



Board of Directors - Notice of Meeting
November 14, 2019 Time: 10:00 am
Administration Office, Strathroy

Tentative Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
4. Minutes
 - 4.1 Board of Directors September 19, 2019 Minutes
5. General Manager's Report
 - 5.1 GM's Report
6. Business Arising from Last Meeting
7. Conservation Area Reports
 - 7.1 Conservation Area Proposed 2020 Fees
 - 7.2 Review of Conservation Area Lands
 - 7.3 Review of McKeough Upstream Lands
8. Water Resources Reports
 - 8.1 Current Watershed Conditions and Great Lakes Water Levels
 - 8.2 Phase II – Brights Grove Status Update
9. Biology Reports
 - 9.1 Healthy Watershed Program Workshop/Outreach Update
 - 9.2 Reptiles at Risk
 - 9.3 Sydenham Watershed Plan for Phosphorus Management
10. Conservation Services Reports
 - 10.1 Conservation Services Report
11. Planning and Regulations Reports
 - 11.1 Regulations Activity Summary – September, 2019
 - 11.2 Planning Activity Summary – September, 2019
 - 11.3 Planning update on meetings with Municipal and County Planners
12. Finance Reports
 - 12.1 Revenue and Expense Summary
 - 12.2 September – October, 2019 Disbursements
 - 12.3 2019 General Levy Summary
 - 12.4 Investment Reports
 - 12.5 2020 Draft Fees
 - 12.6 2020 Draft Budget
 - 12.7 Joint Health & Safety Committee July 22, 2019 Minutes
 - 12.8 Nominating Committee
 - 12.9 2020 Tentative Schedule of Meetings
13. Communications Reports
 - 13.1 Communications Update
 - 13.2 Conservation Education Progress Report
14. New Business
15. Adjournment

Please contact Ashley (519-245-3710/ 1-866-505-3710 x 200 or e-mail Afletcher@scrca.on.ca) at the Administration Office by November 11, 2019, if you are unable to attend.

Board of Directors Proposed Resolutions

1. Chair's Remarks
2. **Moved by:** Adoption of Agenda **Seconded by:**
3. It is requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.
- 4.1 **Moved by:** That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held October 17, 2019, be approved as distributed. **Seconded by:**
- 5.1 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report, dated November 6, 2019. **Seconded by:**
- 6.1 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the October 17, 2019 Board of Directors meeting. **Seconded by:**
- 7.1 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 30, 2019 regarding the proposed 2020 Conservation Area fees. **Seconded by:**
- 7.2 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 1, 2019 regarding Conservation Area surplus lands, where no lands have been identified as surplus through this initial review. **Seconded by:**
- 7.3 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 28, 2019 regarding the review of the McKeough upstream lands and further accepts that such lands are found to be self-sustaining and generating revenue that after expenses, contributes to the annual budget. **Seconded by:**
- 8.1 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 1, 2019 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels. **Seconded by:**
- 8.2 **Moved by:** That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 31, 2019 on the Bright Grove, Kenwick to Helen Avenue shoreline improvements Phase 2. **Seconded by:**

14. **New Business**

15. **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the meeting be adjourned.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: October 17, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Administration Office, Strathroy

Directors Present: Alan Broad, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Dan McMillan, Frank Nemcek, Ron Schenk, Mike Stark, Jerry Westgate

Regrets: John Brennan, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Carmen McGregor, Steve Miller, Laurie Scott

Staff Present: Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Chris Durand, Manager of IT/ GIS; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Sarah Hume, Payroll/ Accounting Clerk; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; 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.

BD-19-144

Broad – Bruziewicz

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

CARRIED

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on September 19, 2019 were approved.

BD-19-145

Brown – Westgate

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held September 19, 2019, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

Meeting with Minister of Environment, Conservation & Parks Jeff Yurek:

- On September 25th following email was received:

From: Minister, MECP (MECP) [mailto:Minister.MECP@ontario.ca]

Sent: September 25, 2019 5:17 PM

To: Brian McDougall <bmcDougall@scrca.on.ca>

Cc: kgavine@conservationontario.ca

Subject: meeting invitation

Mr. Brian McDougall

General Manager/Secretary Treasurer
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
Dear Mr. McDougall,

Through the changes in the ***More Homes, More Choice Act***, we are working to focus conservation authorities on their core mandate and to help them to function in a more transparent and open way with municipalities.

Please accept this invitation to meet with staff in my office and ministry officials to have a discussion about the programs and services provided by your conservation authority.

Meetings were held from September 30, 2019 to October 25, 2019, for 90-minute durations. Please contact Kathleen Camacho, Project Assistant, at (416) 314-3880 or glo@ontario.ca to make arrangements. If you cannot attend a meeting in person at my office, please let us know so that we can make arrangements for either a video-conference or tele-conference. I look forward to productive discussions.

Jeff Yurek
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

- Identical emails were received by all 36 Conservation Authority CAOs and GMs
- At the September 30th Conservation Ontario Council meeting, Council discussed at length this opportunity for CAs to inform the Ministers office of the work undertaken by the Authorities and how those works are funded as well as the traps and pitfalls that present themselves in individual meetings for each of 36 CAs
- Chair Faas and Vice Chair Gordon have agreed to accompany me to the meeting to ensure that I give an appropriate account of the Authority's programs and services as well as providing their perspectives on the relationships with our local municipalities and the nature of our business relationship
- The date and time of this meeting have not been confirmed to date
- The 2018 Annual Report and the 2016 Strategic Plan will provide a foundation for our discussion with the Minister and staff
- A report will be provided to the Board at the November 14th meeting

Potential for additional funding support from the Conservation Foundation:

- The Board of Directors of St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation will be meeting on the morning of October 17th, 2019
- The Foundation Board will be apprised of the current funding situation
- Staff have prepared reports requesting financial support from the Foundation relating to specific projects for 2020
- The Foundation Board will be asked to consider several potential levels of funding to support the Authority in this challenging financial period
- A verbal report will be provided to the Board at the October 17th meeting

Draft the SCRCA Core Mandate and Assembly of Integrated Watershed Management Actions for review and circulation to Member Municipalities:

- Programs and services of the Authority fall into three categories
- Prior to the passage of the More Homes, More Choices Act, provincially mandated programs and services would have been limited to the natural hazards programs as described in Section 39 of the CA Act and Drinking Water Source Protection programs as outlined in the Clean Water Act – funding for these programs were provided by Provincial ministries to undertake this work
- “Mandatory” programs are yet to be defined, however, it is our belief that the table below provides an accurate depiction of agency mandating the programs and the list of program undertaken by the Authority

Provincially Mandated	Municipally Mandated	CA Board Mandated
<p>These programs and services are identified under the More Homes, More Choices Act</p> <p>However, regulations outlining the programs that fall within these areas have not been made available to date</p>	<p>These programs and services are provided under agreement or memorandum of understanding between member Municipalities and the Authority</p>	<p>These programs and services have been determined as advisable and a priority for the watershed by the Authority Board</p>
<p>Programs and services related to the risk of natural hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Forecasting • Flood Control Structure O&M • Erosion Control Structure O&M • Ice Management • Plan Input (OPs & CZBs) • Watershed Planning & Technical Studies • Administration & Legal 	<p>Services related to municipal development / planning applications and provide comment on issues specific to the subject property regarding any of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Hazard features • Natural Heritage features • Water features 	<p>Programs and services related to the risk of natural hazards where Provincial funding and matching levy are not adequate to support program costs for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Forecasting • Flood Control Structure O&M • Plan Input (OPs & CZBs) • Administration & Legal
<p>Programs and services related to the authority’s duties, functions and responsibilities as a source protection authority under the Clean Water Act, 2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source Water Protection Plan Maintenance • Source Protection Committee Support 	<p>Programs and services related to the municipality’s duties, functions and responsibilities under the Clean Water Act, 2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management Oversight 	<p>Programs and services related to Conservation Authority’s Development, Interference of Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitting • Enforcement
Provincially Mandated	Municipally Mandated	CA Board Mandated
<p>Programs and services related to the authority’s duties, functions</p>		

and responsibilities under an Act prescribed by the regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional responsibilities that can be prescribed 	Programs and services related to management of recreation areas owned by the Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Town Conservation Areas • Rural Conservation Areas 	Programs and services related to the Authority's Strategic Plan and financed through grants, donations or other sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reforestation • Healthy Watersheds / Stewardship • Woodland Management Services • Water Quality Monitoring • Aquatic Biomonitoring • Ecosystem Recovery Planning • Reptile Species At Risk • Invasive Species • St. Clair River Area of Concern • Conservation Education • Community Recognition • Watershed Report Cards • Community Conservation • Fee for Service Programs
Programs and services related to the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the authority, including any interests in land registered on title <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation of significant natural areas • Management of controlled lands 		
A program or service, other than a program or service described in paragraph 1, that has been prescribed by the regulations on or before the first anniversary of the day prescribed under clause 40 (3) (h) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently not applicable to SCRCA 		

Director's Comments:

It is requested that the above table be drafted for comparison to Provincial, Municipal and CA Board mandated programs from 10 years prior. It is also requested that the updated draft include:

- Costing for Provincially Mandated Programs
- Cost offset for Municipally Mandated Programs
- Direct relationship to Municipal levy for CA Board Mandated Programs
- The cost of program delivery and the implications of making cuts to any

BD-19-146

Bruzewicz – Stark

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated October 7, 2019.”

CARRIED

The Conservation Ontario Council meeting on September 30, 2019 was attended by Joe Faas, Larry Gordon and Brian McDougall. The Conservation Ontario budget as well as individual CA budgets were discussed. The December Conservation Ontario meeting will be attended by Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Jeff Yurek.

An overview was received from member Burrell and Director of Water Resources, Girish Sankar, who attended a meeting with Provincial Flood Advisor, Doug McNeil to discuss flood and erosion issues in the SCRCA watershed. Mr. McNeil completed a tour of

Ontario which included Regional Conservation Authority meetings to discuss local flood issues.

In an effort to maintain a unified voice and be better prepared for individual meetings with the Minister, Conservation Ontario is asking that CAs update each other on the discussions and outcomes of their own meetings. It is important that CAs spell out their uniqueness during these meetings.

BD-19-147

Schenk – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report of the September 30, 2019, Conservation Ontario Council meeting.”

CARRIED

A presentation was given by Tracy Prince, Director of Finance

Several supporting documents for the 2020 Draft Budget were reviewed:

1. Department Summary of the 2020 Total Draft Budget of \$8,621,792, this amount represents all potential projects that we are aware of to date. This document is also colour coded to indicate where the funding comes from.
2. Detailed Department Budgets for Departments that are covered by General Levy and would be considered “Core” activities or would directly support the “Core” activities (IT, GIS, Admin).
3. Reserve Analysis – 2019 is based on approved Budget and 2020 is based on Proposed.
4. Base funding to replace the Provincial Grant cut plus fund the Board Approved SWOOP costs. Included is an analysis of the 2019 CVA which is used for our 2020 Budget allocation of General Levy. This shows the increase across the watershed in the CVA from 2018 to 2019, we will term this as a passive increase in the tax base to the local municipalities. Also included is the population numbers provided by the ministry to calculate the cost of our levy to each individual, we have also used that same data to calculate where provide the average municipal tax revenue per person and the effective increase to that average tax. We have also included the cost of levy per population excluding Special Levy for 2020 compare to 2019 and the \$ Increase.
5. 2017 CO Comparative Survey Data.
 - Table 1 – All CAs
 - Table 2 – Neighbouring CAs
 - Table 3 – CA’s with similar apportionment population
 - Table 4 – CA’s with similar Square Km size
6. Percentage Breakdown of costs in General Levy Departments

Directors Comments:

Discussion regarding fees for planning and whether there are any redundancies or duplications within the planning services SCRCA provides. Municipal and County staff are seeking more clarity on responsibilities for planning variances.

Director Mike Stark stated his support for a 50/50 split for Fees and Levy for Planning. It was requested that levy be calculated per 100,000 in Assessment.

BD-19-149

Broad – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors directs the Chair, Vice Chair and General Manager to meet with the County and Municipal staff to review options to eliminate duplication and meet required commenting.”

CARRIED

Director’s Comments:

It is requested that the General Manager report back to the November, 2019 Board of Directors meeting with feedback from County and Municipal staff regarding Planning services and fees. It is also requested that SCRCA staff consider any surplus properties that could be sold or are of interest to Municipalities.

BD-19-150

Stark – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2020 preliminary draft budget of \$8,621,792.21 with a proposed municipal general levy of \$1,069,926 and further that this preliminary budget will be circulated to member municipalities for information and input based on our budget review process.”

TABLED

BD-19-151

Stark – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors direct staff investigate the sale of surplus lands and potential revenue from sale, current costs and potential savings.”

CARRIED

Under New Business:

A verbal report on the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation meeting from earlier in the day was given. An update regarding the request for additional funding was given. Due to the existing annual donation of roughly \$300,000.00 the Foundation does not believe it is in the position to offer more at this time. It is suggested that the SCRCA utilize and maximize the available funding restricted to specific lands and programs.

Director Mike Stark informed that there are Construction pylons along the walkway at Bright's Grove and all roads facing Lake Huron have been closed. Emergency Repairs have averaged \$50,000.00 per incident.


Response from SCRCA: Tenders for this repair project have recently closed. Water Resources staff are currently confirming details with the contractor. Repairs will be scheduled to occur shortly.

BD-19-152

Broad – Brown

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED



Joe Faas
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 5.1**

Report Date: November 6, 2018
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Subject: General Manager's Report

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report.

Meeting with Minister of Environment, Conservation & Parks Yurek

- ◆ We had our meeting with Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on the morning of Tuesday, November 5th
- ◆ Chair Faas, Vice Chair Gordon and I attended the meeting
- ◆ Holly Fullager (meeting coordinator) and Nicholas Cunha from the Minister's Office, Rebecca Teare from the Deputy Minister's Office, Ling Mark and Jessica Isaac from Great Lakes and Inland Waters Branch all attended the meeting. Representatives of both MPP McNaughton and MPP Bailey participated via conference call
- ◆ MECP staff were welcoming and engaged, and were very genuine in their appreciation of our time and information
- ◆ Unfortunately, as of Monday November 4th, the duration of each Authority's meeting with MECP were reduce from 90 minutes to 60 minutes – we were not informed of this change until the meeting was more than half over
- ◆ We walked, then skipped through our presentation (attached) with our Chair and Vice highlighting key messages and confirming municipal support for the Authority and our programs
- ◆ Also attached is a list of questions that had been raised at previous meetings and potential responses for each
- ◆ Several of these questions were asked and the Chair, Vice Chair and I all conveyed the information contained in the table in some form
- ◆ The Minister's staff confirmed that this is preliminary consultation and that further consultation will be coming this winter

- ◆ To close the meeting, we were asked if we wished to provide comment on More Homes, More Choices and the Ministers correspondence during the summer
- ◆ We brought forward our concerns regarding “mandatory/core programs”, the definition of each program area and what programs fall within the categories, and followed it up with explanations of the source(s) of funding for each of our program areas
- ◆ Staff thanked us for coming and for the information provided. They look forward to further discussion as consultations continues
- ◆ Attached is the presentation we offered at the meeting
- ◆ Although the document was prepared specifically for this meeting, the Chair, Vice Chair, myself and staff see this document as a valuable tool in conveying information with our municipal partners
- ◆ It may even provide some clarity to our budget discussions and may be used going forward as a base document for annual planning and reporting documents as well as even future budgets
- ◆ At the conclusion of the meeting, digital and print copies of the following were provided to the Ministry staff: 2018 Annual Report, 2018 Audited Financial Statements, 2016 Strategic Plan – A Way Forward, Watershed Report Card Report and Summary, Education Program and Campground Brochures
- ◆ Minutes of the meeting will be circulated and will include an offer to provide comment
- ◆ Further consultation, potentially this winter, will be important to determine the future relationship between Conservation Authorities and the Provincial Government

“Mandatory / Core” programs

- ◆ This document does not have the same content as the chart presented at the October meeting which outlined the “Mandatory / Core” programs of the Province, Municipalities and the Conservation Authority – however, it does answer some of the questions that could have been answered by the requested updates to that table
- ◆ The updated table will be provided prior to the December meeting as requested



History & Program Synopsis

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

Our History

In the 1940s, concerns mounted that renewable natural resources within the Province of Ontario were in an “unhealthy state” due to poor land, water and forestry practices. Coupled with the impacts of drought and deforestation, flooding and soil erosion became familiar and significant problems in both rural and urban communities throughout the province. As a result, the provincial government was encouraged to take action on these issues.

The *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) was passed in 1946 as a result of local municipalities and the province acknowledging that addressing issues of soil erosion and flooding was best managed at a watershed-based and local scale. Through this legislation, Conservation Authorities (CAs) were responsible for natural resource management programs including:
1) flood control, 2) watershed planning, 3) water quality, 4) soil conservation and stewardship, 5) protection and management of land, and 6) recreation and outdoor education.

3

FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS

1. Local Initiative
2. Cost-Sharing
3. Watershed Jurisdiction

“While some Authorities were brought into being because of flooding within their areas, all were aware of the necessity of carrying out such supplementary measures as improved methods of land use, reforestation, proper woodlot management, prevention of pollution, investigation of underground water supplies, wildlife status and recreation”

– Sydenham Valley Conservation Report, 1965



Sydenham Valley Conservation Authority

In 1961, the Sydenham Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) was established to manage natural resources within the watershed of the Sydenham River. The Sydenham Valley Conservation Report published in 1965 by the Ontario Department of Energy and Resource Management identified 30 recommendations to address local natural resource issues within the region. These recommendations included that the Authority...

"...assist in establishing effective erosion control measures including reforestation, vegetative and mechanical means."

"...establish a tree-planting program and land acquisition program to plant and protect an area in excess of 8,500 acres."

"...provide technical assistance regarding best management practices for woodlot protection and management to private landowners."

"...ensure that municipal councils are fully aware of flood potential and that further development in these areas be controlled to minimize this danger as fully as possible."

"...consider the development of the following areas for conservation and recreation: Alvinston, Avonry, Coldstream, Dresden, Duthill, Oakdale and Petrolia."

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

The area of the Sydenham Valley Conservation Authority expanded in 1973 and 1974 with the incorporation of watersheds that drained into Lake St. Clair, the St. Clair River, and Lake Huron. As a result, the SVCA became the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority to reflect the more regional area the organization represented. One more expansion came in 2005 when the southern portion of Lambton Shores was added to the SCRCA watershed region.

Governance and Operation

Board of Directors

The SCRCA operates under the direction of a Board of Directors appointed by our 17 member municipalities. The number of representatives for each municipality is dependent on the population under SCRCA jurisdiction. The SCRCA Board of Directors has 20 members and meets at least six times a year.

Elections and appointments occur for a number of board-related positions including:

- SCRCA Chair and Vice-Chair
- Executive Committee
- Flood Action Committee
- Low Water Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Western Fair Association
- Sydenham Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Committee
- Planning Policy Procedural Manual and Technical Guidelines Committee

Staff

The success of SCRCA programs wouldn't be possible without the dedication, knowledge and expertise of our staff. Annually, the SCRCA typically employs over 60 staff including:

- 24 permanent full-time staff
- 7 seasonal staff
- 2 permanent part-time staff
- 3 long-term contract staff
- ≈ 22 short-term contract staff (e.g., tree planters, biological technicians, etc.)
- 2 or more positions through the Job Creation Partnership (OJCP) with the Province of Ontario. This program provides participants with the opportunity to gain important work experience. OJCP participants are often successful in finding more-permanent employment in the conservation field while they are in the program or shortly after.

DID YOU KNOW?

