



# Board of Directors Annual Meeting

February 22, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre  
6213 Mill Street, Florence, ON N0P 1R0  
and Remote via Zoom

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## Agenda

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1. Land Acknowledgment
2. Chair's Remarks
3. Introduction of Guests
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
6. Minutes
  - 6.1 December 7, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Pg. 8-16
  - 6.2 February 8, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Pg. 17-19
7. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report (verbal)
8. Presentation of the 2023 Audited Financial Statements Pg. 20-43
9. Conservation Awards
10. Service Awards Pg. 44

### 2024 Business

11. Code of Conduct (Please sign and submit) Pg. 45
12. Election of Officers
13. Nominating Committee  
(Committee appointment report provided at meeting)
14. Authorization to Borrow
15. 2024 Appointments
  - 15.1 Conservation Ontario Council Representatives
16. Presentations
  - 16.1 Presentation from Dr. Catherine Febria, Canada Research Chair, Assistant Professor and Director of the Healthy Headwaters Lab at the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research (GLIER) at the University of Windsor.
17. Reports
  - 17.1 GM's Report Pg. 46-47
  - 17.2 Land Acquisition Policy Pg. 48-60
  - 17.3 Land Inventory Pg. 61-62
  - 17.4 Draft Conservation Lands Strategy Pg. 63-77
18. Consent Agenda
  - 18.1 (a) Business Arising Pg. 78
  - 18.1 (b) Watershed Conditions, Water Levels & Jan. Flood Event Pg. 79-81
  - 18.1 (c) Shoreline Project Updates Pg. 82-84
  - 18.1 (d) January 11, 2024 Draft Flood Action Committee Minutes Pg. 85-88

18.1 (e) 2023 Conservation Area Projects	Pg. 89-92
18.1 (f) Inclusive Communities Grant	Pg. 93-95
18.1 (g) Planning Activity Summary Report	Pg. 96-99
18.1 (h) Regulations Activity Summary Report	Pg. 100-109
18.1 (i) Conservation Education	Pg. 110-112
18.1 (j) AOC Report	Pg. 113-115
18.1 (k) 2024 Special Events	Pg. 116
19. Director Correspondence	
19.1 MNRF Extension Approval	Pg. 117
19.2 (a) MNRF 2024 Direction on Planning Fees	Pg. 118-126
19.2 (b) MNRF 2022 Direction on Planning Fees	Pg. 119-137
20. In-Camera	
20.1 Legal Update	
20. New Business	
21. Adjournment	

### **Additional Items**

- 2024 Schedule of Meetings Pg. 138

A link to the 2023 Annual Report will be available at the Annual General Meeting.

**For the purpose of lunch arrangements and quorum, please RSVP if you are unable to attend in person or via Zoom\*.**

*\*Please be advised that electronic participation is dependent upon the use of compatible equipment and consistent internet connection, which is outside of the control of SCRCA staff members. Meeting locations and available technology may hinder full participation of those joining remotely; therefore, it is strongly recommended that you attend meetings in person, where possible. Every effort will be made to accommodate those who cannot.*





**2024 Business**

- 11. Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and complies with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's Code of Conduct and Administrative By-laws.  
*(Hand-out copy provided. Please sign and return to Ashley)*
- 12.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That Ken Phillips be appointed chair for the election of the 2024 Chair and Vice Chair.
- 12.2 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That Tim Payne and Donna Blue be appointed scrutineers in the event of an election.
- 12.3 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That nominations for the position of Chair be closed.
- 12.4 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed.
- 13.1 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2023 Nominating Committee's Report, fulfilling the SCRCA committee needs in 2024.
- 13.2 Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the 2024 Executive Committee for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be: \_\_\_\_\_, Chair;  
\_\_\_\_\_, Vice Chair;  
\_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_;  
\_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_;  
\_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_;  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- 14. Moved by:** **Seconded by:**  
That the Authority Chair or the Vice-Chair and the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or Director of Finance be authorized to borrow from the Libro Credit Union, Strathroy for the general operations and capital program of the Authority, a sum not to exceed \$1,810,000 to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed to the member municipalities and general revenue.







## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: December 7, 2023      Time: 10:00 a.m.  
SCRCA Administration Office/Remote via Zoom

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**Directors Present:** John Brennan, Pat Brown, Terry Burrell, Sue Cates Anne Marie Gillis, Greg Grimes, Frank Kennes, Emery Huszka, Adam Kilner, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Don McCabe, Don McCallum, Mary Lynne McCallum, Kristen Rodrigues, Jerry Westgate

**Directors Remote:** Aaron Hall, Lorie Scott

**Regrets:** Al Broad, Rhonda Jubenville, Steve Miller

**Staff Present:** Donna Blue, Manager of Communications; Chris Durand, Manager of IT/GIS; Emily Febrey, Communication and Education Technician; Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator; Melissa Levi, Conservation Education Coordinator; Chunning Li, Director of Corporate Services; Craig Paterson, Manager of Biology; Tim Payne, Manager of Forestry; Ken Phillips, General Manager; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources; Myra Spiller, Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician; Greg Wilcox, Manager of Lands

**Staff Remote:** Melissa Deisley, Director of Planning and Regulations

### 1. Call to Order and Chair's Remarks

The Chair thanked Directors and Staff for their efforts in 2023 and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Each Director was asked to declare any conflicts of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

Director Brad Loosley was welcomed back to the Board of Directors. Mr. Loosley gave thanks to the Chair, General Manager, Board members, staff, municipalities and the public for their support and well wishes and expressed his pleasure to be back.

William Darcy McKeough passed away on Nov 29, 2023 at the age of 90. He will be remembered for his long standing dedication to local and provincial government, appointment as Officer to the Order of Canada of course, being the namesake of the Darcy McKeough Floodway.



Visitation and funeral services will both be held on Friday at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. respectively, at Christ Church on Wellington Avenue West in Chatham. Flowers have been sent to the service on behalf of the Authority.

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

Director Emery Huszka declared a pecuniary interest pertaining to budgetary items, as per the terms of his appointment as agricultural representative through the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda.

**BD-23-100**

**Loosley – MacKinnon**

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

**CARRIED**

**4. Minutes**

**4.1 Minutes of the September 14, 2023 Board of Directors meeting**

**BD-23-101**

**Burrell – Grimes**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, held October 26, 2023, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

**5. Delegations and/or Presentations**

Director Terry Burrell declared a conflict of interest.

A presentation on outdoor education programming was provided by Emily Febrey, Communication and Education Technician; Melissa Levi, Conservation Education Coordinator and Myra Spiller, Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician, followed by a question and answer period.

**Director’s Comments:**

Directors thanked the Education Department staff for their presentation and made topic suggestions for future programming such as Conservation regulations/governance and educational experiences geared toward senior citizens.

**BD-23-102**

**Cates – Scott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the presentation from Emily Febrey, Communication and Education Technician; Melissa Levi, Conservation Education Coordinator and Myra Spiller, Conservation Education/Community Partnership Technician providing an overview of the Conservation Education department.”**

**CARRIED**

## **6. Reports**

### **6.1 General Manager’s Report**

General Manager, Ken Phillips announced the appointment of Craig Paterson as Manager of Biology effective December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Mr. Paterson had previously filled the position of Interim Manager of Biology.

**BD-23-103**

**Gillis – Kilner**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated November 28, 2023.”**

**CARRIED**

### **6.2 Auditing Services 2024-2028**

**BD-23-104**

**McCallum, M L – Kennes**

**“That the Board of Directors recommends the request for proposals for audit services for the Authority for the period of 2024 – 2028.”**

**CARRIED**

### **6.3 Proposed Changes to Administration Manual**

#### **Director’s Comments:**

Director Emery Huszka enquired regarding SCRCA policies for safeguarding of personal data. Manager of IT/GIS, Chris Durand gave an overview of SCRCA policies and practices including:

- Emergency Work From Home Policy adopted during COVID-19 closures, which states that all data is to remain on corporate devices, later replaced by the Hybrid Work Policy
- Mandatory cyber security training for all staff members
- Random phishing tests
- Enforcement of strong passwords
- Multifactor authentication via secure VPN

- Back-up procedures

**BD-23-105**

**Westgate – McCallum, D**

**“ That the Board of Directors acknowledges receipt of the draft SCRC Administration Manual and summary of proposed changes and further approves the adoption of all updates recommended within the report.”**

**CARRIED**

**6.4 2024 Budget and Levy**

Director Emery Huszka declared a conflict of interest.

A recorded weighted vote was administered in relation to BD-23-106 and passed by 94.437%

**Municipal Funding Summary**

	2024 Budget Total CVA Apport.%	2024 Budget CVA Apport.%	Representative	y/n Vote
Municipality				
Adelaide Metcalfe Tp	1.9522%	1.9522%	Betty Ann MacKinnon	y
Brooke-Alvinston Tp	1.7511%	1.7511%	Don McCabe	y
Chatham-Kent M		6.5207%	Aaron Hall	y
Chatham-Kent M	13.0414%	6.5207%	Rhonda Jubenville	y
Dawn-Euphemia Tp	2.6205%	2.6205%	Alan Broad	y
Enniskillen Tp	1.9194%	1.9194%	Mary Lynne McCallum	y
Lambton Shores M	5.0870%	5.0870%	Lorie Scott	y
Middlesex Centre M	2.3447%	2.3447%	Sue Cates	y
Newbury V	0.1580%	0.1580%	Don McCallum	y
Oil Springs V	0.2012%	0.2012%	Mary Lynne McCallum	y
Petrolia T	2.6021%	2.6021%	Brad Loosley	y
Plympton-Wyoming T	5.7152%	5.7152%	Kristen Rodrigues	y
Point Edward V	2.1215%	2.1215%	Greg Grimes	y
Sarnia C		12.2841%	Terry Burrell	y
Sarnia C		12.2841%	Anne Marie Gillis	y
Sarnia C	36.8523%	12.2841%	Adam Kilner	y
Southwest Middlesex M	1.1703%	1.1703%	Don McCallum	y
St. Clair Tp		5.5626%	Pat Brown	y
St. Clair Tp	11.1251%	5.5626%	Steve Miller	
Strathroy-Caradoc Tp		4.5341%	Frank Kennes	y
Strathroy-Caradoc Tp	9.0683%	4.5341%	John Brennan	y
Warwick Tp	2.2697%	2.2697%	Jerry Westgate	y

100%	100%	Yes	94.437%
		No	0.000%

**BD-23-106**

**Brennan – Scott**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the 2024 General Levy of \$1,611,345 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the modified current value assessment of each municipality within the Authority’s area of jurisdiction.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-23-107**

**Kennes – McCabe**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the 2024 Budget of \$11,231,089 including finalized general levy, updates to specific projects and municipal agreements and comments received to date.”**

**CARRIED**

**6.5 Destruction of Documents**

**BD-23-108**

**Loosley – Cates**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 17, 2023 regarding document retention and approves the destruction of the identified documents as per the SCRCA Document Retention Policy.”**

**CARRIED**

**6.5 Municipal Memorandums of Understanding**

**BD-23-109**

**Burrell – Grimes**

**“That the Board of Directors endorse the signing of Category 3 agreements with the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston and the Township of Warwick; And further that the Board of Directors authorize the Chair and General Manager to sign all remaining Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from Municipal Partners in order to meet the December 31 2023 deadline; And further that that the Agreements be posted on the Governance section of the SCRCA’s website in accordance with Province of Ontario guidelines.”**

**CARRIED**

**6.6 Seager Park Shoreline Project**

**BD-23-110**

**Burrell – McCallum, M L**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated November 17, 2023 on the Seager Park shoreline project and further directs staff to acquire and review tender documents from contractors. The board further delegates the Chair and General Manager to approve the preferred contractor and sign necessary contracts, subject to the direction from the Township of St. Clair and confirmation that all costs to undertake the work will be covered through available funding.”**

**CARRIED**

**7. Information Items**

- (a) Business Arising**
- (b) Current Watershed Conditions**
- (c) Healthy Watershed Program Update**
- (d) Regulations Activity Report**
- (e) Planning Activity Report**
- (f) Revenue and Expenditure Report**
- (g) Disbursements**
- (h) 2023 General Levy Update**

**Director’s Comments:**

Staff are requested to follow up on any outstanding levy payments.

- (i) Investment Reports**

**Director’s Comments:**

Directors request that staff look into the possibility of quarterly reporting on investments.

- (j) Communications Update**

- (k) St. Clair River AOC**

**BD-23-111**

**Burrell – MacKinnon**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the consent agenda and endorses the recommendations accompanying Items 7.1 a - 7.1 k.”**

**CARRIED**

**8. Director Correspondence**

**8.1 Draft Letter to ECCC**

**BD-23-112**

**Gillis – Rodrigues**

**“That the Board of Directors endorse the draft letter to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) appealing for investment into weather networks/stations in order to provide greater accuracy in flood forecasting models and further that staff be directed to distribute to Ontario Conservation Authorities for their information and/or support.”**

**CARRIED**

**8.2 Letter from Township of Dawn-Euphemia Re: 2024 Draft Budget**

**BD-23-113**

**Scott – Grimes**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the correspondence from the Township of Dawn-Euphemia, dated November 8, 2023 regarding the 2024 draft budget.”**

**CARRIED**

**8.3 Resolution from the County of Prince Edward**

**BD-23-114**

**Burrell – Gillis**

**“That the Board of Directors support the correspondence from the County of Prince Edward regarding the carried resolution 2023-569 urging the Provincial government to stop the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) proposal to expand the use of the permit-by-rule to waste management systems, storm water management systems, and certain water taking activities and further that this correspondence be forwarded to the MECP and Thames-Sydenham and Region Drinking Water Source Protection Committee.**

**CARRIED**

## **8.4 Letter from the Friends of Campbell Park**

**BD-23-115**

**Kennes – McCallum, M L**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the correspondence from the Friends of Campbell Park, dated November 22, 2023 regarding the A.W. Campbell house.”**

**CARRIED**

## **9. In-Camera**

The Board of Directors went in-camera to discuss Conservation Awards, personnel information and legal matters.

**BD-23-116**

**Loosley – Kilner**

**“That the Board of Directors move in-camera at 11:20 a.m. to discuss conservation awards and personnel information with the General Manager, Manager of Communications, Director of Finance, Manager of IT and Administrative Assistant/ Board Coordinator remaining.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-23-117**

**Gillis – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors rise and report at 12:00 p.m.”**

**CARRIED**

## **10. New Business**

### **10.1 McKeough Floodway Operating Criteria and Monitoring**

Director and Agricultural Representative, Emery Huszka brought forth concerns regarding the damage to farm land that is experienced under the current operating criteria used for the W. Darcy McKeough Floodway. It is suggested that SCRCA continuously look into improvements in monitoring and operating criteria to better manage flooding to both the urban area and surrounding farm land.

Directors request that the McKeough Dam be a featured location for the Board of Directors at the June, 2024 meeting and Board tour and also that a visual be provided of the area affected by the use of the McKeough Dam, including average yields Agricorp.

**BD-23-118**

**Westgate – Burrell**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the report dated December 6, 2023 on the original and existing operating criteria of the McKeough Dam.”**

**CARRIED**

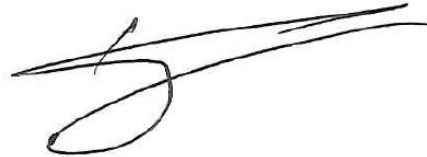
**11. Adjournment**

**BD-23-118**

**Grimes – Rodrigues**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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**Pat Brown**  
**Chair**

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**Ken Phillips**  
**General Manager**





Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 8, 2024

Time: 10:15 a.m.

Administration Office/Remote

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**Members Present:** Al Broad, Pat Brown, Chair; Terry Burrell, Frank Kennes, Brad Loosley, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Steve Miller, Lorie Scott, Vice Chair

**Regrets:** Aaron Hall

**Guests:** Ray Mile, MNP Chartered Professional Accountants.

**Staff Present:** Chris Durand, Manager of IT/ GIS; Melissa Deisley, Director of Planning and Regulations Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/Board Coordinator; Kate Jamieson, Payroll/Accounting Clerk; Chunng Li, Director of Corporate Services; Ken Phillips, General Manager; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources

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

**EC-24-01**

**Burrell – Loosley**

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

**CARRIED**

The draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee, held on January 11, 2024 were reviewed.

**EC-24-02**

**Miller – MacKinnon**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the draft minutes of the Flood Action Committee held remotely on January 11, 2024.”**

**CARRIED**

The report on business arising from the December 7, 2023 Board of Directors meeting was reviewed.

**EC-24-03**

**Burrell – Kennes**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report on business arising from the December 7, 2023 Board of Directors meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

A presentation of the draft 2023 audited statements and draft audit findings was

provided by Ray Mile of MNP Chartered Professional Accountants. Copies of the draft audited statements and draft audit findings were also reviewed.

**Director's Comments:**

Director's requested minor formatting changes to the Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds for clarity.

**EC-24-04**

**Kennes – Broad**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the report from the Authority’s auditors, MNP Chartered Professional Accounts, LLP and accepts responsibility for the 2023 financial statements and the Statement of Continuity of Reserves and Reserve Funds and year end finances and further approves the year-end adjustments, reserves and reserve adjustments as outlined in the schedule dated December 31, 2023 and recommends that the Board of Directors approves the 2023 Audited Financial Statements.”**

**CARRIED**

The November and December, 2023 disbursements were reviewed.

