



Board of Directors - Notice of Meeting

June 18, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Held Remotely via Zoom

Tentative Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests Minutes
4. Minutes
 - 4.1 Special Meeting May 7, 2020 Minutes
 - 4.2 Board of Directors May 7, 2020 Minutes
5. General Manager's Report
 - 5.1 GM's Report
6. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report
 - 6.1 Conservation Ontario Verbal Update
7. Consent Items
 - 7.1 a Business Arising
 - 7.1 b Conservation Lands Update
 - 7.1 c Current Watershed Conditions
 - 7.1 d Floodplain Mapping Project
 - 7.1 e WECI Projects
 - 7.1 f Management of Contaminated Sediment in the St. Clair River
 - 7.1 g Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Update
 - 7.1 h 2020 Tree Planting
 - 7.1 i Larvicide Program in Lambton County
 - 7.1 j Regulations Report
 - 7.1 k Monthly Planning Report
 - 7.1 l Revenue & Expenditure Report
 - 7.1 m April and May Disbursements
 - 7.1 n 2020 General Levy Update
 - 7.1 o Investments
 - 7.1 p Education Report
 - 7.1 q AOC Report
 - 7.2 r Scholarship Report
8. Conservation Lands
 - 8.1 Highland Glen
9. Biology
 - 9.1 Comments on the Ontario Government Response Statement for the Spiny Softshell
 - 9.2 Comments on Ontario Government Response Statements for Eight Species at Risk

10. Planning
 - 10.1 Violation Report
11. Finance & Administration
 - 11.1 Emergency Work from Home Policy
 - 11.2 Financial Impact of COVID-19
12. New Business
13. Adjournment

Additional Items: News Clippings

Please contact Ashley (call 519-245-3710, 1-866-505-3710 or e-mail Afletcher@scrca.on.ca) at the Administration Office by June 15, 2020 if you are unable to attend.

- 7.1 e.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 4, 2020 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and further acknowledges the updates on the WECl funding for 2020.*
- 7.1 f.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 4, 2020 on the Management of Contaminated Sediment in the St. Clair River*
- 7.1 g.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the update dated June 5, 2020 regarding the Sydenham River Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan.*
- 7.1 h.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2020 regarding spring 2020 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.*
- 7.1 i.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2020 regarding the treatment of catch basins with a larvicide in Lambton County's rural and urban areas.*
- 7.1 j.) *That the Board of Directors accepts the Regulations Activity Reports on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated June 6, 2020 and includes the period April 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020, as presented.*
- 7.1 k.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports, dated June 8, 2020 for April and May 2020.*
- 7.1 l.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to May 31, 2020, as it relates to the budget.*
- 7.1 m.) *That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2020 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,740,115.09.*
- 7.1 n.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2020 general levy receipts to May 31, 2020.*
- 7.1 o.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the financial investment statements through April 30, 2020.*
- 7.1 p.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 4, 2020 on the Conservation Education Progress Report.*
- 7.1 q.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 3, 2020 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.*
- 7.1 r.) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2020 Scholarship Program report dated June 4, 2020.*

- 8.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Director's acknowledges the report dated June 6, 2020 on the Highland Glen Conservation area and approves proceeding with the tender process for an engineered study investigating options for infrastructure repair and erosion control with costs to be deferred to 2021 general levy and further that the Board of Director's is prepared to financially support repairs and upgrades to the Highland Glen boat ramp through future general levy.
- 9.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 1, 2020 on the Ontario Government Response Statement for the Spiny Softshell and further endorse the comments prepared by staff.
- 9.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledge the report dated June 1, 2020 on the Ontario Government Response Statements for the Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tri-colored Bat, and the White Wood Aster and further endorse the comments prepared by staff.
- 10.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2020 on the Development proceeded in a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) involving the interference with 390, 669.5 square meters of PSW and PSW adjacent land (buffer) in the form of clearing, excavating and site grading of lands; and Fill, excavation and site grading at the shoreline of St. Clair River and further recommends that staff consult with legal representation prior to reviewing a recommendation at the next Board Meeting.
- 11.1 Moved by: Seconded by:
The Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 5, 2020 on the Emergency Work at Home Policy and further approves the addition of this policy to the SCRCA Administrative Policy Manual.
- 11.2 Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 5, 2020 regarding the effects of COVID-19 to May 31, 2020 on the 2020 Budget.
12. New Business
13. Moved by: Seconded by:
That the meeting be adjourned.



Special Meeting Minutes

Date: May 7, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Remote via Zoom

Directors Present: John Brennan, Al Broad, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice-Chair; Aaron Hall, Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Kevin Marriott, Netty McEwen, Mark McGill, Dan McMillan, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, Mike Stark, Jerry Westgate

Regrets: Betty Ann MacKinnon, Lorie Scott

Staff Present: Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, Manager of GIS and IT; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Sarah Hume, Payroll/ Accounting Clerk; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Directors Aaron Hall, representing Chatham-Kent and Netty McEwen, representing Plympton-Wyoming. 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.

SM-20-01

Marriott – Brown

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

CARRIED

SM-20-02

Miller - Kennes

“That the Board of Directors approve amendments to Sections 4 of The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Administrative By-laws enabling electronic participation during declared emergencies and further directs staff to post the amended Administrative By-law publicly as well as the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks’ correspondence enabling Conservation Authorities to convene a special meeting of the Board electronically in order to make necessary bylaw amendments.”

CARRIED

SM-20-03

Gordon-McMillan

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

Joe Faas
Chair



Brian McDougall
General Manager



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

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Time: 10:12 am

Remote via Zoom

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Staff Present: Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Nicole Drumm, Communication Technician; Chris Durand, Manager of GIS and IT; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Sarah Hume, Payroll/ Accounting Clerk; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

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BD-20-29

Burrell – Stark

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

CARRIED

Minutes of the February 27, 2020 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

BD-20-30

Miller – Kennes

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held February 27, 2020, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

COVID-19

- Within three weeks of the Annual General meeting in February we were thrust into a new world of isolation and distancing
- Authority staff were very nimble in responding to the necessarily quick conversion to our current operating system and I am proud of how our staff have handled this situation and very happy that we have all remained healthy to date in this crisis
- Our COVID-19 Action Plan is a product of our Business Continuity Plan and our Health & Safety Plan focusing on maintaining operations while protecting staff
- Thankfully, the plan has effectively accomplished those intended goals

- Many of the discussions with the Province have been placed on the back burner with a focus on COVID-19 actions
- However, a group of organizations have submitted correspondence to Premier Ford endorsing the maintenance of the current mandate of Conservation Authorities.

Financial Status

- This pandemic has thrown a shopping cart full of monkey wrenches into our work plans and our financial plans
- Impacts on and changes to work plans are reviewed in other reports throughout the meeting
- Workloads have not dropped off and staff continue to be busy
- Financially, there are different impacts in each department and we are working to manage each independently as that is how they are funded
- Conservation Areas, specifically campgrounds, are experiencing the greatest impacts – revenue lost in overnight camping through the end of the May, delay and potential loss in seasonal camping, while having to maintain minimal staffing to support Snowbird and other homeless seasonal campers
- Conservation Education has been impacted with the changes in Education resulting in a loss of revenue – staff have created some fantastic virtual learning opportunities that are receiving rave reviews in local and province wide school boards
- Planning is seeing a small increase in fees to date
- Other departments are balancing budgets – some reductions in costs due to reduced mileage and fleet costs and office utilities
- Staff are investigating opportunities for participation in federal and provincial funding programs to assist in balancing financial losses principally from wages

The following documents were reviewed:

- SCRCA COVID-19 Action Plan
- Letter to Premier Ford in Support of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities
- Correspondence from MNRF regarding Operational Funding for Conservation Authorities in 2020/2021

Director’s Comments

It is requested that staff prepare a report for the June 2020 meeting providing a dollar value for all cost-saving measures related to the COVID-19 Action Plan that have been applied or implemented and what impact these will have on the existing budget.

BD-20-31

McGill – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated April 28, 2020.”

CARRIED

Correspondence from the South West Woodlot Association regarding the appointment of

a technical advisor for the 2020 term was reviewed.

BD-20-32

Brown – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the correspondence dated March 9, 2020 regarding the appointment of a technical advisor for the South West Woodlot Association, and further that Tim Payne be appointed to continue in the role of Technical Advisor to the Association for 2020/2021.”

CARRIED

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 June, 2020

Regarding BD-19-169

The Board of Directors requests that a report is submitted to the December meeting regarding the possibility of providing monthly or quarterly revenue and expenditures for closer monitoring of the budget to date.

Addressed verbally

Regarding EC-20-04

Committee members recommend implementing an asset management plan as a proactive measure in preparation of the 2021 budget.

Please refer to Item 10.3

Regarding BD-20-04

The Board of Directors requests a report from MNP Chartered Professional Accountants LLP, separate from the Audited Statements providing a full breakdown and explanation of “Other Income” as referenced on page 5 of the statements. This report is to be distributed to the Board of Directors.

Please refer to Item 10.2

Regarding BD-20-18

Updated quotes including the full scope of necessary repairs to the Highland Glen boat launch will be brought forward to the April 16, 2020 Board of Directors meeting for further discussion.

Please refer to Item 7.4

BD-20-27

The Board of Directors requests a report to be provided at the April 16, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting on the subject of bio-solids and its potential effects on local water quality and further that this topic be included as part of the SCRCA Phosphorous Management Plan

Please refer to Item 8.2

(a) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the February 27, 2020 meeting.

Highlights

- Flood threat is moderate due to high water levels on the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and in Wallaceburg
- Lake Huron exceeded the February 1986 record by 14 cm, while Lake St. Clair was just below its record level; Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie all exceeded the 1986 record levels in March
- Water levels for Lakes Huron and St. Clair are projected to exceed record levels over the next 6 months
- Precipitation totals are on par with normal regional precipitation amounts

Flood Threat

The current flood threat is moderate owing to sustained high water levels in the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, St. Clair River, and the Sydenham River at Wallaceburg. Previously considered minimal amounts of rainfall will have the capacity to elevate water levels into natural floodplain areas, and Wallaceburg will be more susceptible to wind-driven flooding.

- March 2020 water levels in Wallaceburg were 24 cm higher than March 2019; February was 21 cm higher
- As of this report, water levels are currently sitting 5 cm below the top of the bank

Great Lakes Levels

- All three lakes have exceeded their 1986 record-high levels, with only Lake St. Clair not exceeding its March mean for all time
- Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair are projected to exceed record-high water levels over the next 6 months under the maximum water level scenario, and are anticipated to exceed April and possibly May records under the minimum level scenario

Precipitation Conditions

- Rainfall averages are below normal in Sarnia for all time periods, however data gaps are currently present for March rainfall totals, accounting for the discrepancy
- Significant rainfall in January 2020 increased the overall average for the past 3 months
- Long-term precipitation averages are on par with precipitation normal.

(b) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 24, 2020 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.

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.

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.

Strategic Objectives(s)

The Healthy Watershed Program fulfils Goals 2 and 3 of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority strategic objectives; Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes and provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment. 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 beginning, 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

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

- Environment and Climate Change Canada – Great Lakes Protection Initiative – \$300,000 request for 2-year project implementing Natural Heritage and Soil Health Projects with a focus on reducing phosphorus losses.
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Species at Risk Stewardship Program - \$196,940 request for 2-year project implementing stewardship projects, mussel monitoring, and education and outreach.
- Waste Management and the Town of Petrolia Green Leaders Grant - \$15,000 request for a 1-year project implementing interpretive features at Bridgeview Conservation Area
- Environment and Climate Change Canada – Terrestrial Habitat Stewardship Program - \$95,000 request for 1-year project focusing on habitat stewardship and reptile monitoring in the Sydenham River Watershed

Staff are currently writing up the Final Reports for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Aquatic Habitat Stewardship Program (\$100,000) and the Canadian Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk (\$285,000, Year 1 of 4-year grant)

SCRCA Habitat Stewardship Program 2019-2020

Total Project Costs: \$490,000

Total land retired: ~98.5 acres

Conservative estimate of value of landowner land retirement (~\$7,500/acre): \$743,000

Total Grants provided to landowners: ~\$410,000

Landowners contributed more than \$77,000 out-of-pocket costs to implement projects.

Staff assisted or found grant funding for the following projects:

- 22 Riparian Buffer and Marginal Land Tree Planting Projects and 22 over the counter tree sales (~54,000 trees)
- 8 Wetland Projects
- 3 Tallgrass Prairie Projects
- 1 Cattle Exclusion Fencing Project
- 1 Grassed Waterway Project
- 1 Erosion Control Project

(c) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 1, 2020 on the Healthy Watersheds Program.

The Regulations Activity report for the period of February 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 was reviewed.

(d) That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulation Activity Summary Report dated April 23, 2020 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from February 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020.

The Planning Activity report for the period of February 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 was reviewed.

(e) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report dated April 23, 2020 for February 1, 2020 – March 31, 2020.

The statement of Revenue and Expenditure to March 31, 2020 was reviewed.

(f) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to March 31, 2020, as it relates to the budget.

The status report on the 2020 general levy receipts received to date was reviewed.

(g) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2020 general levy receipts to date.

The Investment Reports to January 31, 2020 were reviewed.

(h) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Investment reports to January 31, 2020.

The November 26, 2019 Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes were reviewed.

(i) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the November 26, 2019 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting minutes.

Strategic Objective(s)

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

Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Implementation Committee (CRIC):

The Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Implementation Committee (CRIC) released their 2017-2022 St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) work plan in March 2020. The work plan identifies 47 actions remaining to re-designate all remaining Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) to Not Impaired and remove the St. Clair River from the list of Great Lakes AOCs.

The plan is available on the Friends of the St. Clair River website at www.friendsofstclair.ca.

Meetings and Events

Meetings

Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)

- December 9, 2020 - Teleconference

Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR)

- December 11, 2020 – Annual General Meeting – Sarnia, Ontario
- March 10, 2020 – Sarnia, Ontario

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

- January 23, 2020 – Port Huron, Michigan
- March 12, 2020 – Sarnia, Ontario

Events

On March 7, 2020, the Acting RAP Coordinator attended the Aamjiwnaang First Nation St. Clair River Days event. This is an annual event organized by the Environment Department to educate community members on the AOC program and the progress made towards restoring the St. Clair River. Approximately 50 communities attended the event.

(j) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated March 30, 2020 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

Strategic Objective(s)

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

COVID-19 Media Relations

The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the way in which the SCRCA is conducting business including the unfortunate cancellations of the 2020 Maple Syrup Festival (March 21-22, 2020) and Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak race (April 19, 2020).

The SCRCA remains committed to updating our municipalities and communities with updated procedures and activities related to the COVID-19 situation. At the time of this report, six separate media releases have been circulated to local media outlets and have been posted on the SCRCA website and social media (Twitter, Facebook).

June Board of Directors Meeting – Education Demonstration – June 18, 2020

The June Board of Directors Meeting has typically involved a project tour to allow for our Board and guests to see first-hand the work the Conservation Authority undertakes to protect life and property and ensure the conservation of our environmental resources. For the 2020 meeting, our conservation education programs will be highlighted.

This year, Board members will be invited to an education demonstration prior to the June Board of Directors Meeting on June 18, 2020. Our educators will lead a Grade 4-5 class from Lambton Centennial Public School in Enniskillen through the Boots, Birds and Bugs program administered out of the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

Board members will be provided information on the SCRCA's education program, how it relates to the Ontario curriculum and the philosophy behind program development.

This event is subject to change based on direction from the Ministry of Education and the Ontario Government related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

myFM Community Partner

The SCRCA was selected by local Strathroy radio station, myFM, as the April 2020 Community Partner. Through this program myFM will donate \$2,500 in airtime to promote the Authority.

Tune into myFM during the month of April to hear Emily De Cloet, Water Resources Specialist, talk about the SCRCA and what we do to protect life, property and our local environment.

Media and Social Media Analytics

In order to continually improve upon our activities related to local media outlets and social media, communications staff will be reviewing analytics to help assess our communications efforts.

The following are statistics covering the timeframe from January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020:

Media Relations

- 9 media releases
- 200 news article mentions

Website

- 38,222 website views by 12,491 users (11,950 new users – 96%)

Social Media

- Facebook
 - New Likes = 108 (Total = 1,455)
 - New Followers = 252 (Total = 1,632)
 - Posts = 59
- Twitter
 - Tweets = 68
 - Retweets = 93
 - New Followers = 30 (Total = 595)
 - Engagements (clicks, retweets, replies, follows, and likes) = 1891

(k) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Communications update report dated April 24, 2020.

The SCRCA and Lambton Public Health have partnered for the past three years on the schoolyard greening initiative “Tomorrow’s Greener Schools Today – Lambton.” Through the program, staff plant trees with elementary school students to increase greenspace and shade in playgrounds. More than 400 students from 17 schools have planted 168 trees in schoolyards across Lambton County over the course of the program.

Unfortunately, the difficult decision was made to cancel the program planned for spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Participant and staff safety, school closures, social distancing measures, health unit capacity during a public health crisis, and general uncertainty contributed to the decision to cancel rather than postpone. Authority staff will work with Lambton Public Health to reassess if the program can go forward in the future.

Financial Impact

For the 2020 program, Lambton Public Health was planning to cover the cost of materials (i.e., trees, stakes, mulch), with the cancellation of the program, these funds have been redirected.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation had approved a contribution of \$3,500 to cover costs incurred by the SCRCA in order to participate in the 2020 program including staff time and mileage, these funds will no longer be needed.

Strategic Objectives

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

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

(I) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 23, 2020 on the cancellation of the 2020 Schoolyard Greening Initiative.

In the SCRCA's 2016 Strategic Plan, "expand[ing] engagement with our First Nation neighbours" is identified as a strategic action. While the SCRCA has positive and productive relationships with local First Nation communities, there is a need to build and expand upon these relationships. The Indigenous Relationship Building Training offered by Cambium Aboriginal Inc., an Indigenous company based in Curve Lake First Nation, was undertaken to provide SCRCA staff with a deeper understanding of the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada since first contact, historical and contemporary issues, and how our nations can move forward in a way that benefits future generations.

The training included four modules that were delivered over two full-days. The first session, held on December 4, 2019, focused on the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action. Beginning with the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada provided context for present-day legislation and reports.

During the second day of training, held on March 12, 2020, participants learned about legislation including the *Indian Act*, *First Nations Land Management Act*, and the Duty to Consult and Accommodate. The group also discussed tools to engage with Indigenous communities and nurture respectful, reciprocal relationships. Local First Nation communities were notified of the training and were invited to attend the second session. Two members of Aamjiwnaang First Nation participated in the second training session.

When working with Cambium to coordinate Indigenous Relationship Building training for our staff, SCRCA reached out to the surrounding CAs (UTRCA, LTVCA, and ERCA) to notify them of this training opportunity and, as the other CAs were all interested in participating, the SCRCA worked with Cambium to lead the coordination of the CA training sessions. Not only did this bring this important training opportunity to more people, coordinating the training session dates created more flexibility as staff could attend other CA sessions and it helped to reduce costs that could be shared among the four CAs. All 42 staff from the SCRCA participated in the training.

This training has improved cultural awareness among staff and will help to open up opportunities for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and partnerships between the Conservation Authority and local Indigenous communities.

Strategic Objective

Goal 3:

“Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.”

Strategic Actions:

“Expand Engagement with our First Nation Neighbours: The SCRCA has been reaching out to our First Nation neighbours by providing education programs, and consulting on programs such as the St. Clair River AOC and Drinking Water Source Protection. This engagement has proved to be productive but has pointed to the need to continue and expand. The SCRCA should develop an Engagement Plan to ensure the sharing of each other’s expertise and knowledge to the benefit of the watersheds we share.”

Financial Impact

The cost of the two-day training for 42 staff was approximately \$3,000 per day, financial support for this training was contributed by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Canadian Nature Fund.

(m) That the board acknowledges the report dated April 23, 2020 regarding the participation of SCRCA staff in Indigenous Relationship Building Training provided by Cambium Aboriginal Inc.

Director’s Comments:

Vice-Chair Larry Gordon commended staff for taking part in the Indigenous Relationship Building Training and making this a priority for all Authority staff. Staff are encouraged to continue learning and strengthening the relationship between the Authority and our local Indigenous Communities.

Marriott – Nemcek

BD-20-33

“That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items a - m.”

CARRIED

COVID-19

March 16, 2020

- All SCRCA facilities closed to the public (no in-person camping payments accepted)
- Campground gates locked, walk-in access only to check on property or walk trails
- Campground superintendents and assistant superintendents continue to maintain the campgrounds, maintain other conservation areas, and communicate with campers by phone and email
- Campground staff to work in their park only (no group projects) or travel individually to maintain other Conservation Areas
- All additional seasonal staff contracts postponed

March 18, 2020

- Trails at SCRCA Conservation Areas to remain open to the public with limited trail maintenance, all other facilities closed

March 24, 2020

- April 15th deadline for seasonal camping fees postponed until further notice
- Overnight camping reservations up to May 31st can be cancelled with full refund of all fees

April 8, 2020

- Announcement that campgrounds will not be opening on April 24
- Overnight reservations between April 24 and May 13 automatically issued refunds

Note: SCRCA owned properties managed by the local municipality followed the policies put in place by the municipality for COVID-19.

