre of every catch basin treated.



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 12.1**
Report Date: June 11, 2019
Submitted by: Michelle Gallant, Melissa Deisley, Dallas Cundick and Eva Baker

Subject: Regulations Activity Summary for the period dated April 1, 2019 to May 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 April 1, 2019 to May 31, 2019.

Regulations Permits:

Application No:	R#2019-167	Municipality:	Adelaide-Metcalfe		
Subject Property:	555 Metcalfe St.				
Proposal:	Bear Creek Estates Development Project				
Submission Complete By:	5/8/2019	Permit Issued:	5/14/2019	Days:	6

Application No:	R#2019-244	Municipality:	Adelaide-Metcalfe		
Subject Property:	Pike Road				
Proposal:	Construction of a new single family dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	4/9/2019	Permit Issued:	4/9/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-226	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	Lots 13 to 15, Con 10 and 11, Zone				
Proposal:	Construction of Zsoldos Municipal Drain				
Submission Complete By:	2/20/2019	Permit Issued:	4/15/2019	Days:	54

Application No:	R#2019-122	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	15 Dunlop Crescent				
Proposal:	HDD Stream Crossing				
Submission Complete By:	4/1/2019	Permit Issued:	4/1/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-367	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	79 Highbury Crescent				
Proposal:	Construct New Detached Garage				
Submission Complete By:	5/23/2019	Permit Issued:	5/24/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-262	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	Property north of 30632 Jane Road				
Proposal:	Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	4/15/2019	Permit Issued:	4/15/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-292	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	11080 Base Line				
Proposal:	Horizontal Directional Drill under Traxler Drain				
Submission Complete By:	4/25/2019	Permit Issued:	5/24/2019	Days:	29

Application No:	R#2019-109	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	24806 Lindsay Road				
Proposal:	Addition on House				
Submission Complete By:	5/28/2019	Permit Issued:	5/28/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-076	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	308 Queen Street				
Proposal:	Addition on cottage				
Submission Complete By:	4/11/2019	Permit Issued:	4/16/2019	Days:	5

Application No:	R#2019-427	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	325 University Ave				
Proposal:	16 x 21 addition to existing home				
Submission Complete By:	5/9/2019	Permit Issued:	5/29/2019	Days:	20

Application No:	R#2019-172	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	26088 Winter Line Road				
Proposal:	Addition on dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	5/13/2019	Permit Issued:	5/13/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2018-174	Municipality:	Enniskillen		
Subject Property:	4436 Rokeby Line				
Proposal:	Construct new garage				
Submission Complete By:	3/15/2019	Permit Issued:	4/9/2019	Days:	25

Application No:	R#2019-020	Municipality:	Enniskillen		
Subject Property:	Petrolia Line at Fairweather Road				
Proposal:	Culvert Replacement				
Submission Complete By:	3/21/2019	Permit Issued:	4/1/2019	Days:	11

Application No:	R#2019-019	Municipality:	Enniskillen		
Subject Property:	Petrolia Line at Plowing Match Road				
Proposal:	Culvert Replacement				
Submission Complete By:	3/21/2019	Permit Issued:	4/1/2019	Days:	11

Application No:	R#2018-416	Municipality:	Enniskillen		
Subject Property:	6000 Shiloh Line				
Proposal:	Construct new dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	5/8/2019	Permit Issued:	5/22/2019	Days:	14

Application No:	R#2019-177	Municipality:	Petrolia
Subject Property:	450 Blanche Street		
Proposal:	Install New Sanitary Service		
Submission Complete By:	3/20/2019	Permit Issued:	4/1/2019
		Days:	12

Application No:	R#2019-069	Municipality:	Petrolia
Subject Property:	4334 Petrolia Line		
Proposal:	Construction of a Pole barn		
Submission Complete By:	3/29/2019	Permit Issued:	4/1/2019
		Days:	3

Application No:	R#2019-175	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming
Subject Property:	5198 Stewardson Road		
Proposal:	Construct Watercourse Crossing		
Submission Complete By:	4/11/2019	Permit Issued:	4/11/2019
		Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-200	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming
Subject Property:	7026 Hillsboro Road		
Proposal:	Construct new single family dwelling		
Submission Complete By:	3/27/2019	Permit Issued:	4/18/2019
		Days:	22

Application No:	R#2019-094	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming
Subject Property:	4606 Lakeside		
Proposal:	Drain Enclosure		
Submission Complete By:	4/9/2019	Permit Issued:	5/2/2019
		Days:	23

Application No:	R#2019-056	Municipality:	Sarnia
Subject Property:	1010 Plank Road Sarnia		
Proposal:	Sarnia Terminal East Pond Expansion		
Submission Complete By:	3/18/2019	Permit Issued:	4/5/2019
		Days:	18

Application No:	R#2019-276	Municipality:	Sarnia
Subject Property:	2287 Passingham Drive		
Proposal:	Construct New Single Family Dwelling		
Submission Complete By:	4/17/2019	Permit Issued:	4/26/2019
		Days:	9

Application No:	R#2019-107	Municipality:	Sarnia
Subject Property:	2273 Goldie Lane		
Proposal:	Construct Covered Porch on Existing House		
Submission Complete By:	5/13/2019	Permit Issued:	5/22/2019
		Days:	9

Application No:	R#2019-315	Municipality:	Sarnia
Subject Property:	Vidal Street South		
Proposal:	Integrity Dig		
Submission Complete By:	5/10/2019	Permit Issued:	5/10/2019
		Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-085	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	Plank Road and Andrew Street				
Proposal:	Sewer Installation via HDD				
Submission Complete By:	3/18/2019	Permit Issued:	4/8/2019	Days:	21

Application No:	R#2019-261	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	1010 Plank Road				
Proposal:	Excavate and Replace Pipeline Valves				
Submission Complete By:	4/26/2019	Permit Issued:	5/27/2019	Days:	31

Application No:	R#2019-134	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	2884 Old Lakeshore Road				
Proposal:	New Single Family Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	5/24/2019	Permit Issued:	5/28/2019	Days:	4

Application No:	R#2019-286	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	2092 Lakeshore Road				
Proposal:	Construct Deck and New Porticos on Existing Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	5/17/2019	Permit Issued:	5/27/2019	Days:	10

Application No:	R#2019-166	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	Line 5				
Proposal:	Pipeline HDD				
Submission Complete By:	4/11/2019	Permit Issued:	4/16/2019	Days:	5

Application No:	R#2019-318	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	2003 Churchill Line				
Proposal:	Integrity Dig				
Submission Complete By:	5/22/2019	Permit Issued:	5/23/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-205	Municipality:	St. Clair		
Subject Property:	4683 Riverside Drive				
Proposal:	New Attached Garage				
Submission Complete By:	4/16/2019	Permit Issued:	5/8/2019	Days:	22

Application No:	R#2019-155	Municipality:	St. Clair		
Subject Property:	Bridge 21 over Baby Creek				
Proposal:	Bridge repairs over Baby Creek				
Submission Complete By:	4/10/2019	Permit Issued:	5/10/2019	Days:	30

Application No:	R#2019-096	Municipality:	St. Clair		
Subject Property:	Pretty Road				
Proposal:	Bridge Rehabilitation				
Submission Complete By:	4/24/2019	Permit Issued:	4/24/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-203	Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc		
Subject Property:	8107 Inadale Drive				
Proposal:	New Single Family Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	5/18/2019	Permit Issued:	5/27/2019	Days:	9

Application No:	R#2019-345	Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc		
Subject Property:	Caradoc Street				
Proposal:	Horizontal Directional Drill- Union Gas Line				
Submission Complete By:	5/7/2019	Permit Issued:	5/17/2019	Days:	10

Application No:	R#2019-243	Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc		
Subject Property:	8444 Pauline Crescent				
Proposal:	New Deck				
Submission Complete By:	4/12/2019	Permit Issued:	4/25/2019	Days:	13

Application No:	R#2019-053	Municipality:	Warwick		
Subject Property:	34 John Street				
Proposal:	Construct Garage				
Submission Complete By:	4/23/2019	Permit Issued:	4/23/2019	Days:	1

Total No. of Applications: 37 Average No. of Days to Issue Permit: 12

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:

File Reference	Municipality	Location
R#2019-235	Adelaide-Metcalf	196 Sandpiper Drive
R#2019-400	Adelaide-Metcalf	4462 Egremont Road
R#2019-403	Adelaide-Metcalf	1457 Melwood Road
R#2019-201	Adelaide-Metcalf	28275 Centre Road
R#2019-325	Brooke-Alvinston	3128 Queen Street
R#2018-269	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke Alvinston
R#2018-350	Brooke-Alvinston	2199 Cameron Road
R#2019-436	Brooke-Alvinston	Alvinston Sewage Treatment Facility 3084 River St.
R#2019-195	Brooke-Alvinston	6680 Petrolia Line

R#2019-402	Chatham-Kent	29701 Cuthbert Road
R#2019-251	Chatham-Kent	214 Margaret Avenue
R#2019-113	Chatham-Kent	949 James Street
R#2019-349	Chatham-Kent	547 Camden Street
R#2019-144	Chatham-Kent	1 Dunlop Crescent
R#2019-295	Chatham-Kent	574 Sandra Crescent
R#2019-181	Chatham-Kent	8383 Dover Centre Line
R#2019-217	Chatham-Kent	various
R#2019-242	Chatham-Kent	Lindsay Road and Union Line
R#2019-236	Chatham-Kent	664 Isaac Street
R#2019-031	Chatham-Kent	29377 Prangley Road
R#2019-290	Chatham-Kent	53 Water Street
R#2019-260	Chatham-Kent	12298 Wabash Line
R#2019-324	Chatham-Kent	1055 Dufferin Avenue
R#2019-440	Chatham-Kent	6711 Angler Line
R#2019-305	Chatham-Kent	30736 Jane Road
R#2019-306	Chatham-Kent	53 Water Street
R#2019-114	Chatham-Kent	1821 Dufferin Avenue
R#2019-280	Chatham-Kent	214 Margaret Ave
R#2019-116	Chatham-Kent	8502 Wren Line
R#2019-360	Chatham-Kent	29140 Uncle Toms Road
R#2019-066	Chatham-Kent	24 Bank Street
R#2019-326	Chatham-Kent	214 Margaret Avenue
R#2019-273	Chatham-Kent	North Waterfront Reserve
R#2019-218	Dawn-Euphemia	1938 Dobbyn Road
R#2019-351	Dawn-Euphemia	beside 548 Oil Heritage Road
R#2019-210	Dawn-Euphemia	3736 Kent Line
R#2019-307	Dawn-Euphemia	887 Shetland Road
R#2019-361	Dawn-Euphemia	673 Florence Road
R#2019-344	Enniskillen	5600 Courtright Line
R#2019-193	Enniskillen	5502 Oil Springs Line
R#2019-192	Lambton Shores	12 Eureka Street
R#2019-464	Lambton Shores	Ipperwash area
R#2019-269	Lambton Shores	9671 West Ipperwash Road
R#2019-296	Lambton Shores	8320 Lake View Haven Drive
R#2019-240	Lambton Shores	7184 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-414	Lambton Shores	6646 East Parkway Drive
R#2019-317	Lambton Shores	5465 Beach Street
R#2019-115	Lambton Shores	5274 Cliff Road
R#2019-368	Lambton Shores	9731 Army Camp Road
R#2019-073	Lambton Shores	6372 Cottage Way Lane
R#2019-105	Lambton Shores	5476 Huron View Avenue
R#2019-263	Lambton Shores	3 Park Lane
R#2019-308	Middlesex Centre	9528 Gold Creek Drive
R#2019-312	Middlesex Centre	5372 Egremont Road

R#2019-426	Middlesex Centre	10247 Ilderton Road
R#2019-424	Middlesex Centre	5171 Egremont Drive
R#2019-382	Middlesex Centre	Taylor Drain Lobo
R#2019-272	Middlesex Centre	10043 Ilderton Road
R#2019-355	Middlesex Centre	5372 Egremont Road
R#2019-357	Middlesex Centre	Hedley Drive
R#2019-227	Oil Springs	2610 Cook Street
R#2019-258	Petrolia	Tile Yard Road
R#2019-176	Petrolia	428 Chestnut Street
R#2019-352	Petrolia	414 Warren Avenue
R#2019-293	Petrolia	4336 Garden Crescent
R#2019-222	Plympton-Wyoming	5814 Confederation Line
R#2019-229	Plympton-Wyoming	3082 and 3078 Lake View Avenue
R#2019-065	Plympton-Wyoming	3840 Lakeshore Road
R#2018-388	Plympton-Wyoming	3260 Devonshire Road
R#2019-199	Plympton-Wyoming	4566 William Street
R#2019-224	Plympton-Wyoming	5423 Fisher Line
R#2019-364	Plympton-Wyoming	4360 Lambton Lane
R#2019-385	Plympton-Wyoming	Main Street
R#2019-334	Plympton-Wyoming	4094 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-340	Plympton-Wyoming	4090 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-245	Plympton-Wyoming	3256 Devonshire Road
R#2019-370	Plympton-Wyoming	4881 Forsyth Trail
R#2019-287	Plympton-Wyoming	5122 Churchill Line
R#2019-339	Plympton-Wyoming	3236 Devonshire Road
R#2019-398	Plympton-Wyoming	3221 Egremont Road
R#2019-255	Plympton-Wyoming	3096 Lake View Avenue
R#2019-071	Plympton-Wyoming	3949 Point View Drive
R#2019-239	Plympton-Wyoming	5894 Douglas Line
R#2019-425	Plympton-Wyoming	3396 Egremont Road
R#2019-415	Plympton-Wyoming	Hillsboro Beach
R#2019-215	Point Edward	1220 Fort Street
R#2019-335	Sarnia	2271 Lambert Road
R#2019-347	Sarnia	2478 Hamilton Road
R#2019-313	Sarnia	Lake Chipican
R#2019-377	Sarnia	580 Woodrowe Avenue
R#2019-316	Sarnia	2950 Sunset Boulevard
R#2019-435	Sarnia	946 Blackwell Sideroad
R#2019-374	Sarnia	Gladys Street
R#2019-084	Sarnia	594 Beach Lane
R#2019-387	Sarnia	2721 Hamilton Road
R#2019-363	Sarnia	544 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-186	Sarnia	Kenny Street Bridge
R#2019-213	Sarnia	5993 Blackwell SideRoad
R#2019-233	Sarnia	2472 Hamilton Road