**Director's Comments:**

Directors enquired regarding the Highland Glen reserve and what use it will have following the transfer of land to the Municipality of Plympton-Wyoming. Manager of Conservation Lands, Greg Wilcox will be providing a report in the near future detailing the maintenance needs of other conservation lands, for which this reserve may be transferred with board approval.

**EC-24-05**

**Loosley – MacKinnon**

**“That the Executive Committee approves the November and December, 2023 disbursements, as presented in the amount of \$830,215.84”**

**CARRIED**

The report on 2023 general levy was reviewed.

**EC-24-06**

**Broad – Burrell**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges that all 2023 municipal general levy has been received.”**

**CARRIED**

The status summary report of Director's expenses for 2023 was reviewed.

**EC-24-07**

**Burrell – Miller**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the Status Summary report on Directors’ expenses from January 1 to December 31, 2023.”**

**CARRIED**

The investment statements to December 31, 2023 were reviewed.

**EC-24-08**

**Burrell – Kennes**

**“That the Executive Committee acknowledges the investment statements to December 31, 2022.”**

**CARRIED**

**EC-24-09**

**“That the Executive Committee move in-camera at 11:00 a.m./p.m. with only the Executive Committee members, General Manager and appointed auditors remaining to further discuss confidential matters, as per EC-23-05.”**

**FAILED**

### **Under New Business**

Director and Authority Chair, Pat Brown wished to remind the Committee of the upcoming Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at the Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre in Florence, ON. Directors are reminded to R.S.V.P.

Director of Water Resources, Girish Sankar provided an overview of the recent flooding event.

General Manager, Ken Phillips recommended an article published by The Narwhal on February 2, 2024 titled *Documents show Ontario may move to allow expropriation of land before environmental review*.

<https://thenarwhal.ca/ontario-expropriation-land-bill/>

**EC-24-11**

**Burrell – MacKinnon**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**

**CARRIED**



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**Pat Brown**  
**Chair**

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**Ken Phillips**  
**General Manager**

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** January 26, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Ashley Fletcher

**Item 10.1**

**Subject:** 2024 Service Awards

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledges the service awards presented to the directors and staff and further that they be thanked for their years of dedicated service.

**2024 Service Awards:**

The greatest strength of our organization lies within the dedicated people who serve as Staff and on the Board of Directors, providing leadership and direction. Service awards will be presented to the following Staff and Directors to recognize their commitment to conservation.

<b>5 Years:</b>	<b>10 Years:</b>	<b>15 Years:</b>	<b>20 Years:</b>	<b>25 Years:</b>	<b>35 Years:</b>
John Brennan, Director	Melissa Deisley, Director of Planning & Regulations	Steve Clark, Risk Management Official/Inspector	Shane White, Maintenance Foreman, McKeough Floodway	Chris Durand, Manager of IT and GIS	Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services
Pat Brown, Director					
Frank Kennes, Director					
Don McCallum, Director					
Lorie Scott, Director					
Brad Loosley, Director					



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

Board Approved General Administration By-Laws – December, 2022

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

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

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

Director Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** February 12, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Ken Phillips

**Item 17.1**

**Subject:** General Manager's Report

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### **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors receive for information the General Managers Report dated February 12, 2024.

### **Report:**

#### **Operations**

- The General Manager attended the Conservation Ontario (CO) meeting on December 11, 2023 via Zoom. Discussion involved the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative's Mayors' Commission on Coastal Resilience collaboration with CO. The SCRCA has partnered with the Lower Thames and Essex Conservation Authorities to submit a proposal for a project on Lake St. Clair. CO also provided update on initiatives that will be occurring on 2024, centred on Climate Change Adaptation (funding and engagement opportunities), agricultural, tree planting and stewardship partnerships that will come into effect in 2024 (SCRCA staff will be engaging with partners such as Trees Canada and OMAFRA).
- On January 11, the General Manager attended the Flood Action Committee meeting via Zoom that included municipal staff, Board of Director committee members and SCRCA staff. This is an annual meeting to review protocols and procedures in the event of a flood emergency.
- The General Manager attended a management committee meeting of the Thames-Sydenham Source Water Protection Region to receive an update on the status of the program's budget and deliverables. For the first time in many years, the Province of Ontario has committed to a multi-year budget rather than a year-by-year basis.

#### **Community/Partnership Outreach**

- The General Manager attended a meeting of the Green Committee with the Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce on January 19. The committee will be hosting three Green Eggs and Ham breakfasts in 2024, with the first being on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The SCRCA will be providing guest speakers for each event.
- SCRCA staff will be assisting the St.Clair Conservation Foundation with its annual Maple Syrup program on the weekend of March 16-17. The event is refocusing to be more community inclusive and SCRCA staff have been working with Brooke-Alvinston to ensure a solid partnership between the two organizations.

## **Federal/Provincial/Municipal Meetings**

- The General Manager attended Sarnia Council on January 15 to provide an overview of for Category 3 programs. Further discussions will be taking place with Sarnia in the hopes that funding could be provided commencing in 2025. The MNRF provided an extension until March 31 for all MOUs to be completed.
- On January 18, The General Manager attended the OMAFRA Agricultural Sector Working Group meeting via Zoom. An overview was provided highlighting recently released and anticipated reporting on agriculture's impact on Lake Erie. Another presentation focused on Lake Erie loadings and new federal Lake Erie programming initiatives involving best management practices.
- On February 27, the General Manager will be providing a session for Warwick Township on flood mitigation measures property owners can take to minimize flood damage to their homes and property. This will be similar to the session held last year in Petrolia but will have the backdrop of the 2023 storm events.

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** January 8, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Kelli Smith

**Item 17.2**

**Subject:** St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy

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### **Recommendation:**

That the board of directors approves the SCRCA Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy as identified through the recent changes to the Mandatory Programs and Services regulation under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

### **Background:**

Subsection 9(1) 2 of Ontario Regulation (O.R.) 686/21 sets out the required (mandatory) components of the Conservation and Management of Lands program and service area for all CAs. As outlined in subsection 9(1)2, where the authority considers it advisable to achieve the objectives of the Conservation Strategy, the development of one or more policies governing the acquisition and disposition of land will be completed. In the recent update to the Strategic Plan, developing a Policy for Land Acquisition and Disposition was identified under Goal 4.1. This policy will aid staff and the Board and Directors in the review and decision making for the future acquisition and disposition of properties.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) owns approximately 1700 hectares of land within the St. Clair Region watershed. Making up over half of all public outdoor recreation lands within the watershed, these lands include 15 conservation areas, three Managed Forest Tracts, 35 properties required for the active operation of the McKeough Floodway and 14 urban floodplain properties. Since its establishment in 1961, the SCRCA has acquired lands for the following reasons:

- Water Management – lands for dams/water management reservoirs, erosion control projects and dykes
- Natural Hazards – lands that are unsafe or unsuitable for development (e.g. floodplains, steep slope, shoreline)
- Recreation – lands that are used for recreation (e.g. conservation areas, trails)
- Natural Heritage – lands that are environmentally sensitive or contain unique physical characteristics (e.g. Provincially Significant Wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest)

The draft policy uses a factsheet to evaluate potential acquisitions to be reviewed by a committee made up of staff and the Board member from the Municipality for which the property is situated. The Committee will bring forward a recommendation to the full Board of Directors for final decision.



This policy uses a set criterion to evaluate property features to ensure the property meets the objectives of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

The supplemental factsheet highlights key information about the property and the associated costs and is attached to this report for review.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

This policy meets the strategic actions listed in Goal 4 of the SCRCA Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

**Goal 4.1 Conservation Lands**

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and its Foundation own more than 2,100 hectares of land including campgrounds, day use parks, wetlands, and forests. Moving forward, the SCRCA must ensure that these properties remain valuable assets for the community and are able to withstand the pressures of growth and climate change.

**Develop Policies to Guide Acquisition/Disposal of Conservation Lands**

The SCRCA works with the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation in accepting donations of lands that further meet the objectives of the Conservation Authority. An acquisition plan will assist in prioritizing opportunities and provide direction in seeking funding for significant watershed properties.

**Financial Impact:**

Financial impacts will be laid out in the acquisition factsheet including up front costs and on-going maintenance and future development costs. The Board of Directors will have the factsheet and estimated financial implications available when approving the acquisition of any properties.



# St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy

AN INTERNAL DOCUMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF  
AUTHORITY OWNED LANDS  
LAND MANAGEMENT

SCRCA | 205 Millpond Crescent. Strathroy ON

## Introduction and intent

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) owns approximately 1700 hectares of land within the St. Clair Region watershed. Making up over half of all public outdoor recreation lands within the watershed, these lands include 15 conservation areas, three Managed Forest Tracts, 35 properties required for the active operation of the McKeough Floodway and 14 urban floodplain properties. Since its establishment in 1961, the SCRCA has acquired lands for the following reasons:

- Water Management – lands for dams/water management reservoirs, erosion control projects and dykes
- Natural Hazards – lands that are unsafe or unsuitable for development (e.g. floodplains, steep slope, shoreline)
- Recreation – lands that are used for recreation (e.g. conservation areas, trails)
- Natural Heritage – lands that are environmentally sensitive or contain unique physical characteristics (e.g. Provincially Significant Wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest)

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority boasts agriculture as the predominant land use in the watershed at 85%. Recent pressures from increases in land value, population growth, and climate change within the watershed has placed a greater concern for conservation and protection of the remaining natural lands. To conserve and protect these remaining lands the SCRCA will prioritize opportunities and seek funding to acquire significant properties that meet the objectives of the Conservation Authority.

This policy provides guidance for the future acquisition and disposition of lands by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

## Background

### **Provincial Legislation**

Section 20 (1) of the Conservation Authorities Act outlines the objects of a Conservation Authority which are “to establish and undertake, in the area over which it has jurisdiction (a) the mandatory programs and services required under section 21.1; (b) any municipal programs and services that may be provided under section 21.1.1; and (c) any other programs or services that may be provided under section 21.1.2. 2020, c. 36, Sched. 6, s. 6 (1).

Section 21 (1) of the Conservation Authorities Act outlines the powers of authorities for the purposes of accomplishing its objects.

Subsection 21 (1) (c) states that an Authority has the power “to acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise any land that it may require, and, subject to subsection (2), to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of land so acquired”.

Subsection 21 (1) (n) gives the Authority power “to collaborate and enter into agreements with ministries and agencies of government, municipal councils and local boards and other organizations and individuals.”

Section 21 (2) states that “if the Minister has made a grant to an authority under section 39 in respect of land, the authority shall not sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the land under clause (1) (c) without providing a written notice of the proposed disposition to the Minister at least 90 days before the disposition. 2022, c. 21, Sched. 2, s. 2 (2)”.

## Goals

The acquisition and protection of significant lands in the St. Clair Region aligns with the SCRCA’s mission and objectives to protect and restore our natural areas and promote conservation awareness and enjoyment. The SCRCA will use the following goals when evaluating potential land acquisitions within the watershed:

- To protect watershed function through acquisition of important floodplain and wetlands that mitigate downstream flooding and erosion to prevent harm to people and property.
- To protect important ecosystems that contribute to watershed health.
- To protect natural heritage areas of national, provincial or watershed scale significance such as but not limited to provincially designated Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, provincially significant or regionally significant wetlands, significant woodlands and significant valley lands.
- To link natural heritage features and habitats to enhance their long-term integrity and ecological functions.
- To undertake water management projects.
- To protect major water source areas, wellhead protection areas and significant aquifer recharge areas.
- To protect hazard lands from development.
- To provide high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities and educational benefits.
- To increase public appreciation of conservation lands and nature.

## Land Acquisition Policy

- 1.1. For the purposes of this policy, land acquisition means to obtain from a willing landowner, interest in land title for conservation purposes and includes such acquisition as land bequest, donation, and fee simple purchase.
- 1.2. The SCRCA will acquire lands located within the St. Clair Region watershed to help further the goals of the Authority’s mandate.
- 1.3. A “Property Acquisition Fact Sheet” must be completed for all proposed acquisitions.
- 1.4. All land bequests and donations will be taken to the board for review and approval following a recommendation from the Peer Review Team.
- 1.5. The “Peer Review Team” refers to one Director (representing the Municipality where the acquisition is located) and two staff members who review proposed property acquisition fact sheets and dispositions prior to making recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- 1.6. A property considered for acquisition must be identified as having 3 or more of the following characteristics or be previously identified in (exercise) for priority properties:

- a) Adjacent lands, adding to an existing SCRCA land holding
- b) Land that will improve access to existing SCRCA property
- c) Provincially/Regionally Significant ANSI
- d) Provincially/Locally Significant Wetland
- e) Environmentally Significant Area
- f) Significant Vegetation/Forest Cover
- g) Significant natural/cultural historic first nations interests
- h) Land identified with public outdoor recreation opportunities that relate to the Authority mandate
- i) Significant Water Resources (e.g. Headwaters, floodplain, streams)
- j) Significant Features/Hazard Lands (coastal bluff, dynamic beaches, coastal wetland?)
- k) Land identified with forest management potential
- l) Significant Wildlife Habitat Terrestrial and Aquatic
- m) Significant Habitat that support Species at Risk

1.7. The SCRCA will partner with member municipalities and other conservation agencies such as but not limited to the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and/or local community conservation groups to acquire and/or protect appropriate lands. The SCRCA will acquire lands within the St. Clair Region only on a willing-buyer, willing-seller basis, unless otherwise authorized by the SCRCA Board of Directors or Province of Ontario.

1.8. A proposal to acquire a property with a fair market value estimate greater than \$10,000 must be supported by an appraisal that is signed by an appraiser who is accredited AACI (Accredited Appraiser Canadian Institute) in accordance with the Canadian “Standards” (Canadian Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice) of the Appraisal Institute of Canada.

1.9. Legal council must be hired or provided by the partnering agency to complete all legal transactions related to the land acquisition process.

1.10. Disposal of surplus lands acquired through a land transaction should be established prior to the securement of the property when possible. Disposal of surplus lands will follow the disposal policies as outlined below.

1.11. Prior to finalizing any property acquisition, a Registered Plan of Survey must be received from a registered Ontario Land Surveyor in accordance with the Surveys Act, the Surveyors Act and the Land Titles Act and their regulations.

## Implementation

2.1. This Policy will come into effect upon approval by the SCRCA Board of Directors.

2.2. A priority listing for land acquisition by the SCRCA will be developed and updated periodically.

2.3. The SCRCA will consult with the municipal staff in which the property is situated prior to acquiring lands in order to identify and resolve any municipal concerns.

2.4. The SCRCA will acquire lands abutting existing land holdings identified in approved master/management plans as its budget permits. These plans include but are not limited to:

- Forest Management Plans for SCRCA properties

- Property Master/Management Plans

2.5. This policy will be reviewed every five years.

## Land Disposition Policy and Implementation

### Intent

Generally, the authority may hold onto all properties that meet one or more criteria in section 1.6 of the acquisition policy. In some instances, properties acquired by or donated historically to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority may not meet the needs and objectives of the authority. In these instances, the authority may look to dispose of these surplus lands if the terms of the bequest or donation permit. For lands that don't meet these criteria, they may be considered for disposition as per section 21 of the Conservation Authorities Act and at the direction and approval of the SCRCA Board of Directors. In such case, the disposition of lands will follow the required processes identified in the Conservation Authorities Act.

For lands approved for disposal it will be the Authority's general practice to hold all revenue generated through the disposition for future development of Authority land or acquisition of new lands.

### Transfer of Property from the St. Clair Region Foundation

From time to time, it may be necessary to transfer gifts of property from the St. Clair Region Foundation to the SCRCA to meet the regulations of Revenue Canada or for other valid reasons. Any conditions placed on the gift of property by the donor will continue and the same quality of care and protection can be expected from the SCRCA.

