



**Board of Directors - Notice of Meeting**  
**November 12, 2020** Time: 10:00 am  
**Remote Via Zoom**

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**Tentative Agenda**

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1. Chair's Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
4. Minutes
  - 4.1 Board of Directors September 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes
  - 4.2 Board of Directors October 22, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes
5. General Manager's Report
  - 5.1 GM's Report
  - 5.2 Service Delivery Review
6. Consent Items
  - 6.1 (a) Business Arising
  - 6.1 (b) Current Watershed Conditions and Great Lakes Water Levels
  - 6.1 (c) Healthy Watershed Program Workshop/ Outreach Update
  - 6.1 (d) Regulations Activity Summary
  - 6.1 (e) Planning Activity Summary
  - 6.1 (f) Revenue and Expense Summary
  - 6.1 (g) Disbursements
  - 6.1 (h) 2020 General Levy Receipts
  - 6.1 (i) Investment Reports
  - 6.1 (j) Joint Health & Safety Committee August 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes
  - 6.1 (k) Communications Update
  - 6.1 (l) Conservation Education Update
  - 6.1 (m) St. Clair River AOC
7. Finance and Administration Reports
  - 7.1 Conservation Area Proposed 2021 Fees
  - 7.2 Shoreline Projects Update
  - 7.3 Nominating Committee
  - 7.4 2021 Tentative Schedule of Meetings
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Please contact Ashley (519-245-3710/ 1-866-505-3710 x 200 or e-mail [Afletcher@scrca.on.ca](mailto:Afletcher@scrca.on.ca)) at the Administration Office by November 9, 2020, if you are unable to attend.

**Disclaimer:** Board members, staff, guests and members of the public are advised that the SCRCA Special Meeting and Authority Board meetings are being video/audio recorded, and will be posted to the Authority's Facebook/ web site along with the official written minutes. As such, comments and opinions expressed may be published and any comments expressed by individual Board members, guests and the general public are their own, and do not represent the opinions or comments of the Full Authority and/or the SCRCA Board of Directors. The recorded video of the Full Authority meeting is not considered the official record of that meeting. The official record of the Authority meeting shall consist solely of the Minutes approved by the Board of Directors.

**Board of Directors Proposed Resolutions**

**(Roll call)**

1. Chair's Remarks
2. **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors accepts the agenda for the meeting as presented.
3. It is requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.
- 4.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held September 17, 2020, be approved as distributed.
- 4.2 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the minutes of the Board of Directors special meeting, held October 22 2020, be approved as distributed
- 5.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report, dated November 4, 2020.
- 5.2 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated 2020 regarding the available reserves to fund the proposed Service Delivery Review Consultation as quoted by Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd and further that...
- 6.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items 7.1 a - 7.1 m.

- 6.1 (a) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the September 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.*
- 6.1 (b) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 27, 2020 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.*
- 6.1 (c) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated October 29, 2020, regarding the Healthy Watershed Program, including the outreach and education events held throughout the watershed and online.*
- 6.1 (d) *That the Board of Directors accepts the Regulations Activity Reports on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated October 29, 2020 and includes the period September 1 to 30, 2020 as presented.*
- 6.1 (e) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports dated October 29, 2020, for the period of September 1 to 30, 2020.*
- 6.1 (f) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to September 30, 2020, as it relates to the budget.*
- 6.1 (g) *That the Board of Directors approves the September to October 31, 2020 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,257,249.38*
- 6.1 (h) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2019 general levy receipts to October 31, 2020.*
- 6.1 (i) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Investment Report, for the period ending September 30, 2020.*
- 6.1 (j) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the August 4, 2020 meeting minutes of Joint Health and Safety Committee*
- 6.1 (k) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Communications Report dated October 31, 2020 including memorial forests, conservation awards, Conservation Foundation update and conservation education fundraising.*

6.1 (l) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated October 28, 2020 including fall education programs and events.*

6.1 (m) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 20, 2020 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.*

7.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 27, 2020 regarding the 2021 Conservation Area Proposed Fees and further approves the fee schedule as presented.

7.2 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 29, 2019 on the ongoing Shoreline Projects across the watershed and further that the Board of Directors authorizes the Chair and General Manager to sign contract documents if the preferred tender falls within budget.

7.3 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the 2021 Nominating Committee consisting of the following four directors representing the four districts of the Authority being Sarnia, Lambton, Chatham-Kent, and Middlesex be: \_\_\_\_\_ and further that the Nominating Committee's recommendation for the 2021 committee membership be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

*(2020 members were: Terry Burrell, Ron Schenk, Carmen McGregor, Betty Ann MacKinnon)*

7.4 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors approves the 2021 tentative schedule of meetings for the Board of Directors and Committees, dated September 21, 2020.

8. **New Business**

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



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: September 17, 2020 Time: 10:04 am  
Remote via Zoom

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

**Staff Present:** Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Chris Durand, Manager of GIS and IT; Melissa Deisley, Regulations Officer; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Sarah Hodgkiss, Planning Ecologist; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Conservation Areas

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

Item 7.1 (k) summarizing regulation activity was removed from the consent agenda upon request from Director Mark McGill, who declared a pecuniary interest.

**BD-20-66**

**Scott – Loosley**

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

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on June 18, 2020 were reviewed.

**BD-20-67**

**Burrell – McMillan**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held June 18, 2020, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on August 6, 2020 were reviewed.

**BD-20-68**

**McEwen – Nemcek**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held August 6, 2020, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

## **COVID-19:**

- The COVID-19 Return To Work Plan was updated in August to reflect direction provided by federal and provincial governments as well as the local health units
- The updates also included details on protocols in both current and future phases
- On September 8<sup>th</sup>, the Administration Offices moved into Phase II
  - Staffing at the office has been increased to have daily representation by each department – therefore roughly a minimum of 10 staff will be at the office daily with the remaining staff working in the field or from home
  - The office was fogged on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and staff continue to be diligent regarding cleaning and sanitization practices
- We continue to have straight forward objectives and we are endeavoring to be thorough but practical in our common sense actions in re-opening the office and continuing to expand field work and services in Conservation Areas
- Of our three sectors Administrative, Field Work and Campgrounds, each of them is in the penultimate phase with several additional steps as well as directives from both federal and provincial governments required before we will be able to reach the final phase for each sector

## **BD-20-69**

**Brennan – Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated September 10, 2020.”**

**CARRIED**

## **Recommendations:**

- That staff be directed to create a plan to resolve concerns and complaints identified through municipal commenting and with the objective to be able to meet the objectives outlined in Conservation Ontario’s Client Service and Streamlining Initiative
- That staff be directed to build staffing to pre-COVID-19 levels

## **Municipal Comments Summary:**

- 7 of 17 municipalities provided comments
- Although comments were limited in number, it is expected that the comments received were indicative of municipalities across the watershed
- Comments appear to fall into 3 general categories
  - Timing – complaints that permits or commenting has or appears to have been delayed
  - Scope Creep – concerns that requirements being requested are beyond that afforded under the Conservation Authorities Act

- Customer Service – complaints that staff have not been responsive or helpful when engaging with municipal staff, consultants, developers or the public
- Each of these was discussed at length during our meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup>
- Staffing levels have had a huge impact on response timing on permits and customer service response
- Two of three vacant positions have been filled and this will help to reduce delays
  - Planning & Regulations Assistant – Cassandra Sauer – September 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Regulations Office – Jeff Vlasman – September 14<sup>th</sup>
- Customer service continues to be very important to our organization
  - New staff will be very helpful in permitting time to return calls and coordinate with all our partners
  - Staff changes are also expected to improve the cooperation with all partners
- Scope creep as discussed at our August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting is a significant concern
- As addressed at the meeting the requirements that were brought forward as concerns are all understood to be well within the range of requirements for environmental protections – however, a report regarding these specific concerns will be brought forward at the next Board meeting
- Within the concern regarding scope creep there are two components
  - Conflicts with the Drainage Act
  - Communication and Education
- We have reviewed this issue via two appeals to the Board of Directors last year and staff are working with municipal partners to reach cooperative solutions to required permits for municipal drainage works
- Last year staff worked with the Chair and Vice Chair to have discussions regarding the Authority’s Plan Input and Review
- The original report to the Board outlining the results as well as planned action was reviewed
- Consultations in these planned actions as well as consultation regarding the Drain Enclosure Policy will provide a tremendous opportunity to assist staff of both the Authority and the municipalities regarding the legislation, protocols and standards that each work within – leading to increased understanding and cooperation
- Unfortunately, COVID-19 has presented a major obstacle in completing these action and the staff shortage has made it impossible
- Correspondence sent out last week to Drainage Superintendents is our next step in improved communication and consultation

- Also further to our discussion at our August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, a consultant was contacted to provide an estimate for a Service Delivery Review for the works undertaken by the Authority’s Planning and Regulations department
- The consultant, who has, and continues to work with several of our municipalities has provided a quote.
- Additionally, we have received correspondence attached to this report from the Sarnia-Lambton Home Builders Association outlining concerns regarding the processing of applications in a timely fashion
- Requested letters supporting SLHBA from Chatham-Kent and London Home Builders Associations have not been received to date
- An email response to SLHBA was provided on subsequent to the Board meeting outlining actions taken or being taken to resolve identified concerns

The following correspondence was also reviewed:

- Comments from the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston
- Comments from the Town of Petrolia
- Comments from the Sarnia-Lambton Home Builders’ Association
- Proposal from Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd.

**Directors Comments:** Directors are pleased to see quick resolutions to many identified concerns and that hiring has taken place. Director Brad Loosley commented regarding the proposal from Mr. Tim Dobbie and informed the Board that the quoted cost may be reduced to \$35,000.00 should consult meetings be scheduled electronically within 2 to 3 sessions.

**BD-20-70**

**MacKinnon – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated September 10, 2020 regarding the complaints or concerns from Municipalities in regards to planning, regulations and drainage and further that staff be directed to create a plan to resolve identified concerns with the goal of meeting the objectives outlined in Conservation Ontario’s Client Service and Streamlining Initiative and that staff be directed to build staffing to pre-COVID-19 levels.”**

**CARRIED**

**Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-20-71**

<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Brennan, John	✓	
Broad, Al		✓
Brown, Pat	✓	
Bruziewicz, Andy		✓



Burrell, Terry	✓	
Faas, Joe	✓	
Gordon, Larry	✓	
Hall, Aaron		✓
Kennes, Frank	✓	
Loosley, Brad	✓	
MacKinnon, Betty Ann		✓
Marriott, Kevin	✓	
McEwen, Netty		✓
McGill, Mark		✓
McMillan, Dan	✓	
Miller, Steve		✓
Nemcek, Frank		✓
Scott, Lorie	✓	
Stark, Mike	✓	
Westgate, Jerry		✓
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>

**Directors Comments:** Directors discussed the merits of completing a service review and stated that the request for this service is not an indication of non-confidence, but a positive move to address complaints and improve overall efficiencies. Concerns arose regarding the cost and timing of a review considering the recent filling of 3 vacancies within the department, which will help to achieve greater efficiency and customer service levels. Directors deliberated and a recorded vote was requested by Director Brad Loosley.

Questions arose regarding SCRCA policy and whether an RFP should be completed prior to accepting the proposal from Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd. Based upon the specific knowledge and experience with Conservation Authorities, as well as the positive recommendation from the Town of Petrolia, the Board of Directors may resolve to appoint this company, bypassing the RFP process.

A report is to be provided at the November Board of Directors meeting giving a list of possible reserves from which funds can be drawn to cover the cost of the consultation. Staff are directed to provide department objectives to the consultants with the request to provide solutions using our existing resources. Any recommendations to improve which incur significant costs should be included as a second option.

**BD-20-71**

**Loosley – Gordon**

**“That Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd be hired to carry out a service delivery review for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority in the area of development application processing in the amount of \$35,000 with the money being taken from reserves.”**

**CARRIED**

Correspondence from Conservation Chair, Wayne Emmerson to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) President, Jamie McGarvey providing an update on Conservation Ontario’s client service and streamlining Initiative and reporting on the timeliness of Section 28 reviews was reviewed.

A verbal update from General Manager, Brian McDougall was given in regards to the anticipation of a virtual Conservation Ontario Council meeting in late September. Conservation Ontario is working towards making changes to Administrative By-Laws that will allow Conservation Authorities to conduct meetings electronically outside of the State of Emergency.

It was reported that Conservation Authority General Managers met remotely last week and report vast differences in their return to work initiatives. Also discussed was the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Jeff Yurek, who, at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) annual conference, stated that a summarization of the Conservation Authority consultations, completed in early 2020, will be released this fall. Moving forward, there will be legislative and regulatory changes that will be implemented when Provincial priorities allow, most likely when COVID-19 recedes.

**BD-20-72**

**Marriott – Brown**

**“That the Board of Directors accepts the verbal update on the actions of Conservation Ontario and further acknowledges the correspondence received from Conservation Ontario Chair, Wayne Emmerson to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) President, Jamie McGarvey providing an update on Conservation Ontario’s client service and streamlining Initiative and reporting on the timeliness of Section 28 reviews.”**

**CARRIED**

Although the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is not considered a high-growth area as defined by Conservation Ontario, it was requested by Directors that staff post the service timeliness of our CA Section 28 permit application reviews. It was noted that this may become a requirement in the future and that in doing so now, it may assist in providing a basis for the service report from Tim Dobbie Consulting Ltd.

**BD-20-73**

**Gordon – Kennes**

**“That the Board of Directors directs staff to post service timelines of the Conservation Authorities Act section 28 permit application reviews on an annual basis.”**

**CARRIED**

**Directors Comments:** A welcome was given to SCRCA’s new RAP Coordinator, Natasha Pozega and staff were applauded for their efforts in producing the Aquatic Species at Risk video as seen on social media.

**BD-20-74**

**Bruziewicz – Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items 7.1 a - 7.1 u with the exception of item 7.1 (k)”**

**CARRIED**

The report on Business Arising was reviewed.

**(a) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the June 18, 2020 and August 6, 2020 meetings.***

**Campgrounds:**

**Timeline**

SCRCA Media Release, April 8

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

Province allows “snowbirds” to occupy seasonal campsites, April 17

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

SCRCA Media Release, April 22

- Campgrounds will open April 24 to current seasonal campers that meet provincial criteria

- Washrooms and all recreational facilities remain closed
- Trails remain open
- Campers occupy AW Campbell and Warwick Conservation Areas, gates unlocked and barricaded to allow emergency vehicle access

#### SCRCA Media Release, May 1

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

#### Province Announces Campgrounds May Open, May 14

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

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

#### SCRCA Media Release, May 15

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

#### SCRCA Media Release, May 26

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

#### SCRCA Media Release, June 5

- Overnight transient reservations refunded through June 28

#### SCRCA Media Release, June 18

- Transient camping to open with restrictions June 29
- Site availability limited (no adjacent sites occupied at the same time)
- No group camping in 2020
- Customers with reservations on sites that require closing will be contacted to change reservation or refund
- Canoe/kayak rentals and pavilion rentals cancelled for 2020
- Camper events cancelled, play structures, basketball courts, and volleyball courts closed until further notice

#### SCRCA Camper Communication, June 23

- campground washrooms open with enhanced cleaning protocols, June 26

#### SCRCA Camper Communication, July 17

- additional campground facilities to open when Lambton County is approved for stage 3 reopening (July 24)
- playgrounds open, hand sanitizer provided
- basketball, volleyball, and remaining horseshoe pits will open with campers providing their own equipment
- volunteer run park events allowed with superintendent approval, must communicate how physical distancing and gathering sizes will be followed
- some benches and picnic tables available for use

#### SCRCA Camper Communication, July 18

- SCRCA staff will organize camper events (kid focused) that meet physical distance requirements
- Staff developed activities that can be completed with their families and those within their social circles
- Participants were encouraged to submit entries by email and prizes were drawn at random

##### Events:

July 19 - July 25 - Nature Bingo

July 24 - July 28 - Leaf Hunt

July 29 - August 6 - Colouring Contest

July 31 - August 13 - Fishing Derby

August 14 - August 20 - Craft Kit

August 21 - August 23 - Chalk Trail

August 1 - August 31 - Nature Picture Contest (both child and adult participants)

August 23 - September 3 - Drawing Contest

#### **Day Use Conservation Areas:**

##### **Wawanosh Wetland Conservation Area**

- New viewing deck installed in the South wetland cell to replace the old viewing tower which will be removed this fall

##### Wawanosh Wetland Phragmites Control and Habitat Enhancement

- Invasive phragmites has displaced much of the native vegetation around the wetlands and throughout much of the property (degrading the quality of habitat)
- A local resident, Lynn Eves (from the Bluewater Center for Raptor Rehabilitation) is interested in leading efforts to remove phragmites from the property
- Staff have met twice on site with Lynn and other partners including City of Sarnia staff and Dr. Janice Gilbert (Director of the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre)
- Cost to develop a plan for phragmites control and habitat enhancements estimated to be \$10,000 to \$12,000

- Plan would allow for long term management strategy including site maintenance to deter the re-growth of phragmites
- Friends of St. Clair River have agreed to provide \$4000 towards development of a plan
- Staff have reached out to MECP and will approach the St. Clair Conservation Foundation to try and acquire the additional funds necessary to develop the plan
- Community and corporate fundraising would be necessary to complete this project after a plan is developed and approved

### **Peers Wetland Conservation Area:**

- On August 22 the Sydenham Field Naturalists held a phragmites removal volunteer event
- Volunteers cut phragmites below the water's surface and hauled the plants to shore where seed heads were removed for incineration
- Another day has been scheduled for September 12

Both events were sponsored by Enbridge who supplied equipment including chest waders, cane cutters, and a variety of PPE and COVID-19 related supplies

- Enbridge also provided lunch for both events

### **Wallaceburg Sportsman Club**

- With SCRCA not renewing the lease for 2021, the club has begun to remove items from the inside and outside of the clubhouse located at Peers Wetland
- At this time the Club has not replied to our request for an update on the process
- It is not clear if the Club intends to remove the structure

### **Bridgeview CA**

- The municipality has made upgrades to the parking lot including re-grading, new posts bordering the parking lot, and new trees
- The municipality has cut down phragmites that was sprayed by SCRCA staff last fall
- Fifteen large stock trees were planted this Spring to fill in areas where dead Walnut trees were removed last year
- Large stock tree species planted were Sycamore, Swamp White Oak, Bur Oak, and Kentucky Coffee Tree
- Wildflower and erosion control seed mixes were planted around the new wetland this Spring, germination was sparse, additional seeding will occur in the fall

### **Coldstream CA**

- Multiple sections of boardwalk were damaged by fallen trees this summer
- Staff have repaired/replaced the damaged sections with materials supplied by Middlesex Centre

### **Strathroy CA**

- SCRCA and Strathroy-Caradoc staff worked together to clear two log jams in the Sydenham river in Strathroy
- Two trees were removed from the first location and four trees from the second

### **Highland Glen CA**

- The existing trail that allows users to walk from the upper parking lot down to the day use area had to be moved further from the bluff due to erosion concerns
- The bank in this location was significantly undercut and a crack has formed through the old trail

**(b) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas Report dated August 31, 2020.***

In February 2020, SCRCA announced the closure of the Highland Glen boat ramp for the 2020 season due to safety concerns. Early in the spring, SCRCA staff were contacted by a number of local residents who were disappointed with the closure of the ramp. Staff were also contacted by a fisher from Kettle and Stony Point First Nation hoping the ramp could be re-opened in 2020.