R#2019-294	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road
R#2019-231	Sarnia	81 Ube Drive
R#2019-202	Sarnia	550 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-257	Sarnia	226 Gladwish Drive
R#2019-346	Sarnia	2687 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-279	Sarnia	Suncor Sarnia Refinery
R#2019-247	Southwest Middlesex	5789 Century Drive
R#2019-289	Southwest Middlesex	22697 Springfield Road
R#2019-248	Southwest Middlesex	22971 Springfield Road
R#2019-194	Southwest Middlesex	11546 Mid Acres Line
R#2019-332	St. Clair	346 Brooktree Drive
R#2019-383	St. Clair	Old River Road
R#2019-393	St. Clair	80 Kimball Road
R#2019-170	St. Clair	405 Beresford St. Corunna
R#2019-168	St. Clair	947 St. Clair Parkway
R#2019-405	St. Clair	South of LaSalle Line
R#2019-271	St. Clair	474 Moore Street
R#2019-058	St. Clair	4801 St. Clair Parkway
R#2019-253	St. Clair	1630 Bickford Line
R#2019-254	St. Clair	804 Rokeby Line
R#2019-017	St. Clair	1757 Lasalle Line
R#2019-151	St. Clair	667 Wilkesport Line
R#2019-356	St. Clair	3071 Tecumseh Road
R#2019-099	Strathroy-Caradoc	69 Pannell Lane
R#2019-327	Strathroy-Caradoc	148 Queen Street
R#2019-232	Strathroy-Caradoc	535 Head Street
R#2019-397	Strathroy-Caradoc	74 Queen Street
R#2019-267	Strathroy-Caradoc	7030 Calvert Drive
R#2019-278	Strathroy-Caradoc	Cuddy Sports Field & Alexandra Park
R#2019-320	Strathroy-Caradoc	8432 Pauline Crescent
R#2019-416	Strathroy-Caradoc	7030 Calvert Drive
R#2018-142	Strathroy-Caradoc	Union Road
R#2019-322	Strathroy-Caradoc	7938 Walkers Drive
R#2019-221	Warwick	7169 Zion Line
R#2019-401	Warwick	6213 Guy Street
R#2019-388	Warwick	6544 Churchill Line
R#2019-310	Warwick	6293 Warwick Village Road
R#2019-270	Warwick	6841 Zion Line

Total Regulations Inquiries: 137

Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains:

File Reference	Municipality	Drain Name
R#2019-034	Brooke-Alvinston	Kelly Drain Branch 4
R#2019-250	Brooke-Alvinston	Thompson Drain
R#2019-131	Chatham-Kent	Bishop
R#2019-049	Chatham-Kent	Hyatt Fryer Outlet Drain
R#2019-329	Chatham-Kent	Wilmott Drain
R#2019-381	Chatham-Kent	Bear Creek
R#2019-406	Chatham-Kent	Robinson Drain
R#2019-241	Chatham-Kent	Little Bear Creek Drain
R#2019-430	Dawn-Euphemia	to be Evans Drain
R#2019-428	Enniskillen	McFadyen Lots 13-12 Con 1-2
R#2019-463	Enniskillen	Stewart Drain
R#2019-371	Enniskillen	Six Sideroad Drain
R#2019-274	Middlesex Centre	Bear Creek Municipal Drain
R#2019-431	Petrolia	Greenizin Drain
R#2019-375	Petrolia	Greenizin Drain
R#2019-036	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Park Municipal Drain
R#2019-041	Plympton-Wyoming	Errol Road Municipal Drain
R#2019-040	Plympton-Wyoming	Barnes Drain
R#2019-149	Plympton-Wyoming	Kernohan O'Donnell
R#2019-369	Plympton-Wyoming	Toronto Street Drain
R#2019-330	Plympton-Wyoming	Stuurman Drain
R#2019-285	Sarnia	Kember-Smith Drain
R#2019-395	Sarnia	Cole Drain (Cut Off)
R#2019-264	St. Clair	Biox Drain
R#2019-265	St. Clair	Bennett Drain
R#2019-142	St. Clair	Routledge Drain
R#2019-266	St. Clair	Feddes Drain
R#2019-249	St. Clair	Eaves Drain
R#2019-252	Warwick	Conkey Drain - Branch A

Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 29

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 12.2**
Report Date: June 11, 2019
Submitted by: Erica Ogden, Sarah Hodgkiss and Dallas Cundick

Subject: Planning Activity Summary
 April 1, 2019 to May 31, 2019

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

Municipal Plan Input and Review

File Reference: PL#2019-021

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	325 Metcalfe Avenue East		

File Reference: PL#2019-038

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	10222 McCreary Line		

File Reference: PL#2018-016

Municipality:	Dawn-Euphemia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1928 Dawn Valley Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-111

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

File Reference: PL#2018-110

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	First Ave		

File Reference: PL#2019-036

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	B003/19
Property Location:	2624 Mandaumin Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-029

Municipality:	Enniskillen	Municipal Reference:	B002/19
Property Location:	4847 Shiloh Line		

File Reference: PL#2018-078

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

File Reference: PL#2019-042

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	A09-2019
Property Location:	6894 Clemens Line		

File Reference: PL#2019-011

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	ZO-02/2019, B-09/2019, B-10/2019
Property Location:	9532 & 9569 Ipperwash Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-070

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	9731 Army Camp Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-087

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Pt Lt 74&75, Lake Road W		

File Reference: PL#2019-052

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	A15/2019
Property Location:	5138 Cedarview Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-051

Municipality:	Lambton Shores	Municipal Reference:	A14/2019
Property Location:	9665 Agnes Place		

File Reference: PL#2018-102

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

File Reference: PL#2019-057

Municipality:	Oil Springs	Municipal Reference:	B001/19
Property Location:	2614 Frederick Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-056

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	B01/19
Property Location:	4055 Oil Heritage Line		

File Reference: PL#2019-058

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	3935 Tile Yard Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-100

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

File Reference: PL#2018-019

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

File Reference: PL#2019-046

Municipality:	Petrolia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4427 & 4428 Vanderwal Drive		

File Reference: PL#2018-109

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

File Reference: PL#2019-055

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	B04-19
Property Location:	3601 Queen Street		

File Reference: PL#2018-022

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

File Reference: PL#2018-040

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	B-03-19, A-03-19, A-04-19
Property Location:	3236 Devonshire Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-062

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

File Reference: PL#2018-055

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	38T-18003
Property Location:	3424 Egremont Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-116

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

File Reference: PL#2018-112

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

File Reference: PL#2018-066

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	5198 Stewardson Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-041

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	38C-05001
Property Location:	Lakeshore Rd & Egremont Rd		

File Reference: PL#2019-043

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	7150 Bonnie Doone Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-080

Municipality:	Point Edward	Municipal Reference:	B01-2018, B02-2019, B03-2019
Property Location:	1540 Venetian Boulevard		

File Reference: PL#2018-028

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

File Reference: PL#2019-030

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1099 Finch Drive		

File Reference: PL#2018-084

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

File Reference: PL#2018-118

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	ZBA11-2018-85, SD2-2018, CD1-2018
Property Location:	1992 Estella Street		

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#2018-014

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

File Reference: PL#2019-045

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4953 Kimball Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-037

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1994 Blackwell Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-050

Municipality:	Southwest Middlesex	Municipal Reference:	ZBA P6-2019
Property Location:	3355 Lobelia Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-034

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	A09-19
Property Location:	3867 St. Clair Parkway		

File Reference: PL#2019-054

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4737 Old River Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-048

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	52 MacDonald Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-053

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	2274 Smith Line		

File Reference: PL#2019-044

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	2824 Waubuno Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-047

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Polymoore Drive		

File Reference: PL#2018-103

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

File Reference: PL#2018-093

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	24321 Saxton Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-031

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	ZBA 11-2018, B7/2018, B8/2018
Property Location:	2617 Queen Street		

File Reference: PL#2018-106

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

File Reference: PL#2018-074

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

File Reference: PL#2018-017

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

File Reference: PL#2018-026

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	39T-SC1303
Property Location:	Thorn Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-049

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	137 Frank Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-039

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	A9/2019
Property Location:	535 Head Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-040

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	481 Metcalfe Street E		

File Reference: PL#2019-032

Municipality:	Warwick	Municipal Reference:	B-03-19
Property Location:	5433 Bethesda Road		

Total Plan Review Items: 60

Environmental Assessment Review

File Reference: EA#2019-002 Municipality: Sarnia

Proposal:	IBI Group retained by Sarnia to conduct a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for the extension of The Rapids Parkway and Homer Watson Nature Trail
-----------	--

File Reference: EA#2019-003 Municipality: St. Clair

Proposal:	Class C Environmental Assessment for drainage improvements of Hwy 40 at LaSalle Line (St. Clair)
-----------	--

File Reference: EA#2019-004 Municipality: St. Clair

Proposal:	New natural gas pipeline between Enbridge Gas' existing DOW valve site and existing Bluewater Interconnect Transmission Station in Township of St. Clair
-----------	--

Legal Inquiry Summary

LL#2019-023	8422 John Park Lane	Chatham-Kent
LL#2019-019	Baldoon Road	Chatham-Kent
LL#2019-018	70 Beach Street	Lambton Shores
LL#2019-022	1312 Plank Road	Sarnia
LL#2019-021	505 Harbour Road West	Sarnia
LL#2019-020	493 Riverview Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc

Total Legal Inquiries: 6

Meeting Summary

April 9 – Chatham-Kent Planning Department – E. Ogden, S. Hodgkiss
April 10 – Sarnia Business Park EIS – E. Carroll, E. Ogden, S. Hodgkiss
April 30 – Bluewater Subdivision – E. Ogden, S. Hodgkiss
May 8 – PAIRS High School Career Event – E. Ogden
May 14 – Bluewater Subdivision – E. Ogden, S. Hodgkiss
May 15 – North Strathroy Meadows Secondary Plan – E. Ogden, S. Hodgkiss
May 21 – Adelaide-Metcalf Council Meeting – E. Ogden
May 29 – Planning Ecology Working Group at Conservation Halton – S. Hodgkiss

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 12.3**
Report Date: June 14, 2019
Submitted by: Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning

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

Recommendation:

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

Background:

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

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

Kelli Smith completed the CA Level 1 Provincial Offences Officer Course provided by Conservation Ontario, certificate issued March 22, 2019.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 6, 2019
Submitted by: Kelli Smith

Item 12.4

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

Recommendation:

That the board acknowledges and concurs with the April 2019 to May 2019 municipal drain activity report associated with the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART)

Background:

SCRCA DART FILES

2019 APRIL

FHR #	Municipality	Geographic Township	Drain Name	Project Description	SCRs Issued
R#2019-148	Adelaide-Metcalf	Metcalf	Browne Drain	Beaver removal, brushing and cleanout bottom	3
R#2019-183	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	8th Concession Drain	cleanout Plus One Bank Slope (owl)	1
R#2019-184	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Gamble Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope (owl)	1
R#2019-179	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	2nd Concession Road Drain	Bottom Only cleanout with one bank slope (owl)	1
R#2019-182	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Stanlick Babcock Drain	Bottom only cleanout plus one bank slope (owl)	1
R#2019-180	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	3rd Concession Drain	Bottom Only Cleanout Plus one Bank slope (owl)	1

R#2019-188	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Strevel Drain	Bottom Only cleanout Plus One bank Slope (owl)	1
R#2019-160	Dawn-Euphemia	Euphemia	Smoke Drain	culvert replacement	1
R#2019-165	Dawn-Euphemia	Euphemia	Martin Creek Drain	Culvert replacement	1
R#2019-189	Plympton-Wyoming	Plympton	McDonald-Gillatly Drain	Emergency Culvert replacement	1
R#2019-228	St. Clair	Sombra	Bishop Drain	Bottom only cleanout	1

SCRCA DART FILES

2019 MAY

FHR #	Municipality	Geographic Township	Drain Name	Project Description	SCRs Issued
R#2019-297	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke	10-11 Concession Road Drain	culvert replacement	1
R#2019-299	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke	Brooke-Euphemia Townline Drain	culvert replacement	1
R#2019-298	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke	9/10 Sideroad Drain	culvert replacement	1
R#2019-358	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Hebden Drain	Emergency culvert replacement, culvert has replaced due to recent heavy flows and required prompt attention	1
R#2019-359	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn	Naylor Drain	emergency culvert replacement, culvert has collapsed due to	1

				recent heavy flows, requires prompt attention	
R#2019-283	Dawn- Euphemia	Dawn	Sanderson Drain	immediate culvert repair/replacement	1
R#2019-282	Dawn- Euphemia	Dawn	Martin Drain	immediate culvert repair/replacement	1
R#2019-281	Dawn- Euphemia	Dawn	Cuthbertson Drain	immediate culvert repair/replacement	1
R#2019-302	Enniskillen	Enniskillen	Dennis Robertson Drain	bottom cleanout, brushing bank slope, culvert replacement	3
R#2019-300	Enniskillen	Enniskillen	Black Creek Drain	culvert replacement	1
R#2019-301	Enniskillen	Enniskillen	Plympton McLachlan Drain	bottom cleanout brushing bank slope	2
R#2019-413	Lambton Shores	Warwick	Shawana Drain	bottom only cleanout, brushing bank slope	2
R#2019-378	Middlesex Centre	Lobo	Dale Drain	bottom only cleanout	1
R#2019-409	Sarnia	Sarnia	Alex Szucs Drain	bottom only cleanout, brushing bank clope. Debris removal, brushing top of bank	4
R#2019-410	Sarnia	Sarnia	Craig Drain	bottom cleanout, brushing bank slope	2
R#2019-411	Sarnia	Sarnia	4th Concession drain	bottom cleanout, brushing bank slope, culvert replacement	3

R#2019-407	Sarnia	Sarnia	Park Maitland Drain	bottom cleanout, brushing bank slope, brushing top of bank	3
R#2019-412	Sarnia	Sarnia	McRitchie Drain	spot cleanout, brushing bank slope, brushing top of bank	3
R#2019-408	Sarnia	Sarnia	Beer Drain	bank repair or stabilization and outlet repair, debris removal, bottom only cleanout	4

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 12.5**
Report Date: June 17, 2019
Submitted by: Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations

Subject: SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process

Recommendation:

That the board acknowledges and concurs with the report dated June 17, 2019, associated with the SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process.