Campgrounds

- Work to complete the two Wi-Fi hub locations at Warwick continues including the remaining exterior steel and doors, concrete floor, electrical, and interior finish
- Annual spring maintenance is underway at all campgrounds including grounds maintenance, water system start-up, road grading, trail maintenance
- Significant staff time being spent communicating with campers including providing refunds, monitoring campground traffic, inspecting properties and trails, and monitoring that property users are respecting social distancing
- All seasonal contracts beginning after March 2, 2020 have been postponed
- Campground upgrades on hold including equipment purchases, electrical panel upgrades, stump removal, pool resurfacing, septic study, etc.
- Grass cutting contracts at AW Campbell and Warwick CA suspended until parks open (staff are cutting grass until that time)

Day Use Conservation Areas

- Property inspection schedules were increased for these areas, monitoring compliance with COVID-19 social distancing measures
- Public notice signs were posted at all Conservation Areas

Shetland CA

On April 7, 2020 we received a formal request for ownership of Shetland CA from The Corporation of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia. A full report on the property will be prepared for a future board meeting.

BD-20-34

Burrell - Westgate

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas report dated April 16, 2020.”

CARRIED

Due to COVID-19, SCRCA's camping season will be shorter than normal in 2020. Seasonal campers pay an annual camping fee and associated optional fees for the season. Fees should be reduced in 2020 to compensate for the shorter season.

Current Seasonal Fees (April 24 – October 12):

| Fee Type | 2020 Approved Fee | Season Length | Cost per week |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Seasonal Permit | \$2380 | 24 weeks | \$99.17 |
| Weekly Pump-out | \$425 | 24 weeks | \$17.71 |
| Bi-weekly Pump-out | \$225 | 24 weeks | \$9.38 |
| Golf Cart | \$200 | 24 weeks | \$8.33 |
| Exterior Fridge | \$175 | 24 weeks | \$7.29 |

Proposed Camping Extension

The camping season could be extended in 2020 for 2 weeks until October 26. This would provide campers additional opportunity to enjoy the parks while allowing SCRCA to recover some lost revenue.

Proposed Seasonal Fee Adjustments

- All seasonal fees listed in the table above would be adjusted based on the following formula:

$$\text{Season Length (in weeks)} \times \text{Cost per week}$$
- If pools are not able to operate each seasonal permit would be reduced by \$215 (estimated operating cost of pools/# of seasonal sites)

Proposed Daily Camping Fee Adjustment

- That staff have the discretion to provide full refunds for cancellations or changes to camping reservations due to COVID-19. This would include the elimination of cancel/change fees and the refund of reservation fees when appropriate.

Financial Impact:

The full extent of the financial impact of COVID-19 is unknown at this time. Based on the recommended fee changes, estimated lost revenues due to delayed campground opening are as follows.

Seasonal Camping (All Parks)

| Fee Type | # of Customers | Weekly Revenue | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Seasonal Permit | 425 | \$99.17 | \$42,147.25 |
| Weekly Pump-out | 10 | \$17.71 | \$177.10 |
| Bi-weekly Pump-out | 252 | \$9.38 | \$2363.76 |
| Golf Cart Pass | 177 | \$8.33 | \$1474.41 |
| Exterior Fridge | 64 | \$7.29 | \$466.56 |
| Total Weekly Revenue Loss (Includes Taxes) | | | \$46,729.08 |

Additional Reduction to Seasonal Camping Permit Fee if Pools Do Not Open

\$215 per permit x 425 Seasonal Permits = \$91,375

Other Camping Fees Collected in 2019

| Fee Type | \$ Collected in May (before tax) | \$ Collected in June (before tax) |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Daily Camping | \$23,078 | \$40,200 |
| Firewood & Ice | \$729 | \$2,272 |
| Total Estimated Monthly Revenue Loss | \$23,807 | \$42,472 |

Director's Comments

Vice-Chair Larry Gordon congratulated staff for their efforts in keeping the Conservation Areas open to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic.

BD-20-35

MacKinnon – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 23, 2020 and approves an extension of up to two weeks to the 2020 camping season, approves the fee adjustment formula proposed for 2020, approves the fee adjustment to seasonal permits in the event that pools can't open in 2020, and approves the full refund of daily camping fees when staff deem appropriate.”

CARRIED

At the SCRCA Board of Directors meeting held on September 19, 2019, a motion was passed directing that the ownership of the CJ McEwen Conservation Area be transferred to the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

In Section 21(2) of the Conservation Authorities Act, approval of the Minister is required to dispose of any lands that have received grant under section 39.

Approval of Minister

(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 (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).

To date, confirmation of the disposal of the CJ McEwen property has not been received from the province. In the interim, a lease agreement is required allowing the Municipality to begin managing the property. A draft agreement has been prepared for a term of 5 years and allows termination when transfer of ownership occurs.

The draft lease agreement was reviewed.

Director's Comments

Discussion was held regarding the responsibility of legal costs associated with the transfer of lands. Director's highlighted that the C.J. McEwen Conservation Area is to remain for public, recreational and conservation use.

BD-20-36

Burrell – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors approves the draft lease agreement for the C.J. McEwen Conservation Area between the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming as per the report dated April 18, 2020.”

CARRIED

BD-20-37

Stark – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors impose within the terms of all future property transfers a hold harmless clause indemnifying the Conservation Authority and further that all legal costs associated with the transfer of such property are the responsibility of the entity receiving those lands.”

CARRIED

BD-20-38

Bruzewicz – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 18, 2020 and confirms the “Regional” status of Highland Glen Conservation Area and further directs staff to acquire quotes and proceed with an engineered study including site survey, inspection of existing infrastructure, coastal assessment, and plans/specifications for repairs and improvements to the Highland Glen boat ramp to be paid from Highland Glen reserves and 2020 Highland Glen budget.”

CARRIED

SCRCA campgrounds were scheduled to open for both seasonal and overnight camping on April 24, 2020. On April 8, 2020 SCRCA announced that campgrounds would not be opening for the scheduled start to the camping season due to COVID-19. Campgrounds were not deemed an essential service and staffing was limited to those required to maintain the campgrounds and other Conservation Areas.

A number of seasonal campers contacted SCRCA, expressing their concerns that our campgrounds were their only place to live during the camping season. Both snowbirds

and those who had rental leases ending in April contacted the Authority requesting permission to stay at their trailers during the pandemic.

Initially campers were told they would not be able to move into their trailers as the park was not deemed an essential service and could not operate. On April 16, 2020 the essential business list was updated to include seasonal campgrounds. Seasonal campgrounds were to allow occupants only if they met strict criteria.

Essential Workplaces Criteria for Seasonal Campgrounds:

Seasonal campground requirements

- 3.1 Every person who operates a seasonal campground shall ensure that,
 - a. campsites are provided only to individuals who do not have another residence in Canada and are in need of housing during the emergency period;
 - b. only campsites with electricity, water service and facilities for sewage disposal are provided for use;
 - c. campsites are made available only for trailers and recreational vehicles; and
 - d. all recreational facilities in the campground, and all other shared facilities in the campground such as bathrooms, are closed.

On April 22, SCRCA announced that the parks would open on April 24, 2020 only for existing seasonal campers who meet the criteria set out by the province. Seasonal campers that had provided an email address were the press release by email. All campers that had made staff aware that they were in this situation were contacted by phone.

Campers allowed to return to the park ahead of opening have been made aware that:

- the park is not open to the public at this time
- they will be required to follow all COVID-19 recommendations including self-isolation for 14 days upon returning from another country
- no washrooms or shared facilities are open
- they only have access to their site and open trails
- staff will not conduct sewage pump outs during any 14 day isolation, water will need to be conserved, a portable washroom will be provided if needed, and a contractor will be supplied to empty their tanks at the end of isolation
- gates will be unlocked, but access to the parks is restricted
- staff are to be contacted only by phone/email
- full fees apply at this time

Financial Impact

- Full fees being collected from the campers who are returning (estimated 6-10 sites)

- Current staffing levels will be sufficient to provide necessary services to the returning campers, however increased time will be spent controlling park access, and addressing the needs of occupied sites
- Pump out safety protocols will be modified to include additional PPE, training, cleaning, and showering
- Until all PPE can be sourced and training completed, an outside contractor will be hired to complete all sewage handling

Director's Comments

Directors enquired whether the Authority can apply for provincial support for the costs associated with providing this essential service. Staff are tracking the costs incurred in preparation for an opportunity to apply for funding.

BD-20-39

Loosley – MacKinnon

“That That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 23, 2020 regarding the listing of seasonal campgrounds as an essential service and supports the operation of the campgrounds as an essential workplace providing accommodation to seasonal campers with no other Canadian residence and in need of housing during this emergency.”

CARRIED

The Government of Canada would like input on listing the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) as Endangered under the Species at Risk Act, and any comments on the benefits and costs this listing would have on you, your industry, your community and/or the ecosystem. Answers will be used to help inform the decision whether or not to list the species.

The Species at Risk Act recognizes that “wildlife, in all its forms, has value in and of itself and is valued by Canadians for aesthetic, cultural, spiritual, recreational, educational, historical, economic, medical, ecological and scientific reasons”.

The survey is posted online at the following address:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/consultation-documents/river-darter-2020.html>

Comments are due May 21, 2019

Before endorsing this survey response, you may wish to review the following background information found at the links below:

2016 COSEWIC Assessment and Status Report on the River Darter (PDF, 2.48 MB):

https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/virtual_sara/files/cosewic/sr_River%20Darter_2016_e.pdf

Other information on the species can be found on the Species at Risk Public Registry:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>

Strategic Objectives(s)

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

Financial Impact:

The financial impact is summarized in the survey responses below.

SCRCA Response to Survey on the listing of River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) under the Species at Risk Act

1. Do you think protecting the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) under the Species at Risk Act would have economic, environmental, cultural and/or social benefits for you or your group /organization?

Yes

Please provide any other comments that you would like us to consider:

Protecting the River Darter supports St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA)'s Mission and Vision. The vision of the SCRCA reflects the future desired state of our region: "A healthy and sustainable natural environment in the St. Clair region." The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has as its mission, "to provide leadership through coordination of watershed planning, implementation of resource management programs and promotion of conservation awareness, in cooperation with others. "

River Darter and other sensitive aquatic species, such as freshwater mussels, act as sentinels for the overall health of our watersheds. By taking action to protect the most vulnerable species in a system, the overall aquatic environment is better conserved. SCRCA's targeted conservation programs, such as the Healthy Watershed Program, provide technical guidance and financial incentive for landowners to implement projects and practices to improve watershed health. Projects address stressors such as eutrophication, sedimentation and promoting a healthy riparian zone. These stewardship actions taken to protect our most sensitive aquatic species will also protect the broader watershed health with spin-off benefits to tourism, fisheries, drinking water source protection.

2. Do you think protecting the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) under the Species at Risk Act would have economic, environmental, cultural and/or social costs for you or your group /organization?

No.

Please provide any other comments that you would like us to consider:

There continues to be pressure on the health of watersheds of the St. Clair Region from the intensification of development and agriculture. If stressors are not managed

appropriately, the costs will be a degradation of watershed health and the potential loss of At-Risk species. Despite the potential implications, there are very few studies on the economics of taking no action to support watershed health. A recent study by Environment and Climate Change Canada demonstrates the economic cost of algal blooms in the Lake Erie economy will amount to \$272 million a year over a 30-year period if left alone (Smith et al, 2019). The tourism sector will be the hardest hit, with a \$110 million equivalent annual cost. The study shows that are significant costs with doing nothing to conserve our aquatic resources. Working to protect and conserving River Darter is a component of maintaining a healthy and sustainable natural environment in the St. Clair region.

Reference: Smith RB, Bass B, Sawyer D, Depew D and Watson SB. Estimating the economic costs of algal blooms in the Canadian Lake Erie Basin. *Harmful Algae*. 2019 Jul;87:101624. doi: 10.1016/j.hal.2019.101624. Epub 2019 Jun 24. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1568988319300915?via%3Dihub>

3. Should the Government of Canada add the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) as Endangered to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk for protection under the Species at Risk Act?

Yes.

Please provide any other comments that you would like us to consider:

The scientific evidence supports adding River Darter as Endangered under SARA. A review conducted by COSEWIC, an independent committee of experts that assesses which wildlife species are in some danger of disappearing from Canada and assigns a status to these species recommended the endangered status for River Darter. COSEWIC conducts its assessments based on the best available information including scientific data, local ecological knowledge, and indigenous traditional knowledge. Listing this species will help release public funds needed to mobilize agencies to take action to protect this animal.

4. If the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations) is listed, do you want to help in its recovery or survival?

Yes.

If yes, how would you like to be involved?

SCRCA develops and delivers watershed-based programs that work with nature to protect, restore and effectively manage our water resources. SCRCA offers an education program that provides opportunities for our citizens to understand and appreciate the value of their natural environment as well as the social and economic benefits of protecting that environment. These programs can be tailored to incorporate recovery actions specifically targeted at improving conditions for River Darter. SCRCA, with funding from Canada Nature Fund is developing a long-term Species at Risk fish monitoring program. This new program could help to monitor population abundance and distribution of River Darter based in the St. Clair Region. SCRCA is willing to assist with

the recovery this species through development of conservation, education and monitoring programs.

5. Please provide any other comments about this listing consultation that you would like us to consider.

Conservation Authorities exist to organize and deliver programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario. Protection and recovery of River Darter and other aquatic Species at Risk complements this mandate. When we work to protect the most imperiled species, other natural resources also benefit, such as clean water, and healthy aquatic habitat is needed to support aquatic biodiversity. St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's healthy watershed program provides project assistance and incentives to landowners wanting to implement stewardship projects.

6. Please indicate if you are commenting as an individual (member of the General Public or Indigenous Person) or on behalf of one of the groups* listed below.

*** If you are commenting on behalf of your group, band, community, business, academic institution, or association/organization, please provide the requested contact information at the end of this survey.**

Non-profit Organization.

7. Where do you live? or Where does your group/organization operate? (Please check all that apply)

Ontario.

8. For what purpose(s) do you fish for or harvest the River Darter (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence populations)? (Please check all that apply)

Other.

Please specify.

SCRCA monitors fish within the St. Clair Region, but to-date none of our fish surveys have detected River Darter.

BD-20-40

Miller - Gordon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 24, 2020 on the Species at Risk Act Public Registry Consultation on the River Darter and further endorses the survey responses for submission.”

CARRIED

The legislation surrounding biosolids is regulated at a municipal and provincial level and SCRCA is limited in the actions that can be taken. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is the agency that follows up with nutrient related spills and all other pollution issues through the Spills Action Centre. Municipalities have the ability to adopt their own policies to manage Low and Moderate threats for biosolids.

SCRCA legislation and policies regulate fill if it is within the meander belt of the watercourse, within a floodplain, within or adjacent to a wetland, or if it is causing erosion and sedimentation. If the fill is placed near an area of concern for Drinking Water Source Protection, other policies and legislation may be applicable and enforced by local Conservation Authorities.

If the fill is in an area where development could be allowed, such as within the estimated engineered floodplain, a SCRCA approval is usually provided.

Background

What is it?

Biosolids are referred to as solid or semi-solid material from wastewater treatment plants. It has been processed by remixing the liquid effluent. If the biosolids do not exceed the regulation standards for contaminants, pathogens and odour, it can be applied on agricultural land as a non-agricultural source material (NASM) (OMAFRA, 2016). Biosolids can be sold or imported as a fertilizer or supplement because of its nutritional content for mineral and organic nitrogen, phosphorus and micronutrients such as zinc, magnesium and copper (OMAFRA, 2016). Biosolids have been used as a fertilizer for the agriculture industry in Canada for more than 30 years (OMAFRA, 2016). It benefits the industry by improving soil fertility, reducing the use of commercial fertilizers. Similar to the use of manure, it adds organic matter improving soil structure, soil moisture and its permeability. Approval for biosolids to be applied on land must be obtained by the generators (e.g. municipalities), land applicators or landowners for many jurisdictions.

What are the concerns?

Variations on the nutrient content of biosolids bring public concerns on its use for land application. Some examples include the leaching of nitrates, which if in high concentrations in water is a human health risk (Vanderlei, 2014). Concerns on the accumulation of metals are also present as biosolids can be found to contain trace amounts of elements such as arsenic, lead and mercury (OMAFRA, 2016). If landowners do not practice all best management practices or do not follow the approved regulations, biosolids can enter the watercourse or groundwater supply.

Legislation of Bio-solids

Using biosolids as a fertilizer as a NASM is regulated under the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 and the Nutrient Management Regulation (CCME, 2012). The Nutrient Management Regulation allows land managers to incorporate the benefits of land applied biosolids without degrading the ecosystems and risk the health of humans or animals. The regulation has criteria for (CCME, 2012):

- The concentrations of eleven metals of concern
- The quantity, method and timing of land application
- Separation distances from sensitive areas, such as wells, surface waters and

- neighbouring homes and businesses
- Suitable soil types and topography

Furthermore, details of the Nutrient Management Regulation include that (Fraser, 2010):

- It cannot be applied or stored on a floodplain
- It cannot be applied on a slope greater than 3%
- It cannot be stored on top of tile drains
- Designated setback distances from wells and dwellings
- A minimum distance of 50 metres from watercourses or tile inlet
- Storage of biosolids is only allowed to have a quantity required for one growing yr
- Detailed records on the storage and application such as date, quantities and locations are required

Analysis of biosolids for nutrient and metal concentration are done when being used as a fertilizer to find appropriate application rates onto the agricultural lands. However, not much is said for the presence of emerging substance of concern (ESOCs), some examples such as industrial chemicals, pharmaceutical compounds, hormones and personal care products. The regulations on its presence is dependent on the regulations provincially and by municipalities. Research on the concentrations of ESOCs and its potential long-term impacts are heavily lacking in research, especially for Canada. A literature review of ESOCs in biosolids was developed by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (2009) detailing that studies were based from Europe or the United States. For the full report, please refer to https://www.ccme.ca/files/Resources/waste/biosolids/pn_1440_contam_invt_rvw.pdf. The report described the current knowledge on industrial chemicals, alkylphenols and their ethoxylates, pharmaceutical compounds, hormones and sterols, personal care products, metals and metalloids and other substances.

Update

The SCRCA received concerns from both private landowners and the Municipality of Dawn-Euphemia with regards to the storage of biosolids in a few different locations. SCRCA Staff spoke to the landowner/biosolid operator to confirm that there are no biosolid piles located at Kerwood Road and Winter Drive, and also none at Plank Road in Sarnia. Photos are provided below of the only other reported biosolid piles. There are two locations in question, 1) Oil Springs Line and 2) Hale School Road. Both of these locations are within an agricultural field. SCRCA Regulations Policies generally do not apply to agricultural practices, including the temporary storage of manure/fertilizer. OMAFRA regulations allow the storage of manure temporarily (up to 300 days). <http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/10-039.html> The concerns around the storage of manure/fertilizer should be directed to OMAFRA and MECP.

1) Oil Springs Line. From SCRCA staff site visits, the biosolid pile is half tarped and located approximately 200m from the top of bank. The pile is located within the estimated engineered floodplain and a clearance could be obtained by the landowner, but it is SCRCA staff's understanding that the pile is temporary.

2) Hale School Road. From SCRCA Staff site visits, this biosolid pile is fully tarped. The pile is located in close proximity to the roadside ditch and near ponding water however this ditch does not have a direct connection to a natural watercourse or municipal drain. The biosolid pile is located approximately 130-150m from Long Creek. The pile is located within the estimated floodplain, but could receive SCRCA permission in the form of a clearance. Again, it is SCRCA staff's understanding that this pile is temporary.

Director's Comments

Many concerns regarding the safety of biosolids stored in close proximity to waterways and residential areas were expressed. Noted is the concern that biosolid products are now being stored in environmentally sensitive areas beyond the expected timeline. Directors have requested a formal letter of support from the Authority, endorsed by the Chair and Vice-Chair to be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks outlining these extenuating concerns. Directors expressed their appreciation to staff for their assistance thus far, and recognize that the removal of the commercial fertilizer designation is at the discretion of the Provincial and Federal governments. Directors requested that a formal letter requesting redesignation of biosolids, signed by the Chair and Vice-Chair be directed to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

BD-20-41

McMillan – Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 24, 2020 on the topic of biosolids and accepts the recommendation that Municipalities develop bylaws that require stronger transparency on the processing procedures and sourcing of biosolids.”

CARRIED

Proposed WECI 2020-2021 Projects:

- SCRCA has submitted three projects for WECI 2020 - 2021 program
- A total of 102 projects have been submitted from 30 CA's
- All applications have been reviewed by a committee of Provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives
- A list of approved projects will be available in May
- SCRCA WECI projects for 2020 - 2021 is outlined below

| Structure | Project Name | Description of Work | Total Project Cost (\$) | Grant Requested (\$) |
|------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sarnia Shoreline Protection | Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 3 | Carry out shoreline construction between Helen and Kenwick Street. | \$800,000 | \$400,000 |
| Head Street/ Coldstream Dams | Decommissioning Study | Study to consider decommissioning of the Head street and Coldstream dams | \$120,000 | \$60,000 |
| W. Darcy McKeough Dam | McKeough Dam- Culvert, slump, erosion repairs | Repair cracks, erosion, slumpage and install instrumentation to monitor structural health of the McKeough Dam. | \$56,000 | \$28,000 |

Courtright Waterfront Park – Phase 3

- DiCocco Contractors commenced the week of January 20, 2020 with tree removal along the shoreline.
- Shoreline revetment work was extended to a total of 120 m as requested by the Municipality.
- A number of storm water outfalls (5) along the shoreline were identified during repair work and they have been replaced to the satisfaction of the municipality, as part of this contract work. Additional project costs have been incurred due to these upgrades.
- All shoreline work is completed, restoration work is planned for May 2020.
- SCRCA staff are seeking input from the municipality over opportunities for tree planting along the shoreline.