One local resident, Clare Sutton, called on two occasions for updates. He also created a letter to raise awareness of the situation and posted it throughout the local communities including at residences, marinas, boat dealers, and many other locations. In response to his letter, we received 48 emails and 2 phone calls, all in support of repairing the boat launch.

### **Email Responses**

The email responses to Mr. Sutton’s letter are summarized in the table below. Emails often contained multiple of the “main points” listed below.

<b>Main Points in Email</b>	<b># of Emails</b>
Public lake access to this area of Lake Huron is important	8
Facility provides the only safe harbour between Sarnia and Port Franks	8
Don’t spend on the study, use money for repairs this year	10
Facility is well used	12
Facility brings business to Plympton-Wyoming	4
Inconvenient to travel to other boat ramps	13
Facility should be operating while waiting for maintenance	2
General support for repairing this facility	29

### **Citizens Group Supporting the Repair of Highland Glen:**

On August 18, 2020, a small group of local citizens met to explore opportunities to support the repairs at Highland Glen. Staff attended the meeting to provide an update on the progress.

Topics discussed included:

- Group's purpose
- Facility damage and erosion concerns
- Brainstorming of potential ways to support/accelerate repairs
- Grant funding
- Local funding
- Partnerships
- Ways to increase property revenue

This group is still determining how/ if they can be effective in accelerating the repairs at Highland Glen.

Correspondence from Mr. Clare Sutton was reviewed.

**(c) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated August 20, 2020 on the Community Input and Support of the Highland Glen Boat Ramp.***

#### **Highlights:**

- Flood threat is moderate due to continued high water levels on the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and in Wallaceburg
- Water levels on Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair are forecasted to exceed record-highs in September before dropping in October
- Regional precipitation amounts are near or above normal averages, owing to high rainfall amounts in August

#### **Flood Threat**

The current flood threat is moderate owing to continued high water levels on the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair, St. Clair River, and the Sydenham River at Wallaceburg. The average water level in Wallaceburg for August was lower than previous months, however minimal amounts of rainfall still have the capacity to elevate water levels into natural floodplain areas, and Wallaceburg continues to be highly susceptible to wind-driven flooding.

- August 2020 mean water level in Wallaceburg was 0.4 cm higher than August 2019, and 52.8 cm higher than 2018; July 2020 was 1 cm lower than 2019
- As of this report, water levels are currently sitting 4.1 cm below the top of the bank

#### **Great Lakes Levels**

- Lake Huron exceeded its 1986 July record average water level by 6 cm, with Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie close to their 2019 records
- Upper range predicted mean water levels on Lakes Huron and St. Clair are forecasted to exceed record levels in September, falling in October
- Water levels are forecasted to have the potential to be near or exceed record-highs over the next six months



## **Precipitation Conditions**

- High amounts of rainfall in August brought totals for the last quarter close to or above monthly normal amounts for the region
- Rainfall averages for six and twelve month periods for all regions are near or above normal amounts

**(d) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 3, 2020, on the current watershed conditions, flood risk and Great Lakes water levels.***

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

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

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

## **Project Update:**

Following completion of the fall 2019 field work, the consultant shared information with the SCRCA on the preliminary results and developed a plan for conducting the next round of field work in 2020. The SCRCA reviewed and approved the consultant's plan which included further deep core sediment sampling, a survey of underwater features, and the use of an underwater camera to assess the condition of structures in the area.

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

The additional field work was completed in July 2020, with additional health and safety measures incorporated to address COVID-19. The preliminary results were discussed with the Sediment Management Oversight Committee in August and September 2020. The consultant is preparing information to outline the next steps and anticipated timelines based on the feedback provided during the discussions.

The SCRCA has requested submission of a revised project schedule from Parsons to confirm how delays due to COVID-19 are going to impact the project completion date.

**Finance:**

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

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

**(e) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 2, 2020, on the Engineering and Design plan for Management of Contaminated sediment.***

**Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 2**

- Cope Construction commenced shoreline work in December 2019 and restoration works are underway
- Sod placement along the slope had failed twice due to significant rain events
- All shoreline work has been completed as of May 31, 2020
- Toe stones were inspected using a professional diver in May 2020.
- Deficiencies were identified in a few Toe stones
- Repair work will be completed from a barge and this work is scheduled for third week of September

**Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 3**

- Construction work had been temporarily stopped due to the in-water timing window restrictions.
- Shoreline work has not resumed
- Requirement from MNR and DFO to build temporary platforms to keep machinery out of water
- This has added another \$400,000 to the project
- AMICO is no longer willing to provide a guarantee for the quality of shoreline work
- This has resulted in SCRCA, co-ordinating with the City of Sarnia's legal department
- Letter to terminate the contract with AMICO has been sent
- SCRCA exploring options to re-hire a contractor to complete the remainder of the shoreline work.

**Brights Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East**

- Facca Incorporated Inc. started shoreline work on February 10, 2020.
- Construction work resumed second week of August.

- Requirement from MNRF and DFO to build temporary platforms to keep machinery out of water
- This has added another \$300,000 to the project
- Approximately 60 meters of in - water work has been completed
- Project progress has been slow due to weather delays and quarry unable to deliver quality rocks as per engineer specification

Staff continue to negotiate the requirements with MNRF and DFO, but, unable to make any modifications to the stringent requirements.

**(f) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 3, 2020 on the ongoing shoreline projects across the watershed.**

- Summer staff treated 16,500 catch basins in Sarnia and throughout Lambton County's towns and villages under direction from Lambton Public Health as part of their mosquito control program for public safety to help prevent West Nile Virus.
- Crews based out of Strathroy travelled to locations and applied methoprene pellets to all municipal catch basins with 3 separate applications spaced at 21 day intervals starting June 26<sup>th</sup> and ending August 20<sup>th</sup> for a total of 50,000 individual applications.
- All treated catch basins were marked with spray paint. A different colour was used for the 3 separate application rounds.
- Approximately 18,000 combined kilometers was travelled over the course of 26 application days.
- Pre-application mosquito larva sampling was conducted in mid-June and post application efficacy testing was conducted for each of the 3 scheduled applications which were timed 15 to 17 days after each application. Results showed good control averaging 80% effectiveness. A report will be sent to the Lambton Public Health later this month.
- Two permits for mosquito control were issued by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in June under the lead pesticide exterminator's licence and the Conservation Authority's Pesticide Operators licence and insurance. Permit 1 - Three rounds of methoprene pellets for up to 17,000 catch basins. Permit 2 - *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis* (Bti) for wetlands and emergency situations (not used this year)
- Aamjiwnaang First Nation was also treated with three rounds of methoprene pellets under a separate contract. A pesticide permit was not required from MECP to treat those catch basins.

Lambton Public Health confirmed that mosquitos collected from a trap in Oil Springs on August 12<sup>th</sup> and in Petrolia on August 19<sup>th</sup> tested positive for the virus. There are no confirmed positive human cases in Lambton County so far, however two are reported in Ontario.

**(g) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated September 4, 2020, regarding West Nile Virus – Lambton County Mosquito Control Program.**

### **Tree Planting Program**

- Landowner inquiries for 2021 tree planting program are slightly less than normal so far this year. Approximately 22 landowners listed for site visits this fall. Staff will meet with landowners, advise and develop tree planting plans, and seek funding to assist landowners with tree project costs.
- Some grant programs are confirmed for 2021 including the provincial SARSP and the now federally funded 50 Million Tree Program, both with reduced funds. Other funding is still necessary to make the program attractive to landowners. We are waiting for confirmation from the Ontario Community Environmental Fund. More than \$50,000 in penalties was collected in the Sarnia industrial area in 2018. Penalties collected in 2019 is unconfirmed. Money collected from these penalties was originally suppose to go toward environmental improvement projects in the watershed where the violation or environmental impact happened. The Province did not award any money to conservation organizations under this program last year.
- Tree survival assessment for 2020 projects were completed in August. Results showed 90% or better survival for most projects.

### **Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)**

- New managed forest tax plans on two larger woodland properties and two managed forest tax plan renewals were written and approved for years 2021 to 2030 tax adjustment. One plan renewal was for the SCRCA Clark Wright Conservation Area's 48 acre forest.
- Forested properties are taxed at residential rates. MPAC adjusts property taxes on the approved MFTIP portion of the property placing them in line with farmland tax rates.

### **Vegetation Management Program**

- Approximately 80,000 trees received vegetation management this past spring and another 100,000 trees require vegetation control this fall.
- Fall herbicide applications on 2018, 2019 and 2020 tree planting sites are scheduled to start in the first week of October and will continue into late November after the deciduous seedlings go into dormancy and drop their leaves.

### **Seed Collection Program**

- This year's tree seed collection should start around the end of September and last approximately three weeks into October. Some scouting for seed was completed in July by staff with disconcerting results. The oak species have particularly low to nil seed amounts this year. Reasons uncertain, however this year's gypsy moth infestation accompanied by a hot and moderately dry July could partly be the blame.
- Tree acorns, nuts, cones and keys are collected and shipped to the tree seedling nursery every year where they are planted in seedbeds, grown for 1 to 3 years and purchased as tree seedlings for our tree planting program. This ensures future high quality tree stock that is indigenous to SCRCA's watershed.

**(h) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated September 4, 2020, regarding conservation services programs across the watershed including multiple funding sources, spring tree planting survival & maintenance and other vegetation control programs.**

Healthy Lake Huron (HLH) is a campaign working towards maintaining and improving water quality of the Lake by taking local action from Sarnia to Tobermory. Technical team members include staff from SCRCA as well as Ausable Bayfield, Saugeen, and Maitland Valley Conservation Authorities, provincial ministries (OMAFRA, MECP), and community groups. HLH provides outreach and educational opportunities for coastal communities, rural centres, and agriculture. Team members work with farmers to implement BMPs that will build their soil health and keep nutrients on the land; with coastal communities to improve dune habitat and invasive species removal and with rural centres to promote rain gardens, trash clean ups, and naturalization projects.

**Update:**

As COVID-19 shuttered many opportunities for coordinating outreach activities, the HLH team pivoted to a 26-week online social media campaign that highlights local agriculture, rural, and coastal efforts to keep Lake Huron healthy and beautiful. Each week, the Facebook and Twitter accounts for Healthy Lake Huron recognize various sectors and communities as a #pieceofthepuzzle from #LandtoLake (<https://healthylakehuron.ca/post/?ID=527>). This campaign has provided the impetus to reach out to our current network as well as establishing links with other lake users such as Indigenous peoples, agricultural organizations and businesses, garden societies, municipal leaders, community group, tourists, small businesses, surfers, chefs, etc. Our goal in reaching out to the various lake users was to gain their perspective of what makes Lake Huron GREAT and determine how we could showcase their efforts of ensuring Lake Huron remains great.

SCRCA has participated by crafting posts for 3 weeks so far, including fun and interesting Lake Huron facts, Phragmites, and creating a “Coastal Corks and Pints” industry focus. Coastal Corks and Pints highlighted the environmental contributions and efforts of the craft brewery/winery industry along the Lake Huron coast from Sarnia to Tobermory. This industry focus highlighted over 25 companies. Many of these small craft breweries and wineries are going above and beyond what is necessary to minimize water loss and impacts to water quality. Many businesses are also trying to build soil health by planting cover crops, incorporating livestock and minimizing herbicides and pesticides. The initial campaign post was well-received with nearly 7,000 people reached on the HLH Facebook page (70 likes and 33 shares) and 1,185 people on the HLH Twitter page. The timing of the Coastal Corks & Pints campaign also helped advertise and support local business during a season of reduced business resulting from COVID-19. Twin Pines Orchard & Cider House and Dickenson Farms are two examples of local businesses that were highlighted because of their environmental efforts.

**Upcoming potential events:**

- September 12, Great Canadian Shoreline Clean up at Ipperwash Beach, Lambton Shores

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

The Healthy Watershed Program fulfils Goals 2 and 3 of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority strategic objectives.

**Financial Impact:**

The Healthy Lake Huron Program is funded by grants and landowner contribution. In general, MECP provides \$50-60,000 for staff salaries, stewardship project implementation, water quality monitoring, and outreach in the Lambton Shores area.

**(i) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated August 7, 2020 on the Healthy Lake Huron Program Update.***

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.

**Update:**

Unfortunately, COVID-19 shuttered many opportunities for the Healthy Watershed Program's outreach activities, such as the annual TD Tree Days in Sarnia and Strathroy, the Forest Fall Fair, Ag in the Classroom in Forest, and the local chapter events of Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association. Nonetheless, Healthy Watersheds staff sent out soil health and water quality focused newsletters to over 1,500 landowners in the region.

Healthy Watershed staff also used Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to connect with landowners. Posts highlighted available stewardship grants, species at risk, soil health building concepts and practices, actions to improve water quality, and what staff were beginning to do in the field with respect to monitoring mussels and fish. Healthy Watershed staff prepared a Sydenham River Aquatic Species at Risk & Critical Habitat presentation that can be used to provide information to municipal staff and interested citizens about the unique attributes of the Sydenham River, the species that inhabit the river and its tributaries, and urban and rural threats to the Sydenham River's aquatic habitat. The recording also provides an explanation of Species at Risk Critical Habitat and what it implies regarding permits and approvals for in-water and near water projects. Check it out! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h1jwrZ3j6s>

Staff went on 10 socially distant landowner site visits to meet landowners interested in completing stewardship projects on their property. There are some great potential projects in the queue to be implemented later this summer and/or fall.

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

The Healthy Watershed Program fulfils Goals 2 and 3 of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority strategic objectives.

## **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).

**(j) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Healthy Watersheds Program Outreach Update dated August 7, 2020.***

A summary of staff activity related the municipal plan input and review for the months June, July and August, 2020 was reviewed.

**(l) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report dated September 3, 2020 for June, July and August, 2020.***

The revenue and expenditure report to July 31, 2020 was reviewed.

**(m) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to July 31, 2020, as it related to the budget.***

The June, July and August, 2020 disbursements were reviewed.

**(n) *That the Board of Directors approves the June to August 2020 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,532,913.83***

The general levy receipts to August 31, 2020 were reviewed.

**(o) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2020 general levy receipts to August 31, 2020.***

The current pandemic has affected many businesses and communities. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was able to move quickly to protect employees and reduce the risk of spread. Several measures we adopted immediately include: closing to the public, providing secured access and equipment for employees to be deployed to work from home, thus reducing risk to the employee of contracting COVID-19 and risk to SCRCA of potential liability.

SCRCA was able to keep the parks and trails open through the early stages of the pandemic with limited maintenance on trails, which provide communities with much

needed outdoor space. Innovation came from our situation, in that our Education department was able to find ways to continue to engage schools and students who were not able to visit as groups.

As the pandemic continues to unfold with unknown outcomes, we continue to monitor cost and revenues. The following steps have been taken to mitigate expenses:

- 1) Delayed hiring several seasonal staff for the campgrounds as they are not operating at capacity nor will they until further Provincial Direction is received (about 25 staff).
- 2) Not filling to key positions in Planning
- 3) Delay filling RAP Coordinator position

Most of the savings from the salary gapping dollars will be offset with losses in revenue and increased cost associated with Increases in Health and Safety supplies required to maintain a safe environment for employees rotating into the office currently and in preparation of increasing an employee presence in the office. Other considerations and cost moving forward will be increases in cost to have a higher level of disinfection and the cost of increase social distancing in a small environment (shields, vehicle costs, supplies).

**Financial Impact:**

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

Expense Reductions:

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

Reductions in Revenue:

Planning Fees compared to July 2019	\$0
Admin – Interest/Investment Income	13,800
Across Levy Departments Increase in Health and Safety directly related to COVID-19	9,500

Net savings to July 2020 \$25,000

As a result of travel restrictions and closures of other businesses and industries, costs have been reduced in these areas to date:

Travel Expenses	\$0
Board Member Travel & Expenses	3,000
Training Expenses (including travel specific to training, contains mandatory training which may need completion)	800



The cost of mileage increased due to the need for social distancing in vehicles during summer seasonal work. Invoice for Cambium Aboriginal Training received in early March was not received until late June.

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

**(p) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 4, 2020 regarding the effect COVID-19 to July 31, 2020 on the 2020 budget.**

The investment statements for the period ending June 30, 2020 were reviewed.

**(q) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the investment statements for the period ending June 30, 2020.**

Minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee meeting held on March 26, 2020 were reviewed.

**(r) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the minutes of the March 26, 2020 Joint Health and Safety Committee.**

### **Conservation Education:**

With the uncertainty surrounding the re-opening of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions, SCRCA education staff have been formulating alternate strategies to ensure the continuation of conservation education programs for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **2020-2021 Conservation Education Program Strategies and Options:**

#### **1. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Great Lakes Virtual Field Trips**

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, SCRCA education staff created “virtual field trips” to support teachers in delivering important science-based concepts to their students during school-closures. The success of the “virtual field trips” exceeded all expectations and led to MECP contacting the SCRCA to discuss creating a regional Great Lakes field trip to support their Great Lakes literacy program. The Ministry’s proposal will provide \$15,000 in funding to create a Lake Huron/St. Clair River “virtual field trip” and materials (e.g., draft script) that can be used by other Conservation Authorities and non-profit organizations to develop “virtual field trips” for the other Great Lake regions. Confirmation of this funding is expected in mid-September.