Background:

Improving Level of Service and Efficiency in SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process:

Kelli Smith, an SCRCA staff member within the Biology Department who coordinates SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Reviews, has recently completed regulations training to be qualified as a Provincial Offences Officer. This will enable the SCRCA to provide an improved level of service and efficiency by having a regulations trained staff member dedicated to coordinating Municipal Drainage Act review. This allows the SCRCA to have a single point of contact to provide regulations review and approvals on all drain related matters.

In order to provide more clarity to our process of drain review, please find attached the SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process and related covering letter that outlines our process moving forward. Also attached is the SCRCA Drain Enclosure and Wetland Policies.

This information was forwarded to Drainage Superintendents for Municipalities within the watershed boundary of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) on June 17, 2019.

**Member
Municipalities**Township of
Adelaide-MetcalfMunicipality of
Brooke-AlvinstonMunicipality of
Chatham-KentTownship of
Dawn-EuphemiaTownship of
EnniskillenMunicipality of
Lambton ShoresMunicipality of
Middlesex CentreVillage of
NewburyVillage of
Oil SpringsTown of
PetroliaTown of
Plympton-WyomingVillage of
Point EdwardCity of
SarniaMunicipality of
Southwest MiddlesexTownship of
St. ClairMunicipality of
Strathroy-CaradocTownship of
Warwick

Sent by e-mail only

June 17, 2019

To: Drainage Superintendents for Municipalities within the watershed boundary of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA)**RE:** SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process

In order to streamline the review time and create a seamless understanding of the policies and procedures in regards to the drain review, comment and compliance requirements surrounding drain maintenance and repair, new drain petitions and improvements to existing drains, SCRCA staff is providing this correspondence.

SCRCA staff are certain that this outline of our process and procedures will reduce frustration and improve the understanding around the regulatory framework in the hopes of reducing delays and improving service standards for the review of drain projects.

Please note that there are no real changes to what SCRCA staff review or approve, just small changes to the way our application process and written approvals appear, to be more efficient and transparent. We are hopefully that increased involvement and required information upfront in the process will reduce any potential complications.

SCRCA staff are required to follow board-approved policies. The two documents that may affect drain review are the Section 28 Drain Enclosures Policy and the Section 28 Wetland Policy. Both of these policy documents will be used as appropriate to review Municipal drain related improvements or petitions, etc. within or adjacent to wetlands and for enclosures.

Please feel free to contact me for any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,



Dallas Cundick
Manager of Planning
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
(519) 245-3710 Ext. 223



Michelle Gallant
Regulations Officer
519-245-3710 ext. 254
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

Encl. SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process Letter
SCRCA Section 28 Drain Enclosure Policy
SCRCA Section 28 Wetland Policy
Stand-Alone CA Act S. 28 Regulation Permit Application Process

Cc: Jim Reeve, Township of Adelaide-Metcalf
Ray Dobbin, Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston and Township of Enniskillen
Tim Dick, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Paul Dalton, Township of Dawn-Euphemia
Stephen McCauley, Municipality of Lambton Shores
Dan Anderson, Municipality of Middlesex Centre
Mike Noe, Village of Newbury
Jennifer Turk, Village of Oil Springs
Brian Hansen, Town of Petrolia
Lynda Thornton, Town of Plympton-Wyoming
Arnold Hoekstra, Town of Plympton-Wyoming
Jim Burns, Village of Point Edward
David Moores, City of Sarnia
Elizabeth Cummings, Township of Southwest Middlesex
Lucas DePooter, St. Clair Township
Matt Stephenson, Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
Andrew Maver, Township of Warwick

Member Municipalities

Township of
Adelaide-Metcalf

Municipality of
Brooke-Alvinston

Municipality of
Chatham-Kent

Township of
Dawn-Euphemia

Township of
Enniskillen

Municipality of
Lambton Shores

Municipality of
Middlesex Centre

Village of
Newbury

Village of
Oil Springs

Town of
Petrolia

Town of
Plympton-Wyoming

Village of
Point Edward

City of
Sarnia

Municipality of
Southwest Middlesex

Township of
St. Clair

Municipality of
Strathroy-Caradoc

Township of
Warwick

SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process Letter

Municipal Drain Maintenance and Repair (Section 74) DART Protocol

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), in cooperation with the Drainage Act & (Section 28) Regulations Team (DART), have created a protocol to provide guidance on how to meet the requirements of the *Drainage Act* (DA) and *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) for drain maintenance and repair.

- The Drainage Superintendent (DS) is to provide the latest drain maintenance or repair notification form to St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) staff as well as other Conservation Authorities (CA's) having jurisdiction over the area where the drainage works are proposed for review.
- SCRCA staff will provide the signed form stating they have received the notification and if the works meet the requirements under DART, the Standard Compliance Requirement (SCR) that will be sent to the DS constitutes the appropriate permission under *Ontario Regulation 171/06* (O. Reg. 171/06) pursuant to the CAA.

The turnaround time for this service is 15 working days, and can be quicker in an emergency situation. SCRCA staff preference is for any open channel work to be done within the sediment and erosion control timing windows (between June 15 and September 15, in any given year, not exclusive of other agency timing windows) and would prefer if the notification is presented closer to the time that the work is planned. Some maintenance activities that prevent repair work can be done at any time such as brushing, sediment and erosion control fencing installation etc.

SCRCA Fees

The 2019 SCRCA fee for this service is \$275.00 but staff have the discretion to reduce this fee to \$50.00 if in the opinion of SCRCA staff, the maintenance is minor (ex. small Beaver Dam or obstruction removals). The fee for Major DART Review, which would only be implemented in cases involving wetlands, is \$695.00. The SCRCA Board Approved Fee Schedule will be updated yearly and is available on our website.

<https://www.scrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/planning-regs-Fees.pdf>

Improving Upon Examination and Report of Engineer (DA Section 77-78) and Petition Drains (Section 4-5)

Pre-Consultation

1. The proposed drainage works shall be provided to each CA with jurisdiction over the lands where the works are to be proposed 30 days before the appointment of an engineer for drain improvements or within 30 days after filing of the petition;
2. If not initially provided to SCRCA, a draft site plan and profile shall be provided to the SCRCA for the works once it is clear what the proposal will be;
3. It is preferred that the Engineer who was appointed provides to SCRCA staff the location and draft plan of the proposed works if known. If the Engineer could provide the watershed of the last report with information regarding what the petitioner has requested, SCRCA staff will be more able to provide initial comments with regards to policy specific to the site at the onsite meeting. SCRCA staff understand that the scope of the project is not generally known at this point and may change at a later date.
4. Once SCRCA staff receive enough information with which to review the proposal, SCRCA staff will review the proposed works and either:
 - a. Provide a response that will include:
 - i. Whether or not a SCRCA Permit is required and request an application form signed by the Municipality;
 - ii. What the fee will be, to be invoiced twice per year.
 - b. If the works require further review, contain a watercourse enclosure (see definition of watercourse and watercourse enclosure below) or if, in the opinion of SCRCA staff, the works will interfere with the hydrology of a wetland, SCRCA staff will outline the requirements for review. This may involve providing SCRCA staff with more information to carry out their review under O. Reg. 171/06 pursuant to the CAA, which in no way is to be construed as asking for an EA under section 6(1) of the DA.
 - i. If SCRCA staff can provide written permission for the works, the fee and implementation strategy will be outlined at that time.

Drain Enclosures

In general, watercourse enclosures are discouraged under the SCRCA Board Approved Drain Enclosure Policy, (see attachment to this letter/email), but will be permitted where there is an existing risk to public safety and/or potential structure damage, where such works would significantly improve existing hydrological or ecological conditions or where acceptable justification has been provided to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the interference is acceptable on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions of the watercourse.

Other feasible options need to be explored for improvements that do not include an enclosure. What was explored and why it is not appropriate will need to be supplied with the application documents if an enclosure that doesn't meet the Drain Enclosure Policy is requested. Farm efficiency is generally not an acceptable justification for a watercourse

enclosure. Keeping a natural channel buffer of a reasonable width will also increase farm safety. In addition to farm safety, buffers provide a reduction in erosion, topsoil loss carried by runoff and wind, nutrient and pollutants runoff, improved pollinator habitat and many other ecological and farm management benefits. Vegetated buffers reduce the amount of water entering into a drainage system and slows the velocity of the remaining surface water, thereby reducing erosion and reducing peak flows. As outlined above, acceptable justification has to be provided to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the interference is acceptable on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions of the watercourse, thereby demonstrating that the benefit of the enclosure would outweigh the increase to potential natural hazards for SCRCA staff to consider a watercourse enclosure.

Wetlands Affected by Drainage Works

As part of the review of an application, the SCRCA may suggest the preparation of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to aid in the review with regards to an interference with a wetland. An EIS is a mechanism for assessing impacts to address the suitability of a proposal for the review under O. Reg. 171/06 pursuant to the CAA, which is in no way is to be construed as asking for an EA under section 6(1) of the DA. The submission of an EIS does not guarantee approval of the works. An EIS must be carried out by a qualified professional, with recognized expertise in the appropriate area of concern, shall be prepared using established procedures, and recognized methodologies to the satisfaction of the SCRCA.

The Wetland Policy (attached to this letter/email) provides additional details on what an EIS may contain and the proponent may request a Terms of Reference (TOR) if required.

The SCRCA will review any drainage works with respect to mapped or unmapped wetlands that meet the text of the regulation and adjacent areas to ensure that in general, all development (see definition below) can occur outside and be set back an appropriate distance from the wetland boundaries.

Once SCRCA staff receives a Permit application, we will confirm whether the application is complete, or provide information regarding additional requirements within 21 days of receiving the pre-consultation preliminary plans. This process can re-occur if further information that is provided indicates additional requirements may be necessary.

Whether or not an application is considered complete or not can be appealed to the General Manager/Secretary. At any time, this request can be put to SCRCA staff.

Permits

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

The SCRCA may grant permission for development if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the control of flooding, erosion, pollution or the conservation of land will not be adversely affected. The SCRCA may grant permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel or a river, creek, stream or watercourse or to change or interfere with a wetland if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the interference is acceptable. SCRCA staff will either provide a Permit for a complete application that meets SCRCA policy within 30 working days for a minor application or 90 days for a major application.

Previously, SCRCA staff helped member municipalities meet regulatory requirements by issuing Letters of Review (LOR) for SCRCA authorization for Municipal Drain Works for projects where DART does not apply (Drainage Act, S. 4: Petition Drains and S. 78: Improvements). The Letter of Review will now be replaced with a SCRCA Permit including general and specific conditions for development. This change is possible as SCRCA staff within the Biology Department coordinating Municipal Drain review recently completed regulations training to be qualified as a Provincial Offences Officer. This will enable the SCRCA to provide an improved level of service and efficiency by having a regulations trained staff member dedicated to coordination of Municipal Drain review.

Once a complete application has been provided, which would include the application form, the Engineer's report, and or any additional required reports or studies, SCRCA staff will either:

1. Provide a SCRCA Permit within 30 days. (See attached Stand Alone CA Act S. 28 Regulation Permit Application Process).
2. Indicate within 21 days that a complete application does not meet Authority Policy and give the proponent the ability to change the application or appeal the decision to the Regulations Committee.

If the complete application cannot be supported by SCRCA staff because it does not meet SCRCA Policy, the proponent has the right to alter the plans, provide requested supporting documentation or request a SCRCA Regulations Committee Hearing.

SCRCA Regulations Committee

Any proposal that does not meet the policies in effect at the time can be reviewed by the SCRCA Regulations Committee. The SCRCA regulations committee meeting is an internal

review by SCRCA staff of a complete application and a decision will be provided that is based on the documents that were provided in the application.

Drain Enclosures – Further Details on Complete Applications

Some of the key requirements and documentation over and above the application form and Plan and Profile preliminary drawings that would be required for a completed application submission related to an enclosure is outlined in the Drain Enclosure Policy and includes but is not limited to:

- Evidence that the enclosure is intended to improve conditions relating to a risk to public safety (from natural hazards, i.e. risk from active flooding and erosion) and/or potential property damage;
- Supportive engineered technical documentation stating that there are no negative or adverse impacts on the hydrologic function(s) of the watercourse as a closed system and that all feasible alternative options and methods have been explored;
- Supportive technical documentation provided by an appropriate professional (as deemed by SCRCA staff) demonstrating that there are no negative or adverse impacts on the ecological functions of the watercourse;
- A Technical Memo outlining all of the alternatives to an enclosure that were considered and documentation signed by an engineer as to why these alternatives are not appropriate;
- The Application Review Fee (\$925.00 as per SCRCA 2019 Fee Schedule).

The above considerations are not a complete list of application requirements but provide the critical requirements for any potential enclosure. Additional documentation might be required after reviewing this submission.

This decision from the SCRCA Regulations Committee can also be appealed to a hearing in front of the Authority Board.

