



**Board of Directors - Notice of Meeting**  
**December 10, 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. Board of Directors November 12, 2020 Minutes
5. General Manager's Report
  - 5.1 GM's Report
6. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report
  - 6.1 CO Council September 28, 2020 Minutes
7. Consent Items
  - 7.1(a) Business Arising
  - 7.1(b) Conservation Area Reports
  - 7.1(c) Current Watershed Conditions and Great Lakes Levels
  - 7.1(d) Shoreline Projects
  - 7.1(e) Management of Contaminated Sediment in the St. Clair River
  - 7.1(f) Monitoring & Research Summary
  - 7.1(g) Habitat Stewardship Program and Biology Grants
  - 7.1(h) Sydenham Watershed Plan for Phosphorus Management Update
  - 7.1(i) Conservation Services Update
  - 7.1(j) Planning Activity Summary Report
  - 7.1(k) Regulations Activity Summary Report
  - 7.1(l) Municipal Enclosed Drains and the Conservation Authorities Act
  - 7.1(m) Silt Fencing
  - 7.1(n) Conservation Education Update
  - 7.1(o) Joint Health & Safety Committee September 9, 2020 Minutes
  - 7.1(p) Revenue and Expense Summary
  - 7.1(q) November 2020 Disbursements
  - 7.1(r) 2020 General Levy Summary
  - 7.1(s) Investment Reports
  - 7.1(t) 2021 Approved Fees
8. Other Business Items
  - 8.1 Verbal Summary of Comments regarding the 2021 Draft Budget
  - 8.2 2021 Proposed Budget and Non-Matching General Levy
  - 8.3 2021 Proposed Budget and Matching General Levy
  - 8.4 Destruction of Documents
  - 8.5 Disposal of Nonessential and Surplus Equipment
  - 8.6 Environmental Registry Comments
9. In-Camera
10. New Business
11. Adjournment

Please contact Ashley (519-245-3710 x 200 or e-mail [Afletcher@scrca.on.ca](mailto:Afletcher@scrca.on.ca)) at the Administration Office by December 7, 2020, if you are unable to attend.

**December 10, 2020**

**Disclaimer:** Board members, staff, guests and members of the public are advised that the SCRCA Board meeting is 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**

1. Chair's Remarks
2. **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors adopts 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 November 12, 2020, be approved as distributed.
- 5.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager's report, dated December 3, 2020 and further approves the correspondence regarding Bill 229 to be signed by the Chair.
- 6.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the minutes of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held remotely on September 28, 2020.
- 7.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items 7.1 a - 7.1 t.
  - 7.1 (a) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on Business Arising from the November 12, 2020 meeting.*
  - 7.1 (b) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas update, dated November 25, 2020.*

- 7.1 (c) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020 on the Current Watershed Conditions and Great Lakes Water Levels.*
- 7.1 (d) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Shoreline Projects dated November 26, 2019.*
- 7.1 (e) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020, on the Engineering and Design Plan for Management of Contaminated Sediment.*
- 7.1 (f) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 25, 2020 summarizing the Monitoring and Research Activities of the Biology Department.*
- 7.1 (g) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 16, 2020 on the Habitat Stewardship Program and Biology grants.*
- 7.1 (h) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report dated November 27, 2020, regarding Environment and Climate Change Canada funding for a Sydenham Watershed Management Plan.*
- 7.1 (i) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020 on the Conservation Services Programs and projects across the watershed as well an overview of the Large Stock Tree Planting Program*
- 7.1 (j) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's monthly Planning Activity Summary Report for the month of October, 2020.*
- 7.1 (k) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the month of October, 2020.*
- 7.1 (l) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 23, 2020 on Municipal Enclosed Drains and the Conservation Authorities Act.*
- 7.1 (m) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 23, 2020 on Silt Fencing as a Requirement for Drainage Works*
- 7.1 (n) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020 regarding the SCRCA Conservation Education Watershed Interpreters Network (WIN) Innovation Award and staff changes.*
- 7.1 (o) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the September 9, 2020 meeting minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee.*

- 7.1 (p) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to October 31, 2020, as it relates to the budget.*
- 7.1 (q) *That the Board of Directors approves the November 2020 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,346,904.95*
- 7.1 (r) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2020 general levy receipts to date.*
- 7.1 (s) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the investment reports to October 31, 2020.*
- 7.1 (t) *That the Board of Directors acknowledges the approved 2021 schedule of fees.*

8.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the verbal summary of comments received to date on the 2021 Draft Budget.

8.2 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors approves the 2021 budget of \$9,739,780 with a non-matching general levy of \$1,018,576 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the Modified Current Value Assessment of each Municipality within the Authority's area of jurisdiction.  
**(Weighted Motion)**

8.3 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors approves the 2021 budget of \$9,739,780 with a municipal matching general levy of \$161,000 including finalized Modified Current Value Assessment values, updates to specific projects and municipal comments received to date.

8.4 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated December 1, 2020 regarding document retention and approves the destruction of the identified documents as per the SCRCA Document Retention Policy.

8.5 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 19, 2020 regarding the disposal of nonessential and surplus equipment and approves the disposal method as outlined.

- 8.6 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board acknowledges the report dated November 18, 2020 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting ERO 019-2636 A proposal under the Endangered Species Act to enable use of the Species at Risk Conservation Fund and to streamline authorizations for certain activities that impact species at risk, while maintaining protections for species at risk and further approves the proposed response to this posting and directs staff to submit this response to the identified provincial contact on behalf of the Board of Directors.
- 9.1 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors move in-camera at \_\_\_\_\_ to discuss Conservation Awards and personnel information with the General Manager, Manager of Communications, Director of Finance and Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator remaining.
- 9.2 **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors rise and report at \_\_\_\_\_.
10. **New Business**
11. **Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the meeting be adjourned.



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: November 12, 2020      Time: 10:00 am  
Remote via Zoom

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**Present:** Alan Broad, John Brennan, Pat Brown, 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

**Regrets:** Andy Bruziewicz, 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; Sarah Hodgkiss, Planning Ecologist; Brian McDougall, General Manager; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Lands

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-20-91**

**Scott – Burrell**

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

Minutes of the September 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

**BD-20-92**

**Miller – MacKinnon**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held September 17, 2020, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the October 22, 2020 Board of Directors special meeting were reviewed.

**BD-20-93**

**Scott – Burrell**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors special meeting, held October 22 2020, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

### **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

A verbal report of the following updates was provided by General Manager, Brian McDougall

### **Province of Ontario 2020 Budget**

- On Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Ontario government will release its 2020 Budget through Bill 229
- Bill 229 is an omnibus Bill that also includes changes to over 40 Acts including the Conservation Authorities Act and the Planning Act
- On November 9<sup>th</sup>, staff from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks hosted a webinar for Conservation Authority CAOs and GMs
- A short presentation outlining the changes affecting Conservation Authorities was provided
- This was followed by a lengthy questions and answer period; many questions with few answers
- Many of the questions or comments brought forward are to be “taken back” and responses are to be provided by the Ministry in the near future

- Other questions were confirmed to be covered under regulations that are forthcoming
- There are significant concerns that the details of the changes may be a low priority in the need to pass the budget

## **Major Concerns Related to Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020**

- 1. Consequential amendments to the *Planning Act* to remove CAs as public bodies.** Unclear how CAs will be circulated applications under the *Planning Act* if there are no requirements for municipalities to do so. If CAs are only participating through the Provincial One Window then they will only be reviewing Official Plans and OPAs where the municipality hasn't been delegated decision-making approval on their official plans (very few). CAs would be involved in *Planning Act* applications in unorganized townships where planning boards do not exist. MMAH is the only ministry that could appeal to the LPAT. Many municipal OPs are out of date and do not contain relevant hazard information. This "consequential" amendment would allow these municipalities to approve *Planning Act* applications with no oversight as it relates to natural hazards. This is an extremely dangerous scenario as it relates to public safety.
- 2. Proposed amendments to the Section 28 Regulation:** There are major amendments proposed to the composition of the Section 28 Regulation. The majority of these amendments promote the Minister inserting themselves into the Section 28 regulatory process – the limitations associated with these activities are to be enacted through future Ministerial and LGIC regulations. These include:
  - a. Appeals of Section 28 Hearing Board Decisions to the Minister and/or to the LPAT.** The Minister is not required to hold a hearing prior to making a decision and with no ability for the CA to appeal– therefore the process lacks transparency. These new appeal processes will add an inordinate amount of time to the permitting process. Note that it also includes the ability to appeal non-decisions within 120 days of submission.
  - b. Minister's Orders/ Minister's Powers-** which would allow the Minister to prohibit CA(s) from issuing a permit to a person and enable the Minister to issue their own permit instead. The subsequent legislation creates an expectation that the CA would monitor implementation of the Minister's Permit despite having no ability to provide input into the permitting process. It is unclear what parameters the Minister would use to decide



whether or not to issue a permit and/or whether or not they have access to appropriate technical staff to make a decision.

- c. Enforcement Clauses-** some fettering of access to property has taken place as well as the removal of the ability of a CA to issue a stop order. There is no timeline associated with the enactment of the new enforcement clauses. Note that Conservation Ontario Council recently provided a letter to Minister Yakabuski and Minister Yurek indicating their support for the enactment of the new enforcement clauses found within the CA Act (2019).
- 3. Scoping of Non-Mandatory Programs** – clauses enable the Minister to make regulations that would prescribe standards and requirements for Municipal Programs and Services (i.e. service agreement between Municipality and CA) and Other Programs and Services (i.e. those determined by the Board and which if use municipal levy would require all municipalities' agreement). AMO has released this morning (Nov 6), CO's understanding from the Minister's Office "that the local service agreement MOU's between Conservation Authorities and Municipal Governments are a local matter and the province is not intending to reduce this local control of MOUs through future regulation." CO is pursuing opportunities to have these amendments revoked through the Standing committee clause by clause process so that they do not remain in the legislation for use by a future Minister or Government.
- 4. Governance** – a number of amendments have been made regarding CA Board appointments. Of concern are new clauses that require municipalities to only appoint municipal councilors and that the Chair/Vice Chair rotate every two years between different municipalities. Conservation Ontario's positioning has been that Board appointments should remain the decision of the municipality but there will be practical limitations for these new requirements to be met. Additionally, changes to the 'Duty of Members' from furthering the objects of the authority to representing the interest of their municipality undermines the importance of the CA Board Members' need to represent broader watershed interests further to the purpose of the Act.

A summary of the proposed amendments to the Conservation Authorities & Planning Acts through Bill 229 were reviewed, including concerns and implications of such changes.

**Director's Comments:**

Directors discussed the proposed legislative and regulatory changes to the

Conservation Authorities and Planning Acts under Bill 229. Directors offered differing perspectives toward the proposed changes. It was requested that Conservation Authority staff draft correspondence to the Minister outlining the implications of the proposed changes from the perspective of the Conservation Authority and forward to member Municipalities for additional comments. Feedback is to be reviewed at the December 10, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.

**BD-20-94**

**McMillan – McEwan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated November 4, 2020 as well as the verbal update on the Province of Ontario Budget and major concerns related to Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-20-95**

**Burrell – Stark**

**“That the Board of Directors request staff to prepare a response to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, to be sent to member Municipalities for input and to be reviewed at the December, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

A verbal report on the available reserves to fund the Service Delivery Review Consultation, as quoted by Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd, was provided by General Manager, Brian McDougall. It was noted that while reserves are not intended as operating funds, the Administration Centre and Vehicles and Equipment reserves are best able to bear the brunt of this cost.

**Director’s Comments:**

Directors request that funds to support the Service Delivery Review Consultation be split evenly from the administration centre reserve and vehicle and equipment reserve.

**BD-20-96**

**Brown – Kennes**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 4, 2020 regarding the available reserves to fund the proposed Service Delivery Review Consultation as quoted by Tim Dobbie Consultants Ltd and further that the Administration Centre and Vehicle and Equipment reserves be utilized to each cover 50% of the costs.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-20-97**

**McMillan – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items 6.1 a - 6.1 m.”**

**CARRIED**

The report on business arising from the September 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting was reviewed.

**6.1 (a) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the September 17, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.**

**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 and on the Great Lakes, resulting in a 25 cm freeboard capacity in downtown Wallaceburg (as of this report).

- 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 its maximum monthly mean record set in 2019 by 2cm; Lakes Huron and Erie were below their records by 4cm each
- 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**

- 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

**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.**

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.

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 fulfills 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).

### **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.**

The Regulations Activity Report on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated October 29, 2020 was reviewed.

### **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.**

The Planning Activity Summary Report dated October 29, 2020, for the period of September 1 to 30, 2020

### **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.**

The revenue and expenditure report to September 30, 2020 was reviewed.

**6.1 (f) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to September 30, 2020, as it relates to the budget.**

The September to October 31, 2020 disbursements were reviewed.

**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**

The status report on the 2020 general levy receipts to October 31, 2020 were reviewed.

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

The investment reports for the period ending September 30, 2020 were reviewed.

**6.1 (i) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Investment Reports, for the period ending September 30, 2020.**

The minutes of the August 4, 2020 Joint Health & Safety Committee meeting were reviewed.

**6.1 (j) That the Board of Directors acknowledges the August 4, 2020 meeting minutes of Joint Health and Safety Committee**

### **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.

### **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.

### **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)

**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.**

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

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

**Fall Education Programs**

Despite restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the SCRCA education team has eagerly adapted to these challenges with innovative, creative and exciting new programming opportunities! We are thrilled to be able to offer the following options to our teachers and students! Fees were approved by the Board of Directors on September 17, 2020.

**1. Family Field Trips**

Family field trips are being offered at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area (LCH) for groups of individuals who share a common “social bubble”. Specialized programs are available for groups up to 10 individuals. Participants will explore the Conservation Area under the direction of an experienced Conservation educator. The programs are designed to enable real-life, hands-on, experiential, curriculum connected nature learning while maintaining the safety of pre-existing social bubbles.

Two home-school programs took place at LCH this fall!

**2. Live-Stream with a Naturalist**

SCRCA staff will offer a new “Live-Stream with a Naturalist” program where teachers and students can connect with our conservation educators ‘live’ from a Conservation Area. This program will allow students the chance to deepen their understanding of the natural world while experiencing a “field trip” second hand. During the live-stream, students can ask questions, explore the natural world, and experience curriculum connections in real-time.

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).

### 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.

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

### **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)

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

## **Conservation Area Fee Increases**

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

## **Fee Comparison:**

A table comparing seasonal and transient camping fees of other Conservation Authorities, the Provincial Parks, and other local private campgrounds was reviewed. A comparison of 2020 and proposed 2021 Conservation Area fees was also reviewed.

### **BD-20-98**

**Miller – Nemcek**

**“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.”**

**CARRIED**

### **BD-20-99**

**Miller – Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors directs staff to remove the Highland Glen daily and seasonal boat launch fees from the 2021 schedule of fees and further that the fee amount be re-evaluated upon the eventual re-opening of the boat launch.”**

**CARRIED**

## **Bright's 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

## **Bright's 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.

## **Bright's 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.

**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.

A verbal update on the City of Sarnia Kenwick to Helena project was provided by Director of Water Resources, Girish Sankar. Toe issues have been identified in 17 areas. Contractors are trying to repair through the use of barge.

**BD-20-100**

**Marriott – Stark**

**“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.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-20-101**

**Gordon – Brown**

**“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: Terry Burrell, Lorie Scott, Aaron Hall, and Betty Ann MacKinnon and further that the Nominating Committee’s recommendation for the 2021 committee membership be presented at the Annual General Meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

The 2021 tentative schedule of meetings was reviewed. General Manager, Brian McDougall gave a verbal update on the upcoming Annual General Meeting on February 25, 2021 which is scheduled to take place in Point Edward and held on a larger scale to

celebrate SCRCA's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Due to COVID-19, it is not likely that we will be able to host an event of this size, or face to face. Staff will continue to monitor the Provincial guidelines.

