



Board of Directors Annual Meeting

February 27, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Forest Legion, Forest, ON

Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Introduction of Guests
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
5. Minutes
6. 2019 Audited Financial Statements
7. Conservation Awards
8. Service Awards

2020 Business

10. Code of Conduct
11. Election of Officers
12. Nominating Committee
13. Authorization to Borrow
14. 2020 Appointments
15. Regular Business
 - 15.1 General Manager's Report
 - 15.2 Business Arising
 - 15.3 Conservation Area Updates
 - 15.4 Highland Glen
 - 15.5 Current Watershed Conditions and Water Levels
 - 15.6 Water and Erosion Control Projects
 - 15.7 Planning Activity Summary Report
 - 15.8 Regulations Activity Summary Report
 - 15.9 2020 Special Events
 - 15.10 Healthy Watersheds Status and Outreach Report
 - 15.11 Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Update
16. New Business
17. Adjournment

Lunch to follow

February 27, 2020

**St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
Annual General Meeting Proposed Resolutions**

- 3. Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting be adopted.
- 4.** It is requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.
- 5.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held December 12, 2019, be approved as distributed.
- 5.2 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held February 13, 2020, be approved as distributed.
- 6.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority accepts the recommendation of the Executive Committee and report from the Authority's auditors, MNP Chartered Professional Accountants LLP, and further approves the 2019 Audited Financial Statements.
- 7.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors congratulates the 2019 Conservation Award Winners and thanks them for their contributions to conservation.
- 8.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the service awards presented to the directors and staff and further that they be thanked for their years of dedicated service.

Conclusion of 2019 Business

2020 Business

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

11.1 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That _____ be appointed chair for the election of the 2020 Chair and Vice Chair.

11.2 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That _____ and _____ be appointed scrutineers in the event of an election.

11.3 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That nominations for the position of Chair be closed.

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

12.1 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2020 Nominating Committee's Report.

12.2 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That the 2020 Executive Committee for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be:

_____, Chair
_____, Vice Chair

13. Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That the Authority Chair or the Vice Chair and the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or Director of Finance be authorized to borrow from the Libro Credit Union, Strathroy for the general operations and capital program of the Authority, a sum not to exceed \$1,230,926 to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed to the member municipalities and general revenue.

14.2 Moved by: _____ **Seconded by:**
That the Authority's 2020 representative to Conservation Ontario will be the Authority Chair, the Vice Chair will be the first alternate and the General Manager be the second alternate.

- 15.1 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report dated February 18, 2020.
- 15.2 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on business arising dated Feb 15, 2020.
- 15.3 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the update report dated February 5, 2020 on Conservation Areas.
- 15.4 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 18, 2020 regarding the boat ramp at Highland Glen and further recommends temporary closure for the 2020 season.
- 15.5 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 12, 2020 regarding current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.
- 15.6 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 14, 2020 on the Phase 3 Courtright Shoreline Revitalization Project and BrightsGrove shoreline restoration work.
- 15.7 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report, dated February 3, 2020 for the period from November 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020.
- 15.8 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated February 18, 2020 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) from November 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020.
- 15.9 Moved by: Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the schedule of Special Events outlined in the attached flyer.

15.10 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated February 18, 2020, regarding Healthy Watersheds Program updates.

15.11 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the update on the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan dated February 18, 2020.

16. **New Business**

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



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2019 Time: 10:00 a.m.
Administration Office, Strathroy

Directors Present: Alan Broad, John Brennan, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Carmen McGregor, Steve Miller, Laurie Scott, Mike Stark, Jerry Westgate

Regrets: Dan McMillan, Frank Nemcek, Ron Schenk

Staff Present: Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Michelle Gallant, Regulations Officer; Sarah Hume, Payroll/ Accounting Clerk; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Jeff Sharp, Conservation Services Technician; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

Guests: Elizabeth Cummings, Ray Dobbin, Lynne Brogden

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

BD-19-185

MacKinnon – Loosley

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

Minutes of the November 14, 2019 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

BD-19-186

Burrell – Brennan

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held November 14, 2019, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

BD-19-187

Burrell – Brown

“That the Board of Directors adjourn the regular Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. and convene as a Hearing Board pursuant to Ontario Regulation 171/06 – ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses’ Regulation to consider Application No. R#2019-037 from the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex.”

CARRIED

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

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

“We are now going to conduct a hearing under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act in respect of an application by the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex for permission to alter a watercourse (to enclose a natural watercourse under section 4 of the Drainage Act named the North Branch of the Haggerty, or Haggerty No. 1).

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

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

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

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

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

The proceedings will be conducted according to the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. Under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act, a witness may refuse to answer any

question on the ground that the answer may tend to criminate the person, or may tend to establish his/her liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the Crown or of any person.

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

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

The following directors were present for roll-call: Alan Broad, John Brennan, Pat Brown, Andy Bruziewicz, Terry Burrell, Joe Faas, Chair; Larry Gordon, Vice Chair; Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Mark McGill, Carmen McGregor, Steve Miller, Laurie Scott, Jerry Westgate.

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

SCRCA Staff report was presented by Michelle Gallant.

A report was presented by Ray Dobbin, P.Eng., representing the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex (the applicant).

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

BD-19-188

Scott – Loosley

“That the Hearing Board move in-camera at 10:50 am to deliberate information provided regarding Application #2019-037 with the General Manager remaining.”

CARRIED

BD-19-189

Scott – Mackinnon

“That the Hearing Board rise and report at 11:09 a.m.”

CARRIED

Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-19-190

Director	For	Against
MacKinnon, Betty Ann		x
Nemcek, Frank (regrets)	-	-
Faas, Joe	x	
McGregor, Carmen		x
Broad, Al	x	
Marriott, Kevin	x	
Scott, Lorie		x

McMillan, Dan (regrets)	-	-
Loosley, Brad	x	
Schenk, Ron (regrets)	-	-
Gordon, Larry		x
Bruziewicz, Andy		x
Burrell, Terry		x
Stark, Mike (abstained)	-	-
McGill, Mark	x	
Brown, Pat	x	
Miller, Steve		x
Brennan, John	x	
Kennes, Frank	x	
Westgate, Jerry	x	
Totals	9	7

BD-19-190

Loosely – Broad

“That the Hearing Board in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act, held a hearing for the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, Application No. R#2019-037 on December 12, 2019 and hereby approves the application and directs staff to issue a Notice of Decision accompanied by the required conditions.”

CARRIED

BD-19-191

MacKinnon – McGregor

“That the Hearing Board adjourns the Hearing and reconvenes as a Board the Board of Directors at 11:14 a.m.”

CARRIED

BD-19-192

Stark – Scott

“That the Board of Directors requests a full and complete report of the costs associated with core and ancillary mandates to be presented at a Lambton County Councilor’s meeting in April of 2020, which will be made open to all Municipal level parties and SCRCA Directors.”

CARRIED

Special Advisor’s Report of Flooding:

- Doug McNeil was appointed as Ontario’s Special Advisor on Flooding by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Honourable John Yakabuski, on July 18, 2019
- The duties of the Special Advisor were to:
 - review the province’s current flood management framework
 - consider policies and activities which influenced spring flooding

- consider both Great Lakes and urban flooding
 - provide expert advice to the Minister
 - make recommendations to the government on opportunities to improve the existing flood policy framework
- The Advisor, working with the Ministry, completed a nine-day community tour over two weeks in early September 2019, highlighting the variance in issues, geographies and responsibilities
- Tour stops included a mix of provincial department meetings; agency meetings; municipal and conservation authority roundtables; and guided tours of locally impacted areas
- Community tours took place in Ottawa, Pembroke, North Bay, Toronto, Muskoka, Cambridge and London (attended by Board Member Terry Burrell and Director of Water Resources Girish Sankar)
- The report is broken into 8 Chapters - 1) Introduction; 2) The Review Process; 3) Background and the 2019 Flooding in Ontario; 4) Region Specific Situations; 5) Ontario's Approach to Managing Flood Risk; and 6) Challenges and Opportunities to Managing Flood Risk; 7) Recommendations to External Agencies; 8) Fiscal Pressures and Capacity Issues
- The report contains 66 recommendations
- Conservation Authorities play a key role in many of the recommendations
- The report is available in its entirety at Ontario.ca/floodreport

Programs / Services Summary:

- As requested by the Board of Directors at the October 2019 meeting, the following table outlines in greater detail, the mandate origin, timelines, financial responsibility, legislated responsibility, strategic plan directive.

BD-19-193

Broad – Brown

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated December 3, 2019.”

CARRIED

A verbal report of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held on December 10, 2019 was given. The Flood report was discussed at length. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), who reinforced the Province’s message and gave the strong impression that MECP is passionate about conservation and is seeking to gain a stronger understanding of the work of Conservation Authorities. At the time of the meeting, there remained 4 Conservation Authorities that have not yet met with the Minister for consultation. The Conservation Ontario Chair urged members to continue pursuing face to face meetings with MPPs and highlighted the importance of relationship building.

BD-19-194

Brown – Miller

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal report from the Conservation Ontario Council meeting of December 10, 2019.”

CARRIED

The report on Business Arising from the November 14, 2019 Board of Directors meeting was reviewed.

BD-19-195

MacKinnon – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the November 14, 2019 meeting.”

CARRIED

2019 Camping Statistics:

- Overall campground revenue up 0.5%
- Seasonal camping revenue up 1.7%
- Daily camping revenue up 4.8%

Campground Upgrades 2019:

Warwick Conservation Area

- Fibre optic internet cable installed this fall to the gatehouse, workshop, and visitor’s centre
- Wi-Fi will be available to campers in two locations
 1. New ‘internet café’ building between the visitor’s centre and the pool
 2. New pavilion behind the gatehouse
- 200m of reservoir shoreline naturalized
- New pollinator garden
- New drainage installed along 4 seasonal lots
- New drainage installed in the main day use area
- 2 hydro panels replaced
- New dock constructed

L.C. Henderson

- 2 hydro panels replaced
- 2 60 gallon hot water heaters replaced
- 2 new portable washrooms
- Safety upgrades for education department and campers including a walking lane along the roadway into the park, new boardwalk into pond, upgraded trails
- Repairs to the dumping station pump system

A.W. Campbell

- Roof replacement on pool building and Group A shelter

- 1 hydro panel replaced
- 2 new portable washrooms
- New chemical feed pumps for the pool

Day Use Conservation Area Updates:

- Bridgeview CA wetland construction close to completion, pollinator habitat, tree planting, and site rehabilitation to be completed in Spring
- Bridgeview CA oil day storage tank removal complete (7 storage tanks)
- Coldstream CA boardwalk trail was closed for a couple months due to boardwalk damage and hazard tree concerns; hazard trees removed by Middlesex Centre and CA staff, trail reopened in November
- Additional section of walkway constructed to access Highland Glen boat ramp due to high lake levels
- Boardwalk repairs in Strathroy CA, Coldstream CA, and Clark Wright CA
- Hazard trees removed in Strathroy CA (99), Clark Wright CA (13), Coldstream CA (16), Wawanosh CA (47)
- Forty-two memorial forest trees planted throughout the Conservation Areas

BD-19-196

Miller – Westgate

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas update, dated November 30, 2019.”

CARRIED

Highland Glen Conservation Area comprises approximately 26 acres of predominantly wooded land. Situated on the Lake Huron shoreline, it is located in Plympton-Wyoming approximately 10km west of Forest. The property was purchased as two parcels, one in 1976 and one in 1977. The Conservation Area contains an access roadway, parking lot, pavilion, and boat ramp with seawall and groyne protection.

The groyne on the west side of the boat ramp was constructed by the landowner prior to acquisition by the Authority. In 1986/87 the access road, parking lot, and boat ramp were constructed. Due to safety concerns at the ramp, additional protection was constructed in 1990. The works consisted of a steel sheet pile and armour stone breakwall on the northeast side of the ramp and a steel sheet pile curtain wall connected to the existing groyne on the southwest side.

In late November, staff observed damage to the seawall protection. The steel sheet pile on the original groyne at the west side has been removed by wave action.

Financial Impact:

The cost to repair the damage is unknown at this time. Two contractors have been contacted to provide an approximate cost to repair the damage.

(October 17, 1996)

EC-96-150

Dedecker – Skinner

“That the Executive Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that Highland Glen be designated a regional conservation area and further that staff of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Township of Plympton endeavour to raise funds to offset the cost to general levy including establishing a user fee for launching boats.”

CARRIED

(November 21, 1996)

GM-96-157

Rankin – Webb

“That the Board of Directors approves the recommendation from the Executive Committee, that the Highland Glen Conservation Area be designated a regional conservation area in 1997 and beyond.”

CARRIED

As a regional conservation area, the costs associated with the property are paid through a non-matching levy (general levy) and revenues generated by the boat ramp. Annual revenues are approximately \$6,000 - \$10,000.

BD-19-197

MacKinnon – Marriott

“That the Board of Director’s acknowledges the report dated December 10, 2019, on the damages to the groyne at Highland Glen.”

CARRIED

Highlights:

- Spring freshet is anticipated to be severe, with high concern for ice jamming and high snow melt inputs compounded by high lake levels
- Wind storm caused backflow in Wallaceburg, resulting in minor flooding
- Seasonal outlook for winter is anticipated to bring seasonal to below seasonal temperatures, and higher than normal precipitation
- Lake levels anticipated to fall slightly within the month, but exceed record levels in early 2020
- The watershed had 8-12cm of snow on the November 15 snow survey

Flood Threat

The flood threat as of this report is low as a result of above freezing temperatures and no heavy snow or rain in the forecast. However, strong westerly winds have the ability to cause backflow in Wallaceburg, quickly elevating water levels. This was experienced on November 27th, where sustained winds and gusts up to 80km/h pushed water over the top of the bank in downtown Wallaceburg.

Nevertheless, long term model forecasts are anticipating below seasonal temperatures and above seasonal precipitation inputs in the coming months, which have the potential to elevate the flood risk to severe due to the increased likelihood of ice jamming and high snowmelt. Forecasted record high lake levels will also create difficulty during the spring flood.

Precipitation Conditions

No new data for monthly precipitation totals since last board report, dated November 4, 2019. Updated monthly totals will be available for the following board meeting.

- Average snow depths (SD) across the watershed ranged between 8-12 cm, with snow-water equivalent ranging between 15-24mm
- Snow had no crust (A) and soil was mostly unfrozen wet (UW)
- Temperatures above freezing were seen days after the snow fell and complete melt occurred

Great Lakes Levels

- Water levels are up compared to this time last year
- Water levels are anticipated to fall next month, but only slightly
- Lake Huron is forecasted to exceed record-high water levels starting in December 2019 and continuing into April 2020
- Lake St. Clair is forecasted to meet the record-high water level in December 2019, and then exceed records in January 2020, continuing into April 2020

Seasonal Outlook

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

- December 2019 and January 2020 are forecasted to receive greater than seasonal precipitation amounts
- December 2019 and January 2020 are anticipated to be at seasonal temperatures, however February 2020 is forecasted as being colder than seasonal
- The conditions for Winter 2019 are modelled very similarly to those experienced in Winter 2004/05, during which saw treacherous blizzards, extreme cold, and a long winter into April.

In summary, if these modelled conditions come to fruition, our region could expect a severe freshet with high amounts of snow melt and thick ice, which would pose an ice jam risk.

BD-19-198**Nemcek – Scott****“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 30, 2019 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”****CARRIED**

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Status
Courtright Park	Courtright Park Shoreline restoration – Phase 3	Shoreline work at Courtright Park along St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	Tender process ongoing
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 2	Carry out construction of Phase 2 from the recommendation of engineering study.	Construction to start January 2, 2020. Permit applications underway
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Dam equipment repair and painting	Paint Dam equipment and waterproof the gate house and repair equipment as necessary	Ongoing
W. Darcy McKeough Dam	Vegetation Management Plan	Channel and drain repairs along the floodway	Ongoing

Status Update: Phase II

- Phase II work is tendered to complete 75 meters of shoreline
- Additional shoreline work will be completed. Extent of this will be determined mid-January
- Cope Construction will be starting the shoreline work in January 2020
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Modification to the design to not include groynes has been recommended by the City of Sarnia.
- This will expedite permit process and funds can be utilized towards revetment work along Brights Grove.