#### **2. Live Virtual Programming**

SCRCA staff are investigating the possibility of offering live virtual programming that would allow individual classes to “visit” the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area from their classrooms and participate in conservation education programming. An application to the Ontario Trillium Foundations’

Resilient Communities Fund has been submitted that if approved, will allow staff to purchase additional equipment and improve internet connectivity in support of this initiative.

**3. Expansion of Virtual Field Trips**

SCRCA can expand their virtual field trip catalogue and create additional resources that will provide teachers in various grades with more options to meet science-based curriculum requirements.

**4. School Yard and Nature in Your Neighbourhood Programming:**

With current protocols restricting visitors from entering schools, SCRCA staff are in communication with school boards to develop School Yard and Nature in Your Neighbourhood outdoor program options. Many of the programs delivered at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area can be easily transferred to local school yards. In addition, staff are investigating the possibility of offering “Urban Interpretive Hikes” that would allow students to investigate nature and the environment in their local neighbourhoods.

**5. Family Field Trips:**

Family field trips have been developed at other Conservation Authorities with good uptake and feedback. The field trips would involve an SCRCA conservation educator leading a single family unit or homeschooling program on a guided educational hike.

**Proposed Fees:**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Live Virtual Programming	\$100.00 for 1-hour program per class
Virtual Field Trips (September 2020 to January 2021)	\$250.00 for virtual field trip suite per school (up to 350 students) <b>OR</b> \$50.00 per virtual field trip per class
School Yard and Nature in Your Neighbourhood Programming	\$100.00 for 1-hour program \$75.00 for additional 1-hour program at the same school
Family Field Trips	\$75.00 + HST for 1-hour program (up to 10 participants)

Despite the uncertainty surrounding the 2020-2021 school year, elementary and secondary education brochures have been created that outline the 2020-2021 education programs available at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area and those that can be delivered in-class. The brochures will be distributed to each teacher in the St. Clair region and are available on the SCRCA website. Copies of each brochure have been included in this package.

## **Upcoming Events:**

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

Date – Saturday, September 12, 2020

Time – 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Location – Centre Ipperwash Boat Launch, Lambton Shores

### **CITO (Cache In, Trash Out) Event**

Date – Sunday, September 20, 2020

Time – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location – Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area, Petrolia

### **Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication – Pre-Recorded/Virtual Event**

Release Date – To Be Determined

\*As a result of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the in-person Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication was cancelled. As an alternative, a pre-recorded/virtual event will be created and shared with the families who donated to the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation in memory of their loved ones. In addition, the 2020 families will also be invited to the 2021 dedication service where their loved ones will also be celebrated and remembered.

## **2020 Conservation Scholarship Presentations:**

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, SCRCA Chair, Joe Faas and SCRCA General Manager, Brian McDougall met the 2020 Conservation Scholarship recipients at their homes to present them with their awards.

### **A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship (\$1000)**

Brady Grubb, Lambton Kent Composite School, Dresden, Ontario

### **Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship (\$500)**

Trevor McBrayne, Lambton Kent Composite School, Dresden, Ontario

### **Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship (\$500)**

Gracie Goodhill, North Lambton Secondary School, Forest, Ontario

## **Media and Social Media Analytics:**

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

The following are statistics covering the timeframe from April 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020:

## Media Relations

- 16 media releases
  - 2020 Total = 22 media releases
- 266 news article mentions
  - 2020 Total = 461 news article mentions

## Social Media

- Facebook
  - New Likes = 208 (Total = 1,663)
  - New Followers = 92 (Total = 1,724)
  - Posts = 144 (2020 Total = 203)
- Twitter
  - Tweets = 126 (2020 Total = 194)
  - Retweets = 77 (2020 Total = 170)
  - New Followers = 58 (Total = 658)
  - Engagements (clicks, retweets, replies, follows, and likes) = 1662 (2020 Total = 3553)

**(s) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Communications Report, dated September 3, 2020, including information regarding Conservation Education, Coming Events and Conservation Scholarships.***

## Remedial Action Plan Coordinator:

The new Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Coordinator for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC), Natasha Pozega, will begin her new role at the SCRCA on September 8th. Natasha holds a Bachelor of Science in General Science from the University of Waterloo and an Environmental Technician Diploma from St. Lawrence College.

For the last four years, she has worked at the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences in Cornwall, Ontario where, among her many responsibilities, she managed and coordinated the RAP for the St. Lawrence River AOC.

We are excited to welcome her to the SCRCA and look forward to moving the St. Clair River a step closer to being removed from the list of Great Lakes AOCs.

## Friends of the St. Clair River Photo Contest:

The Friends of the St. Clair River community group in partnership with the Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) is holding their third photo contest. Running until September 26, 2020, the contest is open to amateur digital photographers living in the St. Clair watershed in both Canada and the United States.

The purpose of the contest to raise public awareness and appreciation for the beauty and majesty of the St. Clair River. There are three categories open to both adult and

youth (18 years and under) photographers. Prizes will be awarded to the best photographs in each category based on the input of a panel of judges.

The Friends of the St. Clair River is an all-volunteer Canadian charitable organization that assists the St. Clair River BPAC in the development and implementation of the St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan by promoting the conservation, beautification and environmental activities associated with the St. Clair River.

### **Past and Upcoming Meetings:**

Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR)

- June 8, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)
- August 25, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

- September 24, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)

**(t) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair River Area of Concern Update Report, dated September 3, 2020.***

The regulations activity report on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulation (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for June, July and August, 2020 were reviewed.

### **BD-20-75**

**Burrell – McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors accepts the Regulations Activity Reports on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulation (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated September 3, 2020 and includes the June 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020, as presented.”**

**CARRIED**

### **Project:**

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

The Conservation Authority sent out RFP's in August, 2020 for the completion of a study. All proposals will include an assessment and a design component.

**Highlights of the work include:**

**Assessment**

Inspection of the current infrastructure at Highland Glen CA to understand the structural issues on this site and coastal assessment of this shoreline reach to assist with permits.

**Design**

The proposal should outline a breakdown for each of the design components below:

- Plans and specifications for repair of the damaged groyne
- Plans and specifications for repair to the seawall to the west of the damaged groyne
- Plans and specifications for erosion protection for the area just east of the ramp
- Plans and specifications for erosion protection along the bluff to protect the parking lot
- Plans and specifications for improved ramp walkways
- Plans and specifications for improved beach access

SCRCA is looking to partner with a consulting organization that has significant experience in shoreline design and construction. Staff have shortlisted 4 pre-qualified consultants for this work.

1. AECOM
2. Baird
3. Riggs Engineering
4. Shoreplan Inc

RFP's were sent out the beginning of August 2020. SCRCA has received 2 submissions for this work. Details of the submissions are provided below:

<b>Proposal summary</b>		<b>Proposal cost (Not including HST)</b>
AECOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed proposal that provides breakdowns and budget for each of the tasks</li> <li>• 3 design concepts will be provided verbally with a detailed design for the preferred alternative</li> <li>• No Geotechnical studies or EA work included</li> <li>• Includes breakdown of provisional items and costs for each item</li> </ul>	\$40,250
Shoreplan Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design concepts to be explored with SCRCA with a detailed design for the preferred alternative</li> <li>• No Geotechnical studies or EA work included</li> </ul>	\$40,500

**Financial Impact:**

AECOM Proposal	\$40,250
Provisional Work – Design and recommendation to safely open the boat ramp until full repairs and upgrades can be completed	\$4,417
HST	\$5,806.71
Contingency Fund	\$2,500
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$52,973.71</b>
Existing Highland Glen Reserves	(\$11,619)
Remaining Project Cost to be funded via Special Levy in 2021 (As a Board designated Regional Conservation Area costs are levied to all member municipalities based on modified cumulative value assessment)	\$41,354.71

<b>Proposed Special Levy - Highland Glen</b>		
based on the maximum project budget and the use of HGCA reserves	<b>2021</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>CVA Apportionment %</b>	<b>Highland Glen Special Levy</b>
Township of Adelaide Metcalfe	1.9190%	\$ 794
Township Brooke-Alvinston	1.7871%	\$ 739
Municipality Chatham-Kent	13.0443%	\$ 5,394
Township Dawn-Euphemia	2.6508%	\$ 1,096
Township Enniskillen	1.9973%	\$ 826
Municipality Lambton Shores	4.9903%	\$ 2,064
Municipality Middlesex Centre	2.2426%	\$ 927
Village Newbury	0.1528%	\$ 63
Village Oil Springs	0.1986%	\$ 82
Town Petrolia	2.5364%	\$ 1,049
Town Plympton-Wyoming	5.4734%	\$ 2,264
Village Point Edward	2.2156%	\$ 916
City Sarnia	37.4674%	\$ 15,495
Municipality Southwest Middlesex	1.1705%	\$ 484
Township St. Clair	11.2021%	\$ 4,633
Township Strathroy - Caradoc	8.6479%	\$ 3,576
Township Warwick	2.3039%	\$ 953
	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 41,355</b>

**BD-20-76**

**McEwen – Scott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 4, 2020 regarding Highland Glen Conservation Area including an update on the community response to the closure of the Boat Launch, a status report on current conditions and a summary of the results of the request for proposals for the repairs to the Boat Launch and Shore Protection and further approves that the Chair and General Manager may accept the preferred tender and sign appropriate agreements to initiate the study as soon as possible.”**

**CARRIED**

In January of 2020, SCRCA received a request from attorney Janet Gibbons of Strathroy on behalf of a landowner adjacent to Shetland Conservation Area requesting assistance in correcting errors to the landowners land title.

During this process, it was discovered that the Authority did not have proper title to Shetland CA and the error dates prior to the Authority’s acquisition of the property from the Shetland Picnic Corp.

Staff requested that Ms. Gibbons work on behalf of the Authority to correct this error. The cost of a survey required to correct the issue was split with the neighbouring landowner.

Ms. Gibbons will take the survey and other supporting documents before a judge to request that the error in title be corrected.

The cost of the Authority’s share of the survey was \$2325 plus \$40.95 non-recoverable HST. Since this is not a standard maintenance item, a 50/50 cost share was requested with the Township of Dawn-Euphemia.

In response to this cost share request, the Township of Dawn-Euphemia has requested that the Authority consider transferring ownership of the Shetland CA to the Municipality at this time. On April 7, 2020, a formal request was forwarded to the Authority (item 8.2.1).

### **Property History**

In approximately 1908, a group of local farmers held a picnic in the bush on the farm of Duncan Bolton, the site of the present Conservation Area. The picnic included live music, fireworks, and baseball. A rental fee was paid to Mr. Bolton. The event continued annually on the second Wednesday in August. In 1934, the group formed a non-profit corporation (Shetland Picnic Corporation) to acquire the property from Mr. Bolton. In 1934, the approximately 10-acre property was purchased. In 1952, an additional 5 acres on the North side of the river was purchased across from the picnic grounds.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 1963, the corporation conveyed all the lands acquired to the Sydenham Valley Conservation Authority for \$1.00 on the condition that the property



would be maintained in perpetuity as a Conservation Area and Park for the inhabitants of the community and others. (Above history obtained in 1972 from Frank Johnston and Eric G. Moorhouse, Frank Johnston was the Secretary of the Shetland Picnic Corporation from 1920 - 1963)

**Property Currently:**

The Shetland Conservation Area is approximately 17 acres located on both the North and South sides of the Sydenham River. The property has approximately 15 serviced and 15 un-serviced campsites. North of the river the property has an old boat launch, between the river and Bentpath Line the property has campsites, a dock, playground equipment, a pavilion, and an old building.

Currently the Township of Dawn-Euphemia maintains the property and manages the campground. Property expenses are paid by the Authority and then paid by the municipality through special levy.

No lease agreement can be found on file.

Correspondence from the Township of Dawn-Euphemia regarding an interest to transfer ownership of the Shetland Campground was reviewed, as was a copy of the deed to the property.

**Directors Comments:** Director Al Broad clarified that the Township of Dawn-Euphemia’s interest in obtaining the land results from SCRCA’s request to contribute 50% of the costs associated with correcting the title. He also expressed concern that this cost is not part of the operating budget.

General Manager, Brian McDougall withdrew the request for the Township of Dawn-Euphemia to contribute 50% of the legal cost in amending the title.

A recorded vote was requested

**Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-20-77**

Director	For	Against
Brennan, John	✓	
Broad, Al		✓
Brown, Pat		✓
Bruziewicz, Andy	✓	
Burrell, Terry	✓	
Faas, Joe	✓	
Gordon, Larry	✓	
Hall, Aaron	✓	

Kennes, Frank	✓	
Loosley, Brad	✓	
MacKinnon, Betty Ann	✓	
Marriott, Kevin		✓
McEwen, Netty	✓	
McGill, Mark	✓	
McMillan, Dan	✓	
Miller, Steve		✓
Nemcek, Frank		✓
Scott, Lorie	✓	
Stark, Mike		✓
Westgate, Jerry	✓	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>

**BD-20-77**

**Burrell – Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 4, 2020 regarding Shetland Conservation Area and further affirms the Authority’s commitment to retain the property in perpetuity and still further directs staff to draft an updated management agreement for the property for approval by Dawn-Euphemia Council as well as the Board of Directors.**

**CARRIED**

On August 13, 2020, the City of Sarnia forwarded a letter to the Conservation Authority General Manager regarding a resolution adopted by the Council of the Corporation of the City of Sarnia. The City of Sarnia would like the Authority to confirm whether it has interest in acquiring 1616-1620 Blackwell Road for establishing a conservation area.

**1616-1620 Blackwell Road**

This property was previously operated as the Inter-Recycling Systems Inc. Landfill. Staff have had limited time to investigate this property, however, acquiring a property with this history puts the Authority at risk of having to deal with issues resulting from site contamination.

In 2010, a 4m wide perimeter clay barrier was installed in two corners of the property to prevent contaminants from migrating off property. An asbestos management plan was also developed to deal with some of the unearthed waste materials during this project. An odour suppressant was required when the waste materials were exposed.

In 2007, one additional monitoring well (5 existing) was approved by the City of Sarnia to be located on the Howard Watson trail, adjacent to the property. Inter-Recycling Inc.

was monitoring for contaminants migrating off site. The results of this monitoring are unknown.

SCRCA has not accepted similar properties in the past.

Correspondence from the City of Sarnia to SCRCA regarding the potential property acquisition was reviewed, as were air photos of the site's property boundaries and surrounding area with identified environmental features.

**BD-20-78**

**Brown – Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 1, 2020 regarding the City of Sarnia Resolution concerning property at 1616-1620 Blackwell Road, Sarnia and further directs SCRCA staff to notify the City of Sarnia that the Conservation Authority does not have interest in acquiring this property for the purpose of establishing a Conservation Area.”**

**CARRIED**

- a) The 5 year lease agreements are due for renewal at the end of 2020. A new lease agreement has been prepared, divided by the available properties where possible, consistent with the management of the lands. There are 4 agriculture leases that will be direct reward. These lands require crossing private land to access the agriculture land. The tender closing date is Friday September 25<sup>th</sup>.

The current tender process has advantages and shortcomings. Allowing the current tenant to match the highest bid negates the bidding process. Current tenants are aware that they are able to match the highest bid and potential new tenants may be discouraged from bidding. Furthermore, accepting the highest bid may not be in the best interest of the SCRCA or the land. The SCRCA should have discretion in awarding a lease.

To level the playing field for all bidders, it is suggested that current tenants be required to submit a bid for any lands that they wish to lease or continue to lease, with the option to match the highest bid. The SCRCA should reserve the right to refuse the highest bid for any reason.

Staff plan to re-establish buffers on the Agriculture Lands that have been removed over the past 5 years. New signage or replacement signage will be installed. Erosion will be assessed and options will be reviewed to mitigate the erosion on the lands.

- b) As part of the lands management, the removal of structures and debris is required for the general cleanliness of the property, liability, or due to items no longer being needed. The unmaintained structures and debris piles are not considered assets as they have little or no value, and are not listed. In most cases, there will be a cost to remove such items. Should an opportunity arise to have these items removed from the lands at no cost, or within budget, staff will do so.

- c) Over the past year the SCRCA staff have assisted other organizations by providing locations and/ or staff time to monitor for invasive species, including the McKeough Upstream Lands and the County of Lambton Lands. These projects include:
- In 2019 and 2020, staff installed and monitored traps for oak wilt for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.
  - The Canadian Food Inspection Agency placed traps for a general collection for any invasive alien species.
  - The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs placed sticky traps at the Darcy McKeough Dam area specifically for the European cherry fruit fly.
  - Bird Canada sends out staff in the spring for bird identification and counts.
  - Natural Resources Canada reach out asking for locations of ash trees that are of certain criteria to sample for resistance to emerald ash borer.
- All these organisations copy the SCRCA the results of the work they perform.
- d) This winter several woodlands will be inventoried and assessed on the potential for harvesting. Over the last several years, timber prices have remained low, which has made harvesting a low priority.

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

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

### **Financial Impact:**

Minor funding will be needed for signage and seed for buffering lands. Any erosion work or disposal of structures and debris, will be reviewed and completed through the allotted budget or grant funding.

**Director's comments:** Directors deliberated on the fairness of allowing current tenants the first right of refusal. General Manager, Brian McDougall explained that this clause is included due to past precedence, but can be removed at the request of the Board. Directors requested that amendments be made to all new lease agreements removing the clause referring to the tenant's first right of refusal and/ or the tenant's ability to match the highest bid. It is agreed that SCRCA staff shall maintain the right to refuse the highest bid at their discretion. Staff are also directed to discuss the possibility of making the same amendment to land lease agreements for Foundation-owned lands with the Foundation Board of Directors.

**BD-20-79**

**Burrell – Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors accepts the report dated September 1, 2020 on the Mckeough lands and supports that none asset items be disposed of as part of the routine maintenance of the land and further directs staff to remove all clauses within the land lease agreements giving the first right of refusal and the right to match highest bids to current tenants while also maintaining the right to refuse the highest bid for any reason.**

**CARRIED**

- As presented to the Board of Directors at their December 2019 meeting, under item 13.4, the Board approved the following resolution:

*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.”*

- Staff departures and the COVID pandemic have left staff unable to undertake the proposed consultation in a timely fashion
- Correspondence was received from 4 municipal partners seeking further review of the situation be the Board of Directors in July and August – this correspondence is attached
- With new staff filling vacancies and staff returning from maternity leave, we are finally back to a position where we can begin the planned consultation process
- On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, an e-mail was circulated to all drainage contacts in our watershed to begin this consultation process

A copy of the original e-mail sent by SCRCA staff to all SCRCA Drainage Superintendents regarding the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy Consultation was reviewed.