**BD-20-102**

**McGill – MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the 2021 tentative schedule of meetings for the Board of Directors and Committees, dated September 21, 2020.”**

**CARRIED**

**Under New Business**

Director Mike Stark discussed the current state at Cow Creek, Brights Grove and enquired whether SCRCA staff can assist with obtaining support and funding to dredge the creek. Director Terry Burrell echoed these concerns and requested a highlight the safety aspect of the loss of a Safe Harbour as well as the closure of Highland Glen. General Manager, Brian McDougall stated that SCRCA will lend its expertise and comments for use in approaching various provincial and federal agencies for approval and financial assistance. SCRCA staff are asked to investigate potential funding sources and report to the Board of Directors at the December, 2020 meeting.

Director Aaron Hall enquired regarding the recent burning of the building erected by the Wallaceburg Sportsmens Club, which was located at the Peers Wetland Conservation Area and whether there were any environmental concerns as a result. Manager of Lands, Greg Wilcox informed the Board of Directors that SCRCA did not renew the rental agreement with the club and they were in the process removing the building and its contents when the fire occurred. The building was completely unsalvageable and debris was removed by a contractor due to the risk to public safety. A copy of the invoice will be sent to the Wallaceburg Sportsmens Club for their contribution to the cost of the clean-up.

**Loosley – McMillan**

**BD-20-1-2**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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

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**Joe Faas**  
**Chair**





## Municipal Comments and Resolutions

- Middlesex Centre – supported resolution
- Point Edward – supported resolution
- Plympton-Wyoming – did not support the proposed resolution
- Oil Springs – Did not support the proposed resolution

Conservation Ontario has been tracking further support from across the Province – the link below can provide updates – as of December 3, 2020 the list included:

<https://conservationontario.ca/policy-priorities/conservation-authorities-act/support-for-conservation-authorities>

- 11 Conservation Authority Boards
- 40 Municipalities
- 35 partner organizations
- Over 300 media mentions including the full page ad (at right) which appeared in the Toronto Star on November 28<sup>th</sup>

**STOP**

**ON OUR Future**

Under the cover of a pandemic budget, THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT LAUNCHED A SNEAK ATTACK ON THE POWER OF CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES that protect us from deadly floods and landslides, toxic soil dumping, and the loss of wetlands, forests and natural spaces.

The powers and independence of Conservation Authorities have made Ontario safer and more livable for over 60 years. Now in the time of COVID, we know more than ever why natural spaces – and evidence-based decisions – matter to us all.

**ALL GOVERNMENT MPPs:**  
Tell Finance Minister Rod Phillips and Premier Ford that Schedule 6 of the budget bill must be withdrawn now.

For more information and to take action visit:  
[YoursToProtect.ca](https://YoursToProtect.ca)



## Member Municipalities

Township of  
Adelaide-Metcalf

Municipality of  
Brooke-Alvinston

Municipality of  
Chatham-Kent

Township of  
Dawn-Euphemia

Township of  
Enniskillen

Municipality of  
Lambton Shores

Municipality of  
Middlesex Centre

Village of  
Newbury

Village of  
Oil Springs

Town of  
Petrolia

Town of  
Plympton-Wyoming

Village of  
Point Edward

City of  
Sarnia

Municipality of  
Southwest Middlesex

Township of  
St. Clair

Municipality of  
Strathroy-Caradoc

Township of  
Warwick

December 10, 2020

### Via Email

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Honourable Christine Elliott  
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health  
[christine.elliott@ontario.ca](mailto:christine.elliott@ontario.ca)

Honourable Rod Phillips  
Minister of Finance  
[minister.fin@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.fin@ontario.ca)

Honourable John Yakabuski  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
[minister.mnrf@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mnrf@ontario.ca)

Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
[minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier, Deputy Premier and Ministers:

### **Re: Provincial Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020**

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) values its partnership with the Province and shares the government's desire to find efficiencies, reduce red tape and increase transparency and accountability. Today, as the Province faces unprecedented pressures from both a global pandemic and climate change, we need to strengthen the cooperative role played by conservation authorities (CAs).

After a detailed review of the changes proposed in Bill 229, the SCRCA is concerned that some of the more prescriptive changes will have unintended consequences that will be counter-productive to your government's stated desire to help CAs modernize and operate with greater focus, transparency and efficiency. In fact, it is our view that several of the proposed amendments will increase the risk to life and property from natural hazards and the degradation of the environment.

Changes such as those related to governance, ministerial authority to issue permits, the removal of our ability to appeal decisions at LPAT, and the removal of enforcement tools will lead to increased administrative costs, red tape, delays, and above all bring into question the integrity and transparency of the permitting and planning process. These changes will also result in a more uncertain and discordant atmosphere, which will hinder our ability to work with applicants to find practical solutions for safe development.

Early this year, SCRCA completed a review with our municipal partners which confirmed that there is no duplication of service or red tape. Our Board of Directors is supportive of proposed updates to our customer service guidance and have funded a Service Delivery Review, currently underway, that will identify efficiencies and will detail the requirements for the SCRCA to deliver on those updated service guidelines.

Further, we are concerned that the integrity of the permitting process will be compromised by these amendments and will increase risk, liability, delays, and lead to inconsistency. The proposed amendments that would allow the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry jurisdiction over certain permit applications, and the appeal process has the potential to allow individuals to circumvent checks and balances that exist to protect the communities in our watersheds. It is unclear whether the Minister would have regard for local conditions, the technical input, or Board-approved policies. These proposed changes may inadvertently cause more people in the community to be at risk, rather than protected, from natural hazards.

The proposed amendments to our ability to enter a property and repeal of the “stop work orders” severely limits our ability to enforce the provincial regulation (Ontario 171/06). Conservation authorities will have to continue to rely on search warrants to gain entry to a property where infractions or compliance is a concern, taking more time and costing more money. Due to the amendment, reasonable grounds for obtaining a search warrant now cannot be obtained unless the activity can be viewed without entry onto the property (i.e. from the road). This restriction protects potential violators. Additionally, the repeal of the ability to issue Stop Work Orders, a long requested enforcement tool, means we must resort to obtaining injunctions which again takes further staff time and conservation authorities will incur significant costs for legal and court fees. The time needed to obtain such an order can be lengthy resulting in unnecessary and significant damage to the environment, or alteration of a floodplain which then puts people at risk. This unintended consequence is contrary to the Province’s Made in Ontario Plan which references getting tough with polluters. Without the necessary tools, the public and environment are at risk.

The proposed amendments introduce a “stakeholder governance model” that has no legal precedence. The proposed changes to the composition of CA boards negatively disrupts what is currently an effective and relatively apolitical structure. This will significantly reduce the capacity of boards to make decisions on a watershed basis. Our Board of Directors carry out their fiduciary responsibilities, guide strategy, approve policies in support of our Provincial and municipal responsibilities. They ensure SCRCA makes decisions with integrity based on our mission, values, and core responsibilities. Changing the composition to reflect elected officials that represent the interests of their respective municipalities will invite conflict and is counter to all governance principles. This is

supported by other pieces of legislation and a recent decision by the Auditor General regarding the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

In conclusion, the SCRCA wants to assure the Province that we are here to work with you. Our Authority does not want to see an increased risk to public safety, or increased liabilities to the Province, municipalities, and conservation authorities. Nor do we want more red tape, service disruption or delays that would hinder the government in achieving its goal of economic recovery. Given the time sensitive nature of this Bill, we encourage the Province to withdraw Schedule 6 of Bill 229. We feel there are better solutions to deal with actual and perceived issues and would be pleased to discuss these and our desire to work with you to define the governing regulations at your earliest convenience.

We greatly appreciate you taking the time to consider our concerns.

Sincerely,

Joe Faas  
Chair

cc. Monte McNaughton, MPP Lambton-Kent-Middlesex  
Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton  
SCRCA Board of Directors  
SCRCA Member Municipalities  
Conservation Ontario / 35 Conservation Authorities

**CONSERVATION ONTARIO COUNCIL**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**September 28, 2020**  
**Meeting via Zoom**

**Voting Delegates Present:**

**Chair: Wayne Emmerson, Lake Simcoe**

Brian Horner, Ausable Bayfield  
Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region  
Katrina Furlnetto, Cataraqui Region  
Chris Wilkinson, Catfish Creek  
Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario  
Karen Ras, Credit Valley  
Deb Martin-Downs, Credit Valley  
Tim Pidduck, Crowe Valley  
Kieran McKenzie, Essex Region  
Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region  
Samantha Lawson, Grand River  
Cathy Little, Grey Sauble  
Tim Lanthier, Grey Sauble  
Hassaan Basit, Halton  
Lloyd Ferguson, Hamilton  
Lisa Burnside, Hamilton  
Ted Smith, Kawartha  
Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha  
Stephen Harvey, Kettle Creek  
Elizabeth VanHooen, Kettle Creek  
Mike Walters, Lake Simcoe Region  
Donna Blunt, Lakehead  
Tammy Cook, Lakehead  
Michael Columbus, Long Point Region  
Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region  
Mark Peacock, Lower Thames  
Jim Alyea, Lower Trent  
Rhonda Bateman, Lower Trent  
David Turton, Maitland Valley

Janet Mason, Mississippi  
Sally McIntyre, Mississippi  
Brenda Johnson, Niagara Peninsula  
Chandra Sharma, Niagara Peninsula  
Lin Gibson, Nickel District (Con.Sudbury)  
Brian Tayler, North Bay-Mattawa  
Keith White, Nottawasaga Valley  
Mariane McLeod, Nottawasaga Valley  
Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley  
Andy Mitchell, Otonabee  
Dan Marinigh, Otonabee  
John Wise, Quinte  
Brian McGillis, Raisin Region  
Richard Pilon, Raisin Region  
Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley  
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley  
Dan Gieruszak, Saugeen  
Maureen Couture, Saugeen  
Corrina Barrett, Sault Ste Marie Region  
George Darouze, South Nation  
Pierre Leroux, South Nation  
Angela Coleman, South Nation  
Joe Faas, St. Clair Region  
Larry Gordon, St. Clair Region  
Brian McDougall, St. Clair Region  
Jennifer Innis, Toronto and Region  
John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region  
Alan Dale, Upper Thames River  
Ian Wilcox, Upper Thames River

**Members Absent:**

Mattagami

**Guests:**

Phil Beard, Maitland Valley  
Tim Byrne, Niagara Peninsula

Brad McNevin, Quinte  
Jennifer Stephens, Saugeen

**CO Staff:**

Kim Gavine, General Manager  
Deborah Balika  
Kristin Bristow  
Jane Dunning  
Nicholas Fischer  
Bonnie Fox

Jane Lewington  
Nekeisha Mohammed  
Patricia Moleirinho  
Leslie Rich  
Jo-Anne Rzaeki  
Rick Wilson

**1. Welcome from the Chair**

Chair Emerson welcomed everyone in attendance.

He welcomed the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Jeff Yurek and Deputy Minister Serge Imbrogno.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The following Consent items were requested to be moved to Discussion items:

- r) Update on the CO/Hydro One Memorandum of Understanding and the Establishment of a Working Group
- v) Update on Changes to the Environmental Assessment Process in Ontario.

Addition: Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting held December 9, 2019.

Strategy Corp presented between 10:15 and 10:30 on the Strategic Planning Process so that agenda item was moved up.

**#01/20      Moved by:      Lin Gibson, Conservation Sudbury  
                 Secoded by:      Cathy Little, Grey Sauble**

***THAT the Agenda be adopted as amended.***

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was none.

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**#02/20      Moved by:      John MacKenzie, TRCA  
                 Secoded by:      Karen Ras, Credit Valley**

***THAT the minutes from the meeting December 9, 2019 be approved.***

**CARRIED**

**5. Adoption of the 2019 Audited Financial Statements, Final Report to the Budget and Audit Committee**

Kim Gavine (CO) presented the Report and Financial Statements on behalf of the Chair of the Budget & Audit Committee.

**#03/20      Moved by:      Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region  
                 Secoded by:      Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region**

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

***AND THAT Conservation Ontario Council accept the Budget and Audit Committee's recommendation that the Financial Statements of Conservation Ontario for the year ended December 31, 2019 be approved.***

**CARRIED**





**#08/20**      **Moved by:**      **Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region**  
**Seconded by:**      **Mark Peacock, Lower Thames**

***THAT the nominations for Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2020 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Wayne Emmerson accepted his nomination and was declared Chair of Conservation Ontario for 2020.  
Kim Gavine called for nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2020.

Pieter Leenhouts (Rideau Valley) nominated Alan Revill (Cataraqui Region)  
Donna Blunt (Lakehead Region) nominated Lin Gibson (Conservation Sudbury)

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

**#09/20**      **Moved by:**      **Mike Walters, Lake Simcoe Region**  
**Seconded by:**      **Mike Columbus, Long Point Region**

***THAT the nominations for Vice Chairs of Conservation Ontario for 2020 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Lin Gibson and Alan Revill accepted their nominations and were declared Vice Chairs for Conservation Ontario for 2020.

Kim Gavine called for nominations for the Directors (staff positions) for 2020.

Hassaan Basit (Halton) nominated Deb Martin-Downs (Credit Valley)  
Rhonda Bateman (Lower Trent) nominated Linda Laliberte (Ganaraska)

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

**#10/20**      **Moved by:**      **Karen Ras, Credit Valley**  
**Seconded by:**      **Dave Turton, Maitland Valley**

***THAT the nominations for staff Directors of Conservation Ontario for 2020 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Linda Laliberte and Deb Martin-Downs accepted their nominations and were declared Directors of Conservation Ontario.

Kim called for nominations for Director for Conservation Ontario for 2020. It was noted that this could be a staff or elected member.

Chandra Sharma (Niagara Peninsula) nominated Samantha Lawson (Grand River).

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

**#10/20**      **Moved by:**      Alan Reville, Cataraqui Region  
**Seconded by:**      Joe Faas St. Clair Region CA

***THAT the nominations for the Director of Conservation Ontario for 2020 be closed.***

**CARRIED**

Samantha Lawson accepted the nomination and was declared Director of Conservation Ontario.

**#11/20**      **Moved by:**      Mike Columbus, Long Point Region  
**Seconded by:**      John Wise, Quinte Conservation

***THAT the Council recording and polling be deleted.***

**CARRIED**

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

## **9. Standing Committee Representatives**

**#12/20**      **Moved by:**      George Darouze, South Nation  
**Seconded by:**      Dan Gieruszak, Saugeen Conservation

***THAT the appointment of the Budget and Audit Standing Committee membership be approved.***

**CARRIED**

## **10. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole**

**#13/20**      **Moved by:**      John Wise, Quinte Conservation  
**Seconded by:**      Karen Ras, Credit Valley Conservation

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

**CARRIED**

## **11. Committee of the Whole Agenda Items**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

(j) 2016-2020 Strategic Plan Evaluation

Kim Gavine provided highlights of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan (presentation attached).

**C.W. #01/20**      **Moved by:**      Lin Gibson, Conservation Sudbury  
**Seconded by:**      Chandra Sharma, Niagara Peninsula

***THAT Council receives this report as information.***

**CARRIED**

Strategy Corp's presentation "Conservation Ontario Towards a Strategic Plan" is attached to the minutes of the meeting. Working Groups will be led by members of the Board of Directors, and Council members will be invited to join one of the groups via email.