Status Update: Phase III

- A budget of \$750,000 has been confirmed for the project (St. Clair Township \$450,000; DMAF - \$300,000)
- 60 meters of shoreline revetment will be completed in this phase III
- Tenders were advertised for this phase of the project on November 20, 2019
- Tenders will be available for pick up from November 26, 2019

- Tenders close on December 10, 2019
- Staff will review the tenders and make a recommendation to the Board Meeting on December 12.
- Staff are coordinating with MNRF and DFO for permits
- Construction is expected to begin early January 2020

Permits for projects from fisheries and oceans have not been received and review of projects with groyne installations are taking longer than expected. To expedite this, SCRCA and the City of Sarnia are moving ahead without groyne design in this phase of shoreline work to ensure shoreline revetment work gets moving. We understand the importance of groyne and will continue to have discussion with the permitting agencies to allow groyne installation. We will prepare another application to include installation of groynes and once approved, will implement the installation as soon as possible.

Director’s Comments:

Director Mike Stark requested that it be recorded that the City of Sarnia’s position on the installation of groynes is not reflected within this report. In response, SCRCA staff gave the following explanation:

Permits for projects from Fisheries and Oceans have not been received and review of projects with groyne installations are taking longer than expected. To expedite this, SCRCA and staff from the city of Sarnia are moving ahead without groyne design in this phase of shoreline work to ensure shoreline revetment work gets moving. We understand the importance of groyne and will continue to have discussions with the permitting agencies to allow groyne installation. We will prepare another application to include installation of groynes and once approved, will implement the installation as soon as possible.

A concern was brought forth on behalf of private landowner Lynne Brogden, whose shoreline property in Brights Grove is being effected by erosion. The question was posed whether we could extend MNRF and DFO permits to private landowners for shoreline protection on their properties. It is possible for SCRCA to look at our own permitting for shoreline protection, however an extension of external permits to include private land is not.

BD-19-199

Scott – Bruziewicz

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Water and Erosion Projects dated November 26, 2019.”

CARRIED

Status Update: Phase II

- SCRCA and City of Sarnia staff are working to maximize funds received through a recent DMAF grant
- Cope Construction has been awarded this work.

- Construction crew has been mobilized on site
- Construction is expected to begin December 15, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Groynes have been removed from the shoreline design at the request of City of Sarnia Staff to expedite the permit process and focus on revetment work

Status Update: Phase III

- Phase III work has been tendered to complete 225 meters of shoreline.
- This work will start at Helen Avenue towards Westgate Crescent
- Tenders has be advertised for this phase of the project last week
- Tenders are expected to close on January 7, 2019
- Construction is expected to begin third week of January, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies
- Groynes have been removed from the shoreline design at the request of City Staff and to expedite the permit process and focus on revetment work

Status Update: Old Lakeshore road east

- Shoreline work work has been tendered to complete 260 meters of shoreline.
- Tenders has be advertised for this phase of the project last week
- Tenders are expected to close on January 8, 2019
- Construction is expected to begin third week of January, 2019
- Awaiting permits from DFO and other agencies

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 11, 2019 regarding the update to Phase 2 – Bright Grove shoreline project and other shoreline projects. The board further directs staff to acquire and review tender documents from contractors for a) Courtright shoreline project – Phase 3, b) Phase 3 - Brights Grove shoreline project and 3) Old Lakeshore road east and and further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the preferred contractor and sign necessary contracts, subject to confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through the available funding.

BD-19-200

Brown – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 11, 2019 regarding the update to Phase 2 – Bright Grove shoreline project and other shoreline projects. The board further directs staff to acquire and review tender documents from contractors for a) Courtright shoreline project – Phase 3, b) Phase 3 - Brights Grove shoreline project and 3) Old Lakeshore road east and and further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the preferred contractor and sign necessary contracts, subject to confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through the available funding.”

CARRIED

Moore Wildlife Habitat Management Area was visited by Allen Woodliffe on three occasions in late 2019 to search for moths and other invertebrates attracted by a black light.

Allen Woodliffe, a retired MNRF ecologist, grew up on a farm just outside of Rondeau Provincial Park. He was a seasonal park naturalist at Rondeau and then the full time park naturalist for about 13 years, before continuing his career at Ontario Ministry Of Natural Resources career as the District Ecologist for Chatham and Aylmer Districts. He retired at the end of 2011 after 36 years with OMNR. Allen is a well-known and respected and is often being asked to lend his ecological opinion and expertise to local projects.

A report summarizing his findings was circulated to Board members. Overall, 60 species of moths and 13 other insects were identified. Seven species of these moths are likely to be uncommon in Ontario. Liatris Borer (*Papaipema beeriana*), whose identification is pending final confirmation, is possibly a new species for Canada! Moth specialists have narrowed down the specimen found at Moore to be either *P. beeriana* or *P. necopina*, but due to the bronzy scales, are leaning towards *P. beeriana*. Either species one would be an excellent find, because there are a 2-3 records for *P. necopina* in Ontario/Canada and surprisingly, only 2-3 records for it in the USA.

There is a lot of potential for many more moth species to be documented from this site, especially since the quality of the Sydenham River is well known for supporting less common and even rare species of fauna.

BD-19-201

Gordon – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 27, 2019 on Black Lighting for Insects at Moore Wildlife Area, Lambton County, 2019.”

CARRIED

The monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-202

Scott – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2019.”

CARRIED

The Regulations Activity Summary Report on ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses’ Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-203

Miller – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report on ‘Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses’ Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2019.”

CARRIED

Pre-Consultation/Processing Fee

When the SCRCA first point of contact staff member gets a walk-in, phone call, phone message or email from a landowner inquiring about their property, potential development and SCRCA requirements, SCRCA staff will outline verbally and generally follow up with an email the following;

- SCRCA understanding of the proposed development (pole barn, new dwelling, etc.);
- What portions (if any) of the subject property are regulated by the Authority under “Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses” (Ontario Regulation 171/06) regulations implemented by the Authority pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act;
- Written permission of the Authority is required prior to commencement of development activities within a regulated area. Development activities include: construction, reconstruction, or placement of a structure; placement or removal of fill; re-grading; altering a watercourse or shoreline; or interfering with the function of a wetland;
- The approximate area regulated by the Authority either by way of map in an email or link to SCRCA online mapping;
- If the landowner is proposing to develop (e.g. pole barn, new dwelling, etc.) completely outside of the regulated area the written permission from the Authority will not be required.
 - SCRCA can review a submitted site plan showing proposed works outside regulated area and issue a clearance email confirming further permission from the SCRCA is not required for works outside the regulated area;
- If the landowner is proposing to develop (i.e. pole barn, new dwelling, etc.) within the regulated area they are asked to please provide a preliminary sketch showing the proposed location of the new structure, and to be sure to include dimensions of the new structure, and any other construction details they may have at this point. The \$100 processing fee is then applied to review the propose works in the regulated area and provide preliminary pre-consultation review of the proposal and a written response outlining detailed application requirements and process (should a formal permit be require), or for routine works provide a streamlined written permission via email;
- The pre-consultation and processing fee also allows front line staff to perform initial screening of a Planning and Regulations submitted application, and work with

proponents to ensure a complete application with all relevant information is received. This is to ensure there are no delays in the review process.

Financial Impact:

The processing fee for 2019 as of September has generated \$20,500 in revenue.

Background (From September 19, 2019 Board Report 14.5):

Further to SCRCA April 2019 Board Report 6.2, and September 2019 Board Report 14.4, the provincial government has released several consultations, draft proposals and proposed amendments to legislation to ensure that conservation authorities focus and deliver on their core mandate of protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards and conserving natural resources, while at the same time increasing housing supply and streamline the development approvals process to align with their goals.

CO established a small working group to identify recommendations for solutions that will address the issues identified by the government around the housing supply while still protecting natural hazards management and plan review activities required to protect the health and safety of Ontario's watersheds and residents.

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

1. Improve Client Service and Accountability;
2. Increase speed of approvals; and,
3. Reduce "red tape" and regulatory burden.

SCRCA Focus on Pre-Consultation in 2019

In 2019, SCRCA began addressing three solutions mentioned above by establishing a dedicated first point of contact staff member for the Planning and Regulations Department and kicking off the use of a new document management system developed over the previous year. This front-line customer service initiative allowed an increased focus on communication with the applicant during the pre-consultation process, which is resulting in improved efficiencies, timely responses on complete application requirements, and identifying the appropriate studies/technical information required for a proposal. When improved pre-consultation is undertaken prior to submission of an application, the SCRCA can move seamlessly towards processing the application and issuing the permit. Also, with the help of the document management system the department is able to document file progress, track correspondence and collect appropriate fees for services rendered during the pre-consultation process and thereafter. This makes the expectations, process, fees etc. clear from the on-set, which streamlines the process for both the applicant and the CA.

This commitment to pre-consultation and improved customer service has decreased SCRCA response time on permit application requirements. With continued dedication, this sets us up to strive towards achieving the greatly reduced best-practices and turnaround times that the 'CO Guideline for Client Service' standards has outlined for all CAs. Reduced timelines recommended by CO are shown in tables below.

Recommendations:

Routine Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	30	72
CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	7	10	14	31

Minor Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	30	72
CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	7	14	21	42

Major Permit Applications				
	Time to confirm permit application requirements after pre-consultation	Time to Confirm Complete Application	Timeline to Issue Permit (from complete application)	Total Timeline
CALC Guidelines (calendar days)	21	21	90	132

CO Client Service Standards Guideline (calendar days)	14	21	28	63
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While improving our pre-consultation process the SCRCA Planning and Regulations department has also been able to continue to keep our complete permit application turnaround time at average to well under the current CALC guideline 30 days as directed by the board. These timelines are currently reported to the Board at each meeting. It should be further noted that Planning and Regulations applications, and compliance and enforcement demands continue to increase.

As identified in the September 2019 Board Report 14.4, further streamlining initiatives are underway. Staff resources are required to meet the updated timelines, and costs associated with implementing the best practices will need to be recovered through CA fees.

It is important to ensure that staff resources continue to be provided to offer timely pre-consultation opportunities, and meet complete permit review timelines and compliance and enforcement objectives.

Strategic Objectives(s):

Implementation the Conservation Ontario Streamlining Initiatives will help to achieve the following goals of the SCRCA Strategic Plan.

- Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion.

Director’s Comments:

It was enquired whether SCRCA has a pre-project checklist for developers listing all steps and requirements to obtain a permit. Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning informed Directors that the SCRCA Planning Department is currently working towards a checklist, which will be posted online and available in office when complete. Directors thanked staff for proving this report.

BD-19-204

Bruziewicz – Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 3, 2019 on SCRCA Pre-Consultation and Processing Fees.”

CARRIED

Background (From April 20, 2017 Board Report):

SCRCA follows the CO/OMAFRA approved DART protocol for the maintenance of municipal drains. The goal was to develop a means for municipalities and conservation authorities to fulfil their responsibilities under the Drainage Act and Conservation

Authorities Act respectively without compromising the intent of either statute. A protocol does not currently exist for new drains under section 4 or improvements to drains under section 78 of the *Drainage Act*.

SCRCA's process prior to 2017 was not to require written permission under O.R. 171/06 for enclosures taking place under the Drainage Act. The SCRCA provided comments and advice, based on our mandate, to the *Drainage Act* process for new engineer's reports created under section 4 and/or 78 of the *Drainage Act*. Under the *Drainage Act*, the Authority is limited in the reports or studies that it can request in support of the proposed enclosure.

For those enclosures of natural watercourses or private drainage systems when not occurring under the *Drainage Act*, the proposals require written permission under Regulation 171/06.

If municipal drain enclosures are carried out (with or without a CA Act S.28 permit) and impact regulated areas with respect to the CA's regulatory responsibilities under the CA Act the CA could be held liable for not undertaking or enforcing its regulatory responsibilities (flooding and erosion impacts).

Ontario Regulation 171/06 requires prior written permission of the SCRCA for enclosures of open municipal drains since it involves alterations to a watercourse. Drains are defined as watercourses under the Act. Requiring written permission for drain enclosures enables the SCRCA to seek information, as deemed appropriate, to reduce the impacts of flooding and erosion. The Authority seeks such information as part of an application under O.R.171/06 and not as part of the *Drainage Act* drain review process.

Other Conservation Authorities:

- As of 2017 the ABCA, LTVCA, ERCA, UTRCA, required written permission (or permits) for drain enclosures.

Over the years, the number of proposed and actual enclosures of open drains and watercourses has increased in Southwestern Ontario. The majority of these enclosures of Municipal drains occur in the upper portions or the headwaters. These headwater systems have important functions.

Enclosures can have negative and cumulative impacts, including:

- increased floodplains
- downstream/upstream flooding
- overland erosion
- increased sediment loads
- degraded stream health (i.e. water quality/ecological functions)

The following motion was carried:

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated March 6, 2017, on the need for O. Regulation 171/06 written permission for drain enclosures and directs SCRCA staff to present a motion and policy to require O.R. 171/06 permission for Drain Enclosures.”

Background (From September 21, 2017 Board Report);

The interim guidelines were developed and presented to the Board (see item 13.4a SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy in this package). They were to be in place until the comprehensive SCRCA Regulations Policy including an Inference to Watercourses section is finalized (ongoing).

Administration of service:

- Similar to the DART protocol review process approved by the Board April 18, 2014, Biology Section staff completed the drain enclosure review and reporting with ratification by Planning and Regulations Section/ Regulations Officer. (This administrative process was a natural transition as a result of the former Department of Fisheries and Oceans agreements). As with the DART protocol, SCRCA Ontario Regulation 171/06 “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” applies to municipal drain enclosures and a proposed Drain Enclosure Policy and guideline would be followed for streamlining purposes. The impacts to flooding and erosion studies, if required, would require review by the SCRCA Engineer. Appropriate review fees would apply in these cases.

The following motion was carried:

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated August 30, 2017, on the need for O. Regulation 171/06 written permission for drain enclosures and supplemental guidelines and directs SCRCA staff to require O. Regulation 171/06 permission for Drain Enclosures and further that fees be recuperated based on current SCRCA Regulation Fees.”

Background (From September 2017 to June 2019 and to Present)

- September 21, 2017 to August 2018;
 - SCRCA staff at drain meetings (onsite or information meeting) or notified thru written correspondence, provided drainage superintendents with information that a SCRCA O.R. 171/06 review is required under Drain Enclosure Policy, for drain enclosures and that the SCRCA generally does not support enclosures, email follow-up generally given with Regulations Officer contact info;
- August 2018 to June 2019 and to Present;
 - SCRCA staff provide formal written comments with a copy of the Drain Enclosure Policy outlining if the type of enclosures would be permitted by

SCRCA staff, and explaining how the Drain Enclosure Policy is implemented;

Background (From June 27, 2019 Board Report)

The SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy, SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process Cover Letter, and SCRCA Municipal Drainage Act Review Process was sent to municipal representatives and drainage superintendents via email on June 17, 2019, and reported to the SCRCA Board at our June 27, 2019 meeting. See board report 12.5 in June 27, 2019 board package.

The SCRCA outlined it is committed to ongoing and improved engagement with the Municipality on our Drainage Act Review Process and offers an open invitation to meet and/or discuss any questions or comments they may have.

The information outlined that SCRCA Biology Department staff completing Municipal Drain review has recently completed regulations training to be qualified as a Provincial Offences Officer. This will enable the SCRCA to provide an improved level of service and efficiency by having a regulations trained staff member dedicated to Municipal Drain review. This allows the SCRCA to have a single point of contact to provide regulations review and approvals on all drain related matters.

Background (September 19, 2019 Board Meeting)

Directors asked that the drain enclosure policy be brought to the Board of Directors meeting for review.