Member municipalities are well represented on our Board. The SCRCA has the **5th** largest Board of Directors among CAs allowing ample opportunity for members to provide comment and direction on the Authority's operation.



Our Watershed
 4,130 km²
 14 subwatersheds
 16 municipalities
 1 regional municipality
 2 counties
 Population - 170,405

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority **Watershed Facts and Figures**

1. The SCRCA is located in the agricultural heartland of Ontario. The counties of Lambton and Middlesex along with the Regional Municipality of Chatham-Kent account for 18% of the total cropland in the province.
2. The SCRCA is home to Sarnia’s Chemical Valley. Over 60 oil refineries and chemical industries are located within an area of approximately 24 km² along the St. Clair River shoreline. Chemical Valley holds 40% of Canada’s petrochemical industry.
3. The SCRCA lies solely within the Carolinian life zone and supports one of the most species-rich watersheds in all of Canada.

9th
LARGEST CA
BY AREA IN ONTARIO



Our Vision

"A healthy and sustainable natural environment in the St. Clair Region"

Our Mission

"...to provide leadership through coordination of watershed planning, implementation of resource management programs and promotion of conservation awareness, in cooperation with others."

What We Do for You, Our Communities and Our Province

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority implements programs to benefit the environment and the people who live within it. Since our inception, our programs have evolved to reflect the changing priorities in our watershed. We have developed a culture of "success through partnerships" that has allowed us to bring new talent and funding opportunities to our region to build healthier and more resilient watersheds.

In 2016, SCRCA staff and board members reviewed Authority programs to identify opportunities to improve and enhance the services we provide to the watershed. A five-year Strategic Plan was developed that established strategic goals and actions. Four main goals were identified:

GOAL 1

Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion. Strategic actions include:

- Develop a climate change strategy;
- Improve data acquisition;
- Improve regulations mapping;
- Review the operating criteria for the W. Darcy McKeough Floodway.

GOAL 2

Protect, manage and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes. Strategic actions include:

- Develop streamlined efficient processes for providing permits, standard compliance requirements and comments to municipalities;
- Support protection of natural heritage systems;
- Develop new tools to support stewardship practices and evaluate the effectiveness of best management practices;
- Review aquatic monitoring program;
- Focus on programs that will reduce phosphorus loading into the Great Lakes.

GOAL 3

Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment. Strategic actions include:

- Develop a comprehensive social media presence;
- Create additional conservation education opportunities for secondary schools;
- Expand engagement with our First Nation neighbours;
- Develop policies to guide the acquisition of conservation lands and update property management plans.

GOAL 4

Build a stronger and more valued organization through business excellence. Strategic actions include:

- Corporate excellence and sustainability;
- Implement a strategic succession planning process;
- Promote a culture of continual learning.

Our Programs

SCRCA programs adhere to integrated watershed management concepts where individual program area outcomes benefit a number of watershed priorities. For example, a project aimed to protect Species at Risk (SAR) can also reduce flooding and help protect water quality, which in turn enhances local recreation opportunities.

We have developed strong ties with the municipalities we serve. Through a supportive Board of Directors, our programs continue to reflect local needs and priorities. We continue to re-evaluate our programs to ensure they meet the current and future needs of our watershed and municipalities.

Program Highlights



The construction of the McKeough Floodway represents the largest dam and diversion project in the Province of Ontario. Built in 1984, the dam was constructed to reduce flooding in the town of Wallaceburg – at the time, known as “Ontario’s most flood-prone community”.

Capital costs for the floodway were recovered after its first use in 1984, which saved the town of Wallaceburg an estimated \$30 million in flood damages.



The SCRCA owns and operates **15 Conservation Areas** and **6 Habitat Management Areas**.

These spaces offer opportunities for local communities and visitors to experience nature and explore wetlands, heritage sites, shoreline vistas and forests. Many of our conservation areas accommodate a variety of outdoor activities including boating, hiking, birdwatching and fishing.

Departments

Planning and Regulations
Water Resources
Biology
Conservation Services
Communications
Financial Services
IT/GIS
Conservation Areas
Forestry



Three of the SCRCA Conservation Areas are home to regional campgrounds. Combined, the three campgrounds have 500 sites available for both overnight and seasonal camping opportunities. Over 20 seasonal staff are hired annually to work at the campgrounds.


100% financially self-sufficient

Gross revenue of **\$1.2 million** in 2018.




5,000 homes in Wallaceburg have been protected from flooding and erosion with the operation and on-going maintenance of the W. Darcy McKeough Floodway

Program Highlights


 **3.8 million trees** have been planted throughout the SCRCA watershed creating over 1,900 hectares (4,695 acres) of new forest.



 The most recent analysis of the St. Clair Region watershed indicates that forest cover sits below the federally recommended target of 30% at

11.3%


The SCRCA continues to promote habitat creation to increase biodiversity, improve water quality and resilience to flooding.

 Over **900** stewardship projects have been implemented on private lands in the St. Clair Region to improve rural soil and water quality since 2001.

Project costs to landowners have been offset by corporate donations and by federal and provincial government grant programs that SCRCA staff actively seek out and apply for.

Over **\$3.1 million** has been secured for landowner stewardship projects through these alternative funding opportunities.




 **3,500** metres of shoreline has been improved and protected along the St. Clair River and Lake Huron shorelines.



In addition to protecting important local infrastructure, many of the projects provide improved fish and wildlife habitat and access to these water bodies.

 Almost **500,000** students have been engaged in conservation education programming throughout the watershed. Elementary and secondary students are educated on the importance of preserving our natural heritage and conserving our environment through both in-class and outdoor programming.



 Over **125,000** residents living in the SCRCA watershed and receive their drinking water from Lake Huron and the St. Clair River are protected

from significant drinking water threats through the administration of the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Water Protection Plan, developed in partnership with the Upper Thames River and Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authorities.



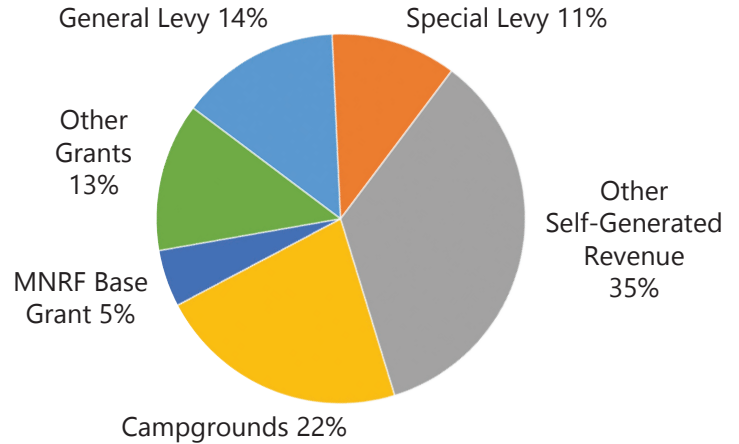
How We Do It? - The Financial Picture

The SCRCA ranks 6th among Conservation Authorities for Section 39 program funding from the Province. The 2019 cuts have reduced that funding support to just 6% of the total budget for those program areas.

In addition to the Provincial Transfer Payment, municipal levies, and self-generated revenues, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority actively seeks additional grants, donations and contracts to support conservation in our region. These funds are provided by several federal, provincial and municipal government agencies along with corporate and non-government organizations. Relying on grant funding for such a large proportion of the budget, however, is unsustainable. As a result, over \$275,000 has been withdrawn from Authority reserves over the last four years.

This trend is expected to continue in 2019 due to the cut in Provincial Transfer Payment and levy underfunding with a withdrawal of \$342,000.

2018 Revenue

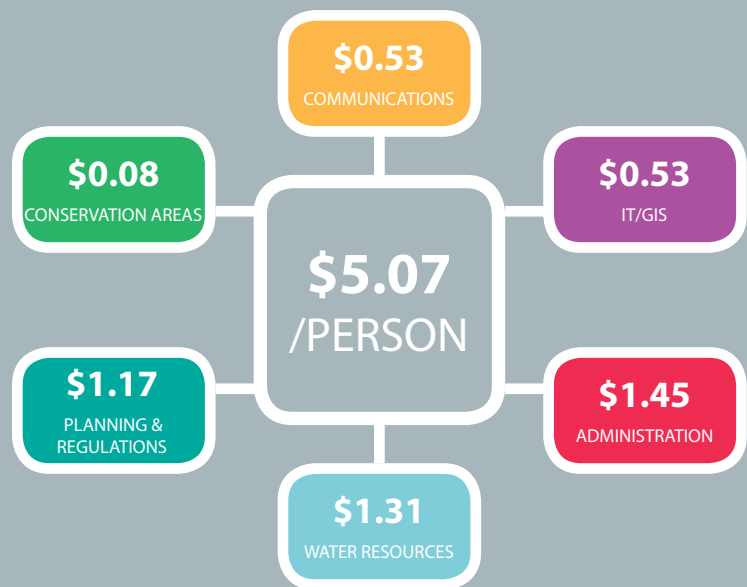


Funding for our Conservation Areas occurs differently than with other programs at the SCRCA. Conservation Areas located in urban centres are funded by the municipality they are located in through a special levy while in most cases, regional and rural Conservation Areas receive 10% of their budgeted costs through the general levy.


Where does your \$5.07 go?

The SCRCA ranks in the top five Conservation Authorities for self-generated revenue as a percentage of budget and, as a result, our programs and services only cost \$5.07 annually per person in the SCRCA watershed (based on 2018 data).

The SCRCA also holds the lowest municipal levy as a percentage of budget in Ontario (14%). This is 9% below our closest competitor and 31% below the provincial average of 45%.




Water Resources


 **25.8%** OF GENERAL LEVY
78.6% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Flood Forecasting & Warning – Responsible for data collection, interpretation, and assessment to determine flood risk within the watershed. Under flood conditions, alert municipalities, flood responders, media, and residents to potential road closures and hazards.

Flood Response – Maintain and operate the W. Darcy McKeough Floodway as prescribed through the engineering operating criteria to prevent major flooding in the Town of Wallaceburg.

Flood & Erosion Control – Assist municipalities with the construction and maintenance of flood and erosion control infrastructure including lakeshore and riverine dykes and shoreline protection projects.

 **Drinking Water Source Protection** – Implement the St. Clair Region Source Protection Plan to ensure that sources of municipal drinking water are protected from present and future threats. Support municipalities in the development and implementation of risk management services.

 **Groundwater Monitoring** – Local groundwater data collection and sampling. Share information with the Province to assist in understanding groundwater movement, supply and quality throughout Ontario.

Planning & Regulations

 **23.1%** OF GENERAL LEVY
6.5% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Planning Advice – Assist municipalities in adhering to the natural hazard and natural heritage policies of the *Planning Act* and Provincial Policy Statement, through the identification of natural hazard areas and natural heritage features, the discussion of land-use planning concerns related to these features, and review of technical studies. Develop and maintain watershed management plans in partnership with government agencies, municipalities, and other stakeholders to ensure proper protection and/or mitigation of natural hazards, natural heritage, and water resources in the watershed. Serve as a resource to municipal staff on relevant conservation issues to ensure natural resources and other environmental matters are considered early in the development process.


Safe Development – Review development proposals and provide information and advice to municipalities, the general public, developers, and consultants. Review and comment on permit applications within regulated areas (O. Reg. 171/06 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*) throughout the region and issue appropriate permits and/or clearances as required. Ensure efficient application processing to abide by federal and provincial agreements to provide “one-window” service. Ensure responsibilities associated with protecting lives and properties in hazard areas are reviewed based on board-approved policies. Ensure residents and their proposed developments do not aggravate existing hazard issues (e.g., erosion)

Conservation Areas

 **1.6%** OF GENERAL LEVY
0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39


Day-Use Areas – 15 publicly accessible Conservation Areas. Almost 50 km of non-motorized, multi-use recreational trails maintained by Conservation Authority staff. Provide nature-based recreational opportunities that benefit both physical and mental health and assist communities in reducing rates of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Offer tourism opportunities that attract visitors to member municipalities. Attract new businesses that want to grow their companies in progressive regions where recreational opportunities in the natural environment are abundant.

Campgrounds

 **0%** OF GENERAL LEVY
0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Campgrounds – Three regional campgrounds located in Petrolia, Alvinston, and Warwick. Offer 500 campsites that attract individuals and families to our region where they can enjoy and connect with our local environment. Operated and financed on self-generated revenue.

IT/GIS

 **10.5%** OF GENERAL LEVY
1.5% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Information Technology (IT) – Provision and maintenance of technology infrastructure required for corporate operations (e.g., servers, network, computers, connectivity, websites, security, system back-up, and tech support). Support the main administration building and four field offices (campgrounds and McKeough Dam operations).

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – Creation and maintenance of geographic data required to implement provincially mandated planning and regulations programs. Utilize provincial guidelines for mapping of natural heritage and natural hazard features to promote safe development. Provide information management services for geographic data sets collected by all departments including biological monitoring sites, tree planting, meteorological and flood forecasting sites, stewardship, erosion control projects, and other extension services. Provision and access of mapping services internally to staff and externally to consultants, member municipalities, and the general public via an online mapping portal.

Biology



0% OF GENERAL LEVY

0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Healthy Watersheds – Agricultural outreach and education including soil health conferences, workshops, and demonstrations. Assist rural landowners in developing Environmental Farm Plans and implementing best management practices including wetland creation, soil erosion projects, and livestock fencing.

Water Quality Monitoring – In partnership with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, collect water samples along the Sydenham River, St. Clair River tributaries and select Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair tributaries to support long-term datasets for these watercourses. Assess aquatic health and water quality through analysis of biotic (e.g., benthic macro-invertebrates, *E. coli*) and abiotic (e.g., metals, nutrients) parameters. Data is also used to monitor phosphorus levels entering the Lake Erie watershed and the aquatic health of critical habitat for Species at Risk (SAR) including mussels. Water quality data is needed to prioritize environmental projects and contributes to numerous resource management initiatives throughout Ontario including Drinking Water Source Protection, phosphorus management, Watershed Report Cards, the St. Clair River Area of Concern program, the Recovery Strategy for Aquatic Species at Risk, Rural Storm Water Management, provincial water quality reports, and assessing the impacts of agricultural best management practices and wetland construction on water quality.

Watershed Report Cards – Prepared every five years to measure the environmental health of the St. Clair Region and report on watershed conditions by analyzing a set of indicators (e.g., total phosphorus and *E. coli* concentrations, forest cover, wetland cover). Indicators are used to assess the status of three resource categories (surface water quality, forest conditions, and groundwater quality) in comparison to provincial standards. Data is used to identify priority areas for environmental projects within the watershed by the SCRCA, partner organizations, government agencies, and local residents to conserve, restore and protect local natural resources.

Watershed Science – Plants, Animals and Communities – Spearhead monitoring projects to assess the health of aquatic life in the Sydenham River, known worldwide for its biodiversity. Monitoring programs include those aimed at provincially or federally designated Species at Risk including fish, mussels, and reptiles (snakes and turtles). Implement Species at Risk policies and assist in determining appropriate population recovery actions.

The SCRCA is home to:



80 SPECIES OF FRESHWATER FISH



ENDANGERED EASTERN SPINY SOFTSHELL TURTLE



ENDANGERED EASTERN FOXSNAKE

Conservation Services



0% OF GENERAL LEVY
0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Seedling Afforestation and Tree Planting – Plant approximately 60,000 trees annually in the St. Clair Region with 3.8 million trees planted since the beginning of the program. Meet with private, public, and industrial landowners throughout the year to assist in the development of tree-planting plans.

Habitat Restoration – Seek funding and partner organizations to restore habitat throughout the watershed including corporate organizations.

Stewardship – Provide technical and financial assistance to landowners undertaking best management practices on their properties. Seek funding to offset costs.

Tree Seed Collection – Conduct seed collection every spring and fall. Thousands of litres of seed are collected to ensure future trees are genetically adapted to the St. Clair Region.

Pest Management – Vegetation management program for tree plantings and municipal drains. Phragmites Coordinator for Lambton County. Implement larvicide program as part of the Lambton County West Nile Virus Risk Management initiative (treat 16,500 catch basins annually).

Managed Forest Tax-Plan Approvals – Create forest-management plans as part of provincial Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP).

Forestry




0% OF GENERAL LEVY
0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Forestry – Member of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association. There is low forest cover in the St. Clair Region – provide advice to both public and private landowners on proper protection and management to ensure sustainability. Offer services in the areas of woodlot management, forest inventory, silviculture, tree-marking prescriptions, tree identification, and forest health.


Land Management (outside of Conservation Areas) – Manage McKeough Upstream lands acquired through expropriation for flooding during operation of the W. Darcy McKeough Dam. Activities include wildlife habitat restoration, soil erosion reduction projects, and administration of agricultural leases which generate revenue to manage and maintain the lands and pay taxes.


Woodlands Conservation Bylaw – On behalf of Lambton County, administer the Woodlands Conservation Bylaw. Educate local landowners on the regulation and on woodland conservation practices.

Communications


 **10.4%** OF GENERAL LEVY
0% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Communications – Maintain and foster positive relationships with local media. Create media releases and support and coordinate media interviews with Authority board members and staff. Organize and execute local events within the watershed. Produce Authority publications, presentations and other outreach materials including Annual Reports, Watershed Report Cards, and newsletters. Maintain and manage social media networks.

 **Conservation Education** – Execute over 25 hands-on, curriculum-based conservation education programs for elementary and secondary school students (outdoor and in-class) including certification courses in support of Ontario’s Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program. Develop and maintain relationships with local teachers and school boards. Participate in local educational events and foster partnerships within the organization and community to enhance educational experiences and identify funding opportunities.

 **St. Clair River Area of Concern** – In partnership with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, coordinate and report on actions identified in the Remedial Action Plan for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC). Facilitate partnerships between government agencies, community groups, industry, and Indigenous communities that will promote the restoration of Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) identified in the River.

Administration

 **28.6%** OF GENERAL LEVY
13.4% OF PROVINCIAL SECTION 39

Governance and Bylaws – Corporate and strategic planning. Administrative policy development and implementation. Maintain and update Authority Bylaws in cooperation with Authority Board of Directors (last updated November 2018).

Board Relations – Maintain communication with Board of Directors and provide information as requested. Develop reports and online access for Authority Board Meeting packages.

Human Resources and Legislative Adherence – Support hiring, orientation, training and development of SCRCA staff. Facilitate succession planning. Ensure compliance with legislation and regulations including but not limited to *Employment Standards Act*, *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, *Ontario Human Rights Act*, *Labour Relations Act*, *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*, etc.

Budget and Audit – Support the Board of Directors, staff, and programs through budgets, financial oversight, accounting, and administration of payroll and benefits. Ensure financial accountability to the Board of Directors, the community, funding partners, and senior levels of government.

Meeting Date: October 17, 2019
Report Date: October 1, 2019
Submitted by: Ashley Fletcher

Item 6.1

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 December

Regarding BD-19-53 & BD-19-130

Breakdown of Municipalities participating in Large Stock Tree Planting programs and how Municipalities can become involved.

Refer to Item 10.1

Regarding BD-19-113

Directors requested a report and discussion on the topic of communicating new and amended policies to Municipalities. Directors asked that the drain enclosure policy be brought to the November Board of Directors meeting for review.

Deferred to December

Regarding BD-19-126

Update on SCRCA staff's direction to contact Municipal Treasurers prior to sending the draft DMAF project budget to confirm the ability to commit funds over a span of 10 years.

(Girish Sankar to give a verbal update)

Regarding BD-19-146

An updated table of Provincial, Municipal and CA Board Mandated programs including a 10-year comparison, cost of program delivery, offsets and relationships to levy as well as implications of program cuts – some of the information is contained in attachments to 5.1 but the updated table is deferred to December.