Right to Hearing

In accordance with Section 28 (12) of the Conservation Authorities Act, permission required under Ontario Regulation 171/06, as amended, shall not be refused or granted subject to conditions unless the person requesting the permission has been given the opportunity for a hearing (by request) before the Authority, or if the Authority so directs, before the Authority's Executive Committee.

Please note that a hearing can only be scheduled once an application is deemed complete. The SCRCA fee for a hearing request as of 2019 is \$580.00. Please note fees are updated annually.

Fees

The SCRCA fee for a Drainage Act Engineer's Report review as of 2019 is \$350.00. This fee will include any Permit required that is not a drain enclosure, and/or within or adjacent to a wetland. The fee for a Permit that includes works that is inconsistent with Policy will be \$925.00 in addition to the Drainage Act Engineer's Report Review Fee. If the works do not meet SCRCA policy and the Engineer wishes to provide additional reports, there may be additional report review fees. The 2019 fee for the review of an EIS range between \$550.00 and \$3,465.00, the Terms of Reference Fee is \$300.00, and Engineering Studies or Technical Report Review Fees range from \$350.00 for Standard Works and \$585.00 for Major Works (complex features and major potential impact). The SCRCA Board Approved Fee Schedule will be updated yearly and is available on our website.

Definitions

Under the CAA Section 28(25), a **watercourse** means an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs.

A watercourse also includes municipal drains, and intermittent or ephemeral creeks. Watercourses are dynamic, living systems with complex processes that are constantly undergoing change. Watercourses may need to be confirmed by SCRCA staff through field investigation by considering matters such as flow assessment, channel form and aquatic habitat.

From the Drain Enclosure Policy.

Enclosure – is defined as a pipe or other conduit designed to entomb a watercourse underground, but shall not include crossings. Crossings shall include but are not limited to bridges, culverts, pipelines, and channel enclosures of less than 20 metres (66 feet).

Under the CAA Section 28(25) a **wetland** means land that:

- a) is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has a water table close to or at its surface;
- b) directly contributes to the hydrological function of a watershed through connection with a surface watercourse;
- c) has hydric soils, the formation of which has been caused by the presence of abundant water, and;
- d) has vegetation dominated by hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants, the dominance of which has been favoured by the presence of abundant water but does not include periodically soaked or wet land that is used for agricultural

purposes and no longer exhibits a wetland characteristic referred to in clause (c) or (d).

Under the CAA Section 28(25) **development** means:

- a) the construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure of any kind or;
- b) any change to a building or structure that would have the effect of altering the use or potential use of the building or structure, increasing the size of the building or structure or increasing the number of dwelling units in the building or structure or;
- c) site grading or;
- d) the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material, originating on the site or elsewhere.

Under O. Reg. 171/06 Section 5: Subject to section 6, no person shall straighten, change, divert or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or change or interfere in any way with a wetland.

Under the Wetland Policy: **interference in any way** is interpreted as:

- a) “any anthropogenic act or instance which hinders, disrupts, degrades or impedes in any way the natural features or hydrologic and ecologic functions of a wetland or watercourse” (March 2008)

SCRCA SECTION 28 DRAIN ENCLOSURES POLICY

SCRCA Policies and Procedures of Administration of Section 28 Regulations

Drain Enclosures Policies

Drainage Act

The Drainage Act is administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and is implemented by the local municipality. The Drainage Act defines the terms by which a drainage project may be initiated and prescribes the various stages of the procedure (e.g. engineer's report, consultation, appeals, construction) that must be followed by municipalities in the development of municipal drainage infrastructure. The local municipality is also responsible for the maintenance, repair and management of the drainage systems that are developed through this procedure.

Since 1949, drainage petitions for new drains and improvements to existing drains are circulated to Conservation Authorities (CAs) for comment as required under the Drainage Act S. 4 and S. 78 respectively. Under section 4 of the Drainage Act, the local municipality, CAs, or Ministry of Natural resources may require an environmental appraisal for new drainage works, the cost thereof shall be paid by the party who requested it. Once an engineer's report has been drafted for the proposed drainage works, the Drainage Act provides CAs with a right to appeal the proposed project to the Drainage Tribunal.

As some drains meet the definition of a 'watercourse' under Section 28 of the CA Act, CA written permissions (permits) may be required for new drainage works and drain improvements, maintenance and repair activities, as per the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART)

The DART Protocol has been developed to provide provincially-approved guidance to conservation authority staff and municipal representatives (e.g. drainage superintendents) regarding the most appropriate practices and permit requirements for municipal drain maintenance and repair activities. The protocol includes a set of Standard Compliance Requirements for regular repair and maintenance activities that, if followed, would serve as the written permission to proceed with work under the CA Act. As such, it allows for a streamlining of the approval process from an administrative perspective.

Interference with a Watercourse

Watercourses are defined under the CA Act, as an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs. A watercourse also includes municipal drains, and intermittent or ephemeral creeks. Watercourses are dynamic, living systems with complex processes that are constantly undergoing change.

The area along both sides of any river, creek, stream or watercourse, called the riparian zone, not only provides habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna, it also filters surface runoff before it reaches open waterways. As runoff passes through, the riparian zone retains excess nutrients, some pollutants and reduces the sediment flow. A healthy zone can also keep stream flow going even during the dry seasons, by holding and releasing groundwater back into the stream. This interface between terrestrial and aquatic environments acts as a sponge for storing water, which in turn helps to reduce flooding and shelters the banks against shoreline erosion. Alterations to the channel of a watercourse can negatively impact the hydrologic and ecological features and functions provided by riparian zones.

Watercourses may need to be confirmed by SCRCA through field investigation by considering matters such as flow assessment, channel form and aquatic habitat.

The CA Act and Ontario Regulation 171/06 use the wording “in any way” when describing change or interference with a watercourse. Activities proposed within the watercourse boundary that could interfere in any way with the watercourse, including both those activities that meet the definition of development and those that do not necessarily meet the definition of development are regulated as described in sections 5 and 6 of the regulation. An example of an activity that does not strictly meet the definition of development and could represent interference is vegetation removal. Consistent with the interpretation by MNR/Conservation Ontario Section 28 Regulation Committee (2008) interference in any way is interpreted by SCRCA as any anthropogenic act or instance which hinders, disrupts, degrades or impedes in any way the natural features or hydrologic and ecological functions of a watercourse.

To receive permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere in any way with a watercourse area under SCRCA Ontario Regulation 171/06 it must be demonstrated in an application to the satisfaction of the SCRCA, that the interference will not result in an unacceptable interference in terms of the natural features or hydrologic and ecological functions.

Implementation Guidelines for Drain Enclosures

The following outlines the specific policies for implementing Ontario Regulation 171/06 with respect to Drain Enclosures.

Enclosure – is defined as a pipe or other conduit designed to entomb a watercourse underground, but shall not include crossings. Crossings shall include but are not limited to bridges, culverts, pipelines, and channel enclosures of less than 20 metres (66 feet).

1. In general, drain enclosures are discouraged, but will be permitted where there is an existing risk to public safety and/or potential property damage, where such works would significantly improve existing hydrological or ecological conditions, or where acceptable justification has been provided to the satisfaction of the Conservation Authority that the interference is acceptable on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions. Proposed enclosures should generally demonstrate that;
 - a. all feasible alternative options and methods have been explored;
 - b. the risk to public safety is not increased;
 - c. susceptibility to natural hazards is not increased and no new hazards are created;
 - d. there is no negative impact on wetlands;
 - e. there are no negative or adverse impacts on hydrologic and ecological functions,
 - f. the enclosure does not increase floodplain elevations, flood frequency, erosion rates or erosion frequency upstream and/or downstream of the enclosure;
 - g. the enclosure is designed to ensure that the storage capacity of the floodplain is maintained or improved;
 - h. pollution, sedimentation and erosion during construction and post construction is minimized using best management practices including site and infrastructure design, construction controls, and appropriate remedial measures;
 - i. intrusions within or adjacent to the drain are minimized and it can be demonstrated that best management practices including site design and appropriate remedial

measures will adequately restore and enhance features and functions to the extent possible;

- j. there is no negative impact on the downstream thermal regime;
- k. there is no inhibition of fish passage and no net loss of fish habitat;
- l. works are constructed, repaired and/or maintained according to accepted engineering principles and approved engineering standards or to the satisfaction of the SCRCA, whichever is applicable based on the scale and scope of the project;

SCRCA SECTION 28 WETLAND POLICY

SCRCA Policies and Procedures of Administration of Section 28 Regulations Wetland Policies

Definitions section (Source: Section 28 CA Act)

Development means:

- a) the construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure of any kind,
- b) any change to a building or structure that would have the effect of altering the use or potential use of the building or structure, increasing the size of the building or structure or increasing the number of dwelling units in the building or structure,
- c) site grading, or
- d) the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material, originating on the site or elsewhere.

Pollution means:

“...any deleterious physical substance or other contaminant that has the potential to be generated by development in an area to which a regulation made under clause (1) (c) applies”

Watercourse means:

“... an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs”

Wetland means land that (Note: Must meet all 4 tests below):

- a) is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has a water table close to or at its surface,
- b) directly contributes to the hydrological function of a watershed through connection with a surface watercourse,
- c) has hydric soils, the formation of which has been caused by the presence of abundant water, and
- d) has vegetation dominated by hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants, the dominance of which has been favoured by the presence of abundant water,

but does not include periodically soaked or wet land that is used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits a wetland characteristic referred to in clause (c) or (d).

In addition, the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 97/04 do not define “Interference” nor was any definition found in any other planning document; hence, the **interpretation** below was developed by the Ministry of Natural Resources/ Conservation Ontario Section 28 Peer Review and Implementation Committee. Under the Regulation, “interference” only applies to projects within watercourses and wetlands.

Interference in any way is interpreted as:

“any anthropogenic act or instance which hinders, disrupts, degrades or impedes in any way the natural features or hydrologic and ecologic functions of a wetland or watercourse” (March 2008).

The common uses of words in this interpretation can be found in the Oxford Dictionary as follows:

Hinder means: to delay or impede

Disrupt means: to interrupt or disturb (an activity or process)

Degrade means: lower the character or quality of

Impede means: delay or block the progress or action of

For example, vegetation removal within a wetland boundary could be a regulation activity of “*interference in any way*” described under CAA Section 1(b) prohibiting, regulating or requiring the permission of the authority for straightening, changing, diverting or interfering in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse, or for changing or interfering in any way with a wetland; (As per MNR/CO Section 28 Peer Review and Implementation Committee interpretation March 2008)

1.0 WETLANDS AND OTHER AREAS

1.1 St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Regulation 171/06

The SCRCA Regulation 171/06 contains the following sections dealing with wetlands.

“Development prohibited

- 2.(1) Subject to section 3, no person shall undertake development or permit another person to undertake development in or on areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority that are:
 - d) wetlands or...
 - e) other areas where development could interfere with the hydrologic function of a wetland, including areas within 120 m of all provincially significant wetlands, and areas within 30 metres of all other wetlands;

“Permission to develop

- 3.(1) The Authority may grant permission for development in or on the areas described in subsection 2(1) if, in its opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development.”

“Alterations prohibited

5. Subject to section 6, no person shall ... change or interfere in any way with a wetland.”

“Permission to alter

- 6.(1) The Authority may grant a person permission ...to change or interfere with a wetland.
- 6.(2) The permission of the Authority shall be given in writing, with or without conditions.

1.2 Additional Definitions and Interpretations

A wetland means land that a) is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has a water table close to or at its surface, b) directly contributes to the hydrological function of a watershed through connection with a surface watercourse, c) has hydric soils, the formation of which has been caused by the presence of abundant water, and d) has vegetation dominated by hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants, the dominance of which has been favoured by the presence of abundant water, but does not include periodically soaked or wet land that is used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits a wetland characteristic referred to in clause c) or d).

It should be noted that the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the individual CA Regulations all use the wording “in any way” when describing change or interference with a wetland. Activities proposed within the wetland boundary that could interfere in any way with the wetland, including both those activities that meet the definition of “development” and those that do not necessarily meet the definition of “development” are regulated as described in Sections 5 and 6 of the Regulation. An example of an activities that does not strictly meet the definition of “development” and could represent interference is vegetation removal.

There are a variety of sources for identifying wetlands. Many wetlands have been identified through the provincial wetland evaluation program. Conservation Authorities may also identify wetlands as part of other watershed programs such as environmentally significant area and ecological land classification (ELC) mapping. Soils mapping (i.e. OMAFRA) may also be useful in identifying organic soils which would indicate the potential of wetlands.

The province uses the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES), originally developed in 1983, to identify and evaluate wetlands primarily to support land use planning processes under the *Planning Act*. The OWES currently consists of two manuals: the Southern Ontario Wetland Evaluation System and the Northern Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (MNR, 1993a; and MNR, 1993b). While many components of the manuals are similar, differences between the evaluation manuals reflect differences in climate, geomorphology, hydrology, human uses and other factors between these two parts of the province. Wetlands identified and evaluated using the OWES can be a valuable resource for implementing Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, however, it is important to note that a wetland must meet the definition of ‘wetland’ within the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

1.3 Discussion of Wetlands and Other Areas

To provide guidance in the regulating of wetlands and the associated allowances, it is necessary to highlight the functions of wetlands.

1.3.1 Functions of Wetlands

Wetlands provide functions that have both ecosystem and human values. From an ecosystem perspective these include primary production, sustaining biodiversity, wildlife habitat, habitat for species at risk, maintenance of natural cycles (carbon, water) and food chains. From a human perspective, wetlands provide social and economic values such as flood attenuation, recreation opportunities, production of valuable products, improvement of water quality and educational benefits.

Wetlands retain waters during periods of high water levels or peak flows (i.e. spring freshet and storm events) allowing the water to be slowly released into the watercourse, infiltrate into the ground, and evaporate. As well, wetlands within the floodplain of a watercourse provide an area for the storage of flood waters and reduce the energy associated with the flood waters.