Next Steps

There has been ongoing discussions with the SCRCA Board and our member municipalities/drain superintendents on the implementation of the Drain Enclosure Policy. Staff of the SCRCA understands that better communication, education and consultation is required around the Drain Enclosure Policy to improve our regulatory review process.

SCRCA staff recommend that engagement/consultation with our watershed drainage superintendents and municipal representatives for comments on the policy be undertaken.

Financial Implications:

Fees will be recuperated based on current SCRCA Regulation Fee's.

Conservation Strategy

Supports Goals 1, 2 and 3 of Strategic Plan

Directors Comments:

It was requested that the Drain Enclosure Policy be distributed to Municipal Clerks and Drainage Departments.

BD-19-205

Marriott – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy dated December 3, 2019, and direct staff to consult with Drainage Superintendents and our member Municipalities for comments on the policy.”

CARRIED

Further to the November 14th Staff Report 11.3 and the request by Directors at the November Board meeting, SCRCA staff (Brian McDougall and Dallas Cundick) scheduled conference calls with our 17 member municipality Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and/or Clerks. SCRCA staff have held discussions with 16 municipalities (final CAO discussion scheduled for January 8, 2020).

Highlights:

The following highlights from the discussions with planners was further confirmed in the discussions with the CAO/Clerks.

- Duplication of duties was not identified as an issue or a concern by watershed municipalities.
- No redundancy in tasks completed by SCRCA staff for planning applications was identified by watershed municipalities.
- Improved communication will benefit processes on the part of all parties.
- Updated memorandum(s) of understanding (MOU) will provide opportunity to: clarify roles and each organizations responsibilities, improve process, educate and inform all parties and the public.
- All watershed municipalities identified the need for the SCRCA’s natural heritage commenting service. This expertise is not available at any of the planning offices in the region and is costly to be acquired from the private sector.

Additional Discussion Points with CAO/Clerks:

The following comments were received grouped by specific topics:

Planning Comments – Format and Content

- Utilize plain language and improve format.
- Make clear SCRCA recommendations regarding the planning application to the municipality (e.g. premature, no objection, no objection subject to conditions, deferral because more information is required, refusal – application is not supported by CA policies and/or PPS policies). If applicable, list outstanding technical information required to obtain approval.

- Outline clearly comments in regard to CA role in plan review;
 - Delegated Responsibility and Statutory Comments
 - Advisory Comments
 - through our responsibilities as a service provider through MOU
 - through our role as a public body, pursuant to the Planning Act
 - under the Clean Water Act, 2006
 - As an Adjacent Landowner
 - Additional Advisory Comments
 - These would apply if/when there are comments that relate to:
 - Provincial plans as defined under the Planning Act
 - Remedial Action Plans
 - Pertinent Watershed Plan
- Have reports focus on provincial policy and how they are interpreted, including introducing SCRCA regulations and technical guidelines.
- Ensure wording is precise so it can be used as conditions of approval.
- Template format for reports, which separates material that is directly relevant and recommended conditions from standardized language.
- Should SCRCA include additional advisory comments, such as other agency requirements?
 - Majority of Municipalities felt:
 - Important to include, more information provided, the better, helps with the decision making process and brings issues to the forefront.
 - CA role needs to be very clear however (i.e. comments are delegated responsibility and statutory comments, or advisory comments based on MOU, or additional advisory comments).
 - Continue communication with municipal planners and member municipalities.
 - Minority of Municipalities felt:
 - Stick to SCRCA responsibilities and province delegated role and mandate, mixed reaction when we give these reminders.
 - Appreciated, but concerned with optics if too many comments are provided outside of the CA mandate. Should look at ways of communicating outside of formal comments.

MOU Updates

- SCRCA should utilize the process to improve communication and education for councils, staff, stakeholders, etc. (planning 101 sessions).
- Support for county level MOU documents with municipal signatures.
- Support for individual municipal agreements with some member municipalities (i.e. proactive councils).
- Include building official in the process.

Pre-Consultation

- Importance of early engagement and SCRCA involvement;

- Continued need for SCRCA planning staff to be available to discuss with member municipalities and planner in early stages.
- New techniques of pre-consultation processes are being developed throughout the watershed and SCRCA staff can be involved.
 - Municipalities with formal regularly schedules pre-consultation meeting process appreciate the SCRCA attending or calling in, resulting in less of duplication.
- Important for SCRCA to be at the table for high-level initial meetings without a fee being charged.

Fee Schedule

- Ensure clear timely process for notification which ensures lower tier municipalities are notified of fee schedule updates.
- From a customer service standpoint, work towards an improved fee guide and schedule to update the municipality on fee updates and implementation (supports communicating answers to the public).
- Support for one stop shop and collecting fees at municipal offices.
- Some municipalities find fees significant.
- Communication and discussion with for municipalities and between CAs on the differences in fees and levy structures for municipalities that share more than one CA.

Rural Surplus Farm Dwelling Severance, Rural Severance for Merged Parcels, and Re-Zoning to Downgraded Use

- Review process and communication for when fees and comments are required for SCRCA review on above applications when no new buildings are proposed.
- Review process and communication for when formal pre-consultation letters are provided, and when is it appropriate to also provide detailed formal comments on planning applications.

Ontario Regulation 171/06 Permitting

- CAOs hear more of the concerns from public in regard to SCRCA regulations permitting timelines and fees.
- It would be appropriate for SCRCA to have on-going discussion with Chief Building Officials regarding the day to day processes in the regulations review of building permits to ensure efficiencies and common understanding.
- CAOs are hoping for clarity in rural floodplain, trust that new mapping will be more accurate and make more sense.

Actions:

SCRCA has begun to undertake the following actions:

Planning Comments, MOUs, Fee Schedule, Pre-Consultation

- Continue the discussion about process improvements with member municipalities and signing of MOUs.
- Circulating notice of the 2020 Fee Schedule with an interpretation Fee Guide.
- Make revisions to commenting report templates.
- In accordance with CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative, SCRCA is utilizing the following guidance documents to improve service, educate and inform all parties and the public.
 - CA Planning Comments Templates
 - CA-Municipality MOU Template for Planning and Development Review
 - Guideline for CA Fee Administration Policies (Plan Review and Permitting)
 - Client Service Standards for Conservation Authority Plan and Permit Review

Pre-Consultation

- Attending as required new formal pre-consultation meetings regularly scheduled by municipalities on a monthly basis.
- Provide initial screening of applications at no charge.

Rural Surplus Farm Dwelling Severance, Rural Severance for Merged Parcels, and Re-Zoning to Downgraded Use

- Continued communication with member municipalities, to discuss clear guidelines when comments are required and when they are not, including specific examples.

Ontario Regulation 171/06

- SCRCA will have on-going discussions with CBOs, regarding the day to day processes in the regulations review of building permits to ensure efficiencies and common understanding.

Strategic Objectives:

Goal 1 – Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion

Goal 4 – Build a stronger and more valued organization through business excellence

Director’s Comments:

SCRCA Staff were thanked for this report.

BD-19-206

Scott – Broad

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Plan Input and Review Discussion with Member Municipality CAO’s, and further acknowledges the following highlights from these discussions as described in the report handed out in today’s meeting.”

CARRIED

Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Coordinator

At the end of the summer, Kelly Johnson, RAP Coordinator for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) accepted a position with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. In the interim, Donna Blue, Manager of Communications, has been fulfilling the RAP Coordinator role. This will continue until Agreements with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) are finalized in the spring.

Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)

The CRIC has released their 2012-2017 Report of Accomplishments for the St. Clair River AOC. This document reports on the actions and accomplishments achieved during the 2012-2017 Work Plan period. The report is available in hard copy (upon request) and online at the recently re-designed Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR) community group website (www.friendsofstclair.ca).

The CRIC is currently creating a new work plan that will span the years 2017-2022.

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

The BPAC held a meeting at the Maawn Doosh Gumig Community Centre at Aamjiwnaang First Nation on November 14, 2019.

The meeting focused on the status assessment report for the ‘Fish Tumours or Other Deformities’ Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI). A re-designation recommendation was put forth by the CRIC to change its current designation from ‘Requires Further Assessment’ to ‘Not Impaired’.

Fish Tumours or Other Deformities:

To assess the ‘Fish Tumours or Other Deformities’ BUI, two focused fish studies were conducted in the AOC to determine the prevalence of cancerous liver tumours in species of fish collected from the St. Clair River.

Shorthead Redhorse Sucker (2002 – 2006):

Over a four year period, 126 Shorthead Redhorse Suckers (*Moxostoma macrolepidotum*) were collected from the St. Clair River and assessed for liver tumour prevalence. The average age of the fish was 10 and no liver neoplasms were detected

in any of the fish collected from the river. In comparison, there was one fish (out of 100 assessed) at the Lake Huron reference site where a liver neoplasm was reported.

Brown Bullhead (2013 – 2014):

Over two years, 60 Brown Bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*) fish were collected from the Walpole Island First Nation delta. The majority of fish were older than five years old and no liver neoplasms were detected. These data were corroborated by the results of a recent sediment study conducted throughout the delta that detected low levels of contaminants.

The Shorthead Redhorse Sucker and Brown Bullhead species of fish were used in this assessment as they 1) are both benthic-dwelling fish who are continuously exposed to local sediment, 2) they do not migrate far from their local habitat and 3) there is extensive information available for both species throughout the Great Lakes.

These studies suggested that the prevalence of liver tumours in the St. Clair River AOC is no greater than un-impacted reference sites (e.g., Lake Huron). No tumours were detected in the two studies which warranted the CRIC to recommend that the “Fish Tumours or Other Deformities” BUI on the Canadian side of the St. Clair River AOC be re-designated to “Not Impaired”.

The BPAC passed a motion that accepted the CRIC’s recommendation to re-designate this BUI to “Not Impaired” (with one abstention). The status assessment will move forward in the re-designation process which includes further engagement with local First Nation communities (if required), review by federal, provincial and state senior management, and posting for public comment.

BD-19-207

Burrell – Gordon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 21, 2019 regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”

CARRIED

Minutes of the September 25, 2019 Joint Health and Safety Committee were reviewed.

BD-19-208

McGregor – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the September 25, 2019 meeting minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee.”

CARRIED

The revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2019 was reviewed.

BD-19-209

Stark – Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2019, as it relates to the budget.”

CARRIED

The November 2019 disbursements were reviewed.

BD-19-210

Miller – Scott

“That the Board of Directors approves the November 2019 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$315,082.73.”

CARRIED

The status report on the 2019 general levy received to date was reviewed.

BD-19-211

Burrell – Scott

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

CARRIED

The investment reports to October 31, 2019 were reviewed.

BD-19-212

Burrell – McGregor

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the investment reports to October 31, 2019.”

CARRIED

A verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2020 Draft Budget was given by Tracy Prince, Director of Finance. While most contact has been for clarification only, a written letter from St. Clair Township and City of Sarnia Councils. Representatives from Strathroy-Caradoc also confirmed willingness to accept the increase but noted that they are not prepared to face the same level of increase in the next year.

BD-19-213

Burrell – MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2020 Draft Budget.”

CARRIED

Municipal Funding Summary	2020	2020	Representative	y/n	Vote
	Budget Total CVA Apport.%	Budget CVA Apport.%			
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	1.8762%	1.8762%	Betty Ann MacKinnon	y	
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	1.7442%	1.7442%	Frank Nemcek		
Chatham-Kent M		6.4984%	Joe Faas	y	
Chatham-Kent M	12.9967%	6.4984%	Carmen McGregor	y	
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	2.6871%	2.6871%	Alan Broad	n	
Enniskillen Tp	1.8919%	1.8919%	Kevin Marriott	y	
Lambton Shores M	4.9427%	4.9427%	Lori Scott	y	
Middlesex Centre M	2.2008%	2.2008%	Dan MacMillan		
Newbury V	0.1543%	0.1543%	Mark McGill	y	
Oil Springs V	0.1984%	0.1984%	Kevin Marriott	y	
Petrolia T	2.5218%	2.5218%	Brad Loosley	n	
Plympton-Wyoming T	5.3724%	5.3724%	Ron Schenk		
Point Edward V	2.2099%	2.2099%	Larry Gordon	y	
Sarnia C		12.6978%	Terry Burrell	y	
Sarnia C		12.6978%	Mike Stark	y	
Sarnia C	38.0933%	12.6978%	Andy Bruziewicz	y	
Southwest Middlesex M	1.1595%	1.1595%	Mark McGill	y	
St. Clair Tp		5.5992%	Pat Brown	y	
St. Clair Tp	11.1983%	5.5992%	Steve Miller	y	
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp		4.2736%	Frank Kennes	y	
Strathroy - Caradoc Tp	8.5471%	4.2736%	John Brennan	y	
Warwick Tp	2.2055%	2.2055%	Jerry Westgate	y	
	100%	100%			
				85.474%	Yes
				5.209%	No
Total of CVA Levy Apportionment Present				90.683%	Total
	Vote Passed By			94.256%	
	Vote for			17	

BD-19-214

Burrell – Stark

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2020 budget of \$8,570,407 with a non-matching general levy of \$908,926 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the Modified Current Value Assessment of each Municipality within the Authority’s area of jurisdiction.”

CARRIED

BD-19-215

Bruziewicz – Brennan

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2020 budget of \$8,570,407 with a municipal matching general levy of \$161,000 including finalized Modified Current Value Assessment values, updates to specific projects and municipal comments received to date.”

CARRIED

BD-19-216

Stark – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2019 regarding the disposal of nonessential and surplus equipment and approves the disposal method as outlined.”

CARRIED

BD-19-217

Loosley – Kennes

“That the Board of Directors move in-camera at 12.33 p.m. to discuss Conservation Awards and personnel information with the General Manager, Manager of Communications, Director of Finance and Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator remaining.”

CARRIED

BD-19-218

McGregor – Loosley

“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 12:48 p.m.”

CARRIED

Under New Business

Directors discussed the recent articles in the press including landowner concerns regarding shoreline protection. SCRCA is unable to issue permits for erosion control on a third party property to protect an applicant’s property. Further, there are concerns for creating a wave action of erosion along the shoreline. Conversations with MP Marilyn Gladu will continue on this topic. SCRCA is looking into a blanket study giving possible solutions. Part of such an investigation will include consulting with neighboring Conservation Authorities with jurisdiction along shorelines. SCRCA is working toward funding opportunities to provide this.

Directors reviewed correspondence from the Shoreline Erosion Collective Coalition (SECC) received on December 11, 2019 requesting to speak at today’s meeting. Representatives of SECC were made aware of SCRCA’s delegation policy and requirements. SECC are seeking a town-hall public meeting in Plympton-Wyoming and request that SCRCA are in attendance. Details will be passed on to the Board of Directors when available.

Challenges experienced during the closure of the McKeough Dam were mentioned. Staff will address these concerns at the upcoming Flood Action Committee meeting in January, 2020 with a report back to the Executive Committee for information. SCRCA staff will present the history of the McKeough Dam operations as well as operation criteria at these meetings.

Directors shared well wishes for the holiday season and New Year.