**St. Clair Region Conservation Authority**  
**Property Acquisition Fact Sheet**

Date	
Completed by	

**Step 1**

**1. Landowner:**

Name	
Mailing Address	
Telephone	

**2. Property description:**

Property address	
County	
Local Municipality	
Lot(s):	
Concession(s)	
Size	
Roll number	

**3. Name of agent for landowner:**  yes (provide details) no

Name	
Mailing Address	
Telephone	

**4. Acquisition analysis:** identify three or more of the following and provide details (include photos and maps)

- Adjacent lands, adding to an existing SCRCA land holding
- Land that will improve access to existing SCRCA property
- Provincially/Regionally Significant ANSI
- Provincially/Locally Significant Wetland
- Environmentally Significant Area
- Significant Vegetation/Forest Cover
- Land identified with public outdoor recreation opportunities that relate to the Authority mandate.
- Significant Water Resources (e.g. Headwaters, floodplain, streams)
- Significant Features/Hazard Lands (coastal bluff, dynamic beaches, coastal wetland)
- Land identified with forest management potential.
- Significant Wildlife Habitat
- Significant Fisheries Habitat

Acquisition analysis details



5. Easements proposed:  yes (provide details) no

<u>Easement details</u>
-------------------------

6. Acquisition cost estimate:

Item	Cost
land appraisal fee	
purchase price	
legal fees	
survey cost	
partnership arrangements	
Other, specify	

<u>Additional acquisition cost details</u>
--

1. Capital and Improvement Costs:

Item	Cost
infrastructure – upgrade / removal	
access to the property	
trails	
Parking facilities	
buildings	
future capital needs / issues	
forest management costs/revenue	
other, specify	

<u>Management cost details</u>
--------------------------------

2. Annual Management/Maintenance costs estimate:

Item	Cost
fencing	
trails	
signage	
taxes	
Insurance	
Staff expense	
Roads, parking lots	
Garbage removal	
Vehicle, gas, oil	

management issues	
other, specify	

<u>Management cost details</u>
--------------------------------

**3. Site plan/map:**

- depicting property boundary
- significant features
- surrounding land uses
- other SCRCA / public property in the area

<u>Site plan details</u>
--------------------------

**4. Surplus lands to be sold:**  yes (provide details) no

Surplus land details

**5. Partnership arrangements:**  yes (provide details) no

- agency(s) involved
- easements
- option agreement
- letter of understanding / agreement
- other

Partnership details

### **Step 2 - Peer review**

**1. Peer review / recommendation – review of step 1 – items 1-10**

Peer review details: Reviewed by

### **Step 3 – Board of Directors recommendation/resolution**

**1. Results:**

Recommendation

Resolution

## Step 4 – Completing the acquisition

### 1. Legal counsel:

Name	
Mailing Address	
Telephone/fax	

2. Land appraisal report:  yes (appendix) no

### 3. Reference plan: Survey firm information

Name	
Mailing Address	
Telephone/fax	

### 4. Acquisition closing:

- All related expenditures paid
- deeds filed
- survey filed
- agreements / letters of understanding filed
- appraisal filed

Closing acquisition notes

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**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** January 8, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Kelli Smith

**Item 17.3**

**Subject:** St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Land Inventory

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### **Recommendation:**

That the board of directors acknowledges the report highlighting the development of a Land Inventory as required through the recent changes to the Mandatory Programs and Services regulation under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

### **Background:**

Subsection 9(1)3 of Ontario Regulation (O.R.) 686/21 sets out the required (mandatory) components of the Conservation and Management of Lands program and service area for all CAs. As outlined in subsection 9(1)3, each CA is required to prepare a “land inventory” on or before December 31, 2024. The required components of the land inventory as per subsection 11(1) of the regulation include the following:

- The location of the parcel.
- The identification of any information the authority has in its possession in respect of the parcel, including any surveys, site plans or maps.
- When the authority acquired the parcel.
- Whether the parcel was acquired using a grant made under section 39 of the Act.
- Whether the parcel was acquired through an expropriation.
- Whether the authority owns the parcel or has a registered legal interest in the parcel, including an easement.
- Identification of the land use categories that apply to the parcel.
- For the purpose of ensuring a program or service is not included as mandatory program or service under subparagraph 2 ii or v of subsection 9(1) identification of whether
  - A recreational activity is provided on the parcel that requires the direct support or supervision of staff employed by the authority or by another person or body, or
  - Commercial logging is carried out on the parcel.
- Whether or not the parcel or a portion of the parcel is suitable for the purposes of housing and housing infrastructure development, including identifying,
  - Any applicable zoning by-law passed under section 34 or 38 of the *Planning Act* or any predecessor of them,
  - If the parcel or a portion of the parcel augments any natural heritage located within the authority’s area of jurisdiction, and
  - If the parcel or a portion of the parcel integrates with other provincially or municipally owned lands or other publicly accessible lands and trails within the authority’s area of jurisdiction.

The land inventory is now complete and includes all mandatory requirements as set out in the regulation.

The SCRCA owns approximately 1700 hectares of land consisting of conservation areas, managed forest tracts, properties required for the active operation of the McKeough Floodway, and urban floodplain properties. The SCRCA also holds conservation and flood easements on several properties.

This total does not include those lands owned by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation or County of Lambton that are managed by the SCRCA.



regulatory requirements, the Conservation Area Strategy will also inform the mandatory CA Land Inventory, through establishing land use categories for the lands it owns and/or controls.

As of today, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) staff have developed a draft Conservation Lands Strategy for the lands owned or controlled by the SCRCA. The next step in the process is to consult the public and Indigenous communities. This process will further develop and refine the Conservation Lands Strategy.

As part of the legislative requirements the Conservation Area Strategy must be prepared on or before December 31, 2024. The SCRCA will ensure that the final Strategy is made available to the public on the Authority's website and will further notify any organizations or individuals engaged in the consultation process of the availability and location of the final Strategy.





*St. Clair Region Conservation Authority*

# Conservation Lands Strategy

*Version 1.0*

*For the lands owned and/or managed by St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRC)*

Approved by: St. Clair Conservation  
Authority Board of Directors

[Date]



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### **Legislative Background:**

Proclaimed provisions within the *Conservation Authorities Act* and accompanying regulations establish requirements for Mandatory Programs and Services (see Section 21.1 of the Act and O. Reg. 686/21).

[Ontario Regulation 686/21](#) sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all Conservation Authorities (CAs) in Ontario. Section 10 of the regulation requires all CAs to prepare a "Conservation Area Strategy" ("the Strategy") as a required component of the "Conservation and Management of Lands" mandatory CA program and service area.

## Purpose

This Conservation Areas Strategy has been developed to align with the recent changes to section 10(1) of Ontario Regulation 686/21 of the Conservation Authorities Act. This strategy will provide a clear set of objectives which will inform decision-making related to the land owned and managed by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA). Currently, the SCRCA has been operating under the 1987 Land Management and Conservation Area Management Plans.

## Introduction

The St. Clair Region watershed is made up of the Sydenham River, east and north branches, and smaller tributaries draining into southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, and Lake St. Clair. The region is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations who have longstanding relationships to the land and water of southwestern Ontario. Located entirely within the Carolinian Life Zone, the St. Clair Region watershed boasts warm average annual temperatures and a long frost-free season which supports a variety of plants and animals. This makes it one of the most biodiverse watersheds in Canada. The climate and rich soils also support various forms of agriculture which is the predominant land use representing 82% of the total watershed.

Approximately 55% of all the natural areas open to the public, within the St. Clair Region watershed, are owned or managed by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) as conservation lands. The SCRCA has a great responsibility to conserve and protect these natural areas for the future enjoyment of the public. This includes providing opportunities for outdoor education, recreation, research, and protecting habitat from future development and the impacts of climate change.

The benefit of Conservation Lands are many, including:

- providing protection of environmentally significant/sensitive lands (including wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat, significant vegetation communities, fish habitat).
- contributing to biodiversity and the establishment of a Natural Heritage System, including linkages and corridors for wildlife migration.
- protecting hazard lands (e.g. floodplains, erosion sensitive areas, valleylands) and reduce flooding/soil erosion.
- protecting Provincially/Regionally Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI - Earth and Life Science) and other significant features.
- protecting significant water resources (e.g. headwaters, riparian lands, significant recharge/discharge areas) and contribute to improved water quality.

- providing active and passive recreation to the public

The conservation lands of the SCRC not only promote environmental awareness and recreation for the public, but also bring economic opportunities through campgrounds, agricultural leases, and outdoor education.

## Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

The Sydenham River Watershed is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations who have longstanding relationships to the land and water of southwestern Ontario.

First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples in Canada have existing Indigenous rights and Treaty rights that are recognized and affirmed by Section 35 and protected by Section 25 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

### First Nations

Eight First Nations have traditional territory that overlaps the Sydenham watershed:

- The Anishinaabek People:
  - Aamjiwnaang First Nation
  - Bkejwanong – Walpole Island First Nation
  - Deshkan Ziibing – Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
  - Wiiwkwedong and Aazhoodena – Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
- Caldwell First Nation
- The Haudenosaunee People:
  - Onyota'a:ka – Oneida Nation of the Thames
- The Lūnaapéewak People:
  - Bangonaang – Munsee Delaware Nation
  - Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit – Delaware Nation at Moraviantown

The five Anishinaabek Nations with territory in the Sydenham watershed include Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa Peoples that are members of the Three Fires Confederacy, known as Nswi-shkodewinan. The Oneida Nation of the Thames is a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

The Sydenham Watershed includes the following Upper Canada Treaties:

- McKee Treaty 2 (May 19, 1790)
- London Township Treaty 6 (September 7, 1796)
- Sombra Township Treaty 7 (September 7, 1796)
- Long Woods Treaty 21 and/or 25 (March 9, 1819 to July 8, 1822)
- Huron Tract Treaty 29 (July 10, 1827)
- Moore Township Reserve Treaty 53 ½ (August 18, 1843)

Bkejwanong Territory is unceded land, meaning the land was never legally ceded to the Crown through a treaty or other agreement.

## Métis Nation

The Métis are a distinct Indigenous People and nation that is separate from their First Nation and European forebears. Métis communities share a common history, language (Michif), way of life, culture, and kinship.

The two chartered Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Community Councils with geographic territory in the Sydenham watershed are the Thames Blue Water Métis Council and the Windsor – Essex Métis Council. These Community Councils are part of MNO Region 9.

## History of SCRCA's Conservation Lands

Following the adoption of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in 1946, the SCRCA was established in 1961 as the Sydenham Valley Conservation Authority, to conserve, restore, and manage natural resources within the St. Clair Region watershed. In 1974, the watershed boundaries expanded to include smaller tributaries in the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, and southern Lake Huron. For over 60 years, the Authority has worked in partnership with our 17 member municipalities, local communities, and other organizations to:

- protect life and property from flooding and erosion.
- improve water quality.
- promote habitat creation and stewardship.
- provide outdoor recreation and education opportunities.
- and monitor and protect our most vulnerable species.

In 1984, the SCRCA undertook the development of the W. Darcy McKeough Dam and Diversion Project, the largest flood diversion project in Ontario. This project was completed to reduce the threat of flooding in the Town of Wallaceburg by creating temporary storage upstream of the dam and diverting water along the floodway to an outlet at the St. Clair River. Several properties were acquired during this period due to increased flood risks.

The SCRCA owns 69 properties consisting of 15 Conservation Areas, 3 Agreement Forests, 32 Properties as part of operation of the W. Darcy McKeough Dam and Diversion Project, and 19 urban floodplain properties totalling more than 1,600 hectares of land. These lands include campgrounds, day use parks, wetlands, forests, floodplains, and farmland. A wide range of recreation activities are available on these lands including swimming, boating, hiking, bird watching, camping, fishing, and hunting.

Many of the properties owned by the SCRCA were acquired as part of the water, conservation, land management and recreation programs and on recommendations contained in the 1965 Sydenham Valley Conservation Report.

## Authority's Mission, Vision, and Overall Objectives

Vision is defined as foresight. The vision of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority reflects the future desired state of our region.

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

*The mission of the SCRCA is to provide leadership through coordination of watershed planning, implementation of resource management programs and promotion of conservation awareness, in cooperation with others.*

To guide the SCRCA the following objectives have been developed for Conservation lands under the Goals and Actions of the Strategic Plan 2023-2028:

### 1. *Conservation Lands*

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority owns more than 1,600 hectares of land including campgrounds, day use parks, wetlands, and forests. Moving forward, the SCRCA must ensure that these properties remain valuable assets for the community and are able to withstand the pressures of growth and climate change.

### 2. *Management of Authority Owned Lands.*

Through the completion and implementation of Property Management Plans, the Authority continues to manage its lands to balance revenue production with effective management of woodlands, wetlands, and biodiversity. Authority Property Management Plans will be updated and will include issues such as accessibility and natural heritage protection to balance pressures caused by increased demand for natural spaces, all of which will be informed by public input.

### 3. *Create Master Plans for Conservation Areas.*

As the watershed population continues to grow, pressure on natural spaces for recreational, mental health, and passive use will increase exponentially. The SCRCA will undertake master plans for its properties to ensure that operations are sustainable, green infrastructure can be utilized, and revenue streams are increased.

### 4. *Expand Education and Outreach*

The SCRCA is the main provider of experiential environmental education in the watershed and is a valuable tool to combat climate change. Online and in-person programs have been developed to introduce students to nature and to empower them to make a difference. The SCRCA will expand programming to include adults to improve the outreach of the organization and to help increase awareness of services offered by the SCRCA. Further expansion of existing education program offerings in French and the creation of summer-based activities will also assist in helping to make the education program more sustainable and financially viable.

### 5. *Ensure Accessibility for our Programs and Parks.*

Utilizing AODA standards for structures and communications, we will develop a plan to create accessible areas on SCRCA lands and make certain that our website and printed materials are available to meet the needs of watershed residents.

### 6. *Develop Policies to Guide Acquisition/Disposal of Conservation Lands.*

The SCRCA will accept donations or acquire lands that further meet the objectives of the Conservation Authority. An acquisition plan will assist in prioritizing opportunities and provide direction in seeking funding for significant watershed properties.

## Land Acquisition Policy

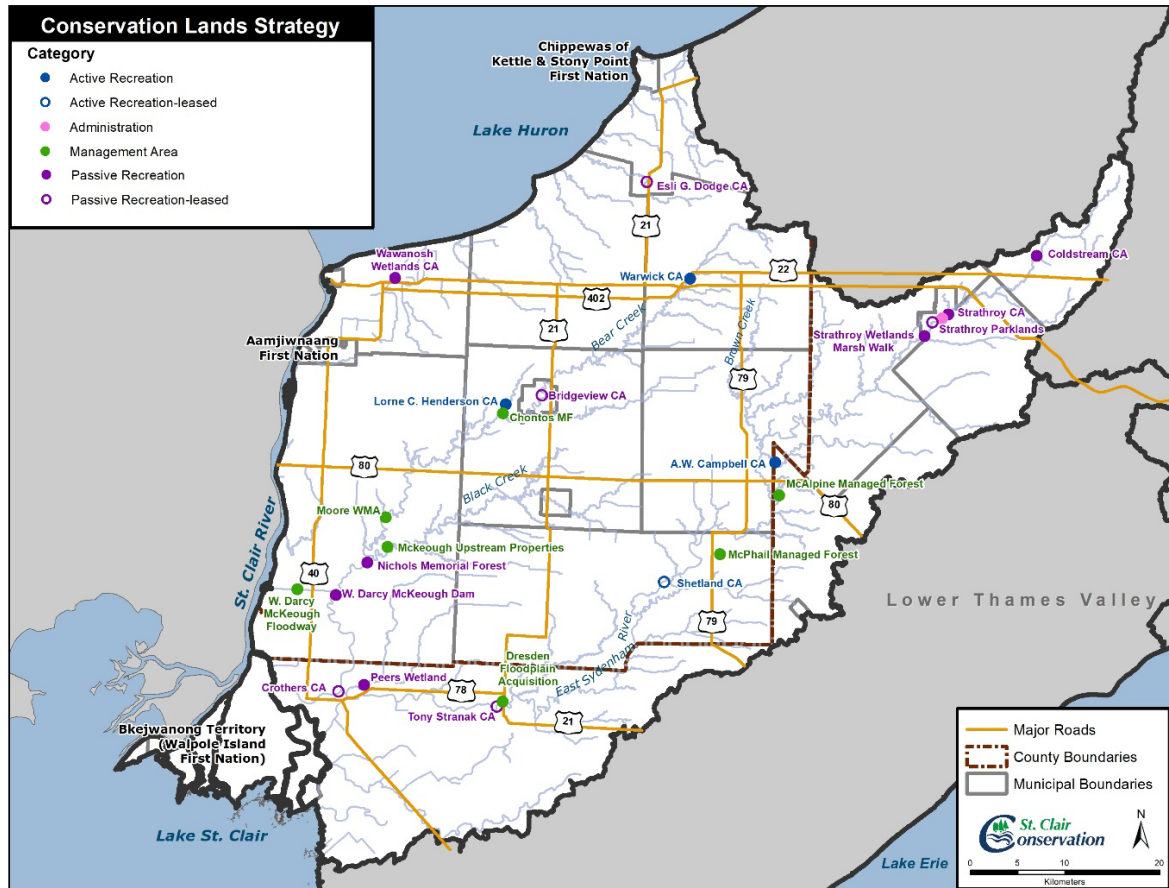
The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority does not actively seek out properties to purchase but will consider securement of lands located within its jurisdiction, on a parcel-by-parcel basis, to increase its Conservation Lands base and contribute to its vision and goals. Land securement includes obtaining from a willing landowner, interest in land title for conservation purposes through land bequest, land trading, donation, and fee simple purchase, as well as other means of holding rights on land such as leasing, restrictive covenants, and easements.

When protecting environmentally significant lands, the preferred tool is holding title to land. Use of these other land securement tools will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors. See SCRCA Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy for further information.

## Land Disposal Policy

Generally, the Authority will retain all properties that meet one or more criteria listed in the Land Acquisition policy. In some instances, properties acquired by or donated historically to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority may not meet the needs and objectives of the authority. In these

instances, the Authority may look to dispose of these surplus lands. See SCRC Land Acquisition and Disposition Policy for further information.



## Guidelines for Conservation Land Management

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's lands are divided into four broad categories: Conservation Areas Active Recreation, Conservation Areas Passive Recreation, Management Areas, and Administration Areas.

### Category 1 – Conservation Areas Active Recreation

#### *Campgrounds*

Conservation Areas-Active Recreation refers to lands which provide natural habitat protection and/or flood/erosion protection while remaining accessible and open to the public. These lands are well promoted and may contain managed trail networks, parking lots, signage, and facilities. The Authority may actively encourage and facilitate active recreation and have staffed buildings. Typically, these lands include fee for use (rather than fee for parking), supervised swimming, camping, rentals, and/or education. The lands are distinguished from passive recreation lands by the level of development and the intensity of use.



These properties are identified as Category 3 under Ontario regulation 686/21 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Mandatory Programs and Services. Category 3 programs and services are those that the conservation authority determines are advisable to provide, to further the purposes of the Act. These lands provide active recreation in the form of seasonal and transient campsites supervised swimming and outdoor education opportunities. Additional facilities and programs are on site to serve the needs of visitors to these properties. Financing for these lands is provided through the revenue generated on the property, i.e., camping fees, day-use fees, education program fees and/or donations, etc.