Wetlands retain and modify nutrients, chemicals and silt in surface and groundwater thereby

improving water quality. This occurs temporarily in the plants of the wetland but long term in the organic soils.

In addition, wetlands provide a variety of hydrologic functions. Over 60 potential hydrological functions have been identified for wetlands when developing the Southern Ontario Wetland Evaluation System. However, confirmation of many of these functions requires hydrological experts and field studies by qualified hydrologists. Therefore, the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System utilizes easily identifiable features and measures as surrogate values for these hydrological features.

1.3.2 Development and Interference

Development in wetlands has the potential to interfere with many of the natural features or ecological functions of wetlands. Development may remove or impact wildlife species and their habitat, degrade or remove natural vegetation communities and impair water quality and quantity in both surface and groundwater. As a result, development within wetlands can impact conservation of land.

Portions of wetlands may also be regulated due to presence of hazardous lands such as regulated floodplains or unstable soils. The applicable sections of SCRCA guideline documents should be referenced with respect to these hazards.

Removal, filling, dredging, or changing the hydrologic regime of wetlands (e.g. ponds or drains) can result in reducing the capacity of wetlands to retain water. This can result in higher flows in watercourses with resulting increases in flooding and erosion. As well, with no ability to retain water, the ability to recharge the aquifer is reduced, and the hydrologic cycle is modified.

Many wetlands develop on organic soils and, as a result, when reviewing development within a wetland, the soil composition should be reviewed. Where the soils are organic then Hazardous Lands should also be reviewed and the policies from this section should be incorporated in the decision making of the SCRCA.

Pollution from development in the form of improperly installed or maintained septic systems or urban runoff has the potential to interfere with the wetland. Proposals to drain stormwater management facilities into wetlands do not benefit the wetland through constant flows for dilution and moving particulate matter. Nutrients, chemicals, and sediments could enter the wetland impeding the function of the wetland.

When reviewing an application with respect to **interference** or **development**, the evaluation done under the OWES may be used as an information resource because it identifies the features and functions of the wetland. It should be noted that when reviewing application with respect to **development** under the Regulation, the significance of the wetland as determined by the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System is not a reason to deny or approve the application. The application must be reviewed with respect to the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, dynamic beaches or the conservation of land.

Many individual and cumulative hydrologic impacts to a wetland commonly occur within the catchment area of the wetland. It is important to consider the linkages between small wetlands and headwater areas, impacts of stormwater, and upstream constrictions to flow. Impacts to the hydrologic function of a wetland due to development within the “other areas” may also result from changes in imperviousness/infiltration due to a removal or change in vegetation, soil compaction during construction, disruption or alteration of groundwater flow paths due to underground construction, etc.

Ontario Regulation 171/06 specifies that the regulated area extends 120 metres from the limit of Provincially Significant Wetlands and 30 metres from the limit of all other wetlands for all CAs.

1.3.3 Technical Analysis

1.3.3.1 “Interfere in Any Way”

As part of the review of an application, a CA may request an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) to address Interference with a wetland. An EIS is a mechanism for assessing impacts to determine the suitability of a proposal. The submission of an EIS does not guarantee approval of the works. An EIS must be carried out by a qualified professional, with recognized expertise in the appropriate area of concern and shall be prepared using established procedures and recognized methodologies to the satisfaction of the CA. Appendix F provides additional details on what an EIS may contain.

1.4 Implementation Guidelines for Wetlands and Other Area

The following sections outline guidelines for implementing the SCRCA’s Regulation with respect to wetlands and “other areas”. The SCRCA, in its role through the planning process, should review planning applications to ensure that, in general, all development can occur outside and be set back an appropriate distance from the wetland boundaries.

1.4.1 Development and Interference Within Wetlands

- 1) In general, development and interference shall not be permitted within wetlands;
- 2) In general, new ponds and drains shall not be permitted within wetlands;
- 3) In general, stormwater management facilities shall not be permitted within wetlands;
- 4) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.1 1), public infrastructure (e.g. roads, sewers, flood and erosion control works) and various utilities (e.g. pipelines) may be permitted within a wetland subject to the activity being approved through a satisfactory Environmental Assessment process and/ or if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the control of flooding,

erosion, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected and the interference on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;

- 5) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.1 1), conservation or restoration projects may be permitted within a wetland if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the control of flooding, erosion, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected and the interference on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 6) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.1 1), development associated with public parks (e.g. passive or low intensity outdoor recreation and education, trail system) may be permitted within a wetland if it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the SCRCA that the control of flooding, erosion, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected and the interference on the natural features and hydrologic and ecological functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA.

1.4.2 Development Within “Other Areas” (Areas of Interference/Adjacent Lands within which Development may interfere with the Hydrologic Function of the Wetland)

The regulated area as defined within Ontario Regulation 171/06 extends 120 metres from the limit of *provincially significant wetlands (PSW)* and 30 metres from the limit of all other *wetlands*. These areas are regulated as *development* may interfere with the *hydrologic function* of the wetland. It is important to note that the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate that the development will not result in a hydrologic interference. If there is concern that development could interfere with the *hydrologic function* of a wetland, the control of flooding, erosion, pollution, dynamic beaches and conservation of land should also be considered prior to making a decision on the permit application.

1.4.2.1 Area Within 30 Metres of a PSW and all other Wetlands

- 1) In general, development shall not be permitted within 30 metres of the boundary of the wetland;
- 2) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), public infrastructure (e.g. roads, sewers, flood and erosion control works) and various utilities (e.g. pipelines) may be permitted within 30 metres of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 3) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), conservation or restoration projects may be permitted within 30 metres of a wetland if the

interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;

- 4) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), development associated with public parks (e.g. passive or low intensity outdoor recreation and education, trail system) may be permitted within 30 meters of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 5) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), single family buildings or structures may be permitted within 30 metres of a wetland on vacant lots of record if the interference on the hydrologic function of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA. An EIS to assess the hydrologic impact shall be required if the submitted plans do not demonstrate the following:
 - a) All development (including grading) is located outside the regulated wetland and maintains as much setback as feasible;
 - b) Disturbances to natural vegetation communities contributing to the hydrologic function of the wetland are avoided;
 - c) The overall existing drainage patterns for the lot will be maintained;
 - d) Disturbed area and soil compaction is minimized;
 - e) Development is located above the high water table;
 - f) All septic systems are located a minimum of 15 metres from the wetland and a minimum of 0.9 m above the water table;
 - g) Impervious areas are minimized;
 - h) Best Management Practices are used to:
 - i) maintain water balance
 - ii) control sediment and erosion
 - iii) buffer wetlands
- 6) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), structural repairs to an existing building or structure may be permitted within 30 meters of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 7) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), development associated with the construction or reconstruction of a building or structure may be permitted

within 30 meters of a wetland if there are no reasonable alternatives for locating the building or structure outside of the 30 metre setback and if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;

- 8) Notwithstanding Section 1.4.2.1 1), development may be permitted within 30 meters of a wetland if the proposed development does not encroach further into the setback from the wetland boundary than existing development and if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;

1.4.2.2

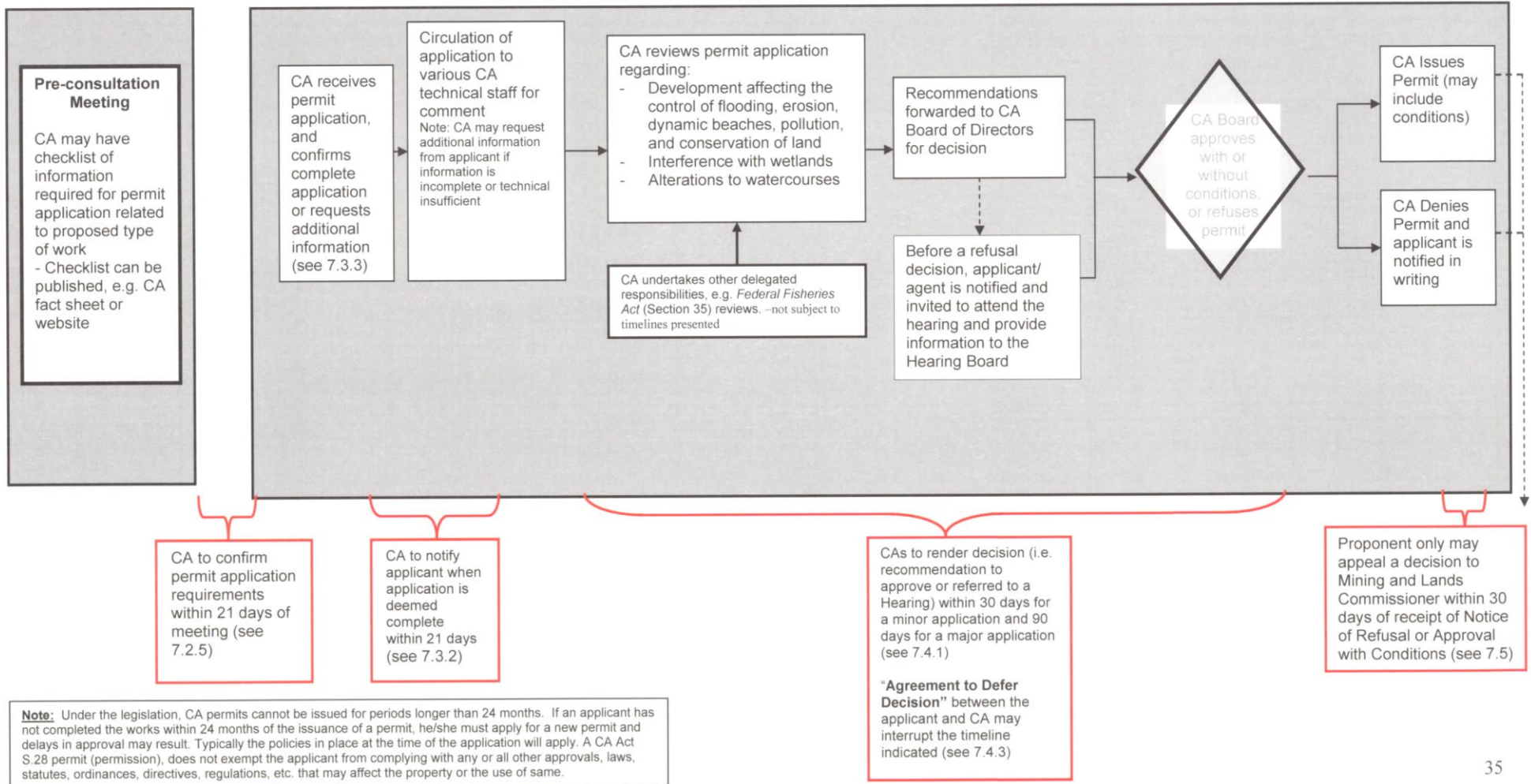
Area Between 30 Metres to 120 Metres of a Provincially Significant Wetland

- 1) In general, development may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 2) Further to Section 1.4.2.2 1), public infrastructure (e.g. roads, sewers, flood and erosion control works) and various utilities (e.g. pipelines) may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland subject to the activity being approved through a satisfactory Environmental Assessment process and/or if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 3) Further to Section 1.4.2.2 1), conservation or restoration projects may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 4) Further to Section 1.4.2.2 1), development associated with public parks (e.g. passive or low intensity outdoor recreation and education, trail system) may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA;
- 5) Further to Section 1.4.2.2 1), single family buildings or structures may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland on vacant lots of record if the interference on the hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA. An EIS to assess the hydrologic impact shall be required if the submitted plans do not demonstrate the following:
 - a) All development (including grading) is located outside the 30 m

setback from the regulated wetland and maintains as much setback as feasible;

- b) Disturbances to natural vegetation communities contributing to the hydrologic function of the wetland are avoided;
 - c) The overall existing drainage patterns for the lot will be maintained;
 - d) Disturbed area and soil compaction is minimized;
 - e) Development is located above the high water table;
 - f) All septic systems are located at a minimum 0.9 m above the water table;
 - g) Impervious areas are minimized;
 - h) Best Management Practices are used to:
 - i) maintain water balance
 - ii) control erosion and sediment
 - iii) buffer wetlands
- 6) Further to Section 1.4.2.2 1), larger scale development associated with large commercial uses, industrial uses, multiple residential uses (condominiums, apartments, townhouses, etc.) and/or development into the water table may be permitted in the area between 30 metres to 120 metres of a wetland if the interference on hydrologic functions of the wetland has been deemed to be acceptable by the SCRCA. An EIS to assess the hydrologic impact shall be required.

Appendix 2(c): Stand-Alone CA Act S. 28 “Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses” Regulation Permit Application Process



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 12.6**
Report Date: June 17, 2019
Submitted by: Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations

Subject: SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan Update - Ipperwash Beach

Background:

Staff of the SCRCA have received an application under O.R. 171/06 to tear down an existing cottage and rebuild a new dwelling in the location of the existing cottage within the existing SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Dynamic Beach Hazard Limit in the Center Ipperwash Beach Area (West Ipperwash Road to Army Camp Road).

Provincial Policy and Regulations state that no development can occur in the dynamic beach hazard limit. The current default dynamic beach hazard limit (the sum of the combined flooding and dynamic beach hazard allowance) in Center Ipperwash Beach is 45 m measured horizontally from the position of the 100-year flood level. The Authority received this proposal for redevelopment in the dynamic beach area and outlined that the current SCRCA Board of Director approved policy states the proponent must complete a coastal report which examines their lot and limit of coastal processes to delineate the define portions of the dynamic beach to possibly reduce the development setback limit within the dynamic beach hazard.

The proponent completed the required coastal reports, and as per current SCRCA Board of Director approved policy the coastal reports were reviewed by Authority retained coastal engineer, W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd.

The results of these studies concluded that for the subject property;

1. An update to the SMP Horizontal Low Water Level Adjustment to the 100 year flood elevation should be applied; and,
2. A numerical modelling analysis could be used to define the dynamic beach hazard limit.