**BD-20-80**

**Scott – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors accepts the report dated September 10, 2020 on the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy.”**

**CARRIED**

**Directors Comments:** Directors expressed concern regarding the request to rescind the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy and requested that staff be given an opportunity to speak on the significance of the document and explain its value. It was noted that the St. Clair Region Conservation Board of Directors have a fiduciary duty to follow the

Conservation Authorities Act. A recorded vote was requested.

**Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-20-81**

<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Brennan, John		✓
Broad, Al		✓
Brown, Pat		✓
Bruziewicz, Andy	✓	
Burrell, Terry	✓	
Faas, Joe		✓
Gordon, Larry		✓
Hall, Aaron	✓	
Kennes, Frank		✓
Loosley, Brad		✓
MacKinnon, Betty Ann	✓	
Marriott, Kevin		✓
McEwen, Netty	✓	
McGill, Mark		✓
McMillan, Dan	-	-
Miller, Steve	✓	
Nemcek, Frank		✓
Scott, Lorie		✓
Stark, Mike		✓
Westgate, Jerry		✓
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>

**BD-20-81**

**Burrell – Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors defer any decision to accept or rescind the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy and further that staff provide a report explaining the significances of the document and how it relates to the Conservation Authorities Act.”**

**FAILED**

**Directors Comments:** Directors discussed concerns from drainage engineers who feel that the Conservation Authorities Act is being held with higher importance than the Drainage Act and is hindering development applications and plan of subdivisions.

General Manager, Brian McDougall clarified that the SCRCA Drain Enclosures Policy document is informational in nature, providing an explanation as to how and why SCRCA deals with enclosed drains, and that rescinding the document will not affect the responses from SCRCA under the Conservation Authorities (CA) Act. The CA Act requires staff and the Board to ensure that development in regards to municipal drains is done in adherence to the CA Act. It was reiterated that the CA Act and Drainage Act are of equal importance and adherence requires cooperation and respect to both Acts. It is requested that staff report to the November Board of Directors meeting highlighting where within CA Act the clause(s) regarding the Conservation Authority's interest in municipal drain enclosures can be found. A recorded vote for the rescinding of the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy document was requested.

**Recorded Vote in Reference to BD-20-82**

<b>Director</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Brennan, John	✓	
Broad, Al	✓	
Brown, Pat	✓	
Bruziewicz, Andy	✓	
Burrell, Terry		✓
Faas, Joe	✓	
Gordon, Larry	✓	
Hall, Aaron		✓
Kennes, Frank	✓	
Loosley, Brad	✓	
MacKinnon, Betty Ann	✓	
Marriott, Kevin	✓	
McEwen, Netty	✓	
McGill, Mark	✓	
McMillan, Dan	-	-
Miller, Steve		✓
Nemcek, Frank	✓	
Scott, Lorie	✓	
Stark, Mike	✓	
Westgate, Jerry	✓	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>

**BD-20-82**

**Loosley – Marriott**

**“That the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy be rescinded effective upon the final passing thereof and that the member Municipalities be so informed”**

**CARRIED**

The 2021 proposed schedule of fees for planning and regulations was reviewed.

**BD-20-83**

**Westgate – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated September 5, 2020 regarding Planning and Regulations Fee Schedule 2021 and concurs with staff recommendations, as presented.”**

**CARRIED**

The increase in CVA analysis and Schedule B of the 2021 preliminary draft budget were reviewed.

**Directors Comments:** A request was made to schedule a special meeting in October in order to receive and accept the full preliminary 2021 draft before it is sent to municipalities for comment. It was clarified that the budget is preliminary in nature and that municipalities and Directors will be given ample opportunity to comment, with a final weighted vote expected to take place at the December, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.

**BD-20-84**

**Scott – Broad**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2021 preliminary draft budget of \$9,540,120 with a proposed municipal general levy of \$1,129,926 and further that this preliminary budget will be circulated to member municipalities for information and input based on our budget review process.”**

**DEFERRED**

**Under New Business**

Director Al Broad enquired whether the Sinclair property will be coming up for lease tender. Staff informed that the Sinclair property is a Foundation-owned land and is currently under a 10 year lease to the Rural Lambton Stewardship Network (RLSN). It is requested that staff approach the Foundation Board of Directors to consider re-naturalizing the Sinclair and Gawne properties, as well as any other Foundation-owned lands that are no longer suitable for farming.

**BD-20-85**

**Scott – Burrell**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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**Joe Faas**  
**Chair**



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



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: October 22, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Remote via Zoom

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

**Staff Present:** Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Erin Carroll, Director of Biology; Chris Durand, Manager of GIS and IT; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources;

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

### **BD-20-86**

#### **McEwen – MacKinnon**

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

**CARRIED**

- The More Homes, More Choice included an update to the mandates of Conservation Authorities
- MECP conducted consultation sessions with Authorities and stakeholders early this year
- Lambton County Council requested the Authorities to attend a consultation session member municipalities in April – unfortunately COVID-19 forced the cancellation of this meeting
- A public survey broadening the breadth of comments was completed in the Spring
- Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Yurek addressed Conservation Ontario Council on September 28<sup>th</sup>
- Chair, Joe Faas; Vice Chair, Larry Gordon and General Manager, Brian McDougall attended the Council meeting virtually
- Minister Yurek confirmed that he and his staff continue to process the input received from the consultation session in February and the public survey which followed

- This information may be released as early as this fall and will be used as background for proposed changes to legislation and regulations which the Minister hopes to be brought forward during this sitting of Parliament before year end
- With this information coming in the near future, it is premature to have this meeting prior to the announcement of these new updates

**Director’s Comments:**

Directors discussed the potential legislative and regulatory changes that may come to light by year end and request that SCRCA staff provide a report at such time outlining the changes and their direct implications to the 2021 budget. General Manager, Brian McDougall expressed that the Authority is fortunate to have operating reserves, which may be used if necessary due to such changes, once the budget has passed. A report will be provided to the Board of Directors when information becomes available.

**BD-20-87**

**Burrell – Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report dated October 15, 2020 and further direct staff to provide correspondence to Lambton County advising that additional directives from the Province forthcoming this fall are necessary for the proposed community information session and that the scheduling be delayed until the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks outline the coming legislative and regulatory changes.”**

**CARRIED**

The 2021 draft budget booklet and the following supporting documents were reviewed:

- Department Summary of the 2021 Total Draft Budget
- Detailed Department Budgets for Departments that are covered by General Levy
- Reserve Analysis
- Analysis of the 2020 CVA 2017 CO Comparative Survey Data.
- % Breakdown of costs in General Levy Departments

**Strategic Goal:**

To move towards financial sustainability. Over the past two years we have been putting pillars in place to move away from the reliance on capital reserves to run operations. These initiatives have included review of printing, document management software to manage paper flows in planning and retention of documents, move towards cost recovery in planning fees, improving efficiencies in accounting processes where possible, the move to Board packages online without investment in additional software expense, review of cell phone and phone costs and move to vendor of record pricing, installation of LED lighting on the first floor of the office building and realignment of administrative services. Salary gapping as not ideal but due to the COVID-19 restrictions have helped reduce cost but at a cost of customer service standards.

**Director’s Comments:**

It is requested that the Director of Finance, Tracy Prince provide to each member municipality a total of their individual percent increase including both general and special levies.

It was noted by Director Frank Kennes that the focus on the percentage itself does not give an accurate impression of the proposed budget increase. With a comparatively smaller budget than surrounding Conservation Authorities (CAs), a higher percentage may still result in a lower dollar amount than CAs seeking a lower percentage increase.

It is requested by Director Mike Stark that future budget documents include the previous year’s total expenditure compared to the following year’s proposed budget.

**Bd-20-88**

**Burrell – MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2021 preliminary draft budget of \$9,640,120 with a proposed municipal general levy of \$1,0129,926 and further that this preliminary budget will be circulated to member municipalities for information and input based on our budget review process.”**

**CARRIED**

The tendering of the McKeough agriculture lands closed on September 25, 2020. During the tender process, concerns were brought forward by a current tenant. It was felt that current tenants should have the right to match the highest bid, as they have had inputs into the agriculture land for the last five years. Concerns were also voiced about the Board of Directors changing the right to match during the tender process.

The tender results are as follows for the 2021-2025 Agriculture Lease. The person in the number one spot is the successfully tenant for the lease agreement period. Only the top 3 bids are shown. The right to match the highest bid was rescinded by the Board of Directors at the September 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 meeting. This information was communicated to current tenants by all means possible prior to the tender deadline.			
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Lands Tender Results 2020			
Property	Top 3 Bids	Bid Price per acre	Name
Mckeough Channel Hay (Bottom Land)	1	\$42.00	Peter Van Lierop
	2	\$0.00	
	3	\$0.00	
Mckeough Channel Hay (Top Land)	1	\$82.00	Peter Van Lierop
	2	\$25.00	
	3	\$0.00	Leo Johnson
Property 38	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$216.50	Fraser Beatty

	3	\$172.00	Joseph Fournie
Property 39	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$216.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$171.00	Joe Riedl
Property 40	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$216.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$181.00	Joe Riedl
Property 56	1	\$135.00	Jason/ Jeremy Nottley
	2	\$127.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$0.00	
Property 79 West, 80 West	1	\$248.00	Ben Arnold
	2	\$181.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$173.00	Jasper Jansen
Property 79 East, 80 East, 82 South	1	\$248.00	Ben Arnold
	2	\$181.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$162.00	Jasper Jansen
Property 82 North, 83 West	1	\$248.00	Ben Arnold
	2	\$176.50	Fraser Beatty
	3	\$161.00	Joe Riedl
Property 84	1	\$170.00	Jason/Jeremy Nottley
	2	\$165.00	Ryan Scott
	3	\$160.00	Rob Annett
Property 91	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$190.00	Ken Cook
	3	\$168.00	Jasper Jansen
Property 92 and 87	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$222.00	Paul Vandersteen
	3	\$206.00	Brad/ George Langstaff
Property 95	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$234.00	Paul Vandersteen
	3	\$180.00	Rob Annett
Property 97	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$180.00	Rob Annett
	3	\$179.00	Paul Vandersteen
Property 97 East and 98	1	\$125.00	Dave Pettit
	2	\$0.00	
	3	\$0.00	
Property 101	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$226.00	Paul Vandersteen
	3	\$191.00	Brad/ George Langstaff
Property 103 Agriculture Land	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$225.00	Paul Vandersteen
	3	\$185.00	Mark McGuire
Property 103 and 105 Hay	1	\$88.00	Jasper Jansen
	2	\$82.00	Peter Van Lierop

	3	\$0.00	
Property 111	1	\$200.00	Dave Pettit
	2	\$151.00	Jasper Jansen
	3	\$125.00	Jack Malfroot
Property 138 and 140	1	\$236.50	Ben Arnold
	2	\$211.00	Paul Vandersteen
	3	\$160.00	Jeremy/ Jason Nottley

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

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

**Financial Impact:**

The majority of the leased land tendered higher than the previous period.

**Director’s Comments:**

It was noted that the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation made the request to remove the first right of refusal clause out of all lease agreements for Foundation-owned agricultural lands.

Director Pat Brown requested that future budgets reflect the total revenues received from agricultural leases.

**BD-20-89**

**Miller – Scott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 9, 2020 on the 2021-2025 McKeough Agriculture Lease Results.”**

**CARRIED**

**Under New Business**

Director and Vice-Chair, Larry Gordon enquired regarding the end of the camping season and whether any special arrangements are needed to accommodate ‘snowbirds’ who are unable to travel South due to COVID-19 restrictions. General Manager, Brian McDougall confirmed that all camping activities will cease as of Sunday, October 25, 2020 and that the season, despite early spring setbacks due to COVID-19, was fairly successful. To date there have been no conflicts reported at SCRCA campgrounds regarding snowbirds and it is assumed that alternate accommodations have been planned for. Director Mike Stark enquired whether staff provided input to the Lambton County Management Group for their emergency plan, which includes contingencies for snowbirds. This will be confirmed by Director of Lands, Greg Wilcox at a later time.

Director Lorie Scott complimented staff on the informative meeting package received in advance of the meeting.

**BD-20-90**  
**Brown – McMillan**  
**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**

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**Joe Faas**  
**Chair**



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

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 4, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Brian McDougall

**Item 5.1**

**Subject:** General Manager's Report

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**Recommendation:**

- That this report be accepted as an update

**Background:**

**Province of Ontario 2020 Budget**

- On Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Ontario government will release its 2020 Budget
- The province has stated that it will focus on protecting the health and safety of the people during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing much-needed supports to families, workers, and employers, and laying the foundation for future growth, renewal and economic recovery
- Based on the above information it does not appear that legislative or regulatory changes which may affect Conservation Authorities will be included, however it remains possible and we will be prepared to discuss any relevant changes included in the 2020 Budget at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**COVID-19**

- Authority staff continue to work under the Return to Work Plan
- No positive reports of COVID-19, several test have been completed, most of which have related to childcare requirements
- Staff levels exceed 40% at the office each day with remaining staff working from home
- Increase numbers of cases in the Province are a significant concern, however with the greatest number of these cases being reported in Toronto and area as well as Ottawa, no changes to the current staffing plan are proposed
- The Management Team has reviewed our preparedness to respond to direction from the Province or from Regional Health Units to respond to any changes in the situation and we are ready to respond as required



St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds

For the year ended December 31, 2019

	Balance, beginning of year	Transfers to or (from) Operations before interest	Interest earned	Balance, end of year
<b>Reserve funds</b>				
Forestry	\$ 11,831	\$ -	\$ 29	\$ 11,860
<b>Other reserves</b>				
Administration centre	1,232,181	(70,829)	6,160	1,167,512
Goldstream remedial	7,797	-	40	7,837
Conservation services	894,852	-	4,474	899,326
General conservation Areas	878,707	72,778	4,394	955,879
Insurance	26,956	-	135	27,091
Land management	216,808	9,050	1,084	226,942
McKeough property management	320,698	-	1,604	322,302
Oil and gas	73,471	-	367	73,838
Planning	-	-	-	-
Property sales	-	-	-	-
Reserve - Highland Glen	9,430	2,142	47	11,619
Resource awareness	21,838	-	108	21,946
Vehicles and equipment	457,762	26,486	2,289	486,537
<b>Total other reserves</b>	<b>4,140,500</b>	<b>39,627</b>	<b>20,702</b>	<b>4,200,829</b>
<b>Total other reserves and reserve funds</b>	<b>\$ 4,152,331</b>	<b>\$ 39,627</b>	<b>\$ 20,731</b>	<b>\$ 4,212,689</b>

- None of the existing Reserves are a good fit for funding the Service Delivery Review for the Planning & Regulations Department
- Planning Reserve - has been stripped of funding due to legal expenditures and shortfalls over the past several years - the Reserve was created to assist with unexpected legal fees, consultants fees, staff time and costs related to defending the Authority's position on planning matters and regulations program administration
- Several other Reserves are too small or too restricted in order to assist in financing the Service Delivery Review for the Planning & Regulations Department - the Reserve names have been collectively highlighted in yellow and the details redlined
- Land Management Reserve - specifically to support property acquisition
- Vehicles and Equipment Reserve - created to support acquisition and maintenance of vehicles and equipment
- General Conservation Areas - created to support the capital refurbishment or capital development of regional conservation areas
- Conservation Services - set up to help offset the future costs of herbicide management for conservation services projects which have prepaid for ongoing maintenance
- Administration Centre - specifically to support the maintenance and capital requirements of the building and property
- Recommendation: Vehicles and Equipment Reserve and/or the Administration Centre Reserve should be used to support the \$35,000 plus HST cost for the Service Delivery Review of the Planning & Regulations Department

The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of these financial statements

2. Significant accounting policies (continued from previous page)

(ii) **Impairment**

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of possible impairment. When a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from the financial asset or group of assets, a write-down is recognized in the Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus. The write-down reflects the difference between the carrying amount and the higher of:

- a) the present value of the cash flows expected to be generated by the asset or group of assets;
- b) the amount that could be realized by selling the assets or group of assets;
- c) the net realizable value of any collateral held to secure repayment of the assets or group of assets.

When the event occurring after the impairment confirms that a reversal is necessary, the reversal is recognized in the Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus up to the amount of the previously recognized impairment.

**g) Reserves and reserve funds**

Upon approval of the Authority Executive Committee or Board of Directors, appropriations are made to (from) operations for future expenditures and contingencies. A reserve fund indicates cash that has been set aside as restricted assets, whereas a reserve is an appropriation of surplus and no cash is set aside.

The Authority has the following reserves and reserve funds:

- **Forestry reserve fund** – This reserve has been set aside to assist the Authority's forestry program with certain restrictions for its use.
- **General conservation areas reserve** – This reserve is to assist with the capital refurbishing or capital development of regional conservation areas.
- **Vehicles and equipment reserve** – This reserve is used for vehicle and equipment operations maintenance and replacement.
- **Administration centre reserve** – This reserve is established to support maintenance and capital requirements of the administration centre and its associated property.
- **Land management reserve** – This reserve is established to support the acquisition, development and operation of natural heritage features such as forests, wetlands, meadows, lakes and streams including use of these features by the public.
- **Conservation services reserve** – The Authority has long-term contracts with land owners for vegetation control in plantations. This reserve has been set up to help offset future costs.
- **Coldstream remedial reserve** – This reserve is comprised of a court award in the amount of \$10,000 identified for remedial work upstream of the Coldstream Reservoir less actual expenditures on remedial work.
- **Highland Glen reserve** – This reserve is used for capital replacement projects at Highland Glen including parking, trails, and dock work.
- **McKeough property management reserve** – This reserve is comprised of accumulated surpluses from management of the McKeough lands. Funds from this reserve are used for management and maintenance of the McKeough upstream floodway in excess of 2,000 acres.
- **Resource awareness reserve** – This reserve has been created from donations and is to be used to support the Authority's resource awareness program.
- **Property sales reserve** – This reserve is set up from proceeds received on the sale of the Authority's land. The province has allowed the Authority to keep these funds in a reserve.
- **Insurance reserve** – The Authority has increased the property insurance deductible to \$10,000, thereby reducing the insurance premiums and assuming increased risk. This reserve has been established to assist with insurance losses.