Deferred to December

Regarding BD-19-149

Directors request a report providing an update on meetings with County and Municipal Planning staff regarding redundancies and duplications within the SCRCA planning services.

Refer to Motion 11.3

(Dallas Cundick to handout a report and review with the board verbally)

BD-19-150

Stark – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2020 preliminary draft budget of \$8,621,792.21 with a proposed municipal general levy of \$1,069,926 and further that this preliminary budget will be circulated to member municipalities for information and input based on our budget review process.”

TABLED

Refer to Motion 12.6

RE BD-19-151

It was requested that staff investigate the sale of surplus lands and potential revenue from sale, current costs and potential savings

Refer to Item 7.2 and 7.3

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item** 7.1
Report Date: October 30, 2019
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Subject: Conservation Areas Proposed Fees 2020

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors approves the 2020 Conservation Areas Proposed Fee Schedule.

Conservation Area Fee Increases

Fee increases are a result of increasing staffing costs, maintenance, park upgrades, and general cost increases. Fee increases are also required to ensure financial reserves are maintained at levels sufficient to undertake large capitals expenditures (septic system updates, road improvements, etc.) when required. With the proposed increases our rates remain at or below most local private and regional Conservation Authority campgrounds.

Summary of Significant Proposed Changes to Conservation Area Fees

Several changes to the Conservation Area Fees have been proposed for the 2020 season. Below is a summary of the significant changes:

1. Seasonal camping season shortened (April 25, 2020 – October 12, 2020)
 - Previously April 15 – April 15 the following year
 - Seasonal camping permit now aligns with open season for the park
 - Campers who do not wish to remain in the park for the following year will be required to vacate at the end of the season
 - Previously, campers could remain on-site until the following April, leaving staff scrambling to repair sites and fill them when campers vacated in the Spring
 - With a paid deposit for the following season, trailers can remain on-site through the winter
2. A \$200 non-refundable deposit is required by Thanksgiving 2020 to reserve site for 2021
 - Will allow staff to better plan for the following season
3. Change from \$60 Weekends to Off-Peak pricing
 - 60 buck weekends were introduced when the parks had very low occupancy outside of July/ August and long weekends
 - Very successful promotion that has filled the parks most weekends during this slower season

- Change to off-peak pricing will allow campers to take advantage of reduced rates 7 days/week
 - Allow those who can camp mid-week to do so, freeing up sites on the weekends
 - Encourage campers to stay more than 2 nights during off-peak
4. Increase to \$13 reservation fee
 - Previously the reservation fee was \$8
 - \$13 is comparable to other Conservation Authority campgrounds and provincial parks
 - Increase will offset the costs of CAMIS (on-line reservation system launching in January of 2020)
 5. Removing swimming passes from the fee schedule
 - Almost no sales annually
 - Day use visitors will still have access to the pool when it is open (regular day use fees apply)

2020 Camping Fee Comparison October 3, 2019						
Campground	30 Amp Seasonal Rate including Winter Storage, Taxes, and Hydro	Overnight Serviced (per night)	Overnight Un-serviced (per night)	Day Use Vehicle Pass	Seasonal Vehicle Pass	Pump-out
St. Clair Region *proposed 2020 rates*	\$2380	*Peak Season* \$48 weekly \$288	*Peak Season* \$39 weekly \$234	\$10	\$60	\$35/service \$225 bi-weekly \$450 weekly
St. Clair Region *2019 rates*	\$2250	\$46 weekly \$276	\$39 weekly \$234	\$8	\$60	\$30/service \$200 bi-weekly \$400 weekly
Upper Thames River *2019 rates*	\$ 2700 regular \$2965 waterfront \$3665 premium	\$49 weekly \$ 322.00	\$39 weekly \$256	\$14	\$ 125.00	\$50/service \$305 bi-weekly \$610 weekly
Maitland Valley *2019 rates*	\$2550	\$55 Weekly \$335	\$ 38 weekly \$232	\$15	\$100	
Kettle Creek *2018 rates*	\$2400 (plus hydro) (no winter storage available – all trailers removed from site)	\$52 Weekly \$325	\$42 Weekly \$253	\$ 10	\$80	\$ 40 per pump out

Ontario Parks *2019 rates*	NA	\$42.66 - \$52.55	\$37.57 - \$46	\$12.25 - \$21	\$125	NA
St. Clair Township (Cathcart, Cundick, Mooretown) *2019* rates	\$ 2245	\$42 - \$50 Weekly \$275				
Great Canadian Hideaway *2019 rates*	\$2542.50 (plus hydro)	\$55.37	\$45.20	\$ 5.00 per person \$ 16.00 vehicle		\$ 141.25 per season
Lakewood Christian Campground *2019 rates*	\$2260 - \$2542.50 (sewers included) (winter storage extra)	\$ 54.24 (sewer incl) (Add \$ 5.00 / night for long weekends) Weekly \$325.44	\$ 42.94 (sewer incl) (Add \$ 5.00/ night for long weekends) Weekly \$257.64	\$ 5.65/ person or \$ 11.30/ family	\$ 67.80	
Shady Pines *2019 rates*	\$2655.50 (winter storage extra)	\$55.37	\$45.20			
Our Ponderosa Ipperwash *2019 rates*	\$3904.15 - \$4073.65 (plus hydro, includes sewer) (more amenities than other local campgrounds)	\$ 84.75 (includes sewer) Weekly \$508.50				
Mitchell's Bay Marine Park *2018 rates*	\$3197.90 - \$5565.25 (plus hydro, some sites have sewer)	\$49.72 – \$62.15 Weekly \$323.18				\$31.50/service \$474.60 weekly

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: November 1, 2018
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 7.2

Subject: Review of Conservation Areas for Surplus Lands

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Conservation Area surplus lands, where no lands have been identified as surplus through this initial review.

Background:

SCRCA owns lands that make up 15 conservation areas. Of these, three operate as campgrounds, and twelve are day use areas. These lands have been acquired for a number of reasons, mainly flood protection, recreation, and to protect significant environmental features. Properties acquired for flood protection are used for parks or other recreational purposes where feasible.

Flood Protection - In order to protect against flooding, Conservation Authorities have constructed and maintained protective infrastructure such as dams and dykes or purchased lands located in hazardous areas. In the past, both the provincial and federal governments have contributed to these projects. (Conservation Ontario)

From the SCRCA Watershed Plan Background Report: Recreation Land Management (1984):

3.0 Program Direction

The revised Conservation Authorities Act of 1981 sets out that the Authority has the mandate to use lands owned or controlled by the Authority for park or other recreational purposes.

3.1 Identification and Rationale

Properties managed under the Conservation and Recreation Land Management Program were in most cases, acquired under the Water Management Program and then subsequently utilized for recreational purposes. Areas such as Melwood and Highland Glen were specifically purchased for their recreation potential.

Under the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, any lands owned by a Conservation Authority are governed by the Province. Below is the section of the Act that addresses lands:

Approval of Minister

S.21 (2) If the Minister has made a grant to an authority under section 39 in respect of land, the authority shall not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of the land under clause (1) (c) without the approval of the Minister except if,

- (a) the disposition is for provincial or municipal infrastructure and utility purposes;
- (b) the province, the provincial agency, board or commission affected by the disposition or the municipal government, agency, board or commission affected by the disposition has approved it; and
- (c) the authority informs the Minister of the disposition. 2010, c. 16, Sched. 10, s. 1

Terms and conditions

(3) The Minister may impose terms and conditions on an approval given under subsection (2), including a condition that the authority pay a specified share of the proceeds of the disposition to the Minister. 1996, c. 1, Sched. M, s. 44 (3).

Summary:

Property	Size (ha)	Use	Environmental Features/Hazards
Camden CA	1.53	Natural Area	Floodplain, River
Tony Stranak CA	6.46	Park with trail, pavilion, washroom, playground	Floodplain, River
Eslie Dodge CA	8.1	Park with trail, stage, tennis courts, pond	Floodplain, River
Coldstream CA	48.01	Park with trail, pavilion, washroom, reservoir	Floodplain, River, PSW, Woodland
Bridgeview CA	58.97	Park with trail, pavilion, washroom, reservoir, sports fields	Floodplain, River, Wetland, Woodland
CJ McEwen CA *ownership to be transferred to municipality	5.53	Park with washroom, beach access	Shoreline
Highland Glen CA	11.47	Park with pavilion, portable washroom, beach, boat launch	Shoreline, Floodplain, River, Woodland

Wawanosh CA	44.53	Park with trails, pavilion, portable washroom, wetlands, wildlife viewing	Floodplain, PSW, Woodland
Strathroy CA	81.14	Park with trails, reservoir, splash-pad, skate park, sports fields	Floodplain, PSW, Woodland
Crothers CA	8.58	Park with trail, pavilion, playground	Floodplain, River
Shetland CA	9.37	Park with camping, river access, playground	Floodplain, River
Peers Wetland CA	13.4	Park with trail, wetland for wildlife viewing	Floodplain, PSW, River

All 3 campgrounds contain a combination of floodplain, Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW), and woodlands. Campground lands were acquired through government funding and donation. The campgrounds are financially self-sufficient and employ approximately 30 full-time, part-time, or seasonal staff.

All properties still provide the function of either flood protection or recreation. All properties, with the exception of CJ McEwen were believed to have been purchased with at least some provincial funds. The sale of lands are subject to the approval of the Minister and proceeds may be subject to terms and conditions. At this time, staff have not identified surplus conservation area lands.

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item** 7.3
Report Date: October 28, 2019
Submitted by: Tim Payne

Subject: Surplus None Conservation Area Lands

RE BD-19-151

It was requested that staff investigate the sale of surplus lands and potential revenue from sale, current costs and potential savings

Recommendation:

That the Board of directors acknowledges the staff review of SCRCA lands for the determination of surplus lands and further accepts that the lands are self-sustaining and generate revenue that after expenses, contribute to the annual budget.

Background:

The McKeough Upstream lands were acquired through expropriation for the purpose of flooding during the operation of the W. Darcy McKeough Dam. At the time of construction, landowners upstream were given the option to allow a flood easement on their land with a one-time payment, sell the portion of their land that will be flooded, or sell the entire property.

Therefore, when viewing the location map there are gaps between the lands that the SCRCA owns, based on the decision of the owner at the time.

The McKeough Dam and floodway were constructed as a joint project with the Province, Municipalities, and the SCRCA. The Province contributed 90% to 100% of the funds to purchase the easements and/or lands.

Under the Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27, any lands owned by a Conservation Authority are governed by the Province. Below is the section of the Act that addresses lands:

Approval of Minister

(2) If the Minister has made a grant (2) an authority under section 39 in respect of land, the authority shall not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of the land under clause (1) (c) without the approval of the Minister except if,

(a) the disposition is for provincial or municipal infrastructure and utility purposes;

(b) the province, the provincial agency, board or commission affected by the disposition or the municipal government, agency, board or commission affected by the disposition has approved it; and

(c) the authority informs the Minister of the disposition. 2010, c. 16, Sched. 10, s. 1

Terms and conditions

(3) The Minister may impose terms and conditions on an approval given under subsection (2), including a condition that the authority pay a specified share of the proceeds of the disposition to the Minister. 1996, c. 1, Sched. M, s. 44 (3).

The lands have been reviewed under the following criteria:

- Is the land impacted by operations of the McKeough Dam?
- Is the unaffected portion of local, provincial or global significance?
- Is the land woodland or agricultural?
- Is the land revenue generating?
- If required, can the land be severed, and still be of interest to a buyer?

Strategic Objectives(s):

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

Because what we do on land is reflected in our water and ecosystems, the SCRCA develops and implements programs that protect our land resources and promote watershed stewardship practices that lead to healthy, sustainable communities and industries.

Management of Authority Owned Lands: Through the completion of Property Management Plans, the Authority continues to manage its lands to balance revenue production and effective management of woodlands, wetlands and biodiversity.

Goal 3 – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment

Through the lands we manage and own, as well as the educational programs we deliver, the SCRCA provides opportunities for our communities to understand and appreciate the value of their natural environment as well as the social and economic benefits of protecting that environment.

Conservation Lands: The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and its Foundation own more than 2,100 hectares of land including beaches along Lake Huron, campgrounds, day use parks, wetlands, forests, floodplains, and farmland. A wide range of recreation activities are available on these lands including swimming, boating, hiking, bird watching, camping, fishing, and hunting.

Financial Impact:

As the majority of the lands are marginal and not considered A1 or A2 agriculture land, the appraised value will be on the low end of the market value range.

The Province, under its jurisdiction, may in fact keep the majority, if not all of the revenue generated by the sale of any lands.

Staff will continue to look at cost saving opportunities for land management.

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 8.1**
Report Date: November 4, 2019
Submitted by: Emily De Cloet, Water Resources Specialist

Subject: Watershed Conditions Report

Highlights:

- Current flood threat is moderate to high as water levels remain elevated into floodplains in some locations
- With already high water levels forecasted to exceed record highs in early 2020, the upcoming spring freshet is anticipated as being a very high flood threat
- Significant rainfall in October greatly surpassed monthly normals and triggered widespread flooding throughout the region

Flood Threat

Locations across the watershed have received upwards of 200 mm of rain in the last two weeks. By the evening of October 31st, some locations had received 125 mm of rain within a 48 hour period, resulting in water levels rising quickly into floodplain areas and over roads. Conditions for operating the McKeough Dam had been met and the gates were closed at 8:45 pm on October 31st. As conditions began to settle, the procedure for opening the gates began November 1st and the gates were completely open by the evening of November 3rd.

As of this report, water levels remain elevated and in some cases are still over the bank and into floodplain areas or over roads. Winds from a westerly direction continue to slow the movement of water out of the Sydenham River and are contributing to the high water levels in Wallaceburg. While no significant precipitation is in the forecast, the flood threat is moderate to high due to the river levels remaining high.

Given that the surrounding lake levels are also high and are predicted to rise further, surpassing the 1986 record levels, the risk of moderate to severe flood condition in the spring freshet is anticipated for 2020.

Precipitation Conditions

Table 1: Precipitation totals compared to monthly normals.

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
Last Quarter	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
August	65.1	77.1	151.6	82.1	118.6	85.3	16.9	79.7
September	72.4	94	45.4	89.8	20.7	97.7	94.3	96.2
October	138.9	66	106.2	70.8	144.7	77.6	116.8	64.9
Averages								
last 3 month totals	276.4	237.1	303.2	242.7	284	260.6	228	240.8
last 3 month % of normal	116.6%		124.9%		109.0%		94.7%	
regional average	111.3%							
last 6 month totals	465.1	466.6	577	462.9	592	512.5	466.9	493.2
last 6 month % of normal	99.7%		124.6%		115.5%		94.7%	
regional average	108.6%							
last 12 month totals	888.2	846.8	1111.6	945.1	1101.1	987	833.1	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	104.9%		117.6%		111.6%		90.7%	
regional average	106.2%							

- Precipitation was substantially higher in October compared to the normal values for all regions
- Windsor has been below normal values for the past year, whereas all other regions are either at or above normal values

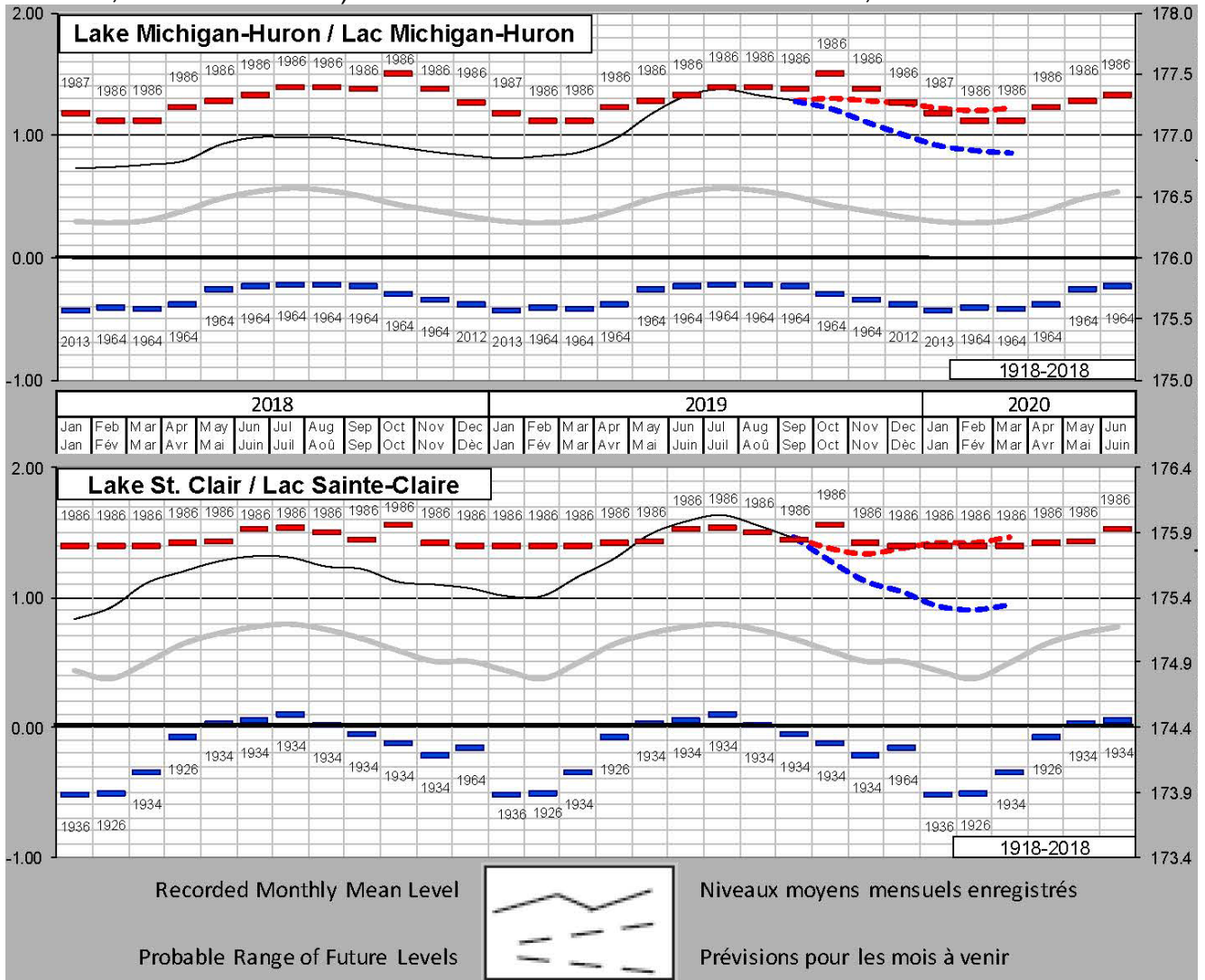
Great Lakes Levels

Table 2: Comparison of Great Lakes water levels for September 2019. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2019.

September 2019	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (Preliminary Data)	177.28	175.86	174.87
Mean for Month Last Year	176.94	175.62	174.66
Change	0.34	0.24	0.21
Mean for Month, Last 10 years	176.44	175.21	174.31
Change Compared to Current	0.84	0.65	0.56
Mean for Month, All Time	176.51	175.10	174.18
Change Compared to Current	0.77	0.76	0.69
Statistics for Period of Record			
Maximum Monthly Mean / Year	177.38	175.84	174.83
	1986	1986	1986
Change Compared to Current	-0.1	0.02	0.04
Minimum Monthly Mean / Year	175.76	174.34	173.38
	1964	1934	1934
Change Compared to Current	1.52	1.52	1.49
Next Month Estimate			
Probable Mean for Next Month	177.26	175.73	174.76
Next Month Compared to Current	-0.02	-0.13	-0.11

- Water levels remain high, surpassing average for the past decade
- Average levels for the month of September surpassed the 1986 all-time-high for Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie
- Water levels are forecasted to fall from the September levels

Figure 2: Recorded and projected water levels for Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair (in metres, relative to datum). Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2019.