Update to the SMP Low Water Level Adjustment

SCRCA SMP and West Ipperwash Assessment (Baird 2011 and 2017) discussed that changes in lake level variations have an impact on the horizontal position of the 100-year flood elevation and in turn, on the location of the flood and dynamic beach hazard limits. Lake Huron water levels were below average between 2000 and 2014 and this resulted in significant accretion at Ipperwash Beach. SCRCA SMP (Baird 2011 and 2017) derived the position of the 100-year flood level from the 2007 topographic contours and added a landward adjustment of 15 m to compensate for the low water

levels. Lake Huron levels have been on the rise since 2015, and a smaller than 15 m adjustment relative to current survey grades may be appropriate. See image from SCRCA SMP Section 4.4.3 Beach Profile Adjustment for Low Water, from Coast Report copied at end of this staff report.

Numerical Modelling Analysis to define the Beach Hazard Limit

SCRCA West Ipperwash Assessment (Baird 2017) completed a numerical modelling analysis to define the dynamic beach hazard limit at West Ipperwash Beach and determined that elevations of 179.0 and 179.5 m (IGLD'85) would represent the limit for wave uprush and beach profile response at the west and east ends of their study area, respectively. The subject property, in which the proponent submitted an application for redevelopment in Center Ipperwash Beach, is located on the east side of the West Ipperwash Beach study area (Baird 2017). The proponents completed Coastal Reports that discussed in detail the dynamic beach process and included detailed numerical modelling analysis and subsequent outputs. The reports were reviewed by Authority retained coastal engineer, W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd. The resulting consensus from the coastal experts recommended that the defined portions of the dynamic beach at the property in question could be defined as the limit for wave uprush and beach profile response from the numerical analysis plus the low water horizontal adjustment, plus a stable slope allowance. This would be the minimum setback requirement in accordance with the technical information submitted with the application.

In light of this new information on the dynamic beach hazard, SCRCA staff engaged with Baird Coastal Engineers further to better understand possible actions that could be undertaken by the SCRCA to further investigate the dynamic beach hazard setbacks at West and Center Ipperwash Beach. The different options discussed are outlined below.

Address the Low Water Level Adjustment

In discussion with Baird Engineering, as lake levels are rising to near all time recorded high levels, and projected to match historic high levels this summer/fall, they outlined that their preferred approach to provide consistency and quality control would be to have the SCRCA develop baseline survey information to be used in determination of the low water adjustment for Ipperwash Beach (West and Center). This would require;

- SCRCA staff surveying the beach profile at beach monitoring station H-10-18 at Ipperwash Beach at a minimum;
 - Survey to be completed every three months to get seasonal variation, and before and after storm conditions etc.;
 - Provide/confirm methodology and data with Coastal Engineer for review to ensuring consistent data set with datum accuracy etc.;
 - Potential site visit to initiate with Coastal Engineer, and ultimate goal for Coastal Engineer to transfer knowledge to SCRCA staff on interpreting the ongoing data set to be able to determine the low

- water level adjustment based on proponents current surveys submitted with applications for redevelopment;
- This would allow the SCRCA to address the low water adjustment and have an on-going reference to continually refine.

Addressing Potential for Numerical Modelling Analysis to Define the Dynamic Beach Hazard Limit at Center Ipperwash Beach

Short Term Potential for Individual Landowners to Complete Coastal Assessment Reports

In discussion with Baird Engineering, addressing the low water level adjustment would potentially move the development setback significantly lake ward.

Landowners would be encouraged to rebuild landward of the 45 m default dynamic beach hazard setback with the refined horizontal low water level adjustment of the 100 year flood level. Should they wish to encroach a detailed coastal study would be required. In that case, the SCRCA needs to have guidelines for the proposed coastal reports and an understanding of the analysis tools and numerical modelling approaches coastal engineers have at their disposal.

Baird recommends that to achieve guidelines for future coastal engineering reports and improve SCRCA staff understanding, that a Coastal Engineering Technical Workshop approach be undertaken with site visit and observations of Center Ipperwash Beach. Further to this, a report would be generated for Coastal Engineering Report Submission Guidelines (TOR Guidelines). This would determine technical details required with an application to the SCRCA under O.R. 171/06 that a proponent must complete in a coastal report which examines their lot and limit of coastal processes to delineate the define portions of the dynamic beach and possibly reduce the development setback limit within the dynamic beach hazard.

Long Term Preferred Approach

The Authority is likely to receive further proposals for redevelopment in the dynamic beach area and the current policy states the proponent must complete a coastal report that examines their lot and limit of coastal processes to delineate the defined portions of the dynamic beach and possibly reduce the development setback limit within the dynamic beach hazard. Further, and as per current policy the coastal reports are required to be reviewed by Authority retained coastal engineer, W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd, at cost to the proponent. The completed coastal reports and external coastal review can potentially cost each landowner significantly. To prevent inconsistent and piecemeal reports, these beach stretches should be examined on a reach basis. This is the best approach. SCRCA SMP outlines that such numerical modelling analysis effort is to be conducted for a proper reach of shoreline rather than just a single property at a time, and, in doing so, it is important to use the same

methodology and experience as those used in previous studies completed for other reaches of the Lake Huron shoreline to achieve consistent hazard guidelines.

Using information (if proceeded with) obtained in the Low Water Level Adjustment and/or the Short Term Numerical Modeling Coastal Workshop, the SCRCA could engage with appropriate stakeholders and determine if it is scientifically advisable, and if there is support, should funds become available, to undertake a site specific beach analysis to determine a reduced dynamic beach limit at Center Ipperwash Beach.

Background on Determining the Dynamic Beach Hazard Limit

A proper study to further evaluate the dynamic beach limit typically involves a two-step process. The first step is an initial site reconnaissance to determine if further, more detailed analysis would be warranted. The initial reconnaissance would be accompanied by a review of existing data on the coastal processes and geomorphology of the area. The second step involves site specific field surveys of the nearshore and beach/dune profiles, compiling offshore bathymetric data, collecting sand samples and testing for grain size, determining design flood levels and wave conditions and numerical modeling of the likely limit of the dynamic beach hazard under storm and high water conditions using appropriate cross-shore beach profile models. (SCRCA SMP)

Recommendation:

That the board acknowledges the report dated June 17, 2019, associated with the SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan Update – Ipperwash Beach, and directs staff to continue further investigation into the dynamic beach hazard setback at West and Centre Ipperwash Beach. SCRCA staff to report back on further details when available.

SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan (Baird 2011)

<https://www.scrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Shoreline-Management-Plan.pdf>

SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan Maps

<https://www.scrca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Shoreline-Management-Plan-Maps.pdf>

- Lambton Shores Ipperwash Beach Maps 21 thru 30;

SCRCA West Ipperwash Dynamic Beach Assessment (Baird 2017)

<https://www.scrca.on.ca/planning-and-regulations/west-ipperwash-beach-dynamic-beach-assessment/>

4.4.3 Beach Profile Adjustment for Low Water Level

On Great Lakes shorelines, changes in beach profile elevation occur in response to lake level variations. During periods of higher lake levels, the beach profile erodes, and during periods of lower lake levels, the beach profile accretes. This can have an impact on the horizontal position of the 100-year flood elevation and in turn, on the location of the flood and dynamic beach hazard limits. Lake Huron water levels have been below average since 1998 and this has resulted in significant accretion at Ipperwash Beach.

Profile data from six different years at beach monitoring station H-10-18 at Ipperwash Beach are shown in Figure 4.9. In each case, the beach profile and corresponding monthly mean water level are shown. The data from April 2007 was plotted from the 2007 topographic contours and orthoimagery used to delineate the hazard limits for this study. The 2007 profile is the furthest lakeward of the measurements and also corresponds to the lowest lake level (176.04 m CGD).

Hazard mapping is based on extreme conditions. The 100-year monthly mean high water level is 177.40 m CGD at Ipperwash. This approximates the water levels that occurred during August 1973 (177.3 m CGD) and this profile was therefore used to quantify the profile adjustment made to the 2007 topographic contours and orthoimagery. From Figure 4.9, the profile adjustment at the 100-year flood level (177.88 m CGD) is 15 m. The 100-year flood level was therefore adjusted 15 m landward on the 2007 topographic contours at Ipperwash Beach (Reaches 36 to 38). This adjustment is reflected in the flood hazard limit and the dynamic beach hazard limit at these locations.

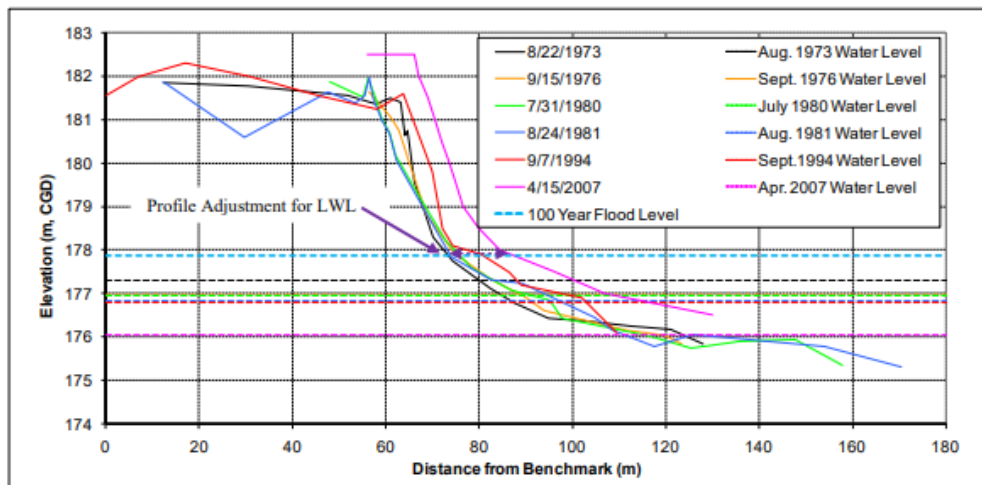


Figure 4.9 Monitoring Data from Profile H-10-18 Ipperwash Beach showing Profile Adjustment at Ipperwash Beach for Low Water Level

Prepared By: Tracy Prince
June 17, 2019

ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure
For the Four Months Ended 30/04/2019

	Actual To Date			Annual Budget		Variance from Budget	
	Revenue	Expenditures	Surplus (Deficit)	Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
Flood Control & Erosion Control	\$1,061,991	\$305,097	\$756,894	\$1,032,200	\$1,032,200	\$29,791	(\$727,103)
Capital Projects/WECI	\$155,000	\$0	\$155,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$145,000	(\$10,000)
Conservation Area's Capital Development	\$0	\$5,827	(\$5,827)	\$119,000	\$119,000	(\$119,000)	(\$113,173)
IT Capital	\$6,448	\$1,333	\$5,115	\$19,200	\$19,200	(\$12,752)	(\$17,867)
Equipment	\$23,600	\$25,607	(\$2,007)	\$72,000	\$72,000	(\$48,400)	(\$46,393)
Planning & Regulations	\$279,564	\$166,816	\$112,748	\$487,594	\$487,594	(\$208,029)	(\$320,777)
Technical Studies	\$481,619	\$152,357	\$329,262	\$395,313	\$395,313	\$86,305	(\$242,956)
Recreation	\$233,004	\$163,066	\$69,938	\$1,329,011	\$1,329,011	(\$1,096,007)	(\$1,165,945)
Property Management	\$31,477	\$57,742	(\$26,265)	\$243,996	\$243,996	(\$212,519)	(\$186,254)
Education and Communication	\$95,565	\$68,963	\$26,601	\$226,640	\$226,640	(\$131,076)	(\$157,677)
Source Water Protection	\$116,316	\$142,545	(\$26,228)	\$226,000	\$226,000	(\$109,684)	(\$83,455)
Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds	\$749,122	\$116,691	\$632,431	\$503,350	\$503,350	\$245,772	(\$386,659)
Administration/AOC Management	\$762,504	\$278,667	\$483,837	\$1,669,428	\$1,669,428	(\$906,924)	(\$1,390,761)
	\$3,996,210	\$1,484,710	\$2,511,499	\$6,333,732	\$6,333,732	(\$2,337,522)	(\$4,849,021)

Notes:

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

**ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
DISBURSEMENTS FROM: April to May 2019**

**Item 13.2
Sarah Kellestine
AMOUNT**

CHQ. #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
20340	4/2/2019	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 8,447.26
20356	4/2/2019	Marsh Canada Limited	Insurance	\$ 65,598.51
20363	4/2/2019	Rural Lambton Stewardship Network	Wetland Creation	\$ 7,000.00
20368	4/2/2019	MPW Chartered Professional Accountants LLP	Audit	\$ 15,897.97
20373	4/18/2019	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 5,683.09
20393	4/18/2019	Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking (Sarnia) Ltd.	Shorline Restoration	\$ 197,971.10
20400	4/18/2019	SLOAN'S NURSERY & CHRISTMAS TR	Trees	\$ 5,332.13
20412	5/1/2019	Cansel Survey Equipment Inc.	GPS Survey Equipment for Project	\$ 33,188.04
20414	5/1/2019	LARRY MACDONALD CHEV OLDS	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 28,430.97
20416	5/1/2019	RIGGS ENGINEERING LTD.	NDMP Floodplain Mapping	\$ 87,959.20
20417	5/3/2019	BF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Wetland Creation	\$ 6,568.15
20420	5/3/2019	Hillen Nursery Ltd.	Trees	\$ 7,083.07
20430	5/3/2019	PODOLINSKY FARM EQUIPMENT	JD Gator purchases	\$ 27,402.50
20438	5/3/2019	SWISH MAINTENANCE LIMITED	Paper Supplies for CA's	\$ 8,488.15
20443	5/3/2019	WINKELMOLEN NURSERY LTD.	Trees	\$ 5,390.33
20453	5/17/2019	JOHNSTON BROS.(BOTHWELL) LTD.	Gravel	\$ 6,937.45
20459	5/17/2019	MAX UNDERHILL'S FARM SUPPLY	Weed Control Supplies	\$ 13,996.74