**St. Clair Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
*For the year ended December 31, 2019*

**2. Significant accounting policies (continued from previous page)**

- **Planning reserve** ~~This reserve is to assist with unexpected legal fees, consulting fees, staff requirements, etc. when required to defend the Authority's development, interference with wetlands and alterations to shorelines' watercourse regulations, as well as other related unexpected planning matter, which may require funds.~~
- **Oil and gas reserve** – This reserve of Provincial funds maintained by the Authority has been created from oil and gas royalties and long-term leases on deposits located on the Authority's land.

**3. Cash**

Cash includes a bank account earning interest at 2.15% (2018 – 2.15%). During the year, \$73,373 of interest income was earned (2018 - \$63,937).

**4. Investments**

Investments are comprised of:

	2019	2018
Guaranteed investment certificates, maturing at various dates in 2020, earning interest at rates varying between 2.16% and 2.75% per annum (recorded at amortized cost)	\$ 688,000	\$ 818,526
Mutual funds, no specified maturity or yield (recorded at fair market value)	774,481	735,108
	<b>\$ 1,462,481</b>	<b>\$ 1,553,634</b>

**5. Accounts receivable**

Included in accounts receivable is \$182,548 (2018 - \$63,972) owed from St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation, a related party (relationship with related party described in note 10).

**6. Long-term investments**

Long-term investments are comprised of:

	2019	2018
Guaranteed investment certificates, maturing at various dates between 2021 and 2023, yields varying between 2.06% and 2.54% (recorded at amortized cost)	\$ 675,000	\$ 629,000
Libro Credit Union member shares (recorded at amortized cost)	53,037	48,892
	<b>\$ 728,037</b>	<b>\$ 677,892</b>

**7. Forestry reserve**

Restricted assets consist of a bank account held for the Forestry Reserve. The bank account earns interest at 0.25% (2018 – 0.25%). This reserve has been set aside to assist the Authority's forestry program with certain restrictions for its use.

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 22, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Ashley Fletcher

**Item 6.1 (a)**

**Subject:** Business Arising

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**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 a later date**

**Regarding BD-20-64**

It was requested that staff provide a report on the use of silt fencing and whether it is a requirement for drainage works.

**Deferred to December Board Meeting**

**Regarding BD-20-71**

That a report be provided regarding available reserves to cover the cost of appointing Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd in the service review of the planning department.

**Refer to Item 5.2**

**Regarding BD-20-82**

It is requested that staff report to the November Board of Directors meeting highlighting where within CA Act clauses regarding the Conservation Authority's interest in municipal drain enclosures can be found.

**Deferred to December Board Meeting**

**Regarding BD-20-87**

It is requested that staff provide a report outlining any legislative and regulatory changes that are brought forward from Parliament including implications to the 2021 budget.

**Deferred to a later date**

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 27, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Emily De Cloet

**Item 6.1 (b)**

**Subject:** Current Watershed Conditions

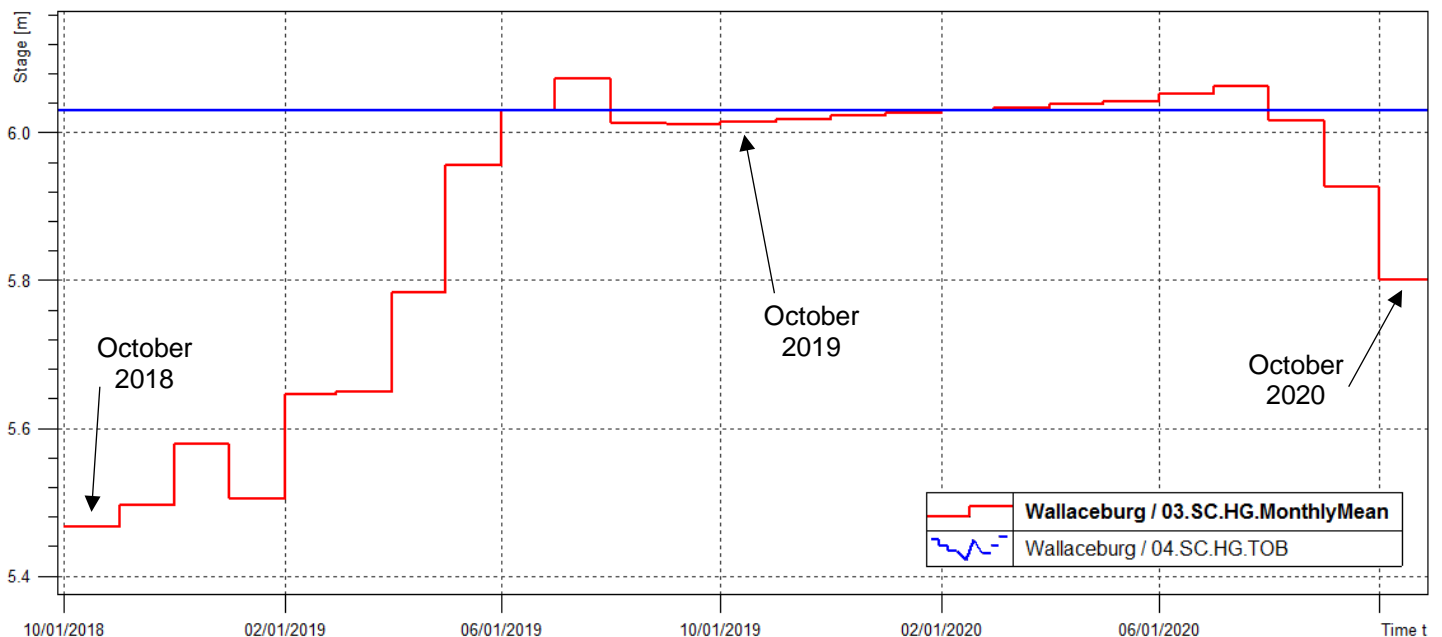
## Highlights:

- Flood threat is low due to a drop in water levels on the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and in Wallaceburg
- Water level forecasts for Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair show levels may exceed record-highs in January through March
- Regional precipitation amounts are near or above normal averages

## Flood Threat

The current flood threat is low owing to a drop in water levels in Wallaceburg (Figure 1) and on the Great Lakes (Figure 2), resulting in a 25 cm freeboard capacity in downtown Wallaceburg (as of this report).

**Figure 1: Monthly average water levels at Wallaceburg (red) compared to top of bank (blue) for the past two years.**

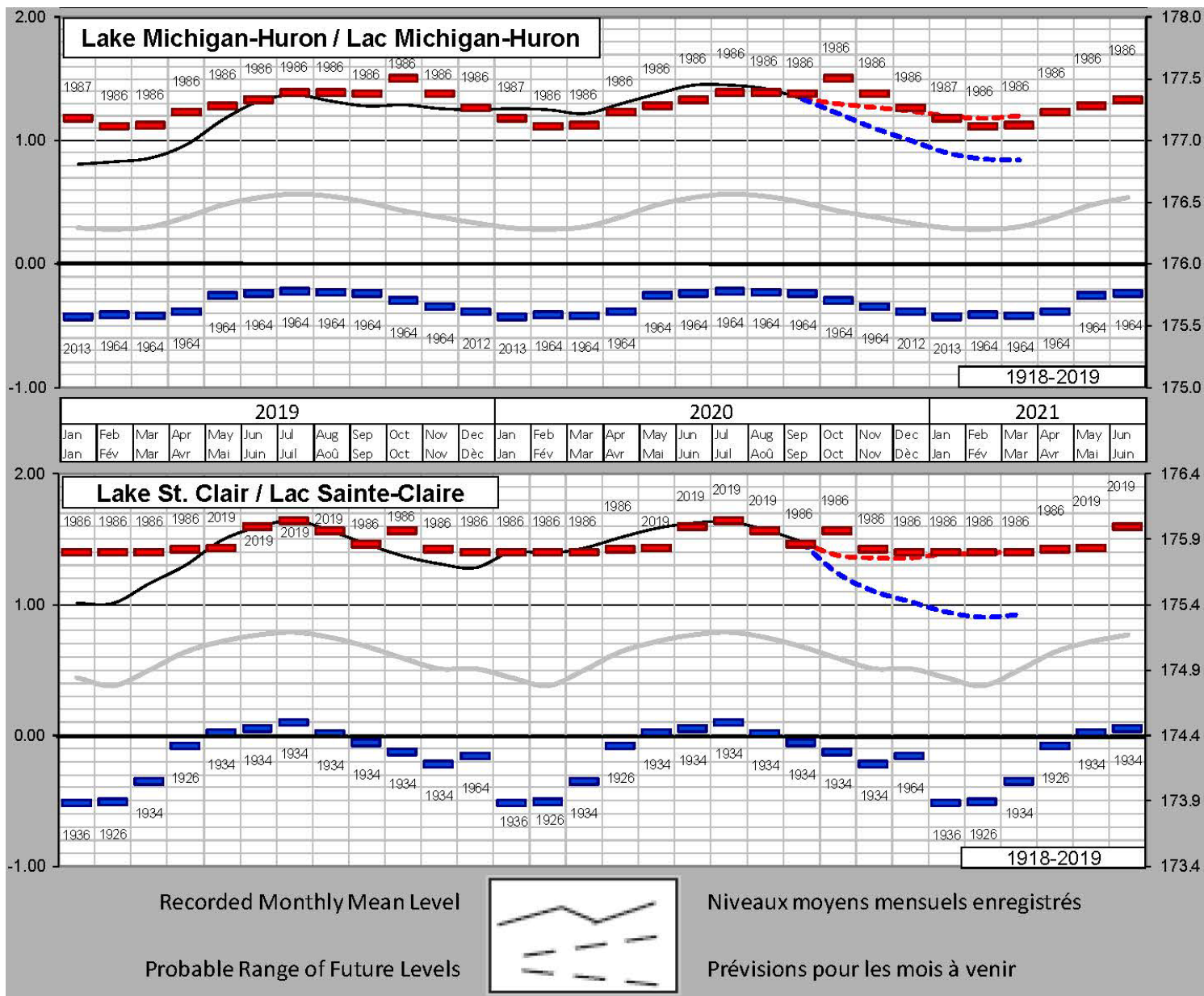


**Table 1: Comparison of mean water levels for September 2020. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2020.**

September 2020	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (Preliminary Data)	177.34	175.88	174.83
Mean for Month Last Year	177.27	175.86	174.87
Change	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.04</b>
Mean for Month, Last 10 years	176.53	175.29	174.37
Change Compared to Current	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.59</b>	<b>0.46</b>
Mean for Month, All Time	176.52	175.10	174.18
Change Compared to Current	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.65</b>
<b>Statistics for Period of Record</b>			
Maximum Monthly Mean / Year	177.38	175.86	174.87
	1986	2019	2019
Change Compared to Current	<b>-0.04</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.04</b>
Minimum Monthly Mean / Year	175.76	174.34	173.38
	1964	1934	1934
Change Compared to Current	<b>1.58</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>1.45</b>
<b>Next Month Estimate</b>			
Probable Mean for Next Month	177.24	175.72	174.70
Next Month Compared to Current	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>-0.16</b>	<b>-0.13</b>

- Water levels on Lakes Huron and St. Clair were higher in September 2020 compared to 2019; Lake Erie was lower by 4cm
- Lake St. Clair exceeded it's maximum montly mean record set in 2019 by 2cm; Lakes Huron and Erie were below their records by 4cm each

**Figure 2: Six-month water level projection. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, September 2020.**



- Upper range predicted mean water levels on Lakes Huron and St. Clair are forecasted to be below record levels in November and December
- Water levels are forecasted to have the potential to be near or exceed record-highs in January through March

## Precipitation Conditions

**Table 2: Precipitation totals compared to monthly normals.**

Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
<b>Last Quarter</b>								
August	182.9	77.1	161.2	82.1	137.6	85.3	106.4	79.7
September	52.4	94	74.6	89.8	109.8	97.7	78.1	96.2
October	46.8	66	58.4	70.8	69.9	77.6	64	64.9
<b>Averages</b>								
last 3 month totals	282.1	237.1	294.2	242.7	317.3	260.6	248.5	240.8
last 3 month % of normal	119.0%		121.2%		121.8%		103.2%	
regional average	<b>116.3%</b>							
last 6 month totals	474.6	466.6	488.2	462.9	490.5	512.5	482.6	493.2
last 6 month % of normal	101.7%		105.5%		95.7%		97.9%	
regional average	<b>100.2%</b>							
last 12 month totals	786	846.8	859	945.1	912	987	797.8	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	92.8%		90.9%		92.4%		86.9%	
regional average	<b>90.7%</b>							

- High amounts of rainfall in August brought totals for the last quarter above monthly normal amounts for the region
- Rainfall averages for six and twelve month periods for all regions are near or above normal amounts



**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 29, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Jessica Van Zwol

**Item 6.1 (c)**

**Subject:** Healthy Lake Huron Program and Healthy Watersheds Program Update

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 29, 2020 on the Healthy Lake Huron Program and Healthy Watersheds Program Update.

**Background:**

Healthy Lake Huron (HLH) is a campaign working towards maintaining and improving water quality of the Lake by taking local action from Sarnia to Tobermory. Technical team members include staff from SCRCA as well as Ausable Bayfield, Saugeen, and Maitland Valley Conservation Authorities, provincial ministries (OMAFRA, MECP), and community groups. HLH provides outreach and educational opportunities for coastal communities, rural centres, and agriculture. Team members work with farmers to implement BMPs that will build their soil health and keep nutrients on the land; with coastal communities to improve dune habitat and invasive species removal and with rural centres to promote rain gardens, trash clean ups, and naturalization projects.

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.

**Update:**

Although COVID-19 shuttered many opportunities for coordinating outreach activities, SCRCA staff were able to safely host an annual Shoreline Cleanup event at Ipperwash Beach in Lambton Shores. We're not exactly sure why this year's event had the greatest turnout yet, but it may have been the beautiful September Saturday weather or the ice cream that brought out 35 people! This year, we had the most children participate and many of the volunteers were attending for their first time. For the past few years, the Ipperwash Beach Club offers free ice cream to those who participate in the event. The manager of the IBC is part of the SCRCA Lambton Shores Steering Committee and is a shoreline resident very keen on keeping Ipperwash Beach beautiful and natural.



ST CLAIR CONSERVATION  
**IPPERWASH  
 BEACH  
 CLEANUP**  
 An annual "end of summer" beach cleanup  
 WE NEED VOLUNTEERS  
 to remove garbage from the beach and West  
 & East Parkway Drive



**SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 | 9:00 - 11:00 AM**  
**CENTRE IPPERWASH BOAT LAUNCH**  
**(END OF IPPERWASH ROAD)**  
 Please be prepared to remain physically distant from other participants  
 and wear close-toed footwear, hat, and gloves  
 (latex gloves & masks will be available)  
 You may want to bring: refillable water bottle  
 Please RSVP to Jessica Van Zwol [jvanzwol@scrca.on.ca](mailto:jvanzwol@scrca.on.ca)



Outreach funding from MECP COA for Healthy Lake Huron provides us this opportunity to connect to local landowners and families living in Lambton Shores. Thanks to Lambton Shores for transporting the garbage away for us. Ipperwash Beach benefits from such a great community of volunteers that almost daily collect garbage to keep it a pristine environment.

**Grant update:**

- EcoAction Canada, 2020-2022: recently awarded \$99,000 over two years for staff salary, outreach, and stewardship projects throughout the SCRCA watershed
- Wildlife Habitat Canada, 2021-2023: applied for \$50,000 for each of 2 years for staff salary, outreach, and wetland/wildlife habitat stewardship projects throughout the SCRCA watershed

**Upcoming Outreach:**

As we continue to be limited in our in-person workshop opportunities, keep an eye out for agriculture outreach videos and social media posts. Currently, SCRCA staff are interviewing local farmers and experts about how to incorporate bio strips into their farming practices. Bio strips are rows of vegetation planted in a crop field between the crop planting rows. The goal of biostrips is to cover most of the field in the non-growing season to reduce soil erosion and nutrient loss as well as boost foraging opportunities for the soil microbiome. Biostrips are essentially cover crops but the difference is cover crops cover an entire field while bio strips leave the soil in the narrow planting rows exposed to sunlight, allowing the soil to heat up in the spring and be ready for planting sooner.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

The Healthy Watershed Program fulfils Goals 2 and 3 of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority strategic objectives.