BD-19-219
Loolsley – Brennan
“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

Joe Faas
Chair



Brian McDougall
General Manager



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 13, 2020 Time: 10:30 a.m.
Administration Office, Strathroy

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

Regrets: Andy Bruziewicz

Staff Present: Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Manager of Planning and Regulations; 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

Guests: Jordan Keuken, MNP LLP

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave his remarks. It was requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

EC-20-01

Scott – Burrell

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

CARRIED

- We have seen advancements on multiple fronts over the past 6 weeks
- Meetings with the Shoreline Erosion Coalition Collective, discussed at length in Item 9.2, have seen a significant change in the tone of regional media coverage
- Following the staff meeting with MP Gladu in late November to discuss shoreline issues, a meeting with Minister of Labour and local MPP McNaughton was arranged in conjunction with the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference on January 21, 2020
- A two-page document was reviewed, which provided an outline of the discussion points Chair Faas and Brian McDougall, General Manager were able to share with Minister McNaughton
- With some of the issues around Conservation Authority swirling around currently, we asked Minister McNaughton if we had covered all the issues that he had received concerns about from constituents – Minister McNaughton responded “that he had not personally received any complaints about SCRCA since he was elected to Parliament” – when asked if he could be quoted on that he agreed
- We had a short but productive meeting with the Minister and a member of his staff and we are communicating on some of the issues that we brought forward

- The More Homes, More Choice Act which include changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, including the mandate of Conservation Authorities has reached the next level of consultation
- At our December meeting, Chair Faas, Vice Chair Gordon and Brian McDougall, General Manager, share our thoughts as well as the presentation materials which were discussed during our meeting with the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Park's staff
- We were advised in that meeting that further and wider consultation was planned for early in 2020
- Three meetings have been scheduled across the province to continue consultation on the mandate of Conservation Authorities
- Invitations to these meetings have been forward to Conservation Authorities, Municipalities, multiple Ministries, non governmental environmental organizations, representatives of the building sector, etc.
- The first of these consultations was held at Barrie on January 31st
- The second is scheduled for Colbourne on February 7th – the agenda for that meeting was reviewed
- The final meeting is scheduled for London on February 14th – details including location and time have been requested but have not yet been received – it is anticipated that the timing of the meeting will be similar to that of the meeting at Colbourne
- Stakeholder presentations are being included in each meeting
- It appears that most of the presentations will be the same at each meeting
- Conservation Ontario, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Ontario Home Builders Association and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- Attendees are being provided questions, which will be discussed during roundtable exercises and are being asked to submit comments on those questions – attached is a document providing those questions and outlining Authority responses and comments
- The following comments were provided by Conservation Ontario in their quick notes following the Barrie meeting
 - There were about 150 people in attendance
 - Parliamentary Assistant Andrea Kanjin and Minister Yurek provided opening remarks
 - Assistant Deputy Minister Chloe Stuart facilitated/hosted the day
 - Tables were set up for 8 individuals. Each table had an MECP note-taker who wasn't necessarily familiar with CAs
 - It was very loud in the room and must have been quite challenging for these note-takers
 - The MPPs and their staff were in attendance for the full session.
 - From what we've heard from other CA reps at the tables:
 - there was a lot of misinformation about CAs and what we are responsible for
 - a lot of the conversation ended up being issues with permits and our plan review role

- representation on CA Boards is something that every sector seems to feel is desirable for them
 - Strong support for our stewardship role from both DUC and OFA
 - OHBA was supportive of the CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative and CAs delivering natural hazards and watershed management
 - All three raised issues with our permitting role (e.g. consistency, timeliness) and OHBA raised issues around our plan review role as well
- Invitations to attend the London consultations have been provided to all Board Members
- RSVPs have been requested and should be provided by February 7th to allow organizers to have appropriate seating and name tags, however, up to 25 individuals attended the Barrie meeting without having RSVP'd
- Your attendance will ensure that your voice is heard on these issues and may possibly provide you with opportunities to dispel some of the misinformation about Conservation Authorities

EC-20-02

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the General Manager’s report dated February 4, 2020.”

CARRIED

A review of the draft audited financial statement was presented by Jordan Keuken of MNP LLP.

EC-20-03

Burrell – Scott

“That the Executive Committee requests addendums to the 2019 Financial Statements displaying a breakdown of non-core Provincial and Federal funding included under ‘Other Revenue’ as well as any transfers from reserves.”

CARRIED

Directors Comments

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

EC-20-04

Scott – Burrell

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report from the Authority’s auditors, MNP Chartered Professional Accounts, LLP and accepts responsibility for the 2019 financial statements and the Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds and year end finances and further approves the year-end adjustments, reserves and reserve adjustments as outlined in the schedule dated December 31, 2019 and recommends that the Board of Directors approves the 2019 Audited Financial Statements.”

CARRIED

The November and December, 2019 disbursements were reviewed.

EC-20-05

Gordon – Burrell

“That the Executive Committee approves the November and December, 2019 disbursements, as presented in the amount of \$430,655.51.”

CARRIED

The 2019 record of municipal general levy was reviewed.

EC-20-06

Miller – Loosley

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges that all 2019 municipal general levy has been received.”

CARRIED

The Summary of Director’s expenses for 2019 was reviewed.

EC-20-07

Scott – McGill

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the Status Summary report on Directors’ expenses from January 1 to December 31, 2019.”

CARRIED

The Board requested that the municipalities within the watershed be provided salary information for the senior management of the organization. The Board approved pay grid for groups 1 to 12 and steps 1 to 5 is:

2019	Approved		1.60%		
Group	1	2	3	4	5
12	59.85	62.32	64.94	67.66	70.46
11	54.23	56.48	58.85	61.31	63.85
10	49.15	51.18	53.33	55.56	57.87
9	44.54	46.38	48.32	50.35	52.44
8	40.49	42.16	43.93	45.77	47.67
7	36.81	38.33	39.94	41.61	43.34
6	33.46	34.85	36.31	37.83	39.40
5	30.42	31.68	33.01	34.39	35.82
4	27.65	28.80	30.01	31.26	32.56
3	25.14	26.18	27.28	28.42	29.60
2	22.85	23.80	24.80	25.84	26.91
1	13.15				24.13

The grid is currently structured that the General Manager falls into Group 12, Department Directors in Group 10, and Managers in Group 8. Group 1 is used for seasonal staffing. Yearly salaries are calculated on a 35-hour work week multiplied by the hourly rate in the grid.

Placement on the grid within a group is based on the current Job Evaluation that was adopted by the Board in 2016 and mirrors the system that Lambton County implemented in 2008. With trends in Human Resources show a movement to a core competency-based job evaluation system, the current system is due for another upgrade.

Under *The Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996* SCRCA is required to submit the following information:

Name:	Position:	Total Salary:	Taxable Benefit included in Salary:
McDougall, Brian	General Manager	\$129,049	\$859
Prince, Tracy	Director of Finance	\$105,912	\$722
Sankar, Girish	Director of Water Resources	\$105,912	\$722

EC-20-08

Scott – Gordon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledge this report for the requested salary information and the information to be submitted under *The Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996.*”

CARRIED

- DiCocco Contractors was awarded the contract work on December 18, 2019 at a value of \$314,512.90 inclusive of H.S.T. for the shoreline improvement work that involves construction of approximately 70 metres of an armour stone revetment.
- A Contract Change Order was required to be issued in the amount of \$14,400 to remove trees at the shoreline within the Phase 3 work area, not already identified in the contract.
- Work commenced the week of January 20, 2020 with tree removal along the shoreline.
- SCRCA staff will have discussions over opportunities for tree replacement once the project work is complete.
- A stormwater outfall along the shoreline has been identified as needing replacement. SCRCA staff are working with SCRCA’s consulting engineer, St. Clair Township, and the contractor to ensure that the outfall is replaced to the satisfaction of the municipality, as part of this contract work.

Bright's Grove Shoreline Erosion Control Projects:

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

- Cope Construction was awarded the contract work on October 24, 2019 at a value of 890,111.17, inclusive of H.S.T.
- Work commenced in December 2019 and remains underway.
- Groynes were removed from the shoreline design at the request of City of Sarnia staff and to expedite the permit process and focus on revetment work.

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

- Six tenders were submitted.
- The low tender was submitted by Amico Infrastructures (Oxford) Inc. at a value of \$2,206,534.86, inclusive of H.S.T.
- Based on the experience listed in the tender, the contractor had the ability to complete the work. The contractor also had the ability to work immediately upon award and execution of the contract.
- The contract was awarded to Amico on January 18, 2020.
- A site meeting was held on January 21, 2020, after which the contractor began preparations to commence work the week of February 3, 2020.

Bright's Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East

- Six tenders were submitted.
- The low tender was submitted by Facca Incorporated Inc. at a value of \$1,570,774.00, inclusive of H.S.T.
- Based on the experience listed in the tender, the contractor had the ability to complete the work. The contractor also had the ability to work immediately upon award and execution of the contract.
- The contract was awarded to Facca Incorporated on January 16, 2020.
- A site meeting was held on January 21, 2020, after which the contractor began preparations to commence work the week of February 3, 2020.

EC-20-09

Burrell – MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated January 30, 2020 regarding the status of the following Water and Erosion Control projects that are currently underway: Courtright Waterfront Park Phase 3, Bright's Grove Kenwick street to Helen Avenue Phase 2 and Phase 3, and Bright's Grove Old Lakeshore Road East.”

CARRIED

Draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee meeting held on January 9, 2020 were reviewed.

EC-20-10

Miller – Gordon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee held on January 9, 2020 in Wallaceburg.”

CARRIED

- 82 hunters received permission to hunt on the McKeough Floodway Upstream Properties from September 1st, 2019 - May 31st, 2020.
- The 2019-2020 hunting package was revised in accordance with the recent changes to the OMNRF Ontario Hunting Regulations and posted on our website.
- Controlled deer hunt zone allocations were not required this year, as applications for each zone were within allowable limits.
- The hunting list and controlled deer hunt zone allocations were emailed to enforcement agencies prior to the controlled deer hunt seasons.
- No significant complaints from hunters or neighbors regarding hunting on CA lands were received.
- McKeough staff patrol the Floodway and Upstream Properties throughout the hunting seasons.

Controlled Deer Hunt

- There were 13 hunters for the controlled deer hunt list for November and 9 hunters for the December season
- McKeough staff patrol the channel and upstream properties at random times throughout the week during the controlled deer hunt.
- There were no hunting related problems or violations found during this controlled deer hunt

Issues and suggestions

- Staff received a number of requests for permits to hunt after the August 21st deadline. Staff discussed the issue and determined that maintaining this deadline was in the best interest of the CA.
- Staff have discussed limiting or reducing the number of hunting permits issued to keep hunter lists manageable. This could be achieved either by setting a limit on permits or by increasing the permit fee. Staff will continue to explore options.
- Staff are investigating options to streamline the application process and to utilize our website to receive applications and payment.
- Wildlife enforcement officials have suggested that the Conservation Authority install boundary designation and ‘no hunting’ signs, including a contact number on all Conservation properties. This signage would inform the public that the Conservation Authority does not permit hunting on those lands and it will allow enforcement officials to apply more stringent game laws and fines.

EC-20-11

MacKinnon – Scott

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report dated January 30, 2020 regarding the 2019 deer hunt on McKeough Upstream Lands.”

CARRIED

Highland Glen Conservation Area comprises approximately 26 acres of predominantly wooded land. Situated on the Lake Huron shoreline, it is located in Plympton-Wyoming approximately 10km west of Forest. The property was purchased as two parcels, one in 1976 and one in 1977. The Conservation Area contains an access roadway, parking lot, pavilion, and boat ramp with seawall and groyne protection.

The groyne on the west side of the boat ramp was constructed by the landowner prior to acquisition by the Authority. In 1986/87 the access road, parking lot, and boat ramp were constructed. Due to safety concerns at the ramp, additional protection was constructed in 1990. The works consisted of a steel sheet pile and armour stone breakwall on the northeast side of the ramp and a steel sheet pile curtain wall connected to the existing groyne on the southwest side.

In late November, staff observed damage to the 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. Repairs to the damaged groyne likely do not make sense without addressing other erosion and infrastructure concerns.

Boat Ramp Use and Fee Collection

Those heading on the lake for fishing and recreational boating generally use the boat ramp from April until October. A fee is collected for use of the ramp through the MacKay Pay App. Usage and revenue for the boat ramp is summarized in the table below based on fee collection (actual usage is higher as the fee collection system is not strictly enforced).

Year	# of Single Use Fees	# of Season Use Fees	Revenue Generated
2017	270	66	\$10,502.40
2018	317	52	\$9,280.85
2019	210	28	\$6,136.70
Average	266	49	\$8,640

If assumed that a seasonal pass purchaser uses the ramp 10 times, on average the ramp is used approximately 750 times per season.

At the end of 2019, surpluses allocated to the Highland Glen Conservation Area reserve total \$11,619.25 (unaudited).

Financial Impact

One contractor has visited the site to date and provided the following recommendation:

- Not comfortable bringing barge to the location, recommend works completed from shore
- Recommended replacing the damaged section with armour stone rather than steel
- Estimate of \$300,000 and up for the work

Additional costs for the project would include engineering design, required studies, permits, permit requirements, erosion repair to protect the infrastructure, and site rehabilitation.

As a regional conservation area, the costs associated with the property are paid through a non-matching levy (general levy) and revenues generated by the boat ramp. Highland Glen CA was designated a regional conservation area in 1997 due to the popularity of the boat ramp and the benefit it provided beyond the local municipality.

EC-96-150 (October 17, 1996)

Dedecker – Skinner

“That the Executive Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that Highland Glen be designated a regional conservation area and further that staff of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Township of Plympton endeavour to raise funds to offset the cost to general levy including establishing a user fee for launching boats.”

GM-96-157 (November 21, 1996)

Rankin – Webb

“That the Board of Directors approves the recommendation from the Executive Committee, that the Highland Glen Conservation Area be designated a regional conservation area in 1997 and beyond.”

Next Steps

Board confirmation of regional status

- Regional or local Conservation Area status will dictate whether the property is funded through General Levy or Special Levy

Confirm desire from Board of Directors or local municipality to have the ramp repaired

- Do commitments to provide safe harbour exist?
- What is the demand for the boat ramp?
- Does the level of use justify the expense?
- Are we willing to abandon existing infrastructure?

Engineer to design the groyne repairs, erosion repairs, and potential upgrades with a cost estimate

- Determine what work is necessary and what is optional to protect/upgrade the infrastructure

Make decision on how to proceed based on costed designs

Monitor for grant opportunities

Director's Comments

SCRCA staff are requested to meet with representatives of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming to discuss the possibility of a temporary closure and report to the Board of Directors at the Feb 27, 2020 Annual General Meeting.

EC-20-12

Scott – MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee acknowledge this report and further direct staff to prepare a report regarding the regional status of Highland Glen, provide additional information on project estimates, and determine if commitments to maintain a safe harbour exist.”

CARRIED

Recent high water on Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair combined with strong wind and wave events on the lake have led to erosion of the shoreline. As a result, staff of the SCRCA are receiving many requests for emergency shoreline protection and stabilization works.

SCRCA staff do not oppose initiating temporary interim emergency shoreline stabilization works to protect life and/or property, or mitigate a potential health risk, from flooding and erosion hazards.

In situations where emergency works are required, SCRCA staff recognize that the municipality and or private landowner may need to complete interim emergency measures to protect their infrastructure/investment/property at risk from shoreline erosion, and temporarily stabilize the site while proper SCRCA permit review, supported by required coastal, geotechnical, and /structural engineering is undertaken (as required based on site specific location).

In the above situation, staff of the SCRCA appreciate that something needs to be done and can provide 'temporary emergency works' permits. Staff of the SCRCA expedite these permits, but do require they be obtained. Conditions of these permits are determined on a site by site basis but could include requiring comments from an engineer familiar in coastal processes. Coastal Engineers can provide recommendations based on site specific conditions on how to properly stabilize the site. Proponents should also consider all feasible alternatives to protect life and property (i.e. dwelling relocation, bluff stabilization, shoreline erosion protection, bio-engineering, planting on the bluff, etc.). In order to provide a permit for temporary emergency works, the SCRCA will require drawings and plans showing what is being proposed. These plans do not have to be stamped engineered drawings at this stage, however, as noted above it is recommended that proponents consult with a Coastal Engineer as permits for the ultimate long term solution may require Coastal Engineered Drawings and/or review and approval.

In situations where the emergency works are minor maintenance and repair to existing shoreline protection structures comments from a coastal engineer may not be required to complete interim emergency repair and maintenance works to existing shoreline protection, but would be required for a separate SCRCA Permit Application should the proponent wish to proceed with or require ultimate works for major repair or replacement.