Properties in this category include:

- A.W. Campbell CA
- L.C. Henderson CA
- Warwick CA

#### *Leased Conservation Lands*

In some instances, Active Recreation Conservation Areas are subject to a long or short-term lease agreement between the SCRCA and an individual, a corporation, or a municipality. Through the terms of the lease agreement, the Lessee is typically responsible for the management of these lands, however, these lands may still include public access and active recreation opportunities.

Properties in this category include:

- Shetland CA

#### Objectives

The objectives of these properties are:

- Pursue research and monitoring opportunities, identify gaps and strengthen the knowledge of the natural heritage system, to better determine appropriate management actions for these properties.
- Ensure ecological integrity and biological diversity of the natural heritage systems are maintained long-term through naturalization or wildlife habitat enhancement or maintenance.
- Ensure all new properties acquired have a management and/or master plan developed.
- Ensure management plans are reviewed when significant changes in management are proposed, to address public concerns or to remain current with evolving legislations and standards.
- Ensure that future revisions or development of management plans are informed by the public, agencies or any group that may have interest in the property.
- Identify permitted and prohibited uses.
- Identify future needs of the conservation areas to expand or enhance opportunities for active recreation and increase revenue to ensure sustainability of these areas for public use.
- Identify additional areas or natural heritage systems that will expand education programming for all ages and improve knowledge of these systems and/or concepts.

- Ensure all infrastructure meets current accessibility and safety standards including facilities and trails.
- Ensure all SCRCA lands information on the website is AODA compliant and provides valuable and meaningful information to the public regarding facilities, properties and hazards.
- Ensure all service disruptions are communicated to the public in an easily accessed and efficient manner.
- Ensure all present and future SCRCA land holdings contribute to the goals and objectives of the CA.
- Prioritize land acquisitions where a connected natural heritage system can be maintained or enhanced.
- Ensure properties generate revenue while balancing protection of natural heritage features and maintaining public access.
- Ensure the establishment and spread of invasive species is managed through site appropriate control methods.

## Category 2 – Conservation Areas Passive Recreation

### *Day-use*

Conservation Areas-Passive recreation refers to lands which provide habitat protection and/or flood/erosion protection while permitting public access on a passive basis. These lands include signage, trails, parking lots, and may have facilities such as washrooms. These lands typically are not staffed, but rather visited by staff for maintenance and inspection.

These properties are identified as Category 2 under the Inventory of Programs and Services, as the lands are provided at the request of the municipality or through an agreement with the municipality. Funding for these lands is provided from the municipality through a MOU or agreement. The McKeough Dam is funded annually by the Province.

Properties in this category include five day-use properties and three McKeough Upstream Lands:

- Coldstream CA
- Peers Wetland CA
- Strathroy CA
- Strathroy Wetlands Marsh Walk
- Wawanosh CA
- Property 2/3 McKeough Dam and public use area
- Property 55 Boat Ramp
- Property 56 Nicols Memorial Forest Area

### *Leased Conservation Lands*

In some instances, some day-use Conservation Areas are subject to a long or short-term lease agreement between the SCRCA and an individual, a corporation, or a municipality. Through the terms of the lease agreement, the Lessee is typically responsible for the management of these lands, however, these lands may still include public access and passive recreation opportunities.

Properties in this category include:

- Bridgeview CA
- Crothers CA
- Esli Dodge CA
- Tony Stranak CA
- Strathroy Parklands

### Objectives

The objectives of these properties are:

- Pursue research and monitoring opportunities, identify gaps and strengthen the knowledge of the natural heritage system, to better determine appropriate management actions for these properties.
- Ensure ecological integrity and biological diversity of the natural heritage systems are maintained long-term through naturalization or wildlife habitat enhancement or maintenance.
- Ensure all new properties acquired have a management and/or master plan developed.
- Ensure management plans are reviewed when significant changes in management are proposed, to address public concerns or to remain current with evolving legislations and standards.
- Ensure that future revisions or development of management plans are informed by the public, agencies or any group that may have interest in the property.
- Identify permitted and prohibited uses.
- Ensure all infrastructure meets current accessibility and safety standards including facilities and trails.
- Ensure all SCRCA lands information on the website is AODA compliant and provides valuable and meaningful information to the public regarding facilities, properties and hazards.
- Ensure all service disruptions are communicated to the public in an easily accessed and efficient manner.
- Ensure all present and future SCRCA land holdings contribute to the goals and objectives of the CA.
- Prioritize land acquisitions where a connected natural heritage system can be maintained or enhanced.
- Ensure properties generate revenue while balancing protection of natural heritage features and maintaining public access.
- Ensure the establishment and spread of invasive species is managed through site appropriate control methods.

### Category 3 – Management Areas

Lands in this category may include areas where public access is prohibited and/or are generally not managed for public access. Lands may serve as resource management areas, agricultural fields, and potential flood lands during McKeough dam operation, etc. These areas typically do not have facilities and/or parking lots. Trail networks, if existing, are simple, minimal, and/or unmaintained.

These properties are identified as Category 1 under the Inventory of Programs and Services, which are lands owned or controlled by the authority for conservation and management. Expenses associated with these properties are funded through agricultural lease revenue or logging operations. The McKeough floodway is funded annually through the province.

Properties in this category include three historic Managed Forest Agreement Tracts, 32 properties acquired for the operation of the W. Darcy McKeough Dam and Diversion Floodway, and 19 urban floodplain acquisition properties:

- W. Darcy McKeough Floodway – channel and berms, includes Flood Easements
- W. Darcy McKeough Floodway Upstream properties includes agricultural lands
- Dresden Floodplain acquisitions
- Camden Conservation Area
- McPhail Tract
- Chontos Tract
- McAlpine Tract

### Objectives

The objectives of these properties are:

- Pursue research and monitoring opportunities, identify gaps and strengthen the knowledge of the natural heritage system, to better determine appropriate management actions for these properties.
- Ensure ecological integrity and biological diversity of the natural heritage systems are maintained long-term through naturalization or wildlife habitat enhancement or maintenance.
- Ensure all new properties acquired have a management and/or master plan developed.
- Ensure management plans are reviewed when significant changes in management are proposed, to address public concerns or to remain current with evolving legislations and standards.
- Ensure that future revisions or development of management plans are informed by the public, agencies or any group that may have interest in the property.
- Identify permitted and prohibited uses.
- Ensure all present and future SCRCA land holdings contribute to the goals and objectives of the CA.
- Prioritize land acquisitions where a connected natural heritage system can be maintained or enhanced.
- Ensure the establishment and spread of invasive species is managed through site appropriate control methods.

### Category 4 – Administration Areas

Only one property owned by the SCRCA falls into this category, which is the property that contains the administration building for the authority. Located adjacent to the Strathroy Conservation Area, this

property supplements the delivery of services to our residents, visitors, stakeholders, and partners. Most staff are based at this location.

This property falls under Category 1 of the mandatory programs and services.

### Objectives

The objectives of this property are:

- Ensure all infrastructure meets current accessibility and safety standards including facilities.
- Ensure management plans are reviewed when significant changes in management are proposed, to address public concerns or to remain current with evolving legislations and standards.
- Ensure that future revisions or development of management plans are informed by the public, agencies or any group that may have interest in the property.
- Ensure all SCRCA lands information on the website is AODA compliant and provides valuable and meaningful information to the public regarding facilities, properties, and hazards.
- Ensure all service disruptions are communicated to the public in an easily accessed and efficient manner.
- Ensure properties generate revenue while balancing protection of natural heritage features and maintaining public access.

### Conservation Lands Strategy Review

To ensure this document remains current, a review of the Strategy will be conducted every 5 years. The Strategy will be updated, and public consultation required, when major changes are made to the overall objectives and goals of the Authority, or when new land is acquired.



**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024 **Item 17.1(b)**  
**Report Date:** February 6, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Nicholas Hagerty, Girish Sankar

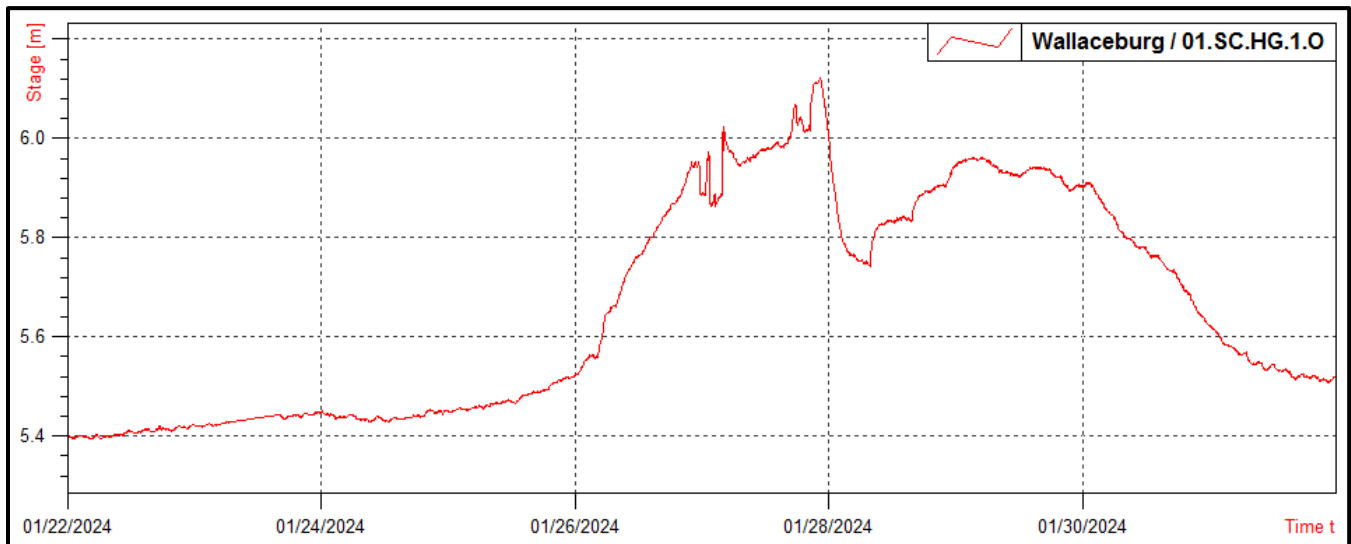
**Subject:** Current Watershed Conditions and Great Lakes Levels

## Watershed Conditions

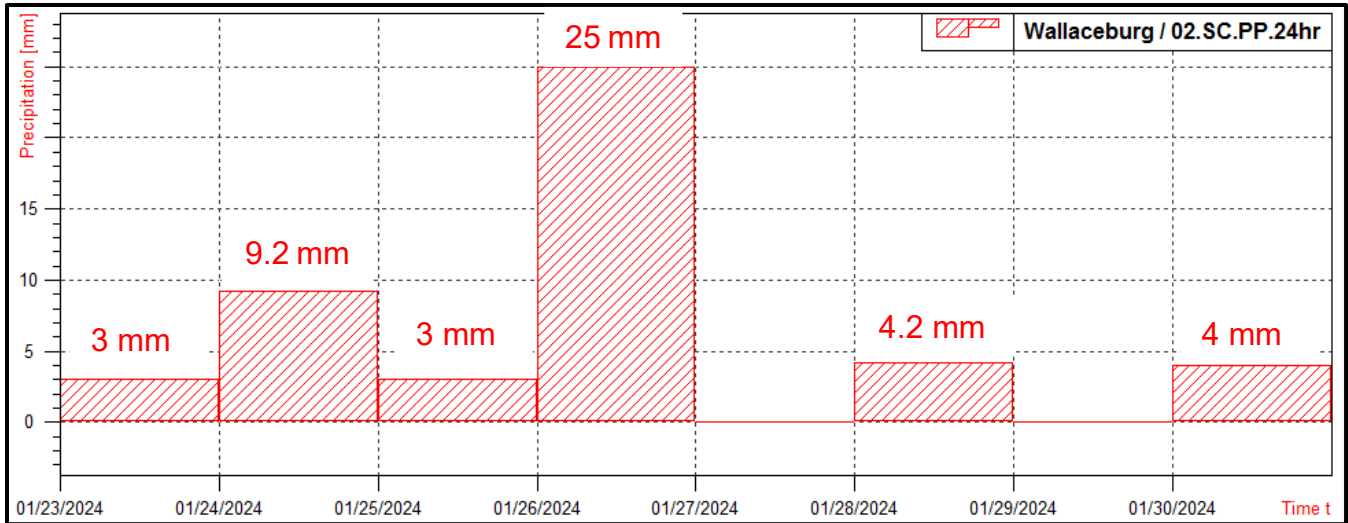
### January 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

- Initial Flood Watch issued January 26 due to overnight rainfall totals of 25-30 mm across the watershed, this in addition to unseasonably warm temperatures created conditions for flooding
- Road closures were reported in the Township of Enniskillen on January 26 at 1:30 pm
- Upgraded to a Flood Warning on January 27 at 8:00 pm due to roads being flooded in Wallaceburg
- As the water levels in Wallaceburg continued to rise the gates of the McKeough Floodway were closed at 9:30 pm on January 27
- The gates started to be opened by the morning of January 28 at 7 am

**Fig. 1 Water levels in Wallaceburg between January 22-31**

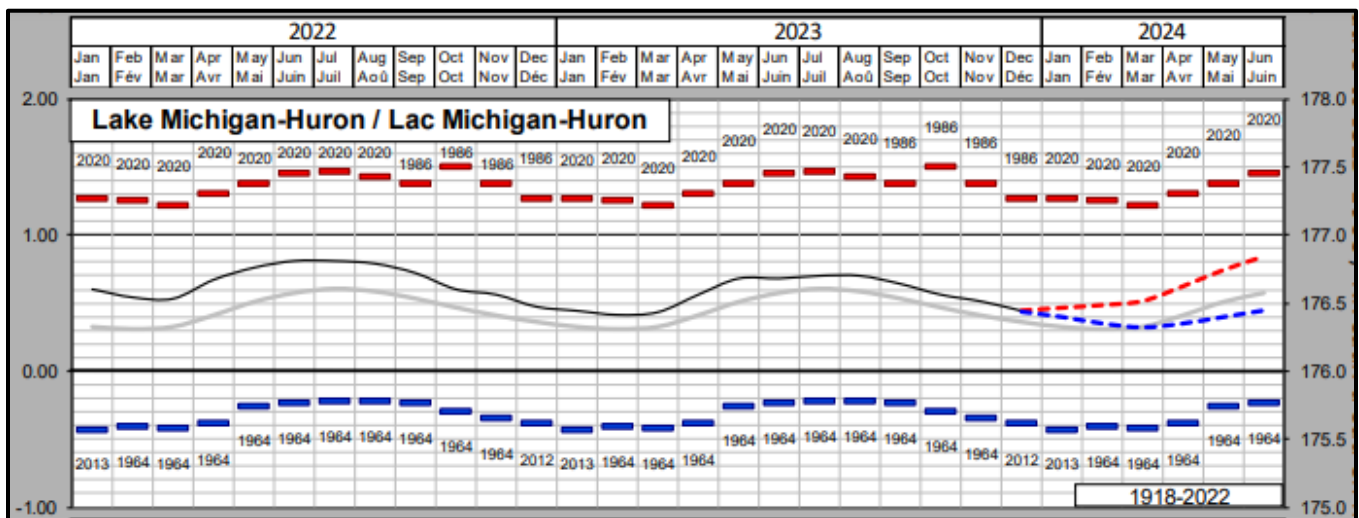


**Fig. 2 Precipitation in Wallaceburg between January 23-31; Wallaceburg received 48.4 mm of rain**



**Lake Levels**

- Water levels for Lake Michigan-Huron and Lake St. Clair are above their all-time average for this time of year
- Lake Michigan-Huron received near normal levels of precipitation for the month of January
- From December to January Lake Michigan-Huron continued to decline 3 cm, whereas Lake St. Clair rose by 12.5 cm
- Lake Michigan-Huron and Lake St. Clair are expected to continue their seasonal decline





## **Flood Threat**

- The current flood threat is currently low to moderate
- Late January 2024 event melted the snow pack, soil capacity is reduced
- Changing wind patterns, freeze-thaw events, rain on snow, and ice jamming will continue to be potential concerns for flood events

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024 **Item 18.1 (c)**  
**Report Date:** February 2, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Girish Sankar

**Subject:** 2023 - 2024 Shoreline Projects

## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated February 2, 2024, on the progress of shoreline projects across the watershed.

### 1) Penhuron Drive to Kenwick Street shoreline restoration:

- 230 meters of shoreline restoration
- Contract was awarded to Vanbree Bulldozing and Excavating for \$3,279,028 HST not included.
- Engineering inspection services being offered by Shoreplan engineering Ltd. For \$158,000 HST not included
- Project is funded by DMAF, WECl and City of Sarnia
- Construction work started in December 2023
- Project is on schedule and budget.