**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).

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 29, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Melissa Deisley, Jeff Vlasman, Cassandra Sauer, Kelli Smith

**Item 6.1 (d)**

**Subject:** Regulations Activity Summary

A summary of staff activity related to the Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference of Wetlands, and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04) is presented below. This report covers the period from September 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020

Regulations Permits Issued						
Application #	Location	Municipality	Proposal	Submitted	Issued	Days
R#2020-0203	1293 Nelson Street, Port Lambton	Chatham-Kent	Addition to existing dwelling	Aug-26	Sep-01	6
R#2020-0384	123 Mitchell Drive, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	New Semi-Detached House	Sep-01	Sep-01	1
R#2020-0458	227 Thomas Ave, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	Portable	Jul-28	Sep-03	37
R#2020-0466	15 Lillian Street, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	Shed	Aug-26	Sep-03	8
R#2020-0296	745 Florence Road	Dawn-Euphemia	remove old structure and build a 12'x30' structure in same place	Aug-26	Sep-02	7
R#2020-0513	6421 Robert Ave, Bosanquet	Lambton Shores	New dwelling on vacant property	Sep-15	Sep-21	6
R#2018-361	4860 Forsyth Trail	Plympton-Wyoming	Tear Down/Rebuild of Back Portion & Renovation of Existing Cottage	Sep-29	Sep-30	1
R#2019-647	4566 William Street	Plympton-Wyoming	Property inquiry	Sep-23	Sep-24	1
R#2019-150	4676 Riverside Drive	St. Clair	New Single Family Dwelling	Sep-04	Sep-11	7



R#2020-0512	3766 St Clair Parkway	St. Clair	New House	Aug-28	Sep-02	5
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**Total Permits Issued: 10**

**Average Number of Days to Issue for this Period: 7.9**

## Regulations Inquiries

FileReference	Municipality	Location
R#2020-0618		Lot 26, Concession 6
R#2020-0344	Adelaide-Metcalf	3207 Napperton Drive, Strathroy
R#2020-0558	Brooke-Alvinston	7925 Oil Springs Line
R#2020-0128	Chatham-Kent	27860 St. Clair Road, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0297	Chatham-Kent	15 Keller Street, Mitchells Bay
R#2020-0518	Chatham-Kent	37 Walnut Dr, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0523	Chatham-Kent	11773 Wabash Line, Thamesville
R#2020-0526	Chatham-Kent	25961 Baldoon Road, Dover
R#2020-0533	Chatham-Kent	4073 Dufferin Ave, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0443	Dawn-Euphemia	1268 Pantry School Road, DAWN
R#2020-0532	Enniskillen	3196 Black Ash Road, Enniskillen
R#2020-0579	Enniskillen	3228 Petrolia Line
R#2020-0527	Lambton Shores	6572 Lakeshore Road, Bosanquet
R#2020-0522	Oil Springs	4859 Oil Springs Line, Enniskillen
R#2020-0559	Petrolia	290 Evergreen Trail
R#2020-0412	Plympton-Wyoming	3548 Queen Street
R#2020-0484	Plympton-Wyoming	3258 Egremont road, plympton
R#2020-0529	Plympton-Wyoming	Vacant Property south of 4058 Bluepoint Drive, Plympton
R#2020-0542	Plympton-Wyoming	3232 Devonshire Rd
R#2020-0556	Plympton-Wyoming	7988 Norma Ave
R#2020-0574	Plympton-Wyoming	3979 Michigan Line
R#2020-0674	Plympton-Wyoming	3261 London Line
R#2020-0531	Sarnia	1407 London Rd, Sarnia
R#2019-709	Southwest Middlesex	6141 Glendon Drive
R#2019-745	St. Clair	655 St Clair Parkway
R#2020-0409	St. Clair	4110 St. Clair Parkway
R#2020-0410	St. Clair	561 Stanley Line, Sombra
R#2020-0437	St. Clair	3563 ST CLAIR PARKWAY
R#2020-0444	St. Clair	4148 St. Clair Parkway

R#2020-0530	St. Clair	411 Beresford Street, Corunna
R#2020-0585	St. Clair	4360 St. Clair Parkway
R#2020-0619	St. Clair	1801 Kimball Road
R#2019-762	Strathroy-Caradoc	6997 Falconbridge, Lot 4, Concession 3 Caradoc
R#2020-0498	Strathroy-Caradoc	125 Beech St, Strathroy
R#2020-0570	Strathroy-Caradoc	88 Metcalfe St E
R#2020-0571	Strathroy-Caradoc	407 Carrol Street West, Strathroy
R#2020-0615	Strathroy-Caradoc	6997 Falconbridge Drive
R#2020-0504	Warwick	7140 Egremont Rd, Waftord
<b>Total Regulations Inquiries: 38</b>		

## Regulations - DART Completed Files

File Reference	Municipality	Drain / Watercourse
R#2020-0521	Brooke-Alvinston	Sisson Parker Drain
R#2020-0597	Brooke-Alvinston	McEachren Drain
R#2020-0602	Brooke-Alvinston	Edgar Drain No. 1
R#2020-0604	Brooke-Alvinston	Thompson Drain
R#2020-0628	Brooke-Alvinston	Moffat Lucas
R#2020-0629	Brooke-Alvinston	Smith Drain
R#2020-0633	Brooke-Alvinston	Moffat Lucas No.w
R#2020-0517	Chatham-Kent	Wakefield Drain
R#2020-0547	Chatham-Kent	Shaw Ferguson Drain
R#2020-0561	Chatham-Kent	Carlton Cut off Drain
R#2020-0610	Chatham-Kent	Paincourt Creek Drain
R#2020-0563	Dawn-Euphemia	Dawn Anderson Drain West
R#2020-0612	Dawn-Euphemia	Babula
R#2019-634	Enniskillen	14th Concession Drain
R#2020-0177	Enniskillen	King
R#2020-0519	Enniskillen	Fox Creek Drain
R#2020-0520	Enniskillen	Durham Creek Drain
R#2020-0595	Enniskillen	McMillan Drain
R#2020-0624	Enniskillen	McKenzie Drain
R#2020-0625	Enniskillen	13th Concession
R#2020-0564	Plympton-Wyoming	Hartley Drain
R#2020-0566	Plympton-Wyoming	Greenlees Drain

R#2020-0567	Plympton-Wyoming	Wassink McColl Drain
R#2020-0568	Plympton-Wyoming	Brydges Drain
R#2020-0581	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Drain Upper portion
R#2020-0583	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Drain Lower Portion
R#2020-0598	Plympton-Wyoming	McKinlay Drain & McKinlay Drain Branch Line

**Total DART Permits Issued: 27**

## Regulations Inquiries - Drains

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Drain / Watercourse</b>
R#2020-0541	Adelaide-Metcalf	Carruthers McFarlane Drain
R#2020-0535	Chatham-Kent	Urquhart Drain
R#2020-0538	Chatham-Kent	Faubert Drain
R#2020-0614	Dawn-Euphemia	Pyne
R#2020-0616	Dawn-Euphemia	Rutherford
R#2020-0617	Dawn-Euphemia	12th Concession Drain
R#2020-0537	Enniskillen	Lewis McDougall Drain
R#2020-0539	Enniskillen	Plympton Hunter Drain
R#2020-0540	Enniskillen	Bradley Drain
R#2020-0219	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Drain
R#2020-0534	Plympton-Wyoming	Defiez-Delmage Drain
R#2020-0536	Plympton-Wyoming	Fleming Drain

**Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 12**

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 29, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Sarah Hodgkiss, Laura Biancolin

**Item 6.1 (e)**

**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 September 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020.

Municipal Plan Input and Review			
File Reference	Location	Municipality	Municipal File
PL#2020-0045	5452 Stewart Line, Chatham	Chatham-Kent	
PL#2020-0024	3167 Rokeby Line	Enniskillen	B006-20
PL#2020-0056	3263 Petrolia Line	Enniskillen	B005-20
PL#2020-0022	9338 West Ipperwash Road	Lambton Shores	ZO-08/2020
PL#2020-0046	Part Lot 6, CON 19 Bosanquet	Lambton Shores	
PL#2020-0054	Freeman St	Lambton Shores	
PL#2020-0055	Freeman Street	Lambton Shores	
PL#2018-042	Part Lot 8, Concession 8	Middlesex Centre	39T-MC0201
PL#2018-023	Ilderton Road	Middlesex Centre	39T-MC1701
PL#2019-008	Timberwalk Trail	Middlesex Centre	ZBA 03 2019 39T-MC1901
PL#2019-080	10283 Ilderton Road	Middlesex Centre	39T-MC2002
PL#2018-040	3236 Devonshire Road	Plympton-Wyoming	B-03-19, B-07-20 A-03-19, A-04-19
PL#2018-062	7096 Bonnie Doone Road	Plympton-Wyoming	B11/19
PL#2018-055	3424 Egremont Road	Plympton-Wyoming	38T-18003
PL#2019-081	5223 Douglas Line	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2020-0007	4135 London Line/5655 Kerrigan Road	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2020-0008	3074 Lake View Ave	Plympton-Wyoming	A-05-20
PL#2020-0042	3383 Lakeshore Road	Plympton-Wyoming	



PL#2018-084	2024 London Line	Sarnia	
PL#2018-014	834 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	OPA 12
PL#2018-052	1273-1289 London Road	Sarnia	OPA 20 ZBA 1-2020
PL#2019-108	Modeland Road and Michigan Ave	Sarnia	SD2-2009 A18-20 and A32-20
PL#2020-0014	6068 Blackwell Sideroad	Sarnia	
PL#2020-0035	L'heritage Drive, westerly end	Sarnia	OPA#22 ZBA 4-2020- 85 of 2002
PL#2020-0037	Modeland Rd and Michigan Ave, Sarnia	Sarnia	OPA#27 No. 13-2020- 85 SD2-2020
PL#2020-0053	N of Chrisvale Blvd, W of Bratanek Blvd	Sarnia	SD1-2020
PL#2019-018	2811 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	A02-19
PL#2020-0038	1378 Rokeby Line	St. Clair	B-04-20
PL#2020-0040	West of Douglas Street, Wilkesport	St. Clair	R-6-2020
PL#2020-0048	4166 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	B-07-2020
PL#2020-0051	655 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	A-20-20
PL#2018-093	24321 Saxton Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA 16-2020
PL#2018-018	22805 Adelaide Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
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#2020-0047	96 Kittridge Ave E, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2020-0033	8177 Zion Line	Warwick	
<b>Total Plan Review Items: 38</b>			

## Environmental Assessments

File Reference	Location	Municipality
EA#2020-011	S of Dufferin Ave along Chenail Ecarte	Chatham-Kent
EA#2018-004	Arva, Birr, Ballymote, Coldstream, Denfield, Ilderton, Kilworth, Komoka, Melrose, Poplar Hill, Bryanston, and Lobo.	Middlesex Centre
EA#2020-0016	Canatara Park	Point Edward
EA#2020-015	402 & Highway 21 and 402 & Blackwell Sideroad/Modeland Road	Warwick

**Total Environmental Assessments: 4****Legal Inquiries**

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Municipality</b>
LL#2020-0028	Smith Falls Road	Dawn-Euphemia
LL#2020-0027	6620 Foster Cres	Lambton Shores
LL#2020-0026	186 Queen Street	Sarnia
LL#2020-0029	6009 Blackwell Side Road	Sarnia
LL#2020-0031	1265 Vidal Street S	Sarnia
LL#2020-0030	Bent Path Line	St. Clair

**Total Legal Inquiries: 6**

Prepared By: Tracy Prince  
 November 3, 2020  
 DRAFT

**ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenditure**  
**For the Nine Months Ended 30/09/2020**

Item 6.1 (f)

	Actual To Date			Annual Budget Prorated Three Months Ended Mar 31/20		Variance from Budget	
	Revenue	Expenditures	Surplus (Deficit)	Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
<b>Flood Control &amp; Erosion Control</b>	\$2,206,826	\$2,332,981	(\$126,155)	\$2,153,400	\$2,153,400	\$53,426	\$179,581
<b>Capital Projects/WECI</b>	\$88,313	\$33,835	\$54,477	\$165,000	\$165,000	(\$76,687)	(\$131,165)
<b>Conservation Area's Capital Development</b>	\$72,779	\$22,722	\$50,057	\$89,250	\$89,250	(\$16,471)	(\$66,529)
<b>IT Capital</b>	\$14,508	\$0	\$14,508	\$19,200	\$19,200	(\$4,692)	(\$19,200)
<b>Equipment</b>	\$53,100	\$0	\$53,100	\$54,000	\$72,000	(\$900)	(\$72,000)
<b>Planning &amp; Regulations</b>	\$461,708	\$312,406	\$149,302	\$434,902	\$434,902	\$26,806	(\$122,496)
<b>Technical Studies</b>	\$366,969	\$34,022	\$332,947	\$216,247	\$216,247	\$150,722	(\$182,224)
<b>Recreation</b>	\$865,322	\$877,361	(\$12,039)	\$1,040,424	\$1,040,424	(\$175,102)	(\$163,064)
<b>Property Management</b>	\$147,478	\$145,496	\$1,982	\$183,906	\$183,906	(\$36,428)	(\$38,410)
<b>Education and Communication</b>	\$90,466	\$146,292	(\$55,827)	\$161,258	\$161,258	(\$70,792)	(\$14,965)
<b>Source Water Protection</b>	\$259,771	\$146,396	\$113,375	\$303,938	\$303,938	(\$44,167)	(\$157,542)
<b>Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds</b>	\$1,152,608	\$735,208	\$417,399	\$627,502	\$627,502	\$525,106	\$107,707
<b>Administration/AOC Management</b>	\$1,177,016	\$758,825	\$418,190	\$1,081,069	\$1,063,069	\$95,947	(\$304,243)
	<b>\$6,956,861</b>	<b>\$5,545,546</b>	<b>\$1,411,316</b>	<b>\$6,530,094</b>	<b>\$6,530,094</b>	<b>\$426,767</b>	<b>(\$984,549)</b>

**Notes:**

1. Municipal matching, non-matching, and Recreation levies have been invoiced and are Not recorded in the actual revenue reported above. See General Levy Report for amounts outstanding.
2. The significant variances from budget to actual is reflective of the nature/timing and uniqueness of the particular projects. The variances will reduce and disappear as the year progresses.
3. Budget for the year is divided by 12 and multiplied by the number of months in the reporting period, this does not reflect the seasonality of the nature/ timing of projects



**ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Cheques September to October 2020**

CHQ. #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
21423	9/1/2020	Dicocco Contractors Inc	Courtright Shoreline	\$ 195,367.43
21424	9/1/2020	DUTHIL HEYLAND SEEDS LTD.	Seed for KcKeough Diversion Berm	\$ 6,528.00
21426	9/1/2020	GERBER ELECTRIC	Electrical work at AWC	\$ 9,263.66
21450	9/15/2020	Cope Construction and Contracting Inc	Helen to Kenwick - Phase 2	\$ 12,787.59
21469	9/15/2020	VALLEY LAWN CARE	Lawn Maintenance	\$ 7,554.05
121501	10/9/2020	A. L. Lester Limited	Spraying	\$ 8,068.20
121503	10/9/2020	Parsons Inc.	Sediment Management	\$ 133,971.05
121511	10/16/2020	Facca Incorporated	Old Lakeshore Rd E	\$ 370,538.41
121519	10/16/2020	Parsons Inc.	Sediment Management	\$ 60,743.81
121526	10/16/2020	VALLEY LAWN CARE	Lawn Maintenance	\$ 7,446.70

**TOTAL CHEQUE DISBURSEMENTS - BANK #1 -**

**\$ 616,901.47**

**INTERNET BANKING September to October 2020**

TRANS #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
9616	9/30/2020	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Hydro	\$ 19,866.48
9617	9/30/2020	Libro Credit Union - Visa	Employee Expenses	\$ 5,756.04
9618	9/30/2020	OMERS	Pension	\$ 34,092.44
9621	9/30/2020	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 53,303.40
9623	9/30/2020	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 15,050.13
9628	9/30/2020	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 5,953.21
9637	10/31/2020	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Hydro	\$ 27,687.13
9638	10/31/2020	OMERS	Pension (3 Pays)	\$ 55,898.44
9639	10/31/2020	ONTARIO MINISTER OF FINANCE	Employer Health Tax (3 pays)	\$ 6,276.74
9641	10/31/2020	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions (3 Pays)	\$ 77,826.39
9643	10/31/2020	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Benefits	\$ 14,812.50
9646	10/31/2020	Township of Enniskillen - Property Taxes	Property Tax	\$ 8,036.66
9651	10/31/2020	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB (3 pays)	\$ 8,735.80
	10/31/2020	Libro Credit Union - Visa	Employee Expenses	\$ 6,404.03

**TOTAL INTERNET DISBURSEMENTS - BANK NO. 1 -**

**\$ 339,699.39**

**Notes:** Visa  
Adobe Creative Cloud (2) - \$1073.92  
Costco - Air Purifiers - \$1,915.18  
Canadian Tire - Tires for Truck #2 - \$1,049.68

**PAYROLL RUNS**

PAYROLL NO. 19	\$	73,384.54
PAYROLL NO. 20	\$	74,024.49
PAYROLL NO. 21	\$	75,496.06
PAYROLL NO. 22	\$	77,743.43
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		

**TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS -**

**\$ 300,648.52**

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -**


**\$1,257,249.38**



2020 GENERAL LEVY SUMMARY

MUNICIPALITY	GROSS LEVY	PAID TO DATE	OUTSTANDING
Sarnia	\$ 407,570.00	\$ 407,570.00	\$ 0.00
Chatham-Kent	139,055.00	139,055.00	0.00
Brooke-Alvinston Twp.	18,662.00	18,662.00	0.00
Dawn Euphemia Twp.	28,750.00	21,562.50	7,187.50
Enniskillen Twp.	20,242.00	20,242.00	0.00
Lambton Shores M.	52,883.00	52,883.00	0.00
Oil Springs V	2,123.00	2,123.00	0.00
Petrolia T	26,981.00	26,981.00	0.00
Plympton-Wyoming T	57,481.00		57,481.00
Point Edward V	23,644.00	23,644.00	0.00
St. Clair Twp.	119,814.00	119,814.00	0.00
Warwick Twp.	23,597.00	23,597.00	0.00
Adelaide Metcalfe Twp.	20,074.00	20,074.00	0.00
Middlesex Centre Twp.	23,547.00	23,547.00	0.00
Newbury V	1,651.00	1,651.00	0.00
Southwest Middlesex M.	12,406.00	12,406.00	0.00
Strathroy-Caradoc M.	91,448.00	91,448.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,069,928.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,005,259.50</b>	<b>\$ 64,668.50</b>

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

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

**Address Information**

255 Queens Avenue  
 Suite 900  
 London ON  
 N6A 5R8

Item 6.1 (i)

Phone: (519) 679-9490  
 Website: [www.scotiawealthmanagement.com](http://www.scotiawealthmanagement.com)  
 Branch Manager: Deborah Vafaei

**Your Wealth Advisor**


Craig Emptage (519) 660-3259  
[craig.emptage@scotiawealth.com](mailto:craig.emptage@scotiawealth.com)

**Your Investment Team**

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

**CANADIAN Account Overview**

Currency: Canadian Dollar

Asset Class Summary	Sep. 30, 2020 Market Value	% of Total Assets
 <b>Fixed Income</b>	804,476	100.00
<b>Total Value of Account</b>	<b>\$804,476</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Total Value on Last Statement, August 31, 2020	\$803,980	



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## Details of Your Account Holdings

Type	Security Description	Quantity	Average Cost	Adjusted Book Value	Market Price	Market Value
<b>Fixed Income</b>						
CASH	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807)	13,288.629	9.977	132,588	10.122	134,508
CASH	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659)	15,446.599	12.313	190,206	12.397	191,491
CASH	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505)	17,760.579	14.358	255,016	13.829	245,611
CASH	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137)	21,320.775	10.297	219,548	10.922	232,866
<b>Total Fixed Income</b>						<b>\$804,476</b>
<b>Total Account Holdings</b>				<b>\$797,358</b>	<b>\$804,476</b>	

The average cost and adjusted book value displayed on this statement incorporates re-invested dividends and/or mutual fund distributions and does not necessarily reflect your original purchase price. Please see Average Cost & Adjusted Book Value in the Statement Notes for more information.