- Water levels on Lake St. Clair are modeled to rise in December and surpass all-time-high levels for the first few months of 2020
- Lake Huron water levels are anticipated to fall from September levels, however surpass record levels in early 2020

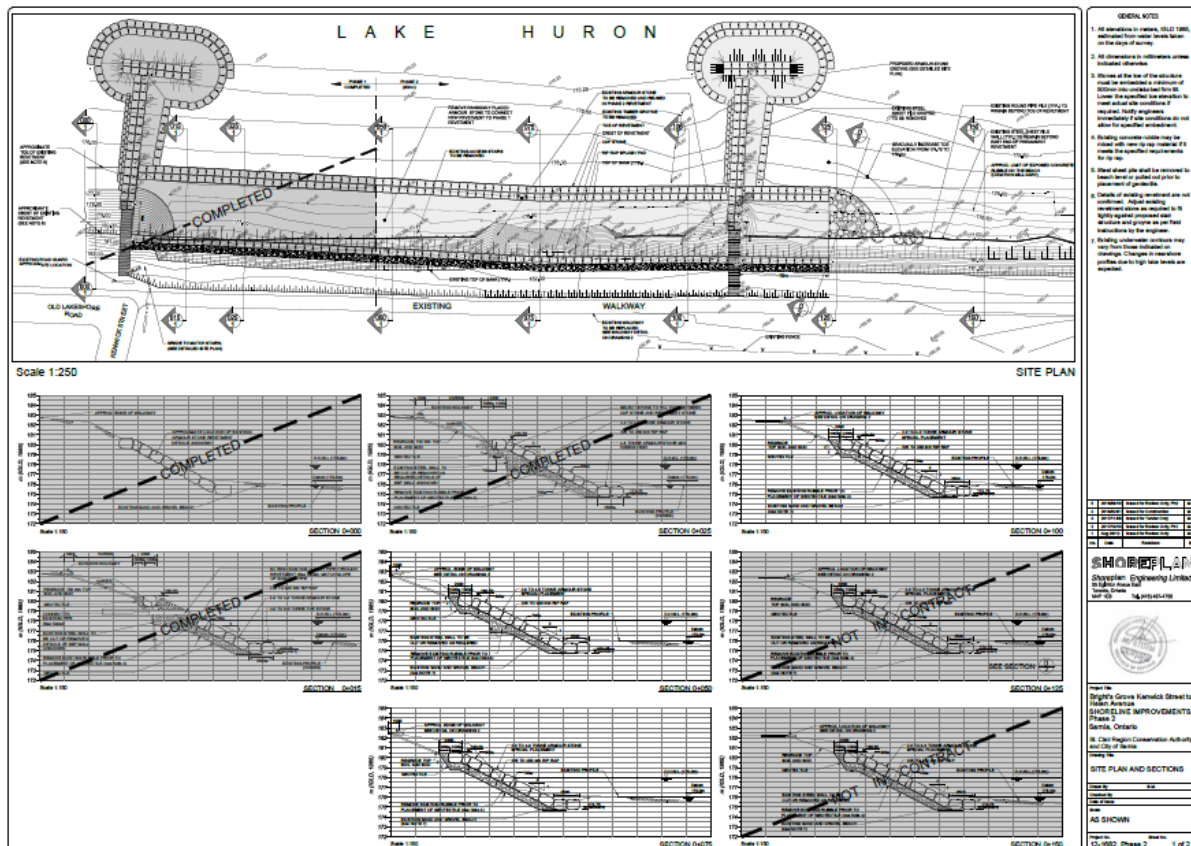
Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: October 31, 2019
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 8.2

Subject: Phase 2 – Brights Grove – Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue

Status Update: Phase II

- SCRCA and City of Sarnia staff are working to maximize funds received through a recent DMAF grant
- Tenders will be advertised for this phase of the project on September 2019.
- Tenders closed on October 3rd, 2019
- Seven tenders were submitted. Total tender prices vary from \$890,111.17 to \$1,283,273.20 (including HST).
- Cope Construction has been awarded this work.
- Construction is expected to begin December, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies



Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 9.1**
Report Date: October 29, 2019
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol, Anastassia Lagounova

Subject: Healthy Watershed Program Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Healthy Watersheds Program Update dated October 29, 2019.

Background:

The Healthy Watershed Program have restored or enhanced over 1,000 ha of land, and over 2.3 million trees planted throughout the region. These projects, along with our outreach and education events aim to minimize non-point source sedimentation, nutrient loading, and thermal changes of water bodies within our watershed.

Strategic Objective(s):

The Healthy Watershed Program fulfills Goal 2 of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority strategic objectives; Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes. The objective is being achieved through the strategic action; Develop new tools to promote stewardship practices and evaluate the effectiveness of Best Management Practices and Focus on Programs to Reduce Phosphorous Loading into the Great Lakes:

Financial Impact:

The Healthy Watershed Program is funded by grants, landowner contribution and corporate donations. Since its beginnings the program has distributed more than \$1.9 million in grants to landowners, which has resulted in over 550 projects (total project cost nearly \$5.75 million).

Update:

#TDTreeDays in Strathroy and Sarnia – September 28 and October 26



We are amazed at how many community volunteers participate in these events! For the three events, over 100 people attended! As always, our Strathroy event had great representation from the local Scouts and Guides. Between the two events, 400 native trees were planted. Sarnia Councillor Dave Boushy spoke some words of encouragement to the volunteers at the Mike Weir Park location. Funding from TD Friends of the Environment makes these events possible in our watershed each year.

Forest Fall Fair – September 20-22

As always, our snakes and turtles attracted a crowd at the Forest Fall Fair. This year, staff also included our new Invasive *Phragmites* Display. These informational panels aim to provide identification and management tips for rural landowners. Over 250 people stopped by the booth over the weekend and staff shared information on farm best management practices, conservation areas, and actions individuals can do to improve water quality.



Middlesex Clean Water Program

This program was reinstated in the spring of 2019 (with municipal funding support) and provides Middlesex landowners with funding for eligible and approved water quality improving best management practices. Staff presented four projects to the committee, three of them being livestock restriction fencing and a clean water diversion project. Funding was accepted for one of the three livestock restriction fencing projects. Clean water diversion project was deferred for funding until the next committee meeting.

Staff are continuing site visits with local landowners. Many are interested in wetlands and erosion control measures.

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.

Upcoming Events

Staff are hard at work putting together a number of workshops and a conference focusing on Soil Health during the winter months. Check back here for more information soon!

November 20 – The value of wetlands on marginal farmland

February 12 (Tentative date) – location TBD – Soil Health Conference highlighting local farmers and best management practices that can be implemented to improve soil health and reduce nutrient loss on farms.

December 11 – Soil Health Workshop Fertilizer Management & Understanding Your Soil Tests

March 11 - Soil Health Workshop – specific topic TBD;

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: October 31, 2019
Submitted by: Craig Paterson

Item 9.2

Subject: Reptiles at Risk

Background:

The Province has established the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund to enhance stewardship resources and efforts and stimulate investment in species at risk protection and recovery. Through the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund, the Province intends to provide grants to individuals and organizations for projects, which improve the status of species at risk and their habitats throughout Ontario.

With this funding, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's recovery efforts focus on the Spiny Softshell Turtle and the Eastern Foxsnake as part of our Reptiles at Risk Program. This program has been ongoing for over a decade and has seen a consistent increase in success. However, since this is a grant-funded program, funding is re-applied for at the end of each grant cycle. Since we are near the end of a two-year grant, the future of the program is currently unknown.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated October 31, 2019 on the ongoing efforts of the Reptiles at Risk Program focused on the recovery of the Spiny Softshell Turtle and the Eastern Foxsnake within the Sydenham River Watershed.

Turtles

The Sydenham River Corridor within the East Branch of the Sydenham River contains one of the last remaining [inland] connected green corridors in Southwestern Ontario. This imperiled and vulnerable habitat provides refuge for the Eastern Spiny Softshell turtle, a species that was up listed to Endangered in 2016. Population sizes are small and declining, the total number of mature individuals in Ontario is estimated to be 1000 and continues to decline, with a 45% decline across the three largest nest locations in Canada (COSEWIC, 2017).

The Spiny Softshell Turtle is an olive coloured flat turtle often referred to as the "pancake turtle". The leathery carapace of the spiny softshell makes it vulnerable to predators. For this reason, it is very shy and skittish. These turtles can get almost half of the oxygen they require by breathing through their skin while in water, which allows them to hide under water for up to five hours.

The primary threats to this species are:

- habitat and population fragmentation by infrastructure,
- alteration of the water regime (flooding of nests) by dams and changing weather patterns,
- increased recreational and agricultural use of nesting areas and adjacent aquatic habitats by humans (disturbance during nesting due to ATV use, horseback riding, watercraft use), invasion of nesting areas by non-native plants (e.g., European Common Reed (*Phragmites a. australis*))
- high populations of mammalian egg predators and egg poachers, and
- Cyanobacterial blooms (e.g., toxin bioaccumulation, impact on prey) may also impact the species.

Habitat loss is a major contributor to the decline of this species. In the Sydenham, individuals may move up to 30 kilometres between nesting and hibernation sites. Daily movements exceeding 4 kilometres have been observed which is believed to be linked to the lack of critical habitat features. Female softshells prefer to lay eggs in sandy, sunlit areas, which appear to be in limited supply on the Sydenham.

The program consists of the preparation of nesting habitat sites, and the collection, incubation, and release of Spiny Softshell turtles (*Apalone spinifera*). Before nesting season begins, communal nesting sites are prepared with the removal of vegetation growing throughout the site and the addition of fresh sand and gravel substrate. Everyday during nesting season, the Biology team visits the nesting sites and collects eggs that are in immediate danger of high waters or predation. These collected nests are placed in incubation with assistance of Salthaven Wildlife & Education Centre. Once hatched, the turtles are monitored for a short amount of time to ensure they are healthy, they are re-released in a slow-water, sheltered areas near the original nesting site.



Figure 1 Releasing Spiny Softshell hatchlings

Thus far, in 2019, 785 turtle hatchlings have been released, including 257 Spiny Softshell, 268 Northern Map Turtles, 247 Snapping Turtles and 13 Midland Painted Turtles. These numbers show an increase of 45 individuals from 2018, to date this is the most successful year.

Snakes

We have also continued our snake monitoring and rehabilitation initiatives with focus on the recovery of the endangered Eastern Foxsnake. 'Endangered', by definition, refers to a wildlife species that is facing imminent extirpation or extinction. The Eastern Foxsnake, is the second largest snake found in Ontario, reaching lengths of up to 1.7 metres. They have a distinct reddish/copper head and a yellowish to light brown body with dark brown blotches running down the back and alternating blotches on either side. When threatened,

the Eastern Foxsnake vibrates its tail and, especially when it meets dry vegetation, makes a buzzing or “rattling” sound. Eastern Foxsnakes have a very restricted global distribution, with about 70 percent of their entire range occurring in Ontario, where population abundance continues to decline. Causes of the species decline include:

- wetland drainage for agriculture,
- impacts resulting from housing and cottage development,
- road mortality
- human persecution and collection for the pet trade

In order to help facilitate the recovery of this species, SCRCA’s Reptile at Risk program has focused on a number of efforts including:

- **Artificial Nesting Boxes**

These structures help to protect eggs from predators and create ideal conditions for gravid females to lay their eggs. There are currently nine nesting boxes situated on SCRCA lands and another five have been installed on private landowner properties. The nesting boxes are installed in early spring and are then sorted through and checked in the fall for remnants of eggs and nesting activity.



Figure 2 SCRCA Staff discovering egg cluster within Artificial Nesting Box, October 2019

- **Coverboard Monitoring**

Coverboards are sheets of plywood laid on the ground in order to provide protection and create an insulated heat source for snakes, which are attracted to the underside of the board. Coverboard transects are situated in a line at an equal distance between each board on North facing slopes in order to attract the most sunlight. Monitoring is completed by quickly flipping the coverboard to reveal any snakes hidden underneath. When a snake is present, it is captured, identified to species and photographed. All of these values as well as location, time of day, weather, and a variety of others variables are recorded and shared with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for long-term monitoring.



Figure 3 Plywood coverboard used for reptile monitoring



Figure 4 Eastern Foxsnake found under a coverboard

This year SCRCA collaborated with Ontario Nature to continue the Long Term Monitoring Protocol to assess population trends in Ontario snakes over time. This protocol outlined specific variables in which surveys should take place including weather conditions, survey times and duration, coverboard size, coverboard placement and required equipment. Two new transects were set up on SCRCA properties following the new protocol. Within two weeks of surveying, multiple snakes were found, which ultimately led to the decision to reorganize the original coverboard transects present throughout the McKeough Floodway that were being used for SCRCA own Foxsnake sampling. Sampling took place for 8 weeks and numerous species were found including Eastern Foxsnake, Eastern Gartersnake and Butlers Gartersnake. This data will be shared with Ontario Nature and all coverboard transects will remain in the same location for next season.

- **Identification of Individual specimens**

The 2019 field season marked the first year SCRCA implemented a platform to identify individual Fox Snakes using a photograph catalogue. The ‘blotch’ style markings on the snakes are unique to individuals and subsequently can be used to identify an individual. A database has been created incorporating data from many years of surveying, this can assist in tracking which snakes are using the artificial nest boxes.

Reptile Program Education and Outreach:

- Third Annual Turtle Birthday Party at AW Campbell CA, August 16

Approximately 50 participants attended this year’s Turtle Birthday Party to learn about SCRCA’s Reptile at Risk Program. A short presentation was given outlining the program and general information on Ontario’s turtle species, followed by a number of related activities and refreshments. The highlight of the day for most



Figure 3 3rd Annual Turtle Birthday Party

was the special appearance made by three different hatchling species!

- **Species at Risk Newsletter**

The Species at Risk Newsletter is awaiting distribution to approximately 65,000 residents. The 2019 Newsletter focuses on Mussel Research as well as turtle and snake articles related to the Reptiles at Risk Program. It is predicted that the newsletter be distributed by the middle of September.

Conclusion:

The Species at Risk Stewardship Fund has created a number of opportunities for ongoing recovery efforts of two of the Sydenham's Reptile Species at Risk. Valuable partnerships have been created with other organizations and have closed knowledge gaps regarding monitoring surveys and stewardship efforts. Although the program has succeeded with every year that passes, it has also allowed for progression and growth in upcoming years. SCRCA hopes to be able to own in-house incubators for turtle eggs in years to come. The biology team will be working on a new design for the artificial snake nesting boxes, photographing captured snakes to identify individuals and continuing with the cover board monitoring while following the Long Term Monitoring Protocol.

Strategic Objectives:

Goal 2:

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

Strategic Actions: Reptile Species at Risk: The objective of the Reptiles at Risk 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.

Financial Impact: This program is funded by the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund. All deliverables of this two-year grant will be completed in February 2020. The Species at Risk Stewardship Fund usually opens for applications in the fall. There have been no calls for proposals to-date. The future of this program is currently unknown.

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: October 29, 2019
Submitted by: Nicole Drumm

Item 9.3

Subject: Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Update

Background:

Through financial support 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 Watershed to reduce the impact of this nutrient on the Great Lakes basin and improve the health of the local ecosystem. 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 coordinate with local stakeholders, First Nations, and community members to identify sources of phosphorus and determine best-value solutions for our region. A community engagement and outreach strategy will be developed to implement the Management Plan.

Progress since June 2019 board report:

Date	Item	Details
Summer 2019	SCRCA Project Team Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff conducting/compiling research and collecting data based on direction from committees • Staff drafting reports that will provide the basis for chapter content • Staff attended local rural water quality events • Staff participating on the Lake Erie Action Plan Implementation Committee • Staff reached out to local First Nations representatives to form the First Nations Engagement Committee • Staff finalized membership on the Advisory Committee

October 10, 2019	First Nations Engagement Committee Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced project to committee members, invite participation on other committees; • Presented information that is currently known; • Reviewed proposed Project Charter, Terms of Reference, Project Outline; • Received feedback and direction
October 23, 2019	Advisory Committee/Technical Team Meeting Board Representative present: Terry Burrell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced project to committee members; • Reviewed proposed Project Charter, Terms of Reference, Project Outline; • Presented information that is currently known; • Presentations from local researchers/experts • Brought forward technical questions that have arisen from research and committee discussions to receive direction from Technical Team • Received feedback and direction

The SCRCA Project Team is compiling feedback from the committee meetings and one-on-one discussions with committee members to direct ongoing research. This information is being investigated, discussed at meetings, and incorporated into the draft Management Plan.

Upcoming committee meetings:

- Point Source Working Group Meeting
- Non-Point Source Working Group 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 finalized a work plan and signed a three-year contribution agreement with ECCC totaling \$220,000 covering 2019-2022 which will support the development of the Sydenham Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan.

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: November 1, 2019
Submitted by: Steve Shaw

Item 10.1

Subject: Conservation Services Programs across the watershed

Update:

Seed Collection Program

- The annual seed collection program was successful this year with staff collecting more than 2,800 litres (70 bushels) of tree seed within the SCRCA watershed. This ensures that trees planted in the SCRCA watershed are genetically indigenous to the region for the health of our future forests.
- All seed collected (mainly oak, hickory and walnut) was shipped to the tree nursery where most of SCRCA's deciduous trees are grown and are purchased for the tree planting/afforestation program. This year's tree seed will become seedling trees for the 2021 and 2022 program.



Tree Planting Program

- Staff are currently busy with landowner site visits for the 2020 spring tree planting program. Approximately 60,000 trees are on order and secured with tree nurseries for next years program.
- Subsidies to reduce the cost of trees and planting for landowners are what keeps this program running. The cancellation of the 50 Million Tree Program (grant program) from the province still continues to be a concern. The federal government has committed to keeping the program going for 2020 with the possibility of extending funding until 2023. This is very good news, however the subsidy is less than it was through the province, therefore more top up funding will be essential, possibly requiring some conservation services reserves to make up the short fall as we move forward and until provincial environmental grant programs become more reliable.



Vegetation Management Program

- Most of the trees planted under the spring afforestation program in years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 require follow up vegetation control by way of fall herbicide application. A non-selective herbicide is used to kill difficult perennial competition. October and November is the treatment time frame after the tree seedlings go into dormancy.
- Approximately 250,000 trees on more than 130 individual properties will be sprayed over a 6 to 8 week period by staff this fall. A spring pre-emergent herbicide will then be applied next year.

Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP):

- Landowner inquires for managed forest tax plans are starting to come in early this year.
- MFTIP plans for the 2021 tax year must be approved and submitted by the June 30th, 2020. Plans are usually written by the plan approver with input from the landowner
- MPAC adjusts property taxes on the managed forested portion of the property equal to agricultural tax rates. Non-farm rural forests are currently taxed at residential rates.

Waste Management Twin Creek Landfill:

- Work continues with Waste Management's Twin Creeks landfill north of Watford. Approximately 220 large stock trees were planted along the 2 km long screening berm on Zion Line and Nauvoo Rd. as replacements for some of the 2,000 trees that were planted in 2011.
- We also continue to work on tending maintenance operations to the 50,000 poplar trees planted on the landfill cap. The poplar trees are used to reduce water population from landfill leachate. Diluted leachate is pumped to the trees rather than treating it and discharging the treated water to a sanitary sewer or water body.