Bright's Grove Shoreline Erosion Control Projects: Three Locations

(1) Bright's Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 2

- Cope Construction commenced shoreline work in December 2019 and remains underway.
- An extension of approximately 50 m has been included as a part of this work and a change order has been issued.
- All in - water work has been completed as of March 31, 2020
- Revetment work will continue in April and May 2020
- High water levels posing construction challenges and reducing the work days.

(2) Bright's Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 3

- Amico Infrastructures commended this work on February 10, 2020
- Approximately 60 meters of in-water work has been completed.
- Significant project delays due to bad weather and inferior quality of armor stones and placement
- Construction work has been temporarily stopped due to the in- water timing window restrictions.
- Work to resume on July 15, 2020.

(3) Bright’s Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East

- Facca Incorporated Inc. started shoreline work on February 10, 2020.
- Approximately 40 meters of in -water work has been completed
- Significant project delays due to bad weather and quarry unable to deliver rocks as per engineer specification
- Construction work has been temporarily stopped due to the in- water timing window restrictions.
- Work to resume on July 15, 2020.

SCRCA was successful in getting extensions from DFO to the timing window from March 15th to April 15th. However, additional extensions were not permitted from DFO to this emergency shoreline work.

Brightsgrove shoreline continues to be severely impacted due to high water levels, a number of recent failures have been identified. Shoreline work should proceed to prevent the Old Lakeshore Road from undermining. SCRCA has submitted another emergency application to DFO on April 17th to allow us to continue with in-water shoreline revetment work.

Director’s Comments

Directors gave compliments to staff on the work completed to date in Brights Grove.

BD-20-42

Stark – Hall

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 23, 2020 on the status of ongoing shoreline projects and the new projects submitted for 2020-2021 under the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure program and approves the projects submitted and will assist staff in obtaining matching funds, where required, to support these projects upon confirmation of funding approval.”

CARRIED

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is continuing to lead the work to develop a detailed engineering and design plan for managing the contaminated sediment in the three remaining priority areas of the St. Clair River. Funding for this project has been provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Dow Canada. That parties that provided funding are actively participating in oversight of the project work through a Sediment Management Oversight Committee.

Parsons Inc., the consulting firm that has been retained by the SCRCA to prepare the engineering and design plan, is continuing with its work on preparing the plan. Parsons subcontracted the field work component to Pollutech EnviroQuatics Limited, a firm with experience in providing environmental consulting and ecotoxicity services.

Working with Pollutech, Parsons prepared a pre-design field investigation workplan, outlining the details of the planned field work for fall 2019, and the health and safety protocols to be followed. The plan was accepted by the Sediment Management Oversight Committee and approved by the SCRCA.

Due to inclement weather, the amount of field work had to be reduced from what was originally planned in fall 2020. Pollutech was able to collect surface sediment samples and measure water velocity to assist with assessing sediment stability, and was able to collect a number of deeper core sediment samples in Priority Area 1 to measure contaminant concentrations.

Project Update

Following completion of the fall 2019 field work, the consultant shared information with the SCRCA on the preliminary results and began development of a plan for conducting the spring 2020 field work. Work that remained included more deep core sediment sampling and the use of a diver to assess the condition of structures in the area.

The engineering consultant has identified some areas where additional work may be required. The SCRCA is working closely with the engineering consultant and the Sediment Management Oversight Committee to determine the best path forward to ensure that the project work is completed within the established project budget.

Due to the implementation of measures in March 2020 by Canada and Ontario to reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus, the engineering consultant is reassessing their ability to perform the planned field work in accordance with provincial guidelines and legislative requirements. This is expected to impact the timing for undertaking the spring 2020 work, and the timing for completion of other project deliverables as well. The SCRCA has requested submission of a revised project schedule from Parsons.

Obtaining information on the various pipeline crossings in the vicinity of the areas of contaminated sediment is an important part of the project work. The SCRCA held separate teleconference meetings in March 2020 with the engineering consultant and each of the pipeline owners to confirm what information was available on the location of each of the pipelines, and any restrictions when performing work in close proximity to the pipelines. Information provided as a result of these meetings is being assessed to determine where any information gaps remain and next steps.

Finance

Funds provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada for fiscal year 2019/20 for the engineering consultant work have been fully utilized as planned. Funds made available

through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Dow Canada, however, have not been fully utilized and will be carried over into fiscal year 2020/21. The need to carry over these funds was the result of delays in the consultant being able to complete all of the planned field work in fall 2019.

The SCRCA's project manager is continuing to monitor the progress of the consultant's work closely and is tracking progress against key deliverables, costs and timelines.

BD-20-43

Burrell - Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 24, 2020, on the engineering and design plan for management of contaminated sediment.”

CARRIED

The January, February and March 2020 disbursements were reviewed.

BD-20-44

Miller – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors approves the January, February and March 2020 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,824,968.99.”

CARRIED

The report providing the descriptions of other income within the audited financial statements was reviewed

BD-20-45

Loosley – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and accepts the report dated April 24 2020 providing a description of other income within the audited financial statements.”

CARRIED

At the February 2020 Executive Meeting the Committee members recommended the implementation of an asset management plan as a proactive measure in preparation of the 2021 budget in line with the local municipalities.

We have received one proposal from CityWide who will be putting forward a grant application to FCM with the estimated cost of \$68,450 and an annual support cost of 13,480 plus applicable HST. If we receive grant funding we will need to provide 20% matching and would need to support the annual costs of \$13,480 a 1% increase in levy for 2021. If we proceed we will need to issue an RFP for competitive bid pricing on similar product package.

The funding would cover 80% of the project cost, up to a maximum of \$50,000.00. The total estimated project cost would be \$70,000.00, our contribution would be \$20,000.00, as we would maximize the grant if approved.

Proposal estimates were reviewed.

Financial Impact

Increase in Administrative Budget for 2021 to cover cost of annual support of approximately \$13,480, which would result in an approximately 1% increase in levy.

BD-20-45

Kennes – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 24, 2020 on the implementation of an asset management program and approves moving forward with the grant application and potential RFP and further directs staff to include in the 2021 budget, conditional on approval of grant dollars.”

CARRIED

Winter Programming

In-school programming continued to be popular in January and February. Staff were invited into watershed schools to teach the highly valued curriculum connected programs offered by SCRCA Education Staff. Sponsors and associated programs are listed below:

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association: | Groundwater and River Bottom Critters |
| Plains Midstream Canada: | Spring Water Awareness |
| Friends of the St. Clair River: | River Rap and Phosphorus 101 |
| Habitat Stewardship Program: | Aquatic Species at Risk |

Teacher contract negotiations prohibited teachers from participating in field trips in the New Year. A “Nature In Winter” program at Henderson Conservation Area, previously booked in the fall, provided a welcome opportunity to connect primary students to nature on a beautiful snowy day.

COVID-19 - Special Event and School Updates

In order to keep staff and community members safe, the unfortunate decision was made to cancel both the Alvinston Maple Syrup Festival and Sydenham River Canoe Race.

Education Staff have developed “Virtual Pond Field Trips” for teachers to share on-line with their students. Virtual Field trips for Kindergarten, as well as grades 1, 2, 3, and 4 have been completed and emailed to teachers in our participating Boards of Education. There has been a tremendously positive response (see teacher feedback below)! Thanks to some keen French students, all presentations have been translated for French Immersion and French Elementary school students! Other Education tasks include Program development, curriculum document review, trail maintenance, and thorough cleaning of classroom and supplies.

Teacher Feedback – Virtual Pond Field Trips:

“I love this! Thank you so much. I was just asking everyone today what they enjoy most about the earth and was sharing that my favourite activity was to go dip netting. This is beautifully done and so timely. I like the opportunity at the end to share through SeeSaw and Google classroom.

I have sent it directly to the principal to forward on and will highlight it at our Division meeting this Friday. The French teachers are going to be so pleased to have a French language version. You’ve thought of everything!”

Lambton-Kent District School Board Teacher

Family Nature Fun

Staff are providing nature activities on the SCRCA Facebook page to encourage watershed families to be active outside during this time of school closures. Further development is on-going as we continue to advance ourselves as leaders in promoting a positive connection with nature at this challenging time.

Ojibwee Land-Based Learning/Aquatic Species at Risk Education Partnership

The Canada Nature Fund provided an opportunity for a partnership between SCRCA staff and Hillside School. As part of a new ‘Land-based Education’ initiative, the Ojibwee instructors felt SCRCA could provide a ‘western science’ perspective to complement their Traditional Ecological Knowledge lessons.

From September to March, education staff spent 1-2 days per month instructing 140 students. The three main goals were:

1. Providing Aquatic Species at Risk education
2. Strengthening partnerships between SCRCA, Hillside School and the Kettle Point community
3. Increasing SCRCA’s understanding of the watershed’s Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

Director’s Comments

Educational staff were commended for their commitment and work supporting teachers and communities with this resource. Everyone is encouraged to take the virtual tour of Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

BD-20-46

McMillan – Brennan

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated April 24, 2020 including the winter programming, program development and expansion, community partnerships, and special events.”

CARRIED

BD-20-47
Burrell – Brennan
“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED



Joe Faas
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 9, 2020
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Item 5.1

Subject: General Manager's Report

Recommendation:

- That this report be accepted as an update
- That the COVID-19 Return To Work Plan be endorsed and staff be directed to continue to follow the plan, operating as an essential workplace and providing services remotely as required, until conditions permit a return to normal or near normal operations

COVID-19:

- Our overall situation has not changed dramatically since our last meeting
- Staff continue to be very quick in responding to the small changes occurring all but daily during this crisis. I am proud of how our staff have handled this situation and am very happy that we have all remained healthy to date in this crisis
- Two major program areas have dealt with the crisis and are operating
 - Tree planting is complete (see report 7.1h)
 - Conservation Area Campgrounds are open to seasonal campers (see report 7.1 b)
- Other program areas continue to operate from home with some office access
- 2 senior staff are rotating in the office for full days every day
- Other staff have truly stepped up in working from home
 - Planning and Regulations staff – already short 2 full time staff and have been working overtime to try to keep up with the deluge of applications that continue to come in
 - Conservation Education staff have create virtual visit programs that have received multiple accolades (see report 7.1p)
- Acting Planning and Regulations Managers and I will be proceeding to interviews with candidates for the vacant Manager and Planner positions as well as a maternity leave fill for the Clerk/ Regulations Technician position as soon as possible to relieve some of the workload, overburden and improve response times and customer service
- Reviews of staffing needs are ongoing within each department
 - Summer staff hires have been limited to skeleton requirements
 - Vacant positions have not been filled until required

- Other options continue to be reviewed that would assist in reducing financial deficit and ensuring that staff are put into situations where they can excel
- Many of the discussions with the Province have been placed on the back burner with a focus on COVID-19 actions
- The attached COVID-19 Return To Work Plan is the first for a Conservation Authority in the Province and was circulated to all Conservation Authorities upon request
- We continue to have straight forward objectives and we are endeavoring to be thorough but practical in our common sense actions in re-opening the office and continuing to expand field work and services in Conservation Areas



COVID-19 Response

2020 Return to Work Plan

Date: June 1, 2020

Version: 4.0

COVID-19 has changed the way we live and the way we work, locally, regionally, provincially and nationally. In these unprecedented times, we have had to find unique ways of adjusting and adapting our responsibilities in this new normal that is life during a pandemic. Although our office is closed, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors and staff have remained committed to working hard on behalf of our member municipalities.

The Return to Work Plan is structured to continue adherence to Provincial directives while ensuring that staff and clients are protected as our operations return to new normal levels. It must be stated that this is a living document. Many edits will be necessary and multiple versions of this document are anticipated.

Objectives

1. Ensure the health and safety of staff and clients
2. Ensure staff are provided with all the tools and protections required to continue to perform the duties
3. Maintain flexibility and responsiveness to further COVID-19 issues

Understanding that this plan will direct SCRCA's action going forward, the timing of these actions will be contingent on the directives of the Province of Ontario as well as local health units.

In order to simplify this plan, it would have been preferred to have all departments of the Authority adhere to the same phase of the plan. However, due to the distinct differences between the departments, there may be periods when departments are in different phases of re-opening in adherence with provincial and regional directives.

The Administrative Section of the plan will cover the administrative office, education program staff and McKeough Dam staff.

The Campgrounds Section of the plan will cover campground areas at A.W. Campbell, L.C. Henderson and Warwick Conservation Areas.

The Field Work Section of the plan will cover the works undertaken in the field by staff who report to the Administrative Office or Clark Wright Conservation Area.

The following recommendations shall remain in place through **ALL** phases of this plan;

- Before reporting to work each day, all staff will complete the provincially endorsed self assessment via <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>
- Anyone, staff, contractors, campers, etc. are expected to **Stay Home or Go Home** if they are unwell or symptomatic
- Continued practice of physical distancing of at least 2 metres
- When physical distancing is not possible or where staff are concerned for their safety or others masks may be worn – staff are encouraged to obtain their own reusable, washable masks, however masks will be available if required
- Hand washing at each opportunity should be undertaken for at least 20 seconds
- Respiratory hygiene – Do not touch your face and dispose of used tissues promptly – Lidded garbage receptacles will be spread throughout the office and at the rear entrances – bags will be provided in all vehicles and disposed of by the driver at the end of each use
- Non-essential face to face meetings are discouraged
- Should a staff member become sick at work, they will go to a COVID-19 testing centre on their way home
 - They will confirm their conditions with their Supervisor and will provide daily updates
 - Any and all co-workers who have been in close contact with the sick staff member will also be sent to a COVID-19 testing centre and then home to self-quarantine
 - Upon receipt of COVID-19 test results, the sick and self-quarantined staff member will inform their Supervisor, who will then inform any and all co-workers, who are in self-quarantine, of the results

- Subsequently, if any tests are positive, all staff will be informed and they will remain in self-quarantine for a total period of 14 days
- Subsequently, if all tests are negative, staff who pass the provincially endorsed self-assessment <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> will return to work, while those who fail the self-assessment will remain in self-quarantine until they can pass the self assessment

In addition to these recommendations, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) may be developed or used as additional support in directing the activities of staff, adherence to these SOPs may be required to complete a task and shall not be used to avoid a task – these documents and other references and a further information collective are available through Microsoft Teams within the COVID-19 Repository Team (accessible to all staff) under the Files tab.

Phases of Re-Opening Administrative Offices

Phase One:

- COVID-19 Training mandatory for all staff
- Office cleansing – via botanical disinfectant fogging (see GoFogIt quotation in the references and further information collective at <https://www.gofogit.com/>)
- Office is open to staff at 33% of normal occupancy
- Office remains closed to the public
- Staff who have elementary school age children or younger who do not have childcare due to required closures will be permitted to continue to work from home
- Staff who are vulnerable to COVID-19 will be permitted to continue to work from home
- Alternate days or shifts at the office may permit a greater variety of staff to attend the office while assisting in controlling the number of staff in the office
- A cleaner or person to come in once per day when no employees are present to “disinfect” common areas - Kitchen/Bathrooms and all common touch services
- All employees are responsible for ensuring work areas are disinfected regularly throughout the day based on the SOP
- Each staff member will be assigned the use of one of the four washrooms available at the Administration Office
- Staff will be required to bring their own utensils, plates and drinkware, and will need to take these home for cleaning
- No corporate dishware/ utensils/ drinkware will be used – the sanitizer will not be available for use

Phase Two:

- Office is open to staff at 67% of normal occupancy
- Office open to public via appointment only – Face masks will be required and provided if necessary
- Staff with elementary school age children or younger who do not have child care due to required closures will be permitted to continue to work from home
- Alternate days or shifts at the office may permit a greater variety of staff to attend the office while assisting in controlling the number of staff in the office
- Staff will not be allowed to congregate for lunch and must not use board rooms or general areas for lunch/ breaks - they can either stay in place or leave facilities
- Team up on Bathrooms – people using the same facility are responsible for cleaning up and disinfecting after each use – wiping down touch points and general disinfectant spray.
- Passing employees through halls will need to ensure that social distancing is maintained. As halls are narrow, only one employee in one direction can be allowed – please yield to your coworkers to permit safe passage
- A cleaner or person is to come in once per day when no employees are present to “disinfect” common areas - Kitchen/ bathrooms and all common touch services
- Masks will be provided for use in common areas
- All employees are responsible for ensuring work areas are disinfected regularly throughout the day based on the SOP
- Staff will be required to bring own utensils, plates and drinkware, and will need to take these home for cleaning
- No corporate dishware/ utensils/ drinkware will be used – the sanitizer will not be available for use

Phase Three:

- Office is open to full staff and public
- Staff with elementary school age children or younger who do not have childcare due to required closures will be permitted to continue to work from home.

Phase Four:

- Office is open to full staff and public

Phases of Re-Opening Field Work

Phase One:

- COVID-19 Training mandatory for staff
- All vehicular transportation will be undertaken with one individual in the vehicle unless physical distancing of 2 metres can be maintained or personal protective equipment (masks and eye protection) are worn
- Where possible, vehicles will be assigned to individuals or department groups
- Protocols for vehicle cleaning are posted and similar cleaning techniques should be used for any tools or multiple use materials which are handled
- Hand and machine planting of trees may be undertaken with the use of appropriate personal protective equipment including but not limited to work boots, gloves, masks and eye protection
- Herbicide management may be undertaken with the usual personal protective equipment and physical distancing measures
- Refer to references and further information collective through Microsoft Teams within the COVID-19 Repository Team (accessible to all staff) under the files tab for best practices and SOPs

Phase Two:

- All vehicular transportation will be undertaken with one individual in the vehicle unless physical distancing of 2 metres can be maintained or personal protective equipment (masks and eye protection) are worn or if Provincial guidance permits more than one person per vehicle
- Crews of more than 5 will be permitted to undertake works as a group while practicing physical distancing
- When physical distancing is not possible, personal protective equipment will be available including masks, eye protection, face shields, gloves, etc.

Phase Three:

- Personal protective equipment will be available upon request however its use is not a requirement
- Multi-person vehicle use is permitted
- Works crews may be as large as the provincial guidelines for gatherings dictate

Phases of Re-Opening Campgrounds

General Campground Safety Precautions:

Office/ Gatehouse: Sign: "No entry, please speak to staff through the window".
Contactless payment whenever possible (reservations will all be paid prior to arrival).
Cash deposit container for customers with exact change purchasing ice/firewood. Staff to rotate containers weekly. Do not empty until the end of the off week to allow 7 days before touching money. Wear disposable gloves to count money.

Lunchrooms: If staff eating in lunch room, stagger lunch breaks. Daily cleaning of touch surfaces in lunch room.

Workshop: Staff only signs. Hand sanitizer available.

Campground Events: Cancel all events including fireworks, wagon rides, etc. One staff to be hired to organize appropriate events. Communicate to campers via facebook/ e-mail. Scavenger hunt, colouring contest, photo contest, brain teasers, etc. Campers can submit additional ideas through Facebook/ e-mail. Fishing derby with picture only submissions.

Washrooms: Washrooms cleaned on designated schedules. Washrooms will be closed to the public during cleaning. A portable washroom located at each washroom building for those who need it during cleaning. Hand sanitizer located outside of each washroom entrance. Staff will wear disposable gloves and surgical mask for washroom cleaning. All common touch surfaces wiped down with disinfectant each cleaning.

Laundry: Laundry buildings locked. Staff to organize a schedule that campers can sign up for. Limit of 1 person in laundry at a time. Staff will unlock for camper at the start of their time, then sanitize and lock up when they are finished. Campers will be required to sign up the day before, no same day appointments so staff are aware of the times. Hand sanitizer at these locations. Remove tables and any unnecessary touch surfaces.

Pools: Closed for 2020

Canoe/Kayak rentals: Not offered in 2020

Dumpsters: Lids to remain open so campers aren't required to touch anything.

Dumping Station: Touch surfaces disinfected on the same schedule as washrooms. Hand sanitizer at this location.

Transient Sites: Wipe down hydro and water connections, and picnic tables with disinfectant following each reservation.

Firewood: Pre-packaged bundles for self serve. If no pre-packaged bundles are available, staff will deliver to site.

Playgrounds: Snow fence wrapped around playgrounds with closed signs. Open when province recommends.

Basketball Courts, Horseshoes, and Volleyball: If no contact with those outside your household advised – Closed. When province permits group sizes and allows sports – Open to a maximum number with signs.

Mini-golf: Pool noodles sticking out of the cups. Putt until you hit the noodle, then pick up your ball. Users must supply their own equipment. Signs advising of social distancing measures while playing. Limit of 2 campsites playing at a time.

Frisbee Golf: Must supply your own Frisbee. Signs advising of social distancing measures while playing. Limit of 2 campsites playing at a time.

Ice Chests: Self serve. Staff to disinfect after each use.

Docks: Social distancing signs.