## Monthly Activity

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
<b>Opening Cash Balance</b>						
<b>\$0.00</b>						
Sep. 01, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 08/31/20 @ \$13.8760 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.545 BOOK VALUE \$798.50	57		
Sep. 21, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) REINVEST 09/18/20 @ \$10.1542 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.427 BOOK VALUE \$187.11	18		
Sep. 28, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659) REINVEST 09/25/20 @ \$12.3534 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.544	29		

## Monthly Activity - continued

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
			BOOK VALUE \$364.97			
Sep. 28, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137) REINVEST 09/25/20 @ \$10.9580 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.210 BOOK VALUE \$2,917.13	266		

**Closing Cash Balance**

**\$0.00**



## Summary

### Income Summary

	This Period	Year-to-Date
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## A Note From ScotiaMcLeod

### Auditor's Message

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

Beginning in January 2021 for those clients whose fees are based on the market value of holdings within their account, accrued interest shall be included in determining such market value. Please note that this may mean an increase in your quarterly fees. As well, as of January 2021, fees shall be calculated based on the daily closing balance of your account (True Daily) and shall no longer be based on the average monthly market value of the account.

## Your Personal Investment Profile

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

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

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## Your Personal Investment Profile - continued

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Alternatively, please visit [http://www.scotiabank.com/ca/common/pdf/scotiamcleod/T\\_and\\_C\\_EN.pdf](http://www.scotiabank.com/ca/common/pdf/scotiamcleod/T_and_C_EN.pdf)

### Investment Objectives

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Income: 100%  
Growth:  
Speculative Trading:

### Risk Tolerance

---

Low: 85%  
Medium: 15%  
High:

### Overall Investment Knowledge

---

Investment Knowledge: Medium

### Time Horizon

---

Long Term: 7+ Years

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2020

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



Item 6.1 (i)

## Your Investment Report

### Account Summary

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

Your Investments	Opening Value Sep 1, 2020	Closing Value Sep 30, 2020	Balance on Sep 30, 2020 (CAD\$)
Canadian Dollar Investments			
Cash Account	1,493,556.23	1,493,556.23	1,493,556.23
	1,493,556.23	1,493,556.23	1,493,556.23
<b>Grand Total (CAD\$)</b>			<b>1,493,556.23</b>
		<b>Last Statement Aug 31, 2020</b>	<b>1,493,556.23</b>

You can access up-to-date account information online through BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway at: [www.gateway.bmonesbitburns.com](http://www.gateway.bmonesbitburns.com). To register for Gateway, please contact your Investment Advisor.

### We're here to help

We're dedicated to helping you succeed in meeting all of your wealth management goals. Call any member of our team referenced below if you have questions about **Your Investment Report**.

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

Batch Flick Wealth Management  
[www.batchflick.com](http://www.batchflick.com)  
Assistant: Patricia Daer  
[Patricia.Daer@nbpcd.com](mailto:Patricia.Daer@nbpcd.com)

MICHAEL COONEY  
Branch Manager  
(519) 672-8560

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



Regulated by  
Investment Industry Regulatory  
Organization of Canada

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

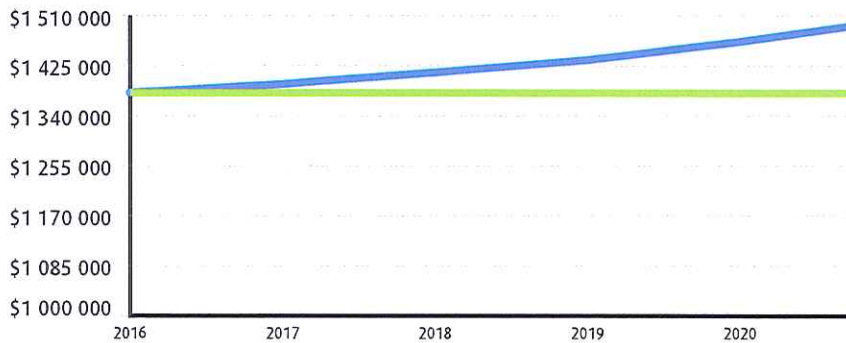
September 30, 2020

## ► Changes to your account

This table provides a summary of the change in value of your account, including all deposits, withdrawals and the change in market value of your investments, for both the current year and as of the start of reporting. Where applicable, balances have been converted to Canadian dollars, see page 1 for exchange rates.

	This Year (2020)	Since January 1, 2016
<b>Opening Value</b>	<b>1,466,170.05</b>	<b>1,379,179.68</b>
Deposited	+ 0.00	+ 0.00
Withdrawn	- 0.00	- 0.00
<b>Net Invested</b>	<b>= 0.00</b>	<b>= 0.00</b>
Change In Market Value	+ 27,386.18	+ 114,376.55
<b>Closing Value on Sep 30, 2020</b>	<b>1,493,556.23</b>	<b>1,493,556.23</b>

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



● MARKET VALUE  
● NET INVESTED

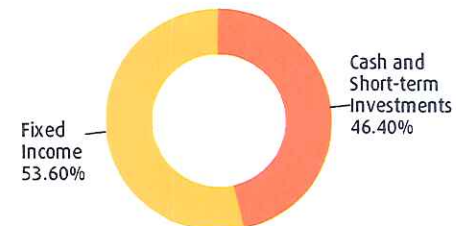
**The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$114,376.55.**  
This includes gains, losses and income received with respect to the investments held in your account.

## ► Summary of your investments in Canadian dollars

### Your Investor Profile

Investment Objective: Income  
Time Horizon: 10 yrs and more

Investment Category	Amount	Target %	Holdings %
● Cash and Short-term Investments	693,556.23	10.00	46.40
● Fixed Income	800,000.00	90.00	53.60
● Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,493,556.23</b>		<b>100.00</b>



Investments held in your account have been chosen based on objectives you selected on the Client Account Agreement. As your circumstances change, it is important to talk to your Investment Advisor about updating these objectives.



Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2020

## Your Canadian Dollar Investments

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

### ▶ Income you received

Type of Income	Current Month	Year to Date
Interest	0.00	27,386.18
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>27,386.18</b>

Under **Income you received**, amounts reported as dividends do not include income from ETFs, REITs and funds even though these transactions are reported as dividends under **Account activity** for this month.

### ▶ Your investment details

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on September 30, 2020	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
<b>Cash Account</b>					
<b>• Cash and Short-term Investments</b>					
CASH			109,556.23		109,556.23
BANK OF MONTREAL GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/30/2020 2.170%	109,000	100.000	109,000.00	100.000	109,000.00
HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.220%	50,000	100.000	50,000.00	100.000	50,000.00
PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
HOME TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2021 2.540%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
BANK OF MONTREAL MORTGAGE CORP GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/28/2021 2.130%	125,000	100.000	125,000.00	100.000	125,000.00
BMO TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/26/2021 2.060%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>693,556.23</b>		<b>693,556.23</b>
<b>• Fixed Income</b>					
<b>Fixed Income</b>					
EQUITABLE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2022 2.520%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
VANCITY GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/23/2022 1.150%	300,000	100.000	300,000.00	100.000	300,000.00

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2020

## Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

### ▶ Your investment details (continued)

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on September 30, 2020	
		Per Unit	Total	Per Unit	Total
LBC TRUST GIC ANNUAL DUE 01/20/2023 2.220%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
CONCENTRA BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/23/2023 1.320%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
LAURENTIAN BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 11/28/2023 2.240%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
B2B BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/24/2024 1.400%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00
<b>Fixed Income Subtotal</b>			<b>800,000.00</b>		<b>800,000.00</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>800,000.00</b>		<b>800,000.00</b>
<b>Total for Cash Account</b>			<b>1,493,556.23</b>		<b>1,493,556.23</b>
<b>Total Canadian Dollar Investments</b>			<b>1,493,556.23</b>		<b>1,493,556.23</b>

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

### ▶ Account activity for this month

Date	Activity	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Commission	Amount
<b>Cash Account</b>						
Sep 1, 2020		Opening Cash Balance				109,556.23
		No Account Activity				
Sep 30, 2020		Closing Cash Balance				109,556.23

This report includes activity recorded in your account since your last statement. For a more comprehensive listing of your account activity, sign into your BMO Nesbitt Burns Gateway account.

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

September 30, 2020

## Your Year-to-Date Fees Summary

### ▶ Fees you paid

This section summarizes all compensation received by BMO Nesbitt Burns with respect to your account. Our compensation comes from two sources: what we charge you directly (Operating and Transaction charges), and payments we receive from third parties.

	CAD (\$)
<b>Operating charges</b>	
<b>Total operating charges</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Transaction charges</b>	
<b>Total transaction charges</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total fees you paid in 2020</b>	<b>0.00</b>

See examples of operating charges in "Important Information about your Account". Some fees and charges may be reported as before-tax amounts and applicable tax is reported separately within the 'Sales Tax' line item. Where this is not possible the sales tax is included within the line item.

### ▶ Payments BMO received from third parties

	CAD (\$)
GIC Commission	4,000.00
<b>Total payments BMO Nesbitt Burns received from third parties in 2020</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>

### ▶ Bulletin board

The USD/CAD conversion rate is: 1.3311, as of September 30, 2020

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# Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Aug 4, 2020

Time: 1pm – 4pm

Administration Office, Strathroy

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**Facilitator:** Emily De Cloet

**Chair:** Jeff Sharp

**Co-Chair:** Greg Wilcox

**Minutes:** Emily De Cloet

**Attendees:** Greg Wilcox (Manager Representatives)  
Emily De Cloet, Jeff Sharp (Strathroy Office Worker Representatives)

**Regrets:** Glenn Baxter (Lands Worker Representative)

**Guests:** None

Due to COVID-19 and working from home, JHSC staff did not approve the March 11, 2020 meeting minutes, and discussed some meeting materials for the June 10, 2020 meeting over email.

## 1. Correspondence regarding June 2020 meeting items.

- JHSC members reviewed Biology Field Work SOP to ensure safe working environment in light of COVID-19
- JHSC staff mentioned it would be good to see the results of the staff survey sent by Administration regarding how staff feel regarding returning to work at the office
- Water Resources Department and CAs reporting no incident reports since last meeting
- Management Rep to request copy of draft SOPs and COVID-19 documents that are ready to review, will circulate them and plan a date for discussion

## 2. Discussions pertaining to Return to Work (Office) Plan.

2.1 The following concerns were brought forward by staff regarding returning to work in the office, and were shared in the meeting:

- What precautions/protocols will be in place for staff in tight workspaces, such as the quad?
- Will staff in shared offices/spaces schedule a rotation?
- There has been a strong concern among staff related to the idea that the full office will be brought in all together at once, at a capacity of 4-5 days a week (i.e. no rotation, no continued working from home ability)
- Staff would like training on new protocols and some time to adapt
- Concerns regarding the return to work training doc being outdated, staff need to be provided the most current version



- Suggestion that staff who feel they are unable to continue working from home be part of an office rotation schedule, and those who are productive at home be given the flexibility to continue working from home some/most days
- JHSC would like to play an active role in reviewing new Covid documents/policies as they are developed
- Questions surrounding if staff will be required/encouraged to be tested for COVID-19 prior to reintroduction to the office
- Anxieties towards staff who live with health care providers and the potential increased risk of spread with a full introduction of the office
- Concerns around staff visiting other department offices to socialize, not respecting social distancing, and how this sort of thing will be policed
- Questions regarding if/how the public will be allowed into the office for consultations (i.e. one person per household at a time? Will a barrier be put up across a table? Will a boardroom be designated for public visits and only be used by certain departments (i.e. only consultations, not doubled as a lunch room)?

**2.2** Emily shared information regarding how other CAs are approaching returning to the office

- One CA does not require staff to wear masks if distances of 2 metres or more are maintained, the office is closed to the public, and returning to work in the office is still up to the individual.
- Another CA noted that come September, the office will be limited to 25% of staff initially and that staff returning to the office will only be part time. Staff who are able to work remotely are still encouraged to do so. Masks are to be worn when moving around the office, but are not mandatory at desk unless a 2 metre distance is not possible. The CA is also looking into adding barriers in some spaces, and feel that signs and markings will be important for the process of returning to work. CA also noted that the JHSC and management team have been actively working together on this, and that the CA formed a specific team to concentrate on this situation.

**2.3** The following are notes related to the discussion of staff concerns

- De-fogging effectiveness in the office
- Concern over using a filter to reduce spread of COVID-19 via air circulation; viability of this method unlikely as there are three furnaces and multiple dead zones in HVAC, so likely avenue would be portable filter units for each office
- Some staff would like to see masks worn at all times, even at desks; some discussion has been that some offices that are tight spaces will need to wear masks at all times, whereas spaces that are better spaced don't need to wear masks at all times
- If someone feels they don't need to wear a mask walking around, how does the Authority police that?



- If someone has underlying health reasons that makes them unable to wear a mask, they don't have to wear one and aren't legally required to show proof of this exemption
- If anyone says they don't feel comfortable wearing a mask, then the policy can't be policed and staff may feel uncomfortable by others not wearing masks
- Best option of proposed staffing schedule is Option 1, fewer staff which are in the office more frequently
- Cannot ask staff whose partners work in healthcare to remain home, despite concerns by other staff of potential increased risk of COVID-19
- JHSC suggests limited staff attend the office more frequently to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread
  - JHSC suggests following the Province's guidelines with allowing staff to continue to work from home

#### 2.4 The following are notes taken while reviewing the Return to Work Plan v6

- Phase 1
  - What is the definition of field vs. office staff? If we abandon the 2/3rds office occupancy plan, we don't need to worry about the definition of what is a field or office staff.
  - Recommend a department coverage approach, fewer staff in office
  - COVID-19 repository on Teams should be better organized, and all SOPs should be made specific to SCRCA with a logo
    - Recommendation: all departments should have an SOP for their work, OR at least have a generic SOP that covers all staff and all work
    - Recommendation: have all staff trained on SCRCA SOPs
  - Re: positive COVID-19 test results
    - Staff who test positive should be required to test negative and be symptom-free before returning to work
    - Staff who test negative but still have symptoms should be given the flexibility to work from home until they are symptom-free and able to return to the office
  - Staff are encouraged to download the government COVID-19 app to their phones as an added measure to reduce the spread of the virus
  - Recommendation: change wording in Plan regarding adherence to SOPs and not using SOPs to avoid a task. Change to adherence to SOPs is required, and later in the document reiterate that staff have the right to refuse unsafe work.
  - Recommendation: remove comment on variety of staff in office, so that risk of COVID-19 spread is reduced
- Phase 2
  - Recommended that we do not do 67% office occupancy, fewer staff present more often
  - Recommendation: all info sent directly to staff, rather than hearing things secondhand through supervisors

- Recommendation: have a cap for number of people able to attend meeting (i.e. public entering meeting), and use upper boardroom to adequately space individuals
  - Recommendation: agree that staff should wear masks when away from their desks; staff not required to wear a mask at their desk unless the office space is not able to allow for social distancing of 2m, and then staff should wear masks at all times
  - Recommend: staff encouraged to go outside for lunch while maintaining distancing
  - Recommend: GM makes masks inside office mandatory now, and give office staff ~2 weeks for an adjustment period, but need to police the requirement (i.e. written warning, being sent home to work at home).
  - Phase 3
    - Assuming that COVID-19 is still present at this point (because staff with kids can stay home), JHSC is assuming that Phase 3 will have precautions added into the Plan
  - Phase 1 for Field Staff
    - Recommendation: masks mandatory when multiple staff in same vehicle, regardless of social distance
    - Recommended: once more vehicles become available after seasonal staff contracts end, it is encouraged that Department groups are assigned to vehicles
    - Develop SOP for cleaning vehicles and circulate to staff for training, have SOP included in all vehicle binders
  - Phase 2
    - JHSC to review science behind effectiveness of face masks, and what PPE is recommended by the Government
      - Recommend a SOP be developed for field staff and the recommended PPE
      - Wording to be changed to reflect that PPE is mandatory in vehicles, not just that they are 'available'
  - Campgrounds
    - Recommend: encourage park staff to take lunch outdoors. If using indoor lunch room staff are required to use a disinfectant wipe after using the common area (to be consistent with protocol in office)
- 2.5** JHSC reviewed and commented within the COVID-19 Return to Work Plan v.6., document review is attached as Appendix A in these notes
- 2.6** Health and Safety Gap Analysis Review
- Greg summarized the discussions with Cobalt Safety including the value of conducting a gap analysis by the H&S consultant
    - Discussions with consultant suggested we may have a good H&S manual, but documentation may need improved
    - Gap analysis would identify where existing policies are lacking
    - Talked about the idea of having an external company draft documents that are identified during gap analysis
    -

2.7 Draft electrofishing policy should be reviewed at next JHSC meeting

**3. Adjournment**

Moved by: Greg Wilcox

Seconded by: Jeff Sharp

**Carried**



September 9, 2020

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Signature of Chair

Date



September 9, 2020

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Signature of Co-chair

Date

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 31, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Donna Blue

**Item 6.1 (k)**

**Subject:** Communications Report

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Communications Report dated October 31, 2020 including memorial forests, conservation awards, Conservation Foundation update, and conservation education fundraising and media/social media analytics.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

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

**Memorial Forest Dedications:**

**Denning’s Memorial Forest Program - 2020**

The Denning’s Memorial Forest Program was established by the Foundation in partnership with Denning’s Bros Funeral Homes in 1997. Through this program, Denning’s makes donations on behalf of families they serve, which are used to support conservation education and tree planting efforts throughout the region. In 2017, Denning’s Funeral Home expanded into Lambton and Chatham-Kent. The Memorial Forest Program expanded to include seven funeral homes. Memorial forest dedications were held at Victoria Park in Strathroy (May) and at the Keith McLean Conservation Lands in Morpeth (September) to celebrate the memory of those lost. The services typically attracted between 70-100 people, each.

In late 2019 and early 2020, Denning’s Bros Funeral Homes sold some of their Chatham-Kent establishments and decided to discontinue the dedication service held at the Keith McLean Conservation Lands. Instead, they planned to hold one large event in Strathroy this past June. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the event was cancelled.

In 2019, \$18,000 was donated to the Foundation. The 2020 donation will be made available in early 2021.