If there is an imminent risk to infrastructure/investment/property and landowners need to complete interim emergency shoreline stabilization works, the Authority recommends that the landowner outline what the proposed interim emergency shoreline stabilization works on the property will consist of, and if feasible obtain comments from a coastal engineer with recommendations on appropriate temporary stabilization measures for the site, with a survey of the property showing that all proposed works will be completed within their property limits, neighbour notification forms completed from adjacent neighbours, and proper landowner authorization if works will not be completed entirely within the subject property limits. Generally, the SCRCA will include a condition on the permit that the temporary measures are not a permanent solution. Once temporary measures have been established, the proponents are required to submit an application within an appropriate timeframe (this is done in consultation with the landowner and depends on the situation) for the ultimate permanent solution (i.e. new shoreline protection, major repair, or replacement of existing protection).

When the above information is submitted, the SCRCA can respond with prompt written permission for the interim emergency shoreline stabilization works on a proponent's property based on the understanding that a separate SCRCA Permit Application for the ultimate works **with the required coastal engineering review** will be applied for, and a permit obtained within a reasonable/feasible timeframe.

The SCRCA recommends that in general, the proponent ensure the following best management practices are met for emergency shoreline stabilization works:

- 1) Contact SCRCA staff, SCRCA staff will complete a site visit as soon as possible and refer to SCRCA Shoreline Management Plan and its referenced documents, and provide proponent with appropriate information;
- 2) If feasible, obtain comments from an engineer familiar in coastal process, including all feasible alternatives that have been considered and the coastal engineer recommendations based on the site-specific assessment to temporarily remedy and stabilize the subject property.
 - a. In situations where the emergency works are minor maintenance and repair to existing shoreline protection structures comments from a coastal engineer may not be required to complete interim emergency shore protection, but would be required for a separate SCRCA Permit Application for the ultimate works should they require major repair or replacement.
- 3) Detailed drawings outlining the proposed works to stabilize the site. Drawings do not have to be stamped engineered drawings at this stage.

- 4) That, if required, a permit application for the ultimate works is applied for, and approved and completed within a reasonable timeframe;
- 5) That the nature and scope of the interim emergency shoreline works is identified (i.e. to address accelerated erosion causing risk to life and/or property, critical infrastructure/primary dwelling in imminent risk, existing shoreline protection works failure or imminent risk of failure), and that proposed stabilization works are completed in accordance with the document noted below;
 - a. SCRCA Shoreline Management Plans and further technical documents referenced within the SMP;
- 6) Works are completed on proponent's property only, and coordinated with adjacent property owners;
 - a. Clear delineation of land ownership with survey showing that the proposed works are within the proponent's property limits, neighbour notification forms from both adjacent landowners, and proper landowner authorization if works are not within the subject property limits.
- 7) That all sediment and erosion control measures be installed prior to commencement of the works and be maintained until all disturbed areas have been rehabilitated to pre-construction conditions or better, at which time they will be removed;
 - a. Works are to be isolated and contained to ensure that silt, sediment and debris is not transported downstream, and no concrete enters the water;
 - b. No works within the water;

It is important to note that temporary works may not be 100% effective, and that if materials used are not appropriate for final design, or if final remedial plan includes restoration to ensure no adverse impacts to the control of flooding and erosion, temporary works must be removed, which may increase the costs of installing the final permanent solution. Also, SCRCA may have to follow through under compliance and enforcement where a proper permit with final detailed coastal engineering designs are not obtained within a reasonable timeframe.

Due to the severe hazards associated with Lake Huron, the SCRCA recommends that landowners contact a qualified coastal engineer as soon as possible to properly address erosion concerns. Coastal engineers can provide further details on proper design at site specific locations, assess existing conditions, and include if there are any immediate natural hazard risks to the existing dwelling that should be addressed and/or if emergencies measures are required. They can outline preferred option(s) to mitigate any potential impacts updrift/downdrift and at the site, adverse impacts to coastal processes, and measures to mitigate any potential new hazards and any adverse impact on the control of flooding and erosion. For the final detailed design, coastal engineers can complete a "Shoreline Action Plan" and provide detailed engineered design and drawings. Coastal Engineers should; ensure the landowner's purpose and objectives of the works are met; that the design is based on accepted engineering and scientific principles; that the works are designed to appropriate protection works standards that can withstand the severe coastal environment; ensure no new hazards

are created; ensure existing hazards are not aggravated; and that adverse environmental impacts do not result.

Emergency Measures – Accelerated erosion causing risk to life and/or property, critical infrastructure/primary dwelling in imminent risk, existing shoreline protection works failure or imminent risk of failure.

Note: Where emergency shoreline protection stabilizations works are being completed the effectiveness and life expectancy (or design life) of the works are unknown and cannot be defined where detailed engineering analysis is not completed for the works.

EC-20-13

Burrell – Loosley

“That the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 6, 2020 regarding the SCRCA Interim Emergency Shoreline Stabilization Works Process and directs staff to implement the process as outlined in the report.”

CARRIED

Further to new business item 17.1 at the December 12, 2019 Board of Directors meeting, staff of the SCRCA have met with the Shoreline Erosion Collective Coalition (SECC), a group of private landowners in Lambton County, on two occasions (January 9 and 31, 2020) and completed two on-site visits.

The SECC outlined to SCRCA Chair and staff that the recently formed group is in response to the hardships landowners are facing when trying to get permit approval from the SCRCA in relation to constructing erosion control on properties along Lake Huron.

It is staff of the SCRCA’s understanding that the SECC wishes to, in the short term, work with the SCRCA in a positive and proactive manner to mitigate the accelerated erosion, and ask that emergency policies be implemented to speed up the permit process.

Through ongoing dialogue and site visits, SCRCA staff and the SECC are working with watershed landowners and have taken steps towards;

- Better communication and clearing up misunderstandings around SCRCA permit application process and requirements for shoreline protection works;
 - Improved response time, communication and messaging are key to help streamline the permit approval process;
- Improved interim emergency shoreline stabilization works process.

For longer term solutions staff of the SCRCA understand that the SECC is looking to the SCRCA & Municipalities to be the up front providers of relevant information, standards

and guidelines and the back end support for the property owners to ensure any work meets appropriate standards.

The SECC is seeking a transparent process designed for the future and for the current emergency situation. The current high water levels require a rapid response mechanism to allow for immediate attention to damaged or endangered shoreline.

Staff of the SCRCA understand that going forward the SECC would like to see a set of standards for shoreline protection & remediation. The basis for this they believe already exists from many prior studies, and that the SCRCA can use that information to set the base line designs for key structures (e.g. groynes, sheet metal walls, revetments), and provide basic design drawings & guidelines to homeowners, producing more acceptable results with a quicker turnaround and less cost.

The SECC has outlined that they wish the SCRCA & Municipalities to be proactive, and provide resources and guidance to the property owners on the state of their property at the shoreline, what could be done to guard against future storm or high water level damage and where to access the tools to get work done (e.g. engineers, surveyors, plans, designs, contractors, etc.).

Federal, Provincial and Local Municipal Support

Staff of the SCRCA have also met with Federal and Provincial Members of Parliament to outline impacts of high water levels on Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair. Further, representatives from City of Sarnia Council, Town of Plympton-Wyoming, as well as from MP Gladu's and MPP Bailey's office have attended the January 9 and/or 31 meetings.

The SCRCA will continue to look for opportunities and support, and forward detailed information on the issue to federal and provincial governments to investigate/seek funding opportunities to assist our member municipalities in dealing with this issue.

Design Considerations for Shore Protection Structures, W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd., January 1992

General recommendations for appropriate shoreline structures is needed for shoreline residents.

SCRCA staff are recommending an update to the January 1992 Design Considerations for Shore Protection Structures. The document is 25 years old.

Several chapters need to be updated including: water levels, geotechnical considerations, inclusion of Lambton Shores and Sarnia and West Ipperwash dynamic beach information, shoreline protection design concepts and improvements to existing structures, permits and approvals, etc.

It is proposed this document be specific to the reaches of SCRCA shoreline with cross sections extractable for residents and that the document and information be made user

website friendly for resident use. For example, web site links to applicable structure cross sections and other applicable information for each area.

Therefore, staff recommend that a request for proposal be develop to obtain the costs and timelines to engage a coastal engineer to update the document “Design Considerations for Shore Protection Structures” 1992 including providing direction as outlined above, and for information required to accompany an application for shore protection to ensure that shoreline processes are not impacted and negative impacts on other shoreline properties are not created. This resource would be comparable to a similar document created for the shorelines of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority which was updated in 2017. This project will be included in any funding proposals submitted to senior government. It is unclear at this time whether a municipal funding component would be required under a senior government funding proposal.

Moving Forward

Based on above, and meetings with the SECC, SCRCA staff are recommending the following approaches be considered by the Executive Committee during high water levels;

Task	Description
1	<p>Implement SCRCA Interim Emergency Shoreline Stabilization Works Process (See staff board report 9.1) to address SECC concerns during high water levels around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The emergency situation along the shoreline w.r.t accelerated erosion, risk to life and/or property, and existing shoreline structure failure; • Improving turnaround timelines and reducing costs for SCRCA permit approvals for emergency shoreline stabilization works;
2	<p>Implement Further Outreach, Education and Awareness to address SECC concerns around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCRCA emergency shoreline stabilization works process, shoreline protection works permit process and standards; • Landownership Issues along the Lake Huron shoreline; • Neighbour consent; • Cost of Shoreline Protection Structures; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Type of Structures Permitted; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shoreline works can be completed in accordance with SCRCA Shoreline Management Plans and further documents referenced within the SMP; ○ Importance of appropriate proper vegetation with shoreline protection (Bio-Engineering); • Clarify other agency roles and perceived duplicative process (MNRF, DFO, etc.); • Continued meeting and improved communication with stakeholders etc. including;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On-Line presence/website, at SCRCA Office, and meetings with Landowners and Stakeholders; ● Contacts for Landowners (e.g. engineers, surveyors, plans, designs, contractors, etc.).
3	<p>Seek Funding/Support Opportunities (Federal, Provincial, and Local Municipal Levels) for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Design Considerations for Shoreline Protection; ● Coastal engineering designs for permit approvals; ● Designs for existing groynes, and groyne field design/discussions for specific reaches; ● Collaborative approach for In-water works, including funding and speed of approvals; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bring DFO, MNRF, SCRCA, Municipality etc. together in discussions; ● Identify high risk areas with imminent risk to critical infrastructure/building/structures etc. and preferred solutions; ● Increased SCRCA staff resources and coastal expertise for current and upcoming emergency shoreline stabilization works permit response needs, etc.; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Look into providing additional resources at the local level to inspect private property shorelines and give guidance to the property owner on the state of their property at the shoreline, BMP, and what could be done.

EC-20-14

Gordon – MacKinnon

“That the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 6, 2020 regarding the update on meetings with the SECC and directs staff to proceed with Tasks 1 to 3 as noted in the report.”

CARRIED

On January 17, 2020, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs posted the above noted document on the Environmental Registry for comment. The following details the comments to be formally submitted by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority in the response to the above noted posting.

The posting Proposal summary states;

“OMAFRA is proposing changes to the Drainage Act that would reduce burden, streamline approvals and address stakeholder concerns while maintaining environmental standards.”

SCRCA staff understand that further opportunity for consultation on the more specific changes to the *Drainage Act* will take place. OMAFRA has committed to consulting

further on more specific changes to be included in a regulatory proposal specific for minor drain improvements.

Feedback can be submitted via the EBR posting prior to February 18th and will be used considered during the development of possible legislative amendments.

Generally, reports summarizing feedback to be distributed to participants, any proposed specific legislative, regulatory or policy changes will be subject to further public consultation (e.g. subsequent Environmental Registry postings), notices of any next steps will be provided to anyone who has participated in the review to date.

Strategic Objectives

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

Current action

Ontario Regulation 171/06, Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses: Through this regulation, development that impacts a provincially significant wetland is subject to a permit which requires that the development does not adversely affect the hydrologic functions of the wetland. Municipal Drains: The Conservation Authorities (CA) Act gives the responsibility to Conservation Authorities to regulate activities that change, divert, or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse (including municipal drains) or for changing or interfering in any way with a wetland. Through provincial direction, under the Drainage Act & Section 28 Regulations Team (DART) protocol, the SCRCA provides standard compliance requirements for drain maintenance and repair projects for municipalities. The Drainage Act also has statutory provisions which directly engage the Conservation Authority.

Strategic Action

Continue to Develop Streamlined/Efficient Processes. It is always our intent to provide responses for permits, standard compliance requirements, and comments to municipalities in a timely manner. Improvements can always be made and we will work with our partners to ensure our responses are thorough and are provided as quickly as possible.

Proposed comments and responses on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs consultation on “Drainage Act Discussion Paper” were reviewed.

EC-20-15

MacKinnon – Scott

“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the proposed comments on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs consultation on “Drainage Act Discussion Paper” Posted by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to the Environmental Registry ERO #019-1187 and further directs staff to submit these comments on behalf of the Authority.”

CARRIED

Every March, the SCRCA holds a Maple Syrup Festival that attracts local residents and visitors to the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area in the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston. The festival is held during the final weekend of March Break. Interpretive staff demonstrate the different methods of maple syrup production throughout history including those used by local Indigenous People, pioneers and by more modern operations.

Attractions and activities at the festival have varied, however, over the last several years admission has included access to the trails throughout the Conservation Area, horse-drawn wagon rides and maple taffy tasting. The Alvinston Firefighters’ Association also host their traditional pancake and sausage breakfast at the nearby Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre during the event, where visitors can purchase food and locally-made maple syrup.

Admission to the Conservation Area is \$5 per car, and proceeds go towards maintenance costs and improvements to the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area.

Attendance and Revenue

As with any outdoor event, weather plays a significant role in annual attendance.

Estimated Annual Attendance and Revenue		
Year	# of visitors (approximate values)	Revenue (approximate values)
2019	800	\$1,000
2018	1300	\$1,625
2017	700	\$875
2016	800	\$1,000

In addition to the two-day festival, maple syrup conservation education programming is offered the week preceeding the public event which attracts Grade 2 and 3 classes from schools throughout the watershed. Standard education program fees are charged.

Outdoor Program Fees

\$5.50 per student for two-hour program

\$10.00 per student for 4 hours (2 programs)

Minimum Fee: \$110.00 per instructor (per two-hour program)

Staff Time

Typical staff requirements for the two-day public Maple Syrup Festival are as follows:

Estimated Staff Time		
Staff Member	# days	Duties
Conservation Area Staff - 3 (i.e., Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Manager of Conservation Areas)	5	Pre-festival site prep (i.e., grade roadways, identify parking hazards, etc.), morning display and evening site prep (i.e., start fires), gate attendant
Education Staff – 2 (Conservation Education Coordinator, Conservation Education Technician)	3	Pre-festival display set-up, deliver demonstrations
Additional Communications Staff - 1	2	Prepare maple taffy, take photographs, manage fires, address any issues that arise during the event

Sugar Shack

In the 1970's a functional sugar shack was built at the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area to support Authority programs. The sugar shack played a key role in the educational component of the maple syrup demonstrations, however, due to structural issues, the building was demolished prior to the 2016 festival.

Proposed “Demonstration-Sized” Sugar Shack – École secondaire catholique Saint-François-Xavier

2020 Student-Led Sugar Shack Project

Through a continuing partnership with *École secondaire catholique Saint-François-Xavier* (SFX), the SCRCA Education team has an opportunity to participate in a multi-year, multi-class, cross-curricular project. As part of this project Grade 11 and 12 manufacturing students will use their math and technical skills (under guidance from their instructors) to design, budget & build a small, demonstration-sized sugar shack at A.W. Campbell Conservation Area. The building will benefit SCRCA's future Maple Syrup Festivals and 'Maple Syrup Experience' student field trips.