*THAT the proposed 2021 operating budget be amended to include a 1.5% cost of living increase.*

*THAT Council adopt the 2021 Proposed Operating Budget as amended.*

*THAT the general levy of \$ 1,330,000 be approved.*

**CARRIED**

**d) Conservation Ontario Special Projects Budget 2020**

**C.W. #06/20**      **Moved by:**      John Wise, Quinte Conservation  
                         **Seconded by:**      Hassaan Basit, Conservation Halton

*THAT the 2020 Special Projects Budget in the amount of \$467,500 be approved as presented and as recommended by the Budget and Audit Committee.*

**CARRIED**

**e) Update on the Conservation Authorities Act Review**

Bonnie Fox (CO) provided a verbal update.

It was recommended that Conservation Ontario follow up with a letter, in addition to thanking the minister for joining the AGM, to stress the importance of enforcement issues and strong support for enactment of the enforcement clauses within the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

**C.W. #07/20**      **Moved by:**      John MacKenzie, Toronto and Region  
                         **Seconded by:**      Cathy Little, Grey Sauble

*THAT this update report be received as information.*

*AND THAT follow up letters be sent to the Ministers of Natural Resources and Forestry and Environment and Climate Change, thanking Minister Yurek for attending the meeting and including support for enactment of the enforcement clauses.*

**CARRIED**

**f) Update on the Proposed Major Amendments to the Conservation Ontario Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects**

Nicholas Fischer (CO) provided a verbal update.

**C.W. #08/20**      **Moved by:**      Brian Tayler, North Bay-Mattawa  
                         **Seconded by:**      John Wise, Quinte Conservation

*THAT Conservation Ontario's Comments on Proposed Major Amendments to the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects (2020) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on August 17, 2020 be endorsed.*

**CARRIED**





**C.W. #15/20**      **Moved by:**      John McKenzie, Toronto and Region  
                         **Seconded by:**      Donna Blunt, Lakehead Region

***THAT Beth Williston (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority), Dan Jenner (Essex Region Conservation Authority), Sharlene Richardson (Quinte Conservation Authority) and Tammy Cook (Lakehead Region Conservation Authority) be endorsed as members of the Conservation Ontario – Hydro One Working Group.***

**CARRIED**

**v) Update on Changes to the Environmental Assessment Process in Ontario**

John McKenzie (TRCA) noted that as a co-proponent that they are already seeing some accelerated turn-arounds related to Part II order [requests for individual Environmental assessments requests]. His team has a number of large projects undergoing environmental assessments and will report back with lessons learned.

**C.W. #16/20**      **Moved by:**      John McKenzie, Toronto and Region  
                         **Seconded by:**      Mike Walters, Lake Simcoe Region

***THAT Council receives this report as information.***

**CARRIED**

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**C.W. #17/20**      **Moved by:**      Alan Revall, Cataraqui Region  
                         **Seconded by:**      John Wise, Quinte Conservation

***THAT Council approve a consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Items 11 n) – q; 11 s-u; and 11 w-y.***

**CARRIED**

**n) April 2019-March 2020 Conservation Ontario (CO) Representatives and Conservation Authorities Program Discussion Group List**

*THAT Council receives this report as information.*

**o) Conservation Ontario’s Comments on the “Proposed Amendment 1 to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe” (ERO#019-1680) and the “Proposed Land Needs Assessment Methodology for A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe” (ERO#019-1679)**

*THAT Conservation Ontario’s Comments on the “Proposed Amendment 1 to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe” (ERO #019-1680) and the “Proposed Land Needs Assessment Methodology for A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe” (ERO #019-1679) dated July 30, 2020 be endorsed.*

- p)** Conservation Ontario's comments on "Updating Ontario's Water Quantity Management Framework" (ERO#019-1340) and the "Proposal to Extend the Current Moratorium on Water Bottling Permits" (ERO#019-2319)

*THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on "Updating Ontario's Water Quantity Management Framework" (ERO#019-1340) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on July 31, 2020 be endorsed.*

*AND THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Proposal to Extend the Current Moratorium on Water Bottling Permits" (ERO#019-2319) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on September 10, 2020 be endorsed.*

- q)** Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Proposed Changes to Environmental Approvals for Municipal Sewage Collection Works" (ERO#019-1080)

*THAT Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Proposed Changes to Environmental Approvals for Municipal Sewage Collection Works" (ERO#019-1080) submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks on September 6, 2020 be endorsed.*

- s)** Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Executive Committee and Annex Sub-Committees Updates and Decision Items (i) Conservation Ontario Representatives for the Lake Ontario Nutrient Management Target and Objectives Task Team; and, (ii) Conservation Ontario Representative for the Science Annex

*i. THAT Shan Mugalingam (Lower Trent Conservation), Josh Diamond (Niagara Peninsula CA) and Angela Wallace (Toronto and Region CA) be endorsed as Conservation Ontario Representatives on the Lake Ontario Nutrient Management Target and Objectives Task Team*

*ii. THAT Chitra Gowda, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection (Conservation Halton) be endorsed as Conservation Ontario's representative on the Science Annex*

- t)** Open Data Licence for Conservation Ontario

*THAT Council endorse the proposed "Conservation Ontario Open Data Licence v1" for use in conjunction with any future data shared through the CO Open Data site.*

- u)** Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020

*THAT Council receives this report as information.*

- w)** Program Updates

- i. Drinking Water Source Protection

*THAT Council receives this report as information.*

- ii. Marketing & Communications

*THAT Council receives this report as information.*





**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 13, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Ashley Fletcher

**Item 7.1 (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.

**Refer to Item 7.1 (m)**

**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.

**Refer to Item 7.1 (l)**

**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:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 25, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Greg Wilcox

**Item 7.1 (b)**

**Subject:** Conservation Areas Update

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Areas update, dated November 25, 2020.

**2020 Camping Statistics:**

- Campgrounds closed from April 25 – June 4, 2020
- Seasonal camping opened June 5, transient camping opened June 29
- Transient camping operated with approximately 50% of sites open
- Pools were closed for 2020
- Overall campground revenue down 23.8% (\$290,646.17 as of October 31, unaudited)

**Campground Upgrades 2020:**

Due to the Coronavirus, some campground upgrades planned for 2020 were postponed.

**Warwick Conservation Area**

- Wetland constructed and surrounding area to be naturalized with a trail/ picnic access
- Exterior finishes completed at new WIFI pavilion
- Work continued on the WIFI café near the pool. Was not made available to campers in 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns.



WIFI café at WWK

### **A.W. Campbell CA**

- AED purchased and installed for emergency use (Foundation funded)
- New panel and servicing for 4 campsites
- New dock to provide viewing/fishing access in pond, funding donated by Brooke Central School and the Alvinston Optimist Club



New dock at AWC

### **L.C. Henderson CA**

- Boardwalk upgrades completed

### **Day Use Conservation Area Updates:**

- 79 memorial trees planted at 13 Conservation Areas
- Hazard Trees removed at Strathroy CA, Peers Wetland CA, Wawanosh CA, Clark Wright CA, Highland Glen CA, Cuddy Woods, Lambton County Heritage Forest, Lambton County Museum, Perch Creek Habitat Management, Marthaville Habitat Management, and all 3 campgrounds

### **Strathroy CA**

- 18 sections of boardwalk were donated by Bonduelle and installed by SCRCA staff
- Grant proposal being prepared for submission to the Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP) for Aquatic Species at Risk
- Grant proposal will seek funding to conduct a Class EA study investigating alternatives to the Head St. dam and reservoir

### **Coldstream CA**

- Boardwalk repairs completed with materials supplied by Middlesex Centre and labour completed by SCRCA staff
- Grant proposal submitted to the Great Lakes Local Action Fund requesting funding to rebuild over 500' of boardwalk at Coldstream and for habitat creation along the East branch of the Sydenham River
- Contractor has been selected to replace the pavilion roof at Coldstream CA, work not completed at time of report

### **Wawanosh CA**

- New dock constructed for wildlife viewing in the South wetland cell
- Old wildlife viewing tower removed
- Dr. Janice Gilbert of the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre has been hired to complete a phragmites control and habitat improvement plan for Wawanosh CA. Funding is being provided by Friends of the St. Clair River



### **Peers Wetland CA**

- Wallaceburg Snowmobile Club lease expires at the end of 2020
- Snowmobile Club building was destroyed in a fire overnight on November 30<sup>th</sup>, site cleanup was completed the following week as debris posed a risk to the public
- Dyke between the wetland and Otter Creek was repaired in late November, work included:
  - Brushing of dyke vegetation to allow for dyke repairs
  - Replacing the failed overflow spillway with an outlet pipe
  - Repairs to muskrat damage
  - Building up low areas on the dyke to improve trail conditions
- Sydenham Field Naturalists contributed 50% of repair costs

Wildlife viewing dock at Wawanosh

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 26, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Emily De Cloet

**Item 7.1 (c)**

**Subject:** Current Watershed Conditions

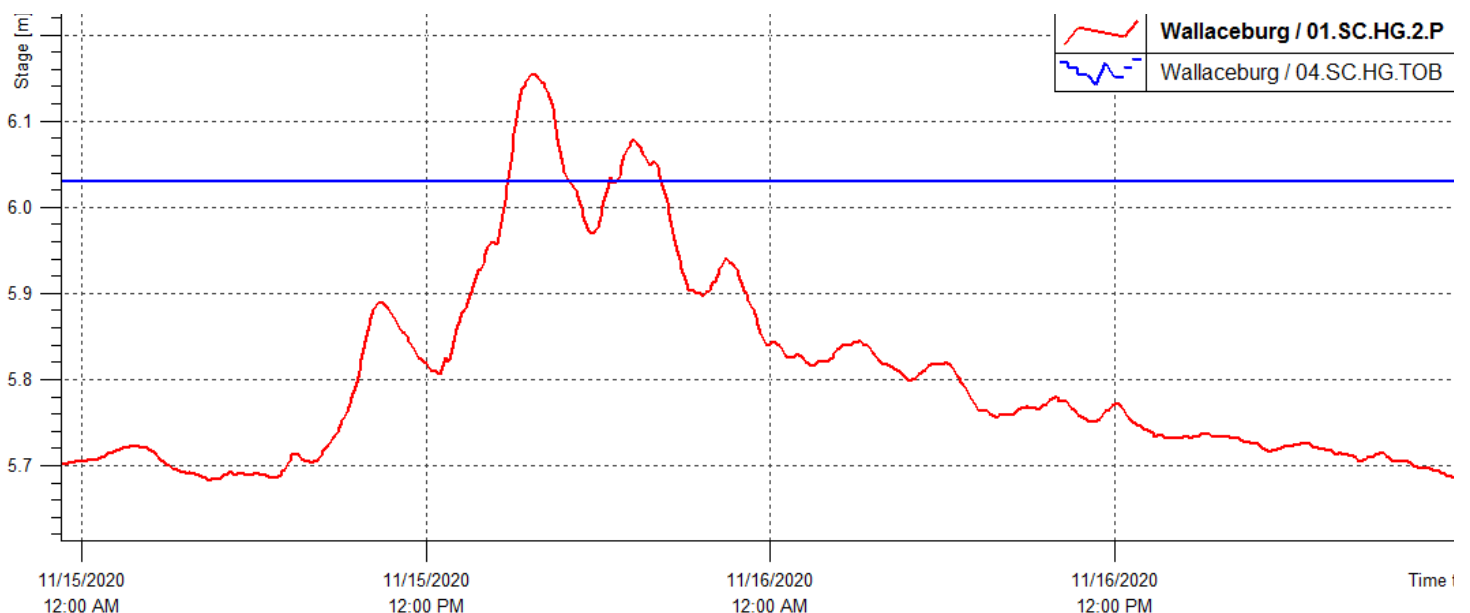
## Highlights:

- Flood threat is low due to drops 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 reach or exceed record-highs in January through April
- Regional precipitation amounts are near normal averages for 6 and 12 month periods; recent 3 month period is below normal
- Response rate to recent Flood Watch bulletin below 50%

## Flood Threat

The current flood threat is low owing to a drop in water levels in Wallaceburg and on the Great Lakes (Figure 2), resulting in a 33cm freeboard capacity in downtown Wallaceburg (as of this report). That said, strong winds similar to those recently on November 15<sup>th</sup> (Event 29, Bulletin 1) show that wind storms have the capacity to quickly elevate water levels in Wallaceburg (Figure 1) and impact shorelines.

**Figure 1: Water levels at Wallaceburg (red) compared to top of bank (blue) for the November 15<sup>th</sup> wind storm.**



As part of SCRCA’s mandate to notify municipalities of flood conditions, the Water Resources department attached a read-receipt to the recent Flood Watch email notification to identify gaps in communication. Of the 138 municipal staff who were sent the Flood Watch bulletin, 60 read the email, which is a response rate of 43.5%.

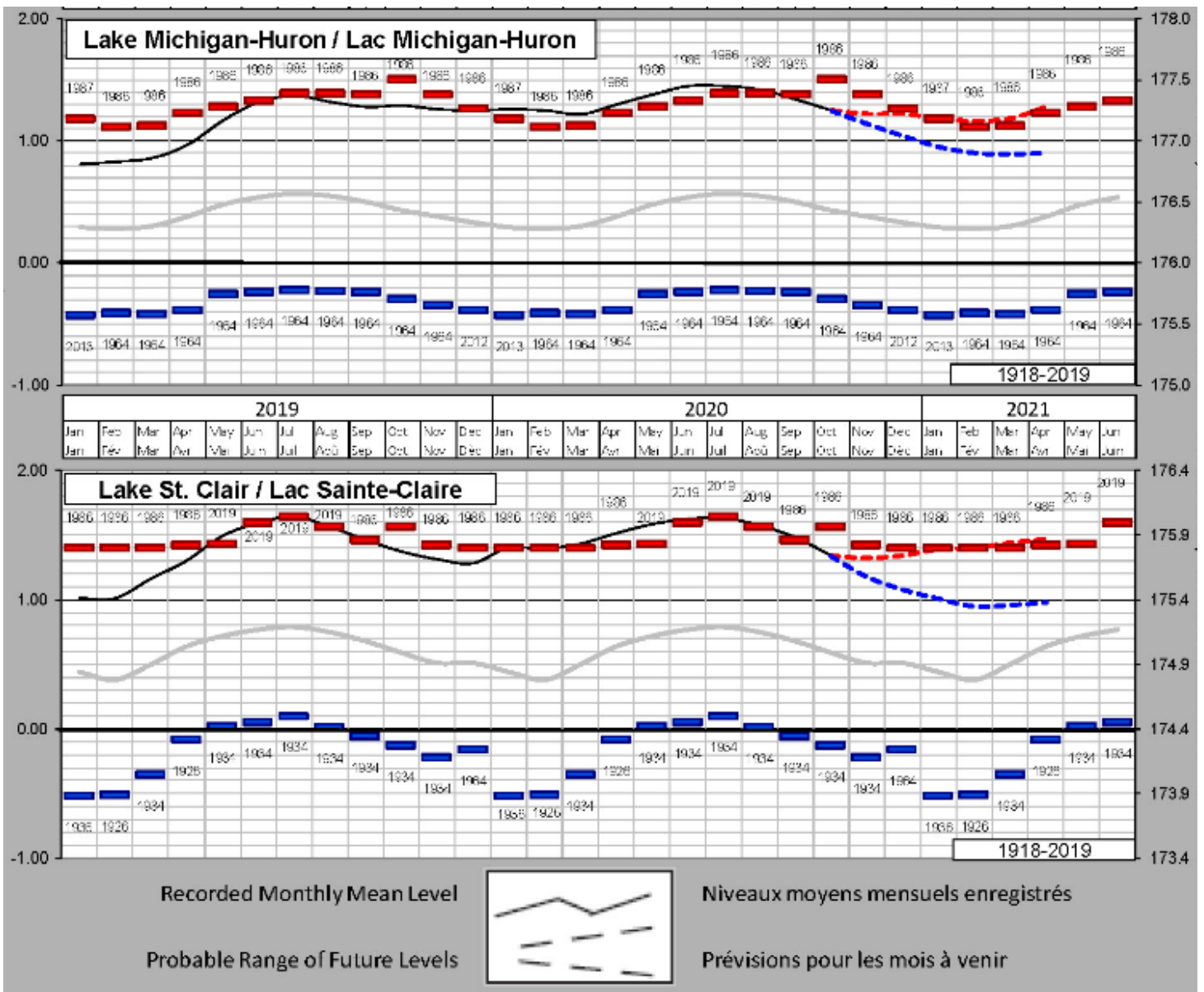
## Great Lakes Levels

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

October 2020	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie
Mean for Month (Preliminary Data)	177.25	175.74	174.72
Mean for Month Last Year	177.29	175.77	174.74
Change	<b>-0.04</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	<b>-0.02</b>
Mean for Month, Last 10 years	176.48	175.18	174.29
Change Compared to Current	<b>0.77</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.43</b>
Mean for Month, All Time	176.45	175.01	174.08
Change Compared to Current	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>0.64</b>
<b>Statistics for Period of Record</b>			
Maximum Monthly Mean / Year	177.50	175.96	174.94
	1986	1986	1986
Change Compared to Current	<b>-0.25</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>-0.22</b>
Minimum Monthly Mean / Year	175.70	174.27	173.30
	1964	1934	1934
Change Compared to Current	<b>1.55</b>	<b>1.47</b>	<b>1.42</b>
<b>Next Month Estimate</b>			
Probable Mean for Next Month	177.20	175.64	174.66
Next Month Compared to Current	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>-0.06</b>