Regarding BD-19-53

Large Stock Tree Planting programs

- SCRCA has been purchasing and providing larger stock potted and bare root trees to landowners and municipalities since the 1990's.
- Historically, most municipalites have purchased trees on an as needed basis.
- More recently, the large stock program has evolved into one which has more native tree species available as well as trees grown from more regional seed sources.
- Currently there is one municipality purchasing trees annually and one municipality that started doing the same in 2019.
- SCRCA provides a list of tree species, sizes and prices to the municipalities late in the fall. Municipalites provide SCRCA with a list of quantites they wish to purchase. Orders are required by February to provide adequate time in securing trees with the nurseries.
- SCRCA will purchase the trees at wholesale cost, ship the trees to the storage facility in Strathroy-Caradoc and make arrangements with the municipalities to pick up the trees on a specific day(s). The two participating municipalites provide a subsidized price to landowners who purchase trees and plant them on their property located within the municipality.



Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 11.1**
Report Date: October 10, 2019
Submitted by: Dallas Cundick, Melissa Deisley, Michelle Gallant

Subject: Regulations Activity Summary, September 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 September 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

Regulations Permits:

Application No:	R#2019-220	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	8201 Dover Centre Line				
Proposal:	Construct New Single Family Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	9/10/2019	Permit Issued:	9/11/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-625	Municipality:	Chatham-Kent		
Subject Property:	31 Chestnut Street				
Proposal:	Attached 2 car garage and breezeway				
Submission Complete By:	9/6/2019	Permit Issued:	9/6/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-676	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming		
Subject Property:	4902 The Moorings Circle				
Proposal:	Groyne Repair				
Submission Complete By:	9/19/2019	Permit Issued:	9/23/2019	Days:	4

Application No:	R#2019-642	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming		
Subject Property:	4227 Bluepoint Drive				
Proposal:	Above Ground Pool and Deck				
Submission Complete By:	8/26/2019	Permit Issued:	9/3/2019	Days:	8

Application No:	R#2019-578	Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming		
Subject Property:	6722 Augusta Street				
Proposal:	Construct New Single Family Dwelling				
Submission Complete By:	9/9/2019	Permit Issued:	9/12/2019	Days:	3

Application No:	R#2019-682	Municipality:	Sarnia		
Subject Property:	6265 Blackwell Sideroad				
Proposal:	HDD				
Submission Complete By:	9/10/2019	Permit Issued:	9/10/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-674	Municipality:	Southwest Middlesex		
Subject Property:	1 Dundas Street Newbury over Haggerty Creek				
Proposal:	Culvert Replacement				
Submission Complete By:	9/9/2019	Permit Issued:	9/9/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-609	Municipality:	St. Clair		
Subject Property:	3861 St. Clair Parkway				
Proposal:	Construct Canopy over Porch				
Submission Complete By:	9/12/2019	Permit Issued:	9/12/2019	Days:	1

Application No:	R#2019-583	Municipality:	St. Clair		
Subject Property:	1368 St. Clair Parkway				
Proposal:	Construct New Dock				
Submission Complete By:	9/24/2019	Permit Issued:	9/30/2019	Days:	6

Total No. of Applications: 9 Average No. of Days to Issue Permit: 3

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#2019-599	Adelaide-Metcalf	28714 Dolphin Road
R#2019-687	Adelaide-Metcalf	26079 Kerwood Road
R#2019-717	Chatham-Kent	9905 Darrell Line, Chatham
R#2019-747	Chatham-Kent	561 Robinson Street, Dresden
R#2019-684	Chatham-Kent	2725 Margaret Ave, Wallaceburg
R#2019-767	Chatham-Kent	553 Walnut Street, Dresden
R#2019-668	Chatham-Kent	Walnut Street
R#2019-734	Chatham-Kent	26439 Kennedy Road, Dover
R#2019-688	Chatham-Kent	29771 Mandaumin Road
R#2019-733	Enniskillen	3993 Plowing Match Road, Enniskillen
R#2019-696	Lambton Shores	Lot 75-81 & Lot 76 -80 Cliff Road
R#2019-693	Middlesex Centre	9955 IVAN DRIVE
R#2019-716	Middlesex Centre	5171 Egremont Drive
R#2019-737	Petrolia	546 Maude St
R#2019-744	Petrolia	367 Gem Ave, Petrolia

R#2019-045	Plympton-Wyoming	4274 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-706	Plympton-Wyoming	4756 Mack Ave
R#2019-648	Plympton-Wyoming	3972 Egremont Road
R#2019-683	Plympton-Wyoming	4148 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-665	Plympton-Wyoming	3846 Ferne Ave
R#2019-666	Plympton-Wyoming	Lot 59 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-770	Plympton-Wyoming	4148 Bluepoint Drive, Plympton
R#2019-707	Plympton-Wyoming	6714 Augusta Street
R#2019-726	Plympton-Wyoming	4148 Bluepoint Drive, Plympton
R#2019-736	Plympton-Wyoming	4180 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-700	Plympton-Wyoming	4148 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-719	Plympton-Wyoming	4082 or 4084 Bluepoint
R#2019-425	Plympton-Wyoming	3396 Egremont Road
R#2019-746	Plympton-Wyoming	3290 Devonshire Road
R#2019-065	Plympton-Wyoming	3840 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-664	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road
R#2019-673	Sarnia	2984 Lakeview Trail, Sarnia
R#2019-690	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road Sarnia Terminal
R#2019-721	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road, Sarnia
R#2019-718	Sarnia	1668 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-720	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road, Sarnia
R#2019-699	Sarnia	5878 Telfer Road
R#2019-675	Sarnia	1958 Churchill Line Sarnia
R#2019-748	Sarnia	1892 Lakeshore Road, Sarnia
R#2019-672	Sarnia	881 McCaw Street
R#2019-677	Sarnia	1958 Churchill Line Sarnia
R#2019-694	Sarnia	2597 Westgate Crescent
R#2019-697	Sarnia	Kenwick Street & Old Lakeshore
R#2019-709	Southwest Middlesex	6141 Glendon Drive
R#2019-168	St. Clair	947 St. Clair Parkway
R#2019-704	St. Clair	447 Broadway Street
R#2019-702	St. Clair	451 Broadway Street
R#2019-759	St. Clair	909 White Line, Sombra
R#2019-667	St. Clair	2884 Kent Line
R#2019-745	St. Clair	655 St Clair Parkway
R#2019-729	St. Clair	6 Lambton Line
R#2019-254	St. Clair	804 Rokeby Line
R#2019-661	Strathroy-Caradoc	101 Hull Road
R#2019-708	Strathroy-Caradoc	359 Park Street

Total Regulations Inquiries: 56

Regulations – DART Completed Files

R#2019-710	Chatham-Kent	Abraham Drain
R#2019-713	Chatham-Kent	Ninth Concession Drain
R#2019-597	Dawn-Euphemia	Phair Drain
R#2019-712	Enniskillen	Duggan Drain
R#2019-692	Southwest Middlesex	Black Branch of Morrogh Drain
R#2019-588	St. Clair	Abra Drain
R#2019-589	St. Clair	East Otter Creek
R#2019-653	Warwick	Roder Outlet Drain
R#2019-669	Warwick	Maher Drain

Total DART Permits Issue: 9

Regulations Inquiries - Drains:

File Reference	Municipality	Drain Name
R#2019-724	Dawn-Euphemia	Section 4 new drain
R#2019-034	Brooke-Alvinston	Kelly Drain Branch 4
R#2019-381	Chatham-Kent	Bear Creek
R#2019-652	Chatham-Kent	Abraham Drain
R#2019-713	Chatham-Kent	Ninth Concession Drain
R#2019-703	Chatham-Kent	Pinafore Drain
R#2019-689	Chatham-Kent	Dresden Swale Drain
R#2019-049	Chatham-Kent	Hyatt Fryer Outlet Drain
R#2019-711	Chatham-Kent	Little Bear
R#2019-597	Dawn-Euphemia	Phair Drain
R#2019-712	Enniskillen	Duggan Drain
R#2019-685	Enniskillen	Shiloh Line West Drain
R#2019-525	Enniskillen	Duggan Drain
R#2019-691	Lambton Shores	Willemse Municipal Drain
R#2019-735	Plympton-Wyoming	South Branch MacKinlay Drain No 2
R#2019-041	Plympton-Wyoming	Errol Road Municipal Drain
R#2019-695	Sarnia	Bissel McArthur
R#2019-692	Southwest Middlesex	Black Branch of Morrogh Drain
R#2019-651	Southwest Middlesex	Chittam and Government 5-6 Drains
R#2019-679	Southwest Middlesex	Government 5-6 Drain
R#2019-142	St. Clair	Routledge Drain
R#2019-658	St. Clair	Arnold Drain #1
R#2019-670	St. Clair	Hubbard
R#2019-723	St. Clair	to be Dawson Branch Drain
R#2019-589	St. Clair	East Otter Creek
R#2019-727	St. Clair	Hubbard Drain
R#2019-588	St. Clair	Abra Drain

R#2019-714	Strathroy-Caradoc	Brunet-Friesen Drain
R#2019-681	Strathroy-Caradoc	Glockner Drain Campbell Drain
R#2019-653	Warwick	Roder Outlet Drain
R#2019-669	Warwick	Maher Drain
R#2019-524	Warwick	Hall Drain Extension (Ross-Hall Drain - Branch A)

Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 31

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 11.2**
Report Date: October 10, 2019
Submitted by: Erica Ogden, Sarah Hodgkiss

Subject: Planning Activity Summary, September 2019

A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review is presented below. This report covers the period from September 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

Municipal Plan Input and Review

File Reference: PL#2018-027

Municipality:	Adelaide-Metcalf	Municipal Reference:	B03-2018, B12-2019
Property Location:	4225 Calvert Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-022

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	525 to 595 Wallace Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-021

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

File Reference: PL#2019-086

Municipality:	Chatham-Kent	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1531 Dufferin Avenue		

File Reference: PL#2019-082

Municipality:	Dawn-Euphemia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	1212 Mawlam Road		

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#2019-080

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	10283 Ilderton Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-078

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	B24/19, B25/19, B26/19
Property Location:	10036 Ilderton Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-008

Municipality:	Middlesex Centre	Municipal Reference:	ZBA 03 2019 39T- MC1901
Property Location:	Timberwalk Trail		

File Reference: PL#2018-119

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

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#2019-081

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	5223 Douglas Line		

File Reference: PL#2018-022

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	51-2018 38T-18004 B01-2018
Property Location:	Queen Street		

File Reference: PL#2018-062

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

File Reference: PL#2018-109

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

File Reference: PL#2018-055

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

File Reference: PL#2019-089

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	4179 Lakeshore Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-083

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	6769 Wellington Beach Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-085

Municipality:	Plympton-Wyoming	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	3272 Devonshire Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-067

Municipality:	Point Edward	Municipal Reference:	B-06/2019
Property Location:	Plan 25R4041		

File Reference: PL#2019-066

Municipality:	Point Edward	Municipal Reference:	B-04/2019, B05-2019
Property Location:	Plan 25R5875, Part 2 # 6351, Part 1, 2, 7, 25R7792		

File Reference: PL#2019-037

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	B22/2019
Property Location:	1961 Blackwell Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-076

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	21 Ube Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-088

Municipality:	Sarnia	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	6491 Waterworks Road		

File Reference: PL#2019-050

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

File Reference: PL#2019-015

Municipality:	St. Clair	Municipal Reference:	A19-19
Property Location:	4724 Riverside Drive		

File Reference: PL#2019-084

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	101 Hull Road		

File Reference: PL#2018-093

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

File Reference: PL#2019-065

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	Bear Creek Golf Course		

File Reference: PL#2019-079

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	#ZBA 13-2019
Property Location:	879 Wright Street		

File Reference: PL#2019-087

Municipality:	Strathroy-Caradoc	Municipal Reference:	
Property Location:	24749 Park Street		

Total Plan Review Items: 32

Environmental Assessment Review**File Reference: NONE Municipality: NONE**

Proposal:	NONE
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Legal Inquiry Summary

LL#2019-043	Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-044	1047 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-042	1105 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-041	1281 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-040	2362 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-045	195 Christina Street North	Sarnia

Total Legal Inquiries: 6

Meeting Summary

- Sept 11 – Timberwalk Subdivision Middlesex Centre – ECO, SH
- Sept 12 – Development Review Plympton-Wyoming – ECO
- Sept 20 – Key Homes Subdivision Plympton-Wyoming – ECO, SH
- Sept 25 – Pre-consultation 101 Hull Road Strathroy-Caradoc – ECO, SH

Prepared By: Tracy Prince
November 4, 2019

ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure
For the Nine Months Ended 30/09/2019

Item 12.1

	Actual To Date			Annual Budget		Variance from Budget	
	Revenue	Expenditures	Surplus (Deficit)	Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
Flood Control & Erosion Control	\$996,589	\$565,224	\$431,366	\$1,032,200	\$1,032,200	(\$35,611)	(\$466,976)
Capital Projects/WECI	\$155,000	\$0	\$155,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$145,000	(\$10,000)
Conservation Area's Capital Development	\$0	\$17,993	(\$17,993)	\$119,000	\$119,000	(\$119,000)	(\$101,007)
IT Capital	\$14,508	\$1,333	\$13,175	\$19,200	\$19,200	(\$4,692)	(\$17,867)
Equipment	\$53,100	\$36,007	\$17,093	\$72,000	\$72,000	(\$18,900)	(\$35,993)
Planning & Regulations	\$358,346	\$405,681	(\$47,335)	\$487,594	\$487,594	(\$129,247)	(\$81,912)
Technical Studies	\$534,876	\$228,332	\$306,544	\$395,313	\$395,313	\$139,563	(\$166,981)
Recreation	\$1,302,305	\$948,467	\$353,838	\$1,329,011	\$1,329,011	(\$26,706)	(\$380,544)
Property Management	\$157,147	\$135,727	\$21,419	\$243,996	\$243,996	(\$86,849)	(\$108,269)
Education and Communication	\$114,119	\$167,315	(\$53,196)	\$226,640	\$226,640	(\$112,521)	(\$59,325)
Source Water Protection	\$361,557	\$260,793	\$100,764	\$226,000	\$226,000	\$135,557	\$34,793
Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds	\$859,543	\$434,629	\$424,914	\$503,350	\$503,350	\$356,193	(\$68,721)
Administration/AOC Management	\$882,286	\$656,735	\$225,551	\$1,669,428	\$1,669,428	(\$787,142)	(\$1,012,693)
	\$5,789,377	\$3,858,237	\$1,931,140	\$6,333,732	\$6,333,732	(\$544,355)	(\$2,475,494)

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
September to October 2019

Item 12.2
Sarah Hume

CHQ. #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
20669	9/4/2019	K & H DISTRIBUTING	Fireworks - July 1 2019	\$ 5,344.47
20722	9/18/2019	Stocking Bros. Well Service Ltd	Oil Storage Removal	\$ 11,210.11
20725	9/18/2019	VALLEY LAWN CARE	Lawn Maintenance	\$ 6,305.40
20755	10/3/2019	VALLEY LAWN CARE	Lawn Maintenance	\$ 9,090.85
				\$ 31,950.83

TOTAL CHEQUE DISBURSEMENTS - BANK #1 -

INTERNET BANKING September to October 2019

TRANS #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
9338	9/30/2019	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Utilities	\$ 30,981.47
9339	9/30/2019	Libro Credit Union - Visa	Employee Expenses	\$ 5,047.75
9341	9/30/2019	OMERS	Pension	\$ 34,985.56
9343	9/30/2019	PETRO CANADA INC.	Fuel	\$ 5,285.86
9344	9/30/2019	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 56,360.87
9346	9/30/2019	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 14,741.29
9350	9/30/2019	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 6,715.47
9359	10/31/2019	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Utilities	\$ 26,962.50
9360	10/31/2019	Libro Credit Union - Visa	Employee Expenses	\$ 8,116.53
9361	10/31/2019	OMERS	Pension	\$ 53,790.66
9362	10/31/2019	ONTARIO MINISTER OF FINANCE	Employer Health Tax	\$ 5,856.29
9364	10/31/2019	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 74,396.25
9366	10/31/2019	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 13,892.84
9369	10/31/2019	Township of Enniskillen - Property Taxes	Property Tax and Water	\$ 8,181.95
9373	10/31/2019	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 8,951.62
				\$ • 354,266.91

Notes:

Sept Visa: CA Conference, OSG Joint Health & Safety Training, State of Lake Huron Conference - \$3,700

Oct Visa: Adobe Creative Cloud, Latornell, CA University - \$5717

Oct: We had 3 pays in October - Source Deductions, EHT, OMERS and WSIB are higher

TOTAL INTERNET DISBURSEMENTS - BANK NO. 1 -

PAYROLL RUNS

PAYROLL NO. 18	\$	81,267.41
PAYROLL NO. 19	\$	70,887.71
PAYROLL NO. 20	\$	69,708.08
PAYROLL NO. 21	\$	71,845.12
PAYROLL NO. 22	\$	69,300.32
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		

TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS - \$ 363,008.64

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS - \$749,226.38

2019 GENERAL LEVY SUMMARY

GLYSUM2019
Sarah Hume
31-Oct-19

MUNICIPALITY	GROSS LEVY	PAID TO DATE	OUTSTANDING
Sarnia	\$ 353,626.00	\$ 353,626.00	\$ 0.00
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	17,530.50	5,843.50
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	48,311.00	0.00
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	19,752.00	0.00
Adelaide Metcalfe Twp.	16,811.00	16,811.00	0.00
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	77,085.00	0.00
TOTAL	\$ 913,751.00	\$ 789,273.50	\$ 124,477.50

Item 12.4

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2019

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



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 Sep 1, 2019	Closing Value Sep 30, 2019	Balance on Sep 30, 2019 (CAD\$)
Canadian Dollar Investments			
Cash Account	1,465,437.11	1,463,920.35	1,463,920.35
	1,465,437.11	1,463,920.35	1,463,920.35
Grand Total (CAD\$)			1,463,920.35
		Last Statement Aug 31, 2019	1,465,437.11

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

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Non-registered account #440-17189-13

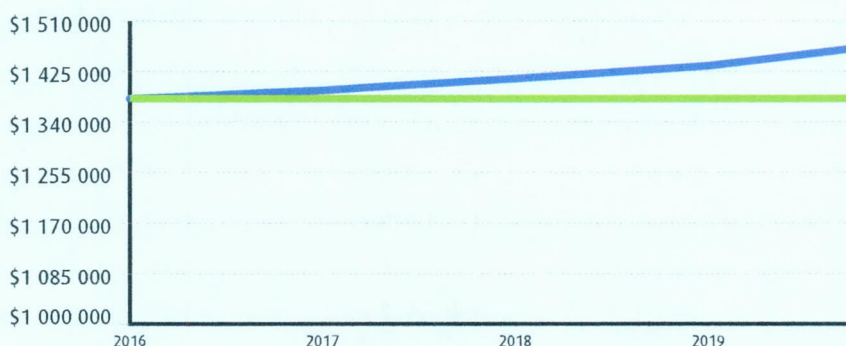
September 30, 2019

► 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.

	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	+ 29,229.74	+ 84,740.67
Closing Value on Sep 30, 2019	1,463,920.35	1,463,920.35

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



● MARKET VALUE
● NET INVESTED

The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$84,740.67.

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

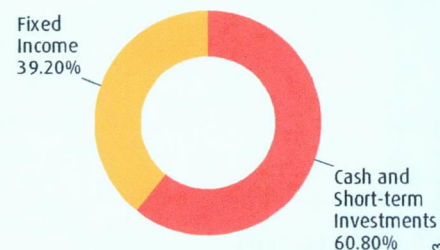
► Summary of your investments in Canadian dollars

Your Investor Profile

Investment Objective **Income**

Time Horizon **10 yrs and more**

Investment Category	Amount	Target %	Holdings %
● Cash and Short-term Investments	888,920.35	10.00	60.80
● Fixed Income	575,000.00	90.00	39.20
● Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,463,920.35		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.