Duncan Skinner, President of the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation delivers remarks at the Denning's Chatham-Kent and West Elgin Memorial Forest Dedication held on September 15, 2019

### **Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication - 2020**

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and Foundation made the difficult decision to cancel the in-person Foundation Memorial Forest dedication service scheduled to take place on September 27, 2020 at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.

In the coming months, a recorded service will be released and made available to all the families who made donations this past year. In addition, 2020 families will be invited to the 2021 dedication next September.

From September 2019 to August 2020, 79 trees were dedicated through individual donations to the program. To date, a total of 2,221 trees have been dedicated through the Foundation's Memorial Forest Program.



Duncan Skinner, President of the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation and the family of Isabell Smith Henderson Swartz plant the memorial tree at the 2019 Foundation Memorial Forest dedication service.

## **Conservation Awards:**

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

## **St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation**

The St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation raises funds to support the work of the Conservation Authority. At the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Foundation approved support for the following projects and programs:

- \$60,000 to support Conservation Education
- \$2,000 to support the printing and distribution of the Species at Risk (SAR) Newsletter that will be distributed to over 60,000 households in the St. Clair watershed.
- \$10,000 to support the development and publishing of Watershed Report Cards that analyzes water quality data for the period of 2016-2020.
- \$6,420 to support playground updates and the installation of speed bumps at the SCRCA's three regional campgrounds.

## **Conservation Education Fundraising**

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

### **Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA)**

For over 20 years, the Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA) has provided \$30,000 in funding to sponsor the "River Bottom Critters" (JK - Grade 12) and "Go With the Flow" (JK – Grade 8) in-class conservation education programs, allowing the SCRCA to offer these programs free-of-charge. With current visitor restrictions imposed at local schools, a request will be submitted to SLEA to support these and new programming options developed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Communication with SLEA has commenced.

### **Plains Midstream Canada**

The SCRCA will again be receiving \$5,000 in funding from Plains Midstream Canada to support the "Spring Water Awareness" program delivered to elementary students (JK - Grade 6) in 2021. This program is offered in March every year and teaches children about the hazards and dangers associated with spring snow and ice melt along streams and rivers. Plains Midstream Canada has committed to supporting this program until 2022.

### **Friends of the St. Clair River (FOSCR)**

The Friends of the St. Clair River community group have once again committed \$2,500 towards delivering the “River RAP” and new “Phosphorus 101” education programs to both elementary and secondary school students throughout the 2020-2021 school year, understanding that alterations will be made to its delivery.

### **Canoe Race Donations (even without a Canoe Race)**

Despite the cancellation of the 2020 Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak Race that raises funds to support conservation education programs, a generous member of the community donated \$1,000 towards the SCRCA conservation education program. Discussions surrounding the 2021 Canoe Race have commenced.

### **Other Funding:**

#### **1. Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Canadian Nature Fund is providing \$8,000 towards the on-going partnership between the SCRCA and Kettle and Stony Point First Nation in developing Species at Risk education programs that pairs western science with Indigenous-based knowledge to students at Hillside Elementary school.

#### **2. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Great Lakes Virtual Field Trips**

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, SCRCA education staff created “virtual field trips” to support teachers in delivering important science-based concepts to their students during school-closures. The success of the “virtual field trips” exceeded all expectations and led to MECP contacting the SCRCA to discuss creating a regional Great Lakes field trip to support their Great Lakes literacy program. The Ministry’s proposal will provide \$15,000 in funding to create a Lake Huron/St. Clair River “virtual field trip” and materials (e.g., draft script) that can be used by other Conservation Authorities and non-profit organizations to develop “virtual field trips” for the other Great Lake regions. Confirmation of this funding is expected in November.

#### **3. Ontario Trillium Foundation Resilient Communities Fund**

In cooperation with the SCRCA Biology Department, an application has been submitted to the Ontario Trillium Foundation Resilient Communities Fund. This fund has been developed to help support non-profit organizations recover and rebuild from the impacts emerging from COVID-19. Over \$13,000 has been requested to support conservation education salaries and equipment upgrades.

## **Media and Social Media Analytics:**

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

The following are statistics covering the timeframe from September 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020:

### **Media Relations**

- 0 media releases
  - 2020 Total = 22 media releases
- 62 news article mentions
  - 2020 Total = 523 news article mentions

### **Social Media**

- Facebook
  - New Likes = 20 (Total = 1,683)
  - New Followers = 194 (Total = 1,918)
  - Posts = 29 (2020 Total = 232)
- Twitter
  - Tweets = 45 (2020 Total = 239)
  - Retweets = 24 (2020 Total = 194)
  - New Followers = 19 (Total = 677)
  - Engagements (clicks, retweets, replies, follows, and likes) = 1,051 (2020 Total = 4,604)





Staff are currently waiting on the delivery of a SIM card that will improve internet service at the conservation area. Three pilot classes are scheduled for November in addition to one paid presentation for 39 students. This program will be further promoted as a winter option for teachers.

### 3. Virtual Field Trips

The SCRCA continues to offer their virtual field trip catalogue and create additional resources that will provide teachers in various grades with more options to meet science-based curriculum requirements.

Schools are now charged a fee to access the virtual field trips. One full suite has been purchased for \$250.00, which allows the school to access the presentations for six months. The virtual field trips continue to receive very positive feedback. One teacher will be using it as a main component of the entire unit!

### 4. Nature In Your Neighbourhood

With current protocols restricting visitors from entering schools, SCRCA staff are offering “Nature in Your Neighbourhood” programs where SCRCA educators will visit local school yards and school neighbourhoods to deliver curriculum connected, experiential outdoor education, while maintaining the safety of pre-existing cohorts. A number of program options are available including games, scientific exploration and neighbourhood nature hikes.

The “Nature in Your Neighbourhood” program has become a popular option for schools throughout the watershed. To date, 79 classes have either participated or registered for this program (Table 1).

**Table 1:** “Nature in Your Neighbourhood” program options and number of classes that have participated or registered for programming.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Number of Registered Classes</b>
The Lorax	9
Fabulous Fall	26
Plant-astic	4
Owl Prowl	9
Circle of Life	1
Geocaching	12
A Bugs World	13
Healing Hike	4
Rocks and Minerals	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>79</b>

All program information can be found on the SCRCA 2020 Fall Strategy landing page at [www.scrca.on.ca/govirtual](http://www.scrca.on.ca/govirtual).



Children in grades 1 and 2 participate in the Fabulous Fall education session offered as part of the new “Nature in Your Neighbourhood” programming offered by the SCRCA education team.

### **Elementary and Secondary Program Flyers**

Elementary and Secondary Program Flyers for teachers have been approved by the Lambton-Kent District School Board. Once field trips are allowed to resume, staff will be able to quickly shift to normal program offerings.

### **Geocaching Event – Sunday, September 20, 2020**

Twenty-three individuals participated in the 2020 CITO (Cache In, Trash Out) Geocaching Event held at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area on September 20, 2020. Pandemic restrictions altered the event slightly, allowing groups to socially and physically distance following Provincial guidelines. We hope to return to the traditional Geocaching Event in 2021!

### **Kettle and Stony Point First Nation (Canadian Nature Fund, Year 2)**

On October 28th and 29<sup>th</sup>, SCRCA Education staff will visit Hillside School at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation for the first programming dates of the 2020-2021 school year. Staff will be working with two classes in partnership with the Ojibwe program and the Principal/Education Director to add a western science lens to the school’s Land Based Education curriculum. This partnership continues to grow and has expanded to include school administration. With this comes the opportunity for SCRCA Education staff to grow professionally and learn more about indigenous realities, rights and responsibilities, while providing a respectful, trusted scientific voice to Hillside’s Ojibwe language and cultural teachings. SCRCA staff continue to meet the main deliverable for the project which is to create a reciprocal learning relationship where SCRCA exchanges knowledge with the staff, students and community at KSPFN.

**Meeting Date:** **Item 6.1 (m)**  
**Report Date:** October 20, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Natasha Pozega

**Subject:** St. Clair River Area of Concern Update

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## **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 20, 2020 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

## **Strategic Objective(s):**

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

## **Remedial Action Plan Coordinator:**

On September 8, 2020, Natasha Pozega started her position as the St. Clair River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator.

## **Friends of the St. Clair River Photo Contest:**

The Friends of St. Clair River held their third amateur photo contest to raise public awareness and appreciation for the beauty and majesty of the St. Clair River amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Entries were submitted to three categories: Wonderful Waterways, Digital Perspectives, and Floating Away. In total, 187 contest entries were received. A \$500 prize will be awarded to the best youth and best adult entry for each category on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be announced on [www.friendsofstclair.ca](http://www.friendsofstclair.ca), local media and in the fall E-newsletter.

## **Area of Concern Video**

Earlier this year, CraneFly Productions was hired to produce a short video to inform the general public of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and the past anthropogenic sources that contributed to the degradation of the St. Clair River. The video is in the final stages of production and is anticipated to be completed in the late fall. Once completed, the video will be available to the public through social media and will be used to engage the public on the St. Clair River RAP at future events.

## **Funding**

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks has committed to funding RAP coordination until March 31, 2022. This is exceptional news given delays over the past few years.

## **Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)**

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, the CRIC had their first meeting in 2020. The following updates were provided to the group by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority:

- Current status of the St. Clair River RAP by Natasha Pozega
- Sediment Management Project Update by Mike Moroney
- Update on the Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan by Nicole Drumm

## **Past and Upcoming Meetings:**

Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

- September 24, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)
- Next meeting expected to be held in January 2021

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

- October 27, 2020 – Zoom Conferencing Platform (Virtual Meeting)



2021 Camping Fee Comparison October 27, 2020						
Campground	30 Amp Seasonal Rate including Winter Storage, Taxes, and Hydro	Overnight Serviced (per night)	Overnight Un-serviced (per night)	Day Use Vehicle Pass	Seasonal Vehicle Pass	Pump-out
<b>St. Clair Region</b> <b>*proposed 2021 rates*</b>	\$2430	*Peak Season* \$49 weekly \$294	*Peak Season* \$39 weekly \$234	\$10	\$60	\$40/service \$235 bi-weekly \$470 weekly
<b>St. Clair Region</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$2380	*Peak Season* \$48 weekly \$288	*Peak Season* \$39 weekly \$234	\$10	\$60	\$35/service \$225 bi-weekly \$450 weekly
<b>Upper Thames River CA</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$ 2700 regular \$3040 waterfront \$3775 premium	\$49 weekly \$ 322.00	\$39 weekly \$256	\$14	\$ 125.00	\$50/service \$310 bi-weekly \$620 weekly
<b>Maitland Valley CA</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$2700	\$55 Weekly \$335	\$40 weekly \$244	\$15	\$100	
<b>Kettle Creek CA</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$2550 (no winter storage available)	\$52 Weekly \$325	\$42 Weekly \$253	\$ 10	\$90	\$ 50 per service

<b>Catfish Creek CA</b> <b>*2020 Rates*</b>	\$2600 (\$2375 without winter storage)	\$55 Weekly \$325	\$43 Weekly \$260	\$10	\$80	\$50/service \$250 bi-weekly \$500 weekly
<b>Ontario Parks</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	N/A	\$43.79 - \$53.68	\$38.70 - \$47.46	\$12.25 - \$21	\$125	N/A
<b>St. Clair Township</b> <b>(Cathcart, Cundick, Mooretown)</b> <b>*2020* rates</b>	\$ 2320 (\$2110 without winter storage)	\$45 - \$52.50 Weekly \$275				
<b>Silver Dove</b> <b>(Appin)</b> <b>*2020 Rates*</b>	\$2712 (sewer included)	\$45 \$240				
<b>Great Canadian</b> <b>Hideaway</b> <b>(Parkhill)</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$2655.50 (plus hydro)	\$57.63	\$46.33	\$ 5.00 per person \$ 16.00 vehicle		\$ 141.25 per season
<b>Lakewood Christian</b> <b>Campground</b> <b>(Plympton-Wyoming)</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$2373 - \$2768.50 (sewers included)	\$ 56.50 (sewer incl) (Add \$ 5.00 / night for long weekends) Weekly \$305.10	\$ 45.20 (sewer incl) (Add \$ 5.00/ night for long weekends) Weekly \$271.20	\$ 5.00 person or \$ 10.00/ family	\$ 100.00 family	
<b>Mitchell's Bay Marine</b> <b>Park</b> <b>*2020 rates*</b>	\$3325.60 - \$5787.86 (plus hydro, some sites have sewer)	\$51.98 – \$64.41 Weekly \$335.61				\$32.75/service \$493.81 weekly



CONSERVATION AREA FEES	2020	2021
<b>Camping Fees</b>		
Reservation Fee	\$13.00	\$13.00
Cancellation Fee	\$20.00	\$20.00
Reservation Change Fee	\$6.00	\$6.00
<b>Peak Season June 25, 2020 - September 6, 2020</b>		
Daily, Unserviced	\$39.00	\$39.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)	\$48.00	\$49.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)	\$44.00	\$45.00
Weekly, Unserviced	\$234.00	\$234.00
Weekly, Serviced	\$288.00	\$294.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)	\$795.00	\$795.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)	\$980.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Off-Peak May 1 - June 24 2021, Sept. 7 - Oct. 16 2020, excluding Victoria Day Weekend &amp; Thanksgiving Weekend (long weekends at peak season rates)</b>		
Daily, Unserviced	\$30.00	\$30.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)	\$35.00	\$35.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)	\$35.00	\$35.00
Weekly, Unserviced	\$200.00	\$200.00
Weekly, Serviced	\$225.00	\$225.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)	\$700.00	\$700.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)	\$840.00	\$840.00
<b>Seasonal Camping Season Fees – May 1, 2021 - October 17, 2021</b>		
Full Payment made on or before April 15, 2020	\$2,380.00	\$2,430.00
First instalment payment on or before April 15, 2020	\$1,600.00	\$1,650.00
Second instalment payment on or before June 1, 2020	\$830.00	\$830.00
Half Season, (after August 1)	\$1,190.00	\$1,215.00
Quarter Season, (after Sept 1)	\$595.00	\$607.50
Seasonal late payment fee	\$50.00	\$50.00
Non-refundable seasonal site deposit for the following season (beginning in the fall of 2020 for the 2021 season) - Due October 12, 2020	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>Miscellaneous Campground Fees</b>		
Overnight Visitors (per person)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Sewage Pump Out per service fee	\$35.00	\$40.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (bi-weekly)	\$225.00	\$235.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (weekly)	\$450.00	\$470.00
Exterior fridge/freezer charge	\$175.00	\$180.00
Extra hydro fee for electric golf cart	\$200.00	\$210.00
Golf Cart (day/month)	\$5.00/\$50.00	\$10.00/\$75.00
Ice	\$3.00	\$3.00

Firewood (bundle)	\$7.00	\$8.00
Firewood (1/2 face cord)	\$35.00	\$35.00
Firewood (face cord)	\$70.00	\$70.00
<b>Day Use Fees For Campgrounds</b>		
Vehicle	\$10.00	\$10.00
Pedestrians/Cyclists (16 & over)	\$2.00	\$2.00
Seasonal Day Pass	\$60.00	\$60.00
Buses	\$50.00	\$50.00
Open Pavilion reservation	\$60.00	\$60.00
Closed in Pavilion reservation (Warwick/LC Henderson)	\$100.00	\$100.00
Maple Syrup Festival - Vehicle Entry (AW Campbell)	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Highland Glen Conservation Area</b>		
Daily boat ramp fee	\$15.00	\$15.00
Seasonal boat ramp fee	\$120.00	\$120.00

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2020  
**Report Date:** October 29, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

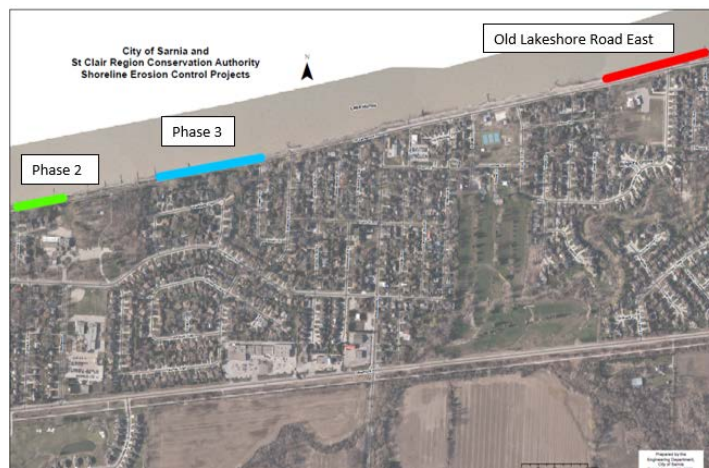
**Item 7.2**

**Subject:** Shoreline Projects

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated October 29, 2020 on the ongoing Shoreline projects across the watershed.



**Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 2**

- Cope Construction commenced shoreline work in December 2019
- Toe stones were inspected using a professional diver in May 2020
- Deficiencies were identified at the toe of shoreline protection
- 17 locations have been identified along this section
- Contractor attempted to fix deficiencies from a barge on October 9 2020
- Deficiencies still remain
- Contractor exploring alternative methods to complete repairs



### **Brights Grove, Kenwick Street to Helen Avenue – Phase 3**

- Consulting Engineer has developed a Request for Pre Qualification (RFPQ).
- SCRCA and City of Sarnia has provided comments
- RFPQ process will be completed in November
- Tender submission will follow this process
- Shoreline work in this section is expected to start mid December 2020.

### **Brights Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East**

- Facca Incorporated Inc. started shoreline work on February 10, 2020.
- Construction work resumed second week of August.
- All in-water work has been completed.
- Shoreline work progressing well
- Contractor to focus on placing revetment stones
- All shoreline work is expected to be completed by mid December 2020.



Brights Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East, October 2020

## **2021 Shoreline Projects**

SCRCA is working with City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township to prioritize projects for 2021. The following are the recommended projects for 2021.

### **City of Sarnia Projects:**

- Design and construction of shoreline for Pine avenue to Penhuron Drive, Brights Grove, ON.
- A groyne only project to:
  - Prioritize location of groynes
  - Installation of 2 – 3 groynes

### **St. Clair Township Projects:**

- Design of Shoreline protection for the following Parks:
  - 1) Reagan Park
  - 2) Port Lambton Park
  - 3) Seager Park