- Water levels on all three lakes dropped a few centimetres compared to this time last year
- Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie all exceeded their October 10 year and all-time averages, ranging between 43cm and 80cm, but none exceeded the October 1986 record levels
- The lakes are forecasted to drop 5 – 10cm in November

**Figure 2: Six-month water level projection. Water levels relative to chart datum IGLD 1985. Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, October 2020.**



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



## 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>								
September	52.4	94	74.6	89.8	109.8	97.7	78.1	96.2
October	53	66	67.8	70.8	75.9	77.6	66.9	64.9
November	34.9	76.4	36.4	94.5	45.3	91.1	45.9	75.5
<b>Averages</b>								
last 3 month totals	140.3	236.4	178.8	255.1	231	266.4	190.9	236.6
last 3 month % of normal	59.3%		70.1%		86.7%		80.7%	
regional average	<b>74.2%</b>							
last 6 month totals	466.2	473.1	471	483.4	462.2	520.7	446.5	487.9
last 6 month % of normal	98.5%		97.4%		88.8%		91.5%	
regional average	<b>94.1%</b>							
last 12 month totals	776.8	846.8	852.4	945.1	904	987	816.9	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	91.7%		90.2%		91.6%		88.9%	
regional average	<b>90.6%</b>							

- Low amounts of rainfall so far this November have brought totals for the last quarter below normal values for the region
- Rainfall averages for 6 and 12 month periods for all regions are near normal amounts

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 26, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

**Item 7.1 (d)**

**Subject:** Shoreline Projects

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020 on the ongoing Shoreline projects across the watershed.



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

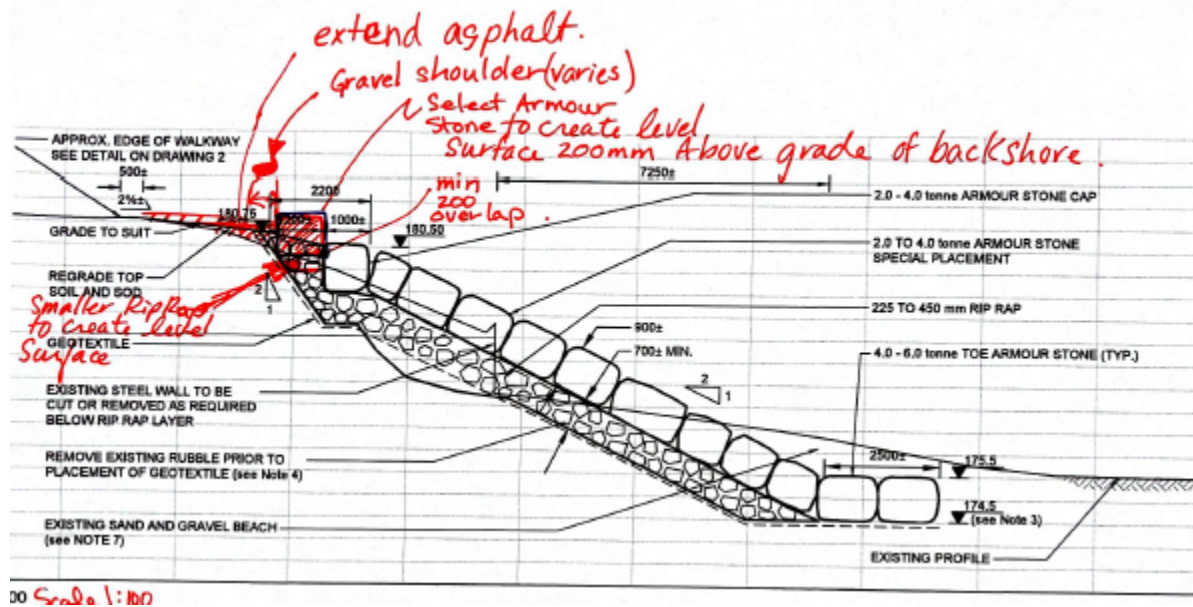
- Request for Pre Qualification (RFSQ) started on November 6, 2020
- SCRCA received 12 submissions before November 18, 2020
- An evaluation team (SCRCA, City of Sarnia, Shoreplan Engineering) is reviewing the submissions.
- Following are the list of contractors interested in shoreline projects.

Name of Construction Company	
South Shore Contracting	R & M construction
Bre-Ex Construction Inc.	QM LP Environmental
J-AAR Excavating Limited	Brandon contractors
ASG Excavating	Ontario General and Marine Construction
Van Bree Drainage and Bulldozing Limited	CSL Group
FACCA INC	Atlantis Marine Construction Canada

- Tender process will start first week of December 2020
- Shoreline work in this section is expected to start January 2021.

## Bright's Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East

- Facca Inc. started shoreline work on February 10, 2020.
- All shoreline work is completed as of November 27, 2020
- City of Sarnia has requested for a secondary capstone placement along the entire length of the project
- FACCA Inc is expected to provide an estimate for this work this week.



Bright's Grove, Old Lakeshore Road East – Secondary Capstone placement 2020

## Bright's 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



## **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.

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020 **Item 7.1 (e)**  
**Report Date:** November 26, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar, Mike Moroney

**Subject:** Engineering and Design Plan for Management of Contaminated Sediment in the St. Clair River – Work Underway

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## Overview

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

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

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

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 more 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.

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.

## **Project Update:**

Upon reviewing the results, it was determined that additional information on sediment quality was needed to address some data gaps that remained in certain areas, and to obtain more current sediment quality data in other areas.

The additional field work was completed in October 2020 and involved the collection of 20 deep core sediment samples, and 46 shallow surface sediment samples.

Each of the field sampling events in this project work has involved the use of small boats for conducting specialized sampling and survey work. Area companies were given advance notice of the proposed work so that any health and safety requirements could be addressed when performing work in the vicinity of docking areas or pipeline crossings.



The sampling event in October 2020 also involved the use of a crane in the vicinity of Priority Area 1. The crane was used to place a small boat behind the enclosed dock areas so that sediment samples could be collected from the desired locations.



The consultant made a presentation to the Sediment Management Oversight Committee on November 25, 2020, explaining the results of the October 2020 sediment sampling, including how it compared to historical sediment sample results. The consultant is continuing with analysis of the data and will be presenting information to the committee again in December 2020 on recommended next steps.

The SCRCA has requested submission of a revised project schedule from Parsons to confirm how the additional field sampling work and delays due to COVID-19 will 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.

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 25, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Craig Paterson

**Item 7.1 (f)**

**Subject:** Summary of Monitoring & Research Conducted by SCRCA  
Biology

**Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

That the Board acknowledges the report dated November 25, 2020 Summary of Monitoring & Research Conducted by SCRCA Biology

**Background:**

During the snow and ice free months SCRCA Biology conduct numerous watershed based monitoring and research projects to understand the physical health, through water quality sampling and the biological health, through studying aquatic organisms like fish, mussels and benthic macroinvertebrates. The 2020 field season presented many unique challenges with an ongoing global pandemic, a shorter monitoring season due to lockdown restrictions and a work schedule bursting at the seams. Despite these unique challenges, the biology department was able to go beyond projected deliverables.

**Update:**

In early June, staff continued with the ongoing turtle head-starting program, where turtle nests are located within the watershed and monitored during the incubation period. Staff carefully collect the eggs from nests in danger from predation and destruction. With the help and care provide by Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and the Upper Thames Region CA, eggs are safely stored in incubators until they hatch. The turtle team collected a total of 799 eggs, 496 eggs of the endangered Eastern Spiny Softshell and 303 eggs of the Common Snapping Turtle. An incredible 682 healthy hatchlings were released back into the wild in late August, providing a vital jumpstart for the next generation.

**Turtle Decline:** Habitat loss, destruction, degradation, fragmentation, road mortality, over abundance of middle-level predators and shoreline development all play a role in the decline of Ontario turtles.

**Importance:** Reptiles are experiencing global declines of 20 and 40 percent. In our province, 75 percent of reptiles are listed as nationally and provincially at risk. The Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle's distinction, 'endangered', means it is facing imminent extinction. Without devoted and strategic effort, this species will be lost from Ontario.

**Effort:** This program requires a mammoth amount of time, dedication and multi-agency cooperation. Three SCRCA staff members spend 12-14 hours a day surveying and excavating nest through the summer nesting months. Temperatures this year at ground level on the sandy exposed nest sites reached a staggering 59C°.



**Highlight:** 2020 marks the most successful year for the turtle head-starting program. 682 is a record breaking number for SCRCA biology.

Between egg collection and waiting for the hatchlings to develop the biology team began mussel monitoring along a 5km stretch of the Sydenham River. The study detected 1688 live mussels, including 79 individuals representing 7 species facing extinction. These include species like the Northern Riffleshell, Rainbow and Snuffbox. Although rarely seen or encountered, mussels play an integral role in shaping aquatic ecosystems. Beneath the surface mussels are a filtering powerhouse, a single mussel can filter 40L of water per day, which means the mussels detected in this study can filter a staggering 6752L per day. The filtering process removes algae, organic matter and nutrients, converting cloudy contaminated water to clear and healthy, benefiting a multitude of organisms from plants to fish to invertebrates.

**Freshwater Mussel Decline:** In North America, freshwater mussels have declined by 70%. Habitat degradation, pollution, invasive species (Round Goby and Zebra Mussels) and loss of fish hosts which are vitally important during the mussel reproduction cycle.

**Importance:** The Sydenham is a unique and critically important system as it is home to many of the country's freshwater mussel species. Currently, twelve of the fifteen mussel species assessed as at-risk in Ontario by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) inhabit the turbid waters of the Sydenham River. The reports and data created from this study are used and shared throughout both the Canadian and global research community.

**Effort:** Another mammoth time commitment involving multi-agency cooperation and resources, including Oceans and Fisheries Canada and the University of Windsor. Five SCRCA staff members spent many hours crawling along a 5km stretch of the river searching for mussels, using a technique known as 'Raccooning'.

**Highlight:** The East Sydenham River population of Northern Riffleshell mussels is one of only three reproducing populations on the entire planet and is considered to be the healthiest population in Canada.

As the mussels continue to filter the waters and turtle hatchlings begin to emerge from incubation, fish monitoring begins. The 2020 study looked at the detection of the invasive Round Goby using 10 index sites in the Sydenham River previously surveyed in 2002, 2010, 2016 and 2020. Round Goby are a non-native fish that arrived from the Caspian Sea in the ballast water of large shipping vessels. In Ontario, Goby can reduce native fish populations particularly, sport fish through predation of eggs and young whilst simultaneously competing for food sources. Many bottom-dwelling species like the Eastern Sand Darter (Endangered) face fierce competition for survival from Gobies. In total, 3611 fish, representing 40 species were captured, identified and released, including 233 Round Goby.

**Freshwater Fish Decline:** Studies have revealed 4 out of 10 freshwater fish species in North America are facing declines. These declines include sport fish and other species that support sport fish populations. Habitat loss, degradation, siltation, invasive species and pollution all play a role in fish population declines in Ontario.

**Importance:** The Sydenham River bears the title as one of Canada's most biodiverse rivers, there are around 83 different types of fish that call it home. Study after study has shown a community rich in biodiversity is a healthier community overall. Studies like this help map where invasive species reside

and congregate which, is essential when fighting to conserving native biodiversity and promote watershed health.

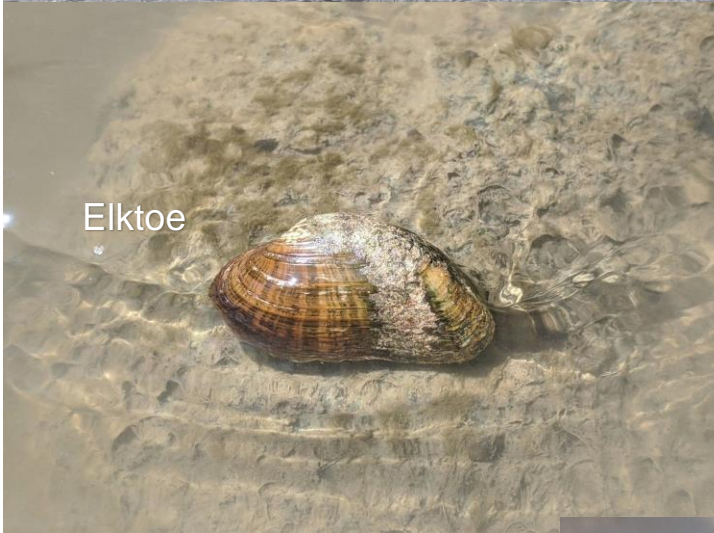
**Effort:** Five SCRCA staff, conducting 47,000 electrofishing seconds across 12 survey sites, ranging from Dawn Mills to Alvinston. These data will be used at the federal and provincial level to aid in invasive species management.

**Highlight:** Only one Eastern Sand Darter was detected throughout the entire study.

**Financial Impact:**

All monitoring and research projects conducted by SCRCA Biology are supported through self-generated revenue and external grant programs.

**Please enjoy a selection of photographs highlighting many of the natural wonders unique to the St Clair watershed that the biology department work tirelessly each year to preserve for future generations.**



Three mussel species showing different age classes Wabash Pigtoe, White Heelsplitter and Giant Floater (Left to right)



1 day old Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle



1 day old Common Snapping Turtle



Snapping Turtle hatchling with two albino sisters  
A first for the Turtle head-starting Program





Drone footage capturing some socially distanced mussel surveys



**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 16, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Jessica Van Zwol

**Item 7.1 (g)**

**Subject:** Habitat Stewardship Program and Biology Grants

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board acknowledges the report dated November 16, 2020 on Habitat Stewardship Program and Biology Grants

**Background:**

SCRCA delivers a habitat stewardship program for landowners throughout the watershed to assist with the implementation of various habitat projects to maintain/improve water quality and to create wildlife habitat. The Biology monitoring program collects data on water quality, fish, mussels, turtles, and benthic invertebrates. Staff are involved in various outreach and education components related to stewardship and species at risk.

**Update:**

The grants awarded and applied for are in addition to ongoing grants that the Biology department has secured for 2020-2023.