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2019

Your Canadian Dollar Investments

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Income you received

Type of Income	Current Month	Year to Date
Interest	9.87	30,756.37
Total	9.87	30,756.37

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**.

▶ Expenses you paid

Type of Expense	Current Month	Year to Date
Interest	1,526.63	1,526.63
Total	1,526.63	1,526.63

Under **Expenses you paid**, amounts reported as interest include accrued interest paid on fixed income purchases. Accrued interest is not reported separately for purchase transactions under **Account activity for this month**.

▶ Your investment details

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on September 30, 2019	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
Cash Account					
• Cash and Short-term Investments					
CASH			209,920.35		209,920.35
EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 12/30/2019 2.220%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
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
PEOPLES TRUST GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/26/2020 2.160%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
Subtotal			888,920.35		888,920.35
• Fixed Income					
Fixed Income					
HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.220%	50,000	100.000	50,000.00	100.000	50,000.00

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2019

Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Your investment details (continued)

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on September 30, 2019	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
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
BANK OF MONTREAL MORTGAGE CORP GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/28/2021 2.130%	125,000	100.000	125,000.00	100.000	125,000.00
BMO TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/26/2021 2.060%	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			575,000.00		575,000.00
Subtotal			575,000.00		575,000.00
Total for Cash Account			1,463,920.35		1,463,920.35
Total Canadian Dollar Investments			1,463,920.35		1,463,920.35

Average cost and market price indicator descriptions can be found in "Important information about your account".

▶ Account activity for this month

Date	Activity	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Commission	Amount
Cash Account						
Sep 1, 2019		Opening Cash Balance				311,437.11
Sep 5, 2019	Bought	EQUITABLE BANK GIC ¼ ANNUAL DUE 12/30/2019 02.220% DEC 28 YIELD:2.175%S/A;2.187%ANN REF#57262692 #B# INT DAYS 251,NEXT CPN 19/12/28	100,000	100.0000	0.00	-101,526.63

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2019

Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Account activity for this month (continued)

Date	Activity	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Commission	Amount
Sep 23, 2019	Interest	INTEREST ON CREDIT BALANCE AT 0.050% 08/22 THRU 09/21			0.00	9.87
Sep 30, 2019		Closing Cash Balance				209,920.35

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.



Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 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.

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.

	CAD (\$)
Operating charges	
Total operating charges	0.00
Transaction charges	
Total transaction charges	0.00
Total fees you paid in 2019	0.00

▶ Payments BMO received from third parties

	CAD (\$)
GIC Commission	2,676.54
Total payments BMO Nesbitt Burns received from third parties in 2019	2,676.54

▶ Bulletin board

The USD/CAD conversion rate is: 1.3236, as of September 30, 2019

Optional Dividend Offering Election:

Effective August 1, 2019, dividends received through an Optional Dividend Offering may be credited to your BMO Nesbitt Burns account as a cash or stock dividend payment (or a combination thereof), subject to the terms offered by the issuer.

Where no election is made, any optional dividends received with respect to securities held in your account, will be credited as a cash payment.

Please contact your BMO Nesbitt Burns Investment Advisor to confirm your election preference prior to any prescribed dividend payment deadline to ensure your preference is recorded.

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02453 

Account Number: **460-16010**
 Account Type: Regular Account
 For the Period: **September 1 to 30, 2019**
 Last Statement: August 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

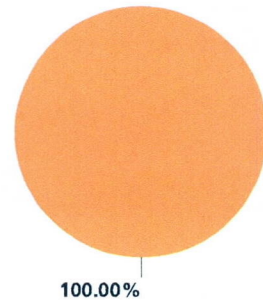
Your Investment Team

Michael Willemse (519) 660-3268
 Tammy Jackson (519) 660-3215

CANADIAN Account Overview

Currency: Canadian Dollar

Asset Class Summary	Sep. 30, 2019 Market Value	% of Total Assets
 Fixed Income	772,774	100.00
Total Value of Account	\$772,774	100.00
Total Value on Last Statement, August 30, 2019	\$774,380	



JTA4572417-0013731-02453-0003-0001-00-

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)	13,294.476	9.979	132,675	9.516	126,510
CASH	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659)	15,035.913	12.318	185,221	12.132	182,416
CASH	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505)	16,383.456	14.459	236,897	14.146	231,760
CASH	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137)	21,784.16	10.282	224,002	10.654	232,088
Total Fixed Income						\$772,774
Total Account Holdings				\$778,795	\$772,774	

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
Sep. 03, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) REINVEST 08/30/19 @ \$12.1999 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.722 BOOK VALUE \$460.20	37		
Sep. 03, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 08/30/19 @ \$14.1093 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.496 BOOK VALUE \$867.67	61		
Sep. 23, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) REINVEST 09/20/19 @ \$9.5443 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.107	27		

Monthly Activity - continued

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
			BOOK VALUE \$258.71			
Sep. 30, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) REINVEST 09/27/19 @ \$12.1258 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.256 BOOK VALUE \$354.75	29		
Sep. 30, 2019	CASH	DIVIDEND	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137) REINVEST 09/27/19 @ \$10.6507 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.112 BOOK VALUE \$224.86	21		

Closing Cash Balance

\$0.00

Summary

Income Summary

	This Period	Year-to-Date
Total Income	\$0	\$0

A Note From ScotiaMcLeod

Auditor's Message

Our auditors, KPMG LLP, are presently engaged in the examination of our year-end financial statements. Please compare this statement against your records and advise our auditors of any discrepancies: Shareholders' Auditors, Attention: Evita Price, KPMG Audit Team, Bay Adelaide Centre, 333 Bay Street - Suite 4600, Toronto, ON, M5H 2S5, Canada, fax at (416) 777-8818 or email: scotiacapitalconfirm@kpmg.ca

The Scotia Capital Inc. Statement of Policies, dated May 2019, has been updated to reflect changes to our related and connected issuers. It is now available online at www.scotiabank.com/scotiacapitalpolicies. You can also obtain the updated brochure by contacting your Wealth Advisor or our Service Centre at 1-866-437-4990.

Your Personal Investment Profile

The following information reflects your stated investment objectives and risk tolerance for this account, as well as your overall investment knowledge. If you would like to make any changes, have questions about whether or not this is appropriate for you or would like to discuss how your current investments correspond to this profile, please contact your Wealth Advisor.

JTA4572417-0013733-02453-0003-0002-00-

Your Personal Investment Profile - continued

For more information, please review Guidelines for Investment Objectives and Related Account Risk Factors in the ScotiaMcLeod Relationship Disclosure Document and Terms and Conditions brochure.

Alternatively, please visit http://www.scotiabank.com/ca/common/pdf/scotiamcleod/T_and_C_EN.pdf

Investment Objectives

Income:	100%
Growth:	
Speculative Trading:	

Risk Tolerance

Low:	85%
Medium:	15%
High:	

Overall Investment Knowledge

Investment Knowledge:	Medium
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Time Horizon

Long Term:	7+ Years
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St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

2020 Draft Fees

Note: All fees include applicable taxes and may be changed by resolution of the Board of Directors

CAMPING FEES	2019	2020
Reservation Fee	\$ 8.00	\$ 13.00
Cancellation Fee	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Reservation Change Fee		\$ 6.00
Peak Season June 27, 2020 - September 7, 2020		2020
Daily, Unserviced	\$ 39.00	\$ 39.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)	\$ 46.00	\$ 48.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)	\$ 42.00	\$ 44.00
60 buck weekend (designated weekends)	\$ 60.00	
Weekly, Unserviced	\$ 234.00	\$ 234.00
Weekly, Serviced	\$ 276.00	\$ 288.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)	\$ 702.00	\$ 795.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)	\$ 828.00	\$ 980.00
Off-Peak April 25 - June 26 2020, Sept. 8 - Oct. 12 2020, excluding Victoria Day Weekend & Thanksgiving Weekend (long weekends at peak season rates)		2020
Daily, Unserviced		\$ 30.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)		\$ 35.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)		\$ 35.00
Weekly, Unserviced		\$ 200.00
Weekly, Serviced		\$ 225.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)		\$ 700.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)		\$ 840.00
Seasonal Camping Season Fees – April 25, 2020 - Oct. 12, 2020	2019	2020
Full Payment made on or before April 15, 2018	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,380.00
First instalment payment on or before April 15, 2018	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,600.00
Second instalment payment on or before June 1, 2018	\$ 785.00	\$ 830.00
Half Season, (after August 1)	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 1,190.00
Quarter Season, (after Sept 1)	\$ 562.50	\$ 595.00
Seasonal late payment fee	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00
Non-refundable seasonal site deposit for the following season (beginning in the fall of 2020 for the 2021 season) - Due October 12, 2020	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous Fees	2019	2020
Overnight Visitors (per person)	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Sewage Pump Out per service fee	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (bi-weekly)	\$ 200.00	\$ 225.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (weekly)		\$ 450.00
Winter Storage for Trailers arriving after Thanksgiving	\$ 200.00	
Exterior fridge/freezer charge	\$ 160.00	\$ 175.00
Extra hydro fee for electric golf cart	\$ 160.00	\$ 200.00
Golf Cart (day/month)	\$5.00/\$30.00	\$5.00/\$50.00
Extra hydro/Exterior fridge/freezer if found during inspection by staff	\$ 200.00	
Ice	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00
Firewood (bundle)	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00
Firewood (1/2 cord)	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
Firewood (cord)	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00
DAY USE FEES	2019	2020
Vehicle	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00
Pedestrians/Cyclists (16 & over)	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00
Seasonal Day Pass	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
Buses	\$ 15.00	\$ 50.00
Open Pavilion reservation	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
Closed in Pavilion reservation (Warwick/LC Henderson)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Swimming Daily Fee	\$ 2.00	
Seasonal Swimming Pass – Individual	\$ 35.00	
Seasonal Swimming Pass – Family	\$ 90.00	
Maple Syrup Festival - Vehicle Entry	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Rental of Grounds for X-Country Meets/Education Days	\$ 160.00	
Rental of Portable Washrooms (On site Only)	\$ 30.00	
Highland Glen Conservation Area	2019	2020
Vehicle	\$ 5.00	
Seasonal Day Pass	\$ 60.00	
Daily boat ramp fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Seasonal boat ramp fee	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00

CONSERVATION SERVICES FEES	2019	2020
Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plan Approvals		
Field Work / Forest Inventory	\$75.00/hr/person	\$75.00/hr/person
Plan Review & Approval Process (including site visit)	\$350.00/plan	\$350.00/plan
Plan Creation & Plan Approval (includes field work)		
10 to 20 acres	\$550.00/plan	\$600.00/plan
20 to 40 acres	\$700.00/plan	\$700.00/plan
Greater than 40ac	\$850.00/plan	\$900.00/plan
Timber Management		
Field Work / Site Visit	\$75.00/hr/person	\$75.00/hr/person
Timber Report Creation	\$150.00/person/field day	\$150.00/person/field day
Drain Maintenance Program		
Spot spray application for vegetation control in drains	\$110.00/hr + chemical	\$1050 per ha + chemical Or \$130/hr + chemical for spot treatment applications
Tree Planting (Private Lands) These are guidelines, pricing is dependant on size and location		
Large Stock Program	Cost vary according to size and species	Cost vary according to size and species
Tree Seedlings	Cost vary according to size and species	Cost vary according to size and species
Seedling Tree Planting Services Machine planting:		
500 - 999 trees	\$1,250.00/site	\$1,250.00/site
1000 – 1999 trees	\$1.25/seedling	\$1.25/seedling
2000 plus trees	\$1.20/seedling	\$1.20/seedling
Larger sites requiring more than 5000 trees	Quotation provided	Quotation provided
Coniferous planations	10% reduction (>1000)	10% reduction (>1000)
Includes tree planting and initial herbicide application - HST will be added		
Seedling Tree Planting Services Hand planting:		
Refill planting up to 500 trees	\$1250.00/site	\$1250.00/site
More than 550 trees	\$2.25/tree	\$2.25/tree
Includes tree planting and initial herbicide application - HST will be added		
Herbicide Tending		
up to 750 seedlings	\$300.00 / min charge	\$300.00 / min charge
750 to 3000 trees	\$0.40/seedling/max charge	\$0.40/seedling/max charge
	\$1225.00	\$1225.00
more than 3500 trees	\$0.35/seedling	\$0.35/seedling
up to 1000 trees requiring backpack sprayer	\$500.00/site	\$500.00/site
>1000+ trees requiring backpack sprayer	\$0.50/seedling	\$0.50/seedling
Tree Species (Subject to Availability)		
Coniferous Trees	Native & Traditional Species - bareroot transplant seedlings 20-35 cm tall	
Deciduous Trees & Shrubs	Native & Traditional Species - bareroot seedlings are 25-60 cm tall	
<i>All seedlings will be grown from seeds collected in seed zones suitable to St. Clair Region</i>		



Planning and Regulation Fees

The fee schedule is revised annually by the Authority's Board of Directors. If an applicant has concerns with a fee charged, they have the right to appeal to the Authority's Board of Directors after the fee has been paid. 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.

Administrative Fees	2019	2020
Processing Fee	\$100.00	\$110.00
Legal Inquiries	\$165.00	\$185.00
Site Inspection/Meeting Attendance	\$150.00	\$200.00
Technical Report Review	2019	2020
Includes initial review of complete report; review of revised reports are subject to surcharge. Technical Report Review fees are in addition to application fees.		
Terms of Reference¹	\$300.00	\$330.00
Engineering Study/Technical Report (floodline, geotechnical, meander belt, slope stability, natural heritage, coastal ²)		
Standard	\$350.00	\$370.00
Major - Complex features, potential impact	\$585.00	\$645.00
Environmental Impact Study / Development Assessment Report		
Minor - limited assessment required, adjacent to feature	\$725.00	\$800.00
Standard - scoped technical assessment, adjacent or within feature	\$1,375.00	\$1,500.00
Major - comprehensive technical assessment, adjacent or within feature	\$3,465.00	\$3,800.00
Mitigation / Monitoring Report	\$550.00	\$600.00
Hydrogeological Assessment	\$1,100.00	\$1,200.00
Stormwater Management Plans		
Preliminary Concept		\$300.00
Detail Design	\$580.00	\$640.00
Additional Review of Revised Report	25% Surcharge	25% Surcharge

¹Terms of Reference fee is reduced from the Technical Report Review fee.

²SCRCA will generally require shoreline development to be reviewed by the Conservation Authority retained coastal engineer. Costs for review are to be borne by the proponent. In this case, a Technical Report Review fee would not apply. As per Board of Directors approval November 10, 2016.



Planning and Regulation Fees

Fees are per application unless otherwise noted. Applications are assessed for Natural Hazard and/or Natural Heritage features and fees will be charged accordingly.

	2019	2020
Pre-consultation/Property Inquiry ³	\$220.00	\$230.00
Natural Hazards		
Minor Variance (Waterfront ⁴ 2x)	\$165.00	\$180.00
Severance (per lot created; Waterfront ⁴ 2x)	\$230.00	\$250.00
Site Plan Approval	\$220.00	\$245.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$525.00	\$580.00
Zoning By Law Amendment	\$230.00	\$255.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$350.00	\$385.00
Official Plan Amendment	\$230.00	\$255.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$350.00	\$385.00
Natural Heritage	2019	2020
Minor Variance		\$300.00
120 metres to 51 metres	\$165.00	
50 metres to 10 metres	\$220.00	
< 10 metres	\$275.00	
Severance (per lot created)	\$415.00	\$460.00
Site Plan Approval	\$340.00	\$375.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$690.00	\$760.00
Zoning By Law Amendment	\$415.00	\$460.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$690.00	\$760.00
Official Plan Amendment	\$415.00	\$460.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$690.00	\$760.00
Draft Plan of Subdivision/Condominium		
< 20 Units	\$1,100.00	\$1,210.00
21-50 Units	\$2,250.00	\$2,475.00
> 50 Units	\$3,000.00	\$3,300.00
Additional Natural Heritage Fee		
< 20 Units	\$500.00	\$550.00
21-50 Units	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00
> 50 Units	\$1,500.00	\$1,650.00
Clearance of Conditions (per condition)	\$220.00	\$240.00
Redline Revision (applicant initiated)	25% of initial fee	25% of initial fee

³This fee will be deducted from the application fee when a formal application is submitted.

⁴Waterfront includes properties within the Shoreline Hazard along Lake Huron, St. Clair River, Chenal Ecarte and Lake St. Clair.

Ontario Regulation 171/06 Review Fees

Application fees are applied per works/project.

	2019	2020
Property Inquiry ⁵	\$220.00	\$230.00
Application Fees		
Minor Works Routine Permit Limited review, minor in nature relative to cost, location, or impact	\$175.00	\$195.00
Standard Works Minor Permit A Small scale, and/or consistent with policy	\$350.00	\$385.00
Major Works Minor Permit B Medium scale, primary structures, and/or consistent with policy	\$550.00	\$605.00
Complex Works Major Permit Large scale, requiring technical studies, and/or inconsistent with policy	\$925.00	\$1,020.00
Drainage Act Review⁶		
DART Review		
Minor - project value under \$500.00	\$50.00	\$55.00
Standard	\$275.00	\$300.00
Major - wetland	\$695.00	\$765.00
Engineer's Report Review	\$350.00	\$385.00
Other Fees		
Aggregate Resources Act review	\$2,310.00	\$2,540.00
Environmental Assessment Act		
Standard	\$2,310.00	\$2,540.00
Major	\$5,775.00	\$6,350.00
Commercial Renewable Energy Projects	Double	Double
Golf Course Development/Realignment	\$695.00	\$765.00
Hearing Request	\$580.00	\$640.00
Application Revisions and Permit Revisions/Extensions	\$100.00	\$110.00
Applications for Work Proceeded without Authorization	Double	Double

⁵This fee will be reduced from the application fee provided no change has occurred in the proposal and the application moves forward within a 2 year limit.

⁶If an Ontario Regulation 171/06 application is required for a drain enclosure, or works within or adjacent to a wetland additional fees, as appropriate, may be charged. Section 76 reports are exempt.