Phase One:

- COVID-19 Training mandatory for staff
- Canadian seasonal campers who require housing during the COVID-19 emergency period but do not have another home in this country will be permitted to take residence at their campsite – utilities will be provided
- Washrooms, playgrounds and pavilions will remain closed
- Staff will continue to prepare the campgrounds for the season

Phase Two:

- Seasonal camping will be permitted
- All campers must follow federal, provincial and regional health guidelines and recommendations as publicly directed
- No group campsites/ reservations permitted
- All shower and laundry facilities will remain closed
- Contactless transactions will be preferred (electronic payment, delivery of fire wood, etc.)
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices are undertaken at central dump stations
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection efforts are undertaken in campground sites and in all public/ shared spaces (e.g. picnic table, garbage dumpsters and cans and other high-touch surfaces)

- All recreational facilities must remain closed including swimming pools, picnic areas, playgrounds, etc.
- All community events must be postponed

Phase Three:

- Seasonal, overnight stay and limited-term campers will be allowed, however, all campers must follow federal, provincial and regional health guidelines and recommendations as publicly directed
- Overnight and limited stay camper will be limited to 50% occupancy
- No group campsites/reservations permitted
- Shower and laundry facilities must be open
- Campers will be encouraged to use bathroom facilities in their trailers or recreational vehicles
- Bathroom facilities will be open with enhanced sanitization protocols
- Contactless transactions will be preferred (electronic payment, delivery of fire wood, etc.)
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices are undertaken at central dump stations
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection efforts are undertaken in campground sites and in all public/shared spaces (e.g. picnic table, garbage dumpsters and cans and other high-touch surfaces)
- All recreational facilities that can be opened while meeting provincial health recommendations will be opened except swimming pools
- All community events may be permitted with participant limitations based on Provincial guidelines for gatherings

Phase Four:

- Seasonal, overnight stay and limited-term campers will be allowed, however, all campers must follow federal, provincial and regional health guidelines and recommendations as publicly directed
- Overnight and limited stay camper will not have occupancy limitations
- Group campsites/reservations permitted
- All shower and laundry facilities will be open
- Campers will be encouraged to use bathroom facilities in their trailers or recreational vehicles
- Washroom facilities will be open with enhanced sanitization protocols
- Contactless transactions will be preferred (electronic payment, delivery of fire wood, etc.)

- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection practices are undertaken at central dump stations
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection efforts are undertaken in campground sites and in all public/shared spaces (e.g. picnic table, garbage dumpsters and cans and other high-touch surfaces)
- All recreational facilities will be open including swimming pools, beach access, picnic areas, playgrounds, etc.
- All community events may be permitted with participant limitations based on Provincial guidelines for gatherings

References and Other Information Collective

References, SOPs and any other documents used in conjunction with the development of this document or which was deemed to have value in planning the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's response to COVID-19 have been collected and stored within Microsoft Teams within the COVID-19 Repository Team (accessible to all staff) within the Files tab. Further, a link to this repository was emailed to all staff on June 3, 2020 for easy access for all members of the organization. Any documents which staff find of benefit in relation to COVID-19 response, can be saved to this location for the benefit of staff and the organization.



Why Disinfectant Fogging?

In order for clients, employees and occupants to feel safe in shared public, commercial and residential spaces it is crucial that comprehensive disinfecting be part of a proactive cleaning and sanitation protocol. Although manual cleaning with spray bottles and disinfectants is beneficial in keeping spaces clean, it is also time consuming and nearly impossible to ensure that every possible surface and crevice is disinfected and hard to reach spots are covered.

Our solution is to use a natural range of disinfectants that **kill 99% of Bacteria** and viruses that are both on **Health Canada's Covid-19** list and are also **healthy and safe for the people that will be occupying the spaces**. We believe that the optimal way to apply disinfectants is by using electrostatic sprayers and cold foggers that spread microns of disinfectant via droplets that bind to surfaces and kill any virus that may be present by rupturing those cells. Our proprietary disinfecting protocols are world class in both proactive disinfecting as well as responding to both suspected and confirmed Covid-19 cases having been in spaces.





Why Choose Go Fog It?

We are experts at fogging disinfecting and have been trusted by **residential, commercial, manufacturing and health care organizations** to keep spaces safe.

We are on the “fogging” edge of environmental, safe and effective disinfecting. We have teams and partners across the Country that consist of highly qualified individuals trained in Health and Safety, Human Resources, Crisis Management, Disinfecting and Risk Mitigation. We are research and science focused and are continually enhancing our protocols and technology and involved in research and white papers on this progressive disinfecting method.

Safety is our number one value. Our disinfecting technician team disinfects in full PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and we follow the highest standards in products, technology and protocol. We are obsessive about keeping your family, friends, employees, and/or pets safe.

Insurance

With \$2,000,000 dollars of commercial general liability insurance, our team is fully covered while onsite and we provide proof of insurance to all clients.



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Strength, Speed, and Sensitivity

With a formula that is free of bleach and other harsh chemicals, Go Fog It's Botanical Disinfectant Solution is a great choice for hazard-conscious or environmentally sensitive settings. How efficiently does this professional-grade product work?

This disinfectant:

- Kills 99.99 percent of viruses in one minute.
- Kills 99.99 percent of bacteria in two minutes.
- Kills 99.99 percent of fungi and molds in three minutes.
- Kills *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in three minutes.



Features

- Kills Norovirus in just 4 Minutes
- EPA Registered Broad-Spectrum Disinfectant
- Kills 99.9% of Bacteria, Viruses*, Fungi & Molds
- Bactericidal, Virucidal*, Tuberculocidal, and Fungicidal**
- Disinfect, Sanitize, Clean, and Deodorize in ONE STEP
- Kills, Destroys and Eliminates Household Germs
- No Rinse Required, even on food contact surfaces
- Sanitizes Soft Surfaces in just 2 minutes
- Eliminates 99.9% of most Allergens upon contact
- Formulated for use with Mechanical, manual, or battery/power operated sprayers
- Kills Odor Causing Bacteria
- Kills bacteria that can cause food poisoning
- One-step Hospital Disinfectant Cleaner
- Non-Abrasive and Non-Corrosive
- Non-Flammable – No Harmful Chemicals
- Cleans and Disinfects without Bleaching
- Free from Chlorine and Phosphates
- No Signal Words or Warnings Needed
- No Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Needed
- Heavy Duty Cleaner and Disinfectant
- Ready-to-Use Formula
- Safe for Everyday Use
- Pleasant Lemongrass Grapefruit Scent
- Effectively Controls Unpleasant Strong Odors
- Botanically Derived Active Ingredient
- Formulated with Patented Technology
- Effective in Restoration and Remediation
- Safe for Use on Water Mitigation (Sewage Back Up, Water Damage)
- Formulated without phthalates, propylparaben, butylparaben, formaldehyde, formaldehyde-dnors, or NPE's

*Virucidal according to the ASTM Standard Test Method for Efficacy of Virucidal Agents

** Fungicidal according to the AOAC Germicidal Spray Method

Removes the following allergens: dust mite matter, cat dander, dog dander, mouse dander, rat dander, guinea pig dander, cockroach matter, peanut, birch pollen, timothy grass pollen, rag weed pollen.



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Our Process

We make the entire process of disinfectant fogging your space fast, easy and efficient for you. Integrity is paramount for us and we will arrive at our scheduled time and will be out of the space as soon as we can. We know that being able to be back in your home and businesses as soon as possible is of utmost importance and we will always bring as many fogging technicians as possible to get the job done - fast.

To prepare your space we ask that everyone (including pets) leave the space for the duration of the treatment and up to one hour afterwards. We ask you to remove or cover any sensitive technology such as x-ray machines, sophisticated machinery or anything very sensitive to moisture.

Once we leave your space we will notify you that the job is complete. You can rest assured that disinfectant has been comprehensive through our testing strips placed in various areas that change color in the presence of the fog. We also take photos of the process so that you can share the assurance that your space was disinfected.



We work **24 hours, 7 days a week** to make sure your homes and businesses are safe.



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One-Time Disinfectant Fogging of Premises

This would be for a full area fogging disinfect price is based off the square footage above.

- Price: \$1050 plus HST
- Area sq ft: 7500

Quarterly Disinfectant Fogging of Premises

Have your space professionally disinfected seasonally.

- Price: \$840 plus HST
- Area sq ft: 7500

Monthly Disinfectant Fogging of Premises

Have your space professionally disinfected monthly.

- Price: \$525 plus HST / 3 month commitment
- Area sq ft: 7500

Weekly Disinfectant Fogging of Premises

Have your space professionally disinfected weekly.

- Price: \$420 plus HST / 12 week commitment
- Area sq ft: 6000

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 1, 2020
Submitted by: Ashley Fletcher

Item 7.1 (a)

Subject: Business Arising

Regarding BD-18-144

SCRCA staff suggest having Project Consultants present to the Board of Directors meeting in order to walk through the guidelines on the development of flood lines.

Deferred to September, 2020

Regarding BD-20-31

It is requested that staff prepare a report for the June 2020 meeting providing a dollar value for all cost-saving measures related to the COVID-19 Action Plan that have been applied or implemented and the impact these will have on the existing budget.

Please refer to Item 11.2

Regarding BD-20-35

On April 7, 2020 we received a formal request for ownership of Shetland CA from The Corporation of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia. A full report on the property will be prepared for a future board meeting.

Deferred to September, 2020

Meeting Date: June 25, 2020
Report Date: June 6, 2020
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 7.1 (b)

Subject: Campgrounds Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Director's acknowledges this report, dated June 6, 2020.

Timeline:

SCRCA Media Release, April 8

- Camping Season delayed
- Overnight transient camping reservations refunded for April 24 to May 13
- Gates locked, walk-in trail access for public, seasonal campers have walk-in access only to check on property

Province allows "snowbirds" to occupy seasonal campsites, April 17

- A. campsites are made available only for trailers and recreational vehicles that are either:
 - i. used by individuals who do not have another residence in Canada and are in need of housing during the emergency period
 - ii. permitted to be there by the terms of a full season contract
- B. only campsites with electricity, water service and facilities for sewage disposal are provided for use
- C. all recreational facilities in the campground, and all other shared facilities in the campground such as washrooms, are closed

SCRCA Media Release, April 22

- Campgrounds will open April 24 to current seasonal campers that meet provincial criteria
- Washrooms and all recreational facilities remain closed
- Trails remain open
- Campers occupy AW Campbell and Warwick Conservation Areas, gates unlocked and barricaded to allow emergency vehicle access

SCRCA Media Release, May 1

- Recreational camping continues to be delayed
- Overnight transient camping reservations refunded through May 31

Province Announces Campgrounds May Open, May 14

As soon as 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, 2020:

- Private parks and campgrounds may open to enable preparation for the season and to allow access for trailers and recreational vehicles whose owners have a full season contract.

SCRCA Media Release, May 15

- Only site occupants continue to be “snowbirds”
- Gates open 8-4 daily starting May 19 providing vehicular access to seasonal campers only to check on trailers and maintain sites
- No recreational camping activities

SCRCA Media Release, May 26

- Announce phase-in of recreational camping
- Seasonal camping only to open June 5
- Overnight transient reservations refunded through June 10
- No public washrooms at this time
- No pools for the 2020 season
- Restricted activities to meet current Covid-19 guidelines

SCRCA Media Release, June 5

- Overnight transient reservations refunded through June 28

Ongoing Preparation for Overnight Camping and Easing of COVID-19 Restrictions

Staff are monitoring provincial and local health guidelines to develop policies and procedures to safely operate the campgrounds during the 2020 season. SCRCA will adopt the following recommendations from the Provincial workplace guidelines for campgrounds during Covid-19:

- Limiting overnight (transient) stays and capacity, with no adjacent sites occupied at the same time (we are closing approximately every other transient site)
- Encouraging contactless transactions
- Close group camping
- Enhanced sanitization protocols and increased cleaning frequency when washrooms open
- Enhanced cleaning of common touch surfaces
- Closed pools for the season
- Closed or restricted use of common areas and recreational facilities
- Cancelled camper group events
- Some closures and restrictions will be modified as COVID-19 restrictions are eased

Financial Impact:

Details of the seasonal camping season including current restrictions were provided to campers in late May. A small number of seasonal campsites were vacated after the gates were opened. Staff are rehabilitating those sites and will fill from existing waiting lists. Seasonal sites are expected to be filled to capacity in 2020.

| Fee Type | Original 2020 Fee | Season Length | Adjusted Fee |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Seasonal Permit | \$2380 | 20 weeks (-215, pool closure) | \$1768.40 |
| Weekly Pump-out | \$425 | 20 weeks | \$354.20 |
| Bi-weekly Pump-out | \$225 | 20 weeks | \$187.60 |
| Golf Cart | \$200 | 20 weeks | \$166.60 |
| Exterior Fridge | \$175 | 20 weeks | \$145.80 |

Reduced Seasonal Revenues:

| Fee Type | Fee Reduction | Estimated # of Users | Loss of Revenue (including taxes) |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Seasonal Permit | \$611.60 | 420 | \$256,872 |
| Weekly Pump-out | \$70.80 | 10 | \$708 |
| Bi-weekly Pump-out | \$37.40 | 250 | \$9,350 |
| Golf Cart | \$33.40 | 190 | \$6,346 |
| Exterior Fridge | \$29.20 | 70 | \$2,044 |
| | | Total | \$275,320 |

Transient revenue loss is more difficult to estimate. We are restricting our sites to approximately 50% capacity. The start date for the season is unknown at this time. Estimated annual revenue is approximately \$250,000 before taxes. This will be reduced by more than half in 2020.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: May 26, 2020
Submitted by: Emily De Cloet

Item 7.1 (c)

Subject: Current Watershed Conditions

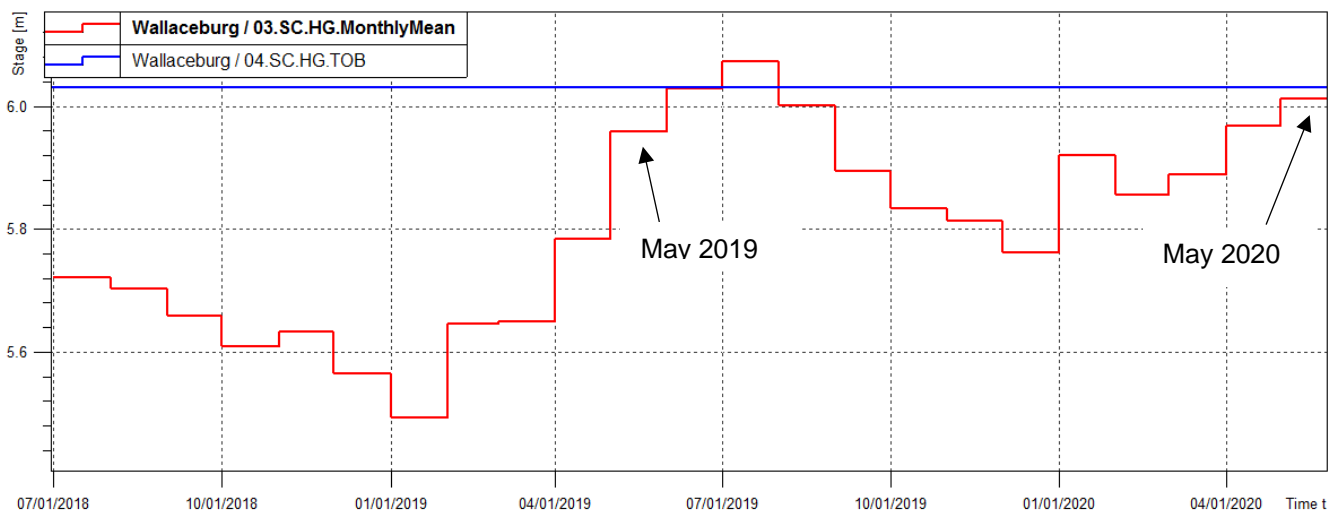
Highlights:

- Flood threat is moderate due to high water levels on the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and in Wallaceburg
- Lake Huron exceeded its April 1986 mean water level record by 7 cm, while Lake St. Clair exceeded its record by 9 cm
- Water levels for Lakes Huron and St. Clair are projected to exceed record levels over the next 5 months
- Overall regional averages do not substantially deviate from normal conditions, however further reduced precipitation in the coming months may result in an early indication of a potential drought condition

Flood Threat

The current flood threat is moderate owing to sustained high water levels in the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, St. Clair River, and the Sydenham River at Wallaceburg. Previously considered minimal amounts of rainfall will have the capacity to elevate water levels into natural floodplain areas, and Wallaceburg will be more susceptible to wind-driven flooding.

Figure 1: Monthly average water levels at Wallaceburg (red) compared to top of bank (blue).



- May 2020 mean water levels in Wallaceburg are 5.4 cm higher than May 2019 (to date); April was 18.5 cm higher
- As of this report, water levels are currently sitting 1 cm above the top of the bank

Great Lakes Levels

Table 1: Comparison of mean water levels for April 2020. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2020.

| April 2020 | Lake Huron | Lake St. Clair | Lake Erie |
|--|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| Mean for Month (Preliminary Data) | 177.30 | 175.91 | 175.05 |
| Mean for Month Last Year | 176.96 | 175.70 | 174.83 |
| Change | 0.34 | 0.21 | 0.22 |
| Mean for Month, Last 10 years | 176.36 | 175.19 | 174.39 |
| Change Compared to Current | 0.94 | 0.72 | 0.66 |
| Mean for Month, All Time | 176.39 | 175.06 | 174.24 |
| Change Compared to Current | 0.91 | 0.85 | 0.81 |
| Statistics for Period of Record | | | |
| Maximum Monthly Mean / Year | 177.23 | 175.82 | 174.98 |
| | 1986 | 1986 | 1985 |
| Change Compared to Current | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.07 |
| Minimum Monthly Mean / Year | 175.61 | 174.32 | 173.38 |
| | 1964 | 1926 | 1934 |
| Change Compared to Current | 1.69 | 1.59 | 1.67 |
| Next Month Estimate | | | |
| Probable Mean for Next Month | 177.37 | 175.92 | 175.04 |
| Next Month Compared to Current | 0.07 | 0.01 | -0.01 |

- Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie exceeded all mean records in April
- Mean water levels on Lakes Huron and St. Clair are forecasted to increase in May 2020, with Lake Erie falling slightly
- Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair are projected to exceed record-high water levels over the next 5 months (see Figure 2 below)

Precipitation Conditions

Table 2: Precipitation totals compared to monthly normals.

| Precipitation (mm) | Sarnia | | Strathroy | | London | | Windsor | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| Last Quarter | Actual | Normal | Actual | Normal | Actual | Normal | Actual | Normal |
| April | 54.4 | 75.4 | 60.6 | 84 | 63.8 | 82.2 | 45.8 | 85.1 |
| March | 47.8 | 62.6 | 63.2 | 74.9 | 80 | 78.4 | 87.6 | 75 |
| February | 26.5 | 47.7 | 44.4 | 61.1 | 40.6 | 60 | 14 | 57.3 |
| Averages | | | | | | | | |
| last 3 month totals | 128.7 | 185.7 | 168.2 | 220 | 184.4 | 220.6 | 147.4 | 217.4 |
| last 3 month % of normal | 69.3% | | 76.5% | | 83.6% | | 67.8% | |
| regional average | 74.3% | | | | | | | |
| last 6 month totals | 311.4 | 380.2 | 370.8 | 482.2 | 421.5 | 474.5 | 315.2 | 425.2 |
| last 6 month % of normal | 81.9% | | 76.9% | | 88.8% | | 74.1% | |
| regional average | 80.4% | | | | | | | |
| last 12 month totals | 776.5 | 846.8 | 975.2 | 945.1 | 1013.5 | 987 | 782.1 | 918.4 |
| last 12 month % of normal | 91.7% | | 103.2% | | 102.7% | | 85.2% | |
| regional average | 95.7% | | | | | | | |

- Monthly rainfall amounts for the last quarter are below normal values for all areas aside from London and Windsor in March
- Rainfall averages for all periods are below normal with the exception of Strathroy and London over the past 12 months
- Overall regional averages do not substantially deviate from normal conditions, however further reduced precipitation in the coming months may result in an early indication of a potential drought condition

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 4, 2020
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 7.1 (d)

Subject: Floodplain Mapping project update

-
- SCRCA staff (Nicholas Hagerty and Justin Greenside) have been surveying this Spring
 - Survey work includes surveying cross-sections of creek and measuring culverts and bridges
 - All Survey work has been completed for Phase 1 and Phase 2 work.
 - Phase 1 mapping work
 - City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township watersheds
 - Phase 2 mapping work
 - The rest of the SCRCA watershed
 - Hydrologic Analysis and Modelling has been completed and draft flood lines have been developed by Riggs Engineering.
 - Quality control of the draft flood lines are currently being undertaken by Riggs Engineering.
 - All mapping work is expected to be completed before June 30, 2020.



Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 4, 2020
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 7.1 (e)

Subject: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 4, 2020 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and further acknowledges the updates on the WECI funding for 2020.

WECI 2020-2021 Projects:

- SCRCA had submitted three projects for WECI 2020 - 2021 program
- A total of 115 projects have been submitted from 30 CA's
- All applications have been reviewed by a committee of Provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives
- All submitted projects are scored based on established WECI scoring guidelines.
- SCRCA was **not successful** in WECI funding this year
- SCRCA repair projects scored 120 and 125 points respectively
- All projects over 135 points were awarded funding.

Courtright Waterfront Park – Phase 3

- All revetment work and restoration work is completed.
- Trees have been planted along the shoreline
- Grass is starting to establish along the park
- SCRCA staff are seeking input from the municipality over project deficiencies, if any



Bright's Grove Shoreline Erosion Control Projects: Three Locations



(1) Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 2

- Cope Construction commenced shoreline work in December 2019 and remains underway.
- All in - water work has been completed as of March 31, 2020
- Toe stones were inspected using a professional diver in May 2020.
- A few toe stones needs to be repaired
- Revetment work is continuing along the shoreline
- High water levels posing construction challenges and reducing the work days.