In addition to the benefits the sugar shack will have for the maple syrup season, this project will help to strengthen and expand our partnership with *École secondaire catholique Saint-François-Xavier*. The teachers and administration staff at this school are committed to create real-world, community-based projects for their students to participate in. SCRCA is able to offer this type of experience and in return has benefited both financially (through Educational Fees) and through improvements to our Conservation Areas. For example, in the spring of 2018, SCRCA worked with students to improve the safety and accessibility to a trail section at LC Henderson Conservation Area. The students were allotted a budget of \$3000 by the school board for the project. The trail improvements including labour and installation were donated to SCRCA in return for providing the students an opportunity to use their skills in the community.

Funding for the proposed sugar shack will again be provided by *École secondaire catholique Saint-François-Xavier*. The project plan includes pouring a cement pad and building a small wood structure (built to code) with large viewing doors. The doors will allow the public to view the evaporator and steam without entering the building.

Future Involvement of SFX in Maple Syrup Festival

SFX is interested in expanding their participation in future Maple Syrup Festivals. In addition to the structure, the school has suggested that Grade 11 and 12 students could deliver the maple syrup demonstrations in French to their younger peers as part of their Leadership Training and French Cultural Experiences priorities. This opportunity would be a great way to introduce the French Elementary Schools to our Outdoor Education programs, as our lack of French programming has created a barrier, preventing SCRCA staff from connecting with these schools, teachers & students.

Evaporator

While funding is secured for the building materials and construction of the sugar shack, SFX has been unable to secure funding for the evaporator. Regardless, SFX staff have identified a company that sells evaporators (and will store it until it can be installed). With board support, staff recommend approaching the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation to fund this purchase (details below):

Evaporator

- Cost - \$2269 (includes installation)
- Size – 18” x 48”
- Requires HVAC company certification – SFX has approached their HVAC company to inquire as to whether they could do this free-of-charge.

EC-20-16

Burrell – Scott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledge this report and further direct staff on next steps regarding the proposed construction of a model sugar shack and purchase of an evaporator for the annual Maple Syrup Festival held at the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area in March.”

CARRIED

EC-20-17

“That the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

Joe Faas
Chair



Brian McDougall
General Manager



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

Board Approved Administrative By-Laws – November, 2018

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

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

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

Board Member Name: _____

Board Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 18, 2020
Submitted by: Brian McDougall

Item 15.1

Subject: General Manager's Report

Recommendation:

That this report be accepted as an update.

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Conservation Authority Consultation Engagement Sessions:

- In November, the Chair, Vice Chair and myself, met with the Minister's staff to present a brief outlining the Authority's programs & projects
- At that time, it was confirmed that broader consultation was planned for early 2020
- In late January, it was confirmed that 3 consultations would be hosted by MECP in Barrie, Peterborough (moved to Colborne) and London
- In his opening remarks on February 14th in London, Minister Yurek announced there will be a fourth consultation in North Bay with details to be announced in the near future
- Minister Yurek also confirmed that Conservation Authorities will not be disbanded and that changes to legislation have not been drafted and will not be until consultation is completed
- The Chair, Vice and 4 other Board members were in attendance at the London Session and their attendance is greatly appreciated
- Each of the consultation sessions has included presentations by several non-government organizations and corporations
- In London, these included Conservation Ontario, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Ducks Unlimited Canada, London Homebuilders Association, EndPointe Development Inc., and the Federation of Ontario Cottager's Association

- This was followed by discussions at diverse assigned seated tables of eight (including a MECP staff recorder) regarding:
 - Mandatory and Non-mandatory Programs and Services
 - The Existing Conservation Authority Model
 - Partnerships and Collaborations
 - Additional Feedback
- There was exchange of views with our table colleagues regarding our opinions on what the Conservation Authorities, the roles and responsibilities, strengths and weaknesses, and governance
- A link to the Conservation Authorities Consultation survey has been provided below which we have been asked to share with other members of your organization or other organizations as appropriate

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-ontario-conservation-authorities>

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 15, 2020
Submitted by: Ashley Fletcher

Item 15.1

Subject: Business Arising

Regarding BD-18-144

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

Deferred to April, 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.

Deferred to April, 2020

Regarding EC-20-04

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

Deferred to April, 2020

Regarding EC-20-12

SCRCA staff are requested to meet with Town of Plympton-Wyoming to discuss possibility of a temporary closure of the Highland Glen Conservation Area and report back to the Board of Directors at the Feb 27, 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Please refer to Item 15.4

Meeting Schedule Update: The June Project Tour originally scheduled for June 25th, 2020 at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area will now take place on June 18th, 2020.

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 5, 2020
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 15.3

Subject: Conservation Areas Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas report dated February 5, 2020.

Background:

- The Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas
- Seven are managed by the local municipality and 8 are operated by the Conservation Authority
- Three of the eight CA's operated by SCRCA are regional campgrounds offering seasonal camping, overnight camping, and day use opportunities
- Combined, the three campgrounds have over 500 campsites, 420 of these are occupied by seasonal campers
- Surplus Revenues from the campgrounds are held in reserve to fund capital upgrades in the campgrounds
- The camping season in 2020 runs from April 24 to Thanksgiving Day

Launch of CAMIS On-line Reservation System for Camping

On January 6, 2020, SCRCA launched its first on-line camping reservation system. The launch was very successful with almost 120 reservations made in the first 20 minutes. The system did pose some challenges when first launched. A couple minor glitches were discovered which CAMIS has worked to resolve. A few customers had challenges using the on-line system and were guided through the process by SCRCA staff.



**On-Line Camping
Reservations**

Click the image for details

- As of January 31, 2020 payments received for overnight camping totalled \$99,827
- Payments received by January 31, 2019 totalled \$77,562
- Overnight camping revenue as of January 31, 2020 was up 28% from 2019
- Starting March 16, 2020 customers will be able to reserve campsites by calling the parks directly or continue to book on-line

Recent Campground Improvements (fall/winter):

Warwick Conservation Area

- Fiber optic internet cable installed to three locations. Internet will be available to campers at two hub locations.
- Two new internet hub locations being constructed, a pavilion behind the gatehouse on the west side of the park and a new internet building in the day use area on the east side of the park
- A wetland was constructed to reduce erosion, improve water quality, and provide important wildlife habitat. Funding for the project was provided by the Habitat Stewardship Program, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation.



Internet building at Warwick CA



- 200m of reservoir shoreline will no longer be mowed to the waters edge. A 2-meter perimeter will be naturalized to reduce shoreline erosion.
- Drainage tile installed to improve drainage in the day use area (around the mini-golf course) and drainage installed for 4 seasonal lots that experienced standing water during wet Spring conditions



Wetland construction at Warwick CA



Drainage installation at Warwick CA

Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

- A new boardwalk has been constructed in one of the ponds to be used by the Education department and campers/visitors
- A walking lane has been created along a short stretch of the entrance lane to separate vehicle and pedestrian traffic



New boardwalk for Education and Camper use



New walking lane

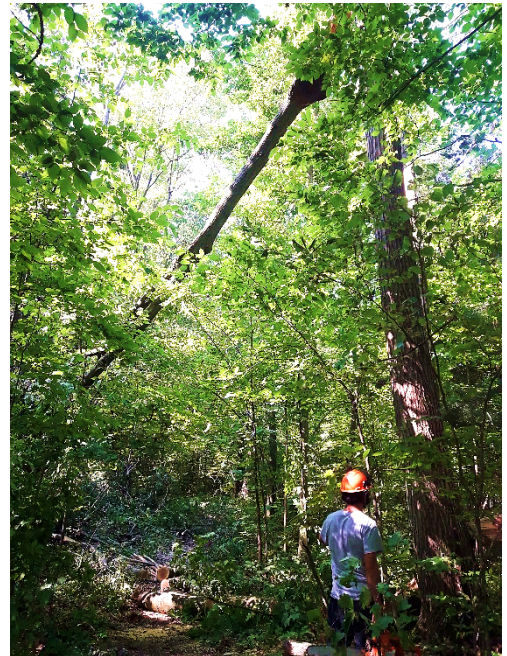
Day Use Conservation Areas:

- A wetland has been constructed at Bridgeview CA. Including the wetland, approximately 2 acres of park will be naturalized. More than 50 dead standing (hazard) trees were cut down and removed from the park. Trees and native pollinator habitat will be planted in the spring.



Wetland Construction at Bridgeview CA

- Almost 50 hazard trees were cut down at Wawanosh CA improving safety along the trails. This spring/summer the existing viewing platform will be decommissioned and a new boardwalk will be constructed extending into the South wetland cell providing improved wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Almost 100 hazard trees were cut down at Strathroy CA improving safety along the trails. Following a January flood, 15 sections of boardwalk had to be rebuilt/repositioned. Planning has begun to upgrade existing boardwalks this spring/summer including installation of some new sections.
- Funding has been secured from Enbridge to conduct phragmites removal at Peers Wetland CA in 2020. Funding will be used to purchase required materials including waders, cane cutters, and personal protective equipment. Work will be completed by volunteers, and organized by the Sydenham Field Naturalists with support of SCRCA staff.
- At Coldstream CA, both the municipality and SCRCA worked to remove hazard trees along the wetland trail. Approximately 30 hazard trees were cut down. Boardwalk repairs were completed in November after sections were damaged during a fall storm.



Hazard Tree clean up after a storm

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 18, 2020
Submitted by: Greg Wilcox

Item 15.4

Subject: Temporary Closure of Highland Glen Boat Ramp

Recommendation:

That the boat ramp at Highland Glen be closed for the 2020 season.

Background:

Highland Glen Conservation Area comprises approximately 26 acres of predominantly wooded land. Situated on the Lake Huron shoreline, it is located in Plympton-Wyoming approximately 10km west of Forest. The property was purchased as two parcels, one in 1976 and one in 1977. The Conservation Area contains an access roadway, parking lot, pavilion, and boat ramp with seawall and groyne protection.

The groyne on the west side of the boat ramp was constructed by the landowner prior to acquisition by the Authority. In 1986/87 the access road, parking lot, and boat ramp were constructed. Due to safety concerns at the ramp, additional protection was constructed in 1990. The works consisted of a steel sheet pile and armour stone breakwall on the northeast side of the ramp and a steel sheet pile curtain wall connected to the existing groyne on the southwest side.



Highland Glen Ramp Protection 1990

Damage to original groyne Nov. 29, 2019

In late November, damage occurred to the 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.



Air photograph with the extent of erosion shown as of February 3, 2020.



Erosion exposing the steel sheet wall that supports the boat ramp.



Erosion from the west is moving around the ramp protection.



Sediment accumulation adjacent to the ramp.



Erosion east of the ramp is approaching the parking lot.

Safety Concerns:

- Waves coming from the west can create rough conditions at the ramp
- High water may not allow walkways along the boat ramp to be installed at a safe height above water level
- Since groyne failure, sediment has quickly accumulated beside the ramp which may impact the ability to launch and navigate within the ramp protection
- Erosion has exposed the eastern side of the retaining wall that supports the boat ramp

Financial Impact:

Costs of repairs are unknown at this time.

Estimated costs of closing the boat ramp for 2020 include:

- \$800 to place 2 concrete barricades at the entry to the ramp
- \$400 for temporary closure signs at Highland Glen CA
- \$8,640 (average of 2017 – 2019) in lost revenue from the boat ramp

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 12, 2020
Submitted by: Emily De Cloet

Item 15.5

Subject: Current Watershed Conditions

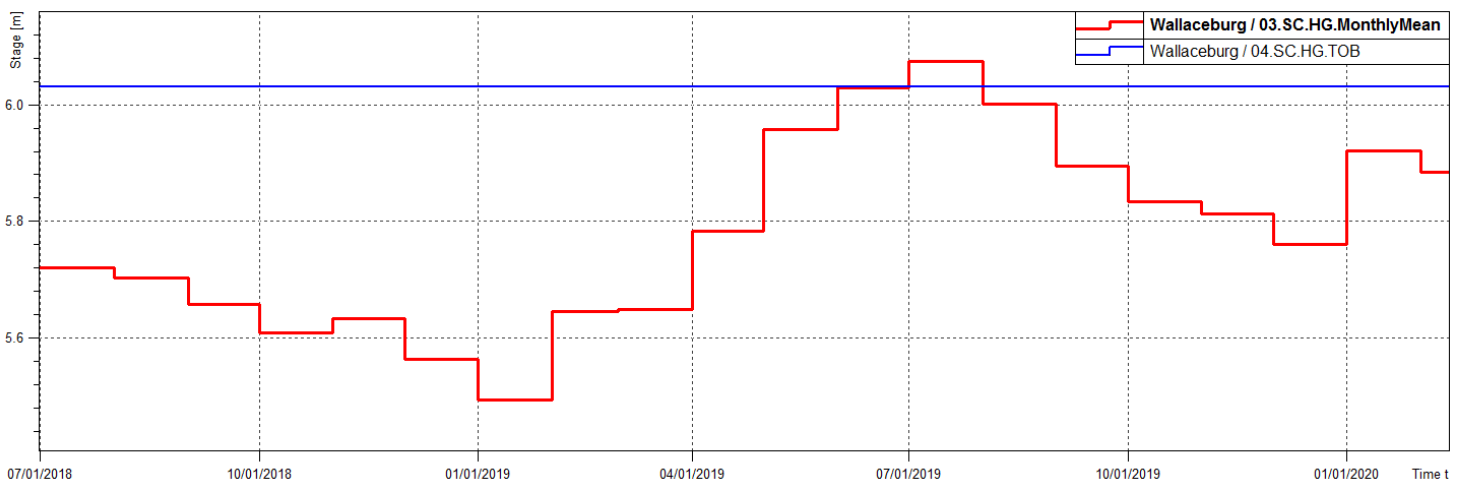
Highlights:

- Flood threat is moderate due to high water levels on the Great Lakes and in Wallaceburg; ice is not currently a threat
- Lake Huron exceeded its 1987 record-high in January by 8cm, Lake St. Clair met its record
- Water levels for Lakes Huron and St. Clair are projected to exceed record levels over the next 5 months into June
- Precipitation was well below normal in November and December; long-term regional averages are on par with regional normals

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. Fluctuating temperatures and precipitation this winter has resulted in minimal snowpack and ice cover.

Figure 1: Monthly average water levels at Wallaceburg compared to top of bank.



- January 2020 water levels in Wallaceburg were 43cm higher than January 2019
- Currently only 15cm freeboard between top of bank and water level

Great Lakes Levels

Table 1: Comparison of Great Lakes water levels for January 2020. Source: US Army Corps of Engineers, 2020.

January 2020	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (Preliminary Data)	177.26	175.80	174.80
Mean for Month Last Year	176.81	175.41	174.63
Change	0.45	0.39	0.17
Mean, for period 1918-2019	176.30	174.85	174.01
Change Compared to Current	0.96	0.95	0.79
Statistics for Period of Record			
Maximum Monthly Mean / Year	177.18	175.80	174.86
	1987	1986	1987
Change Compared to Current	0.08	0	-0.06
Minimum Monthly Mean / Year	175.57	173.88	173.21
	2013	1936	1935
Change Compared to Current	1.69	1.92	1.59

- Lake Huron exceeded the 1987 record by 8cm, while Lake St. Clair met its record level
- Lake Huron is projected to exceed record-high water levels over the next 6 months into July
- Lake St. Clair is projected to exceed record-high water levels over the next 5 months into June

Precipitation Conditions

Table 2: Precipitation totals compared to monthly normals.