ADMINISTRATION FEES	2019	2020
Administrative Fees negotiated by contract		
NSF Cheques	\$45.00	\$55.00
Processing Fee - Oil & Gas Long term		
a) Oil & Gas Long Term	\$340.00	\$340.00
b) Annual	\$550.00	\$550.00
GIS Services (plus tax)	2019	2020
Data Requests (includes up to 3 data sets, \$100.00 per additional data set)	\$330.00	\$330.00
Plotting Services (per sq. ft.)	\$10.00	\$10.00
GIS Service Fees (per hour, minimum 1 hour charge)	\$105.00	\$105.00
Digital Aerial Photography (requires license agreement) per tile	\$60.00	\$60.00

EDUCATION FEES	2018/2019	2019/2020
Half Day Class/Student	\$5.50	\$5.50
Full Day Class/student	\$10.00	\$10.00
Minimum Charge for other programs (per instructor)	\$110.00	\$110.00
In Class program (without sponsors) first class	\$100.00	\$100.00
In Class program (without sponsors) second class same school	\$75.00	\$75.00
Minimum Charge for other programs (per instructor)	\$110.00	\$110.00
ICE (Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship) per day	\$400.00	\$400.00
SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) 1/2 day	\$250.00	\$250.00
SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) Full day	\$400.00	\$400.00
WATERSHED SERVICES TECHNICAL FEES	2019	2020
Technical Reports - Adobe digital (pdf) format on CD	\$60.00	\$60.00
Data and Information Requests		
a) HEC II, HYMO, Hyrdo Pak, Streamgauge, Precipitation, Meteorological or Flow Data	\$100.00	\$100.00
b) Additional cost for data or information collection in excess of one hour	\$55.00/hr	\$55.00/hr
c) Additional cost for CDs or printed reports	\$60.00	\$60.00
Miscellaneous Fees		
Hunting - McKeough Properties Only (annual permit)	\$70.00	\$70.00
Trapping Permit	\$10.00	\$10.00

	Actual 2019 CVA used by Municipalities		2019 Modified CVA in watershed		2019 Modified CVA Total Municipal Assessment	
	2020	2020	2020 Proposed Total General Levy (1,069,926) per \$100k	2020 Proposed Increase General Levy (156,176) per \$100k	2020 Proposed Total General Levy (1,069,926) per \$100k	2020 Proposed Increase General Levy (156,176) per \$100k
Municipality	Current Value Assessment (modified) in Watershed	Total Current Value Assessment (modified)				
Township of Adelaide Metcalfe	\$ 446,013,006	\$ 637,161,437	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.73	\$ 3.15	\$ 0.51
Township Brooke-Alvinston	\$ 414,629,229	\$ 414,629,229	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.79	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.79
Municipality Chatham-Kent	\$ 3,089,606,470	\$ 11,034,308,821	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.66	\$ 1.26	\$ 0.19
Township Dawn-Euphemia	\$ 638,772,400	\$ 638,772,400	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.84	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.84
Township Enniskillen	\$ 449,738,121	\$ 449,738,121	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.74	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.74
Municipality Lambton Shores	\$ 1,174,999,448	\$ 2,611,109,884	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.65	\$ 2.03	\$ 0.29
Municipality Middlesex Centre	\$ 523,174,255	\$ 3,269,839,095	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.12
Village Newbury	\$ 36,673,623	\$ 36,673,623	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.70	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.70
Village Oil Springs	\$ 47,167,449	\$ 47,167,449	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.66	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.66
Town Petrolia	\$ 599,492,558	\$ 599,492,558	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.66	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.66
Town Plympton-Wyoming	\$ 1,277,134,022	\$ 1,277,134,022	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.72	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.72
Village Point Edward	\$ 525,344,072	\$ 525,344,072	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.54	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.54
City Sarnia	\$ 9,055,620,007	\$ 9,055,620,007	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.60	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.60
Municipality Southwest Middlesex	\$ 275,637,456	\$ 689,093,640	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.68	\$ 1.80	\$ 0.27
Township St. Clair	\$ 2,662,087,589	\$ 2,662,087,589	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.69	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.69
Township Strathroy - Caradoc	\$ 2,031,839,435	\$ 2,861,745,683	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.71	\$ 3.20	\$ 0.50
Township Warwick	\$ 524,296,651	\$ 563,759,840	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.73	\$ 4.19	\$ 0.68
	\$ 23,772,225,791	\$ 37,373,677,470	\$ 4.50	\$ 0.70	\$ 3.61	\$ 0.56 Average

SCRCA Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes — Tuesday, July 22, 2019, 8:30 am		Lower Board Room 205 Mill Pond Cres. Strathroy, ON	
Meeting called by:	JHSC Committee	Type of meeting:	Quarterly
Facilitator:	G. Baxter	Minutes:	Emily De Cloet
Attendees:	G. Baxter, J. Sharp, D. Cundick, E. De Cloet		
Guests:	None.		
Please read:	Minutes from previous meeting & come prepared to present information on your Action Items (see 2.1)	Please bring:	
<i>Agenda Items</i>			
1. Motion to approve March 26 2019 meeting minutes as amended Moved by: Dallas Cundick Seconded By: Glenn Baxter Carried			
2. Business arising from the minutes 2.1 Review of Action Items Dallas Cundick to report on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of incident/ injury investigation reports since March 26 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Injury Report on May 22 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff cut finger with field knife while cutting zip tie ○ Injury Report on June 10 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hand grazed tire rim of gator • Health & Safety Manual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ updates continuing, nothing specific to report at the time of this meeting • Maple Syrup Production Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donna to report back prior to June H&S meeting ○ JHSC made comments in draft policy • McKeough <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Office was inspected by external inspector; waiting on final report. ○ Action: Emily to follow up with Girish re: report from external inspector. • Update re: Evacuation Accountability Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update from discussion with fire inspector ○ Further discussion regarding in/out option ○ Action: Jeff to draft policy and forward to Greg who will present to Supervisors and ask for area/section volunteers. • Tick safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update regarding form and sample collection procedure ○ Action: vector-borne disease policy be reviewed, and update tick factsheet with information on what to do if a tick attaches, as well as suggest vehicle logbooks with near-miss events of ticks, and that attached ticks be reported as an incident. Dallas and Greg⁸⁷ to update at next meeting. 			

- Seasonal bulletins from JHSC to all staff
 - Ideas from Committee
 - Heat bulletins and thunderstorm warnings covered by Ashley
 - **Action:** JHSC to circulate updated factsheet(s) in the spring
- Additional Worker Representative
 - Update from April all staff meeting
 - **Action:** Greg and Emily to be signed up for training by next meeting (September 18, 2019; Use Code 4505)

Glenn Baxter to report on:

- WHMIS 2015
 - Warwick, Clarke Wright, McKeough and office consistent with WHMIS 2015
 - Continued review of other workplaces during 2019 workplace inspections
 - **Action:** Glenn to continue inspections with Warwick, A.W. Campbell and McLean
 - Greg reported on lack of shield on grinder at Henderson, and that someone could use without proper safety guard, so purchase possibly required for shield/new grinder. Henderson has had diesel containers purchased so that cans are properly labeled.
 - **Action:** All finished inspection sheets to be submitted to Dallas; Emily to shadow Glenn during inspection of the McKeough Dam.
- AED Training
 - Park Superintendents and Assistants are AED trained, assumption that in the event of an emergency, park campers may be first on scene, and campers are widely aware that there are AEDs and where they are located. Facebook posts or bulletins can be made as a more formal update on AED locations.
 - **Action:** Greg to check if lifeguards have AED training and make informational posts if necessary.

Jeff Sharp to report on:

- 5 Point Safety Check
 - Review updates
 - Jeff reported that the check is done by a supervisor who checks the workplace of the worker to see if it is safe and if equipment is in good working order
 - **Action:** Dallas and Greg to present to Supervisors to remind staff that the safety check exists and should be completed on an ongoing basis (e.g. at least one monthly) and that completed sheets need to be submitted.

Greg Wilcox to report on:

- Henderson – no lunch room.
 - a lunch room would need to be a future installation once budgets are reviewed.
- What sites need AED
 - A.W. Campbell, Strathroy Office
- Recommendation: to investigate and bring forward to Foundation if AEDs could be donated or purchased for locations without an AED.

2.2 Update Regarding March 25, 2019 JHSC Minutes

- Update on Review of procedures with regards to employee health related scenarios: policy for first aid plan discussed, further information to be brought to September 2019 meeting.

3. Area Reports & Workplace Inspections

- 3.1 L.C Henderson – April 17 – Glenn
- 3.2 A.W Campbell – May 15 – Glenn
- 3.3 Warwick CA – June 12 – Glenn

(Please forward copies to Ashley for binder. Last 2 2018 reports outstanding)

4. New Business

- 4.1 Minute-taking and the need for consistent records. Election of JHSC member to maintain minutes and agendas
 - o Recommendation: that notetaking be rotated within JHSC between non-Chair members

5. Goals and Objectives in 2019

- 5.1 To regularly review MOL website to educate ourselves and learn from documented investigations and fines (ongoing)
- 5.2 To review Health and Safety Manual and make changes as necessary (ongoing)
- 5.3 To appoint a worker rep. in October, 2018 for a 3-year term (to replace Sarah Hodgkiss), determine when to elect worker rep to replace Dallas
 - o Emily De Cloet has been nominated to the committee to replace Sarah Hodgkiss as a worker representative.
- 5.4 Conduct workplace inspections as required (at least one location each month)
- 5.5 To encourage supervisors to complete safety reviews and 5-point check lists on a more frequent basis (ongoing)
- 5.6 To update the JHSC files on the O drive (ongoing)
- 5.7 To recommend that Supervisors schedule retraining refreshers with their staff, once a month (ongoing) – to be brought to supervisors meeting by management rep
- 5.8 To send occasional Health & Safety Bulletins to all staff (i.e. Hot & Cold Weather Alerts forwarded to all staff as received from Lambton Public Health)

6. Proposed next meeting dates: September 18, 2019

7. Adjournment

Moved by: Dallas Cundick
Seconded by: Emily De Cloet
Carried

Misc. Information

Contacts:	Management Chair:	Dallas Cundick
	Co-Chair:	Glenn Baxter
	Workplace Inspectors:	Glenn Baxter, Jeff Sharp
	Worker Reps.:	Glenn Baxter, Jeff Sharp, Emily De Cloet
	Management Rep.:	Greg Wilcox
	Meeting Recorder:	Emily De Cloet



Signature of Co-chair

September 25, 2019

Date



Signature of Co-chair

September 25, 2019

Date

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: October 31, 2019
Submitted by: Ashley Fletcher

Item 12.8

Subject: 2020 Nominating Committee

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors nominate committee members representing the four districts of the Authority being Sarnia, Lambton, Chatham-Kent and Middlesex

1. Joe Faas (ex-officio/ Chatham-Kent)
2. Larry Gordon (ex-officio/ Lambton)
3. _____, Sarnia
4. _____, Lambton or other
5. _____, Chatham-Kent or other
6. _____, Middlesex

2019 Nominating Committee:

1. Steve Arnold (ex-officio)
2. Andy Bruziewicz (ex-officio)
3. Joe Faas (Chatham-Kent)
4. Larry Gordon (Lambton)
5. Norm Giffen (Middlesex)

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019
Report Date: October 22, 2019
Submitted by: Donna Blue

Item 13.1

Subject: Communications Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Communications Report dated October 22, 2019 including memorial forests, conservation awards, Conservation Foundation update and conservation education funding.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Goal 3 – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.

Memorial Forest Dedications

Memorial forest dedication services were held on September 15th and September 22nd this past fall.

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

The 3rd annual Denning's Chatham-Kent and West Elgin Memorial Forest dedication was held on Sunday, September 15th at the Keith McLean Conservation Lands. Tree planting and conservation education are supported through donations made to the Foundation in recognition of families served by the Chatham-Kent and West Elgin Denning Funeral Home branches.

Approximately 95 people attended the service. Duncan Skinner brought remarks on behalf of the Foundation. A red oak tree was planted as a symbol of the trees that will be planted through the Authority's forestry programs and all the children that will take part in conservation education programs.



Duncan Skinner, Foundation President, provides remarks at the Denning's Chatham-Kent and West Elgin Memorial Forest Dedication at the Keith McLean Conservation Lands.

Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication

The Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication was held on Sunday, September 22nd at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area in Petrolia, Ontario. Duncan Skinner and Joe Faas provided remarks on behalf of the Foundation and Authority, respectively. Seventy people attended the dedication where a tulip tree was planted as a symbol of all the trees planted through donations to the Foundation. From September 2018 to August 2019, 47 trees were dedicated through individual donations to the program. To date, a total of 2142 trees have been dedicated through the Foundation's Memorial Forest Program.



Joe Faas, Chair of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority speaks to the families that attended the dedication ceremony.



The family of Isabell Smith Henderson Swartz planted a tulip tree during the Foundation's Memorial Forest Dedication at Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

Conservation Awards

A list of possible conservation award recipients will be brought forward at our Board meeting in December. Board members wishing to nominate any individual or organization should contact Brian McDougall or Donna Blue at the SCRCA Administration Office.

St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation

The St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation raises funds to support the work of the Conservation Authority. At the October 17th meeting, the Foundation approved support for a number of projects and programs:

- \$3660 to support the purchase of two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area and the SCRCA Administration Building.
- \$10,000 to support two intern positions
- \$60,000 to support Conservation Education

Conservation Education Fundraising

One of the main Authority programs supported by the Foundation is Conservation Education. Efforts are made to secure funds from corporate sponsors, special events and the BINGO program. Additionally, the Conservation Authority applies for government grants to support the education program. Current support efforts include:

Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA)

A request has been submitted to the SLEA Board of Directors to continue funding the “River Bottom Critters” and the “Go With the Flow” conservation education programs in 2020. The \$30,000 request is currently being reviewed with confirmation expected in the next couple of months. The “River Bottom Critters” program is targeted at grades JK–12 and the “Go With the Flow” program is offered to students in grades JK–8.

Plains Midstream Canada

The SCRCA has received email confirmation that Plains Midstream Canada will continue to support the “Spring Water Awareness” program delivered to elementary students (JK to Grade 6) for the next three years (\$5,000 annually until 2022). This program is offered in March every year and teaches children about the hazards and dangers associated with spring snow and ice melt along streams and rivers.

Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR)

The Friends of the St. Clair River community group have once again committed \$2,500 towards delivering the “River RAP” and new “Phosphorus 101” education programs to both elementary and secondary school students throughout the 2019-2020 school year.

Government of Canada

Through the Habitat Stewardship Program (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) and Canadian Nature Fund (Environment and Climate Change Canada) applications submitted by the SCRCA biology department, \$27,500 has been secured towards conservation education until March 2020. This funding will support the “Aquatic Species at Risk” in-class program offered to elementary and secondary students, along with the development of a program that pairs Indigenous and non-Indigenous-based science to teach students about aquatic habitat, Species at Risk and environmental stewardship.

Enbridge

Through a generous \$5,000 donation by Enbridge, improvements will be made at the

Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area that will benefit both students and campers. These improvements will include: 1) construction of a pond edge boardwalk, 2) a dedicated roadside walkway and 3) a trail-stabilizing retaining wall. In addition, a new application to Enbridge will be submitted shortly that requests support for delivery of education programs at Peers Wetland.



Enbridge representatives present the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) with a \$5,000 donation. The donation will support the construction of a pond edge boardwalk (pictured), a dedicated roadside walkway and a trail-stabilizing retaining wall (From left to right: Joe Faas, SCRCA Chair; Mark Ramsay, Field Supervisor, Enbridge; Ken Hall, Senior Advisor, Community Engagement, Enbridge; Sharon Nethercott, SCRCA Conservation Education Coordinator).

Meeting Date: November 14, 2019 **Item 13.2**
Report Date: October 31, 2019
Submitted by: Sharon Nethercott and Melissa Levi

Subject: Conservation Education Progress Report

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Progress Report, dated October 31, 2019 including fall education programs and events.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Goal 3 – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.

Fall Education Programs

Labour issues within the local School Boards have been a factor in slightly reduced program bookings this fall. Minor openings in the schedule have provided staff with the opportunity to perform program maintenance. Outdoor Education Funding is continuing through the Ministry of Education. Teachers can apply for \$7.00 per student to be put towards the cost of our field trips.

Program Flyer for Teachers

Elementary and Secondary Flyers have been distributed to the St. Clair Catholic District School Board, private schools and Middlesex Schools in our watershed. The LKDSB has begun distribution of e-flyers only. All flyer requests must now be approved through an on-line portal before the School Principals will have access to them. The Secondary Flyer was approved by the LKDSB in early October, however the elementary flyer was not approved until October 25th due to a number of issues within the process.

Geocaching Events

Sunday Sept. 15 – Over 50 people were in attendance from as far away as Michigan, Windsor and London. Two families who were new to geocaching attended and enjoyed learning about this opportunity to explore different conservation areas. Our local bird species were highlighted as the new caches were named after birds found in our watershed. These geocaches will remain in place until next year's event.

Lambton Upland Game Bird Club Youth Day

August 17th, 2019 – SCRCA staff provided children with nature-based conservation activities in this annual youth day hosted by the Lambton Upland Game Bird Club

Chapter. Connections were made between collected insects and the ecology of farming, fishing, best management practices, and general ecosystem support.

Wyoming Fair and Forest Fair - Agriculture in the Classroom:

September 10th and September 13th, 2019 respectively – Staff attended both fairs to bring a conservation message to the attending students. Specifically, the students learned about freshwater mussels found in our watershed’s rivers, creeks and ditches; focusing on the connection between responsible farming practices and the health of our aquatic species. Students learned about mussel identification and were encouraged to ‘raccoon’ for mussels in our model ‘creek’. It was a great hands-on experience for all students!

Brigden Fair Agriculture in the Classroom

October 11th, 2019 – SCRCA education staff provided an educational display with hands-on activities for approximately 800 students in grades 3-6. Staff discussed the importance of wetlands with the use of a metaphor activity improved students’ understanding of our connection to wetlands.

Reptiles at Risk Education Day

September 24th, 2019 – Education staff partnered with Biology staff to offer this annual education experience for grade 12 students in our watershed. Students from Great Lakes Secondary School visited Perch Creek to learn about Reptiles at Risk, and the habitats they depend upon.

AFSAR Education Days - Hillside School Kettle Point:

October 9th and November 13th – As part of our annual education days at the Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation School, students in grade 3 and grade 4 participate in an outdoor and indoor education day with 3 SCRCA staff. During the ‘outdoor visit, students are taken to a nearby creek to look at life supported there. The indoor day focuses on Species At Risk in Kettle and Stony Point, encouraging the kids to share their own experiences and learn new ideas through games, maps and conversation.

Canadian Nature Fund Program Expansion

October 11th and November 14th, 2019 (monthly visits will continue until June 2020) SCRCA and Hillside School at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation have begun program development and delivery as part of a program expansion project funded by the Canadian Nature Fund. SCRCA Education staff are working with Ojibwe teaching staff at Hillside School to add a conservation message to their existing land-based Ojibwe program. More specifically, the SCRCA is encouraging students to consider local ‘Aquatic Species at Risk’, the habitats that sustain them and potential stewardship projects to protect them.

Defending the people who make GTA livable



Shawn
Micallef

OPINION

Threats come in various forms. Some are natural.

There's a plaque in the Humber River floodplain, just below the Old Mill subway station, that tells the tale of how Hurricane Hazel killed 81 people across various GTA watersheds in 1954. Another plaque further up river near Lawrence Ave. memorializes the Raymond Dr. subdivision, where 14 homes were swept away by Hazel and 32 of the 81 people were killed.

Preserved as parkland now, the event has become part of the founding story of modern Toronto, yet it was also a moment when the importance of conservation authorities became starkly clear. In 1946, the result of pressure from citizen groups who were concerned about decades of poor land use, water and forestry practices, the Conservation Authorities Act was legislated by the Ontario government. It allowed the province and municipalities to create conservation authorities together.

Hazel triggered an expansion of that legislation. After the storm, smaller conservation authorities in Toronto were merged to form what today is the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and authorities were given the power to acquire and regulate land for community safety, recreation and conservation purposes. Since 1946 other conservation authorities formed and expanded around the GTA and across Ontario.

Further up the Humber, just south of where the river passes under Steeles Ave. is yet another plaque, this one marking what was once Tarmola, an athletic and cultural retreat established by the Finnish Society of Toronto in 1927. Cottages near here were also swept away during Hazel, and in 1968 Tarmola and the area around it was purchased by the TRCA.

Conservation authorities make Toronto and the rest of Ontario livable. Literally. They do important flood mitigation and conserve landscapes that will increase our resilience to the effects of climate change.

MICALLEF continued on GT4

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Offering escapes from city life

OPINION: MICALLEF from GT1

The journey up the Humber is a tour of how modern conservation authorities evolved, and they have continued to expand their local programming and practices, making it not just a livable place, but also a very good place to live.

So many of the places I and perhaps you love around here, places that give us a bit of an escape from the intensity of the city, fall under the full or partial jurisdiction of conservation authorities, such as the Glen Major Forest, a former aggregate quarry that has been wonderfully renaturalized with trails north of Ajax.