**Provincial Grants awarded:**

- MNRF Species at Risk Stewardship Fund 2020-2022: \$155,000 – Biological monitoring and landowner stewardship project implementation

**Provincial Grants applied for:**

- OMAFRA COA 2020-2022: \$85,000 – Stewardship outreach and project implementation
- MECP COA 2020-2021: \$60,000 – Lambton Shores Healthy Lake Huron program
- OMAFRA COA 2020-2022: \$50,000 – Lambton Shores Healthy Lake Huron program
- MECP Great Lakes Local Action Fund 2020-2021: \$50,000 – Coldstream Conservation Area upgrades and landowner stewardship project implementation

**Federal Grants awarded:**

- DFO Canadian Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk Year 2 top up (of a 4-year agreement equalling \$1,117,000): \$110,000 – biological monitoring and landowner stewardship project implementation

- ECCC EcoAction 2020-2022: \$99,000 – Stewardship outreach and landowner stewardship project implementation

**Federal Grants applied for:**

DFO Habitat Stewardship Program 2021-2023 – SAR threats assessment

Wildlife Habitat Canada 2021-2023: \$100,000 – stewardship outreach, biological monitoring, and landowner wetland/upland habitat stewardship project implementation

**Financial Impact:**

The awarded applications have secured \$365,000 for 2020-2022 above what the Biology department has already secured for this year and future years of funding (e.g. Years 3 & 4, CNF grant: \$657,000). These funds will go towards staffing, private landowner stewardship projects and outreach. Biology staff currently have \$345,000 in requests to Provincial and Federal governments/organizations to cover staff salaries, education and outreach, and landowner stewardship.



**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 27, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Nicole Drumm

**Item 7.1 (h)**

**Subject:** Sydenham Watershed Phosphorus Management Plan Update

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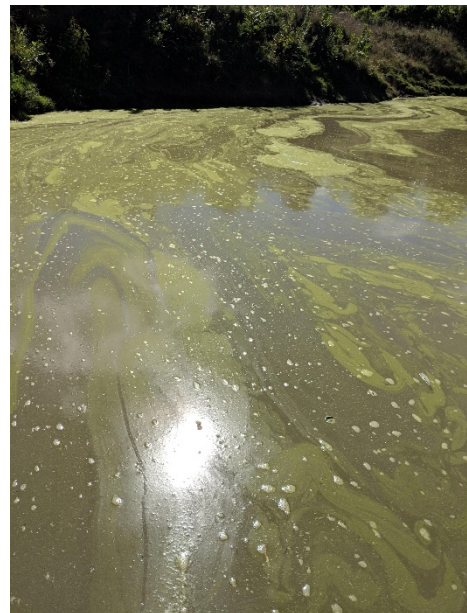
## Background:

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

The objective of this multi-year project is to coordinate with local stakeholders, First Nations, and community members to identify sources of phosphorus and determine best-value solutions for our region. A community engagement and outreach strategy will be developed to implement the Management Plan.

Progress since June 2020 board report:

- Conducting/compiling research and collecting data based on direction from committees
- Drafting reports that will provide the basis for chapter content
- Conducted tile drainage survey
- Preparing point source surveys
- Attended local virtual rural water quality events
- Presentation to St. Clair River Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee
- Participating on the Lake Erie Action Plan Implementation Committee; Agricultural and Natural Heritage Subcommittees



Algal bloom, Sydenham River, August 2020

The SCRCA Project Team is compiling feedback from the committee meetings and one-on-one discussions with committee members to direct ongoing research. This

information is being investigated, discussed at meetings, and incorporated into the draft Management Plan.

Upcoming committee meetings:

- Non-Point Source Working Group Meeting – December 11, 2020
- Point Source Working Group Meeting – December 14, 2020

### **Strategic Objectives:**

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

### **Goal 2:**

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

### **Strategic Actions:**

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

“Focus on Programs to Reduce Phosphorous Loading into the Great Lakes:

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

### **Financial Impact:**

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



### **Seed Collection Program**

- The SCRCA continued with its annual tree seed collection program again this year. Staff collected more than 2,500 litres of tree seed within the SCRCA watershed. The seed will be used to grow seedling trees for its tree planting program and to ensure healthy forests of the future by planting genetically indigenous trees back into the region.
- The majority of the tree seed collected are oaks, hickories, walnut and maple. This year's tree seed collected will be seedling trees in 2022 and 2023.

### **Lambton County Mosquito Control Program**

- Under direction from Lambton Public Health, SCRCA treated approximately 16,500 municipal catch basins within the City of Sarnia and Lambton County towns, villages and rural areas.
- Catch basins were treated with three separate applications of a mosquito larva growth regulator at 21-day intervals starting in late June and ending in mid August to reduce the number of potential West Nile virus carrying mosquitos within populated areas in Lambton County throughout the summer. Each of the three applications is completed over a period of 9 days.
- SCRCA also performs efficacy testing throughout the summer. Results this year were similar to last year with approximately 86% average effectiveness.
- Work is carried out under the SCRCA Pesticide Operators licence, staff exterminator's licences and MECP permits.
- The work is contracted to SCRCA by the County of Lambton, renewable every 3 years

### **Lambton County Phragmites Program**

- In 2018 the County of Lambton and SCRCA formed an agreement to create a multi-year Phragmites coordinator project with the goal of reducing the presence of Phragmites australis in Lambton County.
- The ultimate goal is to bring together partners who work on controlling phragmites to understand, educate and inform all parties involved of current and any proposed status and actions, to connect partners with senior government, industries, potential funding agencies and to jointly create prioritized actions.
- This year was somewhat challenging for certain aspects of this initiative since we were unable to hold any information workshops and all public events were cancelled, however we were successful with some public outreach and education. One landowner in Enniskillen Township worked with SCRCA to organize a phragmites control plan on 50 of his properties covering more than 600 acres. A plan was implemented and the first phase of work started this year. This sparked interest from neighbouring landowners to do the same. A concerned citizen from the Sarnia area approached SCRCA for assistance to form a community group with a goal to help save Wawanosh wetlands from invasive phragmites. SCRCA staff are working with this person to create an action plan for next year and to find future funding partners to assist with the high cost of a multi-year, on the ground, phragmites eradication program.

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 19  
**Submitted by:** Sarah Hodgkiss, Laura Biancolin

**Item 6.1(j)**

**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 October 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020.

Municipal Plan Input and Review			
File Reference	Location	Municipality	Municipal File
PL#2019-109	1425 Melwood Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe	OPA01-2020 Z02-2020
PL#2020-0068	4965 Walkers Drive	Adelaide-Metcalfe	B05-2020
PL#2020-0061	1443 Oakdale Road, Dawn	Dawn-Euphemia	
PL#2018-110	First Ave	Enniskillen	
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#2020-0055	Freeman Street	Lambton Shores	
PL#2019-008	Timberwalk Trail	Middlesex Centre	ZBA 03 2019 39T-MC1901
PL#2020-0070	First Ave and Fourth St	Petrolia	
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#2018-116	3790 Lakeshore Road	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2020-0007	4135 London Line/5655 Kerrigan Road	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2018-084	2024 London Line	Sarnia	
PL#2018-014	834 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	OPA 12
PL#2019-076	21 Ube Drive	Sarnia	

PL#2019-108	Modeland Road and Michigan Ave	Sarnia	SD2-2009 A18-20 and A32-20
PL#2020-0014	6068 Blackwell Sideroad	Sarnia	
PL#2020-0015	1597 London Line	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#2020-0057	1628 Michigan Line	Sarnia	A31-2020
PL#2020-0060	2054 Lakeshore Road, Sarnia	Sarnia	
PL#2020-0059	23683 McArthur Road	Southwest Middlesex	B9-2020
PL#2020-0069	1 Dundas St, Newbury	Southwest Middlesex	
PL#2020-0040	West of Douglas Street, Wilkesport	St. Clair	R-6-2020
PL#2020-0062	142 West Ward Line, Port Lambton	St. Clair	B-10-20
PL#2020-0063	1895 Courtright Line, Bridgen	St. Clair	B-13-20
PL#2020-0064	4520 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton	St. Clair	A-25-20
PL#2020-0071	681 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	
PL#2019-040	481 Metcalfe Street E	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2019-065	Bear Creek Golf Course	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2019-068	Queen St and Glendon Dr Mount Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA02-2020 39T- SC2001
PL#2019-084	101 Hull Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2020-0058	244 Second Street	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2020-0066	481 Metcalfe Street E	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2020-0067	Metcalfe and Victoria	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2020-0065	5748 Forest Road	Warwick	
<b>Total Plan Review Items: 39</b>			

## Environmental Assessments

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Municipality</b>
EA#2020-001	Baseline Bridge	Chatham-Kent
EA#2020-013	444 Greenfield St to Municipal No. 440	Petrolia
EA#2020-009	Port of Sarnia	Point Edward
EA#2020-012	St. Clair Township	St. Clair
EA#2020-014	Tom Street	St. Clair
EA#2020-003	Lambton County, County of Middlesex	Strathroy-Caradoc
EA#2020-015	402 & Highway 21 and 402 & Blackwell Sideroad/Modeland Road	Warwick
<b>Total Environmental Assessments: 7</b>		

## Legal Inquiries

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Municipality</b>
LL#2020-0032	4702 Lakeside Street	Plympton-Wyoming
LL#2020-0036	1094 Braemar Lane	Sarnia
LL#2020-0037	600 Beach Lane	Sarnia
LL#2020-0033	1095 George Roberston, Fawn Island	St. Clair
LL#2020-0034	175 South Street, Sombra	St. Clair
LL#2020-0035	293.5 Carrie Street	Strathroy-Caradoc
<b>Total Legal Inquiries: 6</b>		

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 30, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Melissa Deisley, Jeff Vlasman, Cassandra Sauer, Kelli Smith

**Item 7.1(k)**

**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 October 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020

## Regulations Permits Issued

Application #	Location	Municipality	Proposal	Submitted	Issued	Days
R#2020-0363	95 Edwy Street, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	Tear down/Rebuild	Oct-30	Oct-30	1
R#2020-0560	29923 Oakdale Road	Chatham-Kent	Demolish existing church building and replace with new structure.	Sep-23	Oct-19	26
R#2020-0594	199 Thomas Avenue	Chatham-Kent	New build	Sep-23	Oct-19	26
R#2020-0599	Lot 17, Concession 1, Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Integrity dig	Sep-25	Oct-01	6
R#2020-0600	Lot 17, Concession 12, Dover	Chatham-Kent	Integrity dig	Sep-25	Oct-01	6
R#2020-0601	Lot 11, Concession 9, Dover	Chatham-Kent	Integrity dig	Sep-25	Oct-19	24
R#2020-0609	1531 Dufferin Avenue, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	Construction of a new daycare centre	Sep-30	Oct-13	13
R#2020-0613	325 Margaret Avenue, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	New Power Plant	Oct-05	Oct-20	15
R#2020-0673	439 & 545 Walnut Street, Dresden	Chatham-Kent	New single family dwelling	Oct-15	Oct-16	1



R#2020-0675	Bentpath Line at Long Creek - 600m west of Hale School Road	Dawn-Euphemia	Rehabilitate box culvert	Oct-16	Oct-16	1
R#2020-0678	Courtright Line at Black Creek - 200m east of Tile Yard Road	Enniskillen	Bridge Rehab	Oct-16	Oct-16	1
R#2020-0696	3963 Marthaville Road	Enniskillen	Repair erosion resulting from failing drainage system	Jul-17	Oct-27	102
R#2020-0653	4596 First Street, Oil Springs	Oil Springs	Construction of Salt Bay	Aug-19	Oct-13	55
R#2020-0603	4672 Lakeside Street	Plympton-Wyoming	Renovations and new detached garage	Sep-23	Oct-02	9
R#2020-0329	2343 Passingham Drive, Sarnia	Sarnia	Build new single family dwelling with attached garage and covered porch	Sep-22	Oct-01	9
R#2020-0591	Part Lot 16 Block B Sarnia	Sarnia	Integrity dig	Sep-23	Oct-02	9
R#2020-0592	Part of Lot C, Range 7 Sarnia	Sarnia	Integrity dig	Sep-23	Oct-02	9
R#2020-0593	Part of River Lot 22, Sarnia	Sarnia	Integrity dig	Sep-23	Oct-02	9
R#2020-0648	350 LaSalle Line	Sarnia	Excavation and repair of pipeline.	Oct-08	Oct-13	5
R#2020-0551	3806 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	New build, 1 storey, single detached	Oct-15	Oct-19	4
R#2020-0589	1886 St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	Excavate soil and install rip-rap	Sep-22	Oct-28	36
R#2020-0590	4686 Riverside Drive	St. Clair	New single detached dwelling	Sep-08	Oct-19	41
R#2020-0596	4717 Indian Road	St. Clair	Proposed pool and cabana	Sep-23	Oct-19	26
R#2020-0606	Lots 20 and 21 Concession 34	St. Clair	Preventative maintenance dig	Sep-24	Oct-01	7

R#2020-0607	Lot 25, Concession 12	St. Clair	Preventative maintenance dig	Sep-24	Oct-01	7
R#2020-0608	Lot 20, Concession 12	St. Clair	Preventative maintenance dig	Sep-24	Oct-01	7
R#2020-0679	Lasalle Line 800m west of Highway 40	St. Clair	Bridge Rehab	Oct-16	Oct-16	1
R#2020-0573	233 Mill Pond Cres	Strathroy-Caradoc	Removal and replacement of deck	Sep-17	Oct-19	32
<b>Total Permits Issued: 28</b>		<b>Average Number of Days to Issue for this Period: 17.43</b>				

## Regulations Inquiries

FileReference	Municipality	Location
R#2020-0344	Adelaide-Metcalfe	3207 Napperton Drive, Strathroy
R#2020-0578	Adelaide-Metcalfe	3203 Napperton Dr
R#2019-066	Chatham-Kent	24 Bank Street
R#2020-0507	Chatham-Kent	11080 Baseline Road
R#2020-0518	Chatham-Kent	37 Walnut Dr, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0651	Chatham-Kent	1543 Elgin Street, Wallaceburg
R#2020-0682	Chatham-Kent	South of 744 Nelson Street
R#2020-0687	Chatham-Kent	5 Hingle Point
R#2020-0699	Chatham-Kent	7009 Dufferin Avenue
R#2020-0704	Dawn-Euphemia	North of 172 Dawn Mills Road
R#2020-0659	Enniskillen	5656 Shiloh Line
R#2020-0676	Enniskillen	5656 Shiloh Line
R#2020-0637	Lambton Shores	5512 Beach St
R#2020-0646	Lambton Shores	5132 Cedarview Drive, Lambton Shores
R#2020-0707	Lambton Shores	6780 East Parkway Dr, Ipperwash
R#2020-0689	Middlesex Centre	10199 Hedley Drive, Ilderton
R#2020-0755	Middlesex Centre	22643 Vanneck Rd
R#2020-0691	Oil Springs	4719 Orchardview Drive
R#2020-0559	Petrolia	290 Evergreen Trail
R#2019-045	Plympton-Wyoming	4274 Bluepoint Drive
R#2019-065	Plympton-Wyoming	3840 Lakeshore Road
R#2020-0456	Plympton-Wyoming	4312 Lambton Lane, Plympton
R#2020-0674	Plympton-Wyoming	3261 London Line

R#2020-0685	Plympton-Wyoming	4336 Michigan Line
R#2020-0531	Sarnia	1407 London Rd, Sarnia
R#2020-0683	Sarnia	2663 Rivergate Court
R#2020-0701	Sarnia	1214 Haight Lane
R#2020-0618	St. Clair	Lot 25, Concession 6
R#2020-0619	St. Clair	1801 Kimball Road
R#2020-0647	St. Clair	2975 St. Clair Parkway
R#2020-0694	St. Clair	4658 Riverside Drive, Port Lambton
R#2018-396	Strathroy-Caradoc	Carrie Street North of Albert Street
R#2020-0476	Strathroy-Caradoc	506 Dewan Street
R#2020-0545	Strathroy-Caradoc	274 Deruiter Dr
R#2020-0690	Strathroy-Caradoc	6807 Calvert Dr., Strathroy
<b>Total Regulations Inquiries: 35</b>		