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
Last Quarter								
November	50.3	76.4	52.4	94.5	59.3	91.1	29.7	75.5
December	32.9	68	21.8	92.4	48.2	88.6	48.9	74.7
January	99.5	50.1	128.4	75.3	129.6	74.2	89.2	57.6
Averages								
last 3 month totals	182.7	194.5	202.6	262.2	237.1	253.9	167.8	207.8
last 3 month % of normal	93.9%		77.3%		93.4%		80.8%	
regional average	86.3%							
last 6 month totals	459.1	431.6	533.2	504.9	521.1	514.5	395.8	448.6
last 6 month % of normal	106.4%		105.6%		101.3%		88.2%	
regional average	100.4%							
last 12 month totals	876.4	846.8	1076	945.1	1105.2	987	876.2	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	103.5%		113.9%		112.0%		95.4%	
regional average	106.2%							

- Precipitation was below normal in November and December 2019, however significant rainfall in January 2020 has increased the overall average for the past 3 months
- Long-term precipitation averages are on par with precipitation normals

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 14, 2020
Submitted by: Girish Sankar

Item 15.6

Subject: Water and Erosion Control Projects

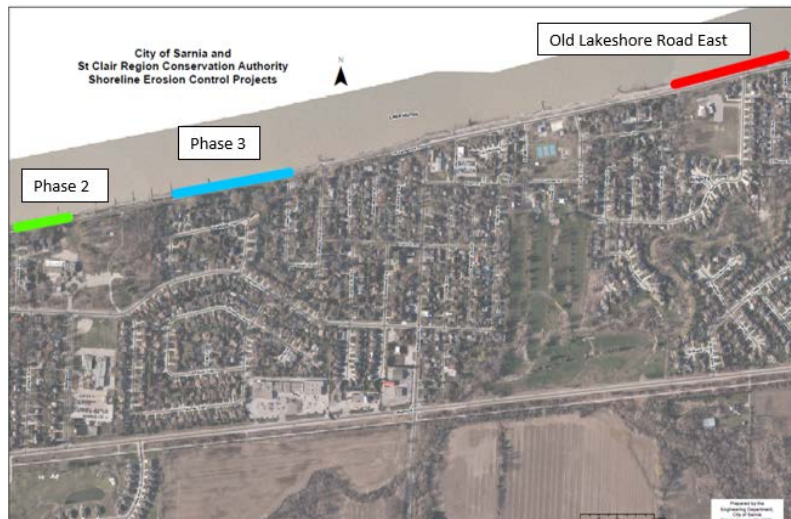
Courtright Waterfront Park – Phase 3



- DiCocco Contractors was awarded the contract work on December 18, 2019 at a value of \$314,512.90 inclusive of H.S.T. for the shoreline improvement work that involves construction of approximately 70 metres of an armour stone revetment.
- A Contract Change Order was required to be issued in the amount of \$14,400 to remove trees at the shoreline within the Phase 3 work area, not already identified in the contract.
- Work commenced the week of January 20, 2020 with tree removal along the shoreline.
- SCRCA staff will have discussions over opportunities for tree replacement once the project work is complete.
- A stormwater outfall along the shoreline has been identified as needing replacement. SCRCA staff are working with SCRCA's consulting engineer, St. Clair Township, and the contractor to ensure that the outfall is replaced to the satisfaction of the municipality, as part of this contract work.



Bright's Grove Shoreline Erosion Control Projects: Three Locations



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

- Cope Construction was awarded the contract work on October 24, 2019 at a value of \$890,111.17 inclusive of H.S.T.
- Work commenced in December 2019 and remains underway.
- Shoreline work progressing slower as expected
- An extension of approximately 50 m will be included as a part of this work and a change order will be issued.
- High water levels posing construction challenges and reducing the work days.
- All in water works must be completed before March 15, 2020.



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

- Six tenders were submitted.
- The low tender was submitted by Amico Infrastructures (Oxford) Inc. at a value of \$2,206,534.86, inclusive of H.S.T.
- Based on the experience listed in the tender, the contractor had the ability to complete the work. The contractor also had the ability to work immediately upon award and execution of the contract.
- The contract was awarded to Amico on January 18, 2020.
- A site meeting was held on January 21, 2020 and site work began on February 10, 2020.



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

- Six tenders were submitted.
- The low tender was submitted by Facca Incorporated Inc. at a value of \$1,570,774.00, inclusive of H.S.T.

- Based on the experience listed in the tender, the contractor had the ability to complete the work. The contractor also had the ability to work immediately upon award and execution of the contract.
- The contract was awarded to Facca Incorporated on January 16, 2020.
- A site meeting was held on January 21, 2020 and site work began on February 10, 2020.



Meeting Date: February 27, 2020 **Item 15.7**
Report Date: February 3, 2020
Submitted by: Erica Ogden, Sarah Hodgkiss

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 November 2019 to January 2020.

Municipal Plan Input and Review			
File Reference	Location	Municipality	Municipal File Reference
PL#2018-027	4225 Calvert Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe	B03-2018, B12-2019
PL#2019-109	1425 Melwood Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe	OPA1 Z02 2020
PL#2019-114	527 Second Street	Adelaide-Metcalfe	
PL#2019-104	4429 Nauvoo Road	Brooke-Alvinston	A005-19
PL#2019-107	8068 Petrolia Line	Brooke-Alvinston	B006/19
PL#2019-007	29065 Bluewater Crescent	Chatham-Kent	A53/19
PL#2018-111	Country View Drive	Enniskillen	38T-07001
PL#2019-011	9532 & 9569 Ipperwash Road	Lambton Shores	ZO-02/2019 B-09/2019, B-10/2019
PL#2019-106	9628 Richardson Drive	Lambton Shores	A-26/2019
PL#2019-113	6500 West Parkway Drive	Lambton Shores	
PL#2018-023	Ilderton Road	Middlesex Centre	39T-MC1701
PL#2018-119	Timberwalk Trail	Middlesex Centre	39T-MC0401
PL#2019-008	Timberwalk Trail	Middlesex Centre	ZBA 03 2019 39T-MC1901
PL#2019-058	3935 Tile Yard Road	Petrolia	
PL#2019-112	546 Maude Street	Petrolia	
PL#2018-109	North of 6810 King Street	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2018-062	7096 Bonnie Doone Road	Plympton-Wyoming	B11/19

PL#2018-022	Queen Street	Plympton-Wyoming	51-2018 38T-18004 B01-2018, B01-2
PL#2018-114	Queen Street	Plympton-Wyoming	OPA 42
PL#2018-116	3790 Lakeshore Road	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2019-081	5223 Douglas Line	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2019-085	3272 Devonshire Road	Plympton-Wyoming	A18-19
PL#2019-096	4072 Bluepoint Drive	Plympton-Wyoming	A17-19
PL#2019-102	Fleming & Queen Street	Plympton-Wyoming	38T-19004
PL#2019-111	5611 Hubbard Line	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2020-0001	3368 London Line	Plympton-Wyoming	OPA 41
PL#2020-0003	Exmouth Street	Point Edward	
PL#2018-084	2024 London Line	Sarnia	
PL#2018-081	544 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	B1/2019, B2/2019 A1/2019
PL#2018-014	834 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	OPA 12
PL#2018-072	1873 London Line	Sarnia	OPA 18 ZBA10-2019 SD2-2019
PL#2018-052	1273-1289 London Road	Sarnia	OPA 20 ZBA 1-2020
PL#2019-037	1961 Blackwell Road	Sarnia	B22/2019
PL#2019-076	21 Ube Drive	Sarnia	
PL#2019-088	6491 Waterworks Road	Sarnia	
PL#2019-103	1265 Vidal Street South	Sarnia	OPA19 9-2019-85 SD3-2019
PL#2019-105	1324 Michigan Avenue	Sarnia	
PL#2019-108	Modeland Road and Michigan Ave	Sarnia	
PL#2019-110	1852 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	A03-2020
PL#2020-0002	1249 London Line	Sarnia	OPA 20 ZBA 13-2019
PL#2019-050	3355 Lobelia Drive	Southwest Middlesex	ZBA P6-2019
PL#2020-0004	Concession Drive	Southwest Middlesex	
PL#2019-093	697 Catalpa Way	St. Clair	B-06-19
PL#2019-098	Indian Road & St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	
PL#2018-103	Second Street	Strathroy-Carleton Place	

PL#2018-093	24321 Saxton Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2018-074	Park Street & Ridge Street	Strathroy-Caradoc	39T-SC1801
PL#2018-018	22805 Adelaide Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
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#2019-065	Bear Creek Golf Course	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2019-068	Queen St and Glendon Dr Mount Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA02-2020 39T-SC2001
PL#2019-084	101 Hull Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2019-099	8338 Scotchmere Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc	B34-2019
Total Plan Review Items: 54			

Environmental Assessments

File Reference	Location	Municipality
EA#2019-010	Municipality of Chatham-Kent	Chatham-Kent
EA#2019-011	Hwy 21 Lambton County	Lambton Shores
EA#2019-003	Hwy 40 and LaSalle Line	St. Clair
Total Environmental Assessments: 3		

Legal Inquiries

File Reference	Location	Municipality
LL#2019-049	1319 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe
LL#2019-054	Lands located in Camden Gore	Chatham-Kent
LL#2019-051	1158 Annett Road, Bothwell	Dawn-Euphemia
LL#2019-053	Lands located in Euphemia	Dawn-Euphemia
LL#2019-052	3993 Plowing Match Road	Enniskillen
LL#2019-048	1498 Plank Road	Sarnia
LL#2019-050	1380 London Road	Sarnia
LL#2019-069	1450 London Road, Sarnia	Sarnia
LL#2019-055	155 High Street East	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-056	Zimmerman Avenue, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-057	30-34 McNab Street, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-058	25 McNab Street, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc

LL#2019-059	Scott Street East, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-060	800 Wright Street, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2019-061	8451 Confederation Drive	Warwick
LL#2019-062	Lot east of 8345 Zion Line	Warwick
LL#2019-063	8109 Zion Line	Warwick
LL#2019-064	Pt Lot 16 Con 2 SER	Warwick
LL#2019-065	Lot 22 Con 3 SER	Warwick
LL#2019-066	Pt Lt 21-22 Con 4 Ser	Warwick
LL#2019-067	8190 Confederation Line	Warwick
LL#2019-068	Pt Lt 23-24 Con 5 Ser	Warwick
Total Legal Inquiries: 22		

R#2019-828	Lot 31, Con. 5 Marthaville Line	Dawn-Euphemia	HDD	2019-11-07	2019-11-07	1
R#2019-815	9338 West Ipperwash Road	Lambton Shores	HDD	2020-01-06	2020-01-08	2
R#2019-905	5159 Saint Anthony Crescent	Lambton Shores	Detached Garage & Driveway	2019-11-26	2019-12-18	22
R#2019-352	414 Warren Avenue	Petrolia	Construct New Dwelling	2019-10-23	2019-11-05	13
R#2019-819	450 Blanche Street, Petrolia	Petrolia	Addition	2019-11-18	2019-11-26	8
R#2019-754	3856 Ferne Ave Camlachie	Plympton-Wyoming	groyne repair	2019-10-22	2019-11-08	17
R#2019-886	3272 Devonshire Road, Camlachie	Plympton-Wyoming	Remove existing dwelling and construct new 2 storey dwelling with attached garage	2019-12-06	2019-12-17	11
R#2019-830	1486 Coronation Lane	Sarnia	New Dwelling	2019-11-07	2019-11-07	1
R#2019-865	1265 Vidal Street, Sarnia	Sarnia	Intake Repairs	2019-11-26	2019-12-11	15
R#2019-875	5961 Blackwell Sideroad, Sarnia	Sarnia	Deck replacement, roof extension, construction of new barn	2019-12-06	2019-12-19	13
R#2019-887	1758 Confederation Line	Sarnia	Construction of a new deck and pool	2019-12-17	2019-12-20	3
R#2019-912	1900 River Road, Sarnia	Sarnia	Integrity Dig	2019-12-20	2020-01-06	17
R#2020-0027	1464 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	Seawall Replacement	2020-01-23	2020-01-30	7
R#2019-895	3355 Lobelia Drive, Alvinston	Southwest Middlesex	Wetland Maintenance	2019-12-12	2019-12-19	7
R#2019-060	2884 Kent Line	St. Clair	Tear Down and Rebuild New Single Family Dwelling	2019-12-13	2019-12-13	1
R#2019-342	3867 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	Addition on Existing Dwelling and Garage	2019-10-03	2019-11-01	29
R#2019-623	Township of St. Clair Road Allowance Austin Drain	St. Clair	Integrity Dig	2019-11-28	2019-11-28	1
R#2019-791	East of Hwy 40, North of Petrolia Line	St. Clair	Integrity Dig	2019-12-03	2019-12-20	17
R#2019-818	Hill Street, Corunna	St. Clair	Integrity Dig	2019-11-25	2019-11-25	1
R#2019-849	4500 St. Clair Parkway, Sombra	St. Clair	Land owner submit permit application for addition	2019-11-18	2019-11-27	9
R#2019-913	Pretty Road	St. Clair	submitted as DART	2020-01-07	2020-01-09	2
Total Permits Issued: 33		Average Number of Days to Issue Permit for this Period:		10.55		

Regulations Inquiries

FileReference	Municipality	Location
R#2020-0058	Adelaide-Metcalf	1319 Napperton Drive
R#2020-0019	Brooke-Alvinston	3202 Park Street
R#2020-0059	Brooke-Alvinston	8227 Rokeby Line, Alvinston
R#2020-0064	Brooke-Alvinston	7299 Churchill Line, Watford
R#2018-375	Chatham-Kent	15 Bayview Street
R#2018-414	Chatham-Kent	7005 and 7009 Dufferin Avenue
R#2019-801	Chatham-Kent	913 Elgin Street
R#2019-820	Chatham-Kent	8576 Dover Centre Line, Dover
R#2019-821	Chatham-Kent	206 Turnbull Avenue, Wallaceburg
R#2019-824	Chatham-Kent	10906 Croton Line
R#2019-829	Chatham-Kent	6228 Base Line Road, Wallaceburg
R#2019-844	Chatham-Kent	6085 Bluewater Line, Wallaceburg
R#2019-857	Chatham-Kent	539 Isaac Street, Dresden
R#2019-863	Chatham-Kent	720 Lowe Street, Wallaceburg
R#2019-869	Chatham-Kent	566 Sandra Crescent, Wallaceburg
R#2019-894	Chatham-Kent	7523 North River Line, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0005	Chatham-Kent	DD Street, Lot 12
R#2020-0007	Chatham-Kent	210 Hudson Crescent, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0008	Chatham-Kent	123 Mitchell Drive, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0020	Chatham-Kent	7188 Bassette Line
R#2020-0029	Chatham-Kent	295 St George Street, Dresden
R#2020-0047	Chatham-Kent	110 Water Street, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0050	Chatham-Kent	27706 St. Clair Road
R#2020-0060	Chatham-Kent	1018 Elizabeth Street, Wallaceburg
R#2019-351	Dawn-Euphemia	beside 548 Oil Heritage Road
R#2020-0002	Dawn-Euphemia	6194 Water St, Dawn-Euphemia
R#2020-0045	Dawn-Euphemia	5336 Edys Mills Line
R#2019-834	Enniskillen	3764 Oils Springs Line, Enniskillen
R#2019-837	Enniskillen	4178 Aberfeldy Line, Oil Springs
R#2019-240	Lambton Shores	7184 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-852	Lambton Shores	Cliff Road & Freeman Street, Lambton Shores
R#2019-860	Lambton Shores	Lot 23 Beach Street