\$ 531,374.66

TOTAL CHEQUE DISBURSEMENTS - BANK #1 -

INTERNET BANKING Aptil to May 2019

TRANS #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
9218	4/30/2019	MASTERCARD	Misc Purchases	\$ 6,222.63
9219	4/30/2019	OMERS	Pension	\$ 38,108.52
9222	4/30/2019	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 60,877.52
9224	4/30/2019	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 15,311.54
9231	4/30/2019	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 6,287.17
9235	5/31/2019	Canada Revenue Agency - HST	HST	\$ 57,335.60
9240	5/31/2019	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Utilities	\$ 5,262.70
9242	5/31/2019	OMERS	Pension	\$ 58,101.26
9243	5/31/2019	ONTARIO MINISTER OF FINANCE	EHT	\$ 6,777.43
9245	5/31/2019	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 101,495.37
9247	5/31/2019	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 15,311.54
9253	5/31/2019	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 10,733.28

\$ 381,824.56

TOTAL INTERNET DISBURSEMENTS - BANK NO. 1 -

PAYROLL RUNS

PAYROLL NO. 7	\$	68,343.51
PAYROLL NO. 8	\$	70,035.96
PAYROLL NO. 9	\$	72,805.40
PAYROLL NO. 10	\$	78,308.37
PAYROLL NO. 11	\$	87,259.79
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		

TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS -

\$ 376,753.03

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -

\$ 1,289,952.25

2019 GENERAL LEVY SUMMARY

GLYSUM2019
Sarah Kellestine
31-May-19

MUNICIPALITY	GROSS LEVY	PAID TO DATE	OUTSTANDING
Sarnia	\$ 353,626.00	\$ 176,813.00	\$ 176,813.00
Chatham-Kent	118,634.00	0.00	118,634.00
Brooke-Alvinston Twp.	15,385.00	15,385.00	0.00
Dawn Euphemia Twp.	23,374.00	5,843.50	17,530.50
Enniskillen Twp.	16,921.00	16,921.00	0.00
Lambton Shores M.	45,230.00	45,230.00	0.00
Oil Springs V	1,812.00	1,812.00	0.00
Petrolia T	23,039.00	23,039.00	0.00
Plympton-Wyoming T	48,311.00	24,155.50	24,155.50
Point Edward V	20,793.00	20,793.00	0.00
St. Clair Twp.	101,551.00	101,551.00	0.00
Warwick Twp.	19,752.00	0.00	19,752.00
Adelaide Metcalfe Twp.	16,811.00	0.00	16,811.00
Middlesex Centre Twp.	19,494.00	19,494.00	0.00
Newbury V	1,396.00	1,396.00	0.00
Southwest Middlesex M.	10,537.00	10,537.00	0.00
Strathroy-Caradoc M.	77,085.00	0.00	77,085.00
TOTAL	\$ 913,751.00	\$ 462,970.00	\$ 450,781.00

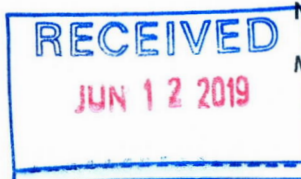
Item 13.4

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2019

JTA4163289 E D
ST. CLAIR REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
205 MILL POND CRESCENT
STRATHROY ON N7G 3P9

06679



Your Investment Report

▶ Account Summary

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

Your Investments	Opening Value Apr 1, 2019	Closing Value May 31, 2019	Balance on May 31, 2019 (CAD\$)
Canadian Dollar Investments			
Cash Account	1,434,690.61	1,442,560.61	1,442,560.61
	1,434,690.61	1,442,560.61	1,442,560.61
Grand Total (CAD\$)			1,442,560.61
		Last Statement Mar 31, 2019	1,434,690.61

You can access up-to-date account information online through BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway at:
www.gateway.bmonesbittburns.com.
To register for Gateway, please contact your Investment Advisor.

▶ We're here to help

We're dedicated to helping you succeed in meeting all of your wealth management goals. Call any member of our team referenced below if you have questions about **Your Investment Report**.

JONATHAN BATCH
Investment Advisor
519-646-3044

Batch Investment Group
www.batchinvestmentgroup.com
Assistant: Sharon Tingley
sharon.tingley@nbpcd.com

MICHAEL COONEY
Branch Manager
(519) 672-8560

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

JTA4163289-0046227-06679-0004-0001-00-

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

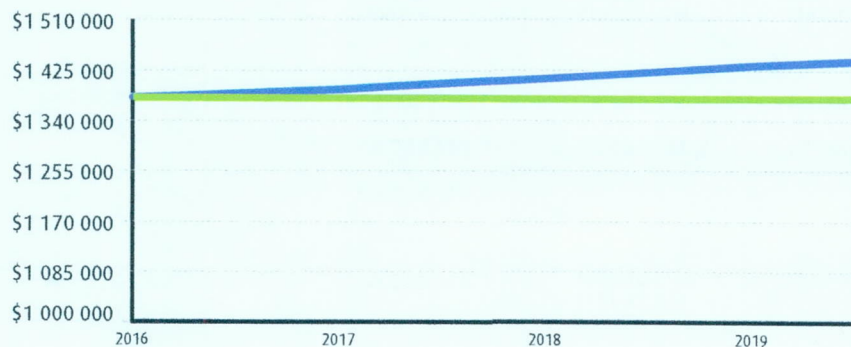
May 31, 2019

► Changes to your account

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

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

	This Year (2019)	Since January 1, 2016
Opening Value	1,434,690.61	1,379,179.68
Deposited	+ 0.00	+ 0.00
Withdrawn	- 0.00	- 0.00
Net Invested	= 0.00	= 0.00
Change In Market Value	+ 7,870.00	+ 63,380.93
Closing Value on May 31, 2019	1,442,560.61	1,442,560.61



● MARKET VALUE
● NET INVESTED




The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$63,380.93.
This includes gains, losses and income received with respect to the investments held in your account.

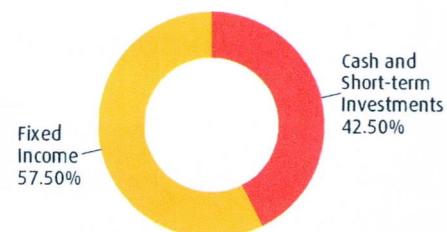
Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2019

▶ Summary of your investments in Canadian dollars

Your Investor Profile

Investment Objective	Income		
Time Horizon	10 yrs and more		
Investment Category	Amount	Target %	Holdings %
 Cash and Short-term Investments	613,560.61	10.00	42.50
 Fixed Income	829,000.00	90.00	57.50
 Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,442,560.61		100.00



Investments held in your account have been chosen based on objectives you selected on the Client Account Agreement. As your circumstances change, it is important to talk to your Investment Advisor about updating these objectives.

Your Canadian Dollar Investments

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Income you received

Type of Income	Current Month	Year to Date
Interest	7,870.00	7,870.00
Total	7,870.00	7,870.00

Under **Income you received**, amounts reported as dividends do not include income from ETFs, REITs and funds even though these transactions are reported as dividends under **Account activity for this month**.

▶ Your investment details

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on May 31, 2019	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
Cash Account					
• Cash and Short-term Investments					
CASH			13,560.61		13,560.61
PEOPLES TRUST GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/14/2019 2.200% (See Bulletin board)	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
BANK OF MONTREAL MORTGAGE CORP GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/22/2019 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2019

Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Your investment details (continued)

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on May 31, 2019	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
BMO TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/22/2019 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
BANK OF MONTREAL GIC 30 DAY CASHABLE ANNUAL DUE 08/27/2019 1.350%	300,000	100.000	300,000.00	100.000	300,000.00
Subtotal			613,560.61		613,560.61
Fixed Income					
Fixed Income					
CONCENTRA BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/15/2020 2.750%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
LBC TRUST GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/15/2020 2.600%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
VANCITY GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/15/2020 2.350%	279,000	100.000	279,000.00	100.000	279,000.00
HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.220%	50,000	100.000	50,000.00	100.000	50,000.00
PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
HOME TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2021 2.540%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2022 2.520%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
Fixed Income Subtotal			829,000.00		829,000.00
Subtotal			829,000.00		829,000.00
Total for Cash Account			1,442,560.61		1,442,560.61
Total Canadian Dollar Investments			1,442,560.61		1,442,560.61

Average cost and market price indicator descriptions can be found in "Important information about your account".

JTA4163289-0046230-06679

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2019

▶ Account activity for this month

Date	Activity	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Commission	Amount
Cash Account						
Apr 1, 2019		Opening Cash Balance				5,690.61
May 13, 2019	Redemption	CANADIAN WESTERN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% ISSUE REDEEMED FOR CASH	-100,000		0.00	100,000.00
May 13, 2019	Interest	CANADIAN WESTERN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/10/19 PAY 05/13/19	100,000		0.00	2,200.00
May 13, 2019	Redemption	EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% ISSUE REDEEMED FOR CASH	-100,000		0.00	100,000.00
May 13, 2019	Interest	EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2019 INT 2.200% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/10/19 PAY 05/13/19	100,000		0.00	2,200.00
May 13, 2019	Interest	PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 INT 2.360% CPN INT ON 100000 BND REC 05/10/19 PAY 05/13/19	100,000		0.00	2,360.00
May 13, 2019	Interest	HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 INT 2.220% CPN INT ON 50000 BND REC 05/10/19 PAY 05/13/19	50,000		0.00	1,110.00
May 15, 2019	Bought	HOME TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2021 02.540% MAY 15 FLAT AS OF 05/14/19 INTR COMPUTED TO 05/15/19	100,000	100.0000	0.00	-100,000.00
May 17, 2019	Bought	EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2022 02.520% MAY 17 FLAT	100,000	100.0000	0.00	-100,000.00
May 31, 2019		Closing Cash Balance				13,560.61

This report includes activity recorded in your account since your last statement. For a more comprehensive listing of your account activity, sign into your BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway account.

JTA4163289-0046231-06679-0004-0003-00-

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

May 31, 2019

Your Year-to-Date Fees Summary

▶ Fees you paid

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

	CAD (\$)
Operating charges	
Total operating charges	0.00
Transaction charges	
Total transaction charges	0.00
Total fees you paid in 2019	0.00

See examples of operating charges in "Important Information about your Account". Some fees and charges may be reported as before-tax amounts and applicable tax is reported separately within the 'Sales Tax' line item. Where this is not possible the sales tax is included within the line item.

▶ Payments BMO received from third parties

	CAD (\$)
GIC Commission	1,250.00
Total payments BMO Nesbitt Burns received from third parties in 2019	1,250.00

▶ Bulletin board

The USD/CAD conversion rate is: 1.3523, as of May 31, 2019

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

PEOPLES TRUST GIC
ANNUAL
DUE 06/14/2019 2.200%

ACPCE07 - 6048
 SWSTM11000_3248580_001 E D

01193



Account Number: **460-16010**
 Account Type: Regular Account
 For the Period: **May 1 to 31, 2019**
 Last Statement: April 30, 2019

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

Address Information

255 Queens Avenue
 Suite 900
 London ON
 N6A 5R8

Phone: (519) 679-9490
 Website: www.scotiawealthmanagement.com
 Branch Manager: Deborah Vafaei



Your Wealth Advisor

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

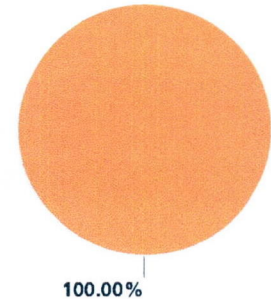
Your Investment Team

Michael Willemse (519) 660-3268
 Tammy Jackson (519) 660-3215

CANADIAN Account Overview

Currency: Canadian Dollar

Asset Class Summary	May. 31, 2019 Market Value	% of Total Assets
Fixed Income	762,993	100.00
Total Value of Account	\$762,993	100.00
Total Value on Last Statement, April 30, 2019	\$757,721	



JTA4148182-0004769-01193-0002-0001-00-



Regulated by
 Investment Industry Regulatory
 Organization of Canada

Details of Your Account Holdings

Type	Security Description	Quantity	Average Cost	Adjusted Book Value	Market Price	Market Value
Fixed Income						
CASH	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807)	23,517.865	9.983	234,784	9.558	224,784
CASH	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659)	6,580.676	12.691	83,520	11.918	78,428
CASH	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) See Endnote 1	16,302.532	14.462	235,777	14.221	231,838
CASH	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137)	21,741.949	10.282	223,555	10.484	227,943
Total Fixed Income						\$762,993
Total Account Holdings				\$777,636	\$762,993	

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

Monthly Activity

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
Opening Cash Balance						\$0.00
May. 01, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 04/30/19 @ \$14.2284 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.466 BOOK VALUE \$789.19	55		
May. 27, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) REINVEST 05/24/19 @ \$9.5362 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.468 BOOK VALUE \$719.68	75		
Closing Cash Balance						\$0.00

Summary

Income Summary

	This Period	Year-to-Date
Total Income	\$0	\$0



Go paperless with Scotia OnLine

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

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



Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 12, 2019
Submitted by: Tracy Prince

Item 13.5

Subject: Corporate Credit Card Renewal Application

Recommendation:

That the Board Approves an increased total limit of \$35,000 and the change from MasterCard to Visa cards and the addition of Brian McDougall as back-up administrator.

Background:

We were notified that CUETs would no longer be offering corporate MasterCard effective August 2019. Through our current bank Libro Credit Union they carry Collabria-Visa as a corporate credit card provider. We will be switch providers to ensure continuity in business purchased, through the switch we wish to increase the limit from \$30,000 to \$35,000. The attached letter will need to be signed by two Board Members to complete the application. This letter outlines the names of the cardholders and the maximum credit limit based on Board approved purchasing limits. These Credit cards are provided for emergency purchases or purchases that can only be made online and require immediate payment. Credit cards are reconciled monthly and approved by the supervisor.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: May 22, 2018
Submitted by: Tracy Prince

Item 13.6

Subject: Audit Services for 2019-2023

Recommendation:

That the Board accept the quotes provided by MPW and MNP, and appoints MNP as the auditor for 2019 effective July 1, 2019 and thanks MPW for their previous service.