(2) Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 3

- Construction work has been temporarily stopped due to the in-water timing window restrictions.
- Work to resume on July 15, 2020.

(3) Brights Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East

- Facca Incorporated Inc. started shoreline work on February 10, 2020.
- Approximately 40 meters of in -water work has been completed
- Significant project delays due to bad weather and quarry unable to deliver rocks as per engineer specification
- Construction work has been temporarily stopped due to the in- water timing window restrictions.
- Work to resume on July 15, 2020.

Brights Grove shoreline continues to be severely impacted due to high water levels, a number of recent failures have been identified. Shoreline work should proceed to prevent the Old Lakeshore Road from undermining. SCRCA has submitted another emergency application to DFO on April 17th to allow us to continue with in-water shoreline revetment work. Staff have provided information requested by DFO and continue to seek approval for in-water work exemption. However, we are still awaiting an approval from D.F.O and MNRF to this emergency shoreline work.

Meeting Date: June 18 , 2020 **Item: 7.1 (f)**
Report Date: June 4, 2020
Submitted by: Girish Sankar and Mike Moroney
Subject: Engineering and Design Plan for Management of Contaminated Sediment in the St. Clair River – Work Underway

Overview:

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is continuing to lead the work to develop a detailed engineering and design plan for managing the contaminated sediment in the three remaining priority areas of the St. Clair River. Funding for this project has been provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Dow Canada. The parties that provided funding are actively participating in oversight of the project work through a Sediment Management Oversight Committee.

Parsons Inc., the consulting firm that has been retained by the SCRCA to prepare the engineering and design plan, is continuing with its work on preparing the plan. Parsons subcontracted the field work component to Pollutech EnviroQuatics Limited, a firm with experience in providing environmental consulting and ecotoxicity services.

Due to inclement weather, the amount of field work that was to occur in fall 2019 had to be reduced from what was originally planned. Pollutech was able to collect surface sediment samples and measure water velocity to assist with assessing sediment stability, and was able collect a number of deeper core sediment samples in Priority Area 1 to measure contaminant concentrations.

Project Update:

Following completion of the fall 2019 field work, the consultant shared information with the SCRCA on the preliminary results and developed a plan for conducting the next round of field work in 2020. The SCRCA is currently reviewing the consultant's plan. Work that remains includes more deep core sediment sampling and the use of an underwater camera, as opposed to a diver, to assess the condition of structures in the area.

The engineering consultant has identified some areas where additional work may be required. The SCRCA worked closely with the engineering consultant and the Sediment Management Oversight Committee to address these challenges and has identified a path forward to ensure that the project work is completed within the established project budget.

Due to the implementation of measures in March 2020 by Canada and Ontario to reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus, the engineering consultant has had to reassess their procedures for conducting field work to ensure that provincial guidelines and legislative requirements are followed.

The consultant has advised that they anticipate being able to conduct the next round of field work in mid-June 2020. The SCRCA has requested submission of a revised project schedule from Parsons to confirm whether project delays due to COVID-19 will impact the project completion date.

Obtaining information on the various pipeline crossings in the vicinity of the areas of contaminated sediment is an important part of the project work. The SCRCA held separate teleconference meetings in March 2020 with the engineering consultant and each of the pipeline owners to confirm what information is available on the location of each of the pipelines, and any restrictions when performing work in close proximity to the pipelines. Information provided as a result of these meetings is being assessed to determine where any information gaps remain and next steps.

Finance:

Funds provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada for fiscal year 2019/20 for the engineering consultant work have been fully utilized as planned. Funds made available through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Dow Canada, however, have not been fully utilized and will be carried over into fiscal year 2020/21. The need to carry over these funds was the result of delays in the consultant being able to complete all of the planned field work in fall 2019.

The SCRCA's project manager is continuing to monitor the progress of the consultant's work closely and is tracking progress against key deliverables, costs and timelines.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 5, 2020
Submitted by: Nicole Drumm

Item 7.1 (g)

Subject: Sydenham 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 February 2020 board report:

| Date | Item | Details |
|---------|-------------------------|--|
| Ongoing | 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 and hosted local rural water quality events • Staff completed and submitted 2019-20 annual grant reporting to ECCC • Staff participating on the Lake Erie Action Plan Implementation Committee; Agricultural and Natural Heritage Subcommittees |

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: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 8, 2020
Submitted by: Steve Shaw

Item 7.1 (h)

Subject: Conservation Services Report - Spring Tree Planting

Tree Planting Program – Spring 2020

- This year's tree planting program was challenging due to late tree delivery from the nurseries and concerns with methods to keep staff safe through physical distancing protocols. Several Conservation Authorities cancelled their program this year because of this.
- Tree demand and landowner participants were not much different than normal years. However as April approached, we had several landowner cancellations and project deferrals to next year due to their concerns that the Conservation Authority may not be able to fulfill its obligations as well as a lack of trust in our ability to perform a satisfactory planting service during COVID. Approximately 10,000 trees we deferred to 2021 planting season.
- 51,000 trees arrived on May 7th and were placed in cold storage until planting could start on May 11th. This was a 2 week delay to the start of a normal planting season.
- Two mechanical planting crews worked for 3 weeks until the first week of June planting approximately 46,000 trees all on private lands.
- Three hand planters planted another 5,000 trees on private lands plus another 5,000 poplar trees for the Twin Creeks leachate site at the landfill north of Watford.
- All staff used separate vehicles for transportation to planting sites. Several staff that had to use their own vehicles, for which they were paid mileage compensation.
- Thirty two landowners purchased and planted 6,100 seedling trees on their own.
- There were 470 large potted stock trees purchased this spring by Brooke-Alvinston and Warwick Township. Another 180 large trees were purchase by 10 individual landowners.
- This spring's total project value was more than \$220,000 for the cost of trees, planting and long term tending.
- Landowners contributed \$40,500 this year.
- SCRCA secured and provided \$180,000 to landowner through several grants.



Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 8, 2020
Submitted by: Steve Shaw

Item 7.1 (i)

Subject: Conservation Services Larvicide Program

Update:

- Catch basin treatments with a mosquito larvicide will be conducted in all rural and urban areas within the County of Lambton and the City of Sarnia starting in late June and ending in mid-August. SCRCA staff will be working under the direction of Lambton Public Health during the treatment operations again this year.
- Catch basins located within Aamjiwnaang will be treated under a separate contract pending approval for funding from Health Canada.
- Permits to treat surface water are obtained from the MECP under the Authority's Pesticide Operators Licence and Insurance and staff exterminator's licences.
- Pre-treatment larvae sampling has been scheduled for the week of June 15th. If mosquito larvae activity is low, a second sampling may be required the following week.
- Larvae results are sent to Lambton Public Health. Mosquito activity levels will be used to determine treatment start date. Approval from the Lambton Medical Officer of Health is required before treatments commence.
- Catch basins will be treated with methoprene in pellet formulation. Methoprene is a growth regulator which prevents mosquito larva from becoming biting adults. There will be three separate larvicide applications set at 21-day intervals starting around June 25th and finishing around the 20th of August.
- There are approximately 16,500 catch basins slated for multiple applications throughout the summer
- A colour code paint mark will be used for every catch basin treated with larvicide.
- The use of larvicide is limited to an exterminator with a mosquito/ biting fly licence or up to 7-trained technicians working under the supervision of a licence holder.
- SCRCA staff will also conduct efficacy tests as part of the treatment program by collecting mosquito pupa samples throughout the summer. Pupa are monitored for percent adult emergence. Past efficacy tests show an average of 80% effectiveness for controlling mosquito emergence.



Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 6, 2020
Submitted by: Melissa Deisley, Michelle Gallant, Megan Weber

Item 7.1 (j)

Subject: Regulations Activity Summary

A summary of staff activity related to the Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference of Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04) is presented below. This report covers the period from April 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020.

Regulations Permits Issued

| Application # | Location | Municipality | Proposal | Submitted | Issued | Days |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|------------|------------|------|
| R#2020-0174 | 6507 Inwood Road | Brooke-Alvinston | Excavation to repair/replace section of pipe | 2020-03-31 | 2020-04-20 | 20 |
| R#2020-0175 | 7271 Shiloh Line | Brooke-Alvinston | Excavation to repair/replace section of pipe | 2020-03-31 | 2020-04-20 | 20 |
| R#2020-0176 | 7271 Shiloh Line | Brooke-Alvinston | Excavation to repair/replace section of pipe in the vicinity of the Smith-Patterson Drain | 2020-03-31 | 2020-04-20 | 20 |
| R#2020-0214 | 4138 Little Ireland Road | Brooke-Alvinston | Install approx. 12km of 4" plastic 550kPa gas main | 2020-04-20 | 2020-05-07 | 17 |
| R#2020-0215 | 7475 Petrolia Line | Brooke-Alvinston | Install approx. 12km of 4" plastic 550kPa gas main | 2020-04-20 | 2020-05-07 | 17 |
| R#2020-0062 | 204 Hudson Crescent, Wallaceburg | Chatham-Kent | Construction of a new single family dwelling | 2020-05-01 | 2020-05-22 | 21 |
| R#2020-0075 | 29618 Payne Road, Wallaceburg | Chatham-Kent | Small room addition on side of existing dwelling | 2020-03-16 | 2020-04-06 | 21 |
| R#2020-0136 | 324 Bethel Road, Wallaceburg | Chatham-Kent | Construction of a new dwelling | 2020-03-30 | 2020-04-30 | 31 |
| R#2020-0196 | 413 Linden Drive, Wallaceburg | Chatham-Kent | Construction of new garage | 2020-04-15 | 2020-05-01 | 16 |
| R#2020-0266 | 6006 Langstaff Line, Port Lambton | Chatham-Kent | New Inground Pool and Shed/Cabana | 2020-05-20 | 2020-05-22 | 2 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|--|------------|------------|----|
| R#2020-0259 | Across from 5312 Oil Springs Line | Enniskillen | Wetland Creation | 2020-04-23 | 2020-05-13 | 20 |
| R#2020-0087 | 1780 Lakeshore Road | Sarnia | Groyne Repair | 2020-04-09 | 2020-04-09 | 1 |
| R#2020-0141 | 350 Lasalle Line | Sarnia | Construct two temporary excavations to permit the in-line inspection of an existing pipeline | 2020-03-17 | 2020-04-01 | 15 |
| R#2020-0237 | Vidal Street South | Sarnia | Integrity Dig | 2020-04-27 | 2020-04-27 | 1 |
| R#2020-0012 | 6430 Falconbridge Drive | Southwest Middlesex | Construction of a new house | 2020-04-22 | 2020-05-05 | 13 |
| R#2020-0216 | 2740 Buttonwood Drive, Glencoe | Southwest Middlesex | Creation of Vernal Pools | 2020-04-16 | 2020-04-16 | 1 |
| R#2020-0083 | 1757 Lasalle Line | St. Clair | New Dwelling | 2020-04-02 | 2020-04-17 | 15 |
| R#2020-0193 | 679 Lasalle Line, Sarnia | St. Clair | Excavate and replace one pipeline valve (PS-5-DELV-1) | 2020-04-15 | 2020-04-30 | 15 |
| R#2020-0218 | NPS 16 Wilkesport Pipeline & Gathering System | St. Clair | Integrity Digs | 2020-04-23 | 2020-04-24 | 1 |
| R#2020-0234 | Greenfield Rd (213 Bickford Line) | St. Clair | Replace approximately 400m of NPS 12" natural gas pipeline | 2020-04-27 | 2020-05-22 | 25 |
| R#2020-0074 | Creekside Meadows, behind 244 Second St., Strathroy | Strathroy-Caradoc | Storm Water Management Outlet | 2020-05-14 | 2020-05-15 | 1 |
| R#2020-0015 | 8451 Confederation Line | Warwick | Expansion to dairy farm and new manure pit | 2020-03-03 | 2020-04-01 | 29 |
| Total Permits Issued: 22 Average Number of Days to Issue Permit for this Period: 14.64 | | | | | | |

Regulations Inquiries

| FileReference | Municipality | Location |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| R#2020-0267 | | Pinecomb Mill Pond |
| R#2020-0166 | Brooke-Alvinston | 8813 Churchill Line brooke alvinston |
| R#2020-0170 | Brooke-Alvinston | 6423 Courtright Line |
| R#2020-0252 | Brooke-Alvinston | 3725 Sutorville Road |
| R#2020-0284 | Brooke-Alvinston | 6675 Shiloh Line, Alvinston |
| R#2018-375 | Chatham-Kent | 15 Bayview Street |
| R#2020-0066 | Chatham-Kent | 11938 Base Line |
| R#2020-0085 | Chatham-Kent | 460 Brown Street, Dresden |
| R#2020-0169 | Chatham-Kent | 11812 Wabash Line, Thamesville |

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| R#2020-0188 | Chatham-Kent | 12631 Splinter Line |
| R#2020-0191 | Chatham-Kent | 29766 Cuthbert Road |
| R#2020-0194 | Chatham-Kent | 594 Sandra Crescent, Wallaceburg |
| R#2020-0197 | Chatham-Kent | 650 Camden Street, Dresden |
| R#2020-0217 | Chatham-Kent | 5745 Stewart Line, Wallaceburg |
| R#2020-0228 | Chatham-Kent | 11 Bayview |
| R#2020-0233 | Chatham-Kent | 30594 Zone 7 Road |
| R#2020-0247 | Chatham-Kent | 8534 Langstaff Line, Wallaceburg |
| R#2020-0254 | Chatham-Kent | 27170 Baldoon Road |
| R#2020-0276 | Chatham-Kent | East Sydenham end of Trerice |
| R#2020-0293 | Chatham-Kent | 7186 Bassette Line, Dover Center |
| R#2020-0297 | Chatham-Kent | 15 Keller Street, Mitchells Bay |
| R#2020-0314 | Chatham-Kent | 29939 St. Clair Parkway, Wallaceburg |
| R#2020-0321 | Chatham-Kent | 740 Victoria Avenue, Dresden |
| R#2020-0192 | Dawn-Euphemia | 1697 Gould Road |
| R#2020-0257 | Dawn-Euphemia | 6222 Kirby Street |
| R#2020-0296 | Dawn-Euphemia | 745 Florence Road |
| R#2020-0167 | Enniskillen | 5972 LaSalle Line, Enniskillen |
| R#2019-296 | Lambton Shores | 8320 Lake View Haven Drive |
| R#2020-0151 | Lambton Shores | 6252 Hickory Creek Line |
| R#2020-0227 | Lambton Shores | West Ipperwash Beach |
| R#2020-0235 | Lambton Shores | 9338 West Ipperwash Road |
| R#2019-357 | Middlesex Centre | Hedley Drive |
| R#2020-0198 | Middlesex Centre | 2098 Michigan Line, Sarnia |
| R#2020-0202 | Oil Springs | 4729 Orchardview Drive, Oil Springs |
| R#2020-0256 | Petrolia | 4108 Glenview Drive |
| R#2020-0269 | Petrolia | water treatment plant |
| R#2019-903 | Plympton-Wyoming | 7026 Hillsboro Road |
| R#2019-916 | Plympton-Wyoming | 3228 Devonshire Road, Camlachie |
| R#2020-0200 | Plympton-Wyoming | 4612 Lakeside Street, Plympton |
| R#2020-0206 | Plympton-Wyoming | 4195 Aberarder Line |
| R#2020-0208 | Plympton-Wyoming | 3373 London Line |
| R#2020-0232 | Plympton-Wyoming | 4818 Fisher Beach Road |
| R#2020-0236 | Plympton-Wyoming | 4200 Bluepoint Drive, Plympton |
| R#2020-0246 | Plympton-Wyoming | 3890 Ferne Avenue, Bonnie Doone |

| | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| R#2020-0250 | Plympton-Wyoming | 6230 Hillsboro Road |
| R#2020-0262 | Plympton-Wyoming | 5094 Lakeshore Road |
| R#2020-0264 | Plympton-Wyoming | 5094 Lakeshore Road, Plympton Wyoming |
| R#2020-0265 | Plympton-Wyoming | 5094 Lakeshore Road, Plympton Wyoming |
| R#2019-202 | Sarnia | 550 Lakeshore Road |
| R#2019-216 | Sarnia | 1602 Lakeshore Road |
| R#2020-0011 | Sarnia | 2 Ferry Dock Hill Sarnia |
| R#2020-0063 | Sarnia | 1956 Lakeshore Road |
| R#2020-0158 | Sarnia | Churchill Line and Telfer Road |
| R#2020-0185 | Sarnia | 1748 Michigan Line |
| R#2020-0238 | Sarnia | 2021 Marion Avenue, Brights Grove |
| R#2020-0253 | Sarnia | 1500 Old Post Road, Sarnia |
| R#2019-495 | St. Clair | 4725 Riverside Drive |
| R#2019-872 | St. Clair | 1774 Oil Springs Line |
| R#2020-0195 | St. Clair | 1629 Stanley Line |
| R#2020-0207 | Strathroy-Caradoc | 6997 Falconbridge Drive |
| Total Regulations Inquiries: 60 | | |

Regulations - DART Completed Files

| File Reference | Municipality | Drain / Watercourse |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| R#2020-0187 | | Clark Humphries |
| R#2019-908 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Brigham-Watt |
| R#2019-909 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Inch Drain |
| R#2020-0099 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Van Erp Drain |
| R#2020-0230 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Inch |
| R#2020-0026 | Brooke-Alvinston | Ross Drain |
| R#2020-0056 | Brooke-Alvinston | Zimmerman Drain |
| R#2019-711 | Chatham-Kent | Little Bear |
| R#2019-595 | Dawn-Euphemia | Kersey |
| R#2020-0220 | Dawn-Euphemia | Graham |
| R#2020-0221 | Dawn-Euphemia | 30-31 Sideroad Drain |
| R#2020-0224 | Dawn-Euphemia | Coleman-Turner |
| R#2020-0226 | Dawn-Euphemia | Murray |
| R#2019-526 | Enniskillen | 4th Concession Culvert |
| R#2019-900 | Lambton Shores | James Creek Drain |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| R#2020-0199 | Plympton-Wyoming | 10th Concession |
| R#2020-0211 | Plympton-Wyoming | Stewart Creek or may be Aberarder Creek WC |
| R#2020-0243 | Plympton-Wyoming | Abell Drain |
| R#2020-0229 | Sarnia | Bird |
| R#2020-0134 | Southwest Middlesex | Douglad McCallum |
| R#2020-0294 | Southwest Middlesex | MacFarlane Drain |
| R#2019-593 | St. Clair | Murphy |
| R#2019-598 | St. Clair | Hawkins |
| R#2019-649 | St. Clair | 10th Concession Drain West |
| R#2019-656 | St. Clair | Murphy Drain |
| R#2019-670 | St. Clair | Hubbard |
| R#2019-855 | St. Clair | Burman Drain |
| R#2020-0279 | St. Clair | Mannen Drain |
| R#2020-0282 | St. Clair | McDonald Creek |
| Total DART Permits Issued: 29 | | |

Regulations Inquiries - Drains

| File Reference | Municipality | Drain / Watercourse |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| R#2020-0222 | | McDonald Drain |
| R#2019-132 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Carruthers-McFarlane Drain |
| R#2020-0244 | Adelaide-Metcalfe | Dodge and Dodge Lightfoot |
| R#2019-784 | Brooke-Alvinston | Ruth and Logan |
| R#2020-0153 | Brooke-Alvinston | Johnson Drain & Graham Bourne |
| R#2020-0273 | Brooke-Alvinston | Con 10-11 |
| R#2019-049 | Chatham-Kent | Hyatt Fryer Outlet Drain |
| R#2019-329 | Chatham-Kent | Wilmott Drain |
| R#2019-381 | Chatham-Kent | Bear Creek |
| R#2019-764 | Chatham-Kent | Zavitz Pumping Works |
| R#2019-853 | Chatham-Kent | unknown drain |
| R#2020-0186 | Dawn-Euphemia | Coleman Turner |
| R#2020-0223 | Dawn-Euphemia | Laing |
| R#2019-371 | Enniskillen | Six Sideroad Drain |
| R#2019-372 | Enniskillen | Stewart Drain |
| R#2019-428 | Enniskillen | McFadyen |
| R#2020-0184 | Enniskillen | McCallum Drain |

| | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| R#2019-823 | Lambton Shores | Todd |
| R#2019-806 | Middlesex Centre | Bear Creek Drain West of Br 6 |
| R#2019-036 | Plympton-Wyoming | Paul Park Municipal Drain |
| R#2019-041 | Plympton-Wyoming | Errol Road Municipal Drain |
| R#2019-330 | Plympton-Wyoming | Stuurman Drain |
| R#2019-735 | Plympton-Wyoming | South Branch MacKinlay Drain No 2 |
| R#2020-0037 | Plympton-Wyoming | Pascoe Drain - Outlet to Perch Creek |
| R#2020-0213 | Plympton-Wyoming | unnamed Oil heritage |
| R#2020-0219 | Plympton-Wyoming | Paul Drain |
| R#2019-285 | Sarnia | Kember-Smith Drain |
| R#2020-0160 | Sarnia | Farris Subdivision Drain |
| R#2020-0280 | Southwest Middlesex | Robinson Drain |
| R#2019-727 | St. Clair | Hubbard Drain |
| R#2019-714 | Strathroy-Caradoc | Brunet-Friesen Drain |
| R#2020-0101 | Warwick | Legatte / Cundick Drain |
| Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 32 | | |