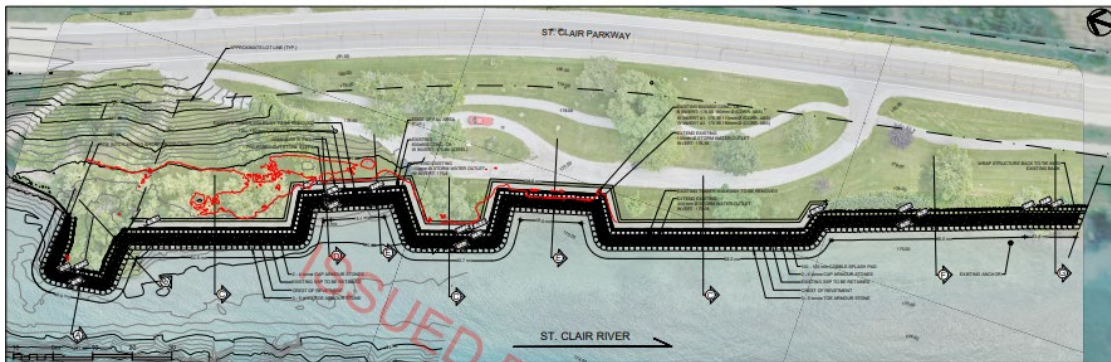
Shoreline Restoration Design - Penhuron Drive to Kenwick Street Shoreline



Construction Progress - Penhuron Drive to Kenwick Street Shoreline

## 2) Seager Park shoreline restoration:

- 200 meters of shoreline restoration
- Tendering process completed in December 2023
- Construction contract is being awarded to Vanbree Bulldozing and Contracting for \$903,297.14 + HST
- Engineering services is offered by Shoreplan Engineering Ltd
- Project is funded by DMAF, WECl and St. Clair Township
- SCRCA is coordinating with the offices of MNR and DFO to get the required permits
- Construction work will start as soon as permits are received.



Shoreline Restoration Design – Seager Park Shoreline



## Flood Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 11, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Remote via Zoom

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**Committee Members Present:** Pat Brown, St. Clair Township/SCRCA Chair; Dennis Chepeka, Chatham-Kent; David Clark, Warwick/Plympton-Wyoming; Aaron Hall, Chatham-Kent/SCRCA Director; Rhonda Jubenville, Chatham-Kent/SCRCA Director; Carmen McGregor, Chatham-Kent; Steve Miller, St. Clair Township/SCRCA Director

**Regrets:** Ryan Brown, Chatham-Kent; Jamie McGrail, Chatham-Kent; Lorie Scott, Lambton Shores/SCRCA Vice-Chair

**SCRCA Staff Present:** Ashley Fletcher, Administrative Assistant/Board Coordinator; Nicholas Haggerty, Water Resources Specialist; Ken Phillips, General Manager; Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources;

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

Minutes of the Flood Action Committee meeting held January 12, 2023 were reviewed.

**FAC-24-01**

**Miller – Hall**

**“That the minutes of the Flood Action Committee meeting, held January 12, 2023 be accepted.”**

**CARRIED**

A presentation was provided by Nicholas Haggerty, Water Resources Specialist on the current watershed conditions, flood threat and recent flooding events.

**FAC-24-02**

**Hall – Miller**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the verbal presentation and status report on Current Watershed Conditions and Flood Threat, dated January 11, 2024 as well as the most recent reports on Great Lakes levels and low water levels across the region.**

**CARRIED**

The 2024 draft Flood Warning & Flood Contingency Plan was reviewed.

Committee member David Clark made the recommendation to include Community Emergency Management Coordinators (CEMCs) in the line of communications for flood events.

Committee member Aaron Hall enquired whether any updates are required to the communication plan in light of the recent changes limiting access to news material on social media platforms and Bill C-18 the Online News Act. Staff will refer this enquiry to the SCRCA Communications department to review the flood event communications plan for any required updates.

**FAC-24-03**

**Miller – Hall**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the updated 2024 Draft Flood Warning and Flood Contingency plan. The committee further acknowledges the intent to circulate the approved final document with appropriate updates to all municipalities in the Authority in early 2024.”**

**CARRIED**

Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources provided a verbal presentation on the current standard roles and responsibilities of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and member Municipalities during flood warning and flood advisory conditions, as established by Provincial Policy. It was clarified that notification of the public is a coordinated effort of both the Authority and Municipalities.

**FAC-24-04**

**Hall – Miller**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges and concurs with the report on the current standard roles and responsibilities of the Authority and municipalities during flood warning and flood advisory conditions in the Lower Sydenham River, as established by Provincial Policy, and accepts the update provided for the Flood Warning Plan.”**

**CARRIED**

The draft 2024 Ice Management and Contingency Plan was reviewed as part of the Flood Warning Plan.

**FAC-24-05**

**McGregor – Jubenville**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the Draft 2024 Ice Management and Contingency plan (included as part of Flood Warning Plan). The committee further acknowledges the intent to circulate the approved final document with appropriate updates to all municipalities in the Authority in early 2024.”**

**CARRIED**

Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources and Nicholas Haggerty, Water Resources Specialist delivered a verbal overview of the 2024 Ice Breaking Plan.

**FAC-24-06**

**Miller – McGregor**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the verbal presentation on the 2024 Ice Breaking Plan, dated January 11, 2024.”**

**CARRIED**

Draft correspondence to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent regarding the Ice Breaking Program for 2024 was reviewed.

**FAC-24-07**

**Hall – Jubenville**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the correspondence to Chatham-Kent dated January 11, 2024, regarding support for the Ice Breaking Program for 2024.”**

**CARRIED**

**FAC-24-08**

**McGregor - Hall**

**“That the Flood Action Committee acknowledges the Authority’s responsibility and liability for the flood warning system and McKeough Dam operation and the municipality’s responsibility for ice breaking and further acknowledges the required coordinated effort of these factors for maximum flood protection.”**

**CARRIED**

**Under New Business**

Committee Chair Pat Brown referenced an article published in the Petrolia Independent News regarding the request from SCRCA Director and Agricultural Representative, Emery Huszka to appeal to the Federal government seeking improved flood monitoring. The aim of this request is to better inform the Authority’s decision making when it comes to the operation of the McKeough dam and in turn, its effect on surrounding crops.

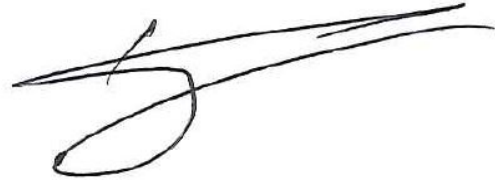
Director of Water Resources, Girish Sankar informed the committee that a letter has been sent on behalf of the SCRCA Board of Directors to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada seeking investment into an enhanced network of precipitation/weather monitoring for the purpose of more effective response

to events caused by climate change. Further, grant applications have been submitted requesting funds for the installation of additional stream gauges and updated technology to monitor water levels.

**FAC-24-09**

**Miller – Jubenville**

**“That this meeting be adjourned.”**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ken Phillips', written over a horizontal line.

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**Pat Brown**  
**Chair**

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**Ken Phillips**  
**General Manager**



**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** January 8, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Greg Wilcox

**Item 18.1 (e)**

**Subject:** 2023 Conservation Areas Update

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## Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors acknowledges this report dated January 8, 2024 on 2023 Conservation Area improvements.

## Background:

SCRCA operates three regional Conservation Areas (campgrounds) and another six day-use Conservation Areas. Additionally, six Conservation Areas are leased to our Municipal partners. Conservation Area maintenance at Authority managed sites is funded through a combination of revenues and special levies.

In 2023, several grants and donations were received, and numerous Conservation Area upgrades were completed with those funds.

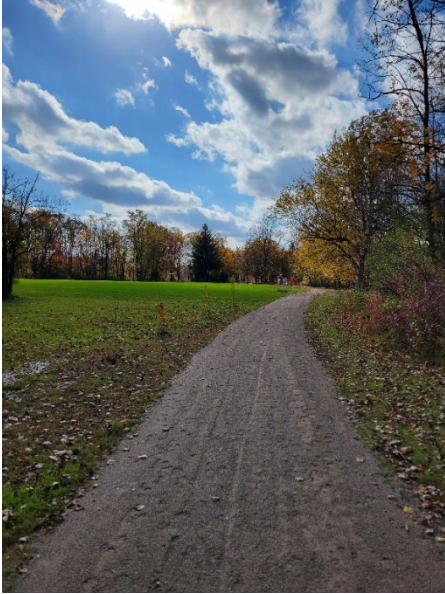
## Summary of 2023 Projects:

### Coldstream Conservation Area:

- Rip rap and grading completed for the new bridge (bridge installed in late 2022)
- Stone dust trail installed leading to the new bridge from Marsh Lane
- 1.1km stone dust trail installed (funded by Inclusive Communities Fund)
- 6 accessible picnic tables and 7 new benches purchased (Inclusive Communities Fund) to be installed in March 2024
- New trail gates installed at entrance from Quaker Lane parking lot (Inclusive Communities Fund)
- Wood Mulch Playground surfacing installed around the playground/swing-set, replacing old play sand surfacing (SCRCA funded)



Above: Image of selected picnic tables and benches for Coldstream CA



Above: New stone dust trail at Coldstream CA



Above: New playground woodchip surface at Coldstream CA

**Peers Wetland Conservation Area:**

- 1.1km stone dust trail installed (Great Lakes Local Action Fund)
- Invasive phragmites sprayed with herbicide, cut, and piled (Great Lakes Local Action Fund)
- New hydro service connected to the existing pump system (Great Lakes Local Action Fund)
- Interpretive signage installed along the trail (Great Lakes Local Action Fund)



Above left: New stone dust trail at Peers Wetland CA

Above right: Interpretive Signage

**Strathroy Conservation Area:**

- Replaced 12 boardwalk sections
- 1 new bench installed (donation)



Above: Boardwalk replacement at Strathroy CA

**Warwick Conservation Area:**

- Installed new drainage to reduce standing water on campsites
- Replaced 2 swing-sets and the woodchip surfacing under them
- Replaced steel roof and siding on old workshop

**AW Campbell Conservation Area:**

- Old walkway to the water control structure removed for safety
- Hydro moved from Campbell house to outdoor panel at group C camping
- Portable fencing purchased and installed around Campbell house
- Upgraded a section of trail to stone dust

**L.C. Henderson Conservation Area:**

- Hydro upgrade (\$18,000) for a section of seasonal campsites

**Multiple Conservation Areas:**

- Installed 10 new speed bumps with signage
- Installed 2 new aluminum frame, cedar top benches
- Purchased 28 new aluminum frame, cedar top picnic tables
- Planted 74 memorial trees

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024  
**Report Date:** January 30, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Greg Wilcox

**Item 18.1 (f)**

**Subject:** Inclusive Communities Grant

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors acknowledge this report dated January 30, 2024 on receiving \$60,000 from the Inclusive Communities Grant.

**Background:**

In 2023, SCRCA was successful in receiving an Inclusive Communities Grant from the Ontario Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility. This grant helps ensure local governments and community organizations consider Ontarians of all ages and abilities at every stage of community planning and development. Inclusive communities respond to both the opportunities and challenges of an aging population by:

- creating physical and social environments that support independent and active living
- enabling older adults and people with disabilities to continue contributing to all aspects of community life

SCRCA received \$60,000 for the installation of a 1.1km hard surface (stone dust) trail at Coldstream Conservation Area. Additionally, funding supports the purchase and installation of 6 accessible picnic tables and 7 benches (rest areas) along the trail system.

The Poplar Hill Lions Club partnered with SCRCA in an advisory role. Club members provided input on the location and design of the picnic tables and benches.

The trail was installed late in the fall of 2023. Picnic tables and benches will be installed in March of 2024.



Above: Trail Installation



Above: Completed trail



Above: Images of the selected picnic tables and benches

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

Ensure Accessibility for our Programs and Parks

**Financial Impact:**

Funding provided through the grant is anticipated to cover all contractor and material costs for this project.

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024      **Item 18.1 (g)**  
**Report Date:** February 1, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Melissa Deisley, Shelby Campbell, Meagan Weber,

**Subject:** Planning Activity Summary

A summary of staff activity related to Municipal Plan Input and Review is presented below. This report covers the period from November 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024

Municipal Plan Input and Review			
File Reference	Location	Municipality	Municipal File
PL#2023-0104	24809 Melbourne Road	Adelaide-Metcalfe	A08-2023
PL#2023-0108	Egremont Dr & Hansford Rd	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Z10-2023
PL#2024-0005	8001/8017 Churchill Line	Brooke-Alvinston	
PL#2019-038	10222 McCreary Line	Chatham-Kent	D-14CA/10/19/O
PL#2021-0073	800 Elizabeth (Elgin) Street	Chatham-Kent	D-14 WA/55/22/O 36T-22502
PL#2023-0030	968 Wallace St E, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	
PL#2023-0084	Greenbriar Trail, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	
PL#2023-0097	668 Isaac Street	Chatham-Kent	
PL#2023-0100	26208 & 26230 St. Clair Road	Chatham-Kent	B-96/23 A-65/23
PL#2023-0101	7496 Langstaff Line	Chatham-Kent	B-95/23 A-64/23
PL#2023-0102	across from 8748 Cedar Hedge Line	Chatham-Kent	B-101/23
PL#2023-0107	8336 Wren Line	Chatham-Kent	D-14 DO/78/23/R B-119/23
PL#2023-0113	7 & 15 Main Street	Chatham-Kent	B-110/23
PL#2024-0001	15013 Main Line	Chatham-Kent	D-14 ZO/81/23/M B-128/23
PL#2024-0003	29061 Dawn Mills Road	Chatham-Kent	B-127/23, B-131/23 A-81/23
PL#2024-0004	Lot 11, Con 3 Gore, Water Street	Chatham-Kent	
PL#2024-0002	520 Dawn Mills Road	Dawn-Euphemia	



PL#2022-0124	Parcel bw 3795 & 3841 Petrolia Line	Enniskillen	B004/23 A004/23
PL#2023-0099	3117 & 3129 Petrolia Line	Enniskillen	B005/23
PL#2023-0114	3760 Courtright Line	Enniskillen	B-01-2024
PL#2020-0041	south of 9602 West Ipperwash Road	Lambton Shores	
PL#2021-0017	113 Clyde Street	Lambton Shores	Z07-2023
PL#2021-0040	5958 Lakeshore Road	Lambton Shores	
PL#2022-0130	9643 Ipperwash Road	Lambton Shores	A19-2023
PL#2023-0115	Field Street & MacNab Street	Lambton Shores	Z02-2024 SD2006-4
PL#2019-008	Timberwalk Trail	Middlesex Centre	ZBA 03 2019 39T-MC1901 A21-2023, A-22-2023, A-02-2024
PL#2021-0113	22603-22669 Vanneck Road	Middlesex Centre	B-03-2023 A-06-2023
PL#2018-100	4051 Discovery Line	Petrolia	38T-21007
PL#2022-0053	Country View Drive	Petrolia	
PL#2018-055	3424 Egremont Road	Plympton-Wyoming	ZBA 2020 11 23 38T-18003
PL#2020-0001	3368 London Line	Plympton-Wyoming	OPA 51 ZBA 5 of 2024 B-01/24
PL#2020-0075	4386 Confederation Line	Plympton-Wyoming	OPA 53 ZBA 4 of 2024 B-03/24 A-03/24
PL#2021-0081	Lot 16 Con Front, King St	Plympton-Wyoming	125 of 2023 B-13/21 A-24/23
PL#2022-0111	6854-6866 Creekside Drive & 0 Fleming Road	Plympton-Wyoming	B-02/23 – B-04/23, B-07/23; B-11/23
PL#2022-0155	Hillsboro Road & Townsend Line	Plympton-Wyoming	OPA55 ZBA3-2023
PL#2023-0027	Fleming Road and Creekside Drive	Plympton-Wyoming	B-05/23, B-06/23 A-26/23
PL#2023-0079	3156 Douglas Street	Plympton-Wyoming	A-22/23
PL#2023-0106	3480 Queen Street	Plympton-Wyoming	A-25/23
PL#2024-0008	4270 Bluepoint Drive	Plympton-Wyoming	
PL#2018-072	1873 London Line	Sarnia	OPA 18 ZBA10-2019 SD2-2019
PL#2019-108	Modeland Road and Michigan Ave	Sarnia	SD2-2009 A18-20, A32-20, A01/2024, A02-2024

PL#2022-0062	1891 Michigan Line	Sarnia	
PL#2022-0117	1407 London Line	Sarnia	
PL#2022-0126	1567 Michigan Line	Sarnia	A09/2023
PL#2022-0150	391 & 393 Shepherd Street	Sarnia	B08/2023 A41/2023; A42/2023
PL#2023-0011	2815 Old Lakeshore Road	Sarnia	B09/2023
PL#2023-0054	1489 Churchill Rd (plank Rd)	Sarnia	
PL#2023-0078	1525 Modeland Road	Sarnia	
PL#2023-0090	1688 Michigan Line	Sarnia	
PL#2023-0094	1731 London Line	Sarnia	ZBA-03-2023-85 of 2002 SD1-2009 & SD1- 2023
PL#2023-0111	1500 Airport Road	Sarnia	
PL#2023-0112	841, 831 Exmouth St & lot behind	Sarnia	
PL#2021-0082	N of Wellington Street	Southwest Middlesex	39T-NEW2301
PL#2024-0006	4460 Olde Drive	Southwest Middlesex	
PL#2020-0085	403 LaSalle Line	St. Clair	ZBA 9 of 2022
PL#2022-0011	Polymoore Drive	St. Clair	
PL#2022-0039	1383 Courtright Line	St. Clair	R-17-23 B-09-22
PL#2022-0141	1037 Pointe Line	St. Clair	B-25-2022
PL#2022-0146	St. Clair Blvd & Maple Drive	St. Clair	
PL#2023-0020	Indian Rd & St. Clair Parkway	St. Clair	
PL#2023-0034	2782 Petrolia Line	St. Clair	B-06-23
PL#2023-0088	Old River Rd & Indian Rd	St. Clair	
PL#2023-0089	506 Gallerno Lane	St. Clair	B-11-23
PL#2023-0096	521 Bickford Line	St. Clair	
PL#2018-117	343 & 369 Metcalfe Street East	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2019-084	101 Hull Road	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2021-0016	Lot 7 Carrie Street	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2022-0041	Saulsbury St, Part Lot 20, Part 5, Con 4, SER	Strathroy-Caradoc	39T-SC1601
PL#2023-0043	564 Dewan St	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2023-0055	130 Beech Street	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA11-2023 SPA11- 2023