Background:

Every 5 years the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority sends out requests for quotes (RFQ) for the year end auditing services. This year we sent the RFQ to 5 accounting firms in the watershed on March 12, 2019 with a response date of May 15, 2019 we received 2 quotes back, outlined below:

	Year End	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
MPW	Authority	15,000.00	15,450.00	15,913.50	16,390.91	16,882.63	79,637.04
	Foundation	4,570.00	4,707.10	4,848.31	4,993.76	5,143.58	24,262.75
		19,570.00	20,157.10	20,761.81	21,384.67	22,026.21	103,899.79
	Inclusive of HST	22,114.10	22,777.52	23,460.85	24,164.67	24,889.61	117,406.76
MNP	Authority	8,900.00	8,900.00	9,300.00	9,750.00	10,250.00	47,100.00
	Foundation	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,250.00	5,500.00	5,775.00	26,525.00
		13,900.00	13,900.00	14,550.00	15,250.00	16,025.00	73,625.00
	Inclusive of HST	15,707.00	15,707.00	16,441.50	17,232.50	18,108.25	83,196.25
	Total Difference	6,407.10	7,070.52	7,019.35	6,932.17	6,781.36	34,210.51

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority would like to acknowledge the long service and relationship developed with MPW. Due to the budget constraints of the Authority and the costing difference between quotes staff recommends accepting MNP quote. It is not anticipated that there will be a long-term change in workload for the Director of Finance as the year-end papers are currently completed in house and will continue.

A copy of this report was provided to the Foundation Board on June 6, 2019, to appoint MNP as their auditors effective July 1, 2019.

Financial Impact:

In 2019 there will be an overall reduction in cost for the audit of approximately \$4,000, as HST for the Foundation and Authority are expensed at different rates this is approximate. The Foundation will have an increase of approximately \$1,200, with MNP but would have experienced an increase of approximately \$800 with MPW current quote for 2019. The biggest savings is for the Authority.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 14.1**
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Sharon Nethercott, Melissa Levi

Subject: Conservation Education Progress Report

Canoe Race

Due to high water levels at the start and finish of the race, the 2019 Sydenham Canoe Race had to unfortunately be cancelled. This was the second year in a row that high water levels have forced cancellation of this popular event. Despite the cancellation, some paddlers still made donations to Conservation Education, raising a total of \$1,000.00.

Spring Education Programs

It has been an extremely muddy spring for classes attending Henderson Conservation Area. Campground staff have assisted with mulching to improve passage along some trails. Conservation Education continues to be a popular field trip focus for area schools. Programs are booked almost daily from early April through to June 26th. Teachers appreciate the hands on opportunities to connect classroom learning to the natural world. They recognize that our programs cannot be replicated in the school yard.

Program Expansion

A new 'Phosphorus 101' program was developed and piloted for Secondary School students. The program is designed to parallel the work being done for the Watershed Plan for Phosphorus Reduction. It gives the students an introduction to the issues of phosphorus and a voice to express their ideas for reduction in the Sydenham River Watershed.

ICE Training: (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship)

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

École Secondaire Catholique Saint-François-Xavier (SFX) participated in a 3-day ICE training session. The Grade 11 and 12 students experienced first-hand, the benefits of a Healing Hike for stress reduction and improving mental health. Students were challenged to create interesting ways to engage other youth in Healing Hikes. The training culminated with a Healing Day at Wawanosh Wetlands where the senior students led 4 'Healing Activity' stations for their Grade 8 peers.

April 23rd and 26th – Strathroy District Collegiate Institute participated in a 2-day ICE training session. The Environmental SHSM students were challenged with finding new ways to minimize beaver damage to trees in Strathroy CA, prioritizing both the safety of

the beavers and the hikers at the CA. Students pitched their ideas to the Manager of Conservation Areas and the General Manager and their ideas and input were well received.

Special Events

PAIRS Event

The Lambton-Kent District School Board invited the SCRCA to participate in a “Partners Active In Resource Sharing” event. The goal was to provide grade 10 students and the public, an opportunity to learn more about local industries and organizations in the area. Several departments were represented through the day, providing valuable information regarding potential career paths for the students.



Students who attended the PAIRS Event were encouraged to try their hand at building structures using sticks and “Stick-lets” and creating nature art. Staff were on-hand to introduce students to the many different career paths they could take in the conservation field.

Lambton Heritage Museum PA Day

As a thank you, a donation to the SCRCA Education Staff in cooperation with the ABCA, show-cased water based nature in our Watershed at the Lambton Heritage museum on a recent Professional Activity Day. Activities included a “species friendly” scavenger hunt, raccooning for mussels in a kiddie pool, touchable table and nature photography slides.

Kid's Fun Fest Sarnia

SCRCA staff participated in Kids Fun Fest 2019 in Sarnia. The booth highlighted Camping at St. Clair as well as other SCRCA programs. Outdoor education staff offered hands-on games and activities with the goal of encouraging children to connect with the natural world.

Committees

Sarnia-Lambton Arbour Week Committee:

Education Staff continue to chair the committee and helped to organize a tree planting community event along the Suncor Trail in Sarnia in May. We planted 65 large stock native trees including Serviceberry and Sycamore. White Birch seedlings were delivered to each student in 4 winning classrooms in Lambton County who participated in the Arbour Week Art Contest. Students were tasked to draw, paint, pastel, crayons, colour pencil or charcoal a piece of art capturing the beauty of trees. Some phenomenal art work was created!

Rekindle the Sparks Planning Committee:

Education staff continue to assist with planning the Provincial Conservation Authority Outdoor Educators Workshop for 2019 in November. It will be held at Mono Cliffs Outdoor Education Centre, just north of Orangeville.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: May 31, 2019
Submitted by: Nicole Drumm, Tim Payne

Item 14.2

Subject: Schoolyard Greening Initiative

For the third year, the SCRCA and Lambton Public Health have partnered for a schoolyard greening initiative called “Tomorrow’s Greener Schools Today – Lambton.” Through the program, staff plant trees with elementary school students to increase greenspace and shade in playgrounds. This year, 170 students from six schools in Lambton County planted 60 trees.

Greener Schools is a hands-on experience that reinforces ecological curriculum concepts outside of the classroom, fosters environmental stewardship, promotes physical activity and healthy living, and provides an opportunity for students to practice soft skills like communication and cooperation. As the new trees mature, they will protect students from the sun’s harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation, provide natural cooling in the schoolyard, improve air quality, and offer other benefits including stress reduction and increased habitat for birds and other small animals.

An educational component regarding the benefits of trees and importance of sun safety is provided by the Authority and Lambton Public Health during each event. This year, each student also received a UV reactive bracelet – the bracelets are a learning tool as they change from white to blue when exposed to sunlight, serving as a reminder to practice sun safety by applying sunscreen, wearing hats, and seeking shade.



Left: Staff led discussions on the importance of greenspace and sun safety with the students. Right: Student participation is an important element of the program; students work in groups to plant the trees.

There is continued enthusiasm for the Greener Schools program – the number of applications received has grown each year. After the third year of the program, over 400 students from 17 schools have planted 168 trees in schoolyards across Lambton County. The following schools participated in the program for 2019:

- St. Matthew Catholic School, Sarnia
- Bosanquet Central Public School, Thedford
- London Road Public School, Sarnia
- Dawn Euphemia Public School, Dresden
- Lansdowne Public School, Sarnia
- Holy Rosary Catholic School, Wyoming

Feedback from the schools has been very positive, it is the first time many of the students have planted trees and the enriching experience is a source of pride for the students and their schools. Some schools take further steps to engage the larger school community in the project – one principal requested the student participants give a presentation at the next school assembly to share their experience and what they learned with their peers. Others have highlighted the program through their social media accounts and webpages.



Left: Trees are planted in schoolyards to create shaded play areas and increase greenspace. Right: Students are proud to take part in this community conservation project.

Lambton Public Health and the Authority have been successful in securing more than \$15,000 in TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TDFEF) grants over the three years of the program. In 2019, a \$5,350 TDFEF grant covered the costs of the trees, mulch, stakes, and UV reactive bracelets.

Strategic Objective:

Goal 3 – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 14.3**
Report Date: June 6, 2019
Submitted by: Kelly Johnson

Subject: St. Clair River Area of Concern Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) report dated June 6, 2019.

Update:

The Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) held their last meeting on April 4, 2019 at the DTE Energy facility in East China, Michigan. At this meeting DTE gave a presentation to the BPAC focussed on their safety protocols and environmental safeguards. The next BPAC meeting is being held on June 20, 2019 at Enbridge in Sarnia, Ontario.

The Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Implementation Committee (CRIC) last met November 22, 2018. The next meeting is planned for June 20, 2019 at the Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association office in Sarnia, Ontario.

The Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Populations Subcommittee met at the Conservation Authority office on May 15, 2019. The main topic of discussion was the Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat BUI delisting criteria. Staff from Fisheries and Oceans Canada also attended the meeting to discuss their work related to assessment of the BUI.

The St. Clair River Science Symposium was held in Sombra, Ontario on the evening of April 10, 2019. This was a free event open to the public and featured informative presentations on fish diversity, health and habitat. Approximately 60 people attended the Symposium, hosted by Environment and Climate Change Canada, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, and Walpole Island First Nation.

On May 8, 2019 Kelly Johnson, St. Clair River RAP Coordinator, participated in the Canada Waterscapes Speaker Series at the Lambton Heritage Museum in Grand Bend, Ontario. Kelly provided the audience with a broad overview of the St. Clair River AOC and highlighted progress that has been made towards delisting of the St. Clair River.

The 2012 – 2017 Report of Accomplishments has now been finalized. The document will be available to the public in print by mid-June 2019.

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019
Report Date: June 13, 2019
Submitted by: Donna Blue

Item 14.4

Subject: 2019 Scholarship Program

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledge the 2019 Scholarship Program report dated June 13, 2019.

SCRCA Scholarship Program 2019:

Applications for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) Scholarship Program were mailed to local high school principals and their department heads in February 2019. Four scholarships are available to graduating high school students who are pursuing post-secondary studies in an environmental field (e.g., biology, ecology, agriculture, etc.). Eligible students must live in or attend a secondary school within the SCRCA boundary.

This year, we received 9 applications. Applications were reviewed by a committee established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation. The selection committee consisted of Norm Giffen, Archie Kerr, Brian McDougall and Donna Blue. The Foundation Board of Directors approved the recommended scholarship recipients at their meeting on June 13, 2019.

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

A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship - \$1000

Kevin Robertson, Great Lakes Secondary School, Sarnia, Ontario
Abigail Irwin, Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational School, Petrolia, Ontario

Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship - \$500

Madeline Morrison, St. Patrick's Catholic High School, Sarnia, Ontario

Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship - \$500

Laura Benedict, Strathroy District Collegiate Institute, Strathroy, Ontario

Meeting Date: June 27, 2019 **Item 14.5**
Report Date: June 7, 2019
Submitted by: Brian McDougall, Nicole Drumm

Subject: Indigenous Relationship Building Training

Recommendation:

That the board supports the participation of SCRCA staff in Indigenous Relationship Building Training provided by Cambium Aboriginal Inc.

Background:

In the SCRCA's 2016 Strategic Plan, "expand[ing] engagement with our First Nation neighbours" is identified as a strategic action. While the SCRCA has positive and productive relationships with local First Nations, there is a need to build and expand upon these relationships. The Indigenous Relationship Building Training offered by Cambium Aboriginal Inc., an Indigenous company based in Curve Lake First Nation, will provide SCRCA staff with a deeper understanding of the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada since first contact, historical and contemporary issues, and how our nations can move forward in a way that benefits future generations.

The two full-days of training is split into four sessions:

1. Anishinaabe History through Wampum Belts
 - By starting with the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada, present-day legislation and reports are given context
2. Orientation on the UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action
 - Learn about Residential Schools and what "Truth and Reconciliation" means
3. Indigenous Communities of Ontario and Beyond Duty to Consult
 - Discuss legislation including the *Indian Act*, *First Nations Land Management Act*, and the Duty to Consult and Accommodate
4. Engaging with Communities
 - Tools to nurture respectful, reciprocal relationships with Indigenous communities within and affiliated with the watershed

The Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority offered the full, four-day version of this training to all of their staff in fall 2018. The two-day, condensed version of the training was made available through Conservation Ontario to select representatives from Conservation Authorities (CAs) across Ontario in February 2019. Participants had very positive feedback of the training – in discussions they identified the need to increase

awareness and training across CAs, and felt that it would be important to “ensure that all Conservation Authorities staff receive the same training to ensure consistent messaging and understanding.” We agree that we need to take steps to increase cultural awareness and build our relationships with indigenous peoples in our community.

This training will open up opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration between the Conservation Authority and local Indigenous communities. It will build our capacity for partnerships, joint grant applications, and youth engagement that will help to achieve our shared goal of a healthy, sustainable environment.

Strategic Objective:

Goal 3:

“Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.”

Strategic Actions:

“Expand Engagement with our First Nation Neighbours: The SCRCA has been reaching out to our First Nation neighbours by providing education programs, and consulting on programs such as the St. Clair River AOC and Drinking Water Source Protection. This engagement has proved to be productive but has pointed to the need to continue and expand. The SCRCA should develop an Engagement Plan to ensure the sharing of each other’s expertise and knowledge to the benefit of the watersheds we share.”

Financial Impact:

The cost of the two-day training for 40 staff is approximately \$3,000 per day. Training will be scheduled at the most opportune time for Authority staff, potentially 1 day in late fall and 1 day in winter, or potentially both days in 2020.