R#2019-866	Lambton Shores	6202 Lakeshore Road, Bosanquet
R#2019-888	Lambton Shores	8388 Glendale Drive, Lambton Shores
R#2019-896	Lambton Shores	5428 Oak Avenue, Lambton Shores
R#2019-907	Lambton Shores	6320 William Street, Lambton Shores
R#2019-910	Lambton Shores	6230 Cedar Drive, Lambton Shores
R#2019-922	Lambton Shores	Spruce Street, Ipperwash
R#2020-0003	Lambton Shores	6754 East Parkway, Ipperwash
R#2020-0004	Lambton Shores	9625 Ipperwash Road
R#2020-0013	Lambton Shores	16 Eureka Street, Forest
R#2020-0036	Lambton Shores	Lot 23 (immediately east of 5471) Beach Street
R#2019-813	Middlesex Centre	Between 10383 and 10399 Ilderton Road, Coldstream
R#2020-0032	Middlesex Centre	11254 Ivan Drive
R#2020-0035	Middlesex Centre	9753 Gold Creek Drive (across 9772), Komoka
R#2019-841	Petrolia	546 Maude Street, Enniskillen
R#2018-388	Plympton-Wyoming	3260 Devonshire Road
R#2019-245	Plympton-Wyoming	3256 Devonshire Road
R#2019-778	Plympton-Wyoming	3888 Ferne Ave Plympton
R#2019-814	Plympton-Wyoming	5028 Lakeshore Road, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2019-817	Plympton-Wyoming	4148 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-826	Plympton-Wyoming	3074 Lake View Avenue, Plympton
R#2019-827	Plympton-Wyoming	4672 Lakeside Street, Plympton Wyoming
R#2019-840	Plympton-Wyoming	4376 Lambton Lane, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2019-867	Plympton-Wyoming	Farm field across from 5096 Forest Road, Plympton
R#2019-873	Plympton-Wyoming	5475 Fisher Line, Plympton Wyoming
R#2019-882	Plympton-Wyoming	4014 Hillcrest Road, Plympton Wyoming
R#2019-903	Plympton-Wyoming	7026 Hillsboro Road
R#2019-916	Plympton-Wyoming	3228 Devonshire Road, Camlachie
R#2020-0043	Plympton-Wyoming	4376 Lambton Lane
R#2020-0044	Plympton-Wyoming	5094 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-831	Point Edward	35 Exmouth Street, Sarnia
R#2019-146	Sarnia	1525 Modeland Road
R#2019-444	Sarnia	2866 Old Lakeshore Road
R#2019-799	Sarnia	1808 London Line
R#2019-842	Sarnia	2946 Huronview Drive Brights Grove
R#2019-854	Sarnia	1805 Modeland Road, Sarnia

R#2019-862	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road, Sarnia
R#2019-864	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road, Sarnia
R#2019-871	Sarnia	2341 Michigan, Sarnia
R#2019-874	Sarnia	6068 Blackwell Suderiad
R#2019-876	Sarnia	5641 Blackwell Sideroad
R#2019-914	Sarnia	Animal Farm in Canatara Park
R#2020-0011	Sarnia	2 Ferry Dock Hill Sarnia
R#2020-0048	Sarnia	1430 Lakeshore Road
R#2020-0061	Sarnia	1010 Plank Road
R#2020-0063	Sarnia	1956 Lakeshore Road
R#2019-565	Southwest Middlesex	724 Limerick Road
R#2019-768	Southwest Middlesex	6430 Falconbridge Drive
R#2019-781	Southwest Middlesex	6430 Falconbridge Drive
R#2019-868	Southwest Middlesex	4369 Inadale Road, Glencoe
R#2018-204	St. Clair	3284 Kimball Road
R#2019-850	St. Clair	2104 Bickford Line, Moore
R#2019-872	St. Clair	1774 Oil Springs Line
R#2020-0010	St. Clair	1117 St. Clair Parkway
R#2020-0051	St. Clair	2274 Smith Line
R#2018-355	Strathroy-Caradoc	Falconbridge lot
R#2018-413	Strathroy-Caradoc	9272 Skinner Drive
R#2019-798	Strathroy-Caradoc	6864 Olde Drive
R#2019-822	Strathroy-Caradoc	6997 Falconbridge Drive, Melbourne
R#2019-856	Strathroy-Caradoc	200 Park Street, Strathroy
R#2019-858	Strathroy-Caradoc	Glendon Drive, Mount Brydges
R#2019-861	Strathroy-Caradoc	72 Pannell Lane
R#2019-877	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy
R#2019-880	Strathroy-Caradoc	West Half of 7404 Glendon Drive, Strathroy-Caradoc
R#2019-897	Strathroy-Caradoc	6997 Falconbridge Drive
R#2019-898	Strathroy-Caradoc	7154 Falconbridge Drive, Melbourne
R#2019-899	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy
R#2019-902	Strathroy-Caradoc	Falconbridge Drive
R#2020-0006	Strathroy-Caradoc	Falconbridge Drive
R#2020-0017	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street, Strathroy
R#2020-0023	Strathroy-Caradoc	Metcalfe St W & Victoria St

R#2020-0031	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy
R#2020-0040	Strathroy-Caradoc	SW of 7404 Glendon Drive
R#2020-0046	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe St. E., Strathroy
R#2020-0052	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy
R#2020-0053	Strathroy-Caradoc	399 Metcalfe Street East, Strathroy
R#2018-412	Warwick	7169 Zion Line
R#2019-804	Warwick	8290 Zion Line
Total Regulations Inquiries: 109		

Regulations - DART Completed Files

File Reference	Municipality	Drain / Watercourse
R#2019-908	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Brigham-Watt
R#2019-909	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Inch Drain
R#2019-502	Brooke-Alvinston	Elliott-Tait aka Tait Drain Branch
R#2020-0026	Brooke-Alvinston	Ross Drain
R#2020-0054	Brooke-Alvinston	Elliott Tait Drain
R#2020-0056	Brooke-Alvinston	Zimmerman Drain
R#2019-652	Chatham-Kent	Abraham Drain
R#2019-711	Chatham-Kent	Little Bear
R#2019-756	Chatham-Kent	Dankey Creek Branch
R#2019-776	Chatham-Kent	Hyatt Branch
R#2019-790	Chatham-Kent	Archer
R#2019-836	Chatham-Kent	Hind Drain
R#2019-838	Chatham-Kent	Hoover Cantlay Drains
R#2019-847	Chatham-Kent	Gordon Drain
R#2019-848	Chatham-Kent	McKenzie Creek Drain
R#2019-851	Chatham-Kent	Black Creek Drain
R#2019-911	Chatham-Kent	Sinclair Drain
R#2020-0038	Chatham-Kent	Jenkins Drain
R#2019-594	Dawn-Euphemia	4th-5th Concession Drain
R#2019-301	Enniskillen	Plympton McLachlan Drain
R#2019-372	Enniskillen	Stewart Drain
R#2019-463	Enniskillen	Stewart
R#2019-526	Enniskillen	4th Concession-Johnston Creek Drain
R#2019-846	Enniskillen	Stevenson Drain

R#2019-900	Lambton Shores	James Creek Drain
R#2019-750	Plympton-Wyoming	Core Drain
R#2019-796	Sarnia	Clark Drain Branch A
R#2019-884	Southwest Middlesex	Mitchell Livingston
R#2019-892	Southwest Middlesex	Government Drain No. 1
R#2019-670	St. Clair	Hubbard
R#2019-855	St. Clair	Burman Drain
R#2019-906	St. Clair	Marwood/McLellan Drain
R#2019-921	St. Clair	Buckingham Drain North
Total DART Permits Issued: 33		

Regulations Inquiries - Drains

File Reference	Municipality	Drain / Watercourse
R#2019-724	Dawn-Euphemia	Babula Drain
R#2019-845	Adelaide-Metcalf	Browne-Petch
R#2019-034	Brooke-Alvinston	Kelly Drain Branch 4
R#2019-087	Brooke-Alvinston	Hastings Drain
R#2019-784	Brooke-Alvinston	Ruth and Logan
R#2020-0028	Brooke-Alvinston	Duffy Benner Drain
R#2019-061	Chatham-Kent	Matteis-Todino Zone
R#2019-381	Chatham-Kent	Bear Creek
R#2019-606	Chatham-Kent	To Be Wilmott
R#2019-764	Chatham-Kent	TBD
R#2019-800	Chatham-Kent	Dykeman
R#2019-853	Chatham-Kent	unknown drain
R#2019-044	Enniskillen	Bradley Drain
R#2019-371	Enniskillen	Six Sideroad Drain
R#2019-428	Enniskillen	McFadyen
R#2019-685	Enniskillen	Shiloh Line West Drain
R#2019-881	Enniskillen	McFadyen Drain
R#2019-823	Lambton Shores	Todd
R#2019-825	Lambton Shores	Stewart
R#2019-503	Petrolia	unknown
R#2019-036	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Park Municipal Drain
R#2019-041	Plympton-Wyoming	Errol Road Municipal Drain

R#2019-094	Plympton-Wyoming	Lang Drain
R#2019-560	Plympton-Wyoming	Montgomery Drain
R#2019-660	Plympton-Wyoming	Braaksma
R#2019-735	Plympton-Wyoming	South Branch MacKinlay Drain No 2
R#2020-0022	Plympton-Wyoming	Carmichael
R#2020-0037	Plympton-Wyoming	Pascoe Drain - Outlet to Perch Creek
R#2020-0039	Plympton-Wyoming	Niagara St. Drain
R#2019-285	Sarnia	Kember-Smith Drain
R#2019-695	Sarnia	Bissel McArthur
R#2019-752	Sarnia	Woods Creek Drain
R#2019-885	Sarnia	Cole Drain, Cut-Off Drain & Cole Diversion Branches
R#2019-920	Sarnia	Woods Creek Drain
R#2019-037	Southwest Middlesex	Haggerty Drain #1
R#2019-147	Southwest Middlesex	Sparling Drain
R#2019-651	Southwest Middlesex	Chittam and 5-6 along Centreville Drive
R#2019-833	Southwest Middlesex	Chittam and Gov 5-6
R#2019-142	St. Clair	Routledge Drain
R#2019-265	St. Clair	Bennett Drain
R#2019-655	St. Clair	McGillivray Drain
R#2019-723	St. Clair	to be Dawson Branch Drain
R#2019-727	St. Clair	Hubbard Drain
R#2019-859	Strathroy-Caradoc	Century Drive Drain
R#2019-879	Strathroy-Caradoc	Amiens Road
R#2019-807	Warwick	Perry Drain
R#2019-835	Warwick	McChesney Drain
R#2019-883	Warwick	Ravell-O'Neil Drain
Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 48		

Special Events 2020

A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival

Date: Saturday, March 21 to Sunday, March 22, 2020

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Location: A.W. Campbell Conservation Area



Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak Race

Date: Sunday, April 19, 2020

Registration: 10 am to 11 am

Start Location: Mossie Line at Sydenham River

End Location: Shetland Conservation Area



Denning's Memorial Forest Dedication

Date: Sunday, June 7, 2020

Time: 2 pm

Location: Centennial Park, Strathroy

Education Demonstration (Proposed)

Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020

Time: 9 - 10 am (Board Meeting to Follow)

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup - Ipperwash Beach

Date: To Be Determined

Time: 9 am to 11 am

Location: Centre Ipperwash Beach Boat Launch



A Geocaching Adventure - 20th Anniversary

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2020

Time: 9 am

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication

Date: Sunday, September 27, 2020

Time: 2 pm

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area



For details on events, visit www.scrca.on.ca

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020 **Item 15.10**
Report Date: February 18, 2020
Submitted by: Jessica Van Zwol, Anastassia Lagounova

Subject: Healthy Watershed Outreach Update

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Healthy Watersheds Program Outreach Update dated February 18, 2020.

Background:

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

Strategic 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:

Wetland and Phosphorus Workshop January 14, 2020

The workshop took place at the SCRCA office, focusing on the implementation of wetlands on retired agricultural land. Thirty-three attendees participated in the event, landowners who have implemented or are thinking about implementing wetlands as well

as staff from various CAs. SCRCA staff member, Jessica Van Zwol began the workshop by speaking on the biological diversity and Species at Risk found within the Sydenham River watershed. Racheal Scholten of Ducks Unlimited Canada shared information on their conservation programs and their study on the role of newly implemented wetlands have to capturing phosphorus in agriculture watersheds. This study had contracted



SCRCA to conduct on-site monitoring and sampling. Lindsay Buchanan from Rural Lambton Stewardship Network spoke on the advantages and challenges of incorporating wetlands in the Municipal Drain Report of the *Drainage Act*. Nancy Vidler from Lambton Shores Phragmites Community Group spoke on

multiple control methods for invasive Phragmites. Two farmers spoke in front of the crowd of the benefits that their restored wetlands had on their agricultural lands.

Lambton Soils & Crop Improvement Association Annual General Meeting January 17, 2020

SCRCA Chair Joe Faas was among those who awarded Brad Goodhill the 2020 Lambton Soil & Crop Improvement Association Outstanding Farmer. Brad is a 3rd generation farmer in the Warwick Township farming approximately 1,400 acres with his brother, Greg. Brad had a strong influence on other producers to convert to strip till, a practise that he is experienced with. Brad also has a lot of presence in the community, celebrating his 35th year on the fire department, 10 of those years as chief and 21 years as deputy chief. He also served 10 years on council and is president of the Watford Medical Centre. SCRCA staff spoke in front of a crowd of 100 to promote grant funding for farmers interested in reducing soil erosion, tree planting or fragile land retirement. Furthermore, staff promoted the upcoming Nutrient Management workshop and Soil Health Day events.



Nutrient Management Workshop January 22, 2020

The workshop was held at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre with 25 people in attendance. SCRCA staff member, Jessica Van Zwol began the workshop by speaking on the biological diversity and Species at Risk found within the Sydenham River watershed. Kevin McKague presented about the update toolset on OMAFRA's AgriSuite that calculates manure and fertilizer application needs and total nutrients on



one's farm. Peter Kotzeff, a Bruce County farmer, spoke on his management of over 1,800 acres using cover crop and intensive grazing to build soil health, improve water quality and riparian ecosystems. Lastly, Graham McLean from Agris Co-op spoke about Timing Matters, an initiative between OMAFRA and agricultural sector organizations to raise awareness on the risks of winter spreading and provide a peer-to-peer response team to help farmers find alternatives.

Soil Health Day February 12, 2020

Soil Health Day was an all-day event at the Brooke-Alvinston-Inwood Community Centre. The event was funded by the Canadian Nature Fund from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The event focused on the current action plans for phosphorus load reductions in Lake Erie watershed as well as the conservation and protection of the biological diversity of the Sydenham River watershed.



David Balint (Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada) spoke on the biological diversity and water quality concerns of the Sydenham River watershed. Dr. Donald Scavia (University of Michigan) and Dr. Awoke Dagne (Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc) spoke of their modelled phosphorus mass balance of the Lake Erie watershed. They showed how Lake Erie is influenced by Canadian agricultural non-point sources and highlighted BMP that would help reach the 40% phosphorus loading reduction targets. Ian Smith (Lydian Environmental Consulting) provided examples of stream remediation work and cost-effective options to improving the water quality of municipal drains. Bryan Page (Ducks Unlimited Canada) shared the results of the one-year study on the role of newly restored wetlands to capturing phosphorus. Steve Groff video conferenced and spoke about cover crops, planting green, and the importance of improving soil health. Christine George (Soil Health Consultant) spoke on soil microbes found in soils with cover crops.

The afternoon sessions highlighted local farmers Dan Breen and Jim Denys, the 2018 and 2019 OSCIA Soil Champions, respectively. University of Guelph professors, Dr. Naresh Thevathasan and Dr. Richard Heck spoke on carbon sequestration in riparian buffers and the soil structure of the top soil in different crop rotations, respectively. Michael Funk (Upper Thames River Conservation Authority) presented his current on-site research on controlled drainage. Mike Belan (farmer) spoke on cost-effective equipment modifications for inter-seeding and cover crop establishments.

Nearly 100 farmers, agriculture industry, municipal, government and conservation representatives were in attendance.

Meeting Date: February 27, 2020
Report Date: February 18, 2020
Submitted by: Nicole Drumm

Item 15.11

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 November 2019 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 attending and hosting local rural water quality events • Staff participating on the Lake Erie Action Plan Implementation Committee; Agricultural and Natural Heritage Subcommittees

November 29, 2019	Non-Point Source Working Group Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview; • Updates; • Special Presentation: Charlie Lalonde, Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative • Discussion; received feedback and direction
December 5, 2019	Point Source Working Group Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview; • Updates; • Discussion; received feedback and direction

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

Upcoming committee meetings:

- Point Source Working Group Meeting
- Non-Point Source Working Group Meeting

Strategic Objectives:

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

Goal 2:

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

Strategic Actions:

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

universities, farming groups, and others to develop solid science to evaluate BMP effectiveness.”

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

Financial Impact:

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