PL#2023-0069	8607 Glengyle Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc	A20-2023; A31-2023
PL#2023-0071	8157 Inadale Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA16-2023 SPA9-2023
PL#2023-0081	6919 Calvert Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc	ZBA20-2023 SPA2-2024
PL#2024-0007	across from 23457 Christina Rd	Strathroy-Caradoc	
PL#2021-0041	7757 Confederation Line	Warwick	
PL#2021-0069	308 St. Clair Street	Warwick	Z-05-23
<b>Total Plan Review Items: 76</b>			

## Environmental Assessments

File Reference	Location	Municipality
EA#2023-0001	Pike Road & Melbourne Road	Adelaide-Metcalf
EA#2023-0008	Municipality of Chatham-Kent	Chatham-Kent
EA#2022-0005	Highway 40, Sarnia	Sarnia
EA#2023-0006	2701 Old Lakshore Rd	Sarnia
EA#2024-0001	Thorne Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc
EA#2023-0011	WM Twin Creeks Environmental Centre	Warwick
<b>Total Environmental Assessments: 6</b>		

## Legal Inquiries

File Reference	Location	Municipality
LL#2023-0054	1352 Napperton Drive	Adelaide-Metcalf
LL#2023-0049	80 McNaughton Ave	Chatham-Kent
LL#2023-0047	5501 Oil Springs Line	Enniskillen
LL#2023-0053	Timberwalk Path & Songbird Lane	Middlesex Centre
LL#2023-0043	546 Lakeshore Road	Sarnia
LL#2023-0050	835 Upper Canada Drive	Sarnia
LL#2024-0001	5860 Glendon Drive	Southwest Middlesex
LL#2023-0048	28 Front Street West	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2023-0051	8028 Walker Drive	Strathroy-Caradoc
LL#2023-0052	395 Metcalfe St W	Strathroy-Caradoc
<b>Total Legal Inquiries: 10</b>		

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2024 **Item 18.1 (h)**  
**Report Date:** February 1, 2024  
**Submitted by:** Melissa Deisley, Jeff Vlasman, Meagan Weber, Sarah Snetsinger  
**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 November 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024

Regulations Permits Issued						
Application #	Location	Municipality	Proposal	Submitted	Issued	Days
R#2023-0781	WM Twin Creeks Environmental Centre	Brooke-Alvinston	multiple water crossings for pipeline	Nov-20	Dec-14	24
R#2024-0020	2292 Old Walnut Rd (closest address)	Brooke-Alvinston	multiple watercrossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-24	Jan-24	1
R#2024-0022	2484 Sutorville Rd (closest address)	Brooke-Alvinston	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-22	Jan-26	4
R#2023-0102	8641 Claymore Line (closest address), Dresden	Chatham-Kent	replace culvert	Oct-30	Nov-03	4
R#2023-0103	8615 Brook Line (closest address), Dresden	Chatham-Kent	replace culvert	Oct-30	Nov-03	4
R#2023-0580	206 Wellington St, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	change of use	Nov-30	Dec-15	15
R#2023-0680	104 Forhan St, Wallaceburg	Chatham-Kent	build an addition	Oct-23	Nov-08	16
R#2023-0703	24759 Lindsay Rd, Dresden	Chatham-Kent	culvert replacement	Oct-16	Nov-06	21
R#2023-0704	25125 Lindsay Rd, Dresden	Chatham-Kent	culvert replacement	Oct-16	Nov-07	22

R#2023-0747	36 Grand Ave, Wallaceburg	Chatham- Kent	build a carport	Nov-22	Dec-12	20
R#2023-0759	31 Forhan St, Wallaceburg	Chatham- Kent	build a deck	Nov-17	Dec-08	21
R#2023-0820	29808 Oakdale Rd (closest address)	Chatham- Kent	Croton Bridge repairs (BR1435)	Dec-14	Dec-20	6
R#2023-0822	Elizabeth St & Lisgar St	Chatham- Kent	replace the existing watermain, sanitary sewers, and stormwater sewers	Dec-15	Dec-22	7
R#2023-0827	30594 Zone Road 7, Bothwell	Chatham- Kent	build a barndominium	Jan-17	Jan-23	6
R#2024-0034	6010 Dufferin Ave	Chatham- Kent	New single family dwelling	Jan-09	Jan-22	13
R#2024-0037	30128 Robinson Road	Chatham- Kent	build an addition	Jan-16	Jan-22	6
R#2023-0671	1362 Dawn Valley Rd, Tupperville	Dawn- Euphemia	58 – 85 Storage Pool Retrofit	Oct-04	Nov-02	29
R#2024-0014	south of 1513 Pantry School Road	Dawn- Euphemia	replace steel gas main	Jan-04	Jan-09	5
R#2024-0023	1938 Dobbyn Road (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-22	Jan-26	4
R#2024-0024	6054 Aberfeldy Line (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-26	Jan-26	1
R#2024-0025	1992 Hale School Rd (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13
R#2024-0027	1978 Pantry School Road (closest Address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13
R#2024-0028	1603 Oakdale Rd (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13

R#2024-0029	1896 Gould Road (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13
R#2024-0030	5930 Bentpath Line (closest address)	Dawn- Euphemia	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13
R#2023-0689	Oakdale Rd & Oil Springs Ln	Enniskillen	install fiber optic in road allowance	Oct-11	Dec-05	55
R#2023-0779	4360 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs	Enniskillen	addition to equipment shed	Dec-01	Dec-22	21
R#2024-0026	2384 Wanstead Rd (closest address)	Enniskillen	multiple water corsssing for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-16	Jan-29	13
R#2023-0594	6506 West Parkway Dr, Lambton Shores	Lambton Shores	roof repair/modificatio n	Oct-26	Nov-24	29
R#2023-0793	7495 Townsend Ln (closest address), Thedford	Lambton Shores	replace culvert	Nov-30	Dec-22	22
R#2023-0794	6702 Townsend Ln (closest address), Lambton Shores	Lambton Shores	replace culvert	Nov-30	Dec-22	22
R#2023-0800	northwest of 23893 Bear Creek Rd	Middlesex Centre	lower pipeline	Dec-06	Jan-10	35
R#2023-0645	4044 Applewood Dr, Petrolia	Petrolia	build a steel building	Nov-01	Nov-06	5
R#2022-0297	3480 Queen Street	Plympton- Wyoming	New Dwelling	Sep-15	Nov-03	49
R#2023-0584	3280 Devonshire Rd, Camlachie	Plympton- Wyoming	install riprap & regrade slope	Nov-07	Nov-28	21
R#2023-0647	6714 Augusta St, Camlachie	Plympton- Wyoming	build a garage	Nov-27	Nov-27	1
R#2023-0649	4448 Michigan Ln, Camlachie	Plympton- Wyoming	add covered porches, garage, and 2nd unit	Dec-08	Dec-14	6
R#2023-0748	5444 Wanstead Road (closest address)	Plympton- Wyoming	install fiber optic in RoW	Nov-21	Dec-05	14

R#2023-0792	Eton Crt & Egremont Rd, Camlachie	Plympton-Wyoming	build a new dwelling	Jan-22	Jan-24	2
R#2023-0796	Lakeshore Rd & Fleming Rd, Camlachie	Plympton-Wyoming	replace culvert	Nov-30	Dec-22	22
R#2024-0052	1498 Venetian Blvd	Point Edward	build an elevator	Jan-16	Jan-26	10
R#2021-0057	628 Beach Lane	Sarnia	install a retaining wall	Nov-03	Nov-08	5
R#2023-0694	612 McGregor Sideroad, Sarnia	Sarnia	integrity dig	Oct-16	Dec-05	50
R#2023-0695	south of 30 Indian Road S, Sarnia	Sarnia	two integrity digs	Oct-16	Dec-08	53
R#2023-0716	1249 Plank Rd, Sarnia	Sarnia	lower pipeline	Oct-25	Nov-09	15
R#2023-0804	1074 Bruce St, Sarnia	Sarnia	enclose front porch	Dec-11	Jan-02	22
R#2024-0021	24619 Pratt Siding Rd (closest address)	Southwest Middlesex	multiple water crossings for fibre optic in RoW	Jan-22	Jan-26	4
R#2021-0056	3071 Brigden Road	St. Clair	tear down & rebuild dwelling	Oct-04	Nov-24	51
R#2022-0068	3494-3512 Water Street, Sombra	St. Clair	proposed improvements to an existing steel sheet pile breakwall along the St. Clair River shoreline	Oct-19	Nov-30	42
R#2022-0642	St. Clair Pkwy & Oil Springs Line, Courtright	St. Clair	bank erosion protection work	Aug-01	Dec-22	143
R#2023-0711	2528 Bickford Ln, Brigden	St. Clair	replace culvert	Nov-21	Dec-01	10
R#2023-0717	60 Pointe Ln (closest address), Port Lambton	St. Clair	install fiber optic in ROW	Oct-23	Nov-10	18
R#2023-0739	317 Pointe Ln (closest address), Sombra	St. Clair	install fiber optic in RoW	Dec-08	Dec-11	3
R#2023-0765	316 West Lambton Ln, Port Lambton	St. Clair	install fiber optic in RoW	Jan-11	Jan-30	19

R#2023-0829	539 Riverside Dr, Corunna	St. Clair	roof repair/modification	Dec-19	Dec-22	3
R#2023-0520	9259 Hickory Dr, Strathroy	Strathroy-Caradoc	extend front porch and roof cover	Dec-07	Dec-14	7
R#2023-0612	8157 Inadale Dr, Mt. Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	build two farm workers housing units	Oct-22	Nov-21	30
R#2023-0772	Brown Creek at Confederation Line	Warwick	Walking trail at Twin Creeks Landfill	Nov-06	Nov-27	21
<b>Total Permits Issued: 58</b>		<b>Average Number of Days to Issue for this Period: 19.26</b>				

## Regulations Inquiries

FileReference	Municipality	Location
R#2023-0753	Adelaide-Metcalf	northwest of 3615 Sexton Road
R#2023-0613	Brooke-Alvinston	6974 Rokeby Ln, Alvinston
R#2023-0700	Brooke-Alvinston	3214 Inwood Rd, Inwood
R#2023-0789	Brooke-Alvinston	3196 River St, Alvinston
R#2023-0677	Chatham-Kent	29451 Sharrow Rd, Thamesville
R#2023-0690	Chatham-Kent	9612 Meadowvale Ln, Wallaceburg
R#2023-0798	Chatham-Kent	4011 Dufferin Ave, Wallaceburg
R#2024-0002	Chatham-Kent	10561 Claymore Line
R#2024-0016	Chatham-Kent	9 Second Street
R#2024-0084	Chatham-Kent	615 Gillard Street
R#2023-0709	Dawn-Euphemia	4676 Lambton Ln, Dresden
R#2023-0773	Dawn-Euphemia	882 Tramway Rd, Dresden
R#2023-0811	Dawn-Euphemia	3332 Bentpath Line, Tupperville
R#2024-0012	Dawn-Euphemia	north of 2062 Cuthbert Road
R#2023-0751	Enniskillen	4257 South Plank Rd, Enniskillen
R#2023-0756	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs
R#2023-0757	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs
R#2023-0758	Enniskillen	5656 Shiloh Ln, Petrolia
R#2023-0761	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs
R#2023-0762	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs
R#2023-0777	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs



R#2023-0788	Enniskillen	4760 Wanstead Rd, Petrolia
R#2023-0797	Enniskillen	4277 South Plank Rd, Oil Springs
R#2023-0806	Enniskillen	4220 Oil Springs Ln, Oil Springs
R#2023-0831	Enniskillen	5131 Shiloh Ln, Enniskillen
R#2022-0446	Lambton Shores	9507 Ipperwash Rd
R#2023-0529	Lambton Shores	6644 East Parkway Drive, Lambton Shores
R#2023-0610	Lambton Shores	5486 Beach St, Lambton Shores
R#2023-0723	Lambton Shores	East Parkway Drive (across from 6800)
R#2023-0742	Lambton Shores	9643 Ipperwash Rd, Lambton Shores
R#2023-0807	Lambton Shores	74 Main St S, Forest
R#2024-0083	Lambton Shores	12 Wellington Street West
R#2024-0090	Lambton Shores	9599 Mary Street
R#2023-0115	Middlesex Centre	11554 Ivan Drive, Ilderton
R#2024-0085	Middlesex Centre	22821 Denfield Road
R#2024-0087	Oil Springs	4590 Oil Springs Line
R#2023-0741	Petrolia	517 Princess St, Petrolia
R#2023-0819	Petrolia	east & south of 4247 Emma St
R#2024-0033	Petrolia	East of Lancey and Emma Streets
R#2023-0272	Plympton-Wyoming	4852 Forsyth Trail, Camlachie
R#2023-0296	Plympton-Wyoming	4094 Bluepoint Dr, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2023-0505	Plympton-Wyoming	south of 4730 Lakeside St, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2023-0685	Plympton-Wyoming	south of 6873 Dalymple St, Camlachie
R#2023-0687	Plympton-Wyoming	north of 4179 Lakeshore Rd
R#2023-0715	Plympton-Wyoming	4184 Bluepoint Dr, Plympton
R#2023-0746	Plympton-Wyoming	4847 Pond Trail, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2023-0776	Plympton-Wyoming	lot south of 7106 Bonnie Doon Rd
R#2023-0780	Plympton-Wyoming	4420 Lakeshore Rd, Plympton-Wyoming
R#2023-0802	Plympton-Wyoming	4648 Lakeside St, Plympton
R#2023-0805	Plympton-Wyoming	5423 Fisher Ln, Camlachie
R#2023-0810	Plympton-Wyoming	8031 Hillsboro Road
R#2023-0828	Plympton-Wyoming	6903 Maitland St, Camlachie
R#2024-0031	Plympton-Wyoming	Michgian Line
R#2024-0035	Plympton-Wyoming	6624 Uttoxeter Road
R#2023-0678	Point Edward	519 Saint Clair St, Point Edward

R#2023-0441	Sarnia	6468 Waterworks Rd, Bright's Grove
R#2023-0592	Sarnia	Parcel 13, Block B, Gladwish Dr, Sarnia
R#2023-0684	Sarnia	101 Exmouth St, Sarnia
R#2023-0691	Sarnia	609 Sweetbay Cres, Sarnia
R#2023-0710	Sarnia	2849 Old Lakeshore Rd, Bright's Grove
R#2023-0726	Sarnia	1010 Plank Rd, Sarnia
R#2023-0731	Sarnia	1420 Lakeshore Rd, Sarnia
R#2023-0736	Sarnia	1010 Plank Rd, Sarnia
R#2023-0752	Sarnia	Devine St & Christine St South, Sarnia
R#2023-0763	Sarnia	across from 300 Kenny St, Sarnia
R#2023-0801	Sarnia	1352 Lake Chipican Dr, Sarnia
R#2023-0816	Sarnia	2667 Michigan Ln, Sarnia
R#2023-0818	Sarnia	6325 Waterworks Rd, Bright's Grove
R#2023-0830	Sarnia	2256 LaSalle Ln, Corunna
R#2024-0075	Sarnia	northwest of 1857 Michigan Line
R#2024-0076	Sarnia	1080 Bramer Lane
R#2021-0232	Southwest Middlesex	5853 Glendon Drive, Ekfrid
R#2023-0743	Southwest Middlesex	3280 Buttonwood Dr, Alvinston
R#2023-0755	Southwest Middlesex	3280 Buttonwood Dr, Alvinston
R#2023-0774	Southwest Middlesex	3449 Buttonwood Dr, Alvinston
R#2024-0074	Southwest Middlesex	10 York Street
R#2024-0077	Southwest Middlesex	1841 Coltsfoot Drive
R#2024-0082	Southwest Middlesex	5866 Glendon Drive
R#2024-0092	Southwest Middlesex	2805 CPR Drive
R#2023-0506	St. Clair	3997 Kimball Rd, Corunna
R#2023-0545	St. Clair	681 St Clair Pkwy
R#2023-0632	St. Clair	4835 St. Clair Parkway
R#2023-0760	St. Clair	734 Trella Rd, Port Lambton
R#2023-0783	St. Clair	434 John Street, Port Lambton
R#2023-0799	St. Clair	2983 St. Clair Pkwy, Sombra
R#2023-0825	St. Clair	125 Templeton Cres, Courtright
R#2024-0043	St. Clair	651 White Line
R#2024-0045	St. Clair	south of 598 Polymoore Drive
R#2023-0634	Strathroy-Caradoc	8148 Olde Dr, Mt Brydges

R#2023-0658	Strathroy-Caradoc	east of 7154 Falconbridge Drive
R#2023-0718	Strathroy-Caradoc	behind 8063 Olde Dr, Mt Brydges
R#2023-0744	Strathroy-Caradoc	7454 Glendon Dr, Melbourne
R#2023-0782	Strathroy-Caradoc	23615 Amiens Rd, Mt Brydges
R#2023-0791	Strathroy-Caradoc	170 Carrol St W, Strathroy
R#2023-0840	Strathroy-Caradoc	28 Concord St, Strathroy
R#2024-0017	Strathroy-Caradoc	south of 7275 Falconbridge Rd
R#2024-0018	Strathroy-Caradoc	south of 7275 Falconbridge Dr
R#2024-0056	Strathroy-Caradoc	southwest of 7275 Falconbridge Dr