## Regulations - DART Completed Files

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Drain / Watercourse</b>
R#2020-0628	Brooke-Alvinston	Moffat Lucas Branch Drain
R#2020-0629	Brooke-Alvinston	Smith Drain
R#2020-0633	Brooke-Alvinston	Moffat Lucas No.w
R#2019-847	Chatham-Kent	Gordon Drain
R#2020-0652	Chatham-Kent	Sydenhma Dike Sysytem
R#2020-0672	Chatham-Kent	St. Clair Dike System
R#2020-0612	Dawn-Euphemia	Babula
R#2019-633	Enniskillen	13 Concession Drain
R#2019-634	Enniskillen	14th Concession Drain
R#2020-0177	Enniskillen	King
R#2020-0624	Enniskillen	McKenzie Drain
R#2020-0625	Enniskillen	13th Concession
R#2020-0634	Enniskillen	O'Dell Park Drain
R#2020-0635	Enniskillen	Stewart Drain
R#2020-0623	Lambton Shores	Willemse
R#2020-0353	Oil Springs	O'Dell
R#2020-0665	Southwest Middlesex	Ron Watson
R#2020-0680	Southwest Middlesex	McFarlane
R#2020-0681	Southwest Middlesex	Towers

R#2020-0688	Southwest Middlesex	Reycraft-Hurdle Drain
R#2020-0703	St. Clair	Chowen
R#2020-0650	Warwick	Moffat Drain-Branch 7 Extension
R#2020-0667	Warwick	Fuller Drain
R#2020-0668	Warwick	Hall Drain

**Total DART Permits Issued: 24**

## Regulations Inquiries - Drains

File Reference	Municipality	Drain / Watercourse
R#2019-061	Chatham-Kent	Matteis-Todino Zone
R#2020-0474	Chatham-Kent	Hind Relief Drain Outlet
R#2020-0654	Chatham-Kent	Gordon Drain
R#2019-724	Dawn-Euphemia	Babula Drain
R#2020-0614	Dawn-Euphemia	Pyne
R#2020-0616	Dawn-Euphemia	Rutherford
R#2020-0617	Dawn-Euphemia	12th Concession Drain
R#2019-372	Enniskillen	Stewart Drain
R#2019-691	Lambton Shores	Willemse Municipal Drain
R#2019-504	Plympton-Wyoming	Somerville Drain
R#2020-0534	Plympton-Wyoming	Defiez-Delmage Drain
R#2020-0536	Plympton-Wyoming	Fleming Drain
R#2020-0467	Sarnia	Berry Drain
R#2020-0702	St. Clair	McGee Drain
R#2019-612	Warwick	Aarts Drain No. 2
R#2020-0448	Warwick	Aarts Drain No. 2
R#2020-0693	Warwick	Burchill Drain

**Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 17**

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020 **Item 7.1 (I)**  
**Report Date:** November 23, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Kelli Smith, Brooke Ciuman, Melissa Deisley

**Subject:** Municipal Enclosed Drains and the Conservation Authorities Act

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## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on Municipal Enclosed Drains and the Conservation Authorities Act

## Background:

At the September 17<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting, Directors discussed comments from local drainage engineers who have concerns that the Conservation Authorities Act is taking precedence over the Drainage Act and is therefore hindering development applications and plan of subdivisions where Drainage Act approvals are required. Discussion took place around the SCRCA Drain Enclosure Policy, and it was noted that rescinding the Policy would not impact the involvement of the SCRCA under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act, as proposed works would still need to be reviewed to ensure no impacts to upstream or downstream flooding and erosion. The Drain Enclosure Policy was subsequently rescinded by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors has requested that staff prepare a report highlighting where, within the Conservation Authorities Act, drain enclosure works fall under.

## Drainage Act vs. Conservation Authorities Act

Under the *Drainage Act*, municipalities are legislated to maintain and repair drains and to respond to petitions for new drainage systems. The Drainage Act defines a process whereby property owners can petition their local municipality to develop communal solutions to solve drainage problems. The Drainage Act is primarily used in rural Ontario but is occasionally used to resolve drainage issues in urban areas. It has also been used to develop a legal outlet for storm and surface water generated from urban areas.

Under section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* conservation authorities (CAs) regulate development in or adjacent to watercourses, wetlands, the shoreline of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System or inland lakes, river or stream valleys, hazardous lands and other areas where, in the opinion of the Minister, development should be prohibited or regulated or should require the permission of the authority. A CA may grant permission for development if, in the opinion of the authority, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution or the conservation of land is not affected.

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

Because of the incongruent provisions between the two provincial Acts, there is potential for legal liability issues with regard to maintenance and repair of existing drains. If a municipality is unable to proceed with required drain maintenance or repair because of requirements for a CA Act s. 28 permit, the Municipality could be held liable for any consequences. If drain repair and maintenance activities are carried out (with or without a CA Act s. 28 permit) and impact regulated areas with respect to the CA's regulatory responsibilities under the CA Act, the CA could be held liable for not undertaking or enforcing its regulatory responsibilities.

### **Conservation Authorities Act**

The purpose of the Conservation Authorities Act is to provide for the organization and delivery of programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario. As part of this mandate the Conservation Authority looks at the cumulative and potential negative impacts on the watershed which include:

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

### **Relevant Policy**

28(1) Subject to the approval of the Minister, an authority may make regulations applicable in the area under its jurisdiction,

- a) restricting and regulating the use of water in or from rivers, streams, inland lakes, ponds, wetlands and natural or artificially constructed depressions in rivers or streams;
- b) prohibiting, regulating or requiring the permission of the authority for straightening, changing, diverting or interfering in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream, or watercourse, or for changing or interfering in any way with a wetland;
- c) prohibiting, regulating or requiring the permission of the authority for development if, in the opinion of the authority, the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or pollution or the conservation of land may be affected by the development;

Under this Act, Development means

- a) the construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure of any kind;
- b) any change to a building or structure that would have the effect of altering the use or potential use of the building or structure, increasing the size of the building or structure or increasing the number of dwelling units in the building or structure;

- c) site grading, or
- d) the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material originating on the site or elsewhere;

Under this Act, watercourse means an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs;

Specific to St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, O.R. 171/06

Alterations prohibited

5. Subject to section 6, no person shall straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or change or interfere with a wetland

Permission to alter

6 (1) The Authority may grant a person permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or to change or interfere with a wetland;

(2) The permission of the Authority shall be given in writing, with or without conditions;

7. A signed application for permission to straighten, change, divert or interfere with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse or change or interfere with a wetland shall be filed with the Authority and shall contain the following information:

1. Four copies of a plan of the area showing plan view and cross-section details of the proposed alteration;
2. A description of the methods to be used in carrying out the alteration.
3. The start and completion dates of the alteration
4. A statement of the purpose of the alteration

## **Moving Forward**

Good communication among all parties remains fundamental for all drainage works to be effective. Municipalities and Conservation Authorities should be in regular communication to understand one another's interest and be aware of changes and developments. In order for this protocol to be successful, municipalities and CAs should meet at minimum annually to discuss the Municipality's workplan. Proponents of a drainage project should initiate contact about a particular project as early in the process as possible to ensure a common understanding on all sides and to address potential issues before they become more serious.

Drain enclosures are generally discouraged as they can have broad implications on water quality and quantity, recharge/infiltration, can cause increased erosion, and have effects on the overall health of local and downstream habitats.

SCRCA objectives for watercourse alterations include:

- Preserve and enhance the physical and ecological function of the watercourse and the natural system,
- Ensure no adverse impacts on the watercourse upstream or downstream of the proposed alteration,
- Ensure no increase in upstream and downstream flooding,
- Ensure no decrease in riparian/floodplain storage, and,
- Ensure no adverse impacts to erosion processes.

In order to address the above objectives, the SCRCA will require an application be submitted for all drain enclosure projects and technical studies may be necessary to show that the above objectives are being met. These technical studies must be carried out by a qualified professional with recognized expertise and recognized methodologies to the satisfaction of the Conservation Authority. These established procedures should be in keeping with MNR's Technical Guides for Natural Hazards, other Provincial Guidelines and/or guidelines approved by the Conservation Authority Board that are within the intent of the Act and regulation.

We also surveyed surrounding Conservation Authorities. Where there are municipal drains, all CAs including ABCA, LTVCA, ERCA, GRCA, and UTRCA use the above regulations to oversee drain maintenance, improvements, and new drain proposals. All CAs stated that they strongly discourage drain enclosures. While, all CAs use the above policies to discourage drain enclosures, some have created policies to further explain how they review and regulate drains. Neighbouring CAs including the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, and Essex Region Conservation Authority require written permission or permits under the CA Act for Municipal Drains. This is consistent with the process that the SCRCA is carrying out.





- Limit soil movement and erosion; use appropriate control measures before work begins and inspect and maintain those measures regularly until all disturbed areas are stabilized
- Except on cultivated lands, any areas of distributed or bare soil around the drain should be seeded with native, non-invasive herbaceous material while the ground is moist and conditions are appropriate for germination

An example of an Activity-Specific Mitigation Requirements (found under Debris Removal & Beaver Dam Removal) is;

- Debris removal including the disposal of the sediment should be conducted in a manner consistent with Engineer's report & authorizing by-law

The SCR's provide statements to encourage mitigating erosion and sedimentation, but none of the SCR's specify which method of sediment and erosion control should be used. Therefore, it is up to the proponent to design and implement appropriate sediment and erosion control measures for the proposed works.

*OMAFRA's Guide for Engineers Working Under the Drainage Act* also supports erosion control measures. The document states that "minimizing erosion will extend the life of the drain, reduce maintenance costs, reduce sedimentation and keep topsoil on the field". Therefore, it is in the best interest of SCRCA, landowners and engineers to all ensure that the best sediment and erosion control measures are being implemented. As already stated, silt fencing is only one of the many methods that can be used to reduce erosion and sedimentation.

Other methods, as outlined in the guide, include;

- established vegetation
- rolled erosion control products
- riprap armouring, drop inlets
- level spreaders
- silt/sediment traps
- check dams
- turbidity curtains
- temporary pooling areas
- native vegetation sod mats

Some of these measures are meant to be temporary and take place during construction, while others are permanent control measures that also support drain function.

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020  
**Report Date:** November 26, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Donna Blue

**Item 6.1 (n)**

**Subject:** Conservation Education Update

---

**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 26, 2020 regarding the SCRCA Conservation Education Watershed Interpreters Network (WIN) Innovation Award and staff changes.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

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

**2020 Watershed Interpreters Network (WIN) Innovation Award:**

The Watershed Interpreters Network (WIN) was established in 2007 to foster and facilitate communication among Ontario’s Conservation Authority educators. Every year, the group awards deserving Conservation Authority educators with awards to honor the passion, dedication and impact individuals have made in their region.

This year, the annual WIN Innovation award was ‘pivoted’ to celebrate a Conservation Authority education department that had shown leadership in creating new and innovative opportunities to engage students throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The SCRCA was selected as the winner of the WIN Innovation award for 2020. This past spring, Sharon Nethercott, Conservation Education Coordinator and Melissa Levi, Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician developed “virtual field trips” to the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area in response to the sudden school closures this past March. In the spirit of education, Sharon and Melissa created 14 curriculum-connected, grade-specific “field trips” for both Elementary and Secondary school students. The resource was provided to teachers free of charge until the end of the 2019-2020 school year to support their sudden transition to online learning.

The success of the field trips exceeded all expectations. Over 20,000 students/teachers/families accessed the “field trips” from across Ontario and Canada. They were also accessed by educators teaching abroad.

Congratulations to both Sharon and Melissa for their dedication, innovation and commitment to keeping students connected to nature during these unprecedented times.

Currently, the SCRCA education team is offering a number of program options to watershed schools that abide by school board COVID-19 policies and guidelines. The full suite of program options is available at [www.scrca.on.ca/govirtual](http://www.scrca.on.ca/govirtual).

### **Conservation Education Staff Changes:**

After an amazing 33-year career with the Authority, Sharon Nethercott, the SCRCA Conservation Education Coordinator is retiring at the end of December. Sharon's passion for engaging students with the natural environment has been pivotal in the success and expansion of our conservation education programs over the years. The Authority wishes her well as she embarks on this new and exciting chapter in her life.

Melissa Levi, the current Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician will assume the role of Conservation Education Coordinator effective January 1, 2021.

The Authority has also added a new member to the Conservation Education team. Myra Spiller joined the SCRCA on November 23<sup>rd</sup> as the new Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician.



**From left to right** – Sharon Nethercott, Conservation Education Coordinator, Melissa Levi, Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician and Donna Blue, Manager of Communications at the 2019 Maple Syrup Festival at the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area.



# Joint Health & Safety Committee Quarterly Meeting Agenda

Date: September 9, 2020      Time: 8:30am  
Warwick Conservation Area

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**Facilitator:** Emily De Cloet  
**Co-Chair:** Greg Wilcox

**Chair:** Jeff Sharp  
**Minutes:** Emily De Cloet

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

**Guests:** None

**1. Motion to approve March 11, 2020 and August 4, 2020 meeting minutes, as amended.**

Moved by: Greg Wilcox  
Seconded by: Emily De Cloet

**Carried**

**2. Business arising from the minutes.**

**2.1 Greg Wilcox** to report on action items:

**2.1.1** Review of incident/injury investigation reports since last meeting (March 11, 2020)

- Reviewed 1 incident report (seizure believed to be caused by elevated job stress)
- Discussed options to mitigate high stress levels, management could consider flex hours to help reduce stress (adjustments to schedule to increase productivity and reduce stress, avoid commute in hazardous weather, etc)

**2.1.2** Health and Safety Manual Fire Evacuation Area/Section Wardens

- Revisions to Draft action plan
- Need for implementation/ training document.
- Development of calling tree to determine location of staff not accounted for during evacuation event.
- Update on peer review by JHSC members. (ongoing)

**2.1.3** Electrofishing Health and Safety Policy

- Biology has submitted draft policy for review

- JHSC will provide a copy of the draft with suggested edits and comments

#### **2.1.4 Update on Henderson Lunch Room**

- Review of site conducted with Hydro One, hydro available for shop/lunchroom/office in new location
- Not going to build lunchroom at current workshop location, will wait until new build can be included in capital budget
- Unsure when this will move forward due to effects of Covid on revenues

#### **2.1.5 COVID-19 Return to Work**

- JHSC request that Admin conduct a full staff zoom meeting to provide update to everyone on “Return to Work”
- JHSC recommends SOP’s for the office that would provide training/guidelines to staff
- Request that Admin provide all office staff with washable face masks or advise on where they are available at office
- Request that advance notice is provided for fogging schedule and information is provided on the health effects of fogging
- Request that fogging is completed at the end of the day after the office is vacated (could this be added to Teams as a shift?)
- Request that the most current version of the Back to Work Plan is sent by email to all staff

### **2.2 Glen Baxter to report on:**

#### **2.2.1 Inspections**

- McKeough (Mar 12)
- Completed but not in binder, Emily and Glenn to coordinate meeting on September 17, 2020
- L.C. Henderson (Apr 16)
- complete
- A.W. Campbell (May 14)
- Complete

### **2.3 Jeff Sharp reported on action items:**

#### **2.3.1 Evacuation Accountability Policy**

- Fire drill to be planned - Postponed until development of Evacuation Policy and Procedure. (ongoing)

### **2.4 Emily De Cloet reported on action items:**

#### **2.4.1 McKeough Dam**

- Update on final report from external inspection of the McKeough Dam (ongoing)

- Emily to follow up with Girish regarding any documentation resulting from the external workplace inspection conducted at the McKeough Dam

### **3. Area Reports and Workplace Inspections**

**3.1** Last two 2018 workplace inspection reports are outstanding and should be forward to Ashley for inclusion in the JHSC binder - Digital and physical copies can not be located.