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 8, 2020
Submitted by: Sarah Hodgkiss, Laura Biancolin

Item 7.1 (k)

Subject: Planning Activity Summary

A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review is presented below. This report covers the period from April 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020.

| Municipal Plan Input and Review | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| File Reference | Location | Municipality | Municipal File Reference |
| PL#2020-0021 | 702 Richmond St | Chatham-Kent | File D-14 DR/21/20/R) File B-31/20 |
| PL#2018-111 | Country View Drive | Enniskillen | 38T-07001 |
| PL#2020-0019 | 5272 Aberfeldy Line | Enniskillen | |
| PL#2020-0024 | 3167 Rokeby Line | Enniskillen | |
| PL#2019-011 | 9532 & 9569 Ipperwash Road | Lambton Shores | ZO-02/2019 B-09/2019, B-10/2019 |
| PL#2020-0022 | 9338 West Ipperwash Road | Lambton Shores | |
| PL#2018-054 | 23170 Nairn Road & 6403 Egremont Road | Middlesex Centre | SP05-2020 |
| PL#2019-080 | 10283 Ilderton Road | Middlesex Centre | |
| PL#2018-077 | 4860 Forsyth Trail | Plympton-Wyoming | A-07/20 |
| PL#2018-063 | 7026 Hillsboro Road | Plympton-Wyoming | A16/2018 |
| PL#2018-116 | 3790 Lakeshore Road | Plympton-Wyoming | |
| PL#2019-102 | Fleming & Queen Street | Plympton-Wyoming | 38T-19004 |
| PL#2020-0008 | 3074 Lakeview Ave | Plympton-Wyoming | A-05-20 |
| PL#2018-028 | Venetian Boulevard | Point Edward | |
| PL#2019-115 | 1600 Venetian Blvd | Point Edward | |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| PL#2018-014 | 834 Lakeshore Road | Sarnia | OPA 12 |
| PL#2019-060 | 946 Blackwell Sideroad | Sarnia | |
| PL#2020-0016 | Lot 14 Concession 5 | Sarnia | |
| PL#2020-0017 | 1612 London Line | Sarnia | B10 2020 |
| PL#2020-0018 | 131 Exmouth Street | Sarnia | NO. 5-2020-85 of 2002 |
| PL#2020-0023 | 2212 London Line | Sarnia | |
| PL#2020-0005 | 4275 Olde Drive | Southwest Middlesex | P4-2020 B3-2020 |
| PL#2020-0006 | 5800 Century Dr | Southwest Middlesex | P2/2020 B1/2020 |
| PL#2020-0020 | 4801 St. Clair Parkway | St. Clair | |
| PL#2018-093 | 24321 Saxton Road | Strathroy-Caradoc | |
| PL#2018-031 | 2617 Queen Street | Strathroy-Caradoc | ZBA 11-2018 B7/2018, B8/2018 |
| PL#2018-058 | 22701 & 22681 Adelaide Road | Strathroy-Caradoc | ZBA01-2019 39T-SC-CDM1901 B10/2018, B11/2018 |
| PL#2018-026 | Thorn Drive | Strathroy-Caradoc | 39T-SC1303 |
| PL#2019-087 | 24749 Park Street | Strathroy-Caradoc | ZBA3-2020 |
| PL#2020-0009 | Adelaide Rd & Falconbridge Dr | Strathroy-Caradoc | |
| PL#2020-0012 | 7806 Confederation Line | Warwick | |
| Total Plan Review Items: 31 | | | |

Environmental Assessments

| File Reference | Location | Municipality |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| EA#2020-003 | Lambton County, County of Middlesex | Strathroy-Caradoc |
| Total Environmental Assessments: 1 | | |

Legal Inquiries

| File Reference | Location | Municipality |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| LL#2020-0009 | 214 Margaret Avenue, Wallaceburg | Chatham-Kent |
| LL#2020-0011 | 436, 437 & 437A First Avenue, Petrolia | Petrolia |
| LL#2020-0012 | 5094 Lakeshore Road, Plympton-Wyoming | Plympton-Wyoming |
| LL#2020-0008 | 2938 Lambton Line, Sombra | St. Clair |
| LL#2020-0010 | 7870 Falconbridge Drive | Strathroy-Caradoc |

Total Legal Inquiries: 5

Prepared By: Tracy Prince
June 5, 2020

ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure
For the Five Months Ended 31/05/2020

Item 7.1 (I)

| | Actual To Date | | | Annual Budget Prorated Five Months Ended May 31/20 | | Variance from Budget | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | Revenue | Expenditures | Surplus (Deficit) | Revenue | Expenditures | Revenue | Expenditures |
| Flood Control & Erosion Control | \$1,325,984 | \$1,763,780 | (\$437,796) | \$1,196,333 | \$1,196,333 | \$129,651 | \$567,446 |
| Capital Projects/WECI | \$88,313 | \$8,838 | \$79,475 | \$91,667 | \$91,667 | (\$3,354) | (\$82,829) |
| Conservation Area's Capital Development | \$72,779 | \$14,398 | \$58,380 | \$49,583 | \$49,583 | \$23,195 | (\$35,185) |
| IT Capital | \$6,448 | \$0 | \$6,448 | \$19,200 | \$19,200 | (\$12,752) | (\$19,200) |
| Equipment | \$23,600 | \$0 | \$23,600 | \$30,000 | \$72,000 | (\$6,400) | (\$72,000) |
| Planning & Regulations | \$361,437 | \$219,043 | \$142,394 | \$241,612 | \$241,612 | \$119,825 | (\$22,569) |
| Technical Studies | \$276,260 | (\$30,237) | \$306,497 | \$120,137 | \$120,137 | \$156,123 | (\$150,374) |
| Recreation | \$140,063 | \$377,039 | (\$236,976) | \$578,014 | \$578,014 | (\$437,950) | (\$200,974) |
| Property Management | \$81,258 | \$90,451 | (\$9,194) | \$102,170 | \$102,170 | (\$20,912) | (\$11,719) |
| Education and Communication | \$90,356 | \$117,714 | (\$27,358) | \$89,588 | \$89,588 | \$768 | \$28,126 |
| Source Water Protection | \$148,724 | \$101,628 | \$47,096 | \$168,854 | \$168,854 | (\$20,130) | (\$67,226) |
| Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds | \$1,126,170 | \$529,974 | \$596,196 | \$348,612 | \$348,612 | \$777,558 | \$181,362 |
| Administration/AOC Management | \$983,018 | \$437,053 | \$545,966 | \$592,060 | \$550,060 | \$390,958 | (\$113,008) |
| | \$4,724,409 | \$3,629,680 | \$1,094,729 | \$3,627,830 | \$3,627,830 | \$1,096,579 | \$1,850 |

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.
3. Budget for the year is divided by 12 and multiplied by the number of months in the reporting period, this does not reflect the seasonality of the nature/ timing of projects



ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Cheques April to May 2020

| CHQ. # | DATE | VENDOR | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 21057 | 4/14/2020 | Amico Infrastructures (Oxford Inc) | Helen to Kenwick | \$ 206,594.41 |
| 21061 | 4/14/2020 | Marsh Canada Limited | Insurance | \$ 71,328.52 |
| 21062 | 4/14/2020 | MIDDLESEX CONCRETE FORMING LTD | WIFI Building | \$ 7,408.28 |
| 21066 | 4/14/2020 | Myra Spiller | AOC Video | \$ 5,800.00 |
| 21070 | 4/14/2020 | SWISH MAINTENANCE LIMITED | Paper Supplies | \$ 8,485.90 |
| 21072 | 4/14/2020 | Van Gorp Constuction Inc | WIFI Building | \$ 13,383.72 |
| 21073 | 4/27/2020 | Amico Infrastructures (Oxford Inc) | Helen to Kenwick | \$ 170,419.17 |
| 21077 | 5/4/2020 | Cope Construction and Contracting Inc | Helen to Kenwick | \$ 316,397.72 |
| 21080 | 5/4/2020 | Facca Incorporated | Old Lakeshore Rd | \$ 257,094.75 |
| 21090 | 5/4/2020 | MAX UNDERHILL'S FARM SUPPLY | Chemicals - Spraying | \$ 6,949.00 |
| 21100 | 5/4/2020 | Rural Lambton Stewardship Network | Wetland Creations | \$ 16,125.00 |
| 21102 | 5/4/2020 | SLOAN'S NURSERY & CHRISTMAS TR | Trees | \$ 5,687.01 |
| 21118 | 5/19/2020 | Hortico Inc. | Trees | \$ 6,833.00 |
| 21121 | 5/19/2020 | Parsons Inc. | Sediment Project | \$ 37,713.59 |
| TOTAL CHEQUE DISBURSEMENTS - BANK #1 - | | | | \$ 1,130,220.07 |

INTERNET BANKING April to May 2020

| TRANS # | DATE | VENDOR | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |
|--|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 9502 | 4/30/2020 | Libro Credit Union - Visa | Employee Purchases | \$ 5,540.57 |
| 9503 | 4/30/2020 | OMERS | Pension - 3 Pays | \$ 53,699.04 |
| 9504 | 4/30/2020 | ONTARIO MINISTER OF FINANCE | EHT - 3 Pays | \$ 5,739.88 |
| 9506 | 4/30/2020 | RECEIVER GENERAL | Source Deductions - 3 Pays | \$ 66,819.66 |
| 9508 | 4/30/2020 | RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc | Group Benefits | \$ 14,162.65 |
| 9511 | 4/30/2020 | WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD | WSIB - 3 Pays | \$ 8,366.72 |
| 9520 | 5/31/2020 | Libro Credit Union - Visa | Employee Purchases | \$ 8,968.38 |
| 9521 | 5/31/2020 | OMERS | Pension | \$ 35,581.16 |
| 9524 | 5/31/2020 | RECEIVER GENERAL | Source Deductions | \$ 55,486.28 |
| 9526 | 5/31/2020 | RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc | Group Benefits | \$ 12,618.67 |
| 9530 | 5/31/2020 | WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD | WSIB | \$ 5,802.04 |
| TOTAL INTERNET DISBURSEMENTS - BANK NO. 1 - | | | | \$ 272,785.05 |

Notes: Visa - April American Meadows - Seed \$3,683.53
 Visa - May Merlin Scientific - \$1,663.80
 Henrey's - Camera \$3,117.91
 Canada Post - Mailing - \$1,611.59

PAYROLL RUNS

| | | |
|----------------|----|-----------|
| PAYROLL NO. 7 | \$ | 66,884.18 |
| PAYROLL NO. 8 | \$ | 66,467.56 |
| PAYROLL NO. 9 | \$ | 66,040.95 |
| PAYROLL NO. 10 | \$ | 66,085.90 |
| PAYROLL NO. 11 | \$ | 71,631.38 |
| PAYROLL NO. | | |
| PAYROLL NO. | | |

\$ 337,109.97

TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS -

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -

\$ 1,740,115.09



2020 GENERAL LEVY SUMMARY

| MUNICIPALITY | GROSS LEVY | PAID TO DATE | OUTSTANDING |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sarnia | \$ 407,570.00 | \$ 203,785.00 | \$ 203,785.00 |
| Chatham-Kent | 139,055.00 | 139,055.00 | 0.00 |
| Brooke-Alvinston Twp. | 18,662.00 | 18,662.00 | 0.00 |
| Dawn Euphemia Twp. | 28,750.00 | 7,187.50 | 21,562.50 |
| Enniskillen Twp. | 20,242.00 | 20,242.00 | 0.00 |
| Lambton Shores M. | 52,883.00 | 52,883.00 | 0.00 |
| Oil Springs V | 2,123.00 | 2,123.00 | 0.00 |
| Petrolia T | 26,981.00 | 26,981.00 | 0.00 |
| Plympton-Wyoming T | 57,481.00 | | 57,481.00 |
| Point Edward V | 23,644.00 | | 23,644.00 |
| St. Clair Twp. | 119,814.00 | 119,814.00 | 0.00 |
| Warwick Twp. | 23,597.00 | 23,597.00 | 0.00 |
| Adelaide Metcalfe Twp. | 20,074.00 | 20,074.00 | 0.00 |
| Middlesex Centre Twp. | 23,547.00 | | 23,547.00 |
| Newbury V | 1,651.00 | 1,651.00 | 0.00 |
| Southwest Middlesex M. | 12,406.00 | 12,406.00 | 0.00 |
| Strathroy-Caradoc M. | 91,448.00 | 91,448.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,069,928.00 | \$ 739,908.50 | \$ 330,019.50 |

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00052

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



Managed Portfolio Account
Non-registered account #440-24048-10

April 30, 2020

Item 7.1 (o)

Your Investment Report

Account Summary

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

| Your Investments | Opening Value Apr 1, 2020 | Closing Value Apr 30, 2020 | Balance on Apr 30, 2020 (CAD\$) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Canadian Dollar Investments | | | |
| Cash Account | 1,360,723.15 | 1,361,391.02 | 1,361,391.02 |
| | 1,360,723.15 | 1,361,391.02 | 1,361,391.02 |
| Grand Total (CAD\$) | | | 1,361,391.02 |
| | | Last Statement Mar 31, 2020 | 1,360,723.15 |

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**.

FLICK/BATCH#4
Investment Advisor
519-646-1180

Batch Flick Wealth Management
www.batchflick.com
Assistant: Patricia Daer
Patricia.Daer@nbpcd.com

MICHAEL COONEY
Branch Manager
(519) 672-8560

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



Regulated by
Investment Industry Regulatory
Organization of Canada

JTA5315844-0000307-00052-0003-0001-00-

Non-registered account #440-24048-10

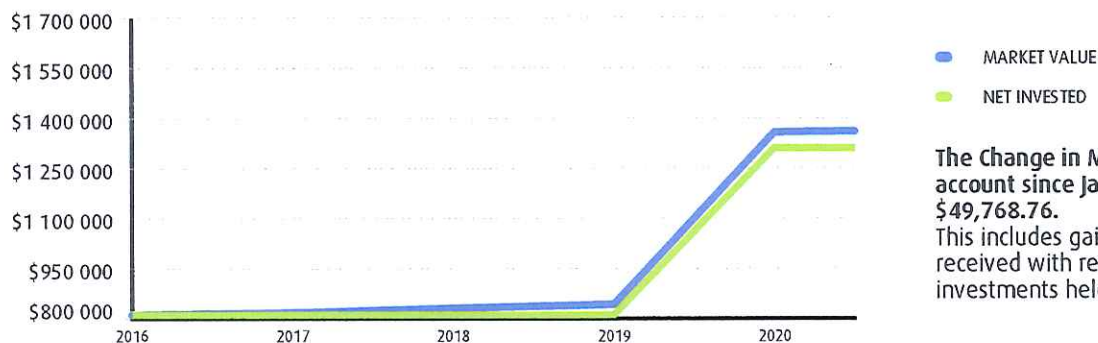
April 30, 2020

▶ 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 (2020) | Since January 1, 2016 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Opening Value | 1,358,399.43 | 811,622.26 |
| Deposited | + 0.00 | + 500,000.00 |
| Withdrawn | - 0.00 | - 0.00 |
| Net Invested | = 0.00 | = 500,000.00 |
| Change In Market Value | + 2,991.59 | + 49,768.76 |
| Closing Value on Apr 30, 2020 | 1,361,391.02 | 1,361,391.02 |

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



The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$49,768.76.
This includes gains, losses and income received with respect to the investments held in your account.

Your Canadian Dollar Investments

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

▶ Income you received

| Type of Income | Current Month | Year to Date |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Interest | 0.00 | 21.25 |
| Total | 0.00 | 21.25 |

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.

Non-registered account #440-24048-10

April 30, 2020

▶ Your investment details

| | Quantity | Cost | | Market Value on April 30, 2020 | |
|---|-------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Per Unit | Total | Per Unit | Total |
| MANAGED ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash Account | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cash and Short-term Investments | | | | | |
| CASH | | | 21.25 | | 21.25 |
| BMO HIGH INTEREST SAVINGS ACCOUNT COMMERCIAL SER 1 (791) AAT791 | 861,369.770 | 1.000 | 861,369.77 | 1.000 | 861,369.77 |
| BANK OF MONTREAL MORTGAGE CORP GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/30/2020 2.170% | 100,000 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 |
| Subtotal | | | 961,391.02 | | 961,391.02 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fixed Income | | | | | |
| Fixed Income | | | | | |
| EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/29/2021 2.200% | 100,000 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 |
| HOME TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/28/2022 2.270% | 100,000 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 |
| HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/28/2023 2.340% | 100,000 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 |
| CONCENTRA BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/28/2024 2.370% | 100,000 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 | 100.000 | 100,000.00 |
| Fixed Income Subtotal | | | 400,000.00 | | 400,000.00 |
| Subtotal | | | 400,000.00 | | 400,000.00 |
| Total for Cash Account | | | 1,361,391.02 | | 1,361,391.02 |
| Total Canadian Dollar Investments | | | 1,361,391.02 | | 1,361,391.02 |

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

JTA5315644-0000309-00052-0003-0002-00-

Your Investment Report

Non-registered account #440-24048-10

April 30, 2020

▶ Account activity for this month

| Date | Activity | Description | Quantity | Unit Price | Commission | Amount |
|---------------------|----------|--|----------|------------|------------|--------|
| Cash Account | | | | | | |
| Apr 1, 2020 | | Opening Cash Balance | | | | 21.25 |
| Apr 1, 2020 | Interest | BMO HIGH INTEREST SAVINGS ACCOUNT COMMERCIAL SER 1 (791) AS OF 03/31/20 REINVESTED @ \$1.00 | 667 | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Apr 1, 2020 | Interest | 1000THS BMO HIGH INTEREST SAVINGS ACCOUNT COMMERCIAL S1 (791) AS OF 03/31/20 REINVESTED @ \$1.00 | 870 | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Apr 30, 2020 | | Closing Cash Balance | | | | 21.25 |

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 #440-24048-10

April 30, 2020

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 2020 | 0.00 |

▶ Payments BMO received from third parties

| | CAD (\$) |
|---|---------------|
| Trailing Commission | 773.58 |
| Total payments BMO Nesbitt Burns received from third parties in 2020 | 773.58 |

We received trailing commissions with respect to securities you owned during the reporting period.

Investment funds pay the investment fund managers a management fee for managing their funds. In turn, the investment managers pay us ongoing trailing commissions for the advice and services we provide to you. The amount of the trailing commission depends on the sales charge option under which you purchased your mutual fund. You are not directly charged a trailing commission or management fee; however, these fees will reduce the fund's overall investment return to you. Information about management fees and other charges to your investment funds is included in the applicable fund facts document.

▶ Bulletin board

The USD/CAD conversion rate is: 1.3924, as of April 30, 2020

Changes to CDIC deposit protection.

The Government of Canada has amended the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) Act to modernize and enhance Canada's deposit framework.

As of April 30, 2020, all new and existing Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs) with a term greater than five years (60 months), and term investments in U.S. dollars held at BMO Nesbitt Burns are now eligible for coverage under the CDIC Act.

In addition, U.S. dollar deposits held in Preferred and Preferred Plus accounts are also now insured under the CDIC Act.

For more details about the changes to CDIC coverage and eligibility, visit cdic.ca.



ACPC07 - 6196
 SWSTM11000_2597758_001 E D **02812** 

Account Number: **460-16010**
 Account Type: Regular Account
 For the Period: **April 1 to 30, 2020**
 Last Statement: March 31, 2020

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




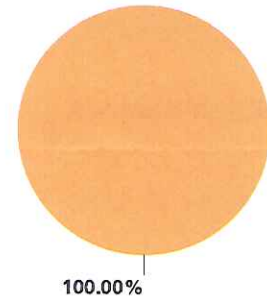
Your Wealth Advisor
 Craig Emptage (519) 660-3259
craig.emptage@scotiawealth.com

Your Investment Team
 Michael Willemse (519) 660-3268
 Tammy Jackson (519) 660-3215

CANADIAN Account Overview

Currency: Canadian Dollar

| Asset Class Summary | Apr. 30, 2020 Market Value | % of Total Assets |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|
|  Fixed Income | 774,629 | 100.00 |
| Total Value of Account | \$774,629 | 100.00 |
| Total Value on Last Statement, March 31, 2020 | \$754,598 | |



JTA5308935-0012977-02812-0003-0001-00-

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) See Endnote 1 | 13,216.118 | 9.976 | 131,855 | 10.033 | 132,597 |
| CASH | MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) | 15,285.463 | 12.313 | 188,224 | 11.971 | 182,982 |
| CASH | PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) | 16,472.377 | 14.449 | 238,015 | 13.259 | 218,407 |
| CASH | SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137) (20897 SEG) | 22,290.05 | 10.284 | 229,231 | 10.796 | 240,643 |
| Total Fixed Income | | | | | | \$774,629 |
| Total Account Holdings | | | | \$787,325 | \$774,629 | |

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 | | | | | | |
| Apr. 01, 2020 | CASH | DIVIDEND | PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 03/31/20 @ \$13.0292 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.873 BOOK VALUE \$793.12 | 60 | | |
| Apr. 15, 2020 | CASH | SELL | MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.278 SOLICITED | -218 | 9.9778 | 2,177.93 |
| Apr. 20, 2020 | CASH | DIVIDEND | MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) | 31 | | |

Monthly Activity - continued

| Date | Type | Activity | Description | Quantity | Price | Credit/Debit(-) |
|---------------|------|----------|--|----------|-------|-----------------|
| | | | REINVEST 04/17/20 @ \$10.0029 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.634 BOOK VALUE \$316.43 | | | |
| Apr. 21, 2020 | CASH | FEE | MPP MANAGED PORTFOLIOS GST/HST 86817 6249 RT0001 QST/TVQ 1019148099 TQ0001 TID#0110F000062018 TID#0110F000062018 | | | -2,177.93 |
| Apr. 27, 2020 | CASH | DIVIDEND | MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) REINVEST 04/24/20 @ \$11.9066 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.128 BOOK VALUE \$406.35 | 34 | | |

Closing Cash Balance

\$0.00

Trades to Settle After Month-End Reporting Date

| Date | Type | Activity | Description | Quantity | Price | Credit/Debit(-) |
|---------------|------|----------|---|----------|--------|-----------------|
| May. 01, 2020 | CASH | BUY | PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) | 1,132 | 13.246 | -15,000.00 |
| May. 01, 2020 | CASH | SELL | SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137) | -1,393 | 10.761 | 15,000.00 |

Summary

Income Summary

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

A Note From ScotiaMcLeod

ScotiaMcLeod Statement Changes

Starting summer 2020, your account statement(s) will display the following changes (if applicable):

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020 **Item** 7.1 (p)
Report Date: June 4, 2020
Submitted by: Sharon Nethercott, Melissa Levi

Subject: Conservation Education Progress Report

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 2, 2020 on the Conservation Education Progress Report.