**Total Regulations Inquiries: 98**

## Regulations - DART Completed Files

File Reference	Municipality	Drain / Watercourse
R#2024-0053	Adelaide-Metcalf	Moore Munroe Dam
R#2024-0055	Adelaide-Metcalf	Richardson Earley Drain
R#2023-0186	Brooke-Alvinston	Stewart Drain
R#2023-0698	Brooke-Alvinston	Gray Drain No. 1 and Dolbear Gray Drain
R#2023-0835	Brooke-Alvinston	9-10 Sideroad Drain
R#2024-0009	Brooke-Alvinston	Crang Drain
R#2024-0011	Brooke-Alvinston	Elliott Tait Drain
R#2020-0790	Chatham-Kent	Traxler
R#2023-0764	Chatham-Kent	Crawford Drain
R#2023-0766	Chatham-Kent	Dyer Drain
R#2023-0770	Chatham-Kent	Dankey Creek Drain
R#2024-0004	Dawn-Euphemia	Long's Creek Drain
R#2023-0712	Enniskillen	Gardiner Drain
R#2023-0824	Enniskillen	Brooke-Enniskillen-Dawn Townline Drain
R#2023-0832	Enniskillen	Miller Drain
R#2023-0833	Enniskillen	Hodges Drain
R#2023-0837	Enniskillen	Durham Creek Drain
R#2023-0767	Lambton Shores	Wadsworth Drain
R#2023-0769	Lambton Shores	North Street Drain
R#2024-0078	Lambton Shores	Lusby Drain
R#2024-0079	Lambton Shores	Walden Drain
R#2023-0725	Plympton-Wyoming	Plympton-Eady Drain

R#2023-0733	Plympton-Wyoming	Morgan Drain
R#2023-0734	Plympton-Wyoming	Douglas Drain
R#2023-0735	Plympton-Wyoming	Archer Drain
R#2023-0749	Plympton-Wyoming	Stonehouse Drain
R#2023-0787	Plympton-Wyoming	McIntyre Drain
R#2023-0814	Plympton-Wyoming	Watson Drain
R#2023-0815	Plympton-Wyoming	Walker Haney Drain
R#2023-0821	Plympton-Wyoming	Paul Drain
R#2024-0005	Plympton-Wyoming	Montgomery Drain
R#2023-0771	Sarnia	VanGaver Drain
R#2023-0836	Southwest Middlesex	Gardiner Watson Drain
R#2024-0086	St. Clair	Browning Drain
R#2024-0036	Strathroy-Caradoc	Pierce Drain Branch A
R#2024-0039	Strathroy-Caradoc	Oak Drain 1993
R#2024-0054	Strathroy-Caradoc	Lamont Drain
R#2020-0771	Warwick	Kilmer Drain
R#2023-0784	Warwick	McPherson Drain 2005
R#2023-0785	Warwick	Graham Drain 2011
<b>Total DART Permits Issued: 40</b>		

## Regulations Permits - Drains

<b>File Reference</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Drain / Watercourse</b>
R#2022-0113	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Dortmans Drain Banch B
R#2022-0509	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Fuller Harris Drain
R#2023-0750	Adelaide-Metcalfe	Kelly Drain
R#2023-0020	Chatham-Kent	Jack Petition Drain
R#2024-0032	Chatham-Kent	Jack Drain No 2
R#2024-0003	Dawn-Euphemia	Waite Drain
R#2021-0579	Plympton-Wyoming	Passingham Ferguson Drain
R#2021-0622	Plympton-Wyoming	Falconer-Ramsay Drain
R#2022-0130	Plympton-Wyoming	Invercairn Drain
R#2023-0768	Plympton-Wyoming	McAndrew Drain Wiff Branch
R#2023-0839	Plympton-Wyoming	Lessey Drain
R#2023-0283	Sarnia	Woods Drain Branch
R#2024-0015	Sarnia	Gardiner Drain

R#2021-0545	Southwest Middlesex	McArthur Drain
R#2021-0793	Southwest Middlesex	Camplin Drain
R#2022-0111	Southwest Middlesex	Stocking Drain Branch #2
R#2022-0159	Southwest Middlesex	Moore Gough Drain
R#2023-0149	St. Clair	Currier Drain
R#2021-0430	Strathroy-Caradoc	Petition Drain
R#2022-0413	Strathroy-Caradoc	Funk South Drain
R#2021-0723	Warwick	Welsh Drain
<b>Total Regulations Inquiries Regarding Drains: 21</b>		



## **Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) - EcoAction Fund Update:**

### **My Environment Program**

New for the 2023-2024 school year, EcoAction Canada is funding the in-school My Environment program, which connects students to their local land and water and teaches them how to protect the environment. By the end of February, 900 students will have participated in this program.

## **Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) - Habitat Stewardship Program Fund Update:**

### **Land-Based Education Project**

Education staff continue to partner with Hillside School at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation in the development of the school's Land-Based Education Program. Programming will run weekly until March 2024. Education Staff are hopeful to acquire additional funding to ensure this valuable partnership can continue. An application has been submitted for the Climate Action and Awareness Fund, which could help continue and grow this project.



Animal shelters built by students at Hillside School at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation as part of the Land-Based Education Project.

### **Aquatic Species at Risk Program – Winter 2024**

This in-school program is now sponsored by the Habitat Stewardship Program Fund. Education Staff will deliver locally relevant, Species at Risk programming to watershed

students. Programming will take place between January and March 2024; approximately 500 students are expected to participate.

**Committee Involvement:**

**Lambton County Trails Committee**

Education Staff continue to be active on this committee, assisting to communicate Conservation Area projects and Special Events to the larger Lambton County community.

**Rekindle the Sparks Planning Committee**

Education Staff continue to provide support to this committee. Planning for the 2024 conference will commence in February.

**Arbour Week Committee**

The Education Team continues to be a part of the Arbor Week Committee.

**Education Staff Training:**

**Rekindle the Sparks Conservation Educators Workshop 2023**

The 2023 Conservation Educators Workshop took place November 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>. St. Clair Conservation was able to send three Education Staff to participate in this learning and networking opportunity.



SCRCA Education staff at the Rekindle the Sparks Conservation Educators Workshop at Point Pelee National Park.

**Strategic Objectives(s):**

**Goal 4** – Provide recreation and education opportunities for the public to enjoy and learn from our natural environment.



**Meeting Date:** February 23, 2023 **Item** 18.1 (j)  
**Report Date:** January 30, 2018  
**Submitted by:** Mike Moroney and Donna Blue

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

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**Recommendation:**

That the Board accept this update on the status of efforts to address the remaining Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) in the St. Clair River Area of Concern.

**Background:****Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations – BUI #3**

The draft status assessment report for this BUI was completed in October 2023 and the findings were presented to the Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee (CRIC) by Environment and Climate Change Canada on November 7, 2023. The CRIC accepted the report findings and recommended that the engagement process commence to have this BUI redesignated to “not impaired”. The engagement process will commence with presentations to Aamjiwnaang First Nation and Walpole Island First Nation in the first quarter of 2024.

**Restrictions on Drinking Water Consumption or Taste and Odour Problems – BUI #9**

The draft status assessment report for this BUI was completed in January 2022 recommending that it be redesignated to no longer impaired. Engagement activities on the report’s recommendation commenced thereafter with presentations to Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Walpole Island First Nation, the Binational Public Advisory Council, and the Four Agency Managers Committee. The report was posted to the Friends of the St. Clair River website for a 30-day public comment period in November 2023, after which no comments were received. A recommendation for redesignation was submitted to ECCC and MECP in December 2023. Staff are awaiting for confirmation that this BUI has been redesignated to not impaired.

**Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat – BUI #14**

The CRIC Habitat Subcommittee team continues with their work on reviewing and providing input on the draft status assessment report for the Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat, and the draft Aquatic Habitat Management Plan. With seven delisting criteria to be considered as part of the assessment, the report has required compiling information on efforts over the past 30 years to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat in the St. Clair River Area of Concern. The draft report includes a recommendation that this BUI be redesignated to not impaired.

**Recent and Scheduled Meetings**

Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)

- May 11, 2023

- November 7, 2023
- Next meeting TBD

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

- June 21, 2023
- July 27, 2023
- December 14, 2023 (Annual General Meeting)
- Next meeting scheduled for March 2024

#### Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)

- April 19, 2023
- August 2, 2023
- October 26, 2023
- Next meeting for January 31, 2024

### **Outreach and Engagement Newsletter**

Friends of the St. Clair River and the RAP Office continue to partner on the production of St. Clair River News, a free monthly e-newsletter: [January Newsletter](#)

### **Educational Signs**

The Friends of the St. Clair River completed their project that involved the creation of educational signs for posting along the St. Clair River at various locations, covering 5 topics: On the Way to Delisting; St. Clair River as a Source of Drinking Water; Fish and Wildlife Habitat; Making Space for Wildlife; and A Binational Success Story. The signs were delivered to the Village of Point Edward, the City of Sarnia and St. Clair Township and are expected to be installed in spring of 2024.

### **Management of Contaminated Sediment**

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP), with assistance from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), are taking the lead on outreach activities associated with the implementation phase of this project. Dow has confirmed that it will be leading the implementation work and covering the associated costs. Work is anticipated to be able to occur in the later part of the summer of 2024, subject to the required approvals being in place.

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

To ensure that our rivers, lakes and streams are properly safeguarded, managed and restored.

### **Financial Impact:**

Funding for the RAP Coordinator position is provided by MECP and ECCC. The current agreement with MECP is in place until February 28, 2024, and with ECCC until March 31, 2024. A final report is due to MECP on February 15, 2024, and to ECCC on March 31, 2024. The SCRCA has submitted a request to MECP for funding for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 under MECP's Great Lakes Program, and is preparing an application for submission to ECCC for funding under their Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative Program. The RAP

Coordinator continues to meet with ECCC and MECP on a monthly basis to provide updates on the status of the project work.

# Special Events 2024

## **A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival**

Date: Saturday, March 16 to Sunday, March 17, 2024

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Location: A.W. Campbell Conservation Area



## **Sydenham River Canoe and Kayak Race**

Date: Sunday, April 28, 2024

Start Location: Mossie Line at Sydenham River

End Location: Shetland Conservation Area



## **Authority Project Tour**

Date: Thursday, June 27, 2024

Time: To Be Determined

Location: To Be Determined

## **Ipperwash Beach Shoreline Clean-up**

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024

Time: 9 am to 11 am

Location: Centre Ipperwash Beach Boat Launch



## **A Geocaching Adventure**

Date: Sunday, September 8, 2024

Time: 9 am to 3 pm

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

## **Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication**

Date - Sunday, September 29, 2024

Time: 2 pm

Location: Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area



For details on events, visit [www.scrca.on.ca](http://www.scrca.on.ca)

**Ministry of Natural  
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

99 Wellesley Street West  
Room 6630, Whitney Block  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tel: 416-314-2301

**Ministère des Richesses  
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest  
Bureau 6630, Édifice Whitney  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tél.: 416 314-2301



93-2023-1094

December 13, 2023

Pat Brown  
Chair  
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
c/o [kphillips@scrca.on.ca](mailto:kphillips@scrca.on.ca)

Dear Pat Brown:

Thank you for your application on behalf of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) seeking an extension of time beyond the January 1, 2024 transition date for the purposes of subsections 25 (1.3) and 27 (1.3) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA), to meet the transition requirements outlined in Ontario Regulation 687/21: Transition Plans and Agreements under the CAA (O. Reg. 687/21).

After careful consideration, I am satisfied that your application demonstrates that additional time is required to conclude a cost apportioning agreement for a program or service that will be provided beyond January 1, 2024 pursuant to subparagraph 10 (1) 2 (i) of O. Reg. 687/21. I am therefore granting the SCRCA an extension until March 31, 2024 to meet its transition requirements.

If there are questions about this extension, please feel welcome to reach out to the Conservation Authorities Unit at [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Conservation Authority Office (via [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca))



December 13, 2023

**TO:** All Conservation Authorities

**SUBJECT:** Extension of Minister's Direction for Conservation Authorities Regarding Fee Changes Associated with Planning, Development and Permitting Fees

---

I am writing with regards to conservation authority fees for the 2024 year. As you are aware, a Minister's Direction ("Direction") was issued on December 28, 2022, directing conservation authorities not to change fees for programs and services associated with planning, development and permitting for the 2023 calendar year. I have provided a copy of this previous direction for your reference.

Pursuant to my authority under subsection 21.3 (1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, I am issuing a new Direction that extends the previous Direction for the upcoming year (attached to this letter as Attachment A). The Direction will be in effect from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 and applies to fees for the same programs and services specified in the Direction that was in effect for 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Keyes, Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch, at 705-761-4831 or [jennifer.keyes@ontario.ca](mailto:jennifer.keyes@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Graydon Smith".

The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
The Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

**Minister’s Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*  
(this “Direction”)**

**WHEREAS** section 21.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* permits a Conservation Authority to charge a fee for a program or service if the program or service is included in the Minister’s list of classes of programs and services in respect of which a Conservation Authority may charge a fee;

**AND WHEREAS** subsections 21.2 (6) and 21.2 (7) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provide that a Conservation Authority shall adopt a written fee policy that includes a fee schedule listing the programs and services that it provides in respect of which it charges a fee, and the amount of the fee charged for each program or service or the manner in which the fee is determined (a “**Fee Schedule**”);

**AND WHEREAS** subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides that a Conservation Authority may make a change to the list of fees set out in the fee schedule or to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined, provided the authority shall give notice of the proposed change to the public in a manner it considers appropriate;

**AND WHEREAS** section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides the Minister with the authority to give a written direction to an authority directing it not to change the amount of any fee it charges under subsection 21.2 (10), in respect of a program or service set out in the list referred to in subsection 21.2 (2), for the period specified in the direction;

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to the authority of the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry under section 21.3, the Conservation Authorities set out under Appendix “A” of this Direction (the “**Conservation Authorities**” or each, a “**Conservation Authority**”) are hereby directed as follows:

**Fee Changes Prohibition**

1. Commencing on the Effective Date and for the duration of the Term of this Direction, a Conservation Authority is prohibited from making a change under subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined in its fee schedule if such a change would have the effect of changing the fee amount for the programs and services described in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Direction.

**Program and Service Fees Impacted**

2. This Direction applies to any fee set out in the Fee Schedule of a Conservation Authority, including without limitation fees for any mandatory program or service

(Category 1), municipal program or service (Category 2), or Conservation Authority recommended program or service (Category 3) related to reviewing and commenting on planning and development related proposals, applications, or land use planning policies, or for Conservation Authority permitting.

3. For greater certainty, this Direction applies to any fees in respect of the following programs or services provided under the Mandatory Programs and Services regulation ([O. Reg. 686/21](#)):
  - a. Section 6: programs and services related to reviewing applications and proposals under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, *Drainage Act*, *Environmental Assessment Act*, and the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, for the purpose of commenting on the risks related to natural hazards arising from the proposal,
  - b. Section 7: programs and services related to ensuring that decisions under the *Planning Act* are consistent with the natural hazards policies in the policy statements issued under section 3 of the *Planning Act* and are in conformance with any natural hazard policies included in a provincial plan as defined in section 1 of that Act,
  - c. Section 8: programs and services related to Conservation Authority duties, functions, and responsibilities to administer and enforce section 28 and its regulations, section 28.0.1, and section 30.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*,
  - d. Paragraph 4 of subsection 13 (3): programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on any proposal made under another Act for the purpose of determining whether the proposal relates to a significant drinking water threat or may impact any drinking water sources protected by a source protection plan, and
  - e. Subparagraph 4 iv of section 15: programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on proposals made under other Acts for the purpose of determining the proposal's impact on the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and the Lake Simcoe watershed.