- Missing reports from 2018 have not been found and JHSC will no longer include reports as an action item in future agendas/minutes

**3.2** Outstanding 2019 locations:

- L.C. Henderson due in October, 2019
- Warwick CA due in October, 2019
- A.W. Campbell due in November, 2019 - Completed
- McLean Property due in December, 2019 - Completed

### **4. New Business**

**4.1** Health & Safety Policy – Signed

- completed

### **5. JHSC Goals and Objectives in 2020**

**5.1** To regularly review MOL website to educate ourselves and learn from documented investigations and fines (ongoing) – Greg recommended MOL supervisor and employee responsibility training.

**5.2** To review Health and Safety Manual and make changes as necessary (ongoing)

**5.3** To appoint a Lands worker representative in November 2020 for a 3-year term

- Have contacted campground staff to determine interest in the position

**5.4** Conduct workplace inspections as required (at least one location each month)

**5.5** To recommend and continually encourage staff in a supervisory role complete safety reviews and 5-point checklists on a frequent basis (ongoing)

**5.6** Update JHSC files on the O drive (ongoing)

**5.7** Recommend supervisory staff schedule retraining refreshers with their staff once a month (ongoing) WHMIS 2015 has now been implemented and available.

- This to be brought up at the supervisors meeting by a Management Rep (Greg Wilcox)

**5.8** To send occasional Health and Safety Bulletins to all staff (i.e. Hot and Cold Weather Alerts forwarded to staff from Lambton Public Health)

### **6. Proposed next meeting date: November 12, 2020**

- Chair: Glenn Baxter
- Co-Chair: Greg Wilcox
- Facilitator: Jeff Sharp
- Minutes: Emily De Cloet

**7. Adjournment**

Moved by: Greg Wilcox

Seconded by: Glenn Baxter

**Carried**

November 12, 2020

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Signature of Chair

Date

November 12, 2020

---

Signature of Co-chair

Date



Prepared By: Tracy Prince  
 Nov 30 2020  
 DRAFT

ST CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY Item 7.1 (p)  
 Statement of Revenue and Expenditure  
 For the Ten Months Ended 31/10/2020

	Actual To Date			Annual Budget Prorated Ten Months Ended Oct 31/20		Variance from Budget	
	Revenue	Expenditures	Surplus (Deficit)	Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
<b>Flood Control &amp; Erosion Control</b>	\$2,206,826	\$2,711,011	(\$504,185)	\$2,392,667	\$2,392,667	(\$185,841)	\$318,345
<b>Capital Projects/WECl</b>	\$88,313	\$33,835	\$54,477	\$183,333	\$183,333	(\$95,021)	(\$149,498)
<b>Conservation Area's Capital Development</b>	\$72,779	\$22,917	\$49,861	\$99,167	\$99,167	(\$26,388)	(\$76,249)
<b>IT Capital</b>	\$16,120	\$0	\$16,120	\$19,200	\$19,200	(\$3,080)	(\$19,200)
<b>Equipment</b>	\$59,000	\$0	\$59,000	\$60,000	\$72,000	(\$1,000)	(\$72,000)
<b>Planning &amp; Regulations</b>	\$488,762	\$367,518	\$121,244	\$483,224	\$483,224	\$5,538	(\$115,706)
<b>Technical Studies</b>	\$367,624	\$70,071	\$297,553	\$240,274	\$240,274	\$127,350	(\$170,203)
<b>Recreation</b>	\$1,089,978	\$1,029,422	\$60,557	\$1,156,027	\$1,156,027	(\$66,049)	(\$126,605)
<b>Property Management</b>	\$217,086	\$163,142	\$53,944	\$204,340	\$204,340	\$12,746	(\$41,198)
<b>Education and Communication</b>	\$93,576	\$177,388	(\$83,813)	\$179,175	\$179,175	(\$85,600)	(\$1,787)
<b>Source Water Protection</b>	\$259,771	\$165,926	\$93,845	\$337,708	\$337,708	(\$77,937)	(\$171,782)
<b>Conservation Services/Healthy Watersheds</b>	\$1,314,891	\$784,919	\$529,972	\$697,224	\$697,224	\$617,667	\$87,695
<b>Administration/AOC Management</b>	\$1,323,152	\$892,228	\$430,924	\$1,203,321	\$1,191,321	\$119,832	(\$299,092)
	<b>\$7,597,878</b>	<b>\$6,418,379</b>	<b>\$1,179,499</b>	<b>\$7,255,660</b>	<b>\$7,255,660</b>	<b>\$342,218</b>	<b>(\$837,281)</b>

**Notes:**

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



**ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Cheques November 2020**

CHQ. #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
121553	11/13/2020	Facca Incorporated	Old Lakeshore Rd	\$435,114.09
121560	11/13/2020	Parsons Inc.	Sedament Management Project	\$ 29,023.19

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

**\$ 464,137.28**

**INTERNET BANKING September to October 2020**

TRANS #	DATE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
9660	11/30/2020	HYDRO ONE Networks Inc.	Hydro	\$ 25,675.23
9662	11/30/2020	Libro Credit Union - Visa	Employee Expenses	\$ 9,646.01
9663	11/30/2020	OMERS	Pension	\$ 35,704.00
9666	11/30/2020	RECEIVER GENERAL	Source Deductions	\$ 44,358.24
9668	11/30/2020	RWAM Insurance Administrators Inc	Group Insurance	\$ 14,803.84
9672	11/30/2020	WORKPLACE SAFETY & INS. BOARD	WSIB	\$ 5,068.20

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

**\$ 135,255.52**

**Notes:** Visa Has October \$6,404.03 and November \$3,241.98  
 October Adobe Creative Cloud (2) - \$1073.92  
 Costco - Air Purifiers - \$1,915.18  
 Canadian Tire - Tires for Truck #2 - \$1,049.68  
 November Computer for RAP Coodinator \$1,422.67

**PAYROLL RUNS**

PAYROLL NO. 23	\$	72,975.37
PAYROLL NO. 24	\$	674,536.78
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		
PAYROLL NO.		

**\$ 747,512.15**

**TOTAL PAYROLL RUNS -**

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -**

**\$1,346,904.95**



Item 7.1 (r)  
 GLYSUM2020  
 Sarah Hume  
 11/30/2020

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	0.00
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>\$ 1,062,740.50</b>	<b>\$ 7,187.50</b>

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

Item 7.1 (s)

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

**Address Information**

255 Queens Avenue  
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 N6A 5R8

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	Oct. 30, 2020 Market Value	% of Total Assets
 <b>Fixed Income</b>	800,864	100.00
<b>Total Value of Account</b>	<b>\$800,864</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Total Value on Last Statement, September 30, 2020	\$804,476	



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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)	13,311.023	9.977	132,814	10.072	134,069
CASH	MANULIFE STRATEGIC INCOME FUND CL F NL (659)	15,446.599	12.313	190,206	12.407	191,646
CASH	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505)	17,657.865	14.357	253,520	13.826	244,138
CASH	SIGNATURE CANADIAN BOND CORP CLASS EF NL (15137)	21,320.775	10.297	219,548	10.835	231,011
<b>Total Fixed Income</b>						<b>\$800,864</b>
<b>Total Account Holdings</b>				<b>\$796,088</b>	<b>\$800,864</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>						
Oct. 01, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) REINVEST 09/30/20 @ \$13.8292 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.066 BOOK VALUE \$858.32	62		
Oct. 19, 2020	CASH	FEE	MPP MANAGED PORTFOLIOS GST/HST 86817 6249 RT0001 QST/TVQ 1019148099 TQ0001 TID#0110F000058553 TID#0110F000058553			-2,284.25
Oct. 21, 2020	CASH	SELL	PIMCO MONTHLY INCOME FUND (CANADA) CL M (505) PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.780 SOLICITED	-164	13.8624	2,284.25
Oct. 26, 2020	CASH	DIVIDEND	MACKENZIE GLOBAL TACTICAL	22		

## Monthly Activity - continued

Date	Type	Activity	Description	Quantity	Price	Credit/Debit(-)
			INVESTMENT GRADE BD FD SERIES F (4807) REINVEST 10/23/20 @ \$10.0877 PLUS FRACTIONS OF 0.394 BOOK VALUE \$225.91			

**Closing Cash Balance** **\$0.00**

## Summary

### Income Summary

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



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## 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)

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



Non-registered account #440-17189-13

October 31, 2020



## 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 Oct 1, 2020	Closing Value Oct 31, 2020	Balance on Oct 31, 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	<b>1,493,556.23</b>
<b>Grand Total (CAD\$)</b>			<b>1,493,556.23</b>
		Last Statement Sep 30, 2020	<b>1,493,556.23</b>

Please examine this statement carefully and report any discrepancies to our auditors:

KPMG LLP, Bay Adelaide Centre,  
333 Bay Street, Suite 4600  
Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2S5  
Attention: Yash Patel;  
bmonesbittaudit@kpmg.ca

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

### We're here to help

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

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

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

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Suite 1900  
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255 Queens Avenue  
London, ON N6A 5R8

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

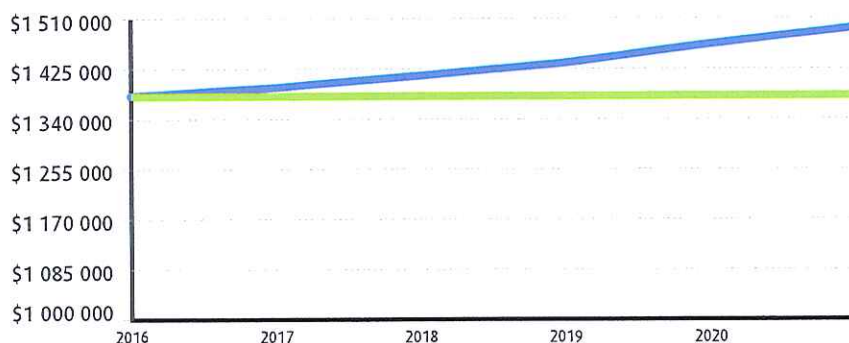
October 31, 2020

## ► 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 Oct 31, 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

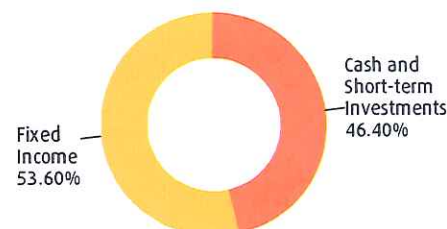
**The Change in Market Value of your account since January 1, 2016 is \$114,376.55.**

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

October 31, 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	Per Unit	Cost		Market Value on October 31, 2020	
			Total	Per Unit	Total	Per Unit
<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% (See Bulletin board)	109,000	100.000	109,000.00	100.000	109,000.00	100.000
HOMEQUITY BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.220%	50,000	100.000	50,000.00	100.000	50,000.00	100.000
PRESIDENT'S CHOICE BANK GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/13/2021 2.360%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00	100.000
HOME TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 05/17/2021 2.540%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00	100.000
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	100.000
BMO TRUST COMPANY GIC ANNUAL DUE 08/26/2021 2.060%	100,000	100.000	100,000.00	100.000	100,000.00	100.000
<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	100.000
VANCITY GIC ANNUAL DUE 06/23/2022 1.150%	300,000	100.000	300,000.00	100.000	300,000.00	100.000

Non-registered account #440-17189-13

October 31, 2020

## Your Canadian Dollar Investments (continued)

All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars.

### ▶ Your investment details (continued)

	Quantity	Cost		Market Value on October 31, 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>						
Oct 1, 2020		Opening Cash Balance				109,556.23
<i>No Account Activity</i>						
Oct 31, 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

October 31, 2020

## Your Year-to-Date Fees Summary

### ▶ Fees you paid

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

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

	CAD (\$)
<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>

### ▶ 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: 1.3319, as of October 31, 2020

The following security in your Cash Account account 44017189 matures in the near future. Your Investment Advisor Portfolio Manager has investment alternatives.

BANK OF MONTREAL GIC  
ANNUAL  
DUE 11/30/2020 2.170%





# **St. Clair Region Conservation Authority**

## **2021 Approved Fees**

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

<b>CAMPING FEES</b>	<b>2021</b>
Reservation Fee	\$ 13.00
Cancellation Fee	\$ 20.00
Reservation Change Fee	\$ 6.00
<b>Peak Season June 27, 2020 - September 7, 2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Daily, Unserviced	\$ 39.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)	\$ 49.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)	\$ 45.00
Weekly, Unserviced	\$ 234.00
Weekly, Serviced	\$ 294.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)	\$ 795.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Off-Peak April 25 - June 26 2020, Sept. 8 - Oct. 12 2020, excluding Victoria Day Weekend &amp; Thanksgiving Weekend (long weekends at peak season rates)</b>	<b>2021</b>
Daily, Unserviced	\$ 30.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro & water)	\$ 35.00
Daily, Serviced (hydro only)	\$ 35.00
Weekly, Unserviced	\$ 200.00
Weekly, Serviced	\$ 225.00
Monthly, Unserviced (4 weeks)	\$ 700.00
Monthly, Serviced (4 weeks)	\$ 840.00
<b>Seasonal Camping Season Fees – April 25, 2020 - Oct. 12, 2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Full Payment made on or before April 15, 2018	\$ 2,430.00
First instalment payment on or before April 15, 2018	\$ 1,650.00
Second instalment payment on or before June 1, 2018	\$ 830.00
Half Season, (after August 1)	\$ 1,215.00
Quarter Season, (after Sept 1)	\$ 607.50
Seasonal late payment fee	\$ 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
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>	<b>2021</b>
Overnight Visitors (per person)	\$ 10.00
Sewage Pump Out per service fee	\$ 40.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (bi-weekly)	\$ 235.00
Sewage Pump Out seasonal fee (weekly)	\$ 470.00
Exterior fridge/freezer charge	\$ 180.00
Extra hydro fee for electric golf cart	\$ 210.00
Golf Cart (day/month)	\$10.00/\$75.00
Ice	\$ 3.00
Firewood (bundle)	\$ 8.00
<b>DAY USE FEES</b>	<b>2021</b>
Vehicle	\$ 10.00
Pedestrians/Cyclists (16 & over)	\$ 2.00
Seasonal Day Pass	\$ 60.00
Buses	\$ 50.00
Open Pavilion reservation	\$ 60.00
Closed in Pavilion reservation (Warwick/LC Henderson)	\$ 100.00
Maple Syrup Festival - Vehicle Entry	\$ 5.00
<b>Highland Glen Conservation Area</b>	<b>2021</b>
Daily boat ramp fee	\$ 15.00
Seasonal boat ramp fee	\$ 120.00