Within Toronto, there's the ongoing Meadoway project converting 16 kilometres of hydro corridor in Scarborough into a linear park. Near Milton, there's the fantastic view of the entire GTA from Rattlesnake Point. Limehouse Area has similar views further north on the Niagara Escarpment, where limestone kiln ruins are also part of the experience. All preserved and maintained by conservation authorities.

On top of these and many other locations are hiking and education programs, historic interpretive centres such as Black Creek Village and kayak and canoe excursions. The fees for these and other programs help pay for the conservation efforts, and why the Aug. 16



PAUL SMITH TORSTAR FILE PHOTO

This house was one of the few that was left after floods from Hurricane Hazel washed away roughly a dozen houses on Toronto's Raymore Dr. in 1954.

letter from Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, was deeply concerning to conservation authorities.

The threat this time is political.

"Blindsided," said the head of Conservation Halton of Yurek's intention to have authorities "refocus" their efforts on their "core mandate" and away from "activities such as ziplining, maple syrup festivals and photography and wedding permits." In his letter, Yurek drew a connection to Bill 108, his government's "More Homes, More Choice Act" that makes it easier to develop land and weakens environmental protections.

Mentioning wedding permits is curious. This is the kind of thing that was started not to

create something but respond to it: imagine the chaos of bride- and groom-zillas fighting over photo locations on Saturday afternoons. It's simple regulation and fee collection, and makes enjoying something Ontarians love more pleasant and possible.

What's even more concerning is how this will undermine these authorities not just financially, but in their conservation efforts as well. What all those programs do is get people out and into the Ontario landscape. We get to know the land and, if you're like me, grow to love it. It builds a constituency for conservation lands: people who will stand up for it when it's threatened.

In January, the Ford government backed away from parts of their Bill 66 legislation that

would have opened the Greenbelt to development, saying they heard "loud and clear" from Ontario municipalities who did not want it touched. The Greenbelt has a mighty constituency.

Conservation authorities play the same role but are much more decentralized than the giant, consolidated Greenbelt, making them easier to overlook. Many people may not even realize how a conservation authority touches their lives. By undermining their constituency, it will further disconnect people from their critical work.

Look around and see if a conservation authority affects your life in some way. If it does, and you like it, you're going to have to start defending it.

Twitter: @shawnmicallef

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Conservation programs under fire even when the government does not fund them

CAs were told to “re-focus their efforts on the delivery of programs and services related to their core mandate.”



BY PETER EPP

The writer is a veteran journalist based in Chatham

Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities are under fire by a provincial government that may not fully grasp the authorities’ scope of operations, nor their involvement in stewardship issues.

They have been collectively ordered by Environment and Conservation Minister Jeff Yurek to “wind down” programs not related to their “core mandates”, although it would appear the ministry isn’t fully aware of some of those programs nor how they are funded.

A letter from Yurek was sent Aug. 16 to the authorities. They were told to “re-focus their efforts on the delivery of programs and services related to their core mandate.”

Specifically, the minister asked that those programs and services be related to only five issues: risk of natural hazards; conservation and management of land owned or controlled by conservation authorities; drinking water source protection; protection of watersheds;

and other programs or services as prescribed by provincial regulation.

But there are some programs that conservation authorities are involved in that could fall under any of these five issues but aren’t specifically funded by the province. Therefore, it would seem those programs and services should be dropped, at least according to the government.

Among them are tree-planting programs, soil erosion programs, the planting of windbreaks and outdoor education programs.

Most of these are funded by grants, by municipal partners, or by private donors. And although the argument could be made that outdoor education programs could be dropped without any immediate impact to the authorities’ mandate, initiatives that take on the challenge of windbreaks, tree planting and soil erosion are part-and-parcel of the authorities’ legislated mandate to protect watersheds, manage the properties placed under their stewardship, and lower the possibility of natural hazards.

Most everyone realizes the province has a financial problem. Its debt is staggering and unsustainable, and despite great effort by the Ford government, Ontarians are probably going to be living with budget deficits for quite some time.

But to order conservation authorities to close activities that aren’t specifically or directly funded by the provin-

cial government makes little sense. Conservation authorities have over several decades of operation cultivated valuable partnerships with municipalities, landowners and other private citizens. Some of the land these authorities manage were entrusted by private landowners. The projects the authorities take on that involve issues of reforestation and soil erosion often involve partners from the agricultural community.

In short, conservation authorities have become trusted agencies of stewardship. They’ve accomplished that with public money, but they’ve also done that with private money and goodwill.

Yurek needs to hold consultations to determine exactly how the conservation authorities’ core mandate might be negatively impacted by what appears to be an uninformed directive from his ministry.

Dominic Morrissey appointed

Dominic Morrissey of Uxbridge has been appointed to a three-year term on the board of directors of AgriCorp.

He has been a stolid supporter of the Progressive Conservative party.

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Enbridge donates \$5,000 towards safety improvements at Petrolia conservation area

 Postmedia Staff
[More from Postmedia Staff](#)

Published on: September 12, 2019 | Last Updated: September 12, 2019 4:27 PM EDT



Enbridge representatives present the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority with a \$5,000 cheque, money geared towards making safety improvements at Petrolia's Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area. From left to right: SCRCA chair Joe Faas, Enbridge's Mark Ramsay and Ken Hall, SCRCA conservation education co-ordinator Sharon Nethercott. Handout/Sarnia This Week

SHARE

Representatives from Enbridge presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) on Sept. 10, money that will be used to fund safety improvements in Petrolia's Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area this fall.

ADJUST

Enbridge's Ken Hall presented the cheque to Joe Faas, chair of the SCRCA, during a small ceremony at the conservation area.

COMMENT

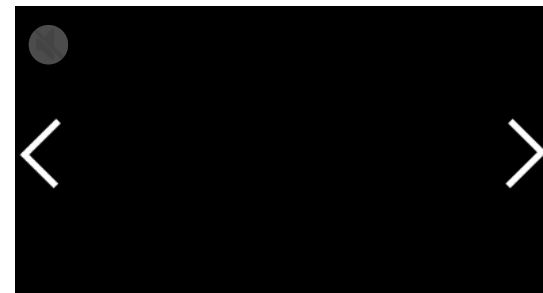
The \$5,000 donation will go towards supporting the construction of a pond edge boardwalk, a dedicated roadside walkway and a trail-stabilizing retaining wall, according to a media release from the SCRCA.

PRINT

Hall said the money donated by Enbridge was aimed at facilitating improved safety conditions for the approximately 10,000 students who use the area annually to learn about environmental issues impacting the region, as well as members of the public who visit the area and/or use the adjacent campground.

"At Enbridge safety is always our number one priority and this commitment extends to our engagement with the municipalities where we have assets and infrastructure," Hall said. "Enbridge is very pleased to support this SCRCA project at Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area as the safety of the thousands of students and members of the public that use the Conservation Area is very important to Enbridge and the SCRCA."

FEATURED ARTICLES



Why Air Canada flew a lone Boeing 737 Max across the country this summer amid groundings

WEATHER >



Local wildlife area touts 10th annual geocaching jaunt

LOUIS PIN

The Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area will kick off its 10th annual park-wide geocaching romp Sunday morning, complete with free GPS rentals and quirky prizes set up by park staff.

Those prizes, placed at specific co-ordinates around the area, are “a surprise” as far as conservation educator Sharon Nethercott is concerned. Those at the conservation area will have from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. to search high and low — call it a wilderness scavenger hunt of sorts, one open to outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels.

“I’ve found that geocachers are a really friendly group. They’re usually willing to help someone if it’s their first time,” Nethercott said. “(The Open Trails event) is a really good opportunity to learn and get acquainted with it.”

The geocaching adventure is a relatively easy excursion for year-round hobbyists, but that doesn’t stop those vacationing in the area to pay the conservation area a visit

IF YOU GO

What: Open Trails Geocaching Adventure

Where: Henderson Conservation Area, 3653 Petrolia Line

When: Sunday, Sept. 15

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: Free

— some as far as London, Toronto, Michigan, and one year, a couple from the U.K., Nethercott said. It’s also a chance for staff at the Petrolia-area wildlife centre to highlight Henderson in the hopes those day-trippers will one day return.

“It’s an opportunity to invite people to the site, to teach them about the trails and area,” Nethercott said. “It helps us showcase the conservation area.”

Those interested can arrive at any time, Nethercott said. The event and all GPS rentals are free with identification. For more information visit the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area online, at scrca.on.ca.



Prospective geocachers young and old are expected to come to Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area this Sunday for the wildlife area’s tenth annual geocaching event. *FILES*

Our Story

the old Swimming Hole near Petrolia, Ont.



FROM THE DAVE BURWELL POSTCARD COLLECTION

An early picture of Bear Creek in Petrolia. It is now a park which maintained by the Town of Petrolia and the St. Clair Conservation Authority. The town and the authority are working together to create a wetland to deal with some of the water problems in the area.

But Treasurer Stephen Ikert says it can also be used to store

year, everyone is getting the right information," he says.

That would mean the town purchasing a tablet for councillors.

Bridgeview Park wetland project approved

Heather Wright
The Independent

Bridgeview Park in Petrolia is about to undergo some big changes.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has approved a plan to deal with stagnant water in the park on the south side of Petrolia Line.

Bridgeview Park floods each season with the water slowly receding into Bear Creek. When the town rebuilt Petrolia Line, the Ministry of the Environment said a storm water holding pond needed to be installed. A spillway with a retaining pond was built, at a cost of about \$250,000 to act as a natural filter and drain.

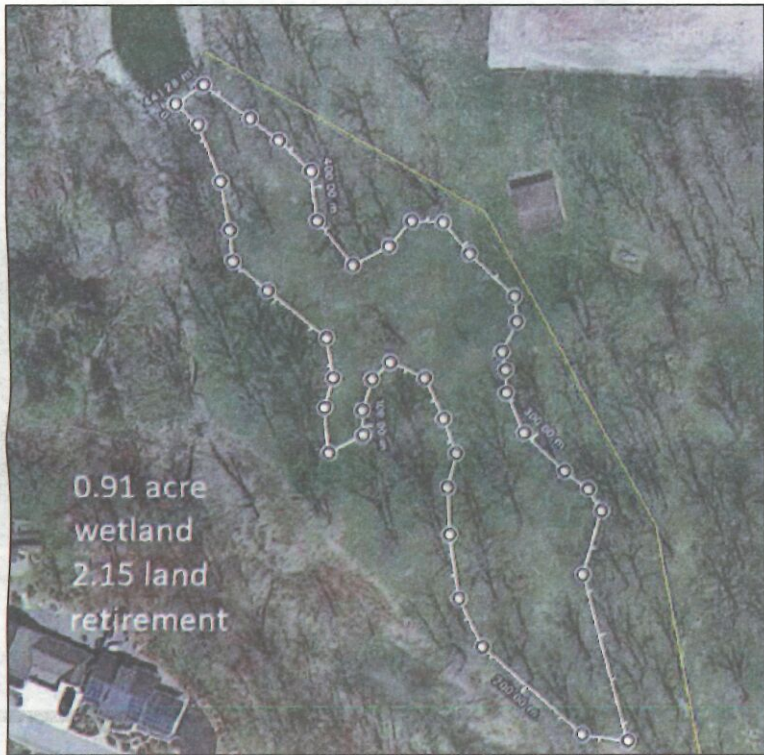
But, it isn't working. Right now, the pond is filled with green algae. And Dave Menzies, director of community services and facilities says it spills over into the east end of the park, near the public washrooms, keeping the area underwater for weeks.

So, the town, is working with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority which owns the park, on a solution.

Between 40 and 50 dead trees on the west end of the park will be removed over the coming months. Then, the area behind the public washrooms will be excavated, to allow the water to move through the area better. That will take up nearly an acre of the park.

Then, 2.15 acres around the newly-created wetland will be retired and planted with native species which will encourage the water to move back into Bear Creek without town staff having to worry about trying to maintain the grassed area.

Menzies says the town and SCRCA staff believe this is the best way to get the water moving again with the least



About 2.15 acres of Bridgeview Park will be turned to wetland.

impact on the environment.

"With the pending removal of at least 40 dead trees, the creation of a wetland pond will accomplish needed natural space for aquatic, land and air life while attempting to provide a visual appealing space," he says in a report to council.

"The... proposal will see the creation of pollinators sanctuaries for a number of species."

He adds when the westerly portion of the property is back in a natural space, it will cut down on the amount of cutting town staff has to do.

Menzies adds the gazebo, pond and washroom area will not be affected by the plans.

The conservation authority's board of directors recently approved the work and committed to starting this fall.

Petrolia will contribute \$25,000 toward the work.

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BRIDGEVIEW LOGGING



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Work to create a wetland in Bridgeview Park to get rid of a stagnant pond has begun. Contractors for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority were in the Petrolia park cutting up to 50 trees from a two-acre area of the park behind the permanent washrooms. The trees, according to two officials, were dead. Once the trees are cleared the wetland will be created to filter the water run off coming from Petrolia Line before it enters Bear Creek. Officials say the wood of the walnut trees has been sold and the money will be used for future tree planting projects in the town.



Erosion has forced the closure of a section of Old Lakeshore Road, city officials say. SUPPLIED

Erosion closes stretch of Old Lakeshore Road

TYLER KULA

Strong winds continued to push punishing waves onto Old Lakeshore Road Thursday, where a section of the bank at Marion Avenue was washed out overnight, Sarnia's manager of development and transportation said.

"We had a lot of debris being washed up on the road overnight," Mike Berkvens said Thursday afternoon, "and the water is still spraying ... rocks and everything going on the road in that area."

City crews closed the lake-adjacent roadway in Sarnia's north between Helen and Centre avenues Thursday while crews with Van Bree Drainage and Bulldozing spent the day filling in the washed-out road bank with rocks.

The road closure was expected to last into Friday morning at least, Berkvens said.

"The shoreline is still taking quite a beating," he said. "We don't know if what we're putting in there is going to last overnight."

Old, battered steel barricades – with gaps – will need to be replaced with armour stone revetment in the area, he said, but noted the overnight waves Wednesday ultimately splashed high enough that they went behind the wall and washed the road material out.

Sarnia and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority this fall are putting about \$1.2 million into armour stones along the shore, but west of Marion Avenue.

Sarnia's capital backlog last fall listed \$32 million in needed shoreline protection work.

The city's construction manager has said sustained spending on the problem is needed over the next several years.

Meanwhile, Berkvens urged drivers to not drive around road closure barricades on Old Lakeshore Road.

"We're asking the public, for their safety, to avoid the area," he said.

tkula@postmedia.com

FEDERAL ELECTION DIGEST



SOME TAKE LOOK AT'S

London West NDP candidate Shawna Naraine as she campaigns in an apartment building, getting a positive reception at the door from leader Jagmeet Singh. Naraine said she was "excited about all of the options available." MIKE HEWITT

1. Early birds

The number of Canadians voting early in this election shot up by 30 per cent compared to the last election in 2015, Elections Canada reports. An estimated 4.7 million voters cast ballots during four days of advance polls that ended Monday, up from about 3.6 million who voted early in 2015. The number of advance poll locations was increased and their hours extended this time.

2. Buttoned down

Once ubiquitous in election campaigns, lapel buttons advertising the parties and candidates are not nearly as common in a digital age. Those tiny trinkets don't come cheap. On its website, one national manufacturer lists the buttons in lots ranging from \$2 apiece for 10 to 24 buttons, falling to 19 cents apiece for orders of 20,000 or more.

3. Accessible polling stations

Q: I'm in a wheelchair. How can I tell if my polling station is accessible to me?

A: Elections Canada says it goes to great lengths to choose accessible polling stations, visiting more than 30,000 possible locations to pick the best sites. You can tell in advance if the set-up is right for you by looking at the back of your voter card. Along with the accessibility symbol, it shows a phone number to call to ensure access to the polling station meets your needs.

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SCRCA RECEIVES TRILLIUM ROOTS FUNDING

By Sydenham Current on October 22, 2019 Current News

HOME > CURRENT NEWS > SCRCA RECEIVES TRILLIUM ROOTS FUNDING





The ROOTS Community Fund is pleased to support the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) in the amount of \$3,800.00. Funding will be put towards the Bridgeview Conservation Area Wetland Restoration Project.

The SCRCA provides leadership through coordination of watershed planning, implementation of resource management programs and promotion of conservation awareness in Petrolia and surrounding areas.

The Trillium ROOTS Community Fund was established by Trillium Mutual Insurance Company in Listowel, to administer the company's philanthropy program. Through ROOTS, Trillium continues to provide meaningful financial assistance and support to rural communities in which its policyholder members live and serve. The Trillium Board of Directors has approved \$120,000.00 which will be available for capital projects in 2019 with funding focus in the areas of Agriculture, Emergency Response, Healthcare, Recreation & Wellness, and Eco/Sustainability. The next intake deadline for applications is November 20, 2019. More information about the ROOTS

“Recognizing Our Opportunity

To Support” Community Fund can be found at www.trilliummutual.com.

PREVIOUS ARTICLE



Breast Cancer Awareness Month
and news

NEXT ARTICLE



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Chatham-Kent Council: October 21, 2019 recap
Chatham-Kent Council met for a regular meeting

BRIDGEVIEW WETLAND TAKES SHAPE



HEATHER WRIGHT PHOTO

Dozens of trees have been removed and the new wetland is taking shape in Bridgeview Park in Petrolia. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Town of Petrolia are trying to solve the problem of standing water in a holding pond at the base of Petrolia Line. It was originally designed to move water off the street into Bear Creek; instead, the water has been stagnating in the pool. Crews from the conservation authority spent the better part of the last two weeks, removing dead trees and burning some of the branches. Some of the walnut was sold to help cover the costs of the project. Bulldozers and backhoes are now digging a shallow pond which will serve as a wetland to filter the water back to Bear Creek. Officials are hopeful the work will be complete this fall.

Windsor

Gates reopen at McKeough Dam following flood warning



It was the eighth time in 36 years that the dam's gates have been closed

CBC News · Posted: Nov 01, 2019 6:45 AM ET | Last Updated: November 1



The W. Darcy McKeough Floodway is the largest flood diversion project in Ontario (St. Clair Conservation Authority)

[comments](#) 

The McKeough Dam gates are opening once again, following a flood warning issued Thursday evening. The gates were previously closed to protect Wallaceburg from flooding.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) issued an update Friday, informing the public that "Water levels have begun to stabilize and fall."

"Water levels remain elevated into floodplain areas, parks and farm fields and roads remain impacted," said the SCRCA on Friday. "Soils saturated from the rain could contribute to ponding and possible increased erosion and seepage issues."

Girish Sankar, director of water resources with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA), said Thursday was the eighth time in 36 years that a decision was made to close the dam's gates.

Part of the Sydenham River was diverted to the St. Clair River.

"The north branch gets completely diverted when the gates are in operation, so the community of Wallaceburg just has to deal with one branch of the river," Sankar said.

According to a news release Thursday night, the primary criteria necessary to close the gates was met at 8:50 p.m.

There had been between 30 and 100 mm of rain over the Sydenham watershed Wednesday and Thursday.

The W. Darcy McKeough Floodway is the largest flood diversion project in Ontario, located 12 kilometres north of Wallaceburg.

The dam controls about 37 per cent of the drainage basins upstream of Wallaceburg and was built in 1984. It was last closed in February 2018, but before that had not been closed since 2009.

A review of the McKeough was suggested in August 2018, to update the policies surrounding its use. The last update to the operations manual was in 1992.

The SCRCA, Essex Region Conservation Authority and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority have all issued a series of warnings and watches for high wind levels and potential flooding going into the weekend.