Strategic Objectives(s):

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

Virtual Field Trips

In response to school closures SCRCA Education Staff have developed Virtual Field Trips for Elementary and Secondary students in our watershed. SCRCA Education tackled this project aiming to achieve the following goals.

- We hope to be of service to teachers, student and families during this time of online learning.
- We strive to increase our watershed community's connection to Conservation and the environment.
- We aim to maintain, strengthen and grow our relationships with watersheds schools, teachers and students.

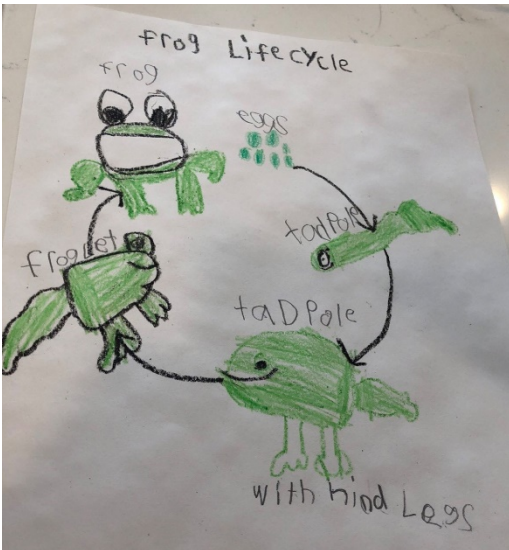
We believe we have met and exceeded these goals.

Assisting Teachers and Students with Online Learning:

We have been overwhelmed by the success of these learning tools. While it is difficult to track exact statistics for online usage, we can confirm Virtual Field Trips have been viewed at least 7,500 times to date! Teachers from across the Province have built our local program into their on-line student learning plans! SCRCA Virtual Field trips are being used by teachers from the following School Boards: Lambton-Kent, St. Clair Catholic, Peel Region Catholic and Public boards, Toronto, Avon-Maitland, Niagara, Halton, Sudbury, Simcoe, Thunder Bay, Peterborough and Edmonton, AB! People have also viewed the links from the United States, Columbia, Kenya, Korea, Mauritius, Sweden and New Zealand!

Increasing Connections to Conservation and the Environment:

SCRCA Virtual Field Trips inspire students and families to visit their local wetland, green space, or even their backyards to discover the tremendous diversity of life in these very important habitats! We have received wonderful feedback from teachers sharing their student's outdoor adventures following our Virtual Field Trip lessons. Creating a spark of environmental enthusiasm will assist students and their parents in making responsible environmental decisions in the future.



Students are given activities to complete at the end of each field trip to further reinforce the concepts covered during the presentations (Left – the life cycle of a frog, Right – a homemade robin's nest).

Strengthening Communication with Teachers:

The expansion of SCRCA Conservation Education's on-line presence has resulted in improved communication and program promotion now and into the future. As teachers learn of the Virtual Field Trips and subscribe to our mailing list, we have been able to increase the number of teacher contacts in the SCRCA watershed. We are now able to build relationships with these new teachers using the success of the Virtual Field Trips to encourage them to participate in our outdoor programs once field trips resume!

More Teacher Feedback – Virtual Pond Field Trips:

"I just wanted to reach out and thank you for the amazing virtual field trips, they are SO well done! I will be passing it on to all of the teachers and parents I know! Thank you for helping us support students at home and keep them engaged with the environment."

- Jane, Halton District School Board

“I just want to say thank you for taking the time to put these together. I know it is a lot of work. But it is much appreciated by students and teachers! These were a gift when I saw them the other day!”

- Nancy, Simcoe County District School Board

“You guys are geniuses and I hope you get a raise! Is there somewhere I can nominate you for an award?”

- Melissa, Lambton-Kent District School Board

“Thank you very much! I had not heard of the virtual field trip. I just watched the Gr. 1 one and loved it. I can certainly incorporate that into Seesaw. I will let my colleagues know about it!”

- Sara, Lambton-Kent District School Board

“Thank you for your email! This is AMAZING! How exciting is this. I will share with our staff as well.”

- Zoe, St. Clair Catholic District School Board

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 3, 2020
Submitted by: Donna Blue

Item 7.1 (q)

Subject: St. Clair River Area of Concern Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 3, 2020 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

Strategic Objective(s):

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

St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) Governance:

Since 2011, the SCRCA has been granted funding to support the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) Governance project, which supports a full-time Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Coordinator and associated costs (e.g., communications, meeting expenses). Funding for the project has been shared between Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). The Governance project and RAP Coordinator position have been instrumental in advancing the St. Clair River towards removal from the list of Great Lakes AOCs.

An application was submitted to ECCC through the Great Lakes Protection Initiative (GLPI) funding program in March to support the Governance project and RAP Coordinator position for an additional two years (2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years). Unfortunately, due to limited funds, the SCRCA application was denied. Staff are working with ECCC and MECP representatives to develop a solution that will ensure the continuation of this program in the future.

Meetings and Events

Meetings:

Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR)

- June 8, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

- June 25, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 4, 2020
Submitted by: Donna Blue

Item 7.1 (r)

Subject: 2020 Scholarship Program

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledge the 2020 Scholarship Program report dated June 4, 2020.

SCRCA Scholarship Program 2020:

Every year, four scholarships are available to graduating high school students who are pursuing post-secondary studies in an environmental field (e.g., biology, ecology, agriculture, etc.). Eligible students must live in or attend a secondary school within the SCRCA boundary.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting closure of secondary schools throughout the watershed, scholarship packages were unable to be delivered directly to local high schools. Promotion of scholarships has primarily been through SCRCA social media outlets and through the Lambton Kent and Thames Valley District School Boards. A media release was issued on April 15th and published in a number of local newspapers.

The applications are scored based on marks; interest and activities as they relate to conservation and the environment; future studies as they relate to conservation and the environment; reference letter(s); and other comments offered by the applicant.

Applications for the 2020 SCRCA scholarships were due on May 31, 2020. In total, 4 applications were received, however, one applicant was deemed ineligible due to living and attending a school outside the jurisdiction of the SCRCA. The applications were reviewed by a committee established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation consisting of Norm Giffen, Archie Kerr, Brian McDougall and Donna Blue. The Foundation Board of Directors approved the recommended scholarship recipients at their meeting on June 4, 2020.

The following awards will be presented in the coming weeks.

A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship (\$1000):

- Brady Grubb, Lambton Kent Composite School, Dresden, Ontario

Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship (\$500):

- Trevor McBrayne, Lambton Kent Composite School, Dresden, Ontario

Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship (\$500):

- Gracie Goodhill, North Lambton Secondary School, Forest, Ontario

Meeting Date: June 25, 2020 **Item 8.1**
Report Date: June 6, 2020
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Subject: Highland Glen Boat Ramp Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Director's approves proceeding with the tender process for an engineered study at Highland Glen that investigates options for infrastructure repair and erosion control and repair with costs to be deferred to 2021 general levy and that the Board of Director's is prepared to financially support repairs and upgrades to the Highland Glen boat ramp through future general levy.

Background:

In late November of 2019, damage occurred to the boat ramp seawall protection. The steel sheet pile on the original groyne at the west side was removed by wave action. In addition to the groyne damage, considerable erosion is occurring on both the east and west side of the ramp protection structures. On the east, the erosion is moving closer to the parking lot and within the protection, erosion has exposed the steel sheet wall side of the ramp.

Due to safety concerns, the ramp has been closed for the 2020 season. Concrete blocks have been placed at the top of the ramp.

Ongoing Maintenance to Maintain Ramp Closure

In early March, two concrete blocks were placed at the entrance to the boat ramp and "closed for 2020" signs were placed at the property entrance and top of the ramp. Since installation contractors have been required twice to re-secure the road block at the ramp.

1. March 27, 2020 – One block was dragged far enough to allow access to the ramp. Contractor returned with equipment to move back in place.
2. May 28, 2020 – Reports were received that the blocks had been moved and boats were launching. Contractor returned and added two additional blocks, placed them tightly together, moved blocks onto ramp slope, and secured the blocks together.

Costs to block ramp use have been:

- Initial block placement - \$860 +hst
- March 28 repositioning - \$255 + hst

- May 28 additional blocks – estimated \$1000 - \$1500



Original Block Positioning



May 28, 2020

Requests for Engineering Study Quotes

RIGGS Engineering provided an initial estimate on March 31, 2020 that included an inspection of the existing structure, a coastal assessment, a topographical survey, and plans and specifications for repairs. The cost of this work was estimated at \$14,260 plus hst.

A more in-depth study is desired to address additional concerns at Highland Glen. Erosion concerns should be addressed before investing in repairs. Erosion has started to encroach on the parking lot and is flanking the existing structure on both sides. With high water, the rate of erosion has increased. The existing walkways are in need of repair due to damage from high water in 2019. Sediment has accumulated inside the existing structure since the failure of the west groyne.

At the time of this report, one quote has been received for the expanded scope of work. The cost of the study is \$40,500 plus hst. To move forward with a study that exceeds \$25,000, a tender process will be required. This estimate follows this report.

Financial Impact:

The Highland Glen Conservation Area reserve at the end of 2019 totalled \$11,619.25 (unaudited). The cost of the desired study is estimated at \$40,000 based on one quote received. An additional \$20,000 - \$30,000 will be required to complete this study, dependent on the tendered cost.

Highland Glen is designated a “regional” property by the SCRCA Board of Directors. Costs for regional properties are paid by all member municipalities through a non-matching general levy.

With the 2020 budget approved, staff could investigate opportunities to proceed with the study and defer the costs to the 2021 budget.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 1, 2020
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol

Item 9.1

Subject: SCRCA comments on the Ontario Government Response Statement for the Spiny Softshell

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors endorse the comments from staff on the Ontario Government Response Statement for the Spiny Softshell

Background:

The Ontario Government is proposing the development of government response statements for the Spiny Softshell turtle. These statements outline the actions the government is taking and supports to protect the Spiny Softshell turtle.

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

SCRCA fully endorses the Ontario government's Recovery Goal for the Spiny Softshell of supporting the long-term viability of existing local populations and, where biologically and technically feasible, supporting the increase in the distribution and abundance of the species by managing and restoring the species' habitat, improving habitat connectivity between local populations, reducing threats, and improving recruitment.

As a Conservation Authority located in the heart of known Spiny Softshell habitat in Southwestern Ontario (the Sydenham River Watershed), SCRCA is well-suited to assist the Ontario Government in achieving the Recovery Actions for the Spiny Softshell. Should funding become available, SCRCA is more than willing to assist in the following aspects of Spiny Softshell recovery in Ontario:

Management Actions

1. (High) SCRCA is keen to work collaboratively with landowners, land managers, stakeholders, partners, and Indigenous communities and organizations, to develop and implement techniques and best management practices (BMP) to reduce threats to the species and their habitat. Working collaboratively, SCRCA would promote and implement where possible:

- a. alternatives to traditional development, such as using natural forms of shoreline stabilization rather than hardening shorelines with “rip-rap” or stone walls, where appropriate and feasible;
- b. mitigation techniques to address new road construction and road mortality, including constructing turtle eco-passages (e.g., fencing and tunnels), identifying and addressing existing road mortality hotspots, and using alternatives to traditional roadway construction techniques in sensitive habitats where possible (e.g., bridges over wetlands), where appropriate and feasible;
- c. stewardship activities to reduce disturbance to the species and their habitat (e.g., targeted signage to address local threats);
- d. encouraging and implementing techniques to reduce fishing by-catch;
- e. controlling invasive species in areas where they pose a direct threat to Spiny Softshell; and,
- f. working with local municipalities, conservation authorities and other relevant agencies to implement water management plans that minimize impacts to the species and its habitat, particularly with respect to flooding of nesting habitat during the nesting and incubation period and water drawdowns during the hibernation period.

2. SCRCA is keen to support and work with local landowners, land managers, stakeholders, organizations, government agencies, and Indigenous communities and organizations to develop and implement coordinated habitat management plans to increase habitat suitability and connectivity, and create, enhance and restore habitat at priority sites.

- SCRCA has strong working relationships with Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre that have boosted the local head-starting program for Spiny Softshell in Southwestern Ontario.

3. SCRCA is keen to implement, evaluate, adapt and improve techniques to reduce nest predation and improve recruitment, including methods such as nest caging and head-starting in areas where these activities are deemed necessary and appropriate (i.e., recruitment is believed to be insufficient to maintain viable populations).

- SCRCA has over 3 years of experience implementing nest caging and head-starting methods to reduce nest predation and improve recruitment in the Sydenham River Watershed.
- In 2018 alone, SCRCA released 282 Spiny Softshell hatchlings to their respective nest locations.

4. SCRCA is keen to work with local landowners, municipalities and community partners to strategically secure Spiny Softshell habitat and encourage long-term protection

through existing land securement and stewardship programs and/or land securement agencies, including land that would support improved habitat connectivity.

- SCRCA has worked with local landowners and stewardship groups in our watershed for over 20 years, implementing over 615 stewardship projects that benefit many SAR species, including Spiny Softshell. Many of these stewardship projects have been supported by the Ontario Species at Risk Stewardship Program (2008-2018).

5. SCRCA is also keen to support and work collaboratively with relevant government, law enforcement agencies and other partners to develop and implement coordinated strategies to address the threat of illegal collection.

Research and Monitoring

6. (High) Where necessary and/or possible, SCRCA is keen to work collaboratively with local landowners, land managers, industry stakeholders, organizations, government agencies, partners and Indigenous communities and organizations to develop and implement a standardized survey and monitoring programs that include:

- a. monitoring distribution and abundance of the species at representative sites across its range in Ontario to identify and track changes in population abundance over time;
- b. assessing species' presence at sites lacking recent observations (including historical sites and extirpated sites where suitable habitat remains) and refining knowledge of the local and regional distribution of Spiny Softshell in Ontario;
- c. monitoring emerging and existing threats to the species; and, encouraging participation in citizen science data collection programs (e.g., iNaturalist).

7. (High) SCRCA is keen to support research to evaluate the effectiveness of threat mitigation techniques, recovery approaches and best management practices, including:

- a. techniques to mitigate impacts of activities, such as shoreline
- b. development and dam construction and operation, on nesting sites;
- c. approaches for habitat creation, restoration and improvement;
- d. techniques for salvage and translocation; and,
- e. techniques for improving recruitment (e.g., nest protection and incubation, head-starting, predator exclusion).

8. Investigate and monitor the severity and potential impacts of threats to local populations such as invasive species, human-subsidized predators, fishing by-catch, illegal collection, pollution and climate change.

9. SCRCA supports future research on species' biology, ecology, habitat use and genetics where knowledge gaps persist, such as:

- a. minimum habitat and population requirements to ensure local population viability (e.g., suitable habitat size, number of mature individuals);
- b. habitat needs and use for various life stages (e.g., nesting, feeding, hibernating);

- c. population genetics and demographics across the species' range; and,
- d. effects of changes in precipitation, water levels, and extreme weather on local habitat availability and individual survival (e.g., flooding of nests along shorelines).

10. As appropriate, SCRCA encourages the recording, sharing and transfer of Traditional Ecological Knowledge on Spiny Softshell, where it has been shared by communities, to increase knowledge of the species and support future recovery efforts.

Awareness and Stewardship

11. SCRCA is keen to promote public awareness of Spiny Softshell, including its status and protection under the ESA, and engage the public in Spiny Softshell stewardship. This may include:

- a. developing interactive social media and social marketing campaigns to promote Spiny Softshell stewardship and reduce threats such as accidental mortality and illegal collection. Coordinate with other species at risk turtle initiatives where appropriate;
- b. working collaboratively with land owners, land managers, municipalities, the public, and other stakeholders to increase their awareness of Spiny Softshell and how to reduce impacts to the species; and,
- c. educating the public on what to do if they encounter an injured turtle or a nest in a high-risk area.

SCRCA supports the recovery of the Spiny Softshell in the Sydenham River Watershed and beyond. We are keen to assist where we are able and implement as many of the recovery actions as feasible.

Strategic Objectives(s):

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

Supporting the Ontario Government Response Statements concerning the Spiny Softshell turtle will help protect the Sydenham River Watershed.

Financial Impact:

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

Over the five year period from 2013-2017 the Species at Risk Stewardship Fund provided over \$315,000 to SCRCA to implement a variety of stewardship projects such

as tree planting, wetland creation, and turtle nesting habitat enhancement. The Fund has also support a variety of outdoor education learning opportunities.

Additional support to the Authority is provided through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk. This Fund supports biological monitoring of species at risk and the implementation of stewardship projects in the Sydenham River Watershed in an effort to contribute directly to the recovery objectives and population goals of species at risk listed on Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act (SARA). We are entering the 2nd year of a four-year grant, totalling \$1.1 million.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020 **Item 9.2**
Report Date: June 1, 2020
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol
Subject: SCRCA comments on Ontario Government Response
Statements for eight species at risk

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors endorse the comments from staff on the Ontario Government Response Statements for the Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tri-colored Bat, and the White Wood Aster

Background:

The Ontario Government is proposing the development of government response statements for the Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tri-colored Bat, and the White Wood Aster. These statements outline the actions the government is taking and supports to protect these species.

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

SCRCA fully endorses the Ontario government's Recovery Goals for the species found in our watershed and those that are not (White Wood Aster). SCRCA supports the long-term viability of existing local populations and, where biologically and technically feasible, supporting the increase in the distribution and abundance of the species by managing and restoring the species' habitat, improving habitat connectivity between local populations, reducing threats, and improving recruitment. Additionally, we support

the filling knowledge gaps related to each of the listed species concerning their biology, habitat requirements, and the presence and severity of threats.

As a Conservation Authority located in Southwestern Ontario within the Sydenham River Watershed, SCRCA is well suited to assist the Ontario Government in achieving the Recovery Actions for the Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and the Tri-colored Bat. The Sydenham River Watershed is one of Canada's most biodiverse regions, with many local aquatic and terrestrial SAR. Implementing actions that benefit the listed SAR will further enhance the ecosystem for other local SAR and/or not-at-risk species. Should funding become available, SCRCA is more than willing to assist in the following aspects of Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and the Tri-colored Bat recovery in Ontario.

Management Actions

1. (High) SCRCA is keen to work collaboratively with landowners, land managers, stakeholders, partners, and Indigenous communities and organizations, to develop and implement techniques and best management practices (BMP) to reduce threats to the species and their habitat. Working collaboratively, SCRCA would promote and implement where possible:
 - a. alternatives to traditional development, where appropriate and feasible;
 - b. mitigation techniques to address new road construction and road mortality, identifying and addressing existing road mortality hotspots, and using alternatives to traditional roadway construction techniques in sensitive habitats where possible (e.g., bridges over wetlands), where appropriate and feasible;
 - c. stewardship activities to reduce disturbance to the species and their habitat (e.g., targeted signage to address local threats);
 - d. encouraging and implementing techniques to reduce fishing by-catch;
 - e. controlling invasive species in areas where they pose a direct threat to each species;
 - f. maintaining or enhancing habitat for **Eastern Whip-poor-will** and other aerial insectivores and their insect prey at both local and landscape levels;
 - g. promoting the implementation of policies and programs that promote beneficial insects and reduce light pollution and the pollutants that contribute to climate change; and,
 - h. working with local municipalities, conservation authorities and other relevant agencies to implement water management plans that minimize impacts to the species and its habitat.
2. SCRCA is keen to support and work with local landowners, land managers, stakeholders, organizations, government agencies, and Indigenous communities and organizations to develop and implement coordinated habitat management plans to increase habitat suitability and connectivity, and create, enhance and restore habitat at priority sites.