### **Application**

4. This Direction, applies to all Conservation Authorities in Ontario, listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction.
5. For greater certainty, this Direction also applies to the Conservation Authorities listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction when such Conservation Authorities are meeting as a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

### **Effective Date and Term**

6. This Direction is effective from January 1, 2024 (the "**Effective Date**").



7. The term of this Direction is the period from the Effective Date to December 31, 2024 (the “**Term**”).

**Amendments**

8. This Direction may be amended in writing from time to time at the sole discretion of the Minister.

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO**  
as represented by the  
**Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry**



The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
December 13, 2023

## APPENDIX A

## LIST OF CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES TO WHICH THE DIRECTION APPLIES

**Ausable Bayfield CA**

R.R. #3  
71108 Morrison Line  
Exeter ON N0M 1S5  
Brian Horner  
[bhorner@abca.on.ca](mailto:bhorner@abca.on.ca)

**Cataraqui Region CA**

Box 160  
1641 Perth Road  
Glenburnie ON K0H 1S0  
Katrina Furlanetto  
[kfurlanetto@crca.ca](mailto:kfurlanetto@crca.ca)

**Catfish Creek CA**

R.R. #5  
8079 Springwater Road  
Aylmer ON N5H 2R4  
Dusty Underhill  
[generalmanager@catfishcreek.ca](mailto:generalmanager@catfishcreek.ca)

**Central Lake Ontario CA**

100 Whiting Avenue  
Oshawa ON L1H 3T3  
Chris Darling  
[cdarling@cloca.com](mailto:cdarling@cloca.com)

**Credit Valley CA**

1255 Old Derry Rd  
Mississauga ON L5N 6R4  
Quentin Hanchard  
[quentin.hancard@cvc.ca](mailto:quentin.hancard@cvc.ca)

**Crowe Valley CA**

Box 416  
70 Hughes Lane  
Marmora ON K0K 2M0  
Tim Pidduck  
[tim.pidduck@crowevalley.com](mailto:tim.pidduck@crowevalley.com)

**Essex Region CA**

Suite 311  
360 Fairview Ave West  
Essex ON N8M 1Y6  
Tim Byrne  
[tbyrne@erca.org](mailto:tbyrne@erca.org)

**Ganaraska Region CA**

Box 328  
2216 County Road 28  
Port Hope ON L1A 3V8  
Linda Laliberte  
[llaliberte@grca.on.ca](mailto:llaliberte@grca.on.ca)

**Grand River CA**

Box 729  
400 Clyde Road  
Cambridge ON N1R 5W6  
Samantha Lawson  
[slawson@grandriver.ca](mailto:slawson@grandriver.ca)

**Grey Sauble CA**

R.R. #4  
237897 Inglis Falls Road  
Owen Sound ON N4K 5N6  
Tim Lanthier  
[t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca](mailto:t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca)

**Halton Region CA**

2596 Britannia Road West  
Burlington ON L7P 0G3  
Hassaan Basit  
[hbasit@hrca.on.ca](mailto:hbasit@hrca.on.ca)

**Hamilton Region CA**

P.O. Box 81067  
838 Mineral Springs Road  
Ancaster ON L9G 4X1  
Lisa Burnside  
[lisa.burnside@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:lisa.burnside@conservationhamilton.ca)

**Kawartha Region CA**

277 Kenrei (Park) Road  
Lindsay ON K9V 4R1  
Mark Majchrowski  
[mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com](mailto:mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com)

**Kettle Creek CA**

R.R. #8  
44015 Ferguson Line  
St. Thomas ON N5P 3T3  
Elizabeth VanHooren  
[elizabeth@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca](mailto:elizabeth@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca)

**Lake Simcoe Region CA**

Box 282  
120 Bayview Parkway  
Newmarket ON L3Y 3W3  
Rob Baldwin  
[r.baldwin@lsrca.on.ca](mailto:r.baldwin@lsrca.on.ca)

**Lakehead Region CA**

Box 10427  
130 Conservation Road  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 6T8  
Tammy Cook  
[tammy@lakeheadca.com](mailto:tammy@lakeheadca.com)

**Long Point Region CA**

4 Elm Street  
Tillsonburg ON N4G 0C4  
Judy Maxwell  
[jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca](mailto:jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca)

**Lower Thames Valley CA**

100 Thames Street  
Chatham ON N7L 2Y8  
Mark Peacock  
[mark.peacock@ltvca.ca](mailto:mark.peacock@ltvca.ca)

**Lower Trent Region CA**

R.R. #1  
714 Murray Street  
Trenton ON K8V 5P4  
Rhonda Bateman  
[rhonda.bateman@lrc.on.ca](mailto:rhonda.bateman@lrc.on.ca)

**Maitland Valley CA**

Box 127  
1093 Marietta Street  
Wroxeter ON N0G 2X0  
Phil Beard  
[pbeard@mvca.on.ca](mailto:pbeard@mvca.on.ca)

**Mattagami Region CA**

100 Lakeshore Road  
Timmins ON P4N 8R5  
David Vallier  
[david.vallier@timmins.ca](mailto:david.vallier@timmins.ca)

**Mississippi Valley CA**

10970 Highway 7  
Carleton Place ON K7C 3P1  
Sally McIntyre  
[smcintyre@mvc.on.ca](mailto:smcintyre@mvc.on.ca)

**Niagara Peninsula CA**

250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor  
Welland ON L3C 3W2  
Chandra Sharma  
[csharma@npca.ca](mailto:csharma@npca.ca)

**Nickel District CA**

199 Larch St  
Suite 401  
Sudbury ON P3E 5P9  
Carl Jorgensen  
[carl.jorgensen@conservationsudbury.ca](mailto:carl.jorgensen@conservationsudbury.ca)

**North Bay-Mattawa CA**

15 Janey Avenue  
North Bay ON P1C 1N1  
Chitra Gowda  
[chitra.gowda@nbmca.ca](mailto:chitra.gowda@nbmca.ca)

**Nottawasaga Valley CA**

8195 Line 8  
Utopia ON L0M 1T0  
Doug Hevenor  
[dhevenor@nvca.on.ca](mailto:dhevenor@nvca.on.ca)

**Otonabee Region CA**

250 Milroy Drive  
Peterborough ON K9H 7M9  
Janette Loveys Smith  
[jsmith@otonabeeconservation.com](mailto:jsmith@otonabeeconservation.com)

**Quinte CA**

R.R. #2  
2061 Old Highway #2  
Belleville ON K8N 4Z2  
Brad McNevin  
[bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca](mailto:bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca)

**Raisin Region CA**

PO Box 429  
18045 County Road 2  
Cornwall ON K6H 5T2  
Richard Pilon  
[richard.pilon@rrca.on.ca](mailto:richard.pilon@rrca.on.ca)

**Rideau Valley CA**

Box 599  
3889 Rideau Valley Dr.  
Manotick ON K4M 1A5  
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson  
[sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca](mailto:sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca)

**Saugeen Valley CA**

R.R. #1  
1078 Bruce Road #12, Box #150  
Formosa ON N0G 1W0  
Jennifer Stephens  
[j.stephens@svca.on.ca](mailto:j.stephens@svca.on.ca)

**Sault Ste. Marie Region CA**

1100 Fifth Line East  
Sault Ste. Marie ON P6A 6J8  
Corrina Barrett  
[cbarrett@ssmrca.ca](mailto:cbarrett@ssmrca.ca)

**South Nation River CA**

38 Victoria Street  
P.O. Box 29  
Finch ON K0C 1K0  
Carl Bickerdike  
[cbickerdike@nation.on.ca](mailto:cbickerdike@nation.on.ca)

**St. Clair Region CA**

205 Mill Pond Crescent  
Strathroy ON N7G 3P9  
Ken Phillips  
[kphillips@scrca.on.ca](mailto:kphillips@scrca.on.ca)

**Toronto and Region CA**

101 Exchange Avenue  
Vaughan ON L4K 5R6  
John MacKenzie  
[john.mackenzie@trca.ca](mailto:john.mackenzie@trca.ca)

**Upper Thames River CA**

1424 Clarke Road  
London ON N5V 5B9  
Tracey Annett  
[annettt@thamesriver.on.ca](mailto:annettt@thamesriver.on.ca)

**Ministry of Natural  
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Minister

99 Wellesley Street West  
Room 6630, Whitney Block  
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Tel.: 416-314-2301

**Ministère des Richesses  
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest  
Bureau 6630, Édifice Whitney  
Toronto ON M7A 1W3  
Tél.: 416 314-2301



December 28, 2022

**TO:** Conservation authorities as listed in the Attachment A “Minister’s Direction to Not Change Fees”

**SUBJECT:** Minister’s direction for conservation authorities regarding fee changes associated with planning, development and permitting fees

---

In support of Ontario’s Housing Supply Action Plan: 2022-2023, the province made a series of legislative changes through the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* (Bill 23) to help achieve the goal of building 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years. These changes accelerate housing development approvals while continuing to protect Ontario families, communities, and critical resources. A number of these changes affect conservation authorities and are intended to support faster and less costly approvals, streamline conservation authority processes, and help make land suitable for housing available for development.

To this end, pursuant to subsection 21.3 (1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, which is in effect January 1, 2023, I am issuing a Minister’s Direction (“Direction”), attached to this letter as Attachment “A”. Subsection 21.3 (1) provides that the “Minister may give a written direction to an authority directing it not to change the amount of any fee it charges under subsection 21.2 (10), in respect of a program or service set out in the list referred to in subsection 21.2 (2), for the period specified in the direction.”

The purpose of this Direction, which is effective from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, is to require a conservation authority not to change the amount of the fee it charges or the manner in which it determines the fee for any program or service that may be provided by the conservation authority. This relates to reviewing and commenting on planning and development related proposals or land use planning policies, or for permits issued by conservation authorities. For greater certainty, the “Prescribed Acts – subsections 21.1.1 (1.1) and 21.1.2 (1.1) of the Act” regulation (O. Reg. 596/22), effective January 1, 2023, prohibits a CA from providing a municipal (Category 2) or other (Category 3) program or service related to reviewing and commenting on a proposal, application, or other matter

made under prescribed Acts. This regulation therefore precludes the charging of a fee by a conservation authority for these specific programs or services provided under subsections 21.1.1 (1) or 21.1.2 (1.1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

The conservation authorities listed in Appendix A of the Direction are encouraged to make the Direction publicly available on the Governance section of their websites.

Pursuant to subsection 21.2 (3) of the Act, I am also re-distributing the Minister's list of classes and programs and services in respect of which conservation authorities may charge a fee along with this Direction, with editorial changes to reflect the recent legislative and regulatory changes.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Keyes, Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch, at [Jennifer.Keyes@ontario.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Keyes@ontario.ca) or 705-761-4831.

If it is in the public interest to do so, I will provide further direction or clarification at a later date related to the matters set out in this Direction.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

c: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks



**Minister’s Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*  
(this “Direction”)**

**WHEREAS** section 21.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, in effect on January 1, 2023, permits a Conservation Authority to charge a fee for a program or service if the program or service is included in the Minister’s list of classes of programs and services in respect of which a Conservation Authority may charge a fee;

**AND WHEREAS** subsections 21.2 (6) and 21.2 (7) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provide that a Conservation Authority shall adopt a written fee policy that includes a fee schedule listing the programs and services that it provides in respect of which it charges a fee, and the amount of the fee charged for each program or service or the manner in which the fee is determined (a “**Fee Schedule**”);

**AND WHEREAS** subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides that a Conservation Authority may make a change to the list of fees set out in the fee schedule or to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined, provided the authority shall give notice of the proposed change to the public in a manner it considers appropriate;

**AND WHEREAS** section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides the Minister with the authority to give a written direction to an authority directing it not to change the amount of any fee it charges under subsection 21.2 (10), in respect of a program or service set out in the list referred to in subsection 21.2 (2), for the period specified in the direction;

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to the authority of the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry under section 21.3, the Conservation Authorities set out under Appendix “A” of this Direction (the “**Conservation Authorities**” or each, a “**Conservation Authority**”) are hereby directed as follows:

**Fee Changes Prohibition**

1. Commencing on the Effective Date and for the duration of the Term of this Direction, a Conservation Authority is prohibited from making a change under subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined in its fee schedule if such a change would have the effect of changing the fee amount for the programs and services described in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Direction.

**Program and Service Fees Impacted**

2. This Direction applies to any fee set out in the Fee Schedule of a Conservation Authority, including without limitation fees for any mandatory program or service (Category 1), municipal program or service (Category 2), or Conservation Authority recommended program or service (Category 3) related to reviewing and commenting on

planning and development related proposals, applications, or land use planning policies, or for Conservation Authority permitting.

3. For greater certainty, this Direction applies to any fees in respect of the following programs or services provided under the Mandatory Programs and Services regulation ([O. Reg. 686/21](#)):
  - a. Section 6: programs and services related to reviewing applications and proposals under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, *Drainage Act*, *Environmental Assessment Act*, and the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, for the purpose of commenting on the risks related to natural hazards arising from the proposal,
  - b. Section 7: programs and services related to ensuring that decisions under the *Planning Act* are consistent with the natural hazards policies in the policy statements issued under section 3 of the *Planning Act* and are in conformance with any natural hazard policies included in a provincial plan as defined in section 1 of that Act,
  - c. Section 8: programs and services related to Conservation Authority duties, functions, and responsibilities to administer and enforce section 28 and its regulations, section 28.0.1, and section 30.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*,
  - d. Paragraph 4 of subsection 13 (3): programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on any proposal made under another Act for the purpose of determining whether the proposal relates to a significant drinking water threat or may impact any drinking water sources protected by a source protection plan, and
  - e. Subparagraph 4 iv of section 15: programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on proposals made under other Acts for the purpose of determining the proposal's impact on the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and the Lake Simcoe watershed.

### **Application**

4. This Direction, applies to all Conservation Authorities in Ontario, listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction.
5. For greater certainty, this Direction also applies to the Conservation Authorities listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction when such Conservation Authorities are meeting as a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

### **Effective Date and Term**

6. This Direction is effective from January 1, 2023 (the "**Effective Date**").
7. The term of this Direction is the period from the Effective Date to December 31, 2023 (the "**Term**").

**Amendments**

8. This Direction may be amended in writing from time to time at the sole discretion of the Minister.

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO  
as represented by the  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry**



The Honourable Graydon Smith  
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
December 28, 2022

**APPENDIX A**

**LIST OF CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES TO WHICH THE DIRECTION APPLIES**

**Ausable Bayfield CA**

R.R. #3  
71108 Morrison Line  
Exeter ON N0M 1S5  
Brian Horner  
bhorner@abca.on.ca

**Cataraqui Region CA**

Box 160  
1641 Perth Road  
Glenburnie ON K0H 1S0  
Katrina Furlanetto  
kfurlanetto@crca.ca

**Catfish Creek CA**

R.R. #5  
8079 Springwater Road  
Aylmer ON N5H 2R4  
Dusty Underhill  
generalmanager@catfishcreek.ca

**Central Lake Ontario CA**

100 Whiting Avenue  
Oshawa ON L1H 3T3  
Chris Darling  
cdarling@cloca.com

**Credit Valley CA**

1255 Old Derry Rd  
Mississauga ON L5N 6R4  
Quentin Hanchard  
quentin.hancard@cvc.ca

**Crowe Valley CA**

Box 416  
70 Hughes Lane  
Marmora ON K0K 2M0  
Tim Pidduck  
tim.pidduck@crowevalley.com

**Essex Region CA**

Suite 311  
360 Fairview Ave West  
Essex ON N8M 1Y6

Tim Byrne  
[tbyrne@erca.org](mailto:tbyrne@erca.org)

**Ganaraska Region CA**

Box 328  
2216 County Road 28  
Port Hope ON L1A 3V8  
Linda Laliberte  
[llaliberte@grca.on.ca](mailto:llaliberte@grca.on.ca)

**Grand River CA**

Box 729  
400 Clyde Road  
Cambridge ON N1R 5W6  
Samantha Lawson  
[slawson@grandriver.ca](mailto:slawson@grandriver.ca)

**Grey Sauble CA**

R.R. #4  
237897 Inglis Falls Road  
Owen Sound ON N4K 5N6  
Tim Lanthier  
[t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca](mailto:t.lanthier@greysauble.on.ca)

**Halton Region CA**

2596 Britannia Road West  
Burlington ON L7P 0G3  
Hassaan Basit  
[hbasit@hrca.on.ca](mailto:hbasit@hrca.on.ca)

**Hamilton Region CA**

P.O. Box 81067  
838 Mineral Springs Road  
Ancaster ON L9G 4X1  
Lisa Burnside  
[lisa.burnside@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:lisa.burnside@conservationhamilton.ca)

**Kawartha Region CA**

277 Kenrei (Park) Road  
Lindsay ON K9V 4R1  
Mark Majchrowski  
mmajchrowski@kawarthaconservation.com

**Kettle Creek CA**

R.R. #8  
44015 Ferguson Line  
St. Thomas ON N5P 3T3  
Elizabeth VanHooren  
elizabeth@kettlecreekconservation.on.ca

**Lake Simcoe Region CA**

Box 282  
120 Bayview Parkway  
Newmarket ON L3Y 3W3  
Rob Baldwin  
r.baldwin@lsrca.on.ca

**Lakehead Region CA**

Box 10427  
130 Conservation Road  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 6T8  
Tammy Cook  
tammy@lakeheadca.com

**Long Point Region CA**

4 Elm Street  
Tillsonburg ON N4G 0C4  
Judy Maxwell  
jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca

**Lower Thames Valley CA**

100 Thames Street  
Chatham ON N7L 2Y8  
Mark Peacock  
mark.peacock@ltvca.ca

**Lower Trent Region CA**

R.R. #1  
714 Murray Street  
Trenton ON K8V 5P4  
Rhonda Bateman  
rhonda.bateman@ltc.on.ca

**Maitland Valley CA**

Box 127

1093 Marietta Street  
Wroxeter ON N0G 2X0  
Phil Beard  
pbeard@mvca.on.ca

**Mattagami Region CA**  
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**Meeting Date:** October 26, 2023 **Item 6.3**  
**Report Date:** October 6, 2023  
**Submitted by:** Ashley Fletcher

**Subject:** 2024 Tentative Schedule of Meetings

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Board of Director and Executive Committee meetings are held at the Administration Office at 10:00 a.m., with the exception of the February annual general meeting (rotating locations within the watershed), unless stated otherwise.

This is a tentative schedule and circumstances may necessitate changes. Accordingly, these dates should be confirmed with the Administration Office prior to the meeting date.

**Board of Directors Meetings:**

- February 22 (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday) - Annual General Meeting (Florence, ON)
- April 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)
- June 27 (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday)
- September 19 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)
- October 24 (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday)
- December 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)

**Committee Meetings:**

**Executive Committee**

- At the call of the chair.
- February 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) – Audit Review & Recommendation

**Flood Action Committee** – Wallaceburg Municipal Centre or Remote

- January 11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) and at the call of the Chair

**Low Water Response**

- May 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) and at the call of the Chair

**Nominating Committee**

- At the call of the chair.
- Potentially prior to the February 8 Executive Committee Meeting

**Sunset Committees (dates TBD):**

- Planning Procedural and Technical Guidelines Committee
- Watershed Management Plan Committee