<b>CONSERVATION SERVICES FEES</b>		<b>2021</b>
<b>Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plan Approvals</b>		
Field Work / Forest Inventory		\$75.00/hr/person
Plan Review & Approval Process (including site visit)		\$350.00/plan
Plan Creation & Plan Approval (includes field work)		
10 to 20 acres		\$600.00/plan
20 to 40 acres		\$700.00/plan
Greater than 40ac		\$900.00/plan
<b>Timber Management</b>		
Field Work / Site Visit		\$75.00/hr/person
Timber Report Creation		\$150.00/person/field day
<b>Drain Maintenance Program</b>		
Spot spray application for vegetation control in drains		\$1050 per ha + chemical Or \$130/hr + chemical for spot treatment applications
<b>Tree Planting (Private Lands) These are guidelines, pricing is dependant on size and location</b>		
Large Stock Program		Cost vary according to size and species
Tree Seedlings		Cost vary according to size and species
Seedling Tree Planting Services Machine planting:		
500 - 999 trees		\$1,250.00/site
1000 – 1999 trees		\$1.25/seedling
2000 plus trees		\$1.20/seedling
Larger sites requiring more than 5000 trees		Quotation provided
Coniferous plantations		10% reduction (>1000)
Includes tree planting and initial herbicide application - HST will be added		
Seedling Tree Planting Services Hand planting:		
Refill planting up to 500 trees		\$1250.00/site
More than 550 trees		\$2.25/tree
Includes tree planting and initial herbicide application - HST will be added		
Herbicide Tending		
up to 750 seedlings		\$300.00 / min charge
750 to 3000 trees		\$0.40/seedling/max charge
more than 3500 trees		\$1225.00
up to 1000 trees requiring backpack sprayer		\$0.35/seedling
>1000+ trees requiring backpack sprayer		\$500.00/site
		\$0.50/seedling
<b>Tree Species (Subject to Availability)</b>		
Coniferous Trees	Native & Traditional Species - bareroot transplant seedlings 20-35 cm tall	
Deciduous Trees & Shrubs	Native & Traditional Species - bareroot seedlings are 25-60 cm tall	
<i>All seedlings will be grown from seeds collected in seed zones suitable to St. Clair Region</i>		



## Planning and Regulation Fees

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

<b>Administrative Fees</b>	<b>2021</b>
Processing Fee	\$120.00
Legal Inquiries	\$200.00
Site Inspection/Meeting Attendance	\$220.00
<b>Technical Report Review</b>	<b>2021</b>
Includes initial review of complete report; review of revised reports are subject to surcharge. Technical Report Review fees are in addition to application fees.	
<b>Terms of Reference<sup>1</sup></b>	\$360.00
<b>Engineering Study/Technical Report</b> (floodline, geotechnical, meander belt, slope stability, natural heritage, coastal <sup>2</sup> )	
Standard	\$400.00
Major - Complex features, potential impact	\$700.00
<b>Environmental Impact Study / Development Assessment Report</b>	
Minor - limited assessment required, adjacent to feature	\$880.00
Standard - scoped technical assessment, adjacent or within feature	\$1,650.00
Major - comprehensive technical assessment, adjacent or within feature	\$4,180.00
Mitigation / Monitoring Report	\$660.00
<b>Hydrogeological Assessment</b>	\$1,320.00
<b>Stormwater Management Plans</b>	
Preliminary Concept	\$330.00
Detail Design	\$640.00
<b>Additional Review of Revised Report</b>	25% Surcharge

<sup>1</sup>Terms of Reference fee is reduced from the Technical Report Review fee.

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



## Planning and Regulation Fees

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

	<b>2021</b>
Pre-consultation/Property Inquiry <sup>3</sup>	\$240.00
<b>Natural Hazards</b>	
Minor Variance (Waterfront <sup>4</sup> 2x)	\$200.00
Severance (per lot created; Waterfront <sup>4</sup> 2x)	\$275.00
Site Plan Approval	\$270.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$635.00
Zoning By Law Amendment	\$280.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$420.00
Official Plan Amendment	\$280.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$425.00
<b>Natural Heritage</b>	
<b>2021</b>	
Minor Variance	\$330.00
Severance (per lot created)	\$500.00
Site Plan Approval	\$410.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$830.00
Zoning By Law Amendment	\$500.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$830.00
Official Plan Amendment	\$500.00
Major - large scale, complex features, requiring technical studies.	\$830.00
<b>Draft Plan of Subdivision/Condominium</b>	
< 20 Units	\$1,330.00
21-50 Units	\$2,725.00
> 50 Units	\$3,630.00
<b>Additional Natural Heritage Fee</b>	
< 20 Units	\$600.00
21-50 Units	\$1,200.00
> 50 Units	\$1,800.00
Clearance of Conditions (per condition)	\$265.00
Redline Revision (applicant initiated)	25% of initial fee

<sup>3</sup>This fee will be deducted from the application fee when a formal application is submitted.

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



### Ontario Regulation 171/06 Review Fees

Application fees are applied per works/project.

	2021
Property Inquiry <sup>5</sup>	\$230.00
<b>Application Fees</b>	
<b>Minor Works Routine Permit</b> Limited review, minor in nature relative to cost, location, or impact	\$215.00
<b>Standard Works Minor Permit A</b> Small scale, and/or consistent with policy	\$425.00
<b>Major Works Minor Permit B</b> Medium scale, primary structures, and/or consistent with policy	\$660.00
<b>Complex Works Major Permit</b> Large scale, requiring technical studies, and/or inconsistent with policy	\$1,120.00
<b>Drainage Act Review<sup>6</sup></b>	
<b>DART Review</b>	
Minor - project value under \$500.00	\$60.50
Standard	\$330.00
Major - wetland	\$840.00
<b>Engineer's Report Review</b>	\$425.00
<b>Other Fees</b>	
<b>Aggregate Resources Act review</b>	\$2,795.00
<b>Environmental Assessment Act</b>	\$0.00
Standard	\$2,795.00
Major	\$6,985.00
<b>Commercial Renewable Energy Projects</b>	Double
<b>Golf Course Development/Realignment</b>	\$840.00
<b>Hearing Request</b>	\$700.00
<b>Application Revisions and Permit Revisions/Extensions</b>	\$120.00
<b>Applications for Work Proceeded without Authorization</b>	Double

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

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

<b>ADMINISTRATION FEES</b>	<b>2021</b>
Administrative Fees negotiated by contract	
NSF Cheques	\$55.00
Processing Fee - Oil & Gas Long term	
a) Oil & Gas Long Term	\$340.00
b) Annual	\$550.00
<b>GIS Services (plus tax)</b>	<b>2021</b>
Data Requests (includes up to 3 data sets, \$100.00 per additional data set)	\$330.00
Plotting Services (per sq. ft.)	\$10.00
GIS Service Fees (per hour, minimum 1 hour charge)	\$105.00
Digital Aerial Photography (requires license agreement) per tile	\$60.00

<b>EDUCATION FEES</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>
Half Day Class/Student	\$5.50
Full Day Class/student	\$10.00
Minimum Charge for other programs (per instructor)	\$110.00
In Class program (without sponsors) first class	\$100.00
In Class program (without sponsors) second class same school	\$75.00
Minimum Charge for other programs (per instructor)	\$110.00
ICE (Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship) per day	\$400.00
SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) 1/2 day	\$250.00
SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) Full day	\$400.00
<b>WATERSHED SERVICES TECHNICAL FEES</b>	<b>2021</b>
Technical Reports - Adobe digital (pdf) format on CD	\$60.00
Data and Information Requests	
a) HEC II, HYMO, Hyrdo Pak, Streamgauge, Precipitation, Meteorological or Flow Data	\$100.00
b) Additional cost for data or information collection in excess of one hour	\$55.00/hr
c) Additional cost for CDs or printed reports	\$60.00
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>	
Hunting - McKeough Properties Only (annual permit)	\$70.00
Trapping Permit	\$10.00



## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DAWN-EUPHEMIA

4591 Lambton Line, RR 4, Dresden, ON N0P 1M0  
Tel: 519-692-5148 Fax: 519-692-5511 Public Works: 519-692-5018  
Email: [admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca](mailto:admin@dawneuphemia.on.ca) Website: [www.dawneuphemia.ca](http://www.dawneuphemia.ca)

November 19, 2020

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
205 Mill Pond Cres.  
Strathroy, Ontario  
N7G 3P9

Via email [bmcdougall@scrca.on.ca](mailto:bmcdougall@scrca.on.ca)

Mr. McDougall,

At the regular meeting of Council, on Monday, November 16, 2020, the following resolution was passed:

**2020-191**

SCRCA 2021 Draft Budget

That Council acknowledge receipt of the St. Clair Region Conservation Area 2021 Draft Budget; and further that Council again expresses significant concerns with the repeated annual increases exceeding consumer price index (CPI). *Carried.*

Should you wish to discuss the concerns of the Township of Dawn-Euphemia Council members, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Terri Towstiuć', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Terri Towstiuć  
Deputy-Clerk



**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020

**Item 8.5**

**Report Date:** November 19, 2020

**Submitted by:** Chris Durand, Manager of GIS/IT

**Subject:** Disposal of Non-functional, Non-essential and Surplus Equipment

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The following surplus equipment has no value, and will be delivered to an e-waste facility:

1 – Canon IPF750 Plotter – no longer in working order

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2020 **Item 8.6**  
**Report Date:** November 18, 2020  
**Submitted by:** Erin Carroll, Sarah Hodgkiss & Brian McDougall

**Subject:** SCRCA comments: ERO 019-2636 A proposal under the Endangered Species Act to enable use of the Species at Risk Conservation Fund and to streamline authorizations for certain activities that impact species at risk, while maintaining protections for species at risk

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board acknowledges the report dated November 18, 2020 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario posting ERO 019-2636 A proposal under the Endangered Species Act to enable use of the Species at Risk Conservation Fund and to streamline authorizations for certain activities that impact species at risk, while maintaining protections for species at risk and further approves the proposed response to this posting and directs staff to submit this response to the identified provincial contact on behalf of the Board of Directors.

**Background:**

Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) is proposing new regulations to enable use of the Species at Risk Conservation Fund (the Fund) and to establish a provincial agency to administer the Fund. They are also proposing to amend Ontario Regulation 242/08 to streamline Endangered Species Act authorizations by amending certain conditional exemptions.

ERO posting 019-2636: <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-2636>

On January 18, 2019, the Ontario government gave notice on the Environmental Registry that they were conducting a ten-year review of the Endangered Species Act, which came into effect on June 30, 2008. A discussion paper, 10th Year Review of Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Discussion Paper (ERO number: 013-4143), was posted on January 18, 2019. The comment period was 45 days from January 18 to March 4, 2019. SCRCA staff prepared comments on the discussion paper which were presented to the SCRCA Executive Committee at the February 2019 meeting, and subsequently submitted to the Environmental Registry. The decision was posted April 18, 2019.

On May 16, 2019 the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors approved comments which were subsequently submitted to the Environmental Registry on more proposed amendments to the Endangered Species Act. The proposal, "10th Year Review of Ontario's Endangered Species Act: Proposed Changes (ERO: 013-

5033)" was posted April 18, 2019, with the comment period open for 45 days from April 18 to May 18, 2019.

The Board's earlier submission to the Environmental Registry on ERO number: 013-4143 included the following comments related to the newly proposed legislation under ERO 019-2636:

#### Conservation Offsetting

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

The concept of conservation banking should be approached with a high degree of caution, and the decision to use this approach should only be considered as an option after steps have been taken to eliminate and minimize potential negative impacts. The province should carefully examine and provide direction on conservation banking, with input from Indigenous communities, municipalities and stakeholders. If it decides to enable conservation banking through law and policy, it must address such issues as governance and oversight, limits to offsetting, equity, transparency, the mitigation sequence, establishing equivalence, monitoring and enforcement. If this Species at Risk Conservation Trust is created, interdisciplinary watershed managers with local watershed knowledge should be involved to ensure that actions are directly appropriately.

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

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

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

From the Strategic Action Plan “Goal 2 – Protect, manage, and restore our natural systems including woodlands, wetlands, waterways, and lakes.”

**Financial Impact:**

- A payment-in-lieu approach that is not stringent and could result in reduced outcomes for species at risk.
- A downloading of Endangered Species Act implementation costs from Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) to proponents (e.g., municipalities, developers, farmers).

**SCRCA’s Proposed Comments**

In general, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is in favour of legislation that results in strategic, large-scale, and coordinated actions that would support more positive outcomes for select species at risk. SCRCA supports the fact that proponents would still be required to take action to minimize impacts on species at risk and their habitats, as required by law.

In many cases, the goals and objectives of SCRCA’s existing programs and expertise align well with the Endangered Species Act; particularly protecting habitat and promoting stewardship projects. We have leveraged funding from private and public sources which provide benefits to species at risk, while also contributing towards ecosystem services such as flood and erosion control. SCRCA supports continued government commitment to providing meaningful impacts to the protection and recovery of species at risk in Ontario. With our expertise, SCRCA may be in a position to accept payment from the fund, as a Recipient, to carry out on the ground conservation projects to provide beneficial actions for Species at Risk.

The newly created Agency, the Species at Risk Conservation Trust, will be funded by proponents registering for certain conditional exemptions in O. Reg. 242/08 for eligible activities that will impact conservation fund species. The funds collected from Proponents will cover the cost of the beneficial actions for Species at Risk, and the administration costs of the Agency and Recipients. There is risk that the legislation as proposed, will result in a lower proportion of Proponent funding going towards beneficial actions for Species at Risk and more towards administration. The cost-breakdown of funding an entirely new agency based on the destruction of Species at Risk and their habitat needs to be carefully considered.

SCRCA echoes biologists’ commentary in Facets Journal that “Offsetting policies—policies that attempt to compensate for losses of biodiversity or reconstitute habitat at an impacted site by generating ecologically equivalent habitat elsewhere may be deemed politically necessary. In such cases, we suggest that the party that destroys habitat must be required to create new habitat to replace what has been lost to all affected species, rather than paying a charge to the Fund. We recognize that with



increasing development and urban sprawl, some level of habitat destruction is inevitable. Although preserving intact habitat is more likely to aid an at-risk species, if offsetting policies are to be included in Ontario's ESA, we propose a zero net habitat loss approach. Any destroyed habitat should be replaced by restoring or creating habitat elsewhere. Habitat should be replaced with habitat, not with dollars."  
(<https://www.facetsjournal.com/doi/10.1139/facets-2019-0050#f1>)

"While we appreciate that the Species-at-Risk Conservation Trust must provide an annual report to the Minister of the effectiveness of the Fund in achieving its purpose (More Homes, More Choice Act 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 9, s. 20.16), the current evaluating entity is the Trust itself, not an independent third party. Furthermore, the report is to be made available only to the Minister and not to the public. For transparent, reproducible scientific research to effectively and efficiently protect Ontario's species at risk (see Ellison 2010), we strongly suggest the review be completed by a third-party, nongovernment scientific entity and, upon completion, be shared with the public."  
(<https://www.facetsjournal.com/doi/10.1139/facets-2019-0050#f1>)

SCRCA has concerns about how ESA exemptions and offsetting measures could affect biodiversity hotspots, including those found in within Carolinian Canada and the St. Clair Region. Development pressure could have proportionally greater impacts upon SAR concentrated within the last vestiges of intact globally rare habitats found in this area (e.g., Tall Grass Prairie, Oak Savannah, forested dune complexes, and the Sydenham River valley). The Benefiting Ratios approach should weigh in a variety of biological factors and even identify areas that are irreplaceable "no touch zones" or nature preserves where streamlined authorization and offsetting is not acceptable. Both Credit Valley Conservation Authority and Toronto Region Conservation Authority have published guidelines that account for variation in ecological sensitivity. Credit Valley Conservation's 2020 Ecosystem Offsetting Guidelines ([https://cvc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/rpt\\_CVCEcoOffset\\_FINAL\\_20200313.pdf](https://cvc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/rpt_CVCEcoOffset_FINAL_20200313.pdf)) suggest a range of offset ratios from 1:1 to 1:50 based on different basal areas recorded in forestry surveys. CVC also considers ecosystem functions (e.g., wildlife habitat, topographic, or hydrologic features and functions) in calculating compensation ratios. Toronto Region Conservation Authority factors lag time, the time required for a newly restored ecosystem to reach a similar level of function as the impacted ecosystem being replace, to calculate Benefitting Ratios (<https://s3-ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/trcaca/app/uploads/2019/02/05151028/TRCA-Guideline-for-Determining-Ecosystem-Compensation-June-2018.pdf>). These guidelines recognize one size fits all approach is not appropriate in highly unique and rare habitats found in the extreme southern portion of Ontario. The globally significant habitats and SAR of the St. Clair Region should be more highly protected and valued when considering how to streamline the authorization approach and determining benefiting ratios.