- a. SCRCA has strong working relationships with Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre that have boosted the local head-starting program for local at risk turtle species in Southwestern Ontario.
3. SCRCA is keen to implement, evaluate, adapt and improve techniques to reduce **Blanding's turtle, Spotted Turtle**, and other SAR turtle nest predation and improve recruitment, including methods such as nest caging and head-starting in areas where these activities are deemed necessary and appropriate (i.e., recruitment is believed to be insufficient to maintain viable populations).
4. (High) SCRCA is keen to work collectively with industry (e.g., mining, aggregates, forestry, problem/nuisance wildlife removal, agriculture, wind power) develop, implement, evaluate and promote best management practices to minimize the impacts of industry activities and operations on **Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis and Tri-colored Bat** and their habitat.
5. (High) SCRCA is keen to work collaboratively with Walpole Island First Nation, landowners, land managers, and researchers to develop, implement and evaluate management plans and best management practices to maintain or improve the quality of **Northern Bobwhite** habitat and viability of populations at existing sites.
6. SCRCA is keen to work with local landowners, municipalities and community partners to strategically secure SAR habitat and encourage long-term protection through existing land securement and stewardship programs and/or land securement agencies, including land that would support improved habitat connectivity.
 - SCRCA has worked with local landowners and stewardship groups in our watershed for over 20 years, implementing over 615 stewardship projects that benefit many SAR species. Ontario Species at Risk Stewardship Program (2008-2018) funded many of these stewardship projects.
7. SCRCA is also keen to support and work collaboratively with relevant government, law enforcement agencies and other partners to develop and implement coordinated strategies to address the threat of illegal collection.

Research and Monitoring

8. (High) Where necessary and/or possible, SCRCA is keen to work collaboratively with local landowners, land managers, industry stakeholders, organizations, government agencies, partners and Indigenous communities and organizations to develop and implement a standardized survey and monitoring programs for Blanding's Turtle, Spotted Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and Tri-colored Bat that include:
 - a. monitoring distribution and abundance of the species at representative sites across its range in Ontario to identify and track changes in population abundance over time;
 - b. assessing species' presence at sites lacking recent observations (including historical sites and extirpated sites where suitable habitat

- remains) and refining knowledge of the local and regional distribution of these listed species at risk in Ontario; and,
- c. monitoring emerging and existing threats to the species; and, encouraging participation in citizen science data collection programs (e.g., iNaturalist).
9. (High) SCRCA is keen to support research to evaluate the effectiveness of threat mitigation techniques, recovery approaches and best management practices, including:
- a. techniques to mitigate impacts of activities;
 - b. approaches for habitat creation, restoration and improvement;
 - c. techniques for salvage and translocation; and,
 - d. techniques for improving recruitment (e.g., nest protection and incubation, head-starting, predator exclusion).
10. SCRCA will support investigations into and will continue to monitor the severity and potential impacts of threats to local populations such as invasive species, human-subsidized predators, fishing by-catch, illegal collection, pollution and climate change.
11. SCRCA supports future research on species' biology, ecology, habitat use and genetics where knowledge gaps persist, such as:
- a. minimum habitat and population requirements to ensure local population viability (e.g., suitable habitat size, number of mature individuals);
 - b. habitat needs and use for various life stages (e.g., nesting, feeding, hibernating);
 - c. population genetics and demographics across the species' range;
 - d. investigate the need for and feasibility of augmentation or reintroduction of Northern Bobwhite populations,
 - e. further refine understanding of the Eastern Whip-poor-will's ecology and habitat characteristics; and,
 - f. effects of changes in precipitation, water levels, and extreme weather on local habitat availability and individual survival (e.g., flooding of nests along shorelines).
12. As appropriate, SCRCA encourages the recording, sharing and transfer of Traditional Ecological Knowledge on these species at risk, where it has been shared by communities, to increase knowledge of the species and support future recovery efforts.

Awareness and Stewardship

13. SCRCA is keen to promote public awareness of local species at risk, including their status and protection under the ESA, and engage the public in stewardship education and implementation. This may include:
- a. developing interactive social media and social marketing campaigns to promote species at risk stewardship and reduce threats;
 - b. coordinate with other species at risk initiatives, where appropriate;

- c. working collaboratively with land owners, land managers, municipalities, the public, and other stakeholders to increase their awareness of local species at risk and how to reduce impacts to the species; and,
- d. educating the public on what to do if they encounter an injured individual.

SCRCA supports the recovery of the Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Turtle, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tri-colored Bat, and White Wood Aster in the Sydenham River Watershed and beyond. We are keen to assist where we are able and implement as many of the recovery actions as feasible.

Strategic Objectives(s):

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

Supporting the Ontario Government Response Statements concerning these eight species at risk will help protect the Sydenham River Watershed.

Financial Impact:

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

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

Additional support to the Authority is provided through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk. This Fund supports biological monitoring of species at risk and the implementation of stewardship projects in the Sydenham River Watershed in an effort to contribute directly to the recovery objectives and population goals of species at risk listed on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). We are entering the 2nd year of a four-year grant, totalling \$1.1 million.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020 **Item 10.1**
Report Date: June 8, 2020
Submitted by: Michelle Gallant, Regulations Officer

Subject: Violations Report

Name(s): [REDACTED]

Location of Properties: [REDACTED]

Geographic Township of Moore
St. Clair Township;

Subject: Development proceeded in A Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) involving the interference with 390, 669.5 square meters of PSW and PSW adjacent land (buffer) in the form of clearing, excavation and site grading of lands; and Fill, excavation and site grading at the shoreline of St. Clair River

Background:

The Conservation Authorities Act falls under the umbrella of the Provincial Offences Act.

Current Procedure

When a violation of the Conservation Authorities Act is brought to the attention of staff, we attempt to work with the landowner to remediate the violating works. If staff are unable, or the proponent is unwilling, staff may proceed to lay charges under the Provincial Offences Act if warranted and enough evidence is collected to defend the charge.

If the landowner proceeds to correct the violation, before the case appears in court, SCRCA staff will have the charges withdrawn in order to limit legal fees. Often, SCRCA staff will request an adjournment if we reasonably believe the landowner will correct and or restore the area and/or apply with a complete application for a Board Hearing.

The Authority does not have the ability to obtain costs under Provincial Offences legislation. Any and all legal costs incurred during court proceedings are the responsibility of each party, regardless of the outcome. As such, it has been the practice of the Authority to only proceed to court in those situations where the landowner is not willing to work with the Authority to correct the violation.

Legislation:

In 2006, the *Conservation Authorities Act* was amended as part of the Red Tape Reduction Initiative and regulations implemented pursuant to Section 28 of the *Act*. These regulations are entitled “Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses” With the approval of O.R. 171/06, Conservation Authorities are responsible for issuing development approvals in regulated areas, including shoreline areas and wetlands. If works proceed without the written permission of the Authority, and the landowner is unwilling to work with SCRCA staff toward a resolution, SCRCA staff have 2 years from the time the violation came to the attention of the Authority to proceed to Provincial Offences Court to remedy the violation. **Please note: at this time a suspension order has been made under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act that suspends all “limitation periods” for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency (O. Reg. 73/20) until these proceedings are being held again.**

Conservation Authorities Act (relevant subsections under section 28):

Offence: contravening regulation

(16) Every person who contravenes a regulation made under subsection (1) or the terms and conditions of a permission of an authority in a regulation made under clause (1) (b) or (c) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$10,000 or to a term of imprisonment of not more than three months. 1998, c. 18, Sched. I, s. 12; 2010, c. 16, Sched. 10, s. 1 (2).

Limitation for proceeding

(16.1) A proceeding with respect to an offence under subsection (16) shall not be commenced more than two years from the earliest of the day on which evidence of the offence is discovered or first comes to the attention of officers appointed under clause (1) (d) or persons appointed under clause (1) (e). 2010, c. 16, Sched. 10, s. 1 (3).

Orders

(17) In addition to any other remedy or penalty provided by law, the court, upon making a conviction under subsection (16), may order the person convicted to,

- (a) remove, at that person’s expense, any development within such reasonable time as the court orders; and
- (b) rehabilitate any watercourse or wetland in the manner and within the time the court orders. 1998, c. 18, Sched. I, s. 12

Non-compliance with order

(18) If a person does not comply with an order made under subsection (17), the authority having jurisdiction may, in the case of a development, have it removed and, in the case of a watercourse or wetland, have it rehabilitated. 1998, c. 18, Sched. I, s. 12.

Liability for certain costs

(19) The person convicted is liable for the cost of a removal or rehabilitation under subsection (18) and the amount is recoverable by the authority by action in a court of competent jurisdiction. 1998, c. 18, Sched. I, s. 12.

Definitions

(25) In this section,
“development” means,

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

“wetland” means land that,

- (a) is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has a water table close to or at its surface,
 - (b) directly contributes to the hydrological function of a watershed through connection with a surface watercourse,
 - (c) has hydric soils, the formation of which has been caused by the presence of abundant water, and
 - (d) has vegetation dominated by hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants, the dominance of which has been favoured by the presence of abundant water,
- but does not include periodically soaked or wet land that is used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits a wetland characteristic referred to in clause (c) or (d). (“terre marécageuse”) 1998, c. 18, Sched. I, s. 12.

O.R. 171/06 – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shoreline and Watercourses (relevant sections):

Development prohibited

2. (1) Subject to section 3, no person shall undertake development or permit another person to undertake development in or on the areas within the jurisdiction of the Authority that are,

- (a) adjacent or close to the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or to inland lakes that may be affected by flooding, erosion or dynamic beaches, including the area from the furthest offshore extent of the Authority’s boundary to the furthest landward extent of the aggregate of the distance in subclause (i) or (ii), as applicable, and the distances referred to in the subclauses (iii), (iv) and (v),
 - (i) for Lake Huron, the 100 year flood level, plus the appropriate allowance for wave uprush found in the most recent document entitled “Lake Huron Shoreline Management Plan” available at the head office of the Authority,
 - (ii) for Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River, the 100 year flood level plus the appropriate allowance for wave uprush found in the most recent document entitled “Great Lakes System Flood Levels and Water Related Hazards” available at the head office of the Authority,
- (b) river or stream valleys that have depressional features associated with a river or stream, whether or not they contain a watercourse, the limits of which are determined in accordance with the following rules:
 - (ii) where the river or stream valley is apparent and has unstable slopes, the valley extends from the predicted long term stable slope projected from the existing stable slope or, if the toe of the slope is unstable, from the predicted location of

- the toe of the slope as a result of stream erosion over a projected 100 year period, plus 15 metres, to a similar point on the opposite side,
- (d) wetlands;

Alterations prohibited

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

Permission to develop

3. (1) The Authority may grant permission for development in or on the areas described in subsection 2 (1) if, in its opinion, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land will not be affected by the development. O. Reg. 171/06, s. 3 (1)."

To summarize the above, the Authority may grant permission for a development to occur within a Regulated Area, if in the opinion of the Authority, the application meets SCRCA Policies and Regulations. If the Applicant refuses to apply for permission and or provide an application to be considered under a Board Hearing, SCRCA staff have the option with Board Approval to proceed to Provincial Offences Court to seek remediation.

File Summary:

FV-2018-021 Tim Payne, SCRCA staff and County Woodlands Conservation By-law Officer contacted Regulations staff regarding tree removal in a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) on July 18, 2018. Various conversations regarding the works continued until it was agreed that a site visit should occur to determine if the works would be considered an alteration to the hydrology of a wetland. A site visit on December 19, 2018 confirmed that works had commenced that would not be permitted, but stated that if no further works continued and the area of the removal be left to regenerate on this and other areas of removal that staff would not proceed any further with this file. It was also discussed that works may commence in the buffer lands, but a follow up visit during spring conditions would be appropriate to delineate the wetland. It was requested that we do a site visit the following spring to confirm the areas had been allowed to regenerate and to delineate the wetland within the 120 m. buffer lands. Subsequent requests for a site visit were ignored.

R#2020-0209 The SCRCA General mailbox received an anonymous call regarding concrete being dumped into the St. Clair River from a construction site near Seager Park. SCRCA Staff review including Google Earth determined this fill was ongoing since 2015 and represented significant fill and land reclamation by the continual dumping of debris directly into and adjacent to St. Clair river.

A notice of violation was sent by email regarding the alteration to the St. Clair river on May 5, 2020. On the same day, SCRCA staff received a phone call from Mr. MacPherson stating that the shoreline works continued because of an erosion issue that SCRCA created and he is fixing at his own expense. He made it clear that he intends to

farm the cleared areas within the PSW and adjacent lands when asked about that file. He followed up on that call with an email on May 8, 2020 stating that he would pay for a permit if it is a reasonable cost. SCRCA staff responded that SCRCA policies require engineering for shoreline erosion control structures and a SCRCA Permit could not be issued for either file after the fact unless the fill is removed and an engineered solution is provided for SCRCA review for File R#2020-0209. For File FV 2018-021, no alteration to a PSW that affects the hydrology of the wetland can be permitted under Ontario Regulation 171/06 Section 5 pursuant to the Conservation Authorities Act.

Recommendation:

Both files do not meet SCRCA Regulations and Policy. The landowner refuses to restore or remediate. SCRCA staff can not issue a Permit at his request. SCRCA staff is requesting to move forward and consult with legal representation, review evidence and obtain recommendations before returning to the Board in September and plotting a course forward that could conclude with charges under the Provincial Offences Act. If during this process, the landowner chooses to work with the Authority, SCRCA staff can withdraw the charges and work towards a resolution.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2020
Report Date: June 5, 2020
Submitted by: Tracy Prince

Item 11.1

Subject: Emergency Work at Home Policy

Recommendation:

That the Board approves the Emergency Work at Home Policy to be added to the Administrative Policy Manual.

Background:

Due to COVID-19, emergency Provincial directions were given for employees to work at home where possible. On March 18, 2020, we deployed employees to work from home on a temporary basis. To address these situations in the future, we have created an Emergency Work at Home Policy to be added to our Administrative Policy Manual.

1.0 PURPOSE STATEMENT

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority acknowledges that it may be necessary for employees to work from home in emergency situations. The SCRCA also acknowledges that working from home is not a universal privilege and may not be available at all times to all employees. This policy outlines the expectations of employees working from home.

2.0 GENERAL

This policy does not alter or replace the terms of an existing employment contract. Employees must comply with all company rules, policies, practices, and instructions that would apply if the employee were working at the regular worksite. Requests to work extra hours or use vacation/banked time must be approved by the employee's supervisor as per current practices. SDO will not be allowed to be accumulated as the purpose of SDO is to accumulate time for appointments. With the ability to work from home it alleviates the need to leave work locations and provides flexibility to attend appointments.

Employees will be eligible to apply for WSIB for job-related injuries that occur in the course and scope of employment while working from home, provided the injury occurs in the immediate work area. The employee is required to ensure that the immediate work area is free from hazards, and that they ensure that their work area meets ergonomic standards as well as they follow all ergonomic standards. The employee remains liable for injuries to third parties that occur on the employee's premises.

An employee's request for a work-at-home agreement does not make the employee eligible for any form of subsidy or issuance of a T2200 as working from home is not a requirement of the role.

At the end of a work at home agreement, employees must promptly return all company property used for working at home including work files and devices.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

Employees must have completed their probationary period to be eligible for work at home arrangements except in the case of special circumstances as approved by the CAO.

4.0 GUIDELINES

SECURITY/CONFIDENTIALITY

- Employees are required to ensure that electronic files and paper documents are transferred and stored in a manner that ensures protection from loss and protection of privacy (MFIPPA)
- Employees are required to protect SCRCA equipment, records, and materials from unauthorized or accidental access, use, modification, destruction, or disclosure. These precautions apply regardless of the storage media on which information is maintained, the locations where the information is stored, the systems used to process the information, or the process by which the information is stored.
- Employees are required to store any electronic SCRCA documents or other information on an SCRCA device or in a secure SCRCA drop box/OneDrive and/or flash drive to ensure the security of information in line with SCRCA policies.

- Employees are required to ensure the confidentiality and/or security of information is maintained in accordance with SCRCA policies.
 - Employees are required report to their supervisor any incidents of loss, damage, or unauthorized access as soon as becoming aware of such incidents.
- All equipment, files or other SCRCA property that is removed from the office will be documented upon removal as well as upon return

HOURS OF WORK/AVAILABILITY/COMMUNICATION

- Employees are required to maintain regular communication with their supervisor and or colleagues as necessary to perform their duties.
- Employees must have access to email and phone and be available to respond to requests in a timely manner.
- Employees must either make use of a digital forwarded phone system (if available) or update their voicemail message with appropriate contact information.

PRODUCTIVITY/EXPECTATIONS

- Employees working from home will be required to abide by the same SCRCA policies and practices including work hours.
- Employees will work with their supervisors to ensure workplans and key performance indicators are up to date and able to be enacted during a work-at-home arrangement
 - In the event, work expectations are not able to be met through work-at-home agreements at the discretion of the supervisor, the employee will be required to revert to traditional office work arrangements.

EXPENSES/RESOURCES

- Employees must have appropriate access to internet, as required in performing their roles.
 - Employees will not be reimbursed for internet expenses.
- Employees are responsible for all workspace set-up and will not be reimbursed for home office materials.
- Every effort will be made to provide employees with an SCRCA laptop to facilitate working from home; if an SCRCA laptop is not available or practical, employees may use home computers adhering to the security/confidentiality provisions of the SCRCA.
 - Employees will not be reimbursed for the purchase of personal computers.
- Every effort will be made to provide employees working from home with a digital phone service or a corporate cell phone. If an employee is required to use a personal device for work-related calls, they will not be reimbursed for long distance and/or overage charges without prior approval.
- Employees will be required to ensure distractions at home are minimal.

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Employees are required to maintain a safe, secure and ergonomically appropriate work environment.
- Employees will report any work-related injuries to their supervisor immediately as per the current incident reporting practice.

- Employees will ensure they take rest and meal breaks in compliance with will applicable regulations and employment legislation.
- Employees will be required to complete a workplace inspection at least quarterly for submission to the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee
 - The employee will receive the appropriate guidance from a member of the committee in how to complete workplace inspections.

Part the employer's obligation under the Occupational Health and Safety Act is to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances to protect employees.

5.0 EMERGENCY WORK-AT-HOME SITUATIONS

In the instance a situation occurs that requires an employee or group of employees to work-at-home at the direction of the SCRCA as the only alternate workplace, the guidelines of this policy will apply with the following exceptions:

- Expenses/Resources:
 - Incremental expenses that are incurred as a result of the employee working from home shall be eligible for reimbursement at the approval of the department director.
- Health & Safety:
 - Employees shall take every precaution to ensure a healthy and safe workstation and the SCRCA Work-At-Home health and safety questionnaire shall be completed by the employee within 1 week of working at home. In the event, the employee does not satisfy all the requirements of the questionnaire, the employer will work with the employee to develop an appropriate transition plan if the work at home arrangements will be in place for more than 2 weeks.
- Productivity/Expectations:
 - In emergency situations, employees will endeavour to maintain the same hours of work, however the employee may work with the supervisor to determine a mutually agreeable temporary flexed schedule.
 - Employees and supervisors will work together to make adjustments to work plans and key performance indicators where feasible to allow for meaningful, productive work.

It is understood that situations that cause emergency work-at-home provisions may have other impacts on employees, the SCRCA and/or other stakeholders. This policy allows for the SCRCA to reasonably adjust or suspend of any portion of this policy temporarily as it relates to the situation. Any temporary changes to this policy will be clearly communicated to staff. The SCRCA may terminate the agreement at any time with a minimum of one (1) week notice.

Meeting Date: June 25, 2020
Report Date: June 5, 2020
Submitted by: Tracy Prince

Item 11.2

Subject: COVID-19 – Expense and Revenue Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 5, 2020 regarding the effects of COVID-19 to May 31, 2020 on the 2020 Budget.

Background:

The current Pandemic COVID-19 has affected many businesses and communities. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) was able to move quickly to protect employees and reduce the risk of spread. Several measures we adopted immediately, thus reducing risk and potential liability included:

- closing to the public
- providing secured access and equipment for employees to be deployed to work from home

SCRCA was able to keep the parks and trails open through the early stages of the Pandemic with limited maintenance available on the trails, which provide communities with much needed outdoor space. Innovation came from our situation, in that our Education department was able to find ways to continue to engage schools and students that were not able to visit as groups.

As the pandemic continues to unfold with unknown outcomes and not knowing when the potential second wave will hit, we continue to monitor cost and revenues. The following steps have been taken to mitigate expenses:

- 1) Delayed hiring several seasonal staff for the campgrounds as they are not operating at capacity, and will not until further Provincial Direction is received, (approximately 25 staff)
- 2) Delayed filling of 2 key positions in Planning
- 3) Delayed filling of 1 RAP Coordinator position

Most of the savings from the salary gap dollars will be offset with losses in revenue and increased costs associated with health and safety supplies required to maintain a safe environment for employees who are currently rotating working in-office. In preparation of increasing employee presence in the office, considerations for increased disinfection and social distancing in small environments (shields, vehicle costs, supplies) may result in additional costs.

Financial Impact:

Levy, Fee & S39 Funded Departments, to May 31, 2020

Expense Reductions

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Planning | Salary Gapping | \$35,000 |
| | 10% CRA relief | 3,500 |
| Administration | 10% CRA relief | 6,800 |
| Water | 10% CRA relief | 3,000 |

Reductions in Revenue

| | |
|---|----------|
| Planning Fees compared to May 2019 | \$24,400 |
| Admin – Interest/Investment Income | 13,800 |
| Across Levy Departments Increase in Health and Safety directly related to COVID | 5,000 |

Net savings to May 2020 **\$5,100**

Also as a result of travel restrictions and closures of other businesses and industries cost have been reduced in these areas to date:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Travel Expenses | \$1,200 |
| Board Member Travel | \$500 |
| Training Expenses* | \$6,400 |
| (*including travel specific to training, contains mandatory training which may need completion) | |

As SCRCA begins summer field work, the cost of mileage will increase due to the need for social distancing.

The % of the Municipal General Levy of overall 2020 Budget is